

Deb. Soc.

This house believes in
World Government,
Thursday, 5.15 p.m.
Council Chamber.

REDBRICK

Film Soc.

This week and every
week only the best.

See Union boards.

No. 641

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 1963

Price 3d.

£1,500

THAT'S WHAT HAS JUST
BEEN PAID OUT

COST OF MURAL: £13.23 A FOOT!



Photo: Peter Bond

LATE NEWS

JILL TAYLOR (Geog.
III) beat David Bird in
election for Union Secre-
tary.

"I think it's awful,"
said pretty Lesley Clark,
a Fresher studying Rus-
sian and French. "I really
don't understand what it's
all about. Some people
might like it though."

Lesley is sitting in front
of the new Arts Block
Mural, painted by Peter

Students are angry and staff divided

£1,500, or £13 4s. 8d. per square foot. This is how much the
University is paying out for the new mural in the Main
Arts Block foyer.

Professor Lewis, head of the Arts Department, and the
man in charge of the committee who commissioned the work
from Peter Lanyon, said this week that this was not too much
for an artist of his standing. "He is an internationally known
artist," he said.

"This mural is something that one will want to live with,
and is representative of Lanyon's best work."

The mural consists of a
multi-coloured assortment of
wavey lines, triangles and
swirls, with a startling open-
ended blue and brown box at
each bottom corner. It mea-
sures 16ft. 6in. by 8ft. 2in. One
wit with an undeveloped sense
of artistic sensibility com-
mented that the University
had saved themselves about
£20 by putting an electric plug
in the bottom right-hand cor-
ner.

Opinion in the Arts Department
seemed to be almost unanimously
against the mural. "My comments
are unprintable," said Mr. Isaac
Shapiro, Senior Lecturer in
English. "It's a disappointment;
it hasn't made good use of the
wall," said Malcolm Bradbury,
lecturer in English. David Lodge,
also a lecturer in English, said
that he did not like it. Professor
Hoggart, however, was slightly
more favourable. "I'll learn to live
with it, in fact I like it," he said.

Comments from students pass-
ing through the foyer were even
less inhibited than those of the
staff: "£1,500 for that rubbish!
No artistic value at all." "Bloody
awful!" "It spoils a nice marble
wall. They're putting up too many
of these murals." and "It looks as

if it had been done by workmen
in their tea-breaks," were some of
the more printable comments
heard. A spot-check was carried



● Hoggart—He
champions mural.

out, and none of the first 25
people asked had heard of Peter
Lanyon. Nobody felt it was worth
£1,500.

A final word from Professor
Lewis: "Whatever you put up, a
large proportion will dislike it. To
my mind we ought to be looking
ahead, not having something con-
ventional. After all, that's the
spirit of the University, isn't it?"

LAST-DITCH PLAN TO SAVE SUNDAY MEALS

IN a last-minute attempt to save the new Sunday lunch
service, Refectory catering chiefs have almost halved the
price of the meal. It will now cost 3/- instead of 5/-.

Refectory Catering Manager,
Mr. O. F. Humbert, said "The
meal will be exactly the same but
cost 2/- less."

Last Sunday only 64 people
turned up — 300 are needed to
make the service pay. The meal
will be in the Hampton Room,
served from 12 noon to 1.30 p.m.

"We hope that many more
people will come along," said Mr.
Humbert.

Very few of those who turned
up last Sunday were those for

whom the lunches were designed:
Freshers who could not get lunch
in their digs. Most were gradu-
ates and their wives, people from
the Staff House and, again, people
who just happened to be drifting
about."

The big problem is finding
people to staff the service. Cost
is high because during the winter
heating will have to be turned
on specially for the service.

If attendances don't improve,
next Sunday's lunch may be the
last.

Russians cometh

A party of Russian engineers
and architects visited the univer-
sity last week and went round
the Haworth and the new Com-
merce blocks. The 27-strong party
was headed by Mr. Georgi
Gratov, Director of the Science
Research Institute in Moscow.

Tel. Selly Oak 1698

CHAMON RESTAURANT

**A luxurious Oriental Restaurant in the Midlands...
extends you a warm welcome to kindly visit this dignified
centre for delicious English, Indo-Pak, Chinese dishes
and Special 3-course Luncheon, 3/- only.

Open 12 Noon to 12 Midnight on Friday and Saturday.
12 Noon to 11.30 p.m. on other days.

Tables can be reserved

Parties catered for

507 BRISTOL ROAD (NEAR UNIVERSITY)

SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM

New course is no flop

"The new production Engineer-
ing course is no flop," said Dr. E.
N. Corlett, answering last week's
REDBRICK story.

"We shall make a token start
with two students," he said "and
any restrictions we suffer are
financial."

The course was intended for
eight students and ten applied.
Eight of these either withdrew
their applications or did not come

up to standard in their Advanced
Level examinations.

"We are off to a good start, and
our progress will be fast. Our
course has a bright and growing
future," said Dr. Corlett.

The department is hoping even-
tually to build a Production Engi-
neering Block and a fund has been
started with this in view.

Other courses throughout the
country have had similar experi-
ences.



• A WOMAN likes to keep you waiting. For the last three years the Mermaid of Edmund Street has been holding the male and female population of the University in suspense. When is she going to join the Union?

Edmund Street, the former site of the University, is now a crumbling ruin, only the facade of the Mason College remaining. Above it, precariously, sits our Mermaid, probably worried as we are about her future.

Such worries can now cease. "The builders have promised to preserve the Mermaid, and arrangements are being made for her eventual transportation to the University," said John Paling, President of the Guild of Undergraduates.

Two other Mermaids flank their sister, but their fate is uncertain. All are damaged by weather and by the city atmosphere in which they have breathed for so long.

It is believed that, on arrival, the larger Mermaid will be placed in the entrance hall of the Union.

DRIBS AND DRABS

Storyless in Peking

"WHAT 55 DAYS AT PEKING" (West End for a season, Technicolor, Super-Technirama 70—director Nicholas Ray) could be, and what it actually is, are unfortunately two entirely different things. The film is supposed to tell the story of the Boxer Uprising in Peking in 1900, but what could have been an interesting account of a piece of history turns out to be a rather inarticulate and virtually storyless picture.

We are shown the siege of the small foreign community in Peking (which lasts

for the 55 days of the title) by the Boxers, and then the Chinese Imperial Army, who are demonstrating against the control of over half the country by foreign powers. However the story is only told in dribs and drabs throughout the picture, and then in such a confused manner that it is never really clear what is going on.

We never really find out why the events occurred as they did. In fact considerable screen time is taken up with floundering, not the least of which is Ava Gardner, whose role as a Russian Baroness (with an American accent) has absolutely nothing to do with the story. Also around are David Niven, who as head of the British Legation brings more character to his role than most, Charlton Heston and Flora Robson.

Spectacular

The film's saving grace is that it doesn't rely too much on the story but on the spectacular set, the pace of the battles and a few invented incidents. It even contains a few scenes of great splendour, but not enough to fill the big screen for nearly three hours. However, it is not boring, and does provide a passable evening's entertainment.

ANTHONY WILLIAMS.

Manfred's on his way

IT was confirmed this week by members of the Rhythm Club Committee that a date has been set for the Manfred Mann visit to the University.

Manfred, No. 1 who leads London's best rhythm and blues group, will play at the first Jazz Band Ball on Friday, October 11th.

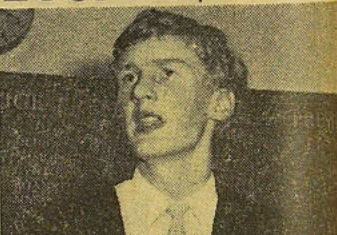
Rhythm Club Chairman Evan Parker said: "We're really knocked out at the chance of featuring the group's music. Although it is a departure from normal practice to feature a rhythm and blues group, we feel the step is fully justified, as not only is the group's music great for a ball, but it is also valid in itself."

• David Niven as Sir Arthur Robertson, protecting a Chinese child orphaned



• Chairman of CND, P. Ratchliffe, has his say.

INCONCLUSIVE DEBATE MAKES GOOD



SUGGESTIONS that Debating Society lay suffering its death agonies were firmly refuted last Thursday evening. A packed house with body-strewn gangways came to hear Dr. John Rex, of the Sociology Dept. oppose the motion that "This House has no confidence in CND."

Proposing, Mr. David Bird (Philosophy) spoke powerfully, accusing CND of being a "bankrupt political organisation" with misguided aims and dubious personnel. As expected, however, Dr. Rex, an exceptionally forceful figure on the platform, swayed the House with an emotional speech on the horrors and immediate danger of nuclear war. He concluded with the telling point that CND, though not perfect, was the "best CND we've got."

The remaining platform speakers, Jock Cairns and Paul Ratchliffe, were disappointing: the one, perhaps, through insufficient knowledge ("The methods of CND are illegal") the other by rostrum nerves.

The convenor made his usual

Open daily, 9-6. Moderate charges.

—WILLIAM ORWIN.

TORIES POLL 28

Recruitment figures for the political societies practised in last week's REDBRICK, did not include the Conservatives.

They have since announced the addition of 28 new members to their ranks, 18 less than the Socialists and two more than the Liberals.

Mr. Michael Newell, the Tory chairman.

REDBRICK comment

The Birmingham University Newspaper

What a mural, what a price

BEFORE we all start getting hot under the collar about the £1,500 mural, let's see where the money is coming from.

£1,000 is from an art bequest, £350 is from the University's Works of Art Committee and £100 from subscriptions from members of the University.

So it's no good saying that the money could have been spent on buying equipment or building new halls of residence. It couldn't.

The money had been set aside for works of art. So the big question is has the money been well spent.

We asked the first 35 students we came across what they thought of the mural—and the price. Most of their comments were unprintable, only one liked it and nobody thought it was worth anything like £1,500.

So the Students' answer to the big question is an emphatic NO.

We asked six members of the Arts faculty staff, two liked it, four did not.

Again the answer is NO.

As for us, we think the money could have been far better spent, and an attractive marble wall has been spoilt.

Can we all be Philistines?

Uphill again?

THE downhill trend of the Debating Society looks like being stopped under its new Chairman, Andy Allen.

His sharp attack on debating standards in the University at last week's debate was the first move in the campaign for better debating.

Now he plans more serious debates and fewer of the usually pathetic "funny" ones. This should do something to release the big potential of debating talent that there must be in the University.

But don't get the impression that Deb. Soc. is dying on its feet, far from it. As last week's debate proved, with interesting subjects, good speakers, good attendances usually follow.

Andy Allen's job is to find some interesting subjects.

Editor - - - Chris Buckland
Assistant Editor - - - Tim Austin
Business Manager - Roger Griffiths

The Union Oct. 9th, 1963
Edgbaston
Birmingham, 15 Sel 1841

personal column

"TROIANAS ut opes et lamentabile regnum eruerint Danai." —Arts Block, Tuesday 15th, at 7.30.

BRIGITTE Bardot and Rossana Podesta in "Helen of Troy", directed by Robert Wise, presented by Classical Circle. On Tuesday, 15th October, Arts Block, Large Lecture Theatre, 7.30 p.m. Admission 2/-.

ET VERA inessu patuit Dea. —Tuesday, Arts Lecture Theatre, 7.30.

FREEDOM From Hunger Campaign Collectors Wanted: If you are interested, please come to committee room 3, at 6 p.m. on Thursday, 10th.

HAVE Bike—will travel on the cycling club's invitation run. Today, 2 p.m., outside gym. All welcome.

CYMDEITHAS Hywel Dda—John Gwilym Jones, Leading Welsh Dramatist on Anglo-Welsh writers. Private dining room,

NOT CIVIL TO THE CIVILS

SIR,—You gave us front page treatment in your issue of October 2nd, but are scarcely civil to Civils! Whatever may be our own shortcomings, may I point out that the photograph does not represent any sort of flop, but a very successful new building occupied by Highways & Traffic Engineering.

But why castigate our course for being a flop? The OED defines "flop" as "sway about heavily; fall with a soft dull thud." On the contrary, we are a very sprightly department with a new B.Sc. course which has made some very musical noises in the right places.

Vacancies

We are not disappointed with the size of our first group of students because, after all, we were not able to announce the course until some months after the University admission date closed. There are still vacancies on the course, but isn't this true of most science departments?

No, Sir, our course is not a flop, but an original adventure in a University famous for its originality in academic matters. We have suffered no "major" setback.

Progress

On the contrary, we are off to a good start, although we will welcome more good students, and our progress will be fast. Overseas experience and this country's productivity needs both point to a bright and growing future for our course.

Yours faithfully,
DR. E. N. CORRETT,
Senior Lecturer in
Engineering Production

IS REFE. CRAWL REALLY NECESSARY?

SIR,—While waiting for long, long, slow, slow, slow-moving queues in the refectory for an evening meal, one wonders why it is that the queues remain long for all the relevant time. An answer that immediately comes to the mind is that all the load that in the day is handled by the Avon Room, Vernon Hall and Priestley Hall, is more or less thrown over to the refectory, since the Vernon Grill is not much help.

At this stage one pursues the question why it is that the Union closes Priestley Hall and converts Vernon Hall into a grill. Is it purely to ensure higher profits or else simply a matter of habit?

Evidently the number of students in the University is increasing every year, and if one is to judge from the length of the queues, even the new refec-



• It's no good, Melvin, I can't eat a sixth free tea tonight.

CYNICS DEMONSTRATE UNION APATHY

SIR,—I feel that I really must say something of the cynical comments which you reported from certain Union members on the matter of the proposed reduced-price "charter train" to London. I should like to point out that they are demonstrative of an apathetic mood all too prevalent in some quarters. It is an apathy directed not at any vague ideal, but at self-help.

The committees of this Guild do not attempt to run such events merely through a desire

to organise, but for the benefit of all its members. The success of these enterprises depends on us all helping ourselves and each other at the same time.

I am not asking for enthusiasm but merely participation; idle cynicism gets us nowhere.

Saving

As to this particular matter, I would like to say that the saving on the end-of-term trip may be but a beginning, so let us have less cynicism and a little more interest. Maybe next term we will all, through such interest, be saving more than a mere (?) ten shillings.

Yours, etc.,

C. A. M. PENROSE,
Chairman N.U.S. Committee.

FOLLOW OUR RETREAT

SIR,—Having endured refectory queues and inadequate Union facilities for evening meals, we have been forced to retire to the Chamon. May we suggest other students follow our excellent example? In doing so they will shorten the queues, thus enabling us to return to good, English (?) cooking.

Yours etc.,
M. J. SKIDMORE,
PETER M. WOOD.



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ANIMALS WITHOUT BEING A FANATIC?

Then write for particulars to Dept. N, Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, 7a Lamb Conduit Passage, London, W.C.1.
UFAW sponsors research on, e.g., humane laboratory techniques, anaesthesia, euthanasia, etc.; publishes educational books; holds two congresses a year, etc. Attractive catalogue of stationery illustrated by Fougasse available on request.

I know a bank...

Actually, as Shakespeare fans will recall, the bank that Oberon was talking about was the sort whereon the wild thyme blew. Just the thing for a midsummer night's dream no doubt but not nearly as much practical use to the student as the other kind of bank—the Midland, for example. There's nothing difficult about opening an account with the Midland, just a few simple formalities and the thing's done.

Have a word with your local manager—he'll be very willing to help. And you don't have to go to Athens for this bank, either. There's a branch of the Midland in every university city and town.



MIDLAND BANK
547 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNEBROOK, SELLY OAK,
BIRMINGHAM 29

QUEUES, QUEUES,

Food chaos worries catering chiefs

1,500 CUPS GO IN MASS PILFERING OUTBREAK

Discussed at refectory committee last Thursday was the continued pilfering of cups and cutlery which has now reached monumental proportions.



Half the spoons, one-third of the cups (1,500) and over one-fifth of the knives have been stolen from the original stock—that is, since last October.

The box put in the foyer in response to a letter in REDBRICK from somebody with a guilty conscience produced a harvest of assorted litter and one knife, attached to a note saying first instalment—the rest of which never turned up.

Nude bathing for Brum

FINNISH sauna baths are to be installed in the first stage of the new Sports Centre, currently being built behind the biology block.

Due to come into operation in 1965, the scheme is the brainchild of Mr. Max Madders, head of the Physical Education Department.

DAVID FROST



joins the brilliant, witty, irreverent Observer writers—among them Michael Frayn, Paul Jennings, Katharine Whitehorn, cartoonist Feiffer—who take nothing for granted except the intelligence of their readers.

EVERY OTHER WEEK IN
THE OBSERVER

'Getting better,' says Mr. Humbert

THE problem of refectory queues is again worrying university catering officials.

Last week's chaos in the evenings (see Letters Page), when queues stretched three-quarters of the way back at 6.45, has now settled down and is not likely to recur, according to Catering Manager O. F. Humbert.

"This was a freak," he said. "There will be no need to make additional facilities available, and to open Avon Room in the evenings would in any case be a financial impossibility."

Union officials have no

plans to open Priestley Hall in the evenings.

Queues at lunchtime, however, are worse than last year, and in general the refectory is doing much more business than at the corresponding time in 1962.

A major reorganisation of timetables seems to be the only answer to the congestion around 1.00, when a large number of lectures finish and queues almost invariably stretch right back to the foyer.

This was discussed at a meeting of Refectory Committee last Thursday, and it was urged that the Registrar should continue the research

started last year into whether lecture times could be staggered. The Arts Faculty, according to Mr. Humbert, is a major offender in this direction; the whole faculty seems to pile out at the same time.

Photo: Peter Bond
• Queues, queues, queues... this is the daily sight

Pin-up makes it a big rag boom year

THIS year's carnival collection was over £1,000 up on last year. Provisional figures show that over £5,000 will be distributed to charity this year.

Just under half this sum was collected from the sale of Barb, and, with street collections up to £60, the figures compare very favourably with the £4,017 distributed in 1962.

The pin-up cover on the front of Barb increased sales by over £1,000. More than 24,000 copies of the magazine were sold, resulting in an almost complete sell-out, in contrast to the hundreds of copies left over last year.

The Carnival car, a Ford Anglia De Luxe, was won by a girl student from overseas attending Bromsgrove College of Further Education.

SOME SKILL, BUT THESE EXHIBITS BORE Freedom show

"THE serum proteins of healthy adult Nigerians" and "The relationship of serum gammaglobulin concentration to malaria and sickling" were two of the titles of a collection of pamphlets which covered a table in the corner of the exhibition of Nigerian handicrafts last Monday week, to celebrate Nigerian independence.

Besides this rather frightening literature, there was a comprehensive selection of hand-carved ornaments, and a rather bored-looking black ebony statue. Unfortunately nobody was

A Mr. takes over from Prof.

Mr. Tony Skryme will succeed Professor R. E. Peierls as head of the mathematical physics department from October 1st, 1964.

Mr. Skryme was a colleague of Professor Peierls during the war in New York and New Mexico before returning to England as a research Fellow in the department of which he is now to be the head.



"I WAS HELD BY RED POLICE"

says Helen

TO WALK around the deserted streets of East Berlin without transgressing the laws brought into force by the petty mentality of the communist police requires some ingenuity and certainly no lack of intuition.

Having walked quite innocently and unarmed (unless one considers handbags and a Spanish fan offensive weapons) up to a street barrier in East Berlin, I and two friends, an East Berlin boy and an Australian girl, were arrested by three heavily armed policemen for "having gone over the border," and warned that if we had gone a step further we would have been shot. Their definition of the border was a small sign on one side of the road about a yard in front of the barrier with the word "Grenze" (Border) written upon it in small print!

Fortunately what could have been a nasty experience was considered a grand joke, which they found rather a slight to their superiority and rather a hindrance to their attempts to instill into us propaganda about the wonders of life in East Germany which was quite probably the primary purpose of the arrest.

By one policeman we were told "I used to live near Vienna, but I came here with a football team ten years ago and liked it so much that I stayed." By another, "All students in East Germany get free accommodation and meals, ten pounds a week to spend in West Berlin."

Having been told by several East Berliners we had met of their appalling lack of freedom and of the general hatred of the regime by the people of East Germany, we could scarcely keep from laughing in their faces.

We were detained for about half an hour at the first police station and then, escorted by two armed guards, we were taken to the central police HQ for the whole of East Germany where we were interrogated individually by a panel of three men for two hours, giving the life history of ourselves and our forefathers until it practically got to the stage where one was asked why one's great-grandfather had purchased a bicycle in 1885. Their main interest, of course, was the reason for our being friendly with someone from the coveted territory.

Eventually, having miserably failed in their duty to twist our words into anything criminal enough to warrant transportation to a Siberian salt-mine, they released us into the still deserted streets, but warned our friend from East Berlin that he would be "hearing from them again." We have heard nothing from him since.

NEW LADIES' HALL READY SOON

THE first of the new set of halls, each designed to have 30 students in residence by 1970, reached the final stage of its construction last Wednesday. The topping up ceremony of Ridge Hall, due to take women students from next Christmas, was conducted by Mr. Stephen Burnham, Pro-Chancellor, and Mr. Charles Beale, chairman of the planning sub-committee. At present there are only 470 places in halls at the University.

Heath cometh

MR. EDWARD HEATH, Lord Privy Seal, will be the guest of honour at a dinner held at the university by the Edgbaston Division Conservative Association on Saturday, November 16th.

Rugby club win

ROUGH PLAY CAN'T DAUNT BRUM XV

BIRMINGHAM 12, BEDFORD W. 0

A STEADY downpour and rough play were gloomy forecasters of things to come on an afternoon only relieved by the victory of the University first XV over a more seasoned Bedford side.

The handful of spectators had little in the way of excitement to justify the risk of pneumonia, all the points coming from penalties kicked by the trusty boot of the Captain, Bryn Jenkins.

From the start the two packs joined battle in more ways than one and after only five minutes the Bedford hooker was cautioned by the referee. From another penalty almost immediately afterwards, Jenkins kicked into the lead. A succession of loose scrums and intermittent penalties took the game into the second half with a further six points added to the score.

Greasy

The greasy skidding ball gave rise to opportunities of the kick and scramble type which led to the Bedford team crossing the line once in the latter stages, only to be recalled to the 25 for a knock-on.

By now the loose scrumming of the University pack was more coherent and they began to dominate a rather wild Bedford side. After one particularly violent episode, one of the Bedford second row was sent off for kicking at a player who was lying on the ground.

In the latter stages, flagging interest was roused by one or two good movements. Jenkins at fly half showing a fine turn of speed and a good eye for an opening by bursting through on a loose ball with a 10-yard dash, almost beating the full back to possession.

Thrustful

The back row were also well in evidence here, seizing on several loose balls and converting them into thrustful attacks. One 30-yard burst led off by the opportunistic winger Tony Green was almost a classic of a scrum play.

A series of short passes and a kick ahead gave a foretaste of what may be expected later on in the season. The line-out was not an encouraging aspect of scrum play. The two freshmen both playing second row acquitted themselves

well and the line-out jumping of Mike Rouse was well evidenced in the early stages of the game and might well prove to be a great asset later on if he can learn to hold the ball better.

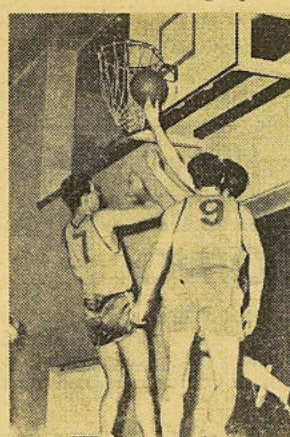
The final penalty kick by Jenkins gave the University their well-deserved victory and apart from a lack of decision from the centres there is every hope the team should experience a better season than last.

Basketball

IMRE PILES UP THE POINTS

THE first team, with only two of last year's players remaining, and consisting of an international collection of talented individuals from Canada, the United States, Germany, Hungary and Turkey, was in both games this week notable for its lack of cohesion as a team.

On Wednesday St. Paul's were playing together as a team from the start, and the University side never once looked like catching up.



Imre, the captain, was in scoring form with 11 points to his credit. Other scorers were Wilson (5), Herbst (4) and Fuchs-Carsch (4). The final result was a 24-30 defeat.

In the match against Leeds the same team weakness was apparent. Shots were wasted and passes were sometimes careless, but the Birmingham team put up a determined fight from start to finish. Throughout the first half and most of the second they were three or four points down to Leeds, whose strength lay in their ability to

gain and keep control of the ball. In the last ten minutes the game became a really thrilling fight.

Birmingham drew level at 27 all, then were 28-30 down. The equaliser came three minutes from time and the ball from Imre's shot dropped through the basket just as the final whistle went. U. Imre scored 17 points and M. Imre 7. With more experience together as a team the outlook is very promising.

The second team won both their games mainly because it consisted of a nucleus of last year's players and consequently was superior to the opponents in team play. In the match against Leeds the quick breaks from base line soon demoralised the Leeds defence.

Hockey

University lose grip after interval

BIRMINGHAM 1, A.E.I. 2

IN depressing weather conditions, but against one of the less strong sides the University meets, the 1st XI lost their opening match of the season after looking to be a far superior side for the first 20 minutes.

Long, one of the four freshmen of the side, fitted very well into the forward line, and it was he who opened the scoring after 15 minutes with a neat dribble past the goalkeeper after picking up a free hit from Linehan. The University continued to press hard with Hull as tireless as ever, and Goh having little luck.

Throughout the first half the defence looked very solid with Ake, Linehan and Oriss, probably playing as well as at any time last season, as the main backbone. However, further goals were not forthcoming.

In the second half the University allowed the game to slide, and when A.E.I. equalised through a defensive error, panic set in. Passes constantly went astray, and the forward line lost cohesion and became individualistic. The defence was not helped by the dangerous first-



Photo: J. J. Reynolds

• Bedford's second row (right) gets away this time but later was caught out by the referee. He was sent off for kicking his opposite number in the head.

Cross-country

BIRMINGHAM SECOND IN THE MUD

TORRENTIAL rain heralded the opening of the new cross-country season, when Worcester and Harborne Harriers were the visitors at the traditional first match last Saturday. Worcester, with a strong team containing two internationals (Dick Cooper and Eric Austin), were the eventual winners with 28 points, with the University first team second with 63 points. The University 2nd team were third and Harborne 4th.

The individual winner over the wet and slippery course of 5½ miles was Cooper in 29 minutes 10 seconds, followed closely by the Universities' Welsh international, Dai Davies, 13 seconds behind.

This year's captain Chris Fagge finished strongly in 6th

position. John Wrighton and former captain John Walmesley were 12th and 13th respectively. Promising runs were recorded by freshmen Dave Shepherd and Alan Revington.

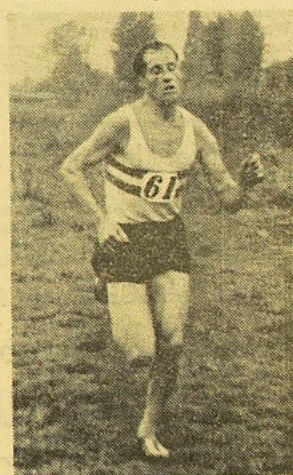


Photo: J. J. Reynolds

• Dick Cooper, the winner of last Saturday's triangular cross-country match.

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THE WEEK'S RESULTS

RUGBY: 1st XV 12pts., Bedford W. 0.
SOCCER: 1st XI 0, Birmingham Works AFA 2; 2nd XI 2, Sillhill AFC 5; 3rd XI 3, Salliey TC 4.
HOCKEY: 1st XI 1, A.E.I. 2; 2nd XI 10, A.E.I. 0; 3rd XI 4, A.E.I. 1.
BASKETBALL: 1st Team 24, St. Pauls Cheltenham 30; 2nd Team 32, St. Pauls Cheltenham 21; 1st Team 32, Leeds University 30; 2nd Team 32, Leeds University 16.

SPECTATOR'S GUIDE

Soccer: Sat., 12th v. Cheltenham T.C.
Rugby: Wed., 9th 2nd v. Harper Adams; Sat., 12th 4th v. Cobras.
Hockey (Men): Wed., 9th v. T. A. Podesta's XI; Sat., 12th v. Edgbaston.
Hockey (Women): Sat., 12th 2nd v. Moseley.
Fencing: Wed., 9th v. No. 16 MUFC, RAF; Sat., 12th v. Cardiff Univ.
Squash: Wed., 9th v. Four Oaks
Badminton: Wed., 9th v. Dunlop (6.30 p.m.); Fri., 11th v. South B'ham (7 p.m.); Sat., 12th v. St. Paul's (2.30 p.m.).
Golf: Sat., 12th v. Edgbaston.

NUS failure report "no worry," says Pres.

MANY Union Presidents fail their exams due to difficulty in combining presidential duties and academic study, according to a recent survey by the NUS. The survey shows that between 1959 and 1962, in a sample of 16 universities and colleges, 12 out of 48 presidents failed their exams.

The biggest failure rate was in small

colleges where, for lack of administrative help, the president has to function without proper assistance. Because of this, the report recommends either that the president be given an extra year to complete his course, or that administration be improved to lighten the president's burden.

John Paling, President of the Guild, said that the figures were remarkably

low, considering all that many presidents in some colleges had to do. "I'm not surprised that some fail," he went on. "But it's really just a matter of getting one's priorities right. I manage to get six or seven hours work a day done and I am confident of passing my exams."

Rodney Klevan, last year's President, failed his Commerce Diploma.

CHAIRMAN HITS AT DEBATES

"Low standard trivia," says Andy Allen

ANDY ALLEN, Chairman of Deb. Soc. made a hard-hitting attack on the standard of University debating last Thursday.

Speaking before the CND debate began, he said that complaints that the freshers' debate was lousy were justified; many debates last year had also been lousy. He went on "I want to see more people on their feet and participating, instead of just sitting there listening. Too many people only come to listen to the speakers with a result that debates are sadly lacking in audience participation."

"Last week's debate was very fair," he said, "it was disappointing, however, that more freshmen did not get up and speak. The state of Debating Society, while not entirely dependent on freshers, will be made much healthier if 1st year students come and criticise and breath enthusiasm into debating."

"The sense of values in Deb. Soc. seems to differ from those in other Unions; we seem to be more trivial, and the other Universities notice this when they visit us. The committee feel that it is very difficult to find anyone in the University who can stand up and keep on being funny for 20 minutes, so we are in future trying to concentrate on our serious debates."

Low standard

"I aim to get out of the low standard of debating we have here at the moment, and put Deb. Soc. back on the National scene in the Observer Mace competition."

"We need more spontaneity and more serious debates, which we are having this term as an experiment. It is very vital that students should learn to express their views coherently, and Deb. Soc. is at the moment the only place they can do this."

It would be blind stupidity to expect hoards of students to rush into Deb. Soc. Many are genuinely not interested; many join with a well-known philosopher in condemning debates as "pure Sophistry." For those who are interested, Deb. Soc. is making a real attempt to raise debates to the high standard which students have a right to expect.

Other prominent members of Deb. Soc. did not seem to be so disturbed. "Good freshers never show themselves until the Debating Tournament anyway," said



Photo: Peter Bond

● No trivia here...
Dr. Rex brings home a point at last week's debate (Report P. 2).

Sales start slow NEW OFF-LICENCE GETS GOING

"PROFITS from the newly-introduced off-licence sales service in the Mermaid Lounge Bar have amounted so far this term to about £6 only," commented Mr. Ken Overshott, Chairman of the Catering Committee. "This is a good start, but we are hoping for increased sales."

Asked why Catering Committee had introduced off-licence sales in the Union, Mr. Overshott said "In this way some of the money previously spent in Birmingham off-licences on drink for private parties held by students can be diverted back into Union funds."

He added that in addition the prices charged would be 10 per cent. below normal.

This is the first time that students have been able to buy drink on the campus outside the normal Union and Refectory bar services. However for those who might be hoping, by taking advantage of the price-cut, to drink more cheaply in the Union, it should be emphasised that there is a "corking fee" charged on every bottle opened in the Lounge Bar itself amounting to as much as 1/6 in the case of a bottle of South African sherry, and obliterating the original ten per cent. saving.

The range of drinks available on the new service is, however, somewhat limited.

Hostel to close

The N.U.S. hostel in Gordon Street, St. Pancras, is to close down this month. The lease has been bought back from the N.U.S. by London University. The hostel, which has housed itinerant students at cheap rates for many years, was the N.U.S.'s only hostel.



CHEEKY BROKERS CHECKED

Hull venture

A group of Hull University students have been attempting to supplement their grants by playing on the Stock Exchange, to the alarm of dons and the annoyance of bank managers.

These students, not allowing any lack of capital to hinder them, sent with each application of which there were many, a cheque to cover the cost of the shares; then, when allocations were made on an over-subscribed market, they immediately sold their shares on a rising market. They planned to deposit the payment before their own cheques were presented.

Understandably, bank managers have found this practice worrying—so much so that they have instructed their staffs not to issue cheque-books (containing 250) to students opening accounts.

Apart from the danger of bouncing cheques, the students also risked the market falling instead of rising when the time came to sell out—apparently two cars were sold rather suddenly!

Mr. Weaver, of the University branch of Lloyds Bank, said that to his knowledge nothing of the kind had happened here, and had no further comment on the matter.

LOOK ROUND

SKOPJE students arrived in Birmingham last week. These students from the town shattered by an earthquake in August are to study here for a year while their own university is rebuilt.

DUCKETT, Lodge and Bristlebury are to produce a review of the Repertory Theatre in November. Material essentially the same as in "Brown on One Side, Pink on the Other", produced here by GTG during the Academic Festival, with some new material, some cuts in the interests of decency.

All kip together

Bristol University are to set up a series of dormitory annexes to lick their chronic lodgings problem. Said to be setting a new pattern in student accommodation, the annexes will each have 12 study-bedrooms and a communal kitchen, and all will have university staff supervision.

Thirsty work in the bar

The Union Bar ran out of Worthington "E" three times during the first week of term, thus setting up a new all-time record for the amount of beer consumed during any one week.

Sign of the times

Most of the signs bent by the dreaded sign-benders over the vac. have now been straightened by the maintenance staff.

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