

W/C (p. LF)

redbrick

Birmingham University Price 5d.
No. 794 Wednesday, Jan. 27th, 1971



Non-committal Grimond

MR. JO GRIMOND'S speech at last Wednesday's meeting in the Great Hall was distinguished only by an air of non-commitment as to the practical implications of a Review Body. The meeting had been arranged as a kind of mutual viewing-session for Mr. Grimond and members of the University, and that was largely the only thing which it achieved, taking place as it did before the Review Body had actually met or its composition had even been decided upon.

The meeting was therefore nothing if not predictable, and Mr. Grimond was noticeably vague when it came to questions such as how the Body was to gather its information and evidence and how its progress was going to be monitored by people in the University.

Instead, his speech dealt with such generalities such as the need to look into the changes affecting the University which have taken place in the 70 years since the charter was originally drawn up—a need

which seems painfully obvious now, but which needed events such as the 1968 occupation of the administration to bring it to the notice of the authorities.

The main note of the meeting

was that on questions such as the way in which the Review Body would function, and the exact scope of the material to be examined, Mr. Grimond could not "pre-judge the issue" by commenting on matters which the Body itself would have to decide.

This was fair enough, considering the Body has not yet met, but it did emphasise the limitations of holding a meeting at this stage. During the meeting, Mr. Grimond said that he did not see any great threat to academic freedom in this country at the moment, and when I asked him after the meeting whether the Review Body would be looking into cases such as the Atkinson affair, he said that if such matters were brought to their attention, and possibly if they were not, then they would examine them. But he said that they would not sit in judgment on cases which had taken place in the past.

On Saturday, University Council met to decide on the composition of the Review Body. The membership of eleven which was proposed by the Vice-Chancellor included one representative from the Guild of Students, but during the meeting it was proposed by Rod Playford that there be a second Guild member, to be a woman, on the Body. The proposal was accepted by a narrow majority. At last Wednesday's Guild Council meeting, Rod Playford was elected as the Guild's postgraduate representative on the Review Body.

Baldamus denies ever sending such a letter. Atkinson has said that the course outline, alleged to be his, resembled something straight out of the "New Left Review."

These forged documents could have had serious consequences had they not been exposed. The British Sociological Association have black-listed the post of lecturer in the Sociology of Education since Mr. Atkinson's selection was vetoed. It would seem to be convenient to some people to have this blacklisting reversed. At present it is not known exactly who was responsible for sending the forged documents.

The lectures which Atkinson gave last term on the Sociology of Education, under the sponsorship of Ack-Ack, will continue this term.

He will also give the faculty-wide introductory course in Sociology that was included in his original appointment. Last term Ack-Ack had advised Atkinson not to lecture on this course. However, many of the first-year students registered for the course and were dissatisfied with the University's alternative arrangements, and have asked Atkinson to take it this term.

This has been agreed to and so now Ack-Ack are financing Atkinson to teach all the courses which he was appointed to undertake before the University's administration vetoed that appointment.



Jo Grimond speaking in the Great Hall last Wednesday

More facts from Ack-Ack

THE Action for Academic Freedom group last week issued more details of the circumstances subsequent to the non-appointment of Dick Atkinson as lecturer on the Sociology of Education course.

Rumours, originating from the London School of Economics, where Atkinson took his Ph.D. began to circulate during the middle of last term intimating a link-up between Professor Baldamus and Atkinson.

It was suggested that Baldamus had written to the L.S.E., before Atkinson had submitted his Ph.D. and asked to be the external examiner for Atkinson.

The inference drawn from this was that Baldamus was attempting to insure Atkinson got his Ph.D. so that there would be no question of academic competence when Atkinson applied for the Birmingham job.

The rumour has since been published anonymously as a circular. Baldamus has denied ever making such a request to the L.S.E.

Another issue enlarged on by Ack-Ack was that of the forged documents. A deliberate attempt was made by a certain person, or persons, to slur Mr. Atkinson's impartiality in teaching.

A supposed "outline" of Atkinson's course was sent to Professor Bottomore and Professor John Rex, officials of the British Sociological Association. The "course outline" was accompanied by a cover letter "signed" by Baldamus. However,

Guild of Students

ON January 13th University Council ratified the request made by the Annual General Meeting of the Guild to change the name from the Guild of Undergraduates to the Guild of Students. The Guild, which has nearly two thousand Postgraduate members (including the President) was finding the title of Undergraduates a misnomer.

One member of University Council reflected that "Undergraduate" was a far better word, "so many people are students nowadays." The change in name which requires a change in certain ordinances goes to the Court of Governors for final approval on February 25th.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT

IN the last week of last term the University Registrar, as Returning Officer to the Guild of Students, finally ratified the result of the Vice-Presidential election.

The new Vice-President is Stuart King, a second-year student in Social Science who defeated Mehran Asadi, the other candidate, in an abysmally low poll. Both candidates did not advertise the election as they are entitled to do and only some 300 students polled their votes.

redbrick

staff	help and contributors
paul taylor	ginette
pete donovan	alan
andy holden	dave parry
john redfern	russell bryant
john headon	garry marks
	liz unsworth
mike horseman	front cover
betty herbert	j. e. rackham

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

GOT SOMEWHERE TO LIVE?

GOOD—BUT HAVE YOU TOLD THE LODGINGS WARDEN?

Each term, a number of students change their addresses and fail to notify the Lodgings Office. This can have very serious consequences in an emergency if a student has to be contacted in a hurry—or is reported missing.

Lodgings Office staff spend hours every year trying to trace addresses—time which could be spent better finding new accommodation.

If the Lodgings Warden knows your address he may be able to use it for someone else when you move out.

Students' addresses are confidential and are not given to unauthorised persons.

NEW ADDRESS?

TELL THE LODGINGS WARDEN

FIVE BACK DOWN AFTER THREATS

THE five students in the Faculty of Commerce and Social Science who refused to re-register for an alternative course, after the University authorities announced that the Sociology of Education course was to be cancelled, re-registered under protest last week. The Sociology of Education course which was to have been taught by Dick Atkinson, was a second year option which represented one of eight papers required for a degree in the department of Sociology.

The course was cancelled by the Dean and Head of Department at the beginning of the autumn term following events subsequent to the non-appointment of Dick Atkinson. Five students who originally registered for the course during last summer decided not to re-register but to press for the reinstatement of the Sociology of Education course, and informed the Dean of their intentions by letter.

At a meeting with Rod Playford the Dean, Professor A. T. Collis expressed his concern that if the students did not re-register the Registry would be compelled to inform their local authorities that the five were not pursuing a degree course; which could have led to the withdrawal of their grants. A letter was sent to the five indicating the University's intentions unless they re-registered and completed the necessary examination entry forms by the required date.

The five students, one of whom is Vice-President of the Guild, Stuart King, commented comically: "We would like to thank our fellow students for their active support and encouragement to help reinstate Sociology of Education."

The five students, with the aid of the Guild of Undergraduates' solicitor, sought advice from Coun-

sel in London, as they believed that there had been a breach of contract by the University. The University's solicitor's opinion was that although the students were not getting exactly what they expected to get they are certainly getting what the University contracted to give them—hence no breach of contract.

Faced with the threat of withdrawal of grants and failure to obtain an adequate legal remedy, the students decided to re-register for alternative courses under protest.

The course of lectures given by Dick Atkinson will continue to take place on Wednesday in the Council Chamber.

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

ENGINEERS & SCIENTISTS



Cartoonists are lovely people—but they've got it all wrong about Patent Examiners.

As a Patent Examiner you won't find a row of peculiar people sitting outside your office with their even more peculiar inventions. Though you do get the 1% nut cases, the other 99% of claimants are clever, well balanced—mostly they are representatives of major companies or their Patent Agents, making genuine applications for a grant of a patent on all manner of systems and appliances. It's a fascinating and, more often than not, highly technical business. You must study specifications and drawings, and discuss them with the claimants or their professional advisers. It's a job that demands an incisive mind, quick to perceive the basic originality of an idea. Almost always it calls for some kind of engineering or scientific knowledge.

That's why you should have, or expect to obtain, a 1st or 2nd class honours degree, or an equivalent, such as Corporate Membership of I.Mech.E. or I.E.E.

The salary scale for a Patent Examiner is £1,267-£2,828 (you could start above the minimum). After about 10 years, you should be promoted to Senior Examiner, where your salary rises to well over £4,000. You enjoy more than 4 weeks' holiday, and there's a generous non-contributory pension.

If you are aged under 29 on 31st December 1971, write or telephone for an application form and to arrange to pay us a visit and see for yourself what a Patent Examiner does. (Application forms to be returned by 1st March 1971.)



Mr. C. U. M. Smith, The Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY. Telephone: 04-485 8721 ext. 3.

OZ bust

ON the morning of Friday, December 18th, the underground magazine "Oz's" offices were visited by about a dozen uniformed and plain-clothes policemen, and two police-dogs. Producing a warrant issued under the Obscene Publications Act, they asked everyone not directly concerned with the magazine to leave the building, cut off the magazine's telephone and locked the offices.

Some of the detectives then went on to search the nearby flats of co-editors Richard Neville and Jim Anderson. Neville was subsequently arrested and charged with possessing cannabis. At no time, says co-editor Felix Dennis, did the police produce any warrant issued under the Dangerous Drugs Act.

Returning to the "Oz" offices, the police removed a large number of copies of the past four issues of the magazine, the magazine's files, filing cabinet, subscription lists, advertising data and accounts ledgers. The magazine's telephone remained cut off for several days.

Neville appeared at West London Magistrates' Court the following day and was denied bail after police objections. The basis of these objections was that "Oz" exists to encourage young people to take drugs" and that Neville was already on bail for charges brought against the magazine earlier in the year under the Obscene Publications Act.

The National Council for Civil

Liberties has written to the Home Secretary in protest against the denial of bail to Neville and has also complained to the Lord Chancellor that Neville's solicitor was not even allowed to complete a submission for bail at the hearing.

Neville was released from Brixton Prison the following evening on a surety of £500 provided by George Melly after an appeal to a judge in chambers by his solicitor. He appeared again at the magistrates court on Monday, December 28th and on Monday, January 5th.

Many believe that there are excellent reasons for the selection of publications such as "Oz" and "International Times" as the first targets in any campaign aimed at suppressing the underground press in this country. Both magazines have been published successfully for some years, the first issue of "Oz" appearing early in 1967 and of "International Times" in September 1966. Both have circulations of over 50,000, an exceptional figure by the standards of other underground newspapers which tend to suffer from bad distribution, lack of finance and irregular publication.

Both papers have been badly affected by charges brought against them. "International Times" needs around £3,000 to pay its defence and court costs, and the fines imposed. Following the recent trial on homosexual ads, "Oz" is struggling to bring out a "safe" issue in mid-January, but the magazine has been badly crippled by the loss of most of its material to the police.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FOUNDER'S MESS

SIR,—With reference to the letter in the last edition of "Redbrick" rather dramatically entitled "Founders Devastated," the Biological Society Committee would like to compliment the author on his liberal imagination. Anyone reading that "a horrible brown mess—consisting of potash and beer had consumed Founders" must have thought that the Biology Society was trying to alleviate the then present sewage disposal problem in Founders!

In fact the horrible brown mess consisted of a liberal sprinkling of flour confined to approximately one half of the floor and a few chairs. The flour and water had been used

as part of a sketch in the Freshers' cabaret, during which it had unfortunately been dissipated over the floor. The bulk of the mess was removed that night, the remainder being removed by 9.30 a.m. the following day—by biologists.

The Biol. Soc. appreciates that the mess (for want of a better word) was rather excessive and regret any inconvenience to the cleaning service. However, we would like to emphasise that it was an unforeseen occurrence and the people concerned did their utmost to alleviate the situation.

May I suggest that Mr. P. Dawes in future saves himself embarrassment by obtaining the full facts and restraining his emotions before commenting in public.

BIOL. SOC. COMMITTEE.

D-DAY

DEAR SIR,—The University branch of Lloyds Bank Ltd. and all other branches of joint stock banks will be closed to the public on Thursday and Friday, February 11th and 12th, 1971, and open again for business on Monday, February 15th, 1971. Yours sincerely, H. E. TONKS.

Personal

GEORGE HARRISON, "All Things Must Pass." Played once. £4 5s., o.n.o. (cost £5).—Maxine Linnell via U.P.H.

ANY information sought on minor collision between Mini and Bedford Van on Pritchatts Road (near Health Centre) about 10 a.m. last Wednesday. Please phone 440 1287. (6-6.30 p.m.).

ARTIST needs a strong, reliable girl to cook, wash and model and be a constant source of inspiration. —Telephone 440-3150 and ask for Mike.

FARRAGO?

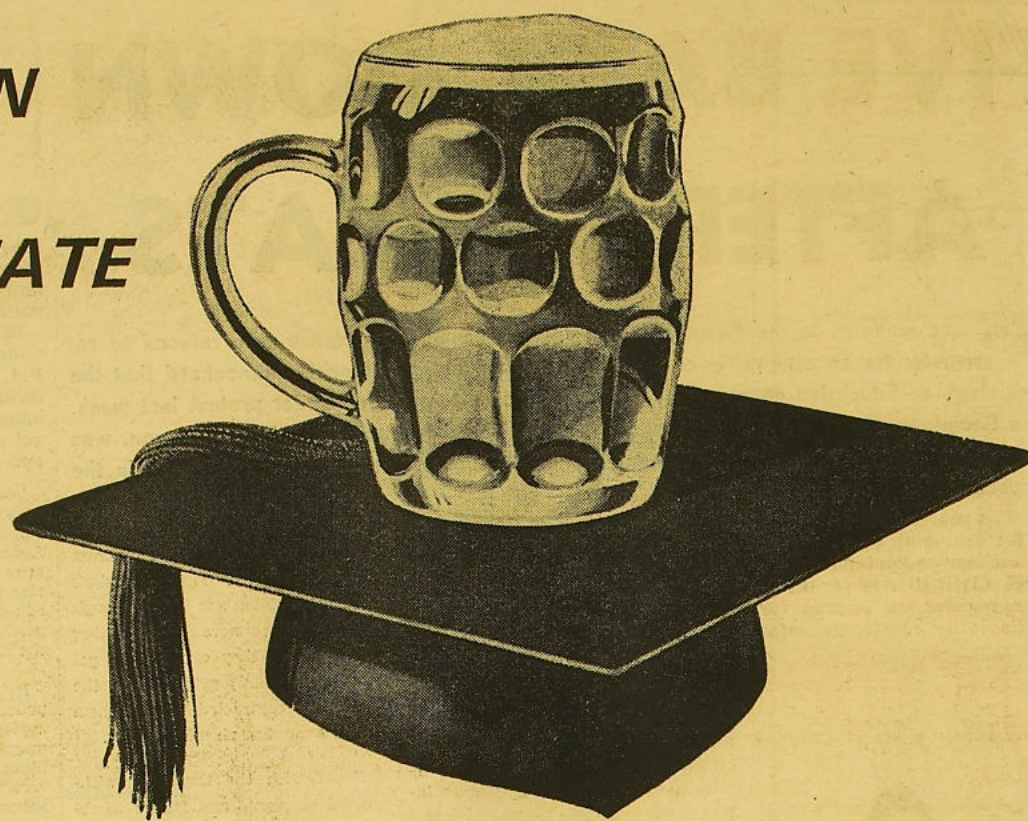
DEAR SIR,—I regret that your Christmas break in publication prevented me from replying earlier to the letter from Messrs. King and Friedberg in your last issue of last term, in which they made certain allegations regarding my attitudes to comprehensive schools.

From my knowledge of these two gentlemen I can readily accept that they may be unable to distinguish nuances of meanings in plain English sentences. However, I venture to hope that this inability is not shared by the majority of Guild Council which passed my original motion, nor indeed by any person conversant with my views. I remain confident that such people will have recognised Messrs. King and Friedberg's letter as the farrago of tendentious misrepresentation it undoubtedly is.

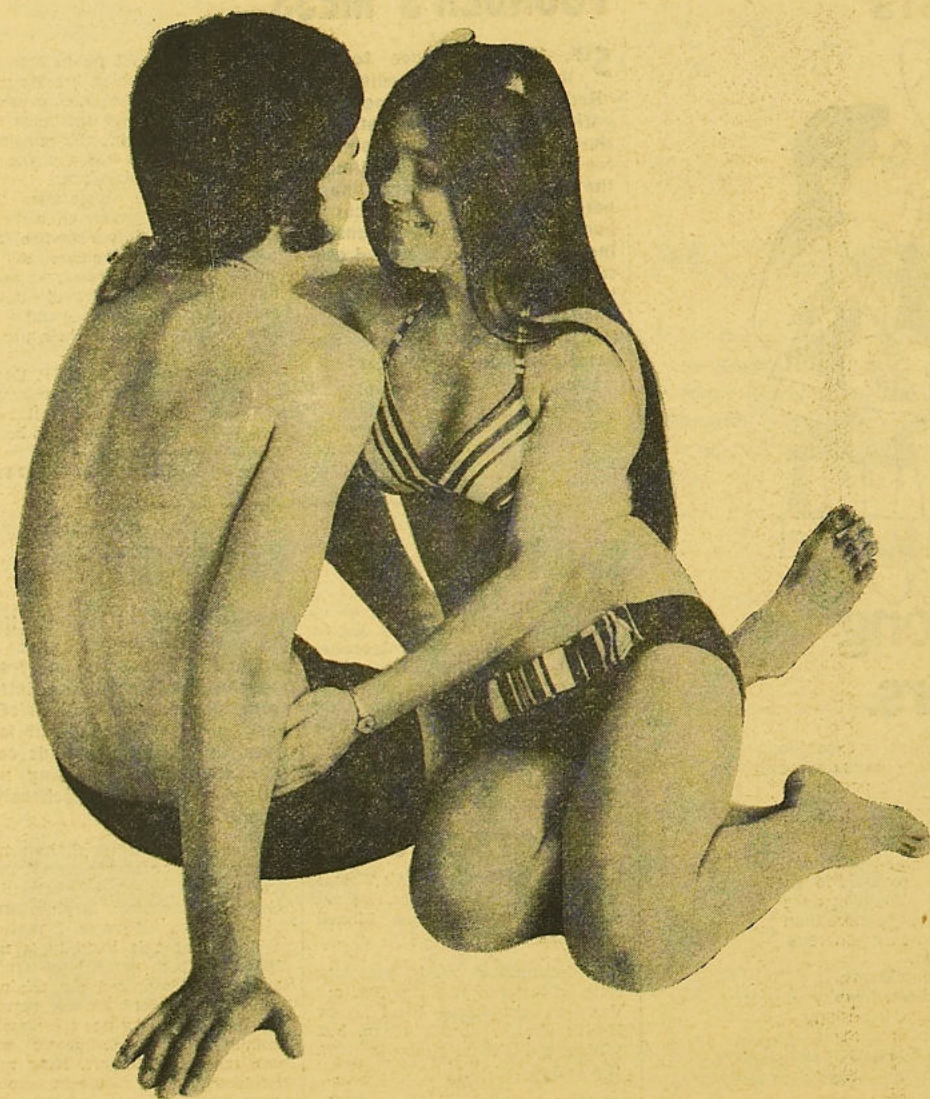
Yours faithfully, B. J. MORRIS.

From **FRESHMAN**
To **GRADUATE**

**M&B
BREW
XI**



ALWAYS A FIRST



**For the next 15 days
these young people
will live together**

UNTIL NOW THEY HAD NEVER MET

They have discovered the special excitement of a villaparties holiday. So could you. Come and be yourself. Relax in a mediterranean villa with an intimate group of young people (18-30) all intent on having the most enjoyable holiday of their lives.

You can ride, skin dive, dance, water-ski, go sailing and then completely relax around a warm friendly beach barbecue. Finish the day with a midnight dip! Find your own romance and excitement in the most exciting holiday of your life. Fill in this coupon to receive your fully detailed colour brochure.

**15 days in Spain
Greece or
Minorca**

FROM 32 GNS

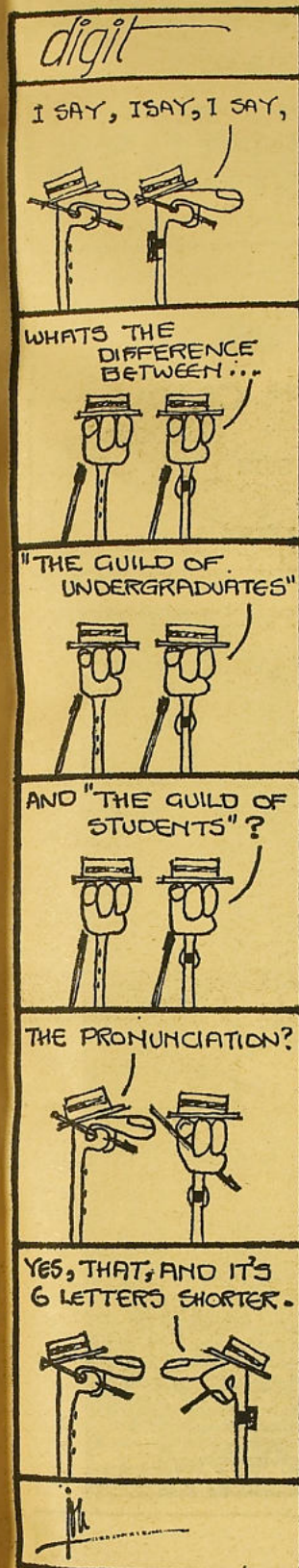
**FULLY
INCLUSIVE**

VILLAPARTIES
Hullfield House 41-46 Piccadilly London W1V 0HE Tel: 01-734 8843

Name _____

Address _____

Brochure equality service
Tel: 083-283 1242
5100



Student Radio

STUDENTS from the University produced their first programme in a weekly series for the B.B.C.'s new local radio station, Radio Birmingham.

The programme, which is called Concourse, was broadcast last Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. At the moment, the programme is being run by Birmingham students but it is hoped that in future programmes other Universities and colleges in the area will also provide material.

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY
Institute for Educational
Technology

APPLICATIONS are invited for a Research Studentship in connection with a programme of research in teaching and learning in university science courses. Candidates should have a good honours degree in a science subject, and some experience in education is desirable, although not essential. The studentship is of value £250 p.a. initially for two years and may be increased through dependents' allowance, postgraduate experience allowance or older students allowance. Students are permitted to carry an additional £100. The successful candidate will be expected to register for M.Phil. or Ph.D. Apply to L. R. B. Elton, I.E.T., University of Surrey, Guildford, Surrey, from whom further particulars and application forms can be obtained.

Academic Freedom and References

by Prof. H. S. Ferns

The following statement by Professor H. S. Ferns is published in full in answer to the article, "Political Influences over Ostergaard."

IN "Redbrick," November 25th, 1970, a "news" story appeared on the front page quoting a colleague's statement to the effect that I stabbed Dr. Ostergaard in the chest after I had stabbed him in the back. Mere vulgar abuse is not libellous, and in any case I should be reluctant to seek the protection of the courts against this kind of harassment and irresponsibility because I believe that the vast majority of students and teachers in the University of Birmingham do not condone this kind of barbarism nor are they contributing to the decline of standards of human conduct of which this is an example. However, the article needs an answer.

The "news" in the article raises two issues: both false.

(1) The issue of academic freedom.

For more than six months a small group of teachers and students calling themselves the Action Committee for Academic Freedom has been strenuously endeavouring to establish the belief among teachers, students and the wider public that academic freedom has been impaired in the University of Birmingham.

They have not succeeded for the very good reason that there is real academic freedom in this university and, indeed, more than many reasonable people would regard as necessary for the purposes of free scientific and moral enquiry.

Dr. Ostergaard, one of the principal activists on the subject of academic freedom, is himself a conspicuous example of the liberality of the University of Birmingham. For seventeen years he has freely, and often at great length, expressed without hindrance his views about university government, wider political issues, intellectual questions and the social mores of the community.

He has been promoted, given generous leave of absence, supported in applications for assistance from various foundations and within the last twelve months has been given a merit increment on the head of his department and the Board of his Faculty.

The freedom enjoyed by Dr. Ostergaard belongs to everyone in this University. The Rt. Hon. Enoch Powell has spoken here without the sort of hullabaloo which has disgraced some other universities, and this is equally true of others with opposing but equally provocative views. The variety and difference of opinion which can be readily observed in public lectures and meetings in the university is equally true of the academic courses.

Anyone can criticise anything. An example can be readily cited from the current official handbook of the Guild issued to every freshman upon arrival: "... the typical university course is stultifying and consciousness-restricting; ... the University is a blind slave to a corrupt and inhumane society; ... instead of an enquiring and curious intellect, the average student leaves with a set of conditioned reflexes fitting him only to be a technocratic automaton." (p.30).

This is balderdash, but it is freely published and paid for out of funds provided by all the students no matter what their views may be. To say that academic freedom is

seriously impaired in a university where the Action Committee for Academic Freedom preaches its doctrines and harasses and abuses its critics is cant and nonsense.

Academic freedom does not include the right to employment. Employment in a British university, like employment anywhere in Britain, is a matter of contract. A contract is an engagement by two parties, neither of whom is obliged to act except under terms of mutual advantage negotiated by the parties free from duress or pressure.

For the past six months there has been a malignant agitation carried on by teachers and students of this and other universities which seeks to assert that an injustice has been done to a certain Mr. Atkinson, and that in this way academic freedom has been impaired.

The fact is that a legitimately-appointed committee of this University, representative of all the Faculties and the several levels of teachers and research workers, refused unanimously to enter into a contract of employment with this Mr. Atkinson for good reasons which were apparent to themselves at the time and are now apparent to everyone.

(2) The issue of writing references.

Dr. Ostergaard and Mr. C. R. Hinings have sought to persuade the Association of University Teachers to adopt a "code of conduct" which would prevent anyone writing a reference from giving information about a teacher's views and actions as a member of the university community. The Association of University Teachers has rejected the proposals of Dr. Ostergaard and Mr. Hinings.

It is right for the Association to have done so. Dr. Ostergaard and Mr. Hinings, like everyone else, are entitled to hold and express their views about anything including university affairs. No university is obliged, however, to employ anyone without taking account of his or her record as a member of a university community, and no man or woman with any self-respect would wish to have information suppressed about their record or honestly-held convictions.

If, for example, a man advocates and organises campaigns of harassment directed at individuals with whom he disagrees, notice must be taken of this just as one would take account of the advocacy and practice of violence. To suppress information about men or women with records of such advocacy and practice is a gross betrayal of trust and an injustice to others, and must simply be described as dishonesty.

The experience of the past year has clarified two important tasks

for the Grimond review body considering the charter and structure of the University. The first is the need, in the interest of academic freedom for all and justice to individuals, to preserve and strengthen the safeguards in our appointments procedure against breaches of confidence; the involvement of teachers, students and the public in agitation on behalf of candidates for appointment; favouritism towards friends on the part of appointing bodies; and the manipu-

lation of criteria for appointment.

The second is to insure the protection of individual teachers and students from bullying and harassment by partisans of a particular point of view and the defence of the University against attack in the name of freedom by teachers and students who resort to violence and to the "non-violent" style of harassment and agitation, the theory of which has been set forth by Dr. Ostergaard in his article in the last number of "Redbrick."

N.U.S. DRAMA FESTIVAL

THIS year's National Students Drama Festival, organised by the "Sunday Times" in association with N.U.S., appears to have suffered from few of the setbacks of previous years. This may well have been a result of the decision to make it non-competitive.

Partly because of the bad atmosphere experienced in Manchester last year and partly because of organisational problems G.T.G., Birmingham's theatre group, decided not to enter this year's Festival. They seem to have missed a situation that may have helped them to get out of the lapse they appear to be going through at the moment.

Of the 66 student productions entered, 12 were seen at Southampton between December 29th and January 3rd. The programme was supplemented by four student and four professional "fringe" performances.

Paul Swain, a medical student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, was presented with the £150 Albion Productions Award for the best new full-length play. His play/documentary, "The Mirror and the Star," was enthusiastically received at the Festival. The Sunday Times Award of £100, for writers of shorter plays, went to Gabriel Josipovici, an English lecturer at Sussex University.

CHANGES IN B.Ed.

SENATE has approved in principle—with certain modifications—a report from the University's School of Education recommending changes in the B.Ed. degree course. At present Birmingham, in common with some other universities, does not award a B.Ed. with Honours.

The School of Education believe this to be a disadvantage to the better students and recommended that provision be made for an Honours section in the B.Ed. degree. Another proposal is that of the inclusion of a new component in the degree course which recognises the way in which subjects are taught.

It now remains for formal regulations to be drafted by Senate and Council to give effect to the changes.

EMERGENCY GRANT FUND

WELFARE COMMITTEE are trying to set up a fund to help students who get into impossible financial difficulties. Four thousand letters were distributed across the campus at the beginning of last week giving an outline of the purpose of the fund and asking for donations of £1 per student. Also examples of the sort of case where the fund would be used were given.

Oliver O'Toole, Welfare Chairman said: "The main object of the fund is to provide a last resort when everything else has been tried and failed. At the moment we can do nothing for some students because of the legislative restrictions of the grant system. Applications will be considered by myself, Bob Hughes (the University Welfare Officer) and an independent person from outside the University."

When asked about the success of the fund he remarked: "Of course, the success of the fund depends on the extent to which students are willing to donate. We are also considering appealing to members of staff and organisations other than the University. However, we can't do this without the first movement coming from the students."

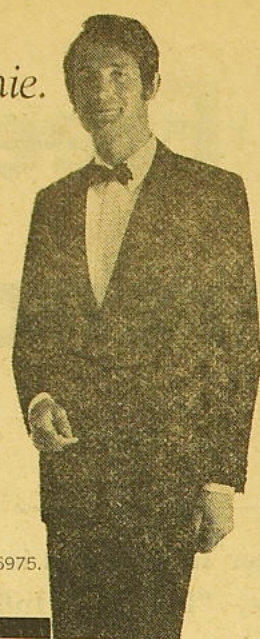
There's nothing cheap about Dormie. Except the price.

Dinner Suit
£1.95 (39/-)

You'll be delighted with the quality and styling of Dormie hire-clothes. They're beautifully tailored by Sumrie in superb materials. And they're cut on the latest lines to bring out the best in you. Dormie know exactly what you'll need to wear whatever the occasion. And they have all the right accessories, too.

DORMIE
MENSWEAR LIMITED

25 Bennetts Hill, Birmingham 2. Tel: 643 6975.
Also at 10 Mail Square, Solihull. Tel: 7893.
26 Birmingham Road, Sutton Coldfield. Tel: 1186.



STUDENTS INSURANCE BUREAU

A. MARMOT & CO.
Apex House, Grand Arcade,
High Road, London, N.12.

B. R. BOOTH & CO.
Spencer House, Digbeth,
Birmingham 5.

S. HEYLIN & CO.
208 Corn Exchange,
Manchester 4.

redbrick NEEDS STAFF

FEATURES : NEWS : SPORT
& REVIEW WRITERS
GOOD PROSPECTS

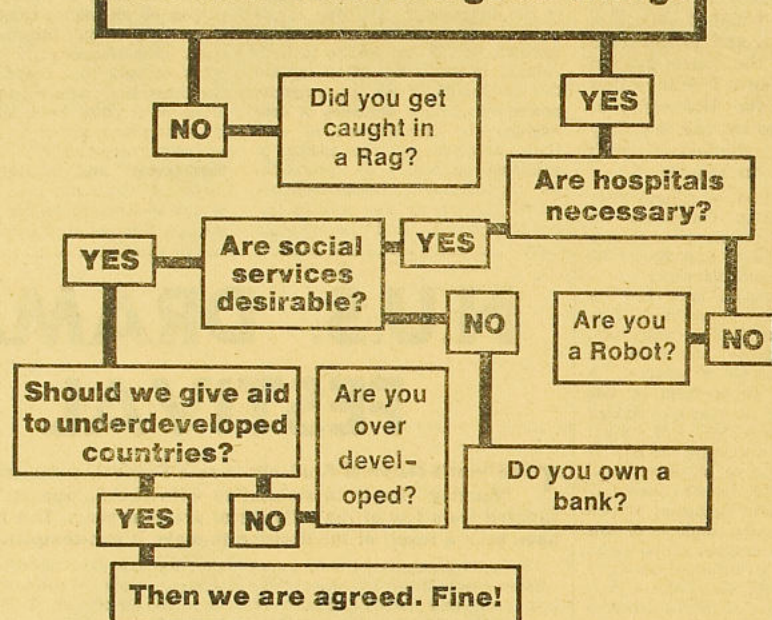
Apply "Redbrick" Office, 2nd floor Union.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29th
at MASON HALL

HAWKWIND PLUS CRADLE
DISCOS * LIGHTS * CARTOONS
BAR EXTENSION

8 p.m. TICKETS 6/6d.

Are universities a good thing?



Of course, it all has to be paid for, but as long as someone sees to it that we pay our fair share . . . fair's fair after all.

But what is fair? It's a job to tell. In fact it's a very good job to tell. It's a responsible, well paid job which perhaps you could do, if you're fairminded. What's the job? An Inspector of Taxes. Fairminded? Oh yes. An Inspector must appreciate other people's point of view. It is his job to interpret the Tax laws in a way that is just, both to the taxpayer and the State. He assesses taxes. He negotiates with companies and individuals, accountants and solicitors, to agree chargeable income. The sums of money involved can run into millions of pounds.

To become an Inspector, you would need a degree in Honours.

If you start at 21, you will, with normal progress in your training, be earning over £2,100 within 2 years and over £2,700 by the time you're 27; in your mid-thirties you should be on a scale taking you up to £4,555. By 40, a successful man will be on a scale rising to £5,640, and there are higher posts still.

There is an additional allowance of up to £125 p.a. if you work in London.

Talk to your University Appointments Officer or send for the booklet "In Command at 30" which explains in more detail the career prospects and the work involved. You will then be invited to visit a nearby Inspector and see for yourself what kind of work he does.

Write to: Civil Service Commission,
Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants.
Please quote reference 320/131

WRITE/DRAW FOR THE NEW STATESMAN. See current issue for details of Student Journalists Competition. At bookstalls and newsagents, Fridays 10p.

NEW STATESMAN

Politics, books, the arts. Edited by Richard Crossman.

STUDENT SUBSCRIPTION: £4 a year; six months £2. Details of college, course, final year, with payment, to NEW STATESMAN, Great Turnstile, WC1V 7JH.

A Gas age training...

Whatever career you choose, at West Midlands Gas Board you can be sure that you will get a first class training that will be an invaluable base for your future.

At West Midlands Gas Board we have entered a really exciting era. Natural Gas - pollution free, versatile, cheap - is the energy of today. The domestic and industrial demands are increasing, new uses being exploited. There is now a great need for Graduates with new ideas, drive and ambition.

Use Your Degree in 1971 to the maximum personal benefit by getting a thorough professional training in one of Britain's pace-setting industries.

Graduates are needed in our Service Engineering and Marketing Departments. You will soon get responsibility, job satisfaction and early promotion to Managerial level.

For more information write, giving brief personal details and the type of degree you are studying, to the Senior Personnel Officer (Sales & Service), West Midlands Gas Board, 5 Wharf Lane, Solihull, Warwickshire.

Gas - the civilised fuel

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

586 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK
(2 doors from Woolworths)

FOR BEER, CIDER, WINES & SPIRITS
CALL AT

Morris's Wine Stores

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

Accommodation problems— —the ANSWER ?

THE student population of a city the size of Birmingham is large and diverse, embracing a variety of nationalities and personalities. The factor that unites everyone from the left wing bohemian, to the scholastic recluse is their quest for a home. The usual three years spent at University by an undergraduate is a period of transition from adolescence to maturity, from dependence on the family unit to self-sufficiency within the framework of society. During this period of emotional development and intellectual stimulation, the student needs a stable environment which can be afforded without paying the majority of a hard-won grant in exorbitant rents.

Certain specialised aspects of student housing have remained almost totally unconsidered until recently. The post-graduate requires facilities for intensive study. Married students (especially those with young children) need the amenities enjoyed by their wage-earning counterparts of economic levels. As society requires higher grades of qualification and demand grows for the retraining of adults, so the requirements of those attending universities become more complex.

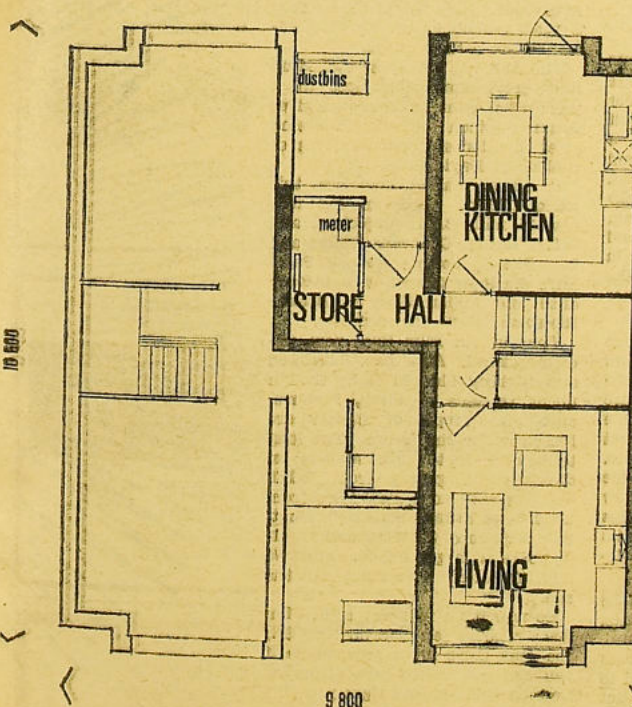
In a situation where two-thirds of the students out of 7,000 at the University must find homes on the commercial market, where the expansion of the undergraduate population (about 2,000 in the next five years) means that the building programme at present projected by the University authorities will merely maintain the existing proportions. It is reasonable that some efforts be made by the student body to provide their own housing.

The rate of development in the decaying central areas of Birmingham will ensure that many existing

sources of accommodation will cease to be available in the near future. It is in these twilight areas that many students find economic, if not wholly desirable, homes. The local authority developments replacing sub-standard housing are rightly directed at rehousing the residents and clearing the housing list.

The private developments replacing spacious, and now flatted, houses in substantial grounds are directed at buyers and tenants with incomes far above even the collective grants of a number of students sharing.

by Russell Wilson
and Paul Dodgson



Ground floor plan of proposed flats.

Landladies

In the case of lodgings, the question of landladies arises. The "student image" at the moment is not a good one, and this fact coupled with other reasons—such as the gradual disappearance of large houses suitable for this purpose—means that the number of landladies available is not increasing in correspondence to the growing number of students.

In order to get a good flat it is necessary to start looking well before the end of the summer term—a factor which can, and does, often interfere with examinations.

The reason for this is that demand far exceeds supply—there are just not enough good flats to go round. The result of this is that often students end up living in accommodation which is unsatisfactory for the purposes of academic work.

The building of a new hall does not seem to be the answer to this problem.

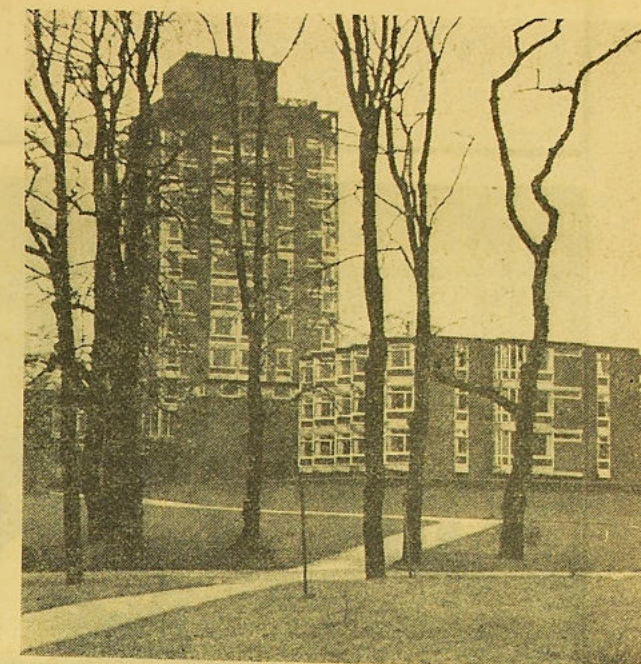
This University and other universities have shown that university flats can be built at a reasonable cost, to accommodate a large number of people in good conditions for student living.

Problems of Halls

A hall brings with it the problems of mass dining facilities along with the need to employ a large number of staff to maintain the building. Flats avoid this expense and seem to be far more popular among students—judging by the number of people who applied for places at Griffin Close.

It would, therefore, appear that unless the financial climate improves and substantial provisions are made in the near future to counter the present trends the situation is likely to worsen for the students of the University of Birmingham and their colleagues at the University of Aston and the numerous other institutions centred on the city.

The principle of voluntary non-profit-making organisations to build and manage housing developments was established in the middle of last century and has survived and been consolidated by the housing



legislation of this century. The field of student housing is one in which the charging of economic rents based on actual costs is especially desirable. At a time when students are claiming greater responsibility in the running of their affairs and when society is requiring graduates to display management ability it is appropriate that student bodies should seek to solve their own housing problem.

market should it prove necessary to realise the capital investment.

The costs associated with the maintenance of communal arts in hostels and block of flats is thus eliminated. The student occupants would be fully responsible for the interior of the dwelling. Management of external works and administration generally would be undertaken by the Society.

The first and second floors each have an identical arrangement of accommodation: two study bedrooms and a bathroom with clothes-drying facilities. The ground floor houses a large dining kitchen and storage for trunks, etc., and a communal living-room which may be used as a fifth study-bedroom.

Undergraduates may favour the latter arrangement with their limited grants; postgraduates would no doubt require the facility of an extra living area and afford to reduce the number of students in the house to four. Access to the house for refuse collection and facilities for meter-reading and deliveries in the absence of the occupants are provided.

Birmingham student dwellings

The Guild of Students of Birmingham University have enlisted the support of interested professionals to research into the feasibility of forming an organisation to build and manage accommodation designed for students. The result has been the formation by the Guild of "Birmingham Student Dwellings." The aim of this body is to build and run flats or houses for students by students.

£2-£3 rent

Central heating is means of a low pressure hot water system with fan-assisted convector units in individual rooms to allow output to be increased to raise the temperature in a short period. Clothes-drying cupboards are provided in the bathrooms and are heated on the same system. The services installation and fittings in the dwellings are to Parker Morris standards for a comparable family house.

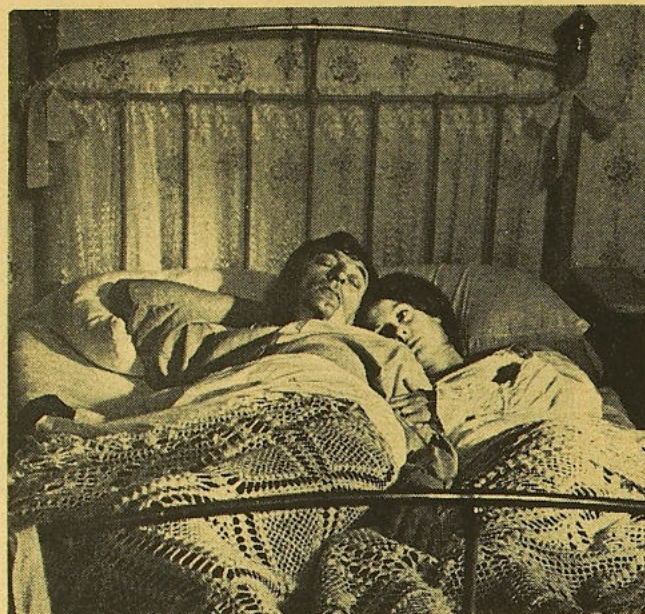
At this stage the cost of the project can only be approximately assessed but an estimate based on current prices and on average land costs, etc., is in the region of £6,000 per unit. The rent charged to the student would, one hoped, be in the region of £2-£3 each per week, and so would be comparable to that charged at Griffin Close.

As always, the feasibility of the project will depend on the availability of capital. If finance is forthcoming the Guild of Students will have helped to open up a new concept in student accommodation and have brought into being an organisation which can effectively tackle this field of housing in the future. Such an achievement would remove one more pressure on the already acute housing situation in Birmingham.

Communal living

The accommodation which has already been designed is a three-storey house to accommodate a maximum of five students. This number is considered large enough to make communal living economically viable but small enough to avoid the creation of an institutional atmosphere and complex management problems. The form of the dwelling allows it to be sold or offered on lease on the open

Accommodation built for and by students



Ryan's Daughter

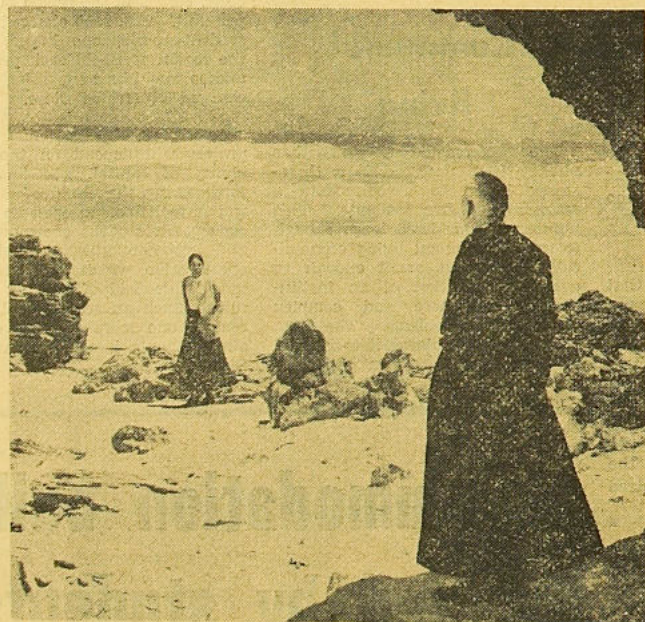
CINEMA

DIRECTOR David Lean is back on the screen with M.G.M.'s "Ryan's Daughter" (A.B.C., Bristol Road) after the tremendous worldwide success of "Doctor Zhivago" and "Lawrence of Arabia."

David Lean, who has 25 Academy Awards to his credit, has lost his touch in this film. The film in parts is just a drag. The lengthy love-making scenes seem designed specifically to satiate any sexual feeling that may have been aroused in the audience.

The only thing that kept me in my seat for the film was the masterly photography by the cinematographer, Freddie Young. As usual, Freddie has captured all that is involved. If there is anything great about this film it is the photography.

The story, written by Robert Bolt, is set in a remote Irish village at the time of the Irish troubles in 1916 with larger events of the Easter Rising and the Western Front unfolding beyond the horizon of the tiny coastal village where this love-story begins.



Sarah Miles and Trevor Howard in "Ryan's Daughter"

"Zabriske Point" (ABC New St.) annoyed me in some ways. I wasn't sure what it was about, and I'm not convinced Antonioni knows either. The attitudes of the central characters towards protest and revolution is not satisfactorily resolved. Neither the girl (Diana Helprin) nor the boy (Mark Frechette) are involved in serious conflict but merely hang around the fringes fence-sitting. Yet the film starts off in a meeting of students who are about to create a confrontation on their campus: protest-revolution is presumably an important element in the background of the subsequent action, but the issues aren't made clear.

This brings me to the end of the film, avoiding the plot (if there is one) in between, to the explosion sequence. Although this sequence is very beautiful to watch, it again brings out the film's own uncertainty. The explosion takes place in the imagination of the girl; in a sense it could be said to be visionary. But the stylisation of the sequence—its repetition from different angles, close-up and slow motion—stop you thinking. "Why have an explosion?" and just make you consider the aesthetic arrangement of lumps of meat and eggs flying from an exploding fridge like satellites in "2001."

In effect, throughout the film real issues tend to be blurred by "arty" effects. I felt the use of soft focus in traffic had little or no justification. Equally it seemed unnecessarily confusing in the opening sequences.

With these reservations, however, the film is still interesting and does have its good moments. The desert duel between Mark in a stolen plane and Diana in her car is a particularly good sequence, as is that in which Mark attempts to return the plane, now decorated in bright colours and "ban this and that" slogans, to the airport only to be confronted by blood-hungry police.

Rod Taylor gives a good performance as a business executive (it's his desert oasis dream-house which explodes at the end) curiously involved with the girl.

Surely symbolic of something, Zabriske Point is the other important character in the film. The love-in that takes place there (another flight of the girl's imagination) is quite funny but again I thought pointless. But perhaps, as the film would have it, I'm on a "reality trip" (whatever that's supposed to be).

BOB SABIN

JO, just out of Borstal, parents unknown and an outlawed life to come. Del, an apprentice welder with an early Ray Davies haircut and big boots. Irene, 15 and a schoolgirl, her father in gaol and her mother in a high-rise flat. "Bronco Bullfrog" (Jacey this week) is about kids nobody bothers about. They have Hollywood fantasies and end up eating in a Wimpy Bar in the West End. They come from the East End, and have no desire other than to get out of it.

"Bronco Bullfrog" is in the same family as "Saturday Night and Sunday Morning," "Room at the Top" and later "Kes." They are all part of a British trend to make socialist-Marxist statements about small people in tight places. "Bronco Bullfrog" has the same greyneess, flatness of tone and low climaxes. And like the other films it uses strong humour in its characterisation to balance the picture.

The characters' lives seem to be made up of tragicomic accidents, unforeseen and almost unnoticed, but forcing them into positions where they have to make a stand to stay alive. Jo (Bronco) can't get over Borstal, is isolated and frightened. He "does a job," trying to squeeze out of it its necessity a

small, personal grandeur. The electrical goods he steals are never sold, but lie around his house being used in pathetic orgies of luxury, a stark comment on their intrinsic value.

Everything they do is spoilt by their own incompetence and hazy perception of reality, or by a fatally cruel and isolating world. Del steals for kicks; he can't believe that all there is to life is a job and wandering the streets, and his dying gaiety and childhood are beautifully portrayed. Watching the film is going through his disillusionments with him, looking for the happiness he has been promised and finding only listlessness and antipathy.

He is never drastically hurt, never directly oppressed, but still the little incidents borne out of nothing alter his course—his motorbike is run over, he is mildly roughed up in a subway, his ideal life in the country with Irene destroyed by an uninterested relative.

It is the building up of these accidents which draws him towards the life Jo leads—his impulses are for freedom and for his own satisfactions, and his impulses lead him to fight back. Finally Jo runs away from Del and Irene, having helped them knock out a police inspector who came to take Irene home. Irene and Del are bound by a growing past as they are bound to their origins.

The theme is depressing and already over-used. But "Bronco Bullfrog" still manages a disarming brightness, coming from the adolescent hopes of its characters and from the play-acting they substitute for real violence. The language is pure East End, bringing people together more through their gestures than their words. The direction is light and unobtrusive, and saves the film from an overbearing social heaviness.

The Jacey is again showing a good contrasting programme with "Lord of the Flies," a far heavier, more literary film, but also involved in the games people play and the games they are.

MAXINE LINNELL, B.F.P.

AFTER a wasted five-year hunt for a downtown cinema, the British Film Institute last night opened its Midlands Film Theatre in the 200-seat Studio Theatre at Cannon Hill Park. The M.F.T. will play films one week in every five, open as a public cinema Monday to Saturday, and for members (50p a year, reductions on weekday entrance) on fifth Sundays.

The M.F.T.'s hastily scratched-up first programme looks lost in a week when commercial chance gives Brum umpteen films worth seeing after months' starvation rations of rubbish or David Lean.

It shows Ealing comedies this week, looking good on first-rate new 35 mill. B.F.I. projectors, and before Easter, Chabrol's *Killers* and *Les Biches*, Losey's *Boom!*, Pasolini's *Matthew Gospel*, with *Intolerance* and Lillian Gish in *Broken Blossoms* (1919) for members.

That is, old Film Soc, new, undistinguished, Arts Lab, borrowed and nothing blue in sight though uncut versions of *Flesh*, *Performance* and *Tropic of Cancer* are hinted at for the future. The long term aim is to mix seasons on directors or genres from B.F.I. archives with good, new films from London. (*L'Enfant Sauvage*? What-ever happened to *Woodstock*?) If it works a larger cinema, with 70 mill. facilities, is waiting on the site.

So now it's a four-way split. Film Soc.; random selection on New St.; the Arts Lab's great programme if you can get there; possibilities at Cannon Hill. It isn't right yet. It's a chilly feeling when the movies become art in a bourgeois museum.

MICHAEL GREEN

reviews

THEATRE

Geoffrey Buckley returned to the Rep. Theatre last night to present his late-night show. It is nearly a year since he last saw him perform his role as Pierrot the Commedia figure, and he has not improved. The show for the first time will be impressed by Mr. Buckley's titillity and precision.

However, his character delusion is a little rough round the edges for an artist whose whole performance depends on clarity and precision. The programme presented on a good day does not do justice to Buckley's previously high standard of his skill at the double-

He seems, in fact, to have lost his range of pieces, and individual devices within a piece, so that, for instance, in "The Nut," we are treated to a double-

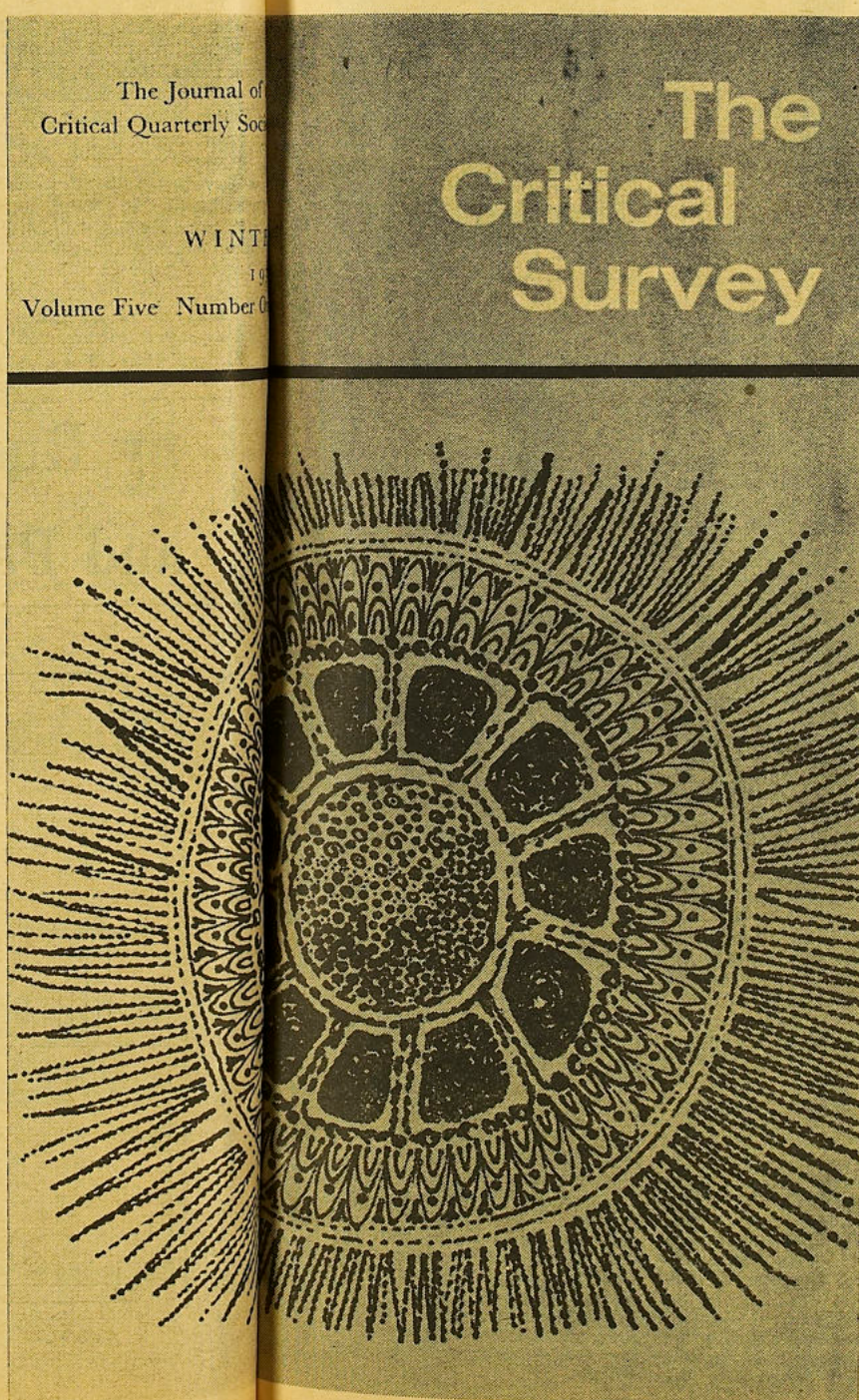
His scenes are all of similar mime, and it is his peculiar economy, and though one

patience to follow Pierrot to animal to animal, one is able to conceive of the string of action being simultaneous.

As we are still in the throes of the pantomime season, there is little to see in any of the local theatres. The B.B.C. presented us with the only other theatrical event of the week. The difference between Ian McKellen's stage and television performances of "Richard III" was marked and all on the profit side for the TV. viewer.

Gone were the eccentricities of the stage version's stylised movement; the close-up camera revealed McKellen's subtle nuances of rousing power and intimate passion. There were gimmicks carried over from the stage, such as the cliché of the wavering voice, and others created by the medium, like the mirror reflection. Nevertheless a new dimension was added by the camera. The prison scene, which never worked in the theatre, was successful because of its claustrophobic quality and the perfect pattern made by the actor's face and hands between the bars. Rarely can it be said that television can improve the staging of Shakespeare.

BRIAN BUTLER.

The Journal of
Critical Quarterly Soc

WINT

Volume Five Number

The
Critical
Survey

BOOKS

THE Black Papers on Education are rather more colourful than their name suggests. They discuss universities, examinations and selection in terms of "mushrooms of mediocrity" and the "comprehensive confidence trick." "Progressivists" are out and Mrs. Thatcher becomes the new champion of educational reform—the latter fact alone being enough to raise students' suspicions.

Of course, the articles insist on equality in education and above all the alleviation of the so-called deprived status of the working class. It always seems that the people most obsessed with breaking down class barriers are usually to blame anyway for their existence—hypothetical or not.

Some of the papers remind me of a recent "Punch" article on "Do We Need a Working Class?": "Once there was a time when things were quite simple. We just had three classes; upper, middle and lower. Then the sociologists came along and made everything complicated. Now we have four classes; upper, middle, lower and sociologists."

Many of the papers reject socialist ideas of comprehensive as idealistic Utopias for non-existent "beautiful people." However, some of these papers are nothing less than idealistic in some of the statements, such as, "The only way to achieve complete equality is to banish the difficult subjects."

Editors, Dyson and Cox must surely be aware that idealism increases in proportion to one's distance from the problem. There are several good—although unoriginal—arguments against comprehensive and a fair collection of statistics on their achievements so far. These are scattered between more irrational observations on the effects of comprehensives—Mothers often deplored the deterioration in their children's language, accent, manners and morals and on "permissive" education—"If adults withdraw and allow children to find their own true personality, the result is a vacuum into which all the worst features of the pop and drug world can enter."

If not rational in their arguments, the papers' attitude to exams are often at least amusing if you have either just completed, just boycotted or just failed an exam—"The human mind enjoys effort and competition; enjoys examinations if these are properly set and fairly marked."

Other equally amusing and equally cynical (?) observations are made in KINGSLEY AMIS' and ROBERT CONQUEST'S "A Short Educational Dictionary"—short in length, but Thatcher rather than Short in content. Their definition of continuous assessment is: "The method whereby teachers can ensure that their favourites are accepted for further education without arbitrary or irrelevant tests."

A more facetious (?) definition is that of "Marxism"—expression, mainly Irish, Brooklyn, etc. Meaning "To attend to what I am about to say."

There are some articles providing fair criticism against progressive education—where a black paper is not an excuse for the integration of the little white lies. At other times, however, authors lose reason in their desires to put forward personal viewpoints. At these times the Black Papers are as dogmatic as Mao's little red book.

BETTY HERBERT

THIS is a review of a review and you may well question its value, apart from drawing attention to the fact that the Critical Quarterly exists.

Although as a student populace we are not generally (?) interested in poetry, one of the highlights is a poem "Student Unrest," by Law-



"Warclouds over Amman" from "Leila's Hijack War"
(Pan, 6/-)

rence Lerner. He describes a futile lecture in grammar with a gentle cynicism and clever word play:—"The future is never perfect."

"Tomorrow . . . the lecturer won't be present."

He is also very amusing in analysing students' reactions to lectures: "Perhaps I ought to mention to the couple in the back row that I know of no other examples of children begotten in lectures."

Another poem, "The Photographer," by Louis Simpson, reads very cleverly like a series of shots, almost like the sequence of Sepia Stills in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid."

The remaining few poems (William Stafford) are more romantic, trying to define man's eternity in terms of Nature. They are not very original and the reader's interpretation of them could be blank rather than blank verse.

The main article is a review of both book and play version of "Miss Jean Brodie," by David Lodge. He takes the attitude that "it is a mistake to look for a single simple meaning in this book," and consequently ends up with a well thought out review.

He is very shrewd in his observation of the female sex. He points out the values and characteristics of women, their sexual drives and maternal instincts. Mr. Lodge is obviously a believer that women's charms are either fatal or foetal.

The Critical Quarterly is a very good review of 20th century literature. It is worth reading even if only to do a review of a review of a review . . .

BETTY HERBERT

"KING OF THE WITCHES" (Pan) is the story of Alex Sanders, who lives and works as a witch in Britain. In some ways it is yet another book that claims to tell all, and this one also has

ALEXIS.



"Calling down the power" from "King of the Witches"
(Pan, 5/-)

M

RY COODER is one of those ever-occurring names always appearing on the backs of L.P. covers. He has done session work for the Rolling Stones, Taj Mahal, Captain Beefheart and even Paul Revere and the Raiders. Lately his work was prominent on the "Performance" L.P. which merits more praise than it received. He has now made an album in his own right and it demonstrates his versatile and imaginative musical ability. Ry Cooder is vocals, guitar, slide guitar, mandolin and bass. Van Dyke Parks, previously involved with the Quicksilver Messenger Service, plays the piano and produced the L.P. A wide selection of musicians is also used.

Side one starts with a song called "Alimony." You may wonder how somebody could write a song about "the allowance which a husband may be ordered to pay his wife after a legal separation"; nevertheless, a certain Tommy Tucker did, and Ry Cooder's version is particularly good. His voice is attractively low and is used with great effect as a contrast to an assortment of "soul sisters" who join in on this number.

"One Meat Ball" is a song about a hungry little man, who with only 15 cents can afford only one meat ball. "The little man was very sad, 'cos one meat ball was all he had" contains hidden surrealist ambiguities, I am told.

The established Woody Guthrie song, "Do Re Mi" features some of the most sympathetic guitar work Randy Newman wrote "Old Kentucky Home," a very well-produced song which has the line, "Sister was short and stout, she didn't grow up she grew out" and carries the useful philosophy, "I don't care 'cos I'm all right."

Side two contains songs given a more acoustic treatment, and fewer

PINK FLOYD, at the Town Hall on December 18th, gave a full performance of "Atom Heart Mother" to open their pre-Christmas tour.

The concert began with a magnificent long session of the group's more "conventional" compositions, opening with "Alan's Psychedelic Breakfast," featuring Jimmy Young on tape recorder, followed by "Embryo"—once again with tape recorder used to supplement the group.

The main part of this half was, however, the performance of three

U

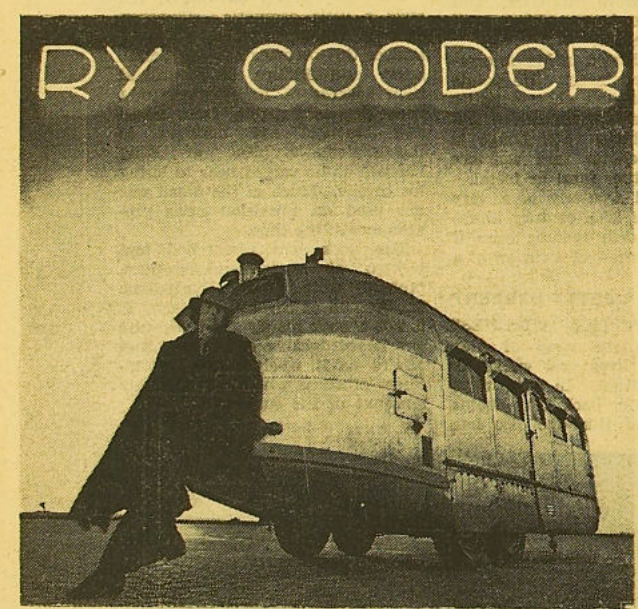
musicians are used. "Available Space" is Ry Cooder's only composition, and is a guitar piece in the John Fahey vein, but it's given a percussion accompaniment. Lead-belly's "Pigmeat" has its guts pulled out, that, its bass line is exaggerated with bassoons, a muted trumpet, a clarinet and a big cymbal, creating a very well controlled mess.

To prove his ability as an acoustic guitarist, Cooder plays Blind Blake's "Police Dog Blues," a complicated song which Stefan Grossman included on his "Teach Yourself Blues Guitar" L.P. "Going to Brownsville" is played with mandolin and bass drum which is a very effective combination of instruments. On the "Performance" album is a track called "Paris Square"; a similar bottleneck piece by Blind Willie Johnson called "Dark to the Night" is the last track.

If you want a new record and you're bored with Radio Luxembourg's "Hot Heavy Twenty," buy this one, it's a good 'un.

Thanks to Airstream for their 1937 trailer.

SIMON SHEPHERD



AT the end of last term the Birmingham public had a chance to hear Jascha Horenstein conducting Bruckner's 6th Symphony and the Prelude and Liebestod from Wagner's "Tristan and Isolde."

The Bruckner, a comparatively unfamiliar work to any English audience, is, nonetheless, a fully mature work displaying all Bruckner's finest points of style. There are some wonderful moments: the mysterious opening motive on cellos and bass under the rhythmic violins; the full orchestral announcement of that motive in E flat at the end of the development section, followed immediately by the assertive home-key of A; the exceptionally sparsely scored trio section and the finale restating the material of the first movement.

Much discussion is taking place at present as to whether Bruckner

qualifies as a member of the "Great Symphonic Tradition," and whether there is a definitive "Bruckner symphony." Certainly many of his melodic ideas are echoed throughout his symphonies, and there are many clichés peculiar to himself. If his works seem incoherent overall there is no doubting the greatness of all these ideas and, for our purposes, the freshness of invention. Horenstein brought the C.B.S.O. through with a memorable performance, despite some scruffiness in the strings.

The second half of the concert began with Siegfried's Rhine journey from Wagner's "Götterdämmerung." This work is not quite such a success in concert as its continuing place in orchestral repertoire would suggest. It is far too reliant on the audience being acquainted with the rest of the "Ring" cycle. The Tristan frag-

major works, "Interstellar Overdrive," "Heart of the Sun," and "Saucerful of Secrets." Despite the quality of presentation, this led to a top-heaviness that detracted a little from an otherwise marvellous session. The last composition was the best performed, with notably superb vocal control, from Roger Waters.

After an interval, Floyd were joined by choral and brass sections for "Atom Heart Mother," an original composition scored for an integral performance by the three sections. It stood out for the superb cohesion attained on stage.

In style, the work is a development of "Saucerful of Secrets," an elaboration rather than an innovation. Group and brass have the major parts, building on and supported by vocal melody from the choir, working to an outstanding climax where each section matched the others for effort, enthusiasm and quality.

A tremendous evening ended with the reproduction of this climax as an encore before a standing ovation.

JOHN HARDY

S

THE showing of the Pink Floyd and Jimi Hendrix films on January 21st was by far Rock Soc's most successful venture to date.

Anyone who went expecting to see Pink Floyd must have been disappointed, for their appearances totalled perhaps ten seconds, split into several quick shots, a technique used throughout the film. In spite of the incredible variety of the subject matter, the idea was overdone and monotonous, not to mention eyestrain, was the main factor by the end. The music was probably fairly early Floyd—the use of instruments was more "conventional" than on their more recent recordings, and lacked some of the inventiveness people have come to associate with Floyd. Also, because of the nature of the film, it was easy to be distracted from the music, which should have been better integrated, instead of frequently being in danger of becoming background music to a series of unconnected images.

The Hendrix film was probably nearer to what most people expected to see, being much more in a documentary style. After a brief snatch of "I Don't Live Today," it moved predictably into "Purple Haze," showing a live performance, and then to interviews and rather obvious "set pieces."

By now it was running a real risk of becoming nothing more than a recipe for instant fashionable freaks, but there was always something in Hendrix's manner making it clear that he was ahead of the publicity machine.

Worse was to come—a long Top of the Pops type sequence of a girl

ments were more fulfilling, especially bearing in mind that Horenstein had devoted the most attention and rehearsal to them. The strings, who held the show played pompously and with great taste.

Encouraged by the massive support, Rock Soc. hopes to have another film evening towards the end of term. Discos this term will be once a fortnight, beginning on February 1st, so please come along and make them all as successful as last Thursdays.

LIZ UNSWORTH

February 18th. On the following Thursday, the 25th, the guitarist John Williams will perform the guitar concert of Vivid and Rodrigo. The opportunity to hear these all too rarely performed works for solo guitar with orchestra, is one that should not be missed.

Moving on into March, on Thursday, 11th, Vaclav Hudecek will play Mendelssohn's violin concerto, always a very popular work in the concert repertoire. On the 18th, Raymond Leppard is to direct the English Chamber Orchestra (from the keyboard in authentic Baroque fashion) in a concert entirely devoted to Bach's Brandenburg Concerti.

There are two items in the concert calendar which should prove of special interest to all at this University. On March 4th, the concert will include the first Birmingham performance of "Trans-formations," an orchestral work by Peter Dickinson, for the last few years staff tutor in music at Birmingham University's extramural department, and at present lecturer and tutor in the music department itself. The piece is in five continuous sections, pivoting round a central blues-like andante, and was first performed last year at the Cheltenham Festival.

On February 11th, our own Birmingham University Musical Society chorus (conductor Ivor Keys) will join forces with the C.B.S.O., under Louis Fremaux, in a performance of Berlioz's symphony "Romeo et Juliette." It will be the first time that the choir has sung under Fremaux, and should prove to be a very memorable occasion.

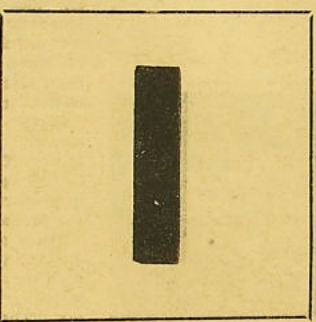
ALISON MACNAMARA



TYPICAL! I had been looking forward to writing here about Steamhammer as well as Barclay James Harvest. The cancellation by the former unfortunately halved potentially the best musical evening in the Union for quite some time.

B.J.H. frequently appear with an orchestra, write all the material and score it for full orchestra, and this is fully apparent in the quality of their solo performances. Well-balanced and thoughtful, the music is obviously classically influenced and the only slight criticism is that the melodies were not particularly memorable. Otherwise, fine arrangements from a quietly-intense band.

JOHN HEADON



in a fur coat running down endless flights of steps, enlivened only when she looked as if she might jump over the parapet. Unfortunately she didn't, and went on to spring through a wood in slow motion.

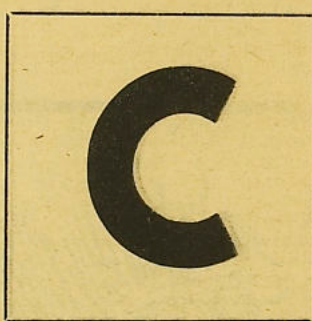
However I can forgive anything in a film which ends with a live performance of "Wild Thing"—a perfect portrait of Hendrix as musician, showman and public outrage number one. In this happy state, not even Noel Redding could irritate me.

It was all pure nostalgia, of course, with the reactions of the general public reminding us of the impact Hendrix had when he burst upon the scene, something which was perhaps forgotten, or at least dimmed, as we became accustomed to the long string of disciples and would-be imitators.

Lindsfarne. "Heavy traditional folk/blues" — or something — enjoyable sounds, superb vocals, and harmonies all round. Well-appreciated, happy songs.

Van der Graaf Generator—standard, competent rock band—not bill-toppers.

J.H.



(Town Hall, Mon., Jan. 25th) GENESIS. Much too skilled a band to open a concert. Clever arrangements of some of the most original songs I've heard for some time.

Lindsfarne. "Heavy traditional folk/blues" — or something — enjoyable sounds, superb vocals, and harmonies all round. Well-appreciated, happy songs.

Van der Graaf Generator—standard, competent rock band—not bill-toppers.

AT an international conference held in 1950, in Copenhagen, the medium-wave band, extending from about 180 metres to around 550, was divided into 135 sections. Thirteen of these channels were allocated to Britain, and the Government automatically handed them over to the B.B.C. for exclusive use. It would be less than fair to say that the B.B.C. used their monopoly position to the extent of showing complete disregard for the demands of their audience, but the public's ready acceptance of the product being marketed by the "Pirates," during the 'sixties, pointed to a fundamental flaw in the constitution of broadcasting in this country. The significance of what the pirates did, must be looked at in terms of two important factors, one purely technical and the other sociological with certain political overtones.

The first aspect relates to the purely practical problem of how, with only a limited amount of air space, new transmissions can possibly be accommodated. The second revolves around the old question of "what the public want" and whether they should be allowed to have it. These two considerations formed the foundation stones of debate on the Pirates, and they become equally relevant now, at a time when Mr. Christopher Chataway is committed

"I'm not joining commercial radio, but I'm willing to give them advice so they don't lose too much money."—Jimmy Saville

to the establishment of commercial radio, and Mr. Hughie Greene, through the Commercial Broadcasting Corporation (C.B.C.), is organising what he tells me, "will become a serious rival to television."

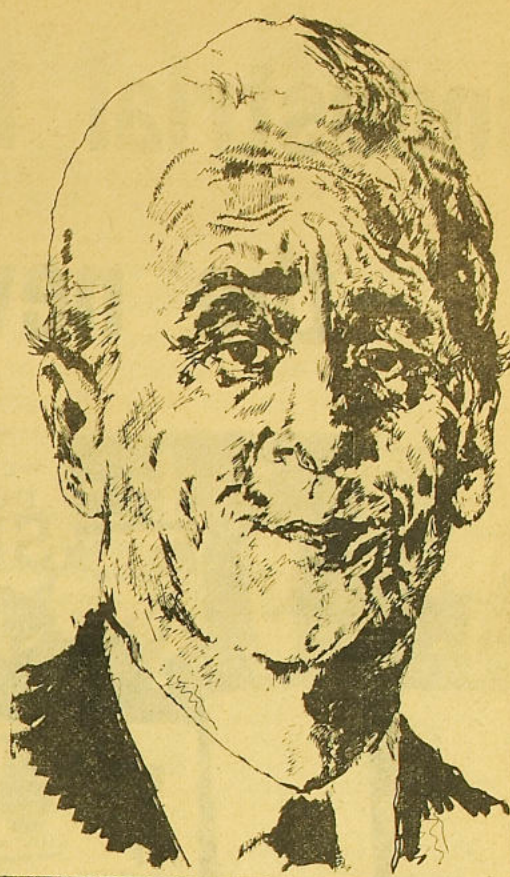
It is a characteristic of any struggle between the bureaucracy and the individual, or the small group, that when political power is exercised, the reasons for such action are always based on the rules of the game as laid down by those holding power, with no questioning of the rules taking place, since to do so would reduce the potency of the arguments of the individual or group. The individual only meets with success if he can show that the bureaucracy has broken its own rules.

In the case of Pirate Radio, the G.P.O. complained that although the public was being provided with what it wanted, the broadcasting would have to stop because airspace was being used that belonged to somebody else. However, despite the B.B.C. being given only 13 channels by the Copenhagen Conference, reference to a B.B.C. Handbook will show that the Corporation transmits on more than 13 channels; which has to be done in order to cater for the wide regionalisation of Radio 4 programmes. This opens the way for commercial radio to do one of two things. It can broadcast on channels belonging to Eastern European countries, providing it does not interfere with those stations, or it can take some of the channels at present used by the B.B.C. It can do this either on the medium wave-band or on V.H.F., but as far as Hughie Greene's C.B.C. is concerned, V.H.F. is a non-starter, as I will explain in a moment.

To meet Mr. Chataway's commitment to commercial broadcasting, B.B.C. engineers have worked out a strategy which involves the abolition of the regionalisation of Radio 4, and the coverage of local news by B.B.C. Local Radio. But here they see a problem, which in view of Greene's attitude to V.H.F. is one of their own making for the B.B.C. consider that commercial radio will want Local Radio to be closed to avoid competition. He told me that from his experience as a pilot, he had learned that while high frequencies with aircraft, they had no value in land communication, except over very short distances, such as would be encountered between a police station and a patrol car. He also referred me to the 1970 B.B.C. Handbook for the following B.E.E. evaluation of V.H.F. broadcasting:

"Portable receivers for the V.H.F. transmissions almost always have telescopic aerials, which can be extended to a length of about two feet and such aerials give quite good results in areas where the transmission is strong. Where the signal is not quite strong enough for this type of

Giving them what they want



aerial, the listener will find that the position of the aerial has a marked influence on the standard of reception and the movement of people in the room also affects it. Reception will also tend to be better upstairs than down, and sometimes impossible in basements. Results are also worse in steel-framed buildings and those built in reinforced concrete."

It seems hard to imagine the commercial radio lobby demanding the liquidation of B.B.C. Local Radio, on the grounds that it will provide too much competition.

Greene sees the format of commercial radio as being of a local character. He wants to establish about a dozen different stations each putting out their own programme. For this he will need a large number of medium-wave channels, more than he can get by courtesy of the B.B.C. and will therefore have to use Eastern European channels.

It seems hard to imagine the commercial radio lobby demanding the liquidation of Local Radio

The problem now resolves into one of making sure there is no interference, a task which is costly in the extreme, but one which the German firm of Brown-Boveri consider to be technically feasible in that they have given Greene a guarantee to the effect that all his money comes back in the event of their failing to provide such a transmission.

The sacking of Kenny Everett, last year, was the last action to be taken in the programme of obliteration of the type of broadcasting which characterised the Pirates. It is hard to say what led to their success; to divorce the product from the circumstances in which it was made, or whether such a revolution in public taste, or patronage, could ever be effected again. But despite adverse comments, such as Jimmy Saville's, "I'm not joining commercial radio, but I'm willing to give them any advice—so they don't lose too much money," Hughie Greene intends to try.

He explained to me that through his work with "Opportunity Knocks" he has been made aware of "the vast pool of talent, that tends to stagnate in places like London, Birmingham and Manchester." He has signed agreements with Equity and with the Musicians' Union for the use of artists on his stations, and unlike the Pirates believes that people don't want to listen solely to pop music. He intends to provide what one might loosely call light variety.

The events which have surrounded London Weekend Television, over the past months, provide Mr. Greene with all the justification he needs for giving the public "what they want." When the "intellectuals" as he calls them,

took over the running of L.W.T., programmes with high audience ratings such as Michael Miles "Take Your Pick" were taken off, and replaced with a bit of culture, in the

"The B.B.C. serves the intellectual (public) very well and we don't want to stop them doing it."

form of "Aquarius". (The irony of the L.W.T. situation is that with the drop in audiences and the corresponding drop in advertising revenue, London Weekend's financial difficulties have led to the visit of a fairy-godmother in the form of Rupert Murdoch.) Green maintains that if the public want panel-game entertainment then C.B.C. will give it to them; and he is quite willing to confess the object of the exercise—to make money, and lots of it.

"By drunken prophecies, libels and dreams, To set my brother Clarence and the King In deadly hate the one against the other."

—Richard III

The anti-commercial broadcasting lobby seem to be making a fundamental mistake in their strategy: reports are being proliferated to the effect that C.B.C. seek the closure of B.B.C. Local Radio; that they want to broadcast on 247 metres; that they intend to put out continuous pop-music. These arguments, while very cogent if they can be shown to be true, destroy the credibility of the opposition if C.B.C. have no such intentions. (This Richard III approach is one which the "Guardian" is using). Greene assures me he has no designs on the B.B.C.:

"The B.B.C. serves the intellectual (public) very well and we don't want to stop them doing it. . . . We want to provide the public with something they don't have."

Put like this it is difficult to see how any liberal argument can stand up against commercial broadcasting.

In talking to people around the University, in an attempt to gauge opinion, I found the best "anti" argument given by a member of the academic staff, who opposed commercial broadcasting on cultural and political grounds. He considered that the "Sun," the "Daily Mirror" and now the kind of programme that Hughie Greene envisages, represent blots on the cultural landscape. He went on to say that if one is trying to build a socialist society (which he is) then these types of communications media needed to be removed, not to mention the regressive step of introducing new ones!

Rob Levi

A KIBBUTZ . . .

What's it all about? Stay with us for a month or more. Live with us. Work with us. Scheme for the young. 18-35. Apply for details to Kibbutz Representatives, 4/12 Regent St., London, S.W.1. Tel. 01-930 5152. Ext. 322/333. Please enclose fair-sized s.a.e.

POEMS WANTED

for publication
£1,000 in cash prizes for best poems published. Small subscription involved. Send poems and s.a.e. for free editorial opinion and prize details.
Cathay Books (AH),
1 Euston Road,
London, N.W.1.

ARMS FOR SOUTH AFRICA

DEBATE:
COUNCIL CHAMBER
7.30 p.m. TONIGHT

Phone SELLY OAK 1698

CHAMON RESTAURANT

507 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM, 29

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

SPECIAL THREE-COURSE LUNCHEON FOR ONLY 5/-
* QUICK SERVICE * OPENS 12 noon to 12 midnight Monday to Thursday
* We are open until 1 a.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Industrial Relations —the new Act



Post Office workers' picket. Their strike could be declared illegal under the proposed laws.



Clearway to Management with British Rail

"Every major firm will follow this lead" predicts Monty Meth, Daily Mail Industrial Correspondent, describing the British Railways Board's search for young high flyers to manage the railways of the future.

If you think you measure up to the challenge of the 70's — the era of the Advanced Passenger Train — with British Rail, find out about the management opportunities for graduates in the Traffic, Engineering, Finance, and Estates departments, and in the fields of Planning and Marketing, Operational Research and Data Processing.

Ask the Secretary of your University Appointments Board for booklets describing the opportunities and have a talk with the railway representative when he visits your university, or write direct to: The Principal Management Recruitment Officer, British Railways Board, Royal London House, 22-25 Finsbury Square, London EC2 P2BQ.



ON December 8th, 1970 a national strike which closed docks, factories and print-shops was supported by half a million workers. On January 1st, 1971, four thousand trade unionists marched through Birmingham.

On January 12th cities throughout the country saw the biggest demonstrations of workers since the 1930s. Such has been the scale of rank and file opposition to the Government's proposed Industrial Relations Bill. Undoubtedly the content of the Bill is liable to have the most profound consequences for labour relations in Britain.

The content of the Bill, and both management and shop-floor attitudes towards it will be the subject of an Open Forum on Wednesday, January 27th, at 1.30 p.m. in the Student Common Room of the Arts-Commerce Tower.

and groups of workers other than trade unions there is no limit set. These are liable to prosecution, fines or imprisonment.

Unfair dismissal

The Bill states that "every employee shall have the right not to be unfairly dismissed by his employer." However, the document goes on to say that in the event of the Industrial Court finding that an unfair dismissal has been made then the employer has the choice of either reinstating the complainant or compensating him up to a maximum of £4,160. In other words, the employee has no rights to reinstatement. Furthermore, it will be "unfair" for other workers to take industrial action to induce the employer to reinstate their fellow worker. Perhaps many managements would be only too pleased to pay a few thousand pounds in order to rid themselves of a militant worker with no fear of shop-floor reprisals.

Why the Bill?

The Bill clearly aims at a sweeping reduction of the level of industrial disputes in Britain. It does this by making all but those actions called by recognised unions illegal and by drastically limiting official industrial action itself.

Is this because strikes are the cause of a large loss in industrial output? A comparison with other factors would seem to indicate otherwise. The number of working days lost through sickness, injury and disease per year is more than eighty (80) times the number of working days lost through strikes per year, for the years 1965-69. The "Financial Times", commenting on figures for industrial production and strikes over the years 1948-69, wrote: "There is quite clearly no relationship at all between this index [of industrial production] and the loss of working days through strikes."

Why, then, is the Government so determined to put this Bill on the Statute Book? Particularly in the last decade this country has slid from one economic crisis to another. In 1961 the Conservatives introduced a wage freeze; in 1966 a Labour government instituted a prices and incomes freeze; in 1967 devaluation; in 1968 stringent statutory measures were passed to put a low ceiling on wage increases.

At the same time prices have continued to rise and at the present are spiralling rapidly, with the prospect of an extra boost through decimatisation. In spite of this workers have managed to maintain their living standards and conditions of work, but only through strengthened shop-floor organisation. The Industrial Relations Bill is the latest Government response to the continuing economic crisis, this time aimed directly at curbing working-class organisation.

S. G. EMMETT,
Postgrad. Elec. &
Electronic Eng. Dept.

Penalties

A trade union which committed an "unfair industrial action" would be liable to a fine. For instance, a union with a membership of between 25,000 and 100,000 could be fined up to £50,000. For individuals

OPEN FORUM

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS— THE NEW BILL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27th
at 1.30 p.m.

STUDENT COMMON ROOM
Arts/Commerce Tower

DEGREE FOR PINTER

HAROLD PINTER, one of Britain's most well-known playwrights, is to receive an Honorary D.Litt at the Degree Congregation to be held on July 16th and 17th, 1971.

Pinter's plays include "The Birthday Party," "The Room," "The Caretaker" and "The Homecoming" and he has written ten film scripts, poems and short stories.

The B.B.C. production of his play, "The Lover" received the Prix Italia for television drama and in 1966 he was awarded a C.B.E.

The University have recommended him for an honorary degree for his wide and original achievements and his service to the British theatre. Furthermore, it was decided that Birmingham University should confer this award on him "because of the interest in drama within the University and because in the last ten years his plays have provided some of the most memorable productions from the Birmingham Repertory Company, the Royal Shakespeare Company and the University of Birmingham."

At the same time that Pinter receives his degree Mr. Philip Whiting, a renowned numismatist, whose collection of Byzantine coins has recently been acquired by the Barber Institute, will also receive a D.Litt.

Honorary degrees of LL.D. will be conferred on Lord Gardiner, who was Lord Chancellor 1964-70; Professor T. A. Lewis, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan and former graduate of Birmingham University, and Sir John Todd Lewis, chairman of the Regional Hospital Board. An honorary degree D.Sc. has been conferred on Professor Wolfgang Johannes Kirsten, who has attained a world-wide reputation in the field of micro-chemical analysis.

GUILTY OF WHAT HE MIGHT DO

EVEN if Rudi Dutschke had not been a member of the left, the Reverend Paul Oestreicher told demonstrators who included student groups, International Socialists, Young Socialists and a group marching under a "Spartacus" banner, they should all have been there anyway to demonstrate for freedom. Speaking at the demonstration held in Trafalgar Square on Sunday, January 17th, Reverend Oestreicher argued that the expulsion of Dutschke was a blow against the freedom of all of us, being an attack by the Tory Government on the people and traditions of Britain. Dutschke had not been found guilty of anything by process of law—the findings of the tribunal had cleared him of having actually done anything; he was being expelled only for what he MIGHT do.

Here Oestreicher hit on that aspect of the case which makes it a cause for considerable concern, even among those who may feel that they personally will not lose anything through Dutschke's absence. It is not so much the actual decision itself which is so worrying, as (a) the methods resorted to by the Home Office; (b) the procedure used to try the appeal; and (c) the fact that this is no isolated case.

Michael Foot, in his address to the Trafalgar Square rally, made a strong case against the Home Office in general and Mauding in particular, as fabricators of evidence. It seems clear from the chronology of the case that the evidence brought before the tribunal of the threat Dutschke represented to our national security must have been collected in the three to four weeks prior to the meeting of the tribunal. Until Mauding discovered that Dutschke could—and would—appeal against the Home Office decision, no mention was made of "national security."

Mauding presumably then turned to the security officials whose complaints against Dutschke had been ignored by the Home Office until it became necessary to prepare a case—not to convict Dutschke, but to vindicate the Home Office's decision.

The need to find evidence which involved the nation's security arose from the appeals procedure insti-

tuted by the 1969 Appeals Act. This Act provided a two-tier system of appeal, thereby modifying the right exercised by the Home Secretary since the first world war to order the expulsion of any alien considered undesirable. However, the Act also provided that in cases concerning issues of national security, the Home Secretary could handpick his own tribunal — thus becoming a judge in his own cause.

Moreover, that part of the tribunal's proceedings dealing with the evidence of a threat to national security may be held in camera, the appellant and his legal advisers being excluded, so that the appellant has no idea of the charge against him. Even then, should the handpicked tribunal, meeting in secret, decide against the Home Secretary, the latter may simply overrule its verdict.

"Diogenes", writing in "New Society" of January 14th, was of the opinion that "It may well be that the issue of immigrant entry is essentially political and hence not justiciable at all. But it is absurd to pretend to have matters decided judicially when in conception, procedure and authority, the relevant tribunal is devoid of similarity to a proper court."

Finally, we must bear in mind

that this is no an isolated case of Home Office illiberalism. Deportation orders against two foreign students serving prison sentence for taking part in the Cambridge Garden Hotel demonstration are unlikely to be rescinded, any more than that against Paul Oake, the American socialist deported earlier this month. Nor are students the only sufferers from magisterial severity and/or police harassment. The black community is only the most recent of groups complaining of such treatment; the gipsies we have always with us.

Naturally neither the march and rally, nor the demonstrations held at various colleges and universities, have had any effect on the Government's decision. Nobody seriously expected that they would. However, the need for continued publicity about and protest against the decision should be apparent to all those who are concerned for the future of civil liberties in this country, even those who may on other issues side with the Government.

BETH BRYSON.

INVEST IN SPEED READING

AT the beginning of the current academic year the College of Advanced Reading was selected by the Union Education Committee to teach their course at Birmingham. The course, which has been to Oxford, Sussex and London, among other Universities, involved seventeen students who attended six weekly lessons.

The curriculum was wide in scope, dealing with training in visual perception, the application of learning theories, memory and recall to note-taking, essay writing and examinations.

In addition comprehensive techniques for studying academic and textbook material were examined and practised as were the reading of newspapers, magazines and periodicals, novels and poetry.

The average increase in reading speed of those who took part was from 260-1,040 words per minute while comprehension increased on average from 67 to 75 per cent.

However those students who expect a miraculous transformation of their reading powers soon become disillusioned, for, as one participant explained, "The course only really works if you do your exercises properly—about one hour a day of reading practice. Like everything else—you must practice."

The college have agreed to repeat the course, which will start on Wednesday, February 3rd at 2.00 p.m. in the St. Francis Hall. A demonstration of speed reading will be given in the council chamber at 1.15 p.m. and 5.15 p.m. on Thursday, January 28th. Further details regarding the course can be obtained from Jim Tyzack at the Education Committee office in the Union.

CAREERS FOR GRADUATES

Are you a *mathematics* graduate? If so, have you considered a career as an *actuary*? We can offer you the opportunity to study for an Actuarial qualification during which time you will be employed in well-paid and absorbing work at our Head Office in Edinburgh.

Graduates who do not wish to pursue an Actuarial career may be selected for training as Pensions Advisers or for senior positions in our Legal, Investment or Systems departments.

We are the largest Scottish Life Assurance Company and operate throughout the U.K., the Republic of Ireland, Canada, Trinidad and Jamaica. Funds currently exceed £750,000,000, having more than doubled in the last seven years, and the company is still expanding rapidly.

Conditions of employment are first-class and include: Excellent starting salary; non-contributory pension scheme; generous holidays; residential hostel; staff restaurants and coffee lounge; facilities for sport and recreation.

We will be visiting your University on January 28th, 1971, so why not ask your Appointments Officer to arrange an interview; or alternatively write for further information and a copy of our Booklet "Careers for Graduates" to:—

The Staff Manager,
The Standard Life Assurance Company,
3 George Street,
Edinburgh,
EH2 2XZ.



Standard Life

DYNAMIC READING

Guaranteed to treble reading speed

Increased comprehension
(As shown by last term's course).

Demonstration by College of
Advanced Reading

COUNCIL CHAMBER, THURSDAY, JANUARY 28th

1.15 p.m. and 5.15 p.m.

Course begins February 3rd

Information: Jim Tyzack, Education Committee
2nd Floor Union.

sport 1

A.U. face crisis

THROUGHOUT the Athletic Union there appears to be a growing dissatisfaction over A.U. finances. Talks with various club committee members has highlighted the situation. One, who described his club's finances as pathetic, mentioned an overall lowering of all types of financial support. He indicated some of the problems now facing clubs:

(a) All clubs have to provide their own playing kit out of their own members' pockets;

(b) U.A.U. and B.U.S.F. representatives and competitors in county and national championships have to pay a large proportion of their expenses. In the two latter cases, individuals are entering under the auspices of outside clubs who pay almost all their expenses. Thus the University is robbed of favourable publicity.

(c) Some clubs have been instructed to reduce their fixture lists to only unavoidable commitments.

Other problems which other individual clubs would be unaware of are equally alarming. No allowance has been made for depreciation of major capital equipment, totalling some £7,000. When this wears out, the A.U. has no financial reserves to replace it. Prices of expendable sports goods such as

shuttlecocks, footballs, etc., are continually rising.

The A.U. provides equipment for the inter-departmental sport, as well as for the full University teams. Since in hockey, football, rugby and basketball there are over 100 teams, the magnitude of the problem can be understood. This degree of participation indicates that, with over 1,500 regular sportsmen and women, sport is not at all a minority activity.

At the moment the A.U. grant from the Guild is some £14,000 per annum, but of an income of about £80,000, representing some 17 per cent. Approximate calculations show that a grant of £18,000 p.a. is required to keep the level of support the same as it was two years ago. From these figures A.U. is giving a progressively worse service.

Compared with most other universities, Birmingham A.U. receives a smaller percentage of student union fees.

There is a proposal that the union fees be raised to £20 p.a. If this happens no assurance has been given to A.U. that their grant will be increased.

Any approach that A.U. makes to the Guild for more money is likely to harm the already delicate relationships between these two powers, due to the Guild's known poor financial position. More money for the A.U. means less for someone else.

A problem which should disturb the individual student is the situation which will arise if the Guild turns down a reasonable request for more money. The A.U.s of all universities have a deep-seated desire to be autonomous. They argue that they could give a better service, if the Guild were not always interfering with things they did not understand. However, the lack of financial flexibility would be detrimental to both parties.

The prospects of a happy outcome certainly look none too bright. Perhaps the saddest part is that the University as a whole would probably suffer if the sports teams were to lose their current reputations.

P.L.

ATHLETICS

Scene & herd

By RANDY SOUTHAM
(The quality Sunday Reporter)

ONE or two interesting things happened over Christmas which I thought you might like to hear about. Gentleman Jim Auckettle met Big Ian Saunders on the boards at Cosford.

It would be totally without foundation to suggest that there was any animosity between these two just because Saunders comes from Loughborough Colleges (who were, by the way, beaten in the U.A.U. athletic last year by Brums). The programme distinctly said that it was the 400m. final.

However, I feel that Mick McManus (the wrestler not the econometrician) would not have felt out of place in the race. Saunders was given a points verdict over Auckettle due to his superbly-executed "flying body tackle and forearm smash."

Auckettle firmly believes that this contravenes the A.A.A. rules. It is not known why Auckettle did not seek redress on Saunders after the race. Saunders stands 9ft. tall and weighs 26 stones.

The newspaper reports of John Dave's world record 1km. run speaks of a lone challenger for the first two laps. The unnamed runner was described as tall, fair and carrying a distillation column. On making enquiries at Chem. Eng., I found that it was none other than our old friend Aggro Smoothley.

Another old friend, Dave Berry, star of the medics table footy team, had a surprise from the Union of Track Statisticians. They credited his 20km. (that's 12½ miles) time of 96mins. as being the 25th fastest time by a Briton during 1970.



Dave Starling once again looking for support whilst in full flight in last Wednesday's game against Liverpool.

LACROSSE

Bewildering Ian

Birmingham Univ. 9, Urmston 4
FOLLOWING a fine win against Mellor on January 16th, they last Saturday beat a good Urmston side by 9 goals to 4. The whole team played very well and with great determination.

Special mention should be made of Steve Tither, he had a magnificent game, always foraging for loose balls (he's a very popular member of the club), while Ian "greased lightning" Campbell spent most of the game streaking up and down the field completely bewildering the Urmston defence not to mention the rest of the Birmingham attack.

Bulough, when not putting in thunder-bolt shots that would rival Apollo 14, spent most of his time bellowing at "old man" Jarvis and Jarvis appeared to spend the whole

game bellowing at the rest of the team.

At half-time Birmingham were 5-2 up but if they had taken full advantage of their superiority the game would have been clearly won at that stage. Two quick goals in the third quarter seemed to seal the game for the home side, but defensive lapses in the last few minutes which allowed Urmston to snatch two well-taken goals meant that Birmingham were in a tight, exciting game right up to the last whistle.

The University, with many newcomers to the game in the side, are playing some good 'crosses these days and if people would like to watch something a little different then there are several home games still to be played, so come along and watch.

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS

CAN it be true that Athletic Union is really a front for subversive activities? Reports have been circulated indicating that the conservative executive of the Sports Centre have been using their influential weight to turn the sanity of their establishment. How do we know this?

Look at the activities that Athletic Union have supported and encouraged during the past few years. "Athletes have pushed themselves to the limits of their endurance, physical and mental, punishing themselves regularly on the track and in the weights room."

"The skill of a hockey player is in avoiding the vicious throws of the stick at his/her shins, or giving as good as they get."

"Rugby players take delight in killing and in being killed."

"Canoeists cannot be content with a quiet paddle along the canal, they have to risk death by drowning in the torrents of a mad white water route, getting soaked, and risking death by pneumonia, typhoid (you should see some of the rivers), suffocation, lack of food, or by drowning."

"Take a trip to A.U. any evening and watch usually normal people sweating under the voluntary, yes voluntary strain of the tortuous circuit training course, and what's more, enjoying it."

"Watch the eyes of a cricketer the next time you get the chance. Watch the fear develop in his eyes as the bowler attacks his wicket. Watch that fear turn to relief as the ball misses his head and body. Watch the happiness, the ecstatic happiness as he is dismissed from the wicket, still in one piece, and able to experience the fear he has known yet again, another day."

Now we have further evidence that the Athletic Union executive have decided to take their plans one stage further. Not content with the Masochistic-Sadistic element they regularly promote, the idea of Mixed Sauna bathing, yes, men and women together, in the little oven, suffering together. What kinky perversions will they think of next?

Can it really be true that they are going to make all swimming mixed if we ever get our swimming pool? We can never escape from the situations in which we are going to be placed. No longer is first-year physical education compulsory, they have now employed the interesting psychological approach of "encouraging people to attend." What will these devious minds think of next?

B.R.W.

sport 2

CROSS-COUNTRY

DOUBTS STILL EXIST

THE Christmas vacation didn't provide any rest for the members of the cross-country team. They built up a tremendous reputation last term, being defeated only by Oxford (when Birmingham had a weakened team) and national champions Tipton. They were anxious to maintain this tradition over the vacation and did this in no uncertain fashion in their two outings.

The first trip was the strife-ridden New Year's eve jaunt to South Wales for the Nos Galan road races. Due to the proverbial unforeseen none of the Birmingham boys lined up for the 4 p.m. one-mile race. However, suitably undermined by the afternoon's troubles and the evening's consumption of alcohol, an almost full complement toed the line—along with 300 other odd individuals—for the famous midnight race.

sound performances from Ray Smedley and Steve Gibbons. The national champions, Tipton, again proved supreme, but this time by only a slender margin—and the gap in the league between the University and the third team widened to astronomical proportions.

B.U.S.F. IN BALANCE

After these fine performances it would seem that the team's chances in the B.U.S.F. championships a week on Saturday, have brightened considerably. However, several problems in the team's build-up have now arisen.

Steve Gibbons has been struggling to overcome the effects of injury and after a fine run in the league relapsed in the following week's inter-counties championship. Andy Holden had an abysmal time in this latter match. John O'Meara and Ian Gilmour, who both started the season so well, have encountered all sorts of difficulties in the last month or so.

IAN STAGGERED

Ian Aldridge failed in his attempt to emulate last year's performance by Geno. Nevertheless his goodness-knows-what position on double figures was a brave effort. Steve Gibbons stood and watched, Nige Bailey derived warmth from his chin and Ray Smoothley strode home.

On the credit side Gavin Russell and Ray Smedley both seem to be hitting the right form at the right time. Ray came to the University as a good-class junior miler but with very little background of the land training needed to succeed in the longer cross country races. He has responded excellently to the new environment and is now doing double his former amount of training. The result is a runner who is increasing in strength and confidence every time he races.

BACK FROM WILDERNESS

Gavin showed tremendous potential in his first year at the University, but for some unknown reason he spent all last winter in the wilderness. This season, however, he has built up steadily and is now showing the sort of form we all hoped he would produce last year.

Other pleasing of the recent weeks have been the excellent running of Nigel Bailey and Graham Thewlis, who are much more at home running 800 metres on the track. They have both proved in recent weeks that proficient runners



John Thorpe (right)—his attacking thrust will be needed in the next few weeks.

SOCCER

Double hopes

AFTER demolishing all opposition during the first half of the Midlands Universities League programme, having dropped only one point in eight games, the 1st XI move one step nearer their League and Cup "double" dream next Wednesday, January 27th, when they meet Southampton in the U.A.U. quarter-final at West Hills, kick-off 2.30 p.m.

The University were in time to win three major competitions but their Birmingham Junior Cup game

with Tivdale F.C. had to be played in less than ideal conditions during the Christmas Vac. and after a commanding first-half display, when they led 1-0 through a typical Barlow opportunist goal, they faded as the effects of Christmas and New Year's Eve caught up with them and Tivdale ran out 1-2 winners.

The first league game of the new term was away at Warwick when the 1st XI were determined to start the new year with a bang. We took the lead early on through a Thorpe snap shot on the turn and it became obvious that a double-figure score was on the cards.

To even up the second half the University contrived to present Warwick with three easy goals, the second of which would have done justice to a pantomime. A long ball down the middle had goalkeeper Lyle rushing out to the edge of the penalty area. Feinting to "hoof" the ball back up-field, he cunningly deceived everyone while allowing the ball to pass under his foot for the intruding Warwick forward to simply place it in the empty net.

Having allowed their opponents to get back into the game, the University tied up the game winning 4-3 with two fine goals from Wortley, one a cracking drive from 20 yards, the other a soaring header from a pin-point Maile centre and a face-saving penalty from Jock Lyle to bring his tally to five out of five.

Sport scene

LAST term the Cross Country Club had an incredible run of mishaps on their way to races. This started on the way to the Rochdale Fell race when a breakdown prevented four runners getting to the race.

The Waterloo Road Relay came next on the list. Only one of the members knew the way to the race so the two car-loads of competitors were going to rendezvous at Knutsford and proceed together for the rest of the journey. In fact, another breakdown resulted in one car getting there an hour late.

In the meantime the others had left knowing only that the race was somewhere in Liverpool. The result was that three runners arrived 10 minutes before the start and had to declare themselves for the first three laps and hope the rest would arrive. To everyone's relief they did so just as the starting pistol was fired. However, the fact that the three fastest men were on the first three legs scarcely helped in the tactics of the race.

M.1. WAIT

The next blow came when Ray Smedley and Rog Brown were

by Andy Holden

awaiting the R.A.C. man when they ought to have been running round Parliament Hill fields against Oxford and London. The next trip to the Metropolis was scarcely any better with delays causing the team to turn up for the Osterley Park Relay with only 10 minutes to spare. This left the first leg runner with no warm-up and the next two with no prior view of the course.

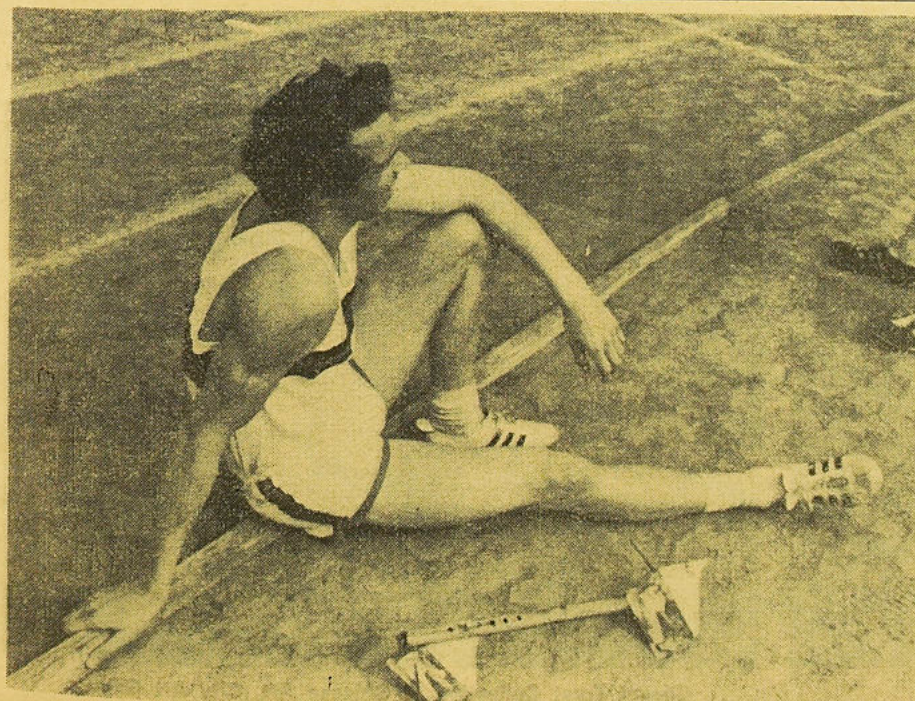
However, by far the worst blow was the disaster on the way down to the Nor Galam on New Year's eve. Just approaching the Droitwich turn-off on the M.5 the A.U. mini-bus began to weave about, closely followed by a sickening bumping on the near off-side.

NO SPARE!

The search for a spare wheel produced a blank. The rest of the tale is long and tear-stained but suffice to say that the delay lasted over four hours and that the team missed the one-mile race in which several of the boys had a good chance of success.

The fact that the bus had been allowed out in the first place with a tyre in such abominable state is an absolute disgrace. Add to this the fact that the jack didn't work and there was no spare wheel and the situation becomes unpardonable.

This sort of situation must not be allowed to recur. Athletic Union is trying to increase the use of the mini-buses but clubs are scarcely going to be tempted to co-operate if in doing so they are risking not reaching their venue.



Auckettle—believed to be taking lessons from Mick McManus in preparation for Saturday's indoor championships.

around

DAY-BY-DAY

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27th

Pentangle: Great Hall. 10/-

Atkinson Lecture: "Freedom and Communication," with Raymond Williams. Council Chamber 1 p.m.

Deb. Soc.: South Africa debate. Council Chamber. 7 p.m.

Faces plus Dorris Henderson's Election: Town Hall.

Poetry: Bob Cobbing and Henri Chopin. B.M.I. 8 p.m.

Midlands Film Theatre: "The Lavender Hill Mob" directed by Charles Crichton.

Deutscher Verien: German Club, Deb. Hall, 2.30 p.m. (also tomorrow, 7.30).

THURSDAY, JAN. 28th

Film Soc.: "The Maltese Falcon," by John Huston. Haworth Lecture Theatre. 7 p.m.

Record Recital: Saint Francis Hall, 1.10 p.m.

CBSO: With Jiri Waldhans. Pieces by Dvorak and Brahms. Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Midlands Film Theatre: "The Man in the White Suit," by Alexander Mackenderick.

FRIDAY, JAN. 29th

Hawkwind plus supporting programme. Mason Hall. 8 p.m. 6/6.

Late Night Theatre: "Woyzeck," by George Buchner. Repertory Theatre. 10.30 p.m. 3/-.

Midlands Film Theatre: "Whisky Galore," by Alexander Mackendrick.

SATURDAY, JAN. 30th

Disco: Union. 8 p.m. 2/6.

Carrs Lane Church Centre: Performance by the Mayer Lismann Opera Workshop. 7.30 p.m.

Midlands Film Theatre: "The Titchfield Thunderbolt," by Charles Crichton.

SUNDAY, JAN. 31st

Sunday Film: "A Shot in the Dark," 7 p.m. 2/6.

Disco: High Hall. Free.

"Living Together"—by Rev. Martin Evans-Jones. Saint Francis Hall, 6.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 2nd

Open Lecture: "The Social Tasks of Science in the Future," by Prof. Dennis Gabor.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3rd

Atkinson Lecture: "The New Morality," with David Hart. Council Chamber, 1 p.m.

Organ Recital: Dr. G. Thalben-Ball. Town Hall. Free. 1.15 p.m.

Alexis Korner plus Duster Bennett and Kara Korum: Town Hall. 7.45 p.m. All seats 10/-.

GALLERIES

Compendium—Central Gallery, Ram Mohan Sircar; Upper Gallery, Roser Pellejero.

City Museum & Art Gallery: Mount Trust Collection of Chinese Art.

Midlands Art Centre—Paintings by Tim Ward. Until January 31st.

CINEMAS

Odeon Ringway: "Lawrence of Arabia," 7.15 p.m.

Jacey: "Bronco Bullfrog" and "Lord of the Flies," 7.10 p.m.

Odeon New Street: "The Private Life of Sherlock Holmes" and "Underground," 6.20 p.m.

Futurist: "Carry on Loving" and "Under the Table You Must Go." Feb. 17th: "Monterey Pop" and "The Cream."

ABC, Selly Oak: "Dr. Zhivago," 7.15 p.m.

ABC, New Street: "Zabriskie Point."

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

ABC, Bristol Road, "Ryans Daughter," 6.45 p.m.

THEATRES

Alexandra: Gilbert and Sullivan for All. Sunday, January 31st, 7.30 p.m.

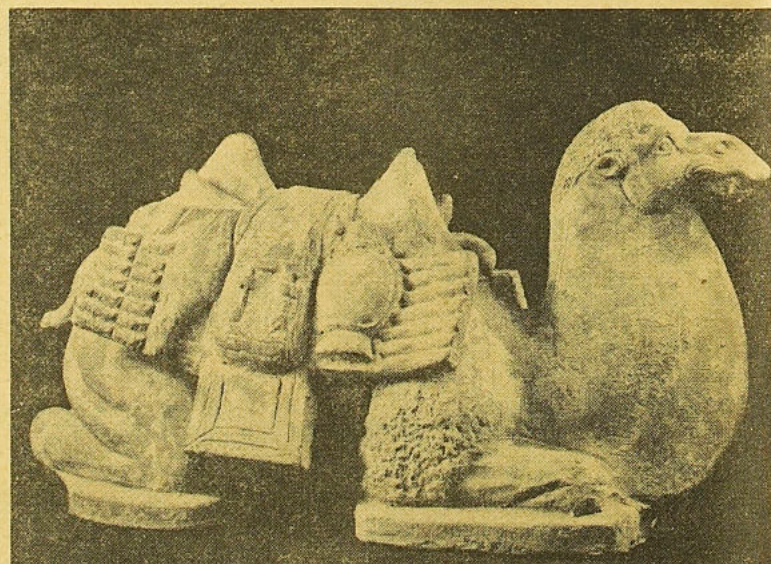
Midlands Arts Centre: "The Hero Rises Up."

Repertory Theatre: "1066 and All That," 7.15 p.m. Matinees 2.30 p.m.

Belgrade Theatre, Coventry: "Towards Zero," by Agatha Christie.



Ryan's Daughter, Cinerama, Bristol Road



Mount Trust Collection of Chinese Art, City Art Gallery.