

LEFT TO CONFRONT EX-GOVERNOR?

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SIR HUMPHREY GIBBS, former Governor of Rhodesia, will be at the University on Monday to receive an honorary LL.B. degree. Mike Terry, President of the Guild, has already refused to attend this ceremony and it is believed that Leftist elements on the campus may make some sort of protest outside the Senate Chamber.

In letters to the Vice-Chancellor and Birmingham Post, Mike Terry has explained in detail his reasons for refusing the invitation. These are based primarily on his personal experiences when teaching in Rhodesia on V.S.O.

Sir Humphrey was a leading citizen and member of the highly reactionary National Farmers' Union, when he was appointed to Government House in 1959. His job then was political and mainly internal to Rhodesia. During the years before U.D.I., while nominally the British representative, he allowed legislation such as the Law and Order Act to appear on the statute book. With the Rhodesian breakaway, Gibbs remained loyal to the Queen, although his political views, according to Terry, were still centred on white supremacy.

Recently, in a 65-minute speech at University College, Rhodesia, Sir Humphrey was reported to have said that further education for Africans was acceptable in the vocational spheres of medicine and agriculture only. Mike Terry believes that this will only serve to maintain the status quo.

Birmingham has many links with Rhodesia. The Medical School has an agreement concerning staff and students with University College, Rhodesia, and Sir George Farmer, Pro-Chancellor of Birmingham University, is the chairman of Rover, Rhodesia.

Several members of Executive have said that if the University is to support the liberal radical elements in Rhodesia, it would be more fitting to present an honorary degree to an African National leader. Mike Terry was afraid that the University's decision would sadden African Opposition leaders who regard Sir Humphrey Gibbs as a racist.

The new University Information Officer, Mr. Maurice Cheesewright, when he was told yesterday of the President's decision, said he regretted that the Guild would not be represented. He added that there were many people who would like the places now vacated to pay tribute to a man who had served both Great Britain and Rhodesia well in trying circumstances. He completely disagreed with the picture like Mike Terry traced of Sir Humphrey Gibbs as a moral supporter of the white regime quite prepared to accept the situation there when he returns to his farms near Bulawayo.

Mr. Cheesewright insists that the Degree Congregation at 12.15 on Monday will only serve to honour a great man, while Mike Terry fears that this act will have much greater significance in Rhodesia amongst Nationalist groups.

The University Information Service hoped that a demonstration would not mar the Congregation.

DIRECT ACTION ON SLUMS

'BY REDBRICK'
REPORTER

COUNCIL tenants in Balsall Heath have declared a total rent strike. It will continue until those on strike are re-housed in decent conditions at a fair rent.

The houses in which they live are owned by the City Council and many of them have been due for demolition for over 10 years. Many of the houses have more than one room which is too damp to be used, and all the houses are infested with vermin.

Council reaction to the strike has been swift, the whole area has been inundated by council men, bricking up derelict houses and generally tidying up. When strikers went to the Council Offices to make formal complaints last week they were met by the housing manager himself.

The council is obviously scared of the effect of the strike and individual members of the estate department and their employees are consistently refusing to give their names when they make statements to the strikers.

'Gestapo'

The strike committee has decided to hold out until all their demands are met. One striker has told the council that if his family is not moved out by the end of the month he will personally demolish the slum in which they are forced to live. As one woman on strike said last Sunday, "When the country is run by the Gestapo the only way to get anything is to fight."

The elected committee of the strikers has called a public meeting this Sunday to which Alderman Beaumont-Dark, the chairman of the housing committee, has been invited. The committee decided last Wednesday that if he refuses to answer their complaints they will march on his office and stay there until he does so.

Pressure Groups

Some of the strikers, and the people who have been helping the strikers from outside, feel that over-interested pressure-groups have tried to take over the strike, and such attempts have been resisted. The prospective Labour candidate for Selly Oak condemned the action of one local Labour councillor who told a tenant that the Council could deduct the rent she was withholding from the compulsory purchase of her house.

However, the strikers have confidence in the Socialist Tenants' Action Group (S.T.A.G.), which has been servicing the strike committee and trying to widen the movement to include other local issues. It has also been attempting to get the strikers to accept a developing "Socialist Perspective" on the local struggle.

STAG

S.T.A.G. estimates that, within a couple of weeks the strike will have a very secure base in Balsall Heath. At the moment only 30 families are on strike but the group is canvassing locally to persuade more tenants to join the fight against the council.

S.T.A.G. would welcome students from the University to help with this work and may be contacted through the union pigeon holes.

Teach-in on Bum

Monday's teach-in on Birmingham promises to be an exciting affair. A confrontation seems likely between the Birmingham Housing Manager and several tenants and students from Balsall Heath. Birmingham Corporation, which is one of the largest owners of slum property in the country, are at last being challenged by the people living in these conditions. This will be the first occasion they will have to attack local councillors and bureaucrats in person.

The teach-in will be co-ordinated with the television programme on the arts in Birmingham put out by UTS, and various representatives of the Arts Lab. will be present in the hope of a lively discussion.

The other speakers include Wallace Lawler, M.P. for Ladywood, Bob Holman, Brian Priestley and a representative of Shelter.



Children in the only environment they have ever known: the worst slum area of Balsall Heath.

Snack prices up

A PENNY has been added to the price of all snacks on sale in the Union Office Bar and Founders, in order to keep pace with increased food prices, and to offset a large increase in pay recently given to Union Staff. It is hoped that by slightly increasing the prices of snacks it will be possible to prevent in-

creases in the prices of main meals for the time being.

The Union price increases, however, are less than those in the Refectory. The Refectory management committee, however, are at present unable to make a statement on their actions, although one will be Bulletin... one will be in the next edition of the University Bulletin.

THIS IS AN ADVERTISEMENT

"Mermaid" Magazine is on sale from today. All the other Guild societies are after your money, except the Occult Society, which is after your soul. The "Mermaid" Reading Circle is alone in offering to its members a 48-page magazine, and, because we realise that your financial resources are limited, the membership fee, a mere 2/-, is the lowest of any society in the Guild. All the other societies are transient, a "Mermaid" is Forever.

In Redbrick
TODAY

Page 2: Back-to-Front on Staff - Student Dining Groups.

Page 3: Editorial.

Page 4: The Latent Report Examined.

Pages 6 & 7: SCORE.

Page 8: "Redbrick" at work.

Page 9: Reviews.

Guild Theatre Group looks out

THIS year G.T.G. is attempting an amalgamation of all styles of drama. Unlike previous years, there is no definite policy, political or artistic, governing the style of production. Instead it is hoped that the members of the group, by following their own ideas on the theatre, its purpose, methods, etc., will bring a new and wider basis to the group.

By way of an introduction to the work of G.T.G. two short plays will be performed at the Freshers Conference: "The Contraption" by Tardieu, and "The Sandbox" by Albee. Members of the Group will be present on the stage in Deb Hall on Saturday afternoon to talk about forthcoming productions and any other aspect of G.T.G. A further opportunity for meeting and discussion will be the G.T.G. social on Monday evening in Priests Hall with drink and music.

The major production of the term in the eighth and ninth weeks, is "Peribanez," a new translation of a play by Lope de Vega, directed by Mike Dickinson. The play has been entered for the "Sunday Times" N.U.S. drama festival. This play has an extremely large cast and it is hoped that as many new people as possible will attend the auditions. These will be taking place all next week.

The fifth week production is a double bill of "La Musica," by Margarita Duras, and "The Old Tune," by Pinet and Beckett, directed by Jill Burrows; auditions for the play will take place in dressing room 1 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, from 5 to 8 p.m. (Watch G.T.G. board, outside coffee bar, for details.)

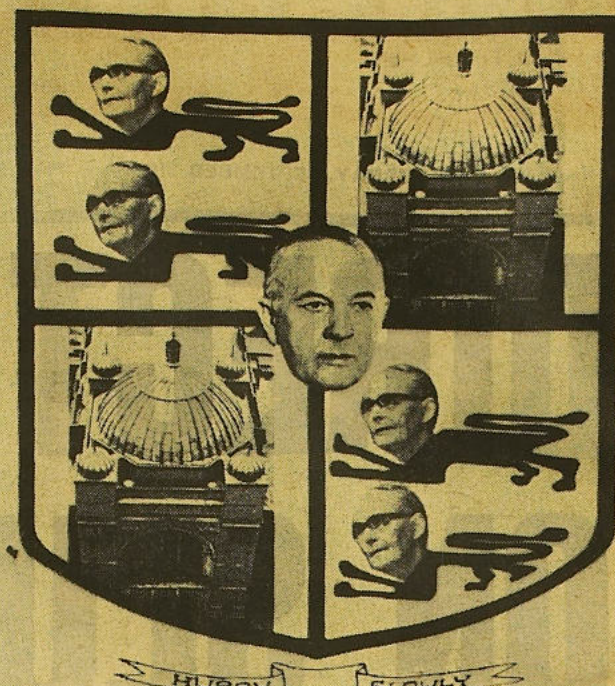
A production of "Left-handed Liberty," by John Arden, is planned for the seventh week of term.

directed by Mike Hucks (see board).

Throughout the year, Dick Jeffries will be running a workshop, concentrating on experimental theatre and mixed media presentations. In this way it is hoped that all those who aren't (or don't want to) be involved in major productions will find facilities to enable them to pursue their own interests.

A very important aspect of the work of the coming term is the preparation for the International Student Drama Festival in February, the second time this has been held at Birmingham. Last year's controversial festival, held at the Midland Art Centre, was both thought-provoking and successful. This year, again, groups from abroad and from other British universities will be taking part.

MERMAID



As a postscript, since you've probably already encountered the mythical antagonism between "Arts" and "Science" in this university, it is fair to say that your choice of subject has no relevance to your position inside the Group—our esteemed chairman himself is a Chemical Engineer. If you're interested in any facet of theatre, then join G.T.G.

Above is the front cover of the new issue of "Mermaid," the glossy magazine of Birmingham University, which is published today at 2s. per copy.

The coat-of-arms design, it is stressed, is strictly unofficial. It depicts the lion-like Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Hunter, rampant, and part of the University's administration building; a central motif being supplied by the face of Sir George Farmer, Pro-Chancellor. The motto "Festina Lente, is the nub of the Vice-Chancellor's advice to Freshmen in his introduction to the Guild Handbook; translated as "Hurry Slowly" for those of us who haven't the benefit of a classical education, no finer motto, in the editor's opinion, could adorn the front cover of "Mermaid."

A page of odd items presented this week by
John Keetley
George Bickerstaff
Roland Clark
The Vice-Chancellor

back to front

The Sigma stigma

Who are the mysterious "Gryphons"? Where is "Parokia"? And what kind of scene is "Sigma"? The names seem to ring a bell but it's very tricky actually locating these undercover organisations. For all we know they may be code names for various sections of the British secret police or the Mafia, or the "I-Spy" Club.

Apparently they were "formed" some years ago at a time when the University had less residential accommodation than it has now. Apparently they are anachronisms. Apparently "their purpose is no less important now, as the majority of students still live away from the campus in lodgings or flats." Perhaps they are unnecessary heirlooms of some aged academic custom of dinner-table snobbery—

possibly one way of getting to the top.

Still, they shouldn't be condemned out of hand. They must be well-to-do and important because they've got a whole page to themselves in the Guild Handbook, and anyway, all the right people must belong to them. You never know, they are probably just innocent nosh-ups, and so that everybody can have a good time the numbers have to be kept down. Obviously. Hence the secrecy—or obscurity.

However, there are something like 150 members of these little groups knocking about the campus, so if you happen to bump into any of them on your travels, say Hello and be friendly. They won't bite. In fact, you could take them along to the next whist drive you are going to—they'll really enjoy it.

A positive Plethora ?

Wouldn't it be nice if extended music festivals, such as those held this summer at Plumpton and the Isle of Wight, were to continue as annual events for several more decades? And that's not merely fatuous rhetoric, though it might at first sight seem to be little else. There is an elaborate precedent for a projected anachronism of precisely this sort in music and entertainment.

One of B.B.C.-T.V.'s most popular and extravagant programmes, "The Good Old Days," provides us with the acts and artists of 30 years ago, complete with an audience dressed in appropriately outlandish costume, and a compere Versed in

a Verbose Variety of Veritable Vitticisms (oooh!).

So . . . in 30 years' time there's no reason why we shouldn't expect to see "The Good Old Days" maintaining its magnificent and unique tradition. John Peel will be there, of course, perhaps a little more bald but otherwise looking exactly as we see him today, droning introductions to various musicians in an earnest monotone: . . . currently one of my favourite bands . . . very nice . . . the very excellent . . . etc. Perhaps comping jargon really doesn't change?

Then the hands themselves, reproducing their stage acts of the late 1960's for the "memory lane"

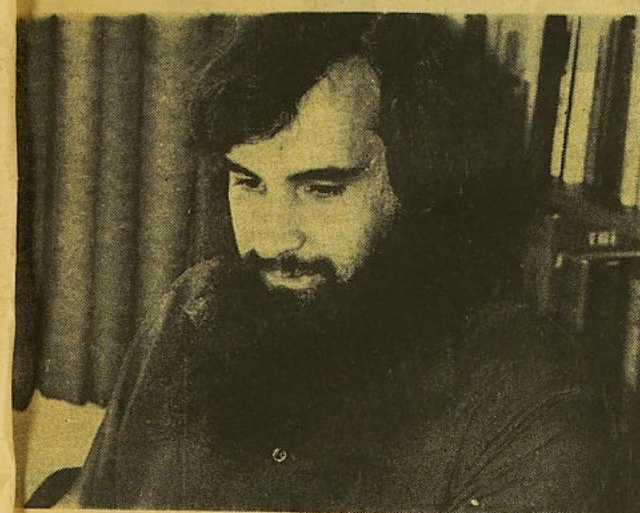
of 2000 A.D. We will see Pete Townshend smashing his guitar into an amplifier with all the athleticism of a springily 50-year-old. And Mick Jagger sinking to the ground like a hunted animal, then leaping into a twinkling, virile action, cursing encroaching rheumatism. Imagine Bob Dylan, emerging from retirement with yet another vocal style, "I shall be released."

The audience will, of course, be wearing beads and any other strange garments which will set them in period. "The Good Old Days": we'll feel almost cheated if the B.B.C. doesn't preserve these heady festival days for us, won't we?

New Chaplain for S.F.H.

"I shall certainly not be left out of what is the most exciting thing which is going on"; this more than anything characterises the philosophy of David Hart, the new Anglican Chaplain of St. Francis Hall.

Having come from London, where he was involved in Church and in producing the "Catonsville Roadrunner" (a kind of Christian OZ) he intends to involve people here in the same kind of way of thinking and the same kind of actions.



DAVID HART

He sees Christianity as basically political, and feels it right to become involved in anything with a justifiable aim. Christ, he says, was a political figure who talked about poverty, justice, peace, imperialism and other problems as relevant to-day as they were then, and he stresses the importance of students involvement in situations like the Balsall Heath rent strike, as well as the Free University and the Arts Lab.

He does not want St. Francis Hall to be a parish church for a dedicated few, but rather a place for new things, for experiments in drama and other forms of communication, and a place where worship can be fun and yet serious. He sees a great need for people to relate to each other more than they do at present, and this can be achieved by their doing special things together.

Finally, and perhaps most important, he sees himself as a chaplain to all undergraduates, not just those who are Christians, and welcomes contact with anyone and everyone.

University Information Officer

THE University has appointed a professional public relations man to the new part-time post of University Information Officer.

He is Mr. Cheeswright, who runs a Public Relations and Advertising Agency in Birmingham, and who has in the past worked for the "Daily Express" and been assistant editor of the "Birmingham Post." The appointment takes effect on October 1st.

Mr. Cheeswright's job will include liaison with the Press, and he hopes to be able to publicise much more of the research work of the University, of which people even within the University are often not aware. He will also have the job of promoting good relations with the city and other outside bodies.

G.T.V. AT SHEFFIELD AND BRUNEL

A GUILD TELEVISION programme has been shown at Sheffield and Brunel Universities. The programme includes sketches, songs, and an interview with Rhys Vaughan and Martin Lowe on their protest against exams. It was the first to be recorded in the new T.V. studios.

The highly-praised G.T.V. item was screened alongside programmes from other universities during conference held to discuss student T.V. It is now hoped the Birmingham students will be able to see work from other universities, and also that the G.T.V. programme will be seen at the Universities of Leeds and Strathclyde.

International Club walk

Fund-raising for the South African Student Fund gets under way tomorrow with a sponsored walk round Birmingham in which, it is hoped, many Freshers will take part. The walk starts at the Union at 2 p.m. and ends there after covering 10 miles through Edgbaston, Balsall Heath and the city centre.

Those who wish to take part in the walk should try to be at the Union not later than 1.45 p.m.

REDBRICK

THE main lead in "REDBRICK" this week may not seem directly connected with the University; nevertheless, we have put it in because it is about one of the most significant movements which is going on in Birmingham at the moment.

For once people living in some of the worst housing in Britain are getting together and doing something about it; a real community spirit is flourishing in Balsall Heath, of which the recent Balsall Heath Festival (Congratulations, you are now entering Balsall Heath!) was only one manifestation. The Festival was entirely the work of the residents of this area; the rent strike, however, has been helped considerably by a small group of students and ex-students, some of whom live in Balsall Heath, and who have been able to show the citizens how to use their power, and to help them to make contact with the city housing authorities and other relevant bodies. This is not a glorified student philanthropy exercise, but a movement which must essentially be run by the residents; without the total involvement of as many residents as possible it could never have got off the ground.

Nevertheless, although this is not a project in which students can be centrally involved, there is a place for an immense amount of student involvement on the sidelines. Students can help with canvassing, publicity, and in supplementary community action programmes such as organising play-groups and building adventure playgrounds for children. This is an opportunity for students to get involved in the practicalities of trying to improve society, rather than getting bogged down in idealistic theories which often only cloud the issue.

And Balsall Heath is not the only area of Birmingham where students can help in organising effective community participation; in some of the re-developed areas there is a total lack of community (which Balsall Heath never had) and this lack of community spirit is leading indirectly to the ruination of housing of a potential quality which most people in Balsall Heath will never have the chance to live in.

Teh Balsall Heath rent strike (see page 1) may not, at first, seem to be connected with the University; in fact, it isn't directly connected.

THOSE students new to the University are probably already uncomfortably aware that they are "Freshers," a race apart from other students, for whose benefit the University sees fit to organise a series of events, most of which are proved by one's University career to be completely irrelevant. However, don't be put off by this attempt at isolation, if indeed it seems to you like one; it's worth persevering for what comes later, once the boredom of the Fresher's conference has been left behind.

Following such remarks on the unnecessary isolation of new students, it is paradoxical to admit that this edition of "REDBRICK" has been produced almost entirely for the benefit (or otherwise) of them. This, however unfortunate it may be, is the case; we do it partly as a means of attracting new (and desperately needed) staff, partly to put over some of the aspects of life in the University and the City which we feel important, and which the Guild Handbook and other publications with a more limited or more specialist range may not have been able to cover. Possibly, even, "REDBRICK" might provide you with something interesting to read during the more boring parts of the conference.

Because this particular edition of "REDBRICK" has a rather special aim, it is not a typical edition. Things have not really begun to happen again yet after the summer, and so we have cut down the amount of news we usually have. Instead we have five pages of features (one of which, admittedly, is specifically designed to attract new staff) instead of the usual two or three. Also, we have no letters page in this edition, as we have not yet received any letters this term, and so would have had to write them all ourselves. But in the next edition (out on Wednesday) there will be a letters page, so please write some letters to save yourselves the pain of reading the inventions of "REDBRICK" staff.

"REDBRICK" staff is, at the moment, very small, which means that there is not as great a variety in the styles and topics which we cover as there might be. To get the full potential out of this kind of newspaper we need a great variety of staff with a great variety of interests; the bigger the staff, the easier the running of the newspaper and the general work.

Please don't think that because you aren't reading arts you can't write; in the past some of the best editors of "REDBRICK" have been scientists. We need anyone who is interested; interest and enthusiasm are the only qualities necessary to work on "REDBRICK."

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BETTER LATEY THAN NEVER

by JOHN KEETLEY

NOW the Votes-at-18 Law is at last here, exactly how many student are going to use it? In an attempt to discourage people from being apathetic to their new adult privileges, the National Union of Students has launched a wide campaign to inform students of the registration procedure. As N.U.S. explain, Friday, October 10th is a crucial day for all students. This is the day which decides whether the student vote is going to matter in Parliamentary or local elections. Although anyone over the age of 18 now has the right to vote, only those whose names appear on the electoral register can exercise that right.

THE FUTURE?

On October 10th householders are required to declare, usually by filling in a form, the names of those "normally resident" in their household, so that the new electoral register may be compiled. In short, then, what N.U.S. is trying to do, by providing enough encouragement and publicity, is get the student vote registered.

There are many problems involved in registration and the most

important of them are dealt with in the leaflets which are now being circulated by all student Unions. Further help may always be received from Welfare Committee, who will also be able to provide information regarding your local Electoral Officer and how to con-

The age of majority was lowered to 18 by Act of Parliament on April 17th, 1969. There seems to have been no great publication of such an important change in the extension of franchise, and although much news surrounded the campaign while the Latey Report was being prepared, now it is here very little is being said.

This article looks at some of the new privileges which the reform brings, and examines possible changes in University regulations which should soon follow in the light of this new adult status.

tact him about difficulties.

The new electoral registers come into force on February 16th, 1970, and it is after this date that 18-21 year-olds will first be able to use their vote.

Part of N.U.S.'s concern lies in

the possibility of a new student block vote—in other words, a potent political weapon. Significantly N.U.S. has stated that it wants to ensure that students who are entitled to do so, register to vote in their college constituencies. What exactly are the motives?

POLITICAL WEAPONS?

Jack Straw, President-elect of N.U.S. has already said: "We are well aware that the new registers will in all probability be used in the next General Election. We want to ensure that students are able fully to use the new democratic right with which they have been endowed. If our Registration Campaign is a success the student community vote should be a factor to be reckoned with, particularly in marginal constituencies."

Such marginal constituencies would include important University towns. For example, in the last election Labour took Oxford with a majority of 2,425—the student population is 10,000. In such cases a concentrated student vote could upset the trends drastically.

Adult status also presents 18-21 year-olds with the opportunity to

get married without parental consent and many other privileges in the world of contracts, including hire purchase arrangements and the like. But how does all this affect the University and what changes can we expect to see?

So far there has been only one significant reform of University regulations. This concerns the Lodgings Office and the rules which have for some time dictated accommodation requirements to students, particularly those under the age of majority.

However, the adult status of the vast majority of students forced the regulations to be revised. This in fact means that rules governing the taking of flats are no longer exclusive to certain groups of eligible persons. From this year on all students are permitted to find their own accommodation, the nature of which is unspecified by any of the new regulations. If you want to live in a flat, you can. The only duty of the Lodgings Officer now is to give advice, offer assistance in finding homes and record students' addresses. It restricts no more.

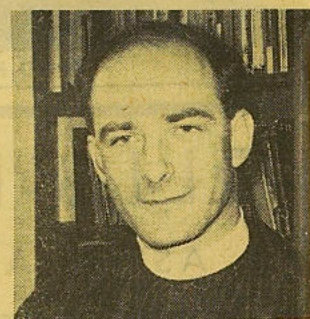
Adult status creates many other topics for speculation, one of which



FACTS ON DISPLAY

involves Halls of Residence. Last year "Redbrick" ran several articles on the subject of Halls reform in anticipation of the Latey Report's conclusion.

Since the beginning of the year steps have been taken to include students in the formal administration of Halls, and representation has brought a greater sense of involvement in the Hall communities. Nevertheless, it has long been thought by many students and staff that a policy of internal autonomy must be adopted as soon as possible. What this implies is that those



BOB HUGHES
(Lodgings Warden)

who live in Halls should be responsible for making all decisions which concern residents—students and staff. The role of the professional administrators will still be important, but changes should mean that those who are not directly concerned with no longer have anything more than an advisory capacity.

It is all a matter of simple logic.

CHANGES

In the coming months you should expect to see change especially in Halls of Residence. The University can no longer find excuses to restrict the behaviour of residents with regulations on visiting hours and similar points.

Adult status must be recognised and so the concept of the Hall of Residence must evolve accordingly. No one should press hard for an over-night reform, but things will have to happen quickly. Privileges which are defined by the law can not be disregarded.

Food: Cooking for yourself is always the cheapest way to eat, and again, the larger number of people you cook for, the cheaper per head the meals are. Rice, pasta and potatoes are all cheap bases for meals, and there are almost endless variations on these three themes.

Sauces for them can be made with mince, onions and tomatoes, varied with mushrooms, garlic, peppers, spices, bacon or cheese.

Although meat tends to be expensive, mince is cheap and so are the less conventional joints such as bacon ribs. An amazing change can be wrought over food by the addition of such things as curry powder—Birmingham is a suitable

HOW TO BE POOR:

being a verrie cynicall treatise on the hardships of poor students

In 1968 it was decreed by the powers that be that the standard undergraduate grant should be raised from £340 per year to the unprecedented sum of £360 per year (this on the understanding, of course, that undergraduates only "live" for 30 or so weeks of the year).

Since our Socialist Government has failed to keep down the cost of living, this increase was more or less immediately absorbed, and during the coming year it is going to be even more difficult to live on the £360 allowance. However, for those of you new to the poverty game, here are some tentative ideas on how to make the most of your grant.

ACCOMMODATION:

Flats in Birmingham are scarce, and becoming scarcer now that first year students are allowed to live in them. If you want to pay rent, the cheapest way to live is to find a festering, fungus-ridden slum in one of the less respectable parts of the city (Balsall Heath or Moseley) and fill it with as many people as you can—the principle of the more the cheaper applies to more or less everything, but particularly housing and food. Even in such exclusive areas as Edgbaston there is a class of accommodation designed exclusively for students, by virtue of the fact that no one else would dream of living in it.

If you don't want to pay rent, find an accommodating friend with a vacant kitchen floor; if you don't mind being trampled on late at night and early in the morning you then have a residence for as long as you, or they, can stand it.

Heating houses tends to be expensive, so learn how to wear all your clothes at once and still look interesting/fashionable/elegant. Gas is cheaper than electricity, and if you're really desperate, a large group of people in a small space generates its own heating—so have a party.

place to become a curry expert, and if you want to do things properly, go to Ghuri's on Horsefair, where all the ingredients of real curry can be found.

Three cheap and basic recipes:
Green Pie (so called on account of its colour):

Fry bacon and onions and put them in the bottom of a casserole, cover with a layer of tinned peas (this is where the greenness comes from if the peas are cheap). Pour white sauce over this, top with a layer of sliced, boiled potatoes and bake in a moderate oven for half an hour.

Liver and Bacon:
Put pieces of ox-liver in the bottom of a casserole and cover with a layer of stuffing. On top of this put tomatoes and mushrooms and cover it all with bacon rashers. Pour hot water into the dish to a depth of about 1in. and bake for half an hour in a moderate oven.

Baked Cod:
Put some cod fillet in a dish, cover it with milk, line the dish with sliced onions and top with pieces of butter; bake in a moderate oven for half an hour.

These are only suggestions, and can all be varied. And if you're still hungry there's always bread—cinnamon and sugar sprinkled on hot buttered toast will make it particularly palatable.

Having got yourself fed and housed, there arises the problem of material possessions—clothes, books, and the more ephemeral items such as cigarettes and newspapers (if you can stand it, the "Times" is half price to students).

Clothes can, of course, always be made; increasingly, too, they can be bought second-hand in the Rag Market (behind the Bull Ring, open on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons, and an invaluable place for people without much money) or in the various Oxfam/Sue Ryder shops which there are around the city.

As for books—a number of students have been caught stealing from Hudson's bookshop. Other trappings of student life can be begged, borrowed or stolen fairly easily if you have a mind for it.

The question of entertainment is one of the most vexing problems; the free-concert-in-the-park season is coming to an end now, and failing that the Union dances are as

cheap as most places, although they vary in quality.

"Mothers" at Erdington is the best value of the Birmingham clubs: the only problem is getting to Erdington, but most people seem to overcome that. Drinking is cheap in the Union, but there are places in Birmingham where you can get drunk on a very few pints of rough cider at 1s. 4d. a pint.

Cinema is expensive, but suburban ones are cheaper, and the Cinephone is cheap—if the pseudo-erotica becomes boring, the people are sometimes interesting. And some of the best films are shown there.

The traditional cheap travel is hitching—easy on the M1, M5 and M6 out of Birmingham, and on the other main roads—university scarves are an advantage for this, although they are less often used now (and anyway, they are not the cheapest way of keeping your neck warm).

If you haven't been too depressed by your impending poverty, take courage from the thought that there are such things as vacation grants, rebates on travelling expenses and other local authority perks; some students have even resorted to Social Security in time of need. And this may be the only time in your life you get paid so much for doing so little.



by
Jenny
Wickham

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and

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3rd at 7.45 p.m.

HAROLD DAVISON presents—

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LIZ DONALDSON presents—

PASSPORT TO FOLK

Featuring the Ian Campbell Folk Group, Jeremy Taylor,

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Comper: Barry Holmes. Tickets: 15/- 12/6 10/- 8/-

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8th at 7.30 p.m.

CHRYSLIS presents—

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ALLA RAKHA

(TABLA)

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(See opposite page for forthcoming attractions)

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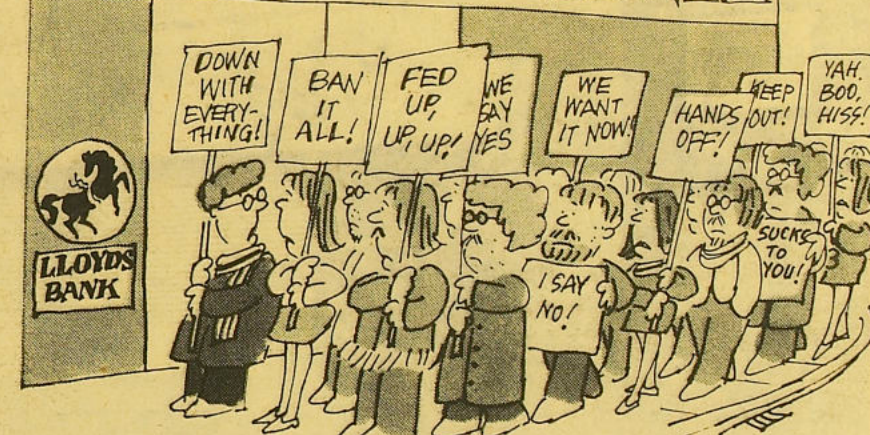
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University of Birmingham branch: New Refectory Block.

Chips that pass in the night

IF by some chance you should at any time not have quite enough money to partake of the Oriental delights mentioned elsewhere on this page, you can always resort to the chippies. These fine establishments have a wider range of opening hours than other eating places, and are also better for people in a hurry.

The Selly Oak chippy (run, like most Birmingham chippies seem to be, by Italians) is most convenient for the University, but under recent "new management" its standards seem to have declined. Its chips are reasonable, but its pies and pasties seem to be filled with slightly flavoured glue, and occasionally recognisable pieces of meat. However, the fish is eatable.

Further afield is the Edward Road Chippy. Situated in lively Balsall Heath, and again run by Italians, its proprietors

have the exceptionally honest practice of heating the food in a microwave oven after they have wrapped it up, but before they give it to the customer—a frank admission that chipshop food is not always absolutely fresh.

In the opposite direction is the Ivy Bush chippy, somewhat inconspicuously situated in Monument Road, behind Hagley Road. The pies here are better, although the chips are sometimes rather hard—people with crowned teeth, beware.

Here you get the pleasure of contemplating religious texts as you wait to be served, and for a small fee, bibles can be purchased (with vinegar if deemed appropriate).

Finally, the Chinese chippy in Harborne deserves a mention, even if only to say that it is thought by many to be the worst chipshop in the area.



A new group on the musical scene. Clouds originate in Scotland. Their surprise performance at the Ninth National Jazz and Blues Festival, at Plumpton, Sussex, this summer left thousands of converts standing in a lasting ovation. They appear in Birmingham on Friday, November 21st, at the Lake Hall gig.

SCORE

FOR a long time the circle of music. Birmingham has been the focal point of taste in music, ranging from the great Midlands cultural day Orchestra at the Town Hall, from the tania/soul/ska discos and, from The Nice to secure in one field of the

one once said, whatever turns you on.

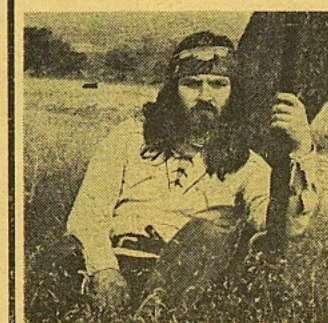
Inside the University walls, there resound from time to time the vibrations of electric noise from the Ent. Comm. gigs, Society and Department dances. On the Vale Site, several times a term, the

ornamental lake ripples to the pulsations of a Hall 'Do'. The names are familiar: The Who, The Move, Family, Jethro Tull, Fairport Convention, The Election and others who play the University circuits. This year the programme of entertainment continues with more big names which represent the wide range of popular and progressive sounds.

Entertainments Committee are responsible for the organisation and co-ordination of all dances in the Union, often linked with societies and departments. In the Halls, the Social Secretaries arrange the do's, sometimes combining their resources with the central committee. Martin Clegg is responsible for all events and entertainments as Chairman of Events Comm., an Executive position. The man in charge of group booking and running the gig on the night is Martin Harris and he and the Chairman are aided by a large body comprised of representatives from all over the campus.

It all sounds very big business, and it is. The large national entertainments agencies barter vociferously for contracts and thousands of pounds are counted in the turnover of a few months. Music is important in the serious context of mass popular culture and therefore the time and money spent on its organisation is justified.

Folk Club, Blues Soc., Mus. Soc. cater for varied musical passions



Keef Hartley — another sound with potential—also in Birmingham this term.

in and around the Union but what of outside?

The Birmingham Arts Lab. is in its infancy but has already shown its potential in its experimental activities, which embrace all kinds of musical virtuosity. The Canon Hill Trust put on a highly successful free concert last summer and their plans for the future include other similar ventures, staged in the idyllic greenery of Canon Hill Park.

In the City, there stands an old grey building of former civic elegance and grace—The Town Hall. This week "Redbrick" carries an advertisement outlining the coming attractions—again the names are familiar. Mothers, in Erdington, brings top names to Birmingham twice or three times a week and The Factory is launching out with something new—a regular musical spot under the title of "Tuesday's People". And then there are always the entertainments pages of the "Evening Mail"



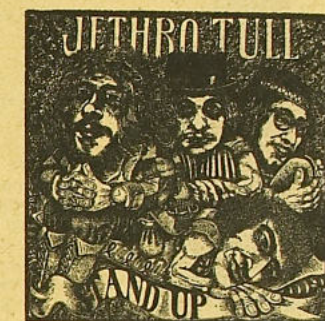
"The Spirit of John Morgan Blues Band," largely an unknown quantity outside some restricted circles. All the same recognition is fast coming their way after a successful summer at the festival. Lake Hall, Nov. 21st.

for a comprehensive guide to the Pubs and Clubs where a musical scene can be found.

Prices obviously vary considerably. In the University, value is probably at its highest, and of course, unlike in many of the outside clubs, dress is as you wish and drinks are not given extortionate price-tags. People often talk about Brummie trouble-makers who infiltrate into the Union despite the efforts put into Guild card checks.

It is true there have been fights and one or two serious injuries often precipitated by the huge volumes of ale which never fail to be sold. Another criticism of Union dances, coupled with the former, is that of the "cattle-market" atmosphere which often prevails, especially at the Freshers Dance and the first few gigs of term. The pick-up scene is virtually inevitable and it's every man and woman for him- or herself.

But whether it's a booze-up you want, a chance to enhance your romance or just the opportunity to



Returned now from a lucrative American tour, Jethro Tull will be back in Birmingham in the near future —this time at the Town Hall.

hear all kinds of musical entertainment, Birmingham can give you all you need—and sometimes a little bit more on the side.

feeling inflammable?

WANTED
fire-eaters, acrobats, sword-swallowers, contortionists, etc.
for GTG production this term.
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IKON invites you to see work by painters and sculptors who are concerned with the latest developments in the Arts.

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Ikon can be found by taking a Bristol Road bus to the terminus in town. First left into Hill Street, first left again into Swallow Street.

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The definitive guide to Birmingham nosh

THE outstanding feature of Birmingham as a gastronomic centre is its multiplicity of Indian restaurants. These vary widely between the authentic atmosphere of the Curry Centre and the cosmopolitan plushy decor of the Eastern Moon.

The quality of the food also fluctuates wildly, not only be-

tween the restaurants but between the time you eat; mid-afternoon or very early evening are times to avoid. Also, nearly every restaurant can have its off spells, when none of its curries are worth eating.

The closest one to the University (until the opening of the Janata in the near future) is the Chamon. This is the place to eat, with friendly service and an unpretentious atmosphere. Curries are very reasonably priced, and generous in proportions. Particularly good are Meat or Chicken Pathias, Madras, and Dupiaja. Pulao rice is excellent here, but Biryani and Pulaos are not up to the general standard. Try also their Kebabs, and the 5s. special lunches.

The Ajanta, by comparison, is decidedly a second best; unimaginative surroundings, indifferent service, and uninspired curries, although the 5s. lunches are fairly good.

On the South side of Bristol Street, between Smallbrook Ringway and the Cinephone, is the area known popularly as the "Curry Strip." Starting on Smallbrook Ringway, there is perhaps the most economical restaurant, the Eastern Moon. Pseudo-sophisticated decor, with a panoramic view of Holloway Circus, and a cultural anonymity, the Eastern Moon will serve anything from "He-man grill" (a vast steak and chips) to Chicken Chow Mein. But stick to the excellent curries, and avoid the Chinese dishes like the plague.

Try the Ranghan Josh, full of red and green pepper. Most curries are fairly mild here, even their vindaloos.

Round the corner, on the real Curry Strip, is the Gate of India. Again it has the same anonymous decor, quite clean, but totally devoid of character. The Meat Madras is one of their best dishes, and their Meat Ceylon is rather interesting.

The newly-opened Star of Pakistan is another glass palace, spotlessly clean, and with a well-equipped bog—unusual in Indian restaurants. If the lunches are any indication, the food is of good quality and reasonably priced.

A couple of years ago the Curry Centre was universally recognised as the best in Birmingham, but there has been a bit of a decline, and food and service are not what they were. However, the atmosphere

remains unrivalled. All curries are an individual flavour, with a fruity taste, because of the toes which are used liberally. Vindaloos are good, but steer clear of the more expensive dishes, the Curry Centre is not especially the biryani.

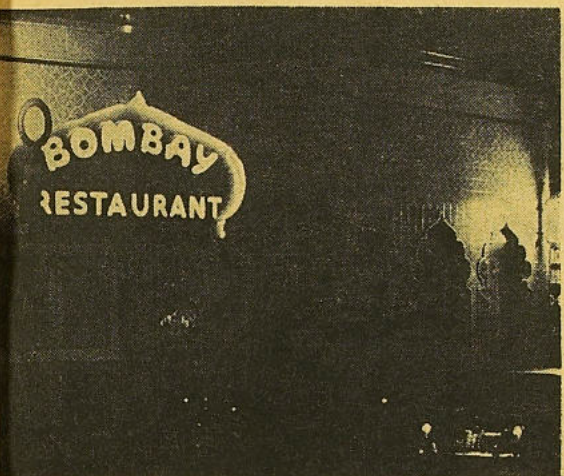
Bombay, on the corner, is also identical to the Gate of India. Again, the clean surroundings, the cultural anonymity. And then all the Bombay is solid on Saturday evenings. is good, if a little overpriced; the better dishes are the Chicken Madras. Next door to the Bombay is the newly-opened Bengal, which will be reviewed in a edition.

Lastly, on Bristol Street in Shah Bagh, where food has long been known to be served until 6 a.m. food is quite good, if a little expensive and cheap, and the Shah Bagh is the only place where you can vary after five to four in the morning.

Rumour has it that the Restaurant, behind the Bullring, is closed. This is the home of the legendary Phal—the hottest in Birmingham, and also of other hotter than normal curries. Try the Ceylons or the Pulaos, or if you feel affluent, the Tibet Special—a huge chicken cooked with pineapple, banana and spices.

In Hurst Street, off Hill Street, is the Taj Mahal, a good restaurant where the biryani and pulao are highly recommended, if a little expensive.

In general, it is best for

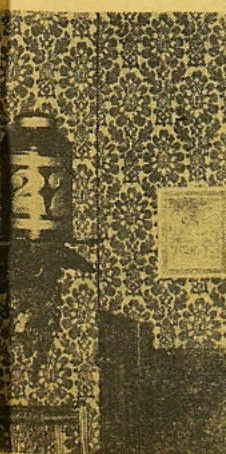


The Bombay on Horsefair or "Curry Row".

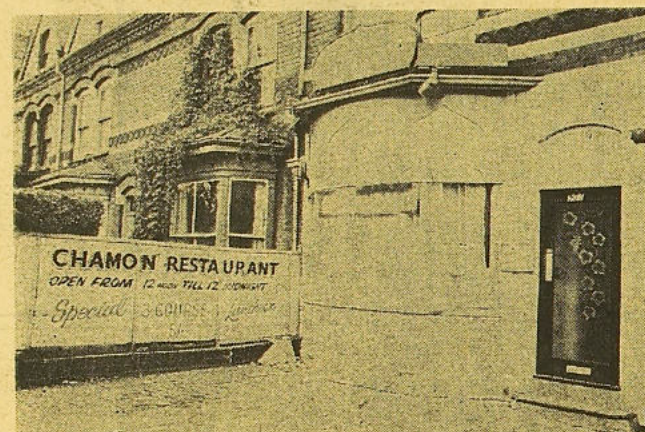
be initiated on milder, usually indicated in the and to graduate on to the Madras and Vindaloo. But haven't yet tried curries, in—you don't know what

at the Heaven Bridge is high quality, in particular and chicken dishes. Try spare ribs. But the Heaven Bridge is very expensive in terms, and the atmosphere are rather reminiscent of Station.

expensive restaurant is boat, which tends to come the Heaven Bridge in all. However, this still leaves the best in the way of and quality is the Warley.



The Victoria Brook Hotel.



The Chamon Restaurant, the nearest and one of the cheapest curry centres, on the Bristol Road, Selly Oak.



The Taj Mahal on Smallbrook Kingsway.

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3rd

bar extension
disco
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FIRST FILM THIS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th

'The Servant'
directed by Josef Losey

Films every Thursday and often also on other days

a week in the life . .

"REDBRICK" appears every Wednesday in term-time; the weekly result of much hair-tearing, worry over deadlines, and sheer hard drinking. Working for "Redbrick" also involves a great deal of sitting around for half of the week, although this is more than made up for by the feverish activity in the other half.

In a weekly newspaper such as this one, the work is unavoidably spasmodic, most of the hard work cannot be done until near the printing deadline, simply because you can't print news before it has happened. The first part of a "Redbrick" week is taken up with getting together a news list and just finding out what is happening in the University.

Sunday is copy day for the paper, when layouts have to be arranged and stories written up. This means that far from being a day of rest for the staff, it is in fact a crescendo of neuroses, personality conflicts and miscellaneous hang-ups, which begins innocently enough in the Union office and culminates in the small hours of Monday morning; the whole entourage having invaded the tranquillity of someone's flat after the closure of the Union. The whole shattering day is only over when the Editor has finally bundled together all the copy, staggered down to New Street Station, placed it on the first train to Derby, and the photographs have gone to the block-makers.

On arriving at Derby the copy is despatched to the nearby town of Ripley where the printers take over, setting up the type in preparation for going to press on Tuesday evening. Tuesday also means another fate for Ripley—the influx of various student types to co-ordinate the editorial and technical sides of the production; and to bring the inevitable late copy. "Redbrick" staff need to be somewhat nocturnal by nature, as this is another night of lost sleep for those who are at the printers. Often the front-page lead is a report of a Guild Council meeting which doesn't finish until ten o'clock that evening, and this has to be written up, phoned through and set up before the presses can be started up. Even this can't be done until the individual page-proofs have been checked out and any last-minute changes in lay-out have been made. Then there is the 50-mile trip back to Birmingham and the appearance of the latest copies of "Redbrick" around the campus on Wednesday lunchtime.

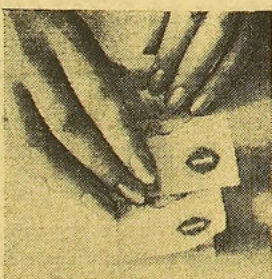
Like any newspaper, "Redbrick" has an editorial body with editors in charge of the various pages — news, reviews, sport, features and "Back to Front." However, the continual problem is lack of staff, especially reporters who are sufficiently committed to the paper to go out and get relevant and interesting news stories.

Journalistic opening?

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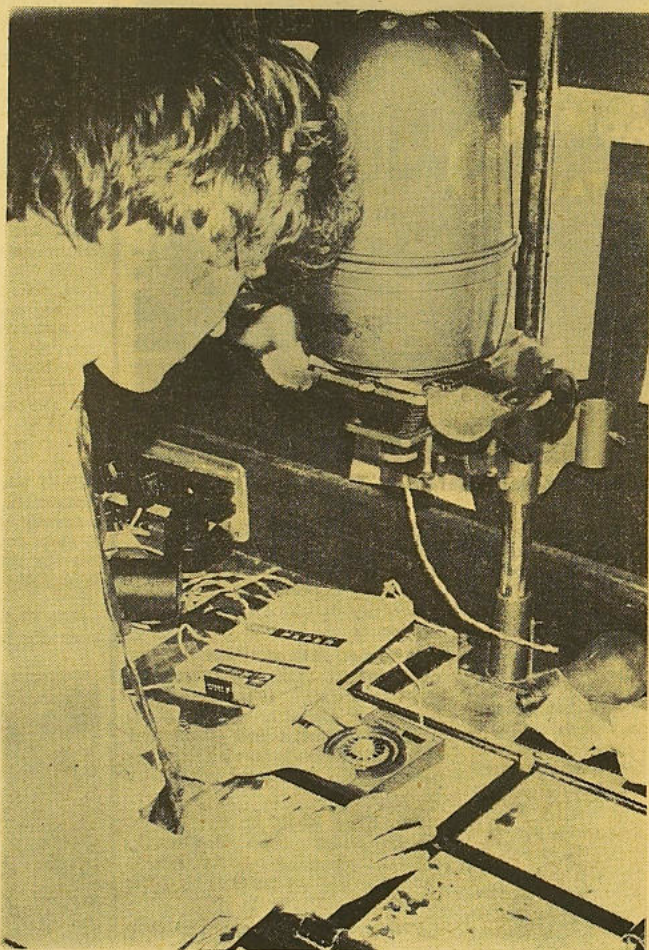
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'Feverish activity'



Meanwhile down in the basement . . .

REDBRICK needs . .

reporters, feature-writers, business staff, reviewers, photographers, salesmen, typists.

Come to the REDBRICK stall at the Fresher' Conference display in the Union or to REDBRICK Office, on the second floor of the Union.

CINEMA

THE Battle of Britain was undeniably a matter of great historical importance, it was also a very repetitive affair of aeroplanes taking off, shooting at other aeroplanes and landing again, every day for 16 weeks.

This gives us one good reason for making a film of it and another for not doing so. The aerial photography of "Skeets" Kelly is, without doubt, a real achievement and there are many unforgettable bomber-eye shots of devastated targets, bombs exploding like the sprouting of instant trees, but enough is enough, one plane looks much like another and there are not all that many ways of shooting down a Heinkel.

This fact has occurred to the makers and we get several shots doing double service in different parts of the film. In an effort to overcome the sameness of the action, and to provide a more distinctive setting for the climax, the combat on September 15th, 1940, when the R.A.F. finally established supremacy, a sort of air ballet is incorporated into the film. Similar dog-fights to those that have gone before, this time accompanied by a surprisingly banal piece of music by Sir William Walton, fail to arouse any new interest in the film as an aerobic spectacular, and unless you have a fondness for aeroplanes, it is possible that by the end of the film you will be very bored.

This showcase for resurrected Spitfires, however, is redeemed to some extent by the way it deals with the battle as a whole. The attention given to the top flight decisions and conduct of the battle subtly suggests the underlying collective emotions of both the Germans and the British.

Laurence Olivier's performance as Dowding, quiet and resigned, but

determined, not to win, but to do his best to win, sets a frame around which all the other British characters hang their portrayals of the national attitude. Contrasted to this is the arrogant confidence of Goering (Hein Reiss) bouncing with glee at his vast airborne armada like a fat baby and the pride of the Luftwaffe pilots.

The changing fortunes of the two sides as Hitler and Goering foolishly insist on a disastrous change of tactics, are clearly documented and were the film merely intended to be a historical record, all would be well.

Sadly, with a few exceptions, notably Olivier, Trevor Howard and Sir Ralph Richardson, the cast never seem to convey the impression that they are actual people, and most appear as concocted figures who, as luck has it, and the captions ask us to believe are living in the Britain of 1940.

The fault lies, probably, in the decorative star-studding of the cast, many of whom have little more than walk-on roles. The self-conscious Technicolor brilliance of the film gives an impression of a celebratory pageant rather than an attempt at reality, though I fear that pageant is all the producers ever intended it to be.

ANDREW ROBINSON

"Closely Observed Trains" (1966), Cinephone, Bristol Road.

"CLOSELY OBSERVED TRAINS" is not a comedy, neither is it a tragedy nor a plain, anonymous drama. Like Chekhov's "Seagull" or Shakespeare's "Cymbeline," it defies the usual human weakness for cut and dried dramatic labelling.

The Director, Jiri Menzel, has, by his expert technical and artistic guidance, succeeded in reconciling diverse contrasts and inconsistencies, engineered a subtle blend which forms a complete whole. He has achieved this end with the same precise, economical use of his

material that marked the creation of Maupassant's short stories.

The story is not highly unusual. It is a chunk of a particular young man's life, in occupied Czechoslovakia, during the last war. He begins his career as a minor railway official at an ordinary station, surrounded by some very ordinary people.

Under Menzel's quality microscope we see selected episodes of Milos' development; the not unusual trials of a young man experiencing his first tastes of stumbling, fumbling sex, urged on by friendly, but sometimes dubious advice, and often pathetically naive in his new role in a man's world.

The normality is sometimes almost surprising. There is no glorification of war, no sensationalisation of sex, and no flouting of exaggerated heroic principles. Certainly there are scenes when high emotion swamps the set, but they are never overplayed, never represented as anything more than credible human experience.

Menzel makes a great many sequences effective, appealing and real by his touches of simple humour—the kind you find in nearly every situation in life, whether in war time, work time or bed time.

Juxtaposing scenes as he does, Menzel never lets his audience simply sit back and dream; the attention is always held by his clever switches from the serious to the comic, the lofty and the crude. His focus on detail at the start of a sequence often leaves the audience guessing as to where the action has shifted. One interesting and symbolic detail is captured at the beginning of the film during the credits. It is a still of a pigeon, an ordinary, scruffy little pigeon, but significant in its isolation, frozen in its flight.

This film will also be shown by Film Soc. later in the year.

JOHN KEETLEY.

style, sharing something with Hieronymus Bosch and Brueghel, and looking forward to Gerald Scarfe.

The one thing which spoils the exhibition is the reverent way in which it is displayed. A dead academic hush forces you to stifle laughter, and it would have more effect as part of Birmingham's Festival of Rare and Exotic Delights if records of Hoffnung's Music Festivals could be played to lighten the atmosphere.

MAXINE LINNELL

"Jumping Jack Flash" restored their fortunes and since Jimmy Miller entered the little glass box, the sounds have been back where they belong. "We Love You," "Dandelion" was a great record but it owed much of its popularity to the misguided attempts of the police to incarcerate Mick and Keith. "You better move on" is a memory from the five-tracker that his us back in '64 "Honky Tonk Woman" is there too showing us where they're at now.

This is about the past, Brian Jones is there, and these were the good times.

ANTHONY STEIN

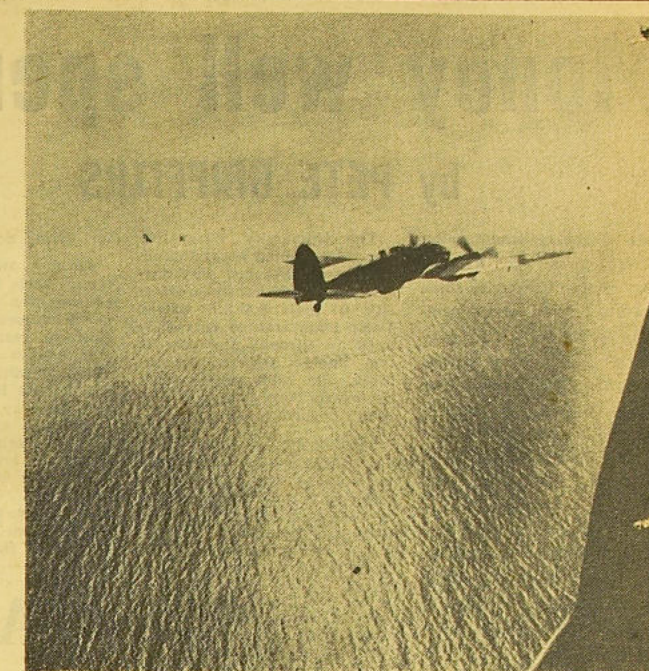
"Three for the Road" is needlessly long, but most of the poetry works. There is a great improvement in the standard of the articles. The review of Jon Hiseman's new album, and the piece on Wadja's trilogy are both well written, but the real achievement is the article on Bunting's "Briggflatts."

This is what Henry Dumolo's is really good at, printing articles that are of great interest to poets and which are unlikely to be published elsewhere.

"Tuppence," the once-famous university poetry magazine, which appeared to be dying of unnatural causes, is to be revived this term. Unfortunately, several people seem to be competing for the honour. It is to be hoped that a decision will be reached before it is too late.

FRANK ALMOIN.

REVIEWS



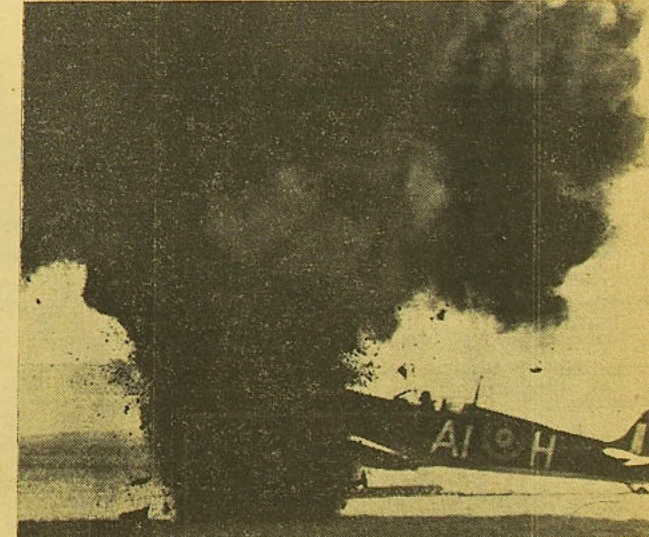
FLYING: THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN



TEN YEARS AFTER — 10 OCTOBER



PINK FLOYD — 3 OCTOBER



BANG: THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN

EXHIBITIONS

GERARD HOFFNUNG's cartoon style is familiar. Because he was a musician himself he could caricature the classical music world with an irreverence and knowledge which comes from inside. If it comprised just this part of his work, a visit to the exhibition at the Birmingham and Midland Institute (in Margaret Street) would make a pleasant half-hour's entertainment.

What was more interesting was to see Hoffnung's illustrations, some in water colour, and the cartoons designed for a specific purpose—"Punch" covers, theatre programmes, designs for the Chelsea Arts Ball, and illustrations with self-mocking notes adds (Dear Mr. Hoffnung, do you really think you can get away with this sort of thing? . . .). A few, particularly those where he was exploring the third dimension with ink wash and heavy shading, show a tentative move towards a less superficial

POP

THROUGH THE PAST DARKLY is a new Rolling Stones album. In the case of most other groups the release of an elpee consisting almost entirely of old singles would only serve to show the marked similarity which is described as "having a sound." The production of a recording that will be instantly recognisable as having been made by a specific group has reduced most A and R men to using the same instrumentation for a whole series of

releases. Although every record of the Rolling Stones can be said in some way to be typical, their range is so varied that each can also be said to be original.

The period covered by this record showed a marked oscillation in their popularity. "Let's spend the night together" was basically a sock-it-to-me-one-time spring rock-and-roll number, whereas "Ruby Tuesday" was an intensely beautiful soft song. Neither side was outstandingly successful in this country, nor was "2,000 light years from home" from "Their Satanic Majesties Request . . ."; indeed, many people thought that it was never issued.

workers rather than students, whose jobs will tend to stifle any artistic talent they might once have possessed, and who have never before had an opportunity to reach any audience other than their friends. By giving them encouragement and an outlet for their work Henry Dumolo's has succeeded in achieving a high standard of content and in proving itself a successful experiment.

The second issue has now miraculously appeared, and beneath the purple cover is a really good magazine. The poetry varies in style, tone, depth and quality, although some of it seemed more suitable for a poetry reading than a magazine.

The beautiful drawing by Ian Trevor Brown has been mutilated by his poem, and Brian McCarron's

HENRY DUMOLO'S NEEDLESS ALLEY RAG

HENRY DUMOLO'S Needless Alley Rag is the highly memorable name of a magazine produced by a group of people living in Birmingham. It represents an attempt to create a literary magazine outside the rather restricting shelter of the University environment.

Many of the contributors are

sport 1

Money well spent?

by PETE GRIFFITHS

THE Guild of Undergraduates gives the Athletic Union of this University some £13,000 a year to finance University sport. The University competes in championships organised by the British University Sports Federation (B.U.S.F.), and Universities Athletic Union (U.A.U.) in the men's sports and the W.I.V.A.B. organises events in the women's competitions. (The U.A.U. events do not include teams from the Scottish universities, Oxford, Cambridge and London Universities.)

For the vast sums of money provided to subsidise sport, what return does the University get? Last year only two Birmingham teams won their U.A.U. competitions. The finds of the season were the Volleyball team, who rose from obscurity to champions in the course of the year. In the U.A.U. finals they defeated arch rivals Loughborough Colleges. Their success was due to magnificent teamwork, but credit should go to Gist Tegel (now back in Germany) and to Jack Lyle, for some great performances.

Our other champions were the Cross-Country Club who went all before them in a really outstanding season. Much is expected of them next year, when their team is not weakened by the usual annual departure of team-members. Individual honours were won by both captain Mal Thomas and freshman Andy Holden, who tied for first place in the B.U.S.F. U.A.U. championships.

The University Weightlifting team gained great distinction, when they lost very narrowly to Edinburgh University, in their B.U.S.F. battle. Their team trained extremely hard all through the year in the Sports Centre weights room, and their perseverance so nearly brought the title back to Birmingham.

The Athletics team were also U.A.U. runners-up to the mighty Loughborough Colleges, and during the course of the year defeated Oxford University and shocked the A.A.A. by winning the first three events in their annual match.

Third places in the U.A.U. events were also achieved by the fencing team, who lost in the semi-finals to Bristol; the Swimming team and the men of the Lawn Tennis team, who gave Sheffield a hard fight in the semis.

Among our most improved teams last year were the Soccer first team, who managed to defeat Loughborough Colleges 3-2 on one memorable occasion, and having won through the Midland Divisional U.A.U. competition, were beaten in the quarter-finals, by a last-kick-of-the-match goal by the lucky Swansea University team.

Our women's teams did extremely well again last year. Pride of place must go to the women's Athletics team, who won their W.I.V.A.B. competition and must surely now regard the trophy as theirs by right. An equally fine performance was put up by the women's Hockey team, who drew in the final with Manchester University and so share the trophy for the year. The women's Lacrosse team reached their semi-finals be-

fore going down to Reading.

Finally, amongst our best team efforts last year was the consistently superb winning performances by the Tennen Bowling team, led by their star, Colin Sumner. New clubs needing your support will be the Horse-riding Club, run by Kay Brown and Liz Stockley; the Orienteering Club, the brainchild of Roger Stewart, and the Karate Club, with whom one should not argue. There is a club for everyone's tastes, so make use of them—all, you're paying for them!

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

ONE of the most enjoyable parts of university life is the many occasions on which sportsmen from other universities can be met socially. An occasion like this is the annual Leeds University training week in the Lake District. Their Mountain Hut, situated high among the Fells, provides a terrific base from which to explore the surrounding peaks.

The University Cross-Country Club insist upon haring up and down the mountainsides with breathless abandon. During the week members of clubs from many universities all over Britain covered some 20 miles a day of hard training.

In the evenings, the group regularly adjourned to the local hostelry to sample their

MICK HOWES, CHAIRMAN OF ATHLETIC UNION, OUTLINES THE UNIVERSITY SPORTING SET-UP

NOW that the 1969-70 session is upon us, it is time to consider the prospects for the year. Can Athletic Union maintain the extremely high standard of sport set over the past years? Can the ladies' clubs retain the Kerslake Trophy for the fourth time? (This trophy is awarded to the outstanding W.I.V.A.B. university of the year and the winner is decided on points gained for the performance of individual clubs in inter-university competition.) Can the University increase its number of international sportsmen who have done much to enhance the reputation of

Birmingham in the field of university sport? These are some of the questions which can only be answered with any confidence after Freshers' Trials are completed, but the majority of clubs are optimistic about prospects for the coming year.

The secret of success in sport is depth of talent, and this is no exception here. The set-up of Athletic Union is ideal for producing the necessary depth of talent by organising sport at three different levels: University club level, Faculty level and inter-departmental level. Participation in inter-departmental sport is encouraged for all members of the University and it is here that the foundations for the success of the University clubs exist. All departments have a sport representative who will answer any queries. Sports catered for at this level are 11-a-side and six-a-side soccer, badminton, basketball, cricket, mixed hockey and table tennis.

All indoor sports take place in the Sports Centre, situated on the campus. This con-

tains a sports hall, gymnasium, table tennis room, dance studio, dojo, salle d'armes and a weight training room. The outdoor sports facilities are at West Hills, about five miles from the campus, and include pitches as follows: Six soccer, four rugby, four hockey, one lacrosse, three picket squares and a total of 13 lawn tennis courts. All these facilities are for the use of all members of the University and it is to be hoped that full use is made of them.

Any queries regarding sport will be answered by the staff of Athletic Union offices, which is situated on the balcony of the Sports Centre. The office also has a shop which sells a small selection of sports goods including University sweatshirts, tracksuits and training shoes.

Finally, I should like to welcome all freshers to Birmingham and urge you to support sport in the University, whether it is on the playing-fields or on the sidelines.



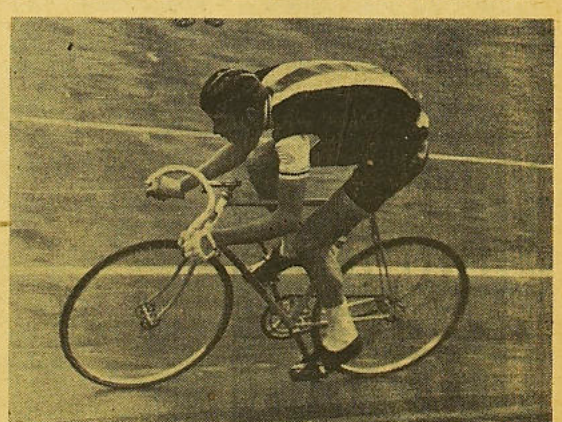
(Photo: Chris John)
Dave Starling jumping against Old Edwardians. Malc McCross waits, expecting the inevitable flick back.

INJURIES HIT DENTALS

AT the beginning of the summer, prospects were looking extremely bright for Dentistry departments' star sportsmen. However, many of those hopes were dashed by unforeseen circumstances.

Particularly unlucky was Olympian Ian Hallam. At the beginning of the season he was busy establishing himself as the country's top cyclist in the 4,000 metres pursuit. He was nominated for the British team in the individual and team pursuit in the European Championships. Then disaster struck, for riding in a local meeting, he came off his bike at high speed and broke an arm.

Ralph Banthorpe had an indifferent start to the season. However, by June he had established himself once more as the country's leading 200-metre man. Unfortunately, in the season's first international he injured himself, and this kept him out of action until after the A.A.A.'s championships.



Ian Hallam, Dental IV, the top University cyclist and British international.

After a poor run in Italy, he was rapidly returning to peak condition, and was assured by the British selectors that he would be given a chance to prove his fitness before the final selections for

the European Championships team were made. However, he was astonishingly denied this chance and hence missed the opportunity to prove his worthiness for the Athens squad.

sport 2

BASKETBALL

Neo-tower power

REDBRICK

needs
Sports Writers
AND
Photographers

prepared to photograph
sporting events
at West Hills
and elsewhere

WHERE have all our players gone? If you wander into the Sports Hall, close your eyes and dream a little, you can still see them—George Greene, Paul Patterson, Rich Cowley, Ulli Bergmann, John Lord, Chris Russel, Vic Gregorian, Neil Dewhurst. All these stars have suddenly become part of T.P. mythology; they have departed, leaving us with many good memories and a few bad jokes.

However, with their ghosts looking on from the balcony, a new generation must be created. As the old echoes die away, there must be new ones to take their places. This year's captain, John Simmons, has donned his orange socks and bravely accepted the challenge.

But do not think that Birmingham is devoid of talent this year. New names now decorate the score-sheet. Vice-Captain, Graham Pile, has a sweet shot that even goes in sometimes: Little John Pringle is strong enough to pull the ring down a couple of feet if he needed to; elegant Chris Cumbers emerging from semi-retirement has the skill and tenacity to more than compensate for his lack

of weight; Shawn Newman, who somebody elected treasurer, scores from outside with ridiculous regularity; and Vabik Nersissian, virtually Gregorian incarnate, is another of those Persian wonders, it is rumoured that he brings his own basketball, attached to a string! And anyway, who said Vic Gregorian had left?

Altogether it adds up to the prospect of a very interesting if not totally successful season. But pay no attention to the Knockers. The sun of success will rise again over the Sports Hall. Tower-Power is re-born. But don't believe what you read, come along and see for yourself. The Sports Centre is only a few minutes' walk from the Union.

RUGBY

Plank is expecting

BOURNBROOK awaits another season of capacity crowds when once again the First XV brings to Birmingham, rugby that will only be equalled when Wales piss on England at Cardiff Arms Park. Seriously, though, with a 50-50 playing record last season, and showing notable achievements against the U.A.U. semi-finalists Aberystwyth and old stumbling-blocks Loughborough Colleges, Lydney and Stafford, this year's team should renew Brum's successes on the rugby scene.

Although finishing with a "sick" joke on the annual Easter tour of France, it is reported that Adrian Knight, Mick Stacey and Dave Watkins, all final year students, will again be striving for honours on next year's safari down-under. Colin Birtwhistle, Dave Starling and John Bond, all revelling in second year freedom, will be providing the organisation necessary for this season's "unbeatables."

With tall, good-looking Rog Plank leading the side after Monnington's departure to Loughborough, there should be plenty of "hywl" injected

into the side that was sadly lacking spirit (not alcohol!) last season. Willingly helping with this aspect of play will be Bowen, bite-em-Thomas, of whom it is stated, keeps the inmates of the Dental School busy with his need for repair. This "cuddly teddy bear" should have an outstanding season, already in the North Mids. Squad and Bridgend teams, he should find little difficulty in following in Monnington's boots. Also striving to gain U.A.U. honours is the dynamic, clean-cut dentist Bob Norman, who made an excellent start in last year's team.

Although some might say they are "past it", old stalwarts Graham Morgan and Big Al Wilkinson will be adding their accumulated experience. You might think that with all these star-studded wonder boys, this team will speak for itself, and we will have no need for new blood, but no position is as yet certain. With Dave Starling considering playing a jumping scrum-half, anything can happen. So—if you want the best boozey social life that the University can offer, come along and join Rog Plank at the Freshers' Trials.

SPORTSVIEW

... a weekly column of news and views
in the University Sporting world.

THE European Games, a meeting of amateur sportsmen from many European nations, is now over. For many it is the culmination of months and years of training; training which can either be enjoyable or agony. All this effort is punctuated by moments of success and glory which make it all worthwhile.

Sport is to many a challenge, a fight to be better than fellow competitors. Unlike academic achievement, improvement can be measured week by week, and success is always just around the corner and not a long three years away. It is this which drives the sportsman on to greater efforts. For most the fight of mind over matter is too troublesome and training never started.

At Birmingham University the fight will be easier than at any time in the past or at any time in the future. The opportunities are there; with all levels of competition catered for from the beginner to the international star. The facilities are there, with a sports centre, an athletics track and acres of playing fields. But above all the atmosphere to work and train at a chosen skill and the fitness common to all sport is to be found in a University with a long sporting tradition.

Athletes are to be found training twice a day on the roads around the University, on the track or in the weights room. Circuit training is organised on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Badminton courts, squash courts, table-tennis tables, tennis courts and all manner of games facilities are available virtually from dawn to dusk and beyond.

University clubs organise their own specialist training regularly. By use of all the opportunities available, it has been proved time and again that it is possible to rise from the beginner to the very highest attainments in sport, in the space of a University career.

This for the serious sportsman, the man who enjoys a challenge, will be his life. For the many others who just enjoy the not too serious game for an hour or so, with no effort in between times, they too are catered for. Courses run by the P.E. department enable a new skill to be mastered, such as squash or badminton. There is an advanced system of inter-departmental games in most sports, which are not too serious, and of course, there are the facilities there for the casual game of squash, tennis, table-tennis or badminton.

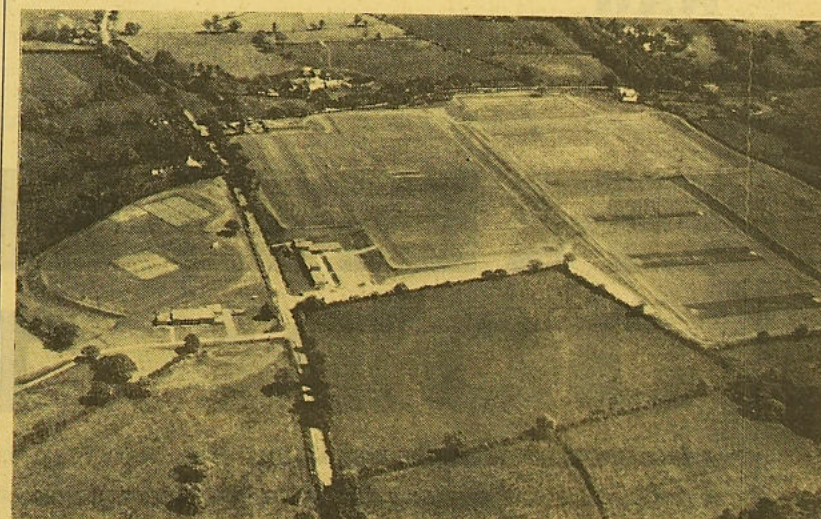
For the spectator, the University teams play most Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. The Rugby team play on the Bournbrook playing fields; the soccer, hockey and lacrosse teams at West Hills, about four miles away. In the sports centre, or at venues for odd sports such as rifle-shooting, tennis, bowling, sailing or swimming, the remaining teams are to be found. The one which has drawn the crowds in recent years is the all-powerful basketball team. Some of the stars and personalities of the team which has reached three U.A.U. finals in four years may have left but there are more on the way up, and certainly they will still be an entertaining team to watch.

But don't watch for too long, remember none of those teams, however good, are completely out of reach. Hard work can bridge that gap faster than you think. There is no easy way to the top but Birmingham University provides a way that is easier than most. Grasp your opportunity with both hands.

The European Games of 1969, held in Athens, during the vacation, saw little of the controversy which raged over the Olympics at Mexico last year. However considerable controversy was engendered when the British team was announced. Only one Birmingham University athlete was included, and that was lecturer Howard Payne, who competed in the Hammer. He finished 8th in the final with a throw of 216 ft. 2 1/2 ins., not far short of his best.



(Photo: G. L. Pike)



West Hills from the air, where rugby, soccer, hockey, lacrosse and cross-country takes place every Wednesday and Saturday.

REDBRICK

BUILDINGS DELAYED AGAIN

The two most important building projects on the campus, the Arts-Commerce Tower and the new Electrical Engineering building are both unfinished, and no firm date has been set for their completion.

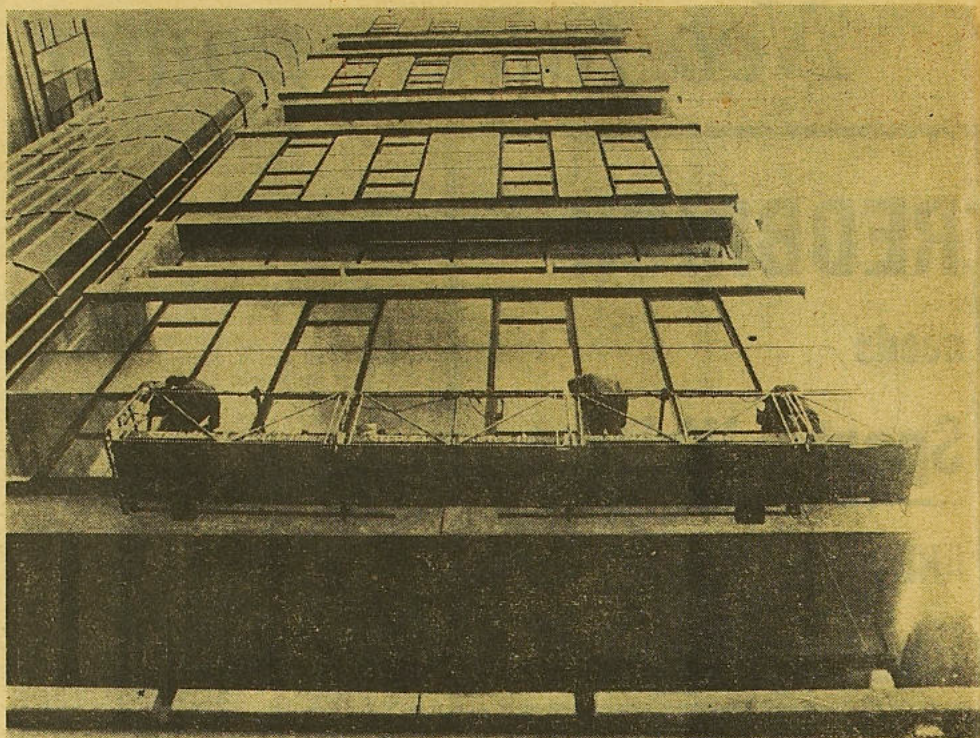
Although the Engineering Production department is already occupying part of the new Electrical Engineering complex, the main part of the building, which should have been ready two years ago, has been delayed.

The Assistant Bursar, Mr. Lewis, gave the reason for this as the complex interaction of different types of delays — mechanical, electrical and others. He also said that the Elec. Eng. Department could only be moved into the new building at a time when few people were affected by the move—therefore, such a move might not be possible until the first vacation after the building was finished.

The Arts-Commerce Tower was cleared of its scaffolding in July, and the Drama department are now moving into their new quarters in the basement and lower ground floor. It is likely that the other departments will be able to move into the building at Christmas. The library extension will also be ready by January 1970, although part of it is in use already.

The first piece of new building on the campus for some time has just been started behind the great hall; this is the Radiation Centre, which has for some time been scheduled

as the next phase of the Physics Department building, the last part of which was completed a few years ago. This centre will take about 18 months to complete, and when it is finished it will also be used by Aston University, who have an interest in it.



The Arts-Commerce Tower, now nearing completion

No squatters yet—but flats are scarce

IN spite of the difficulty many people are having in finding accommodation, no fresher has been left without a place to live.

There are plenty of bed-and-breakfast lodgings available, and students are being put into these at least temporarily; second and third-year students, however, want self-contained flats rather than this kind of accommodation, and it is these flats of which there is a shortage. A lot of students are having to take "flats" which are no more than rooms in the same house as the landlady, but without meals.

Bob Hughes, the new University Lodgings Officer, put the scarcity of flats which are reasonably inhabitable to the fact that, since the Lodgings regulations changed to conform with the reduction in the age of majority, many more students are wanting to live in flats. However, he said that the position of many second and third-year students was not known, possibly because although they had found lodgings they had not informed the Lodgings Office of their address. He emphasised that it was important that all students should inform the lodgings office as soon as they find accommodation.

Questioned on the reported refusal of the Northfield Estate to accept any more students as tenants, he said that this was not because of bias against students, but simply that the Estate Authorities wanted to preserve a balance in the community, and students were tending to overweight the composition of the community.

Broader Education Lectures

The Open Lectures to be held in the Union this year are to have an educational theme, in contrast to other years when the topics have been rather more varied.

The only speakers who are so far definitely coming are Professor Halsey, from Oxford, who will speak on "Educational Priority Areas" on October 7th, and Sir John Wolfenden, who will speak on "Universities and the State." It is also hoped to get Shirley Williams, and Raymond Williams, the author of "Culture and Society" and "The Long Revolution" among other books.

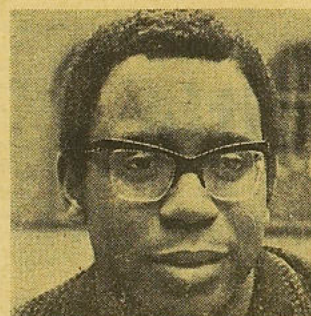
The time of the Open Lectures has been changed from 1.45 to 1.15, and it is hoped that instead of comprising merely a long talk they will consist of a short talk followed by a discussion.

U.T.S. PUTS OUT FIRST PROGRAMME

THE University Television Service, under its new director, Paul Morby, is producing its first full-length programme for students, to coincide with the Freshers Conference teach-in on Birmingham. The programme will be shown on Monday.

It will concentrate on the arts in Birmingham, and will include features on music and theatre in Birmingham, and on the Arts Lab. There will also be mention of such things as the Ikon and the Compendium galleries in the city.

Although the new University Television Centre, underneath the Great Hall, has been operating since the end of last term, this is the first programme that U.T.S. has produced. G.T.V., however, produced their second full-length programme from there this morning.



Elvin McDavid, possibly the only candidate for the vacant post of Guild Secretary

NEW PROF. RESIGNS

THE new professor of German, Prof. Stopp, has resigned before the start of his first year here.

Prof. Stopp, who succeeds Prof. Pascal who retired at the end of last session, disagreed fundamentally with members of his staff on the nature of the German

course. Previously it had had nationwide fame for its broadness, dealing with geographical, sociological, theological, philosophical and other aspects of Germany.

Prof. Stopp, however, wished to limit the range of the course, and this was the cause of the disagreement.

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Information desks in the Union and Refectory from 12 till 2 p.m. Debating Hall from 2 till 6 p.m.