

This House Believes that America is a Cultural Waste Land.
Thurs., 5.15 (24th)
COUNCIL CHAMBER
DEBATE
Remember it's THURSDAY

REDBRICK

FILM SOC

WESTERN SEASON

Films each day in the

Haworth Theatre

No. 695

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1966

Price: Threepence

HALL PLANS SHELVED

THE University has no immediate plans for opening new mixed Halls of Residence on the lines of University House.

"Halls three and four (Lake and Wyddrington) were designed as 'associated Halls' and Halls five and six will be organised on a similar basis," said Sir Robert Aitken, the Vice-Chancellor yesterday. "There are no plans for further Halls as yet because of lack of funds."

This follows the statement by Dr. Alty, the Deputy Principal, at a Press conference last week that the Halls of Residence committee would be considering extending the University House experiment because of its great success. "The experimental mixed Hall has proved so successful that other Halls may be adapted on the same pattern," he said. When the Vice-Chancellor, who had been ill at the time of the press conference, was asked what Dr. Alty meant by this statement he said, "I don't know!"

Flats struggle hots up

by our News Staff

THE Guild has taken its biggest step yet in the direction of getting more lenient lodgings regulations.

Last night Guild Council passed a motion urging the University Authorities to revise the present regulations concerning students who live in flats.

The motion, which was passed unopposed with two abstentions, proposes that all students in their second year should be allowed to live in a flat regardless of age; and that all students who are over 20 years old should also be eligible for a flat regardless of year.

Tony Klug, in proposing the motion, said: "It is about time that our antiquated, Victorian-type lodgings regulations were reformed." He added that he wished only to formally propose the motion and asked for a unanimous vote from Council to be able to put the proposals more forcefully to the University.

There was little discussion on the motion and the house soon came to a vote.

Afterwards Tony commented: "It was naturally very pleasing to see that no Councillor voted against the motion. However, it would come as a great surprise if those who ab-

stained could give a logical reason for so doing."

This follows a recent motion which urged the University to consider giving student flats greater consideration in its building programme.

On that occasion the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Aitken, was quoted by the President, John Butler, as saying that the authorities would consider student flats, by way of diversification, and if there was not enough money to build them, they would consider buying old property for conversion.

After this, petitions were posted in the Union, Refectory, the Medical and Dental schools to gain general support for a policy "to devote any future financial resources earmarked for the provision of student accommodation to the building of student flats in order to satisfy the substantial demand for them."

This, together with last night's recommendations, is aimed at bringing Birmingham more in line with other universities, many of which have more lenient lodgings regulations and much greater flat accommodation.

T.V. for Medics

A.T.V. is being added to the radio in the Students' Common Room at the Medical School. One Medic commented: "There will now probably be complaints from some people that they can no longer work in the Common Room as the lights will always be out."



Pretty Julie Ward (E.P.S. 1) is seen above trying on some shiny new shoes at Wyles, in the Fiveways shopping precinct. This shop is giving students a 10 per cent. reduction for a six-months trial period. If the experiment is successful it will be extended to the whole of the country.

(Photo by Albert Evans)

"This is the first shoe concessions we've ever had — and it's a good one too," said Nick Quayle, chairman of N.U.S. committee. "I hope lots of people will take advantage of the offer."

Last word from Julie: "I only wish they were giving them away!"

Election advertising moves halted

PLANS to allow limited advertising for Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections were criticised last night. A report recommended that candidates should be allowed to use a limited amount of advertising in their campaigns in addition to space already allocated to them in "Redbrick." After strong criticism, Council voted to refer the report so that it could be revised, taking into account Council's criticisms.

Marianne Haase, Guild Relations Officer, presented the report and stated that the purpose of allowing candidates to advertise was to "stimulate general interest in Guild affairs; to subject would-be Presidents to more vigorous cross-examination of their policies; and to increase the size of the poll."

Dave Smith, Ents. Comm. Chairman, criticised the report because the statistics quoted were inaccurate. "Aberystwyth did not allow advertising last year and had a 65 per cent poll. The year before, when they did allow advertising, the poll was quite a lot less."

Tony Klug suggested that to avoid any unfair advantage each candidate should be allotted the same amount of advertising space. This was generally accepted. The new report will be presented at the next Guild Council.

Feet off the ground as boffins plan space shot

BIRMINGHAM University is to take part in a space research programme sponsored by the Space Research Council. Four Skylark rockets containing equipment from the University are going to be launched from the Woomera range in Australia some time in April.

The rockets will be launched one after another at about sun-

set. The delicate equipment, which will be situated in the rocket's nose cones, will send back detailed information about the cooling effects in the ionosphere when the sun's rays die out.

Dr. J. W. G. Wilson, a Research Fellow in the Electron Physics department and Mr. J. H. Wager, an electronics engineer, will both travel to Woomera.

In May, the French Government plan to launch two rockets from Northern Norway. These rockets will contain equipment made by the British Aircraft Corporation from prototypes produced in the department of Electron Physics.

Professor J. Sayers, head of the department, and Mr. J. H. Wager, ment was designed to tell scientists more about the mechanism that produces the Northern Lights and their subsidiary effects on radio communications.

Birmingham's equipment is being used because, in this field, it is more advanced than that of the French. It will record electron density and energy at about 120 miles above the earth's surface.

Later on this year, Birmingham will co-operate on a further space project sponsored by the European Space Research Organisation. They plan to launch six rockets from Sweden to study the Northern Lights in more detail.

CRUMBLE

External Ads. 4d. a word.
Internal Ads. 2d. a word.

Insertions up to mid-day Tuesday.
REDBRICK accepts no responsibility
for non-insertion or mistakes in
adverts.

OH Pet!!

SOC. Union, Big Vietnam Forum.
Big speakers. Tuesday, 1st March.
7.30.

MORTE d'hush puppy. May your
sole rest in peace—Irvingles.

WHAT...

WHY... was Alan Close?

PAKISTAN Society will present an
International Variety Programme
on Thursday, 24th Feb. at 7.30
p.m. in the Debating Hall. Ad-
mission Free!

WHY?

WHY did Phil Morgan?

GUJAR, Spanish tyre for sale, £8.
o.n.o.—Apply J. Blackwell, via
pigeon holes.

ONE "Redbrick" for Dec. 2nd, 1964.
Reward 10/-—Martin Robertson,
Mermald Office.

FOLK SONG CLUB: Folk Tonight.
Nise Denver and Dick Barton.
Folk. 8 p.m. Fifth House. Tonight.

METHUEN, Selly Oak Church. Feb.
27th. 3.30. Prayer Meeting. 4.00.
Rev. W. Walker Lec. President of
Confidence.

BEST of luck Gonk, and all your
team. Show 'em what a "Redbrick"
can do.

TOUGH luck Dave, but at least you
covered 18 miles. What are your
feel like now?

A BELATED happy birthday Chris.
Hope your hanger has worn off
by now.

WE'VE rot the telegraph poles—
what about some wheels now?

I'M rather worried about J.M.—
Mary.

DAVE—have you paid for those
flowers yet?

DICK—your fags turned up again
in the office.

ARE you intelligent, determined,
keen to meet people? Do you like
to see your work in print? Then
come up to "Redbrick" Offices any
lunchtime. We are always glad
to see new faces.

CONDOLENCES Nick and Pete on
your misfortune. Perhaps Lady
Luck will smile on you next time.

HELP! It's got me—E.M.H.

TAKE COMFORT all ye weary and
footsores—Proverbs MCXIII:13.

CONGRATULATIONS Ted and
Henrietta.

FOR SALE—3,000 "Redbricks." 16
pages for 3d.

IT'S A BOY!

WHY NOT join "Redbrick"? Staff
urgently needed. Come any lunch-
time.

THERE'S nothing like a cup of
Union tea.

I'M DYING to see "The War Game".
WALL that funny, critical, satirical,
libellous publication is about to
lose its guiding light. Alan
Munton reaches the end of his
term in office shortly, and is look-
ing about for a successor. Can
you fill his shoes? Can you hear
abuse and take just as much? Can
you continue to make this bold
and provocative venture the most
talked about feature in the Union?
If you think you can, get in touch
with Alan right away.

MICHAEL—are you using the car
Saturday night? Want a bit of
ferrying to and from Castle Brom-
wich.

YOU still owe me a pint, Bob. I shall
be collecting it shortly—I'm get-
ting sort of thirsty.

GOING TO THE DOGS — SWAN OVER THE UNIVERSITY — VICTORIANA TREASURE TROVE

Resistance play has universal significance

Audiences from all over
England have been flocking to
this term's Modern Language
play, *Sartre's "Les Mouches."*

"The support from local schools
has been overwhelming," said pro-
ducer Miss Sheila Dillon-Guy, "and
students have been coming from
as far away as Aberystwyth and
Newcastle."

What makes this play so attrac-
tive? And why did Sheila decide
to produce it anyway?

"I think the schools have re-
sponded because 'Les Mouches' is
such a change from their usual
classical diet," she said. "Previ-
ous Cercle Français plays have
been taken from the 'O' and 'A'
Level syllabuses."

"To be quite honest," she went
on, "my offering to produce 'Les
Mouches' was merely a whim—but
now I'd been chosen from from a
whole list of other names it
became an exciting challenge."

"If you want to parcel 'Les
Mouches' into a neat critic's box,
you could say it's philosophical—
a play of ideas—difficult enough to
produce in English, let alone a
foreign language."

"I think this problem—and possi-
bly the very name of Sartre—
frightened away prospective actors
at first. I had considerable diffi-
culty in marshalling a cast."

And when a cast was finally
assembled, rehearsals were no
romp. "Concentration was all-
important."

Sheila could not disguise her en-
thusiasm for the play.

"Its theme is freedom from op-
pression," she said, "and although
it was written during the German
occupation it still has fantastic
significance." Sartre develops his
theme within the framework of
the Orestes legend—"he had to do
this to evade German censorship"

—but Orestes is an existential, not
a classical hero—"he chooses to
kill Agamemnon—destiny has nothing
to do with it."

And no wonder Sheila is so in-
terested in "Les Mouches." For she
has met Sartre in Paris. "He was
having lunch in a boulevard res-
taurant. It was only a brief
meeting, just to arrange a proper
interview, but he was charming—
small, ugly, but very charming."

RUMBLE this week

Jean Leaver, Geoff Orr,
Kevin Stephens,
Rosalind Brunt,
Martin Reams,
Dave Kilburn.
Photos: Albert Evans



• As white coated officials open the traps the dogs leap forward avidly at the start of yet another race.

A flash in the pan with Honest Pete on your side

If you go to Kings Heath greyhound track any Wednesday or
Saturday afternoon and have a flutter, you may come away
richer, given a little practice (and a lot of luck).

There are usually eight races in an afternoon. Hungry looking
dogs are shown round the arena. "Jack the Badger," "Joany's
Wonder" and "Flash in the Pan," led around the enclosure by
incredibly ugly girls in jodhpurs, white coats and black felt caps.

Swan song ends well

ONCE upon a time a lonely
white swan landed outside
the Barber Institute. He stood
there amongst the puddles look-
ing very lost and very dejected.
Then an R.S.P.C.A. official
arrived.

The official circled the swan
twice. At high speed. In a van.
Then he caught it. Desperately the
swan ruffled his feathers and beat
his wings, but to no avail. The
R.S.P.C.A. man trussed the swan
and took it to Canon Hill Park
lake.

But the other swans in Cannon
Hill did not welcome the new-
comer. They chased him, so he flew
away, he knew not where.

And just as the watery sun was
drooping beneath the clouds he
found himself over Edgbaston
Reservoir, and there by the moon-
ing raft was another swan, long
necked and graceful.

And he lived happily ever after.

How to keep your bedsit aspidistra flying

How does "The Observer"
see your bed-sitter? Scrofu-
lous? Tatty mat curling in
the corridor? Then maybe you
should jump on the art-nouveau
bandwagon, cane furniture in
tow? Or try the *Treasure
Trove* (Cotteridge—No. 11 bus
from Selly Oak traffic lights,
No. 41 or 45 from town).

There is a whole first floor de-
voted to books and ground floor
which stretches out into a huge
covered yard at the back—a yard
full of the most unusual, sur-
prising and even revolting
lumps of junk.

And why not a genuine far
Eastern coffee pot with Chinese
vase paintings? (To give that
Penguin cook-book an oriental
aura). There are dozens, maybe not
all genuine Chinese ones but cer-
tainly Edwardian—perhaps Vic-
torian if you're lucky. Aspidistras
adorn every corner. Few of them
are less than thirty years old. Many
are dishevelled survivors of the roar-
ing twenties.

Those with a passion for creatures
from the wilds of Africa (and the
back hedgerows of England) will be
in their element. Lions and ante-
lopes adorn the same heap as field-
mice and hedgehogs—bear rugs
sprawl in grotty profusion on the
floor and a huge tiger stares at you
with glassy eyes, daring you to buy
him.

But if your passions and your
cash don't extend this far you can
still dip into the piles of nick-nacks
and assorted rubbish which give
style to any grange-box. And if it
seems a little worse than the
junk section in Rackam's, so what?
It's pounds cheaper.

Theatrical desert blossoms out

What with the Stratford sea-
son not yet open and our three
local theatres running Christ-
mas shows until March, Bir-
mingham is rather a theatrical
desert in the spring term.

The only relief is University
drama; and so far we've had a
reading of Weiss's "The Investiga-
tion," "Andorra" and "Bluebeard."

The three one-act plays pro-
duced last week in the Arts Lecture
Theatre by the Department of
Drama and Theatre Arts seem to
have been appreciated more by stu-
dents than by the general public. As
far as acting ability was concerned
they were a success, but the enter-
tainment value was more dubious.

"Tangents," a translation of a
Mexican play by Emilio Carralido,
could be described as a mere exer-
cise in facial expression, but Marian
Fielding's portrayal of an old
woman was very convincing.

Strindberg's "The Stronger," with
its cast of two, was disappointing.
For it tended to degenerate into a
tedious monologue by a character
who after fifteen minutes had all
her marital problems solved.

The third play, "Three Weeks
After Marriage," by Arthur Mur-
phy was, however, both well-acted
and amusing. Belle Hilsam made
an intriguing lady's maid and
Geoffrey Hoyle and Margaret An-
well, as Mr. and Mrs. Druggett, gave
an entertaining picture of the
nouveau riche.

SILKIN IN THE UNION — CAMPBELL ON DYLAN — ALL HELL LET LOOSE — POETRY & JAZZ IN CONCERT

Jon Silkin sells Stand

JON SILKIN was here last
week selling the current
issue of *STAND*.

"I founded the magazine in
1962 with £5" he said—"wages
from a job as janitor with the
National Cash Register Co."

"The first issue was of 400
duplicated copies and I sold
these in various pubs."

In the fourteen years that have
followed, *STAND* has firmly estab-
lished itself as a quarterly with a
circulation around the 7,000 mark.
Now its headquarters are in New-
castle and the move was a condi-
tion of the £300 grant per issue
that the magazine now receives
from the North Eastern Association
for the Arts.

"I also receive a salary from the
same body," said Jon, "which helps
me to devote just about all my time
to writing and the magazine."

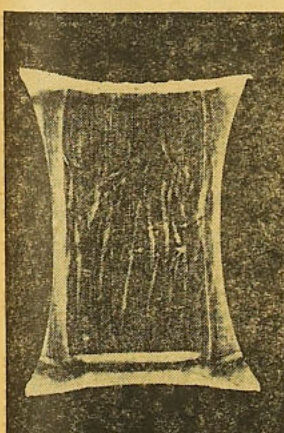
STAND's reputation was estab-
lished as a literary magazine par-
ticularly concerned with poetry, but
now Jon plans to extend the maga-
zine's coverage to the visual arts
and articles on the cinema and
painting are planned for future
issues.

"But the main emphasis of the
magazine will remain on poetry and
prose."

Few of the "little" magazines
have succeeded in reaching a posi-
tion as secure as that of *STAND*
which is now sufficiently free of
financial worries to expand on all
fronts.

Probably the most gratifying of
the developments over the last few
years is that Jon now has far more
time to devote to his own work. He
has already published four books
of poetry.

This is it

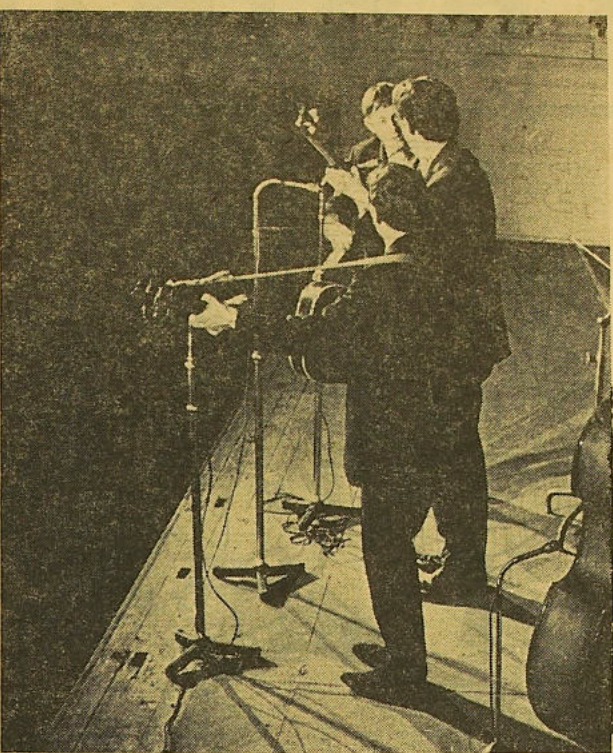


• It's that thing again.

SATISFYINGLY symmetrical,
hermetically sealed, cool and
inscrutable, as it was, quite a
few of Rumble's readers divined
its mystery—no doubt by means
of E.S.P. Most indeed knew
more than Rumble did.

"The object illustrated is a sealed
plastic cell from a Plother Choc life-
jacket. They can be seen on the
Morris Pleasurecraft stand, No. 58,
at the Birmingham Post and Mail
Boat and Holiday Show at Bingley
Hall," to quote but one.

"It's fantastic," said one second-
year Physics student, holding the
letters delicately between his fin-
gers, "but I do hope they can take
the joke." And shaking his head
slowly at high spirits in general but
especially in Rumble, he picked up
his hot-water bottle and went back
to his histoscope.



• The Ian Campbell group tuning up before a darkened auditorium in the Town Hall last Saturday.

rumble

Ian Campbell talking

SOMEONE strummed melodiously on a guitar; voices, Scottish,
Canadian, Australian, compared versions of songs, talked
shop. Atmosphere of cigarette smoke and informal chat, but none
of the tension one would expect backstage before a performance.

Against this background, Ian Campbell and his wife Lorna
talked about folk music.

They started, said Lorna, as a skiffle group, about eight years
ago. But we found that we were singing British songs, and that
we liked them! The group has been in existence in its present
form for about five years.

Ian Campbell took over the
conversation.

Our ambition is to bring some
traditional music to the general
public; take it out of the
specialised field of the folk song
clubs that is, without cheapening it
in any way to gain popularity.

Bob Dylan? "Well, have you got
an hour?"

"It's now misleading to couple
him with folk music in any way but

he has had his effect on pop music,
and pop music is benefiting. Con-
versely, the folk song revival is suf-
fering, mainly from the confusion
that arises from calling Bob Dylan's
music folk music. I think it's sig-
nificant he doesn't call his songs
folk songs."

And for those interested, Bob
Dylan himself is appearing at the
Odeon, New Street, on Thursday,
May 12th.

DOWNTOWN RUMBLE

THEATRE

ALEXANDER: Robinson Crusoe
starring the Barron Knights.

REPERTORY: Inadmissible Evi-
dence.

BIRMINGHAM THEATRE: Ken
Dodd in Rumpy Dumpty.

CINEMA

GAUMONT: The Sound of Music.
ODEON, New Street: Thunderball.
CINEPHONE: War and Peace.

ABC CINERAMA: Battle of the
Bulge.

SCALA SUPERAMA: Madam But-
terfly.

WEST END THEATRE: Return
from the Ashes and a Race to
Live.

FUTURIST: Wild in the Country
and Flaming Star.

ABC, New Street: One Spy Too
Many.

ABC, Colleshill Street: One Spy Too
Many.

TONIGHT

GREYHOUND RACING:—
Alcester Lanes End, Kings Heath.
3.00.

Walsall Road, Perry Barr, 7.30.
York Road, Hall Green, 7.30.

LECTURE: Weeding with a Water-
ing Can. Mr. P. Gilham Dayton.
At the Building and Engineering
Centre, Broad Street, 7.30.

MEETING: Beatiniks in Birming-
ham. The Rev. David Collyer. At
Dr. Johnson House, Colmore
Circus, 7.00.

FOLK DANCING: Barn Dance held
by the English Folk Dance and
Song Soc. At the Y.M.C.A. Snow
Hill. Caller: Kenneth Clark. 7.30.

MUSIC: New Orleans All Stars. At
the Town Hall, 8.00.

THURSDAY

LECTURE: Further Reflections on
the Overseas Study Tour. At the
Building and Engineering Centre,
Broad Street, 6.00.

C.S.O.: Gluck, Sibelius, Mozart
and Janacek. At the Town Hall,
7.30.

FOLK: Ian Campbell Folk Group
and the Leedsiders. At the Jug
OPunch Folk Song Club, Dig-
beth Civic Hall, 7.30.

MEETINGS: The Gorgeous East.
Alma Hathaway. At the Seventh
Day Adventist Church Hall, Wood
End Lane, 7.45.

Youth Work in Birmingham. Mr.
G. T. Whittle. At the University
of Aston.

Poetry and jazz are fine at the CAT

THE Old Refectory in the
C.A.T., bare, brown and
lacking in any architectural
merit doesn't immediately re-
commend itself as the setting
for a Poetry and Jazz Concert
by some of the biggest names
in the field.

The Michael Garrick Quartet with
Jo Harriot provided the Jazz and
John Smith and Jeremy Robson
read their poems. Together they
form the outfit "Poetry and Jazz in
Concert."

Jeremy Robson is the man respon-
sible for these concerts. He is
retiring but quietly with it. "I felt
there wasn't enough poetry reading
going on so I hired a coffee bar in
Hampstead. Spike Milligan got to
hear about it, and Lydia Pasternak
sent some of her husband's work—
the thing snowballed and we moved
to Hampstead Town Hall. Then we
got a booking at the Royal Festival
Hall in 1961 and we've done about
150 readings since then."

It was at the Festival Hall that
Michael Garrick joined up with
Jeremy Robson. "I was playing in
the Refectory Room in the same week
that Jeremy was in the Main Hall
and he came to hear us. He asked
me if I would write arrangements
for his poetry and that was it."

John Smith joined them at a con-
cert in Cardiff. He is the oldest
member of the group and considers
himself "very square and formal."

He has published five volumes of
poetry and the latest, "A Discreet
Immortality," received the Book
Society recommendation. They
have made an L.P. on Argo and a
new E.P. is to be issued next month
—"Before Night Day."

Fine jazz and fine poetry. The
C.A.T. are to be congratulated for
their courage in promoting the con-
cert. They were rewarded with a
full house. How about it, Ents.
Comm?

On the angels' side

Hectic budgeting has been re-
quired from the fun-loving
student this term.

A careful allocation of the grant
to cover the Mojos, the Who,
George Forme, and John Mayall's
Blues Breakers, just leave enough
for the last big Friday dance of this
term. This should be well worth
saving a mere six shillings for a bill
including the Unit 4 plus 2. Alan

A small, intimate discussion
was what he wanted. A hot
crowd of people and a few per-
sistent questioners was what he
got.

Packing them into the Mixed
Lounge on Monday night—Jonathon
Miller talking—mainly about satire.
It was for the English Club—their
first Union Meeting, and he was ob-
viously a big draw. A queue of
people with their money ready had
to be locked out.

And inside, they got a shilling's
worth string of bons mots as he
gargled around in a horsey sort of
way for an hour and a half.

He said satire was when they saw
something ludicrous and exposed it.
"Yes we probably come from the
same middle-class background as
most of the people we are
satirising."

Shouldn't satire be constructive
was a persistent point?

Our business is to destroy. What
do you want? Half an hour's criti-
cism and then we say: but seriously
though everybody laugh over, here
is our list of social improvements.
It would be like having a satirical
branch of the civil service."

He did a few Frost/Macmillan im-
personations and then—

"What had it felt like when they
satirised him doing Monitor?"

"Absolutely ghastly. I felt quite
hurt, but you know, one puts on a
brave smile and says: 'Terribly
funny, yes, that's really rather
clever.'"

Unpretensions, unshowbiz, very
popular—"he came out of the telly
into my life," they said, but they
were disappointed; his hair wasn't
really red.

Next week, English Club presents
"The Hollow Crown," produced by
David Bees in the Arts Theatre.
They hope no-one will get locked
out this time.

On the angels' side

Price, ex-Animal organist, and his
set and one of the most popular
groups at University Socials, Hells
Angels.

The Unit 4 plus 2 are destined for
a great come-back with a new re-
lease which will undoubtedly be a
great follow-up to Concrete and
Clay. An enthusiastic performance
by a fantastic group together with
three bars and an enjoyable crowd
should make Friday, February 25th
a date not to be missed.

CANNON HILL PARK: Jewellery

Craft. At Foyle House.

PAINTING MUMMY: The winning
entries in the Observer Children's
Competition. At the Courtyard
Gallery.

K.B.S.A. GALLERY: 95th Annual
Exhibition. Until 26th Feb.

A. E. HILLS GALLERY, Edmund
Street: The American Home, 1880-
1890. Until 27th Feb.

ART GALLERY, Congreve Street:
Pictures from the Earl of Avenel's
Collection. Until 20th March.

CEYLON TEA CENTRE: Teapots
Beautiful and Strange. Until 31st
March.

SERVICES

BABYSITTERS wanted by wives of
foreign students and staff. Very
reasonable rates of pay.

DRIVERS needed by old people and
children in Ladywood. Why not
arrange an outing one weekend?
They'd enjoy it, so would you.

BINGO: Helpers needed for bingo
evenings at the Sparkbrook
A.S.S.A.

VOLUNTEERS of any shape, size
and capacity wanted for this and
much, much more.—Apply to Ex-
ternal Affairs Office now.

FOR BEER, CIDER, WINES AND SPIRITS
CALL AT

Morris's Wine Stores

512 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK SEL 0195
775 BRISTOL ROAD, SELLY OAK SEL 0173
(Next to Oak Cinema)

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

Frivolous
Biting
Bold
Enquiring

THIS IS YOUR opinion

DID COMMUNISTS HOODWINK THE DELEGATES?

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Victor Camilleri's letter criticising the Guild Council and N.U.S. Executive for not supporting "the enthusiasm" of "most Councillors" in support of N.U.S. withdrawal from I.S.C. is a naive, and if I may respectfully say, ignorant oversimplification of the whole issue.

AGILE MINDS FOR INDUSTRY

SIR,—I feel something must be said about Mr. Roy Shutz's letter published last week in which he stated his questionable opinion as though it were a proven fact. In this instance he states categorically that some courses are crammed with theoretical material which will be of no use to the graduate in industry.

Does he imagine that all graduates are going to enter industry or does he think that we should only educate those who intend to lead an industrial career? On what criteria does he judge what is going to be of use to a graduate in industry?

My opinion is that it is impossible to design a course of subject matter of a directly practical nature that is constantly changing. One of the most important functions of the University is to produce adaptable people with agile minds who, are capable of changing with industry. Narrow courses of material of direct use, as advocated by Mr. Shutz, will not produce people capable of these changes, whereas by introducing mentally demanding theoretical material possibly not of direct use, the agility of the student's mind is increased and thus his or her potential benefit to industry.

Yours etc.,
DAVID R. NEWENS
(Mech. Eng.)

WOMEN TO BE BANISHED TO THE MERMAID?

SIR,—Segregate the sinful sexes! This is what I would suggest to poor, battered, beaten-up Thirsty, whose pathetic letter appeared in your letters column last week.

If women had never been emancipated in the first place then this problem would never have arisen. However, since we men have to put up with these trials and tribulations I would suggest that Thirsty begins to patronise the Mermaid bar where, I am informed, the sons of gentlefolk reside with their birds. After all, if she wishes to drink her orange juice in the same room as the big boys, then she must expect to be treated as one of them.

From the JON.

AVON CLUB SUPPORT

DEAR SIR,—For once, I must come to the defence of Entertainments Committee over your reporting of the Avon Night Club. The two headlines "...Night Club Failure" and "Awful Evening in Avon," together with their respective articles, are not doing justice to what I, and all the other people at my table thought was a most enjoyable evening. Of course there were some faults, but these should be easily ironed out, and the Club was far better than the

usual Hop — there was even room to dance.

Improvements which spring to mind are that something must be done about the amplification for the Cabaret, and the Cabaret should start at 8.30 p.m., so as to drag people away from the bar. If a more intimate atmosphere is required, could we possibly have candles on the tables?

Sir, Entertainments Committee are to be congratulated on their first Avon Club, and it is a pity that your articles were so misleading.

Yours faithfully,
TED WATERS.

One member of an N.U.S. Commission set up in March, 1965, Alan Hunt, of Leeds, a member of the Communist Party submitted a minority report, advocating that N.U.S. adopt a "neutral" role taking out observer status in both I.S.C. and I.U.S. Hunt's case, and the accepted amendment from his delegation to this effect, was purely politically motivated. For many years he has been most active in trying to involve N.U.S. in political activity.

Although I.S.C. is still 90 per cent American financed, this does not influence its pronouncements. There are several examples of bitter I.S.C. criticism of American policies.

Facts—and I repeat, facts, demonstrate that the adoption of the Leeds amendment supporting Hunt's minority report was a skilfully executed and planned operation.

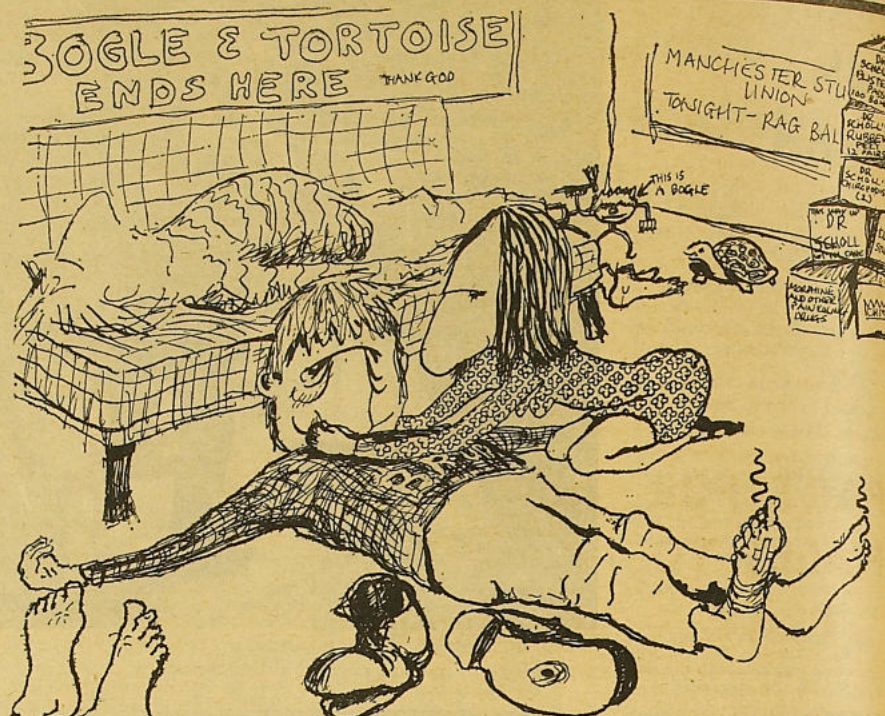
The Communist delegates played upon the encouraged anti-executive sentiment, and skilfully exploited the fears of other unions concerning "political involvement." The executive were outmanoeuvred at every stage.

Magazines were distributed which scurrilously attacked members of the executive and their chief supporters from the floor, and there was a representative from the Communist Party headquarters, Fergus Nicholson, giving advice on tactics.

It is obviously to the Communists' advantage to secure withdrawal from the I.S.C. of its most respected member, N.U.S. Then indeed would the African and Asian unions feel that it was an American-sponsored front organisation, and probably join I.U.S. despite the fact that I.U.S. organises no leadership schools or anti-literacy seminars in under-developed countries, and limits its activities to Soviet inspired revolution.

The view that the majority of N.U.S. and it appears, Birmingham Guild Councillors and Mr. Camilleri have been hood-winked by skilful Communist-inspired manoeuvres, is shared by certain interested members of the two major political parties in this country, who have made a study of this issue. It is unfortunate that those who will have a vote at the next N.U.S. Council in April appear to be so slow in recognising that they are being led to act as political tools for N.U.S.'s Communist "anti-politics" delegations.

Yours sincerely,
MARCUS BEBBIE-CLENCH.



WHAT DOES ENTS. COMM. NEED?

DEAR SIR,—I would like to offer some general comments about Ents. Comm. I am pleased to see your paper taking an interest in the difficulties of this as shown in your front page lead and Editorial but I feel some explanation should be made as to the circumstances which have led to the present situation.

Entertainments Committee is set up by Guild Council to provide a programme of entertainments and these are chiefly in the form of Hops, Guild Balls and Sunday flics. The programme has of necessity to be planned in advance, so that at the beginning of each year certain dates have to be booked for each week of the term and a certain policy laid down. Thus as regards Hops, many groups have to be booked months ahead of the required date.

In any year, therefore, it is difficult to change policy once the system is under way.

Hop attendances have been declining over the last few years and this has reached a state that this is the first year that Ents. Comm. has had a deficit due to the losses on the Hops. That Hop attendances were declining was anticipated at the beginning of the year and the present programme of entertainments was laid down in order to combat this and make the Hops a success; this has obviously proved to be inadequate.

What is now needed is a thorough investigation as to how entertainments and Hops in particular can be made successful. This requires

GET IN GEAR WITH REEFERS

DEAR SIR,—As a mere female (but, I'm told, a rather attractive one), I must complain the pathetic standard of dress that many of my potential boyfriends, nearly 4,000 of them, insist on parading around in.

Feeble-looking men with ridiculously short, conservative haircuts, meander through Concourse in tweedy sports jackets, grey flannels with turnups (out in '59), lace-up shoes etc., etc. And occasionally some with-24-year-old research boy, presumably looking for some wife, will flash out in a sweat shirt.

Even small things matter. Away with these gill and mock mother-of-pearl cuff-links and good luck to the one elegant young gent in the Wedgwood ones.

Let's have more of these reefer jackets, white polo necks and less of the grotty suits and striped ties.

Yours etc.,
FRUSTRATED FRESHERETTE

SOCIALIST UNION REPLY

DEAR SIR,—It would be better if Mr. Campbell (Socialist Critic) knew some of his facts before he so glibly states that Rhodesia has dropped from the limelight as far as most students are concerned, since as far as my experience goes this frankly is not true. As long as Smith and his fellow racists continue in their oppression of the African majority all politically conscious students, not necessarily socialist, will feel deeply over the flagrant abuse of common human rights in Southern Rhodesia.

However, there has not been and there is no plan to hold another demonstration. Where Mr. Campbell obtained his information I do not know. As he rightly points out, Jeremy Bray believes that sanctions are working; other reports, however, directly contradict this view. It is for this reason therefore that Socialist Union is sending an observer to a meeting, called by the Rhodesia Action Group, to be held in London. The purpose of this meeting is to determine the effectiveness of the Government's measures.

Socialist Union is not the inactive society he makes out. So far this term we have held about twice as many meetings as the rest of the political societies put together. Our duty is towards the students, and here we feel that it is of more value to have informative meetings which show people what is going on than activities outside of the University. Many of our members are active in the projects mentioned organised by other societies, so duplication must do more harm than good.

Yours,
K. J. BREHONY,
External Publicity,
Socialist Union.

Letter-writers may use a nom-de-plume if they wish, but in order to establish the authenticity of letters, real names must be supplied. These will not be published and will be treated in confidence.

GUSTAV CLARK,
Secretary,
Socialist Union.

PUSHERS-IN— NOW OVERTAKERS

DEAR SIR,—Much has been said recently about the "pushers-in" in the Refectory queue, but no-one has mentioned those menaces the "overtakers." These are groups of impatient students who surreptitiously creep up on one in the queue until one is surrounded by a hoard of ravenous males and for a helpless young lady such as myself this is not an experience to forget in a hurry.

Must they be so underhand about it? If they cannot be patient and wait their turn like everyone else, at least can't they come into the open and push in honestly.

Yours sincerely,
VALERIE COLLINS
(Physiology I).

PART FOR HALLS TO PLAY

DEAR SIR,—To continue the series of letters about unhappiness and loneliness among students.

1a) Halls have a big part to play in integrating the student into the community. They are often criticised for being a "restricting influence" and encouraging insularity but they do provide the stabilising background which the insecure student needs. It is then up to him or her to break into the wider world of the University knowing there is a pool of friends and advisors to fall back on if necessary.

b) To aid this process perhaps it would be possible to provide a sort of college system whereby 1st year students live in Halls and then in their second or third years move into student flats adjacent to, and associated with, yet independent of the "parent Halls."

2) Insecurity and unhappiness are undoubtedly increased by examinations, which are often unnecessary, and are generally an inadequate means of assessing ability. After working hard to enter the University, the student is entitled to the peace and calm appropriate to academic study. Students should not be admitted unless they are considered capable of completing the course satisfactorily. They should then only be "chucked-out" if they are lazy and do no work. If tutors and lecturers did their job properly, such people would be obvious, and the need for sessional and terminal examinations prior to finals would disappear.

Yours, sincerely,

RALPH TAYLOR.

O.T.C. GUNNING FOR COLEMAN

SIR,—On reading Vernon Coleman's article in the last issue of Redbrick, I was surprised and disgusted that not only could someone take such a naive view of the University O.T.C., but also that it should take the form of such a scandalous and deliberate misrepresentation of the facts.

I was surprised by the use of the words "misguided morons" since I have always been under the impression that the matriculation requirements are expressly designed to stop the entry of such people into the University. I was not particularly surprised at the phrase "playing at soldiers"; but our aims and activities are not the least bit frivolous. Admittedly there are times when we do have to "play at soldiers," in a way, but if we didn't how would Mr. Coleman like it if we blasted a hole in his wall with an anti-tank rocket and lobbed a few grenades at him? We'd just love to. He has pulled all the classic (and rather well-worn) stops.



Besides the two above we are "Boy Scouts in khaki" and "wasting our time and Mr. Coleman's money (so he says); "delightful little cubs" and so on. About this last clever catch phrase I must say that I agree with Mr. Coleman—the O.T.C. does exist to mould character, but not in the way he likes to think it does. The aim is to develop, not to crush the individual abilities of young men and to train them to a standard where they are fit to undertake the highest responsibility of them all—the responsibility of the very lives of one's fellow men. If you don't wish to be moulded in this way you are free to leave whenever you wish; or not to join in the first place. Mr. Coleman should bear in mind that, as its name should suggest to him, this is an Officers' Training Corps, not some kind of human brick works.

He obviously does not know or chooses to ignore the fact that the O.T.C. provides a splendid training not only for life in the Army but for any position of responsibility. If Mr. Coleman doesn't believe this why doesn't he join up and see for himself?

Discipline

As for the matter of being subject to strict Army discipline, of course we are all eagerly awaiting the courts-martial of those officer cadets who insist on growing a beard, being absent from Wednesday afternoon training, or failing to salute every time they meet an officer. But of course we are, and must be subject to a certain degree of discipline. The whole thing is pointless if one is not; for if you want to be an officer you must know how to give orders; if you want to give orders you must first obey them.

Really, Mr. Coleman's attempt at criticism is too pathetic for words. He might at least have done his readers the courtesy of getting his facts right before embarking on a semi-hysterical tirade against something he knows nothing about.

I am,

Yours etc.,

JOHN W. MANN.

HOPLITES SUGGEST...

DEAR SIR,—In last week's REDBRICK Editorial you asked whether the hops should be continued, if they make a loss. As regular Hoplites we put forward some suggestions as to how the profitability of the hops may be increased.

(1) Dispense with the stewards on the door and the signing in of visitors. This is not needed on Friday nights and only serves to keep people away.

(2) Provide a bar in the Lesser Hall or the mixed lounge. This would increase profits and save the long descent to the crowded bar downstairs.

(3) Cut out the gap between the groups when records are played.

(4) Extend the hours till 1 a.m. as for the raves. This can be done making the dance a club and charging about sixpence at the door to join, as is done in public dance halls.

We consider that these suggestions would make Ents. Comm. solvent once again.

Yours etc.,

P. R. NEWPORT,
D. L. THOMAS
(Chem. Eng. I).

NOT ENOUGH SEX FOR READER

SIR,—I read with delight your review of the book, "Two Gentlemen Sharing" under the heading "Roddy goes to bed to satisfy the readers," and at once went out to purchase a copy.

Expecting a procession of fevered nights with naked brown ladies, a procession of torrid, sultry interracial bedroom scenes, a lusty conglomeration of arms, breasts and thighs of various colours, I spent three hours reading the book.

I regret to inform you, sir, that your reviewer (one Kevin Stephens) is an ass. The only two bedroom scenes in this book are titillating instead of torrid, sick instead of sultry, lousy instead of lusty, frustrating instead of fevered, and in general totally unsatisfactory.

Yours in anger,

A PERVE.

NO SMOKING CLUB SOON?

DEAR SIR,—I should like to enquire through your columns if there are any people who would be interested in forming a society of Non-Smokers.

The aims of such a society would be to promote the interests of the non-smoker and to assist those who would like to give up smoking.

Would those interested please contact me via the pigeon holes.

Yours faithfully,

I. F. ROBINSON.

REDBRICK EDITORIAL

Birmingham University
Newspaper

Despotic rule?

THE ideal of academic freedom is realised almost fully in a modern British university, but the ideal of complete freedom of the individual to say what he likes (within the limits of the law, of course) is one which is very hard to realise in any society.

All the time every one of us is inhibited from saying certain things in public because it may have considerable effect on our lives by devious means.

Every student refrains from telling his tutor just what he thinks of him, even in the most severe moments of stress, because he knows that if he is discussed at a Faculty board meeting to decide whether he is to be passed or failed his personal relationships with the members of that board may count for a great deal (though this would never be admitted by any of the persons concerned).

The resignation of Dr. David Eversley last term prompted certain questions.

Is pressure exerted on University staff to make them conform to the official line? Are they not allowed to express their own personal opinions on University matters in public?

The constant refusal of members of staff to speak out without reference to authority lends one to believe that this may be so.

Has this University been slowly and unwittingly subjected to a despotic rule as bad as those in other countries, only differing in that it comes from within rather than from without? It is commonly said that fear is the promoter of the most obnoxious totalitarian practices. What on earth has Birmingham University to fear?

Advertised elections

THE idea of allowing candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President to advertise themselves to the voters is in many ways an attractive one.

It has been shown at other universities that advertising increases the interest of the student body in the elections, and generally increases the size of the poll.

It also helps to make the candidates better known to the electorate, an important point when there are several persons standing.

But these advantages must be carefully weighed against the bad factors. According to the proposals of a committee there will be no limit to the amount of spending incurred by each candidate in pushing his image around the University.

The only limit applied is one of a maximum of 25 square inches of advertising in Guild publications.

This is bad.

It means that the candidate with more money can afford to print more handouts, posters, etc., than his rivals and he may have a better (or perhaps worse) chance than they.

It is manifestly unfair that the fattest bank balance should have any effect whatsoever on the outcome of an election: it runs contrary to all the democratic principles we supposedly live by.

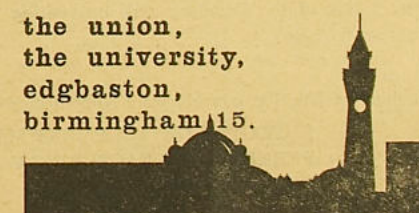
It is surprising that the committee have not included in their recommendation some sort of financial skyline for all election expenses.

Editor: Kevin Stephens

Assistant
Editor: Ann Clark

Business Manager:
Tony Klug

the union,
the university,
edgbaston,
birmingham 15.



Theatre

'The Old Sod's Gone' — and we're all right!

THERE is a very lively production of John Arden's "vulgar melodrama" "The Workhouse Donkey" at High-bury Little Theatre, Sutton Coldfield, which continues to the end of the week.

The company attack this play with the enthusiasm of amateurs who are prepared to take risks, if only because the producer knows that some of his amateur actors haven't the technique to achieve precisely every effect he wants. The play is one which repays this enthusiastic, happy-go-lucky approach, and the director, Harold Abraham, lets the play surge off the stage into the auditorium of this tiny theatre. Where else in a Birmingham theatre will you be handed leaflets, and find a night-club hostess sitting on the arm of your seat and asking you to pop one of her balloons?

It's all great fun, but unfortunately one nevertheless feels the need to "make allowances" for these hard-working amateurs, and such a feeling can be fatal to one's enjoyment. There is always an uneasy feeling that suddenly something may go wrong, and this is reinforced by an unevenness in the per-

formances of both minor and major characters: some are excellent, others embarrass you unexpectedly.

This production is firmly centred on two accurate and confident performances: those of Roy Jackson as Alderman Butterthwaite, the Workhouse Donkey himself, who has risen from the workhouse to be nine times Mayor of a grubby Yorkshire industrial town, and of Stanley Hounsell as Dr. Wellington Blomax, a deep-voiced shallow hypocrite whose frank admission to the audience of his lechery and minor medical malpractices sets the tone for the rest of the play.

Roger Moody as Sergeant Wiper is the best of a bunch of corrupted policemen. It is difficult to tell whether the wooden dullness of Col. Peng, the upright Chief Constable whose arrival is the cause of the exposure of some of the corruption in the town, is due to the acting of Philip Landreth, or to the intentionally stilted but still not-quite-right language the part is given. Probably a bit of both.

This is a play about public and private morality (very much in the news recently) and concerns the political, financial and sexual manoeuvrings of four groups in the town: Labour and Conservative, the Police, and the Electorate. Each group is corrupt, usually in several ways and the confusion is farcical, theatrical and amusing. On the whole, Mr. Arden takes no sides, and is content to let us laugh at the lot of them: the Labour yobboes, the Tories to whom a night club and an art gallery are equally desirable, the muddled policemen

("No politics for me" says the new Chief Constable. But he can't avoid sex).

But under the fun there is something more serious, and the situation is one which might arise anywhere—at a University, for instance. The Workhouse Donkey, Ald. Butterthwaite, is found out in the end. He is the corrupt scape-goat of corrupt people in authority who know that they are guilty too, but swiftly close ranks and bury animosities temporarily so that the full truth is never known. Every character in the play choruses together after Butterthwaite's fall, "If we should let one tear down fall, don't think that he's coming back . . . The old sod's gone for good and all!"

It's an example of the "terribly sorry old chap, but you shouldn't have got caught" attitude. One victim will do (not too many — people may expect a little wickedness, but too much might reflect on the ability of those in charge) and once he's gone, ushered out with the hypocrisy of "Sorry, but we had to do it," then private conscience and public morality are satisfied. The real cause of corruption is fear of public opinion (in this play, "The Electorate" — and the audience), feared because of the utterly false assumption that the public has only one opinion on such things. The public does not have one opinion, and the public is also corrupt, but it is useful to pretend otherwise. This pretence can easily lead to the victimisation of individuals. But victimisation of the guilty by the guilty is wildly immoral; fortunately this play makes the whole sordid business very funny.

Alan Munton



• Rosemary Davenport portrays Electra in the Cercle Français production of "Les Mouches" by Jean-Paul Sartre.

REVIEW

Theatre

"FAUSTUS IS GOOD" — BUT WHY ALL THE FUSS?

THE tumultuous applause had stopped. Mr. Burton came forward and told a funny story. An actor he knew was so drunk at a dress rehearsal that, after stumbling through the first five lines, he staggered forward. "Ladies and gentlemen," he slurred, "this is not, I admit, an example of this production at its finest, but it is, however, an indication." Everybody laughed. Few found it amusing.

Two things became clear: the awe in which the Burtons were being held, and how much this story applied to Neville Coghill's production. No-one was drunk, no mistakes were made, in fact, it all worked very smoothly, but the final effect of the play was almost entirely non-existent. The applause was induced not by the emotional effect of the play, but by an occasion, an event.

I happened to find myself sitting behind the sparsely-haired head of the producer, and heard him outline his ideas to a particularly tormented lady, who had practically proposed to him in the first five minutes of the overture. "Yes, yes," he purred, "it's a super, wizard play, a pantomime." I hoped this was merely a conversational gambit; but no, this, in fact, turned out to be his own artistic vision.

"Faustus" is a difficult, and I don't think a good play. It is inconsistent, muddled, with an appalling subject-structure. There is Marlowe morally viewing the destruction of the individual who sells his soul to the devil, and there is Marlowe the rebel, using his doomed hero to kick at the traditions he hated, and between them a comic subplot of some of the most unfunny scenes in drama. In effect the play offers no continual line of emotional response, and as such is particularly unsatisfying.

I must therefore praise Mr. Coghill for attempting to provide a continuous line throughout. Seeing it as a pantomime, we have a Faustus who is not the old, bitter, tormented figure we might have expected, but an alert, cynical, amusing man, who treats his student's glasses as a huge joke and his meddlings with diabolism with an adolescent sense of fun; and there's a cardinal in a pope-dressed like brainless dolls, speaking in staccato chirps, with long-nosed, red-eyed, black-faced monks tittering and tottering in obscene ritual behind.

But Coghill make the mistake of making the serious element too diabolic, too terrifying; often theatrically effective, but totally unrelated to the pantomime concept in the sudden appearance of Lucifer and Beelzebub high above Faustus, for instance, and in the final speech

(totally overbalancing the play) with the Wagnerian bell of doom behind, and his disappearance, without smoke, without noise, sudden and bitter. He also made nothing of the comic scenes, with a group of exceptionally untalented comedians.

A notable exception in the acting was Andreas Teuber as Mephistophilis, gaunt, sombre, ambiguous, exerting a control and presence en-

tirely matched to Burton's. With Burton himself one felt that this was a shadow of a performance, a rippling surface that hid a massive, brooding power, but nothing more; in spite of his magnificent control and presence, he underplayed everything, in generous recognition of those around him. Only at the end did we catch anything of the Burton fire.

Mrs. Burton also appeared.

Theatre

BLACK FLATS AND THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

MY first reaction to the Drama Department's presentation last week was that black flats can be but little help to a producer, as they inevitably flatten the staging and tend towards a two-dimensional effect. This effect was not made any less obtrusive by the use of the Lecture Theatre desk, adroitly shrouded in suitable material, as a basis for all three settings since it reduced depth and restricted movement.

"Tangents" (part of a collection of scenes set in Mexico City and written by Emilio Carballido) is a quasi-lyrical scene designed to illustrate four people's inability to communicate with each other. They represent three generations and both sexes, and are given little personal amplification — this would suggest that the situation may be given wider application. If so, the performances were too uncertain to create the necessary mood of anxious vacuum. The vacuum came across, but not the particular anxieties of the characters.

Ian Jones was a diffident and often inaudible Youth, and Marian Fielding an incredible Old Woman, who managed the plaintive whine of the beggar, but with little variety. Norrie Hearn had an engaging quietness and naivete, but lacked range. Christine Iddon came over most clearly, tottering petulantly on the brink of maturity. Since this play is part of an attempt to create a particularly Mexican theatre, the almost complete lack of any attempt to create a particularly Mexican atmosphere lent an unnecessarily patronising air of quaintness to the production. The author is obviously in sympathy with his characters; I don't think the producer was.

Billed as a psychological play, the three productions of Strindberg's "The Stronger" showed that the psychology was open to a variety

of interpretations. The experiment was conducted on the hypothesis that a difference of furniture settings would induce a difference in the relationship between the two characters. I saw all the productions, and the point was proved when the third was played in yet a different setting on Thursday night. What had been an effectively comic interpretation by Isabel Watkins Jones was sacrificed for a more obvious statement of the relationship. Since they were playing at opposite ends of the stage the audience was forced to decide which actress to watch and much of Miss Jones' feeling for phrase was lost. The costumes were excellent, and although her gestures were smudgy, Stephanie Smolins was quite at home in the nineteenth century.

The most obvious success of the evening was the comedy of manners, "Three Weeks After Marriage" by Arthur Murphy, a rather thin piece, but a fair enough showcase for both actor and director. The actors made more of their opportunities than the director did, which is understandable since Marion Jones was responsible for five different shows in three weeks. Perhaps more use could have been made in the setting of Mr. Druggie's exotic taste. Martin Remes was splendidly insipid (sic) in mustard, Belle Hilsam was mobile and intriguing as Dimity, and Margaret Anwell used her face and voice with riotous effect in a delightfully sustained performance.

As the central pair, most of whose scenes were cold-blooded quarrels, David Rees gave a snappy, beautifully gestured performance as Sir Charles Rackett, and Lois Sherlow a shrewd, sweeping La Châtelaine. Somehow their relationship failed to click—I am at a loss to know why. Finally I must mention Geoffrey Hoyle, whose Druggie was carefully observed, wildly funny, and played at an angle of 45 degrees to the ground.

I enjoyed the evening, but not my job.

Ann Clark

Books

PRAYING MURDERER & SYMPATHY STEAL THE SHOW

AT first sight *The Drowner* (Pan Books 3s. 6d.), by John D. MacDonald, is just another American crime novel, and the blurb cover and the usual blurb, "Good solid detection . . . realistic observation" do nothing to allay one's first impression of the book.

First impressions, however, can be notoriously wrong and this is certainly the case with *The Drowner*. The main character in the book is Paul Staniel. He is a not-so-tough private eye who is called in to investigate the suspected murder of a woman, Lucille Hanson, whose body he never even sees. For all practical purposes it appears that there has not been a

murder at all but when this is followed by two other murders, both appearing to be accidental, the story begins to hot up.

The murderer is disclosed to the reader fairly early in the plot and for the rest of the book the reader participates not so much in the actual detection but in watching the actions of the murderer.

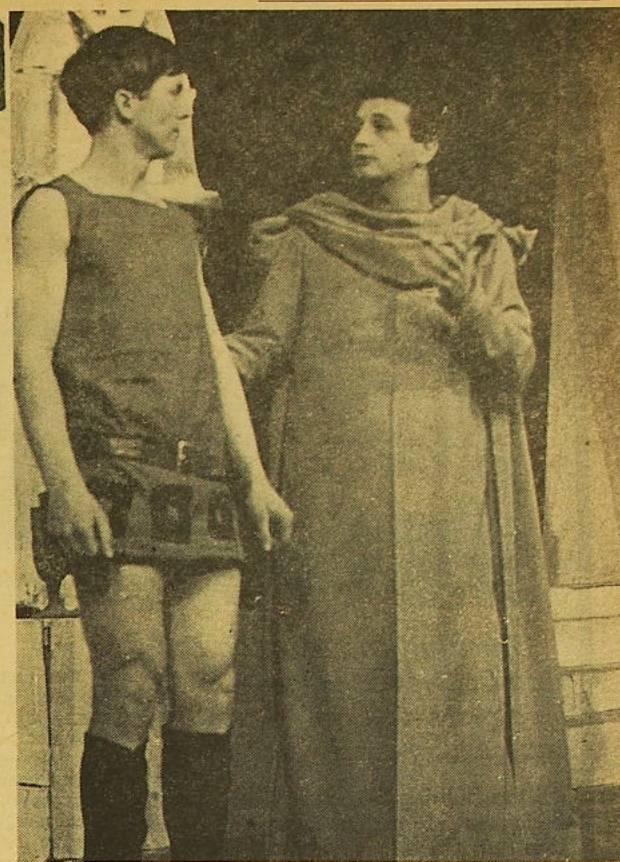
For this murderer is no ordinary killer, but rather an "avenger" in the biblical sense of the word who prays after the murder, "I am Thy virgin warrior, Thy pure sword of justice. . . . But I do not have the humility of Saint Joan."

This is crime novel that for once is different and this is certainly what makes the book.

is again an American crime novel. It is all written in the first person and describes the attempt of an American small-town business-man, John Warren, to clear himself of a murder charge.

The story is intended to be "pure suspense all the way through" and to a certain extent it succeeds in this though the reader knows from the beginning that John Warren is no murderer and thus the only interest lies in the fact that the book is written in the first person and the reader is able to suffer in sympathy.

Otherwise, Charles Williams follows the usual pattern in this book and though John Warren's wife has been murdered he even manages to get a girl in the far-from-unexpected happy ending.



• Dick Clynick as Oreste and Brian Schroeys as Egesthe in "Les Mouches"

Theatre

Ups and downs for 'Les Mouches'

THE Cercle Français are presenting this week an ambitious production of Jean-Paul Sartre's "Les Mouches," a play in which Sartre expresses through the Orestes legend the basis of his existentialist philosophy—that man, by denying any bondage to man or god and by completely assuming responsibility for his action, can find freedom.

Cinema

David Kilburn

Don't miss Bunny Lake

OTTO Preminger's distinguishing feature is the cool professionalism of a director whose sole concern is the art of movie making and not with any vision of the world, nor even particularly with his audience. "Bunny Lake is Missing" (West End, last week) is, like "Psycho," a masterpiece of movie making.

Laurence Olivier and Noel Coward in bit parts as police inspector and exotically perverted landlord create a full and real background in the traditionally melodramatic hunt for a child kidnapper and potential killer. Without these the focus of the movie would be entirely on Carol Lynley and Keir Dullea as the child's mother and uncle and the finer details of the plot, such as the possibility that the child does not in fact exist at all, could never succeed in creating the tension they do; the outcome would then be entirely predictable.

The most original feature of the movie comes with the traditional climax where the killer hunts mother and child through an empty house. Obviously the police are due to arrive at any minute, the only directorial problem is what should happen before they do, and this is solved with complete originality, in fact it is the only logical solution. Hitchcock had a not dissimilar problem at the end of "Psycho" but failed to find a solution to compare with this of Preminger's. Only a true master could transform the nuances of an Edgar Lustgarten B picture with such compelling virtuosity.

Visually this could be an extremely attractive production. The costumes are beautifully designed (except for Jupiter's pale purple petticoat) and Celia Gaskin has made them with care and skill. Make-up is clever and effective. Similarly the black and white set was well constructed, Mr. Louis Emery's impressive statues dominating and making the presence of the gods felt throughout the play.

However the best use is not made of the space, much of the blocking is clumsy, and the actors are often unhappy moving from one level to another. Extremely bad lighting spoils much of the effect, shadows are thrown across the set, the third act is almost invisible, and actors' faces cannot be seen for much of the play.

The chorus work is exceptionally good; the Furies especially, with their creaking voices and perpetually moving heads, suggestive of the flies they represent. Gary Peacock's excellent music makes a tremendous effect throughout. Individually good performances come from Brian Schroeys, a powerful and impressive Egesthe, and from Rosemary Davenport, a touching and pathetic Electre. Dick Clynick, as Oreste, speaks well but is over stiff in movement.

Terry Allen, as Jupiter, plays conjuring tricks in a marmalade-coloured wig, and never attains sufficient stature. This is a comic King of the gods, but unless he is also a powerful god there is no point left in Oreste's denial of him worth denying. The Jupiter is there must be something there petty to the extreme.

This is a patchy production, but one worth seeing nevertheless. The Cercle Français are to be congratulated on the powerful way they have tackled a difficult play.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR GRADUATES AT PERKINS

The Perkins Group of Companies produces diesel engines which are to be found operating throughout the world. Over 85% of production at the three Peterborough plants, which cover over a million square feet, is exported, either directly or indirectly in other manufacturers' plant and equipment. The Perkins Group is the world's largest manufacturer of diesel engines and has associate and subsidiary manufacturing companies in nine overseas countries.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Perkins recruit graduates to fill professional positions within the Group and training programmes are designed to give the background and specialised knowledge demanded by such positions. Each graduate's programme is individually planned and carefully controlled, and includes projects, special assignments and tutorials. The training meets the requirements of the professional engineering institutions, and all graduates study a foreign language using language laboratory techniques.

GRADUATES REQUIRED

Our main requirement is for mechanical engineers for careers in Production, Research and Development, Design and Marketing but there are also vacancies for Arts Graduates, Economists and Science Graduates in other divisions of the Company. A representative of the Company will be visiting the Appointments Board on March 4th, and will be pleased to discuss career opportunities with you.

For further information consult your Appointments Board or write to:

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PERKINS MANUFACTURING COMPANY,
PETERBOROUGH.

PAY RISE DISAPPOINTS STAFF

THE Government's five per cent pay award to university teachers has aroused criticisms of its inadequacy from members of the Association of University Teachers.

The award was announced in a written Commons reply last week, and dates the increase from April of this year. Mr. Crosland, Secretary of Education and Science, said that this was in line with the prices and incomes policy. To meet the cost of the award an extra £31 million is to be added to the next University Grants Committee budget.

Members of the University staff are among those discontented with Government policy. The Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Aitken, said: "The staff increasingly feel that procedural delays are being imposed again so as to reduce and delay reasonable adjustments of their salaries. This contrasts unhappily with the Government's acceptance in other fields of many wage and salary increases exceeding 31 per cent during the last fifteen months."

An A.U.T. executive meeting this week is expected to decide the Association's attitude towards the increase.



—Photo: John Thomson.

The Buwis All Stars playing at the Caribbean Night in Founders.

The mind bogles

THE Manchester Rag Committee were kept busy last week, with two major stunts to organise, and having to return Regina, Goldie's mate, to London Zoo after she had been taken away as an unofficial Rag stunt.

The custodian of Stonehenge was surprised last Thursday morning to find that the ancient monument had been invaded by a group of

Bogles. The Bogles, made of wood, had been put on top of the stones and tied down with cord. A police spokesman said he had no idea where they had come from and what they actually were.

Garages in Manchester, last Friday, were flooded with motorists, who had read posters put up by the students all over the city, saying that the local garages were checking the front-wheel drive B.M.C. cars, Minis and 1100s free of charge.

Education policy attacked by V.C.

LAST week, Sir Robert Aitken, the Vice-Chancellor, spoke out against the Government's policy on higher education and the lack of funds available to the universities. He found it disturbing that so much money should have to be obtained from "outside funds."

"Policy is not sound and clear, finance is inadequate, and the administration leaves something to be desired. That does not imply that university performance has been ruined, or is even likely to be."

Sir Robert continued that the universities could only enhance their service to the country if national policy on higher education was made clear and financially realistic. The national administration would also have to be made more simple and suitable to meet the needs of the universities.

"An outsider looking at us might conclude that our national policy for higher education is, simply, that we want more of it. The Secretary of State," Sir Robert added, "announced a cut of £3 million last December which takes no account of rising prices and gives no promise of a compensatory increase in 1969-70."

These have now arrived, one is a selection of West Indian folk songs, the other is the latest steel band record.

Says the chairman: "This steel band record will be a revelation to anyone who likes good music. It contains such things as the first movement of the Moonlight Sonata, Chopin's Minute Waltz and some good hot calypsos too."

The total of research funds "will approach £21 million in 1965-66, including £100,000 from industry. This is saving the life of the University. At the same time it is disturbing that so large a proportion of support should have to be sought from outside funds."

ANGELS AT UNIVERSITY HOUSE

FOLLOWING the tremendous success of last year's drama production, University House presents another comedy on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week: "My Three Angels," set in a small town next to a convict colony in French Guiana at the turn of the century.

Libby Lovell, the producer, said, "Last year 'Ring Round the Moon' was an experiment and proved that a small community could provide all the people necessary for a worthwhile production. This year's production, a little less sophisticated, once again gives an opportunity to students with acting ability and enthusiasm, many of whom find the demands of their University courses incompatible with full-time membership of a drama group like G.T.G."

"The arrival of whose very name spells trouble, puts a respectable middle-class family in a seemingly hopeless situation from which they are rescued by 'The Angels' whose bizarre methods of putting the situation to rights are the mainspring of this crazy, enjoyable, fast-moving comedy."

Tickets for what promises to be a lively, colourful production are available in the Union, Refectory, and from all members of University House.

Exhibition in Thompson Hall

THE second University Art Exhibition is to be held in the Arthur Thompson Hall, for a week from May 16th.

All exhibits in the form of paintings, drawings, sculpture, and pottery will be welcomed by the organisers. Those wishing to have exhibits shown should contact Heather Beaumont, a lecturer in the Anatomy Department.

Quiz team clever, but . . . says producer

BIRMINGHAM University's team in Granada TV's "University Challenge" programme has won through to the quarter finals. In the last eight there is only one team from a redbrick university—Birmingham. The other seven are Oxbridge teams.

Mr. Douglas Terry, producer of the programme, said that the Birmingham team "are nice to work with." He continued: "They are clever and quietly pleasant. However, there is a lot of luck in the game and the cleverest teams do not necessarily win."

The first programme featuring the Birmingham University team will be seen on Granada TV on 9th March at 7 p.m., and their winning way can be followed on consecutive Wednesdays, when they meet and beat Downing College Cambridge and Birbeck College, London.

RAG MAGS TOO OLD

MEMBERS of University College of North Wales, Bangor, are believed to have been selling 1965 Rag Mags around Birmingham. A prominent local Conservative is to complain to the University authorities over the sale of last year's magazines.

Several telephone calls were received during the week from members of the public at a local Evening paper. However, a Bangor Rag spokesman denied that 1965 Rag mags. were being sold intentionally.

A Birmingham police spokesman said that they knew Bangor students were selling magazines around the town, but that so far no complaints had been received about them.

Good start for lunch combo

THE Combined Club's new "Eat and Talk" meetings met with great success at its inaugural session last Thursday.

Interesting

The idea is to combine cheap lunch and wine with a short informal talk by an interesting speaker. The first meeting was addressed by Mr. Ross on the changing social climate in Russia today, and was followed by a discussion of the points raised.

The next "Eat and Talk" will be in the Mason Lounge in the Arts Block on Thursday, March 10th with Prof. Hoggart as guest speaker.

Living computers

NEXT week's Open Lecture, entitled "Brains as Computers," will be given by Dr. W. Grey Walter, Director of the Physiological Department, Burden Neurological Institute, Professor and Doctor Honoris Causa at the University of Aix-Marseille.

Dr. Walter was educated at Westminster School and Kings College, Cambridge. He then went to Maudsley Hospital as a Rockefeller Fellow.

Q.E. crisis

AN eight-man council has been investigating conditions at Queen Elizabeth Hospital caused by a shortage of physics technicians. So far the committee, four staff and four management, have refused to comment on their investigations merely asserting that it is part of a nation-wide survey.

Guild Ball plans go into orbit



AMONG those contributing to the decor of this year's Guild Ball which takes place on March 18th, are "Eagle" boys comic and the R.A.F. The theme which will run through the ball is Space Age. The whole Refectory and part of the Staff House are being taken over for the Ball.

CARNIVAL RAFFLES NEW BIKE

Last year's second prize in the Carnival Competition, an Ariel Pixie 7cc. motor bike is to be raffled among Union Members. Tickets will cost 1/- and can be bought in the Union or the Refectory.

The bike is being raffled because last year's winner is untraceable. The machine which is fully taxed but not insured can be seen in the Union at lunch time today. The draw will take place in three weeks time.

Because of the complaints about last year's buffet, the financial allotment is being increased this year. The buffet will be served in the Chelwood Room, and soup will be available for the revellers between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m.

The entertainment at this function is to be provided by Tony Bingham and his Orchestra, and a Cabaret features the Spinners, Monty Sunshine's Jazz Band and the Spartans, a local group, will play in the Mezzanine lounge. Dress for the function is formal and tickets are available from Reception on and after March 1st.

Last Wednesday's meeting of Ent. Comm. decided that the Avon nightclub would run again if a "name" artist could be engaged. Attempts to secure P. J. Proby have failed since he is not available, so we settled for Cy Grant," said Dave Smith.

Some 400 seats will be available this time, and although the entrance price has not yet been decided those people who have kept their tickets from last time will be admitted at a reduced rate.

Dynamitron beams in

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY'S Radiation Centre may soon have a Dynamitron. The machine, costing about £100,000, will be shared with the University of Aston.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Sir Robert Aitken, said that there was a "good prospect" of the equipment being provided in the near future.

A Dynamitron is capable of delivering very intense beams of charged particles. These beams may be used for research into such projects as the changing of the internal structure of metals, and the sterilisation of food.

Carnival appeals

BOB HOPKINS (Chem. Eng. I), Carnival 43 Stunts organiser, is hoping to arrange a bicycle race across the 3½ miles separating Radio Caroline from England.

The bicycles will be supported on oil drums and will be driven by paddles attached to the back wheels. First prize will be a L.P. donated by Radio Caroline. The first bike will be tested in the Gas St. Basin on March 21st with Carnival's "watermobile."

Craig Wright (Chem. Eng. II) last week also appealed for better carnival

participation by faculties this year. "The only way we can have a good Carnival procession is for faculties to plan their float well in advance of Carnival."

"Last year, several of the floats fell apart even before the procession started. They ought to be better since there is a first prize of a firkin of ale. We are also short of materials and would be grateful if anyone who knows of contractors willing to supply materials (especially scaffolding, paper and paint), would contact me through Carnival Office."

Communist criticism

WILLIAM DUNN, Secretary of the Midlands Communist Party, spoke to about twenty members of the Socialist Union last Tuesday. He gave a summary of the origins of the Communist Party in Britain, and then went on to say that there could only be a technological revolution under Socialism and that it was only Socialism which brought Socialism to the world.

He considered the policy of all three Socialist Movements since the War to be reactionary, being especially critical of Ernest Bevin, because he was instrumental in setting up N.A.T.O. He was also critical of the current Government's attempt to control prices and incomes because in his objection it acted against the working class. Inevitably, the Government's policy over Vietnam also came under fire. Violently anti-Wilson as well as anti-the City, his main proposals to right the economy were the strengthening of the Unions and the continuation of restrictive practices by them to prevent mass unemployment. He also emphasised the need for increased investment, a vast cut in arms spending, and the abolition of the pound as an alternative currency to the dollar. Although old-fashioned in his ideas, he spoke enthusiastically and provoked a lively discussion.



See your Appointments Officer for these booklets

They outline the unusually wide range of worthwhile careers offered by Boots to Arts and Science graduates. Representatives of the Company will be visiting your University on 10th March 1966.

Interviews may be arranged by getting in touch with your Appointments Board.



To undergraduates who will be having a ball this year...

After your graduation ball, what then? If you're getting down to the serious business of choosing a job then maybe you'd like to talk with us. You'll see on the right, the date when we will be visiting your university.

But before we arrive, perhaps you'd like to know something about Monsanto.

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If you will be graduating with a good honours or advanced degree in chemistry, physics, mechanical, electronics or chemical engineering, or if you have research experience in plastics technology, electronics, rubber chemicals or general chemicals, then we'll certainly be pleased to have a talk, and tell you more about Monsanto. (For fuller details in the meantime, your Appointments Board probably has a copy of our brochure entitled—fittingly—

"Opportunities at Monsanto." If you can't get hold of a copy we'll be happy to send you one.) Write to: The Staff Officer (DL394) Monsanto, 10-18 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

DATE OF VISIT	UNIVERSITY
Wednesday Feb. 2	Cambridge
Friday Feb. 4	Trinity, Dublin
Tuesday Feb. 8	Manchester
Tuesday Feb. 15	Swansea
Friday Feb. 18	Cardiff
Monday Feb. 21	Oxford
Monday Feb. 21	Liverpool
Thursday Feb. 24	Bristol
Thursday Feb. 24	Southampton
Tuesday March 1	Birmingham
Tuesday March 1	Loughborough
Wednesday March 2	College of Tech. Nottingham
Tuesday March 8	Newcastle
Wednesday March 9	Durham
Thursday March 10	Leeds
Friday March 11	Leeds

Students of LONDON University are invited to visit us at our Victoria office. We are also visiting several Scottish Universities. If your university is not listed here, we invite you to contact us directly or through your Appointments Board.

At Monsanto we have a motto: "We put people first." It isn't altruistic. We just believe that what's good for you, is good for us!



G.T.G. PRODUCTION IN THE RUINS

WHATEVER gave you the idea of performing Antony and Cleopatra in the ruins of Coventry Cathedral? And how does a Roman play fit late Gothic architecture?

I visited Coventry in November. I was struck by the permanent stone stage built against one wall of the ruins, and the enclosed space of the nave. "An open-air theatre, in embryo," I thought. "Obviously designed for use." "Why not stage a play here?"

Why not a play about "ruin"? Why not Antony and Cleopatra? Whether the ruins are Gothic or Roman makes little difference. In staging Shakespeare one is not attempting anything like precise literal truth. It is the imagination which counts, and these ruins can be suggestive, but in no specific or narrow way, to the imagination.

Don't you have to pay to use the ruins? And does the Cathedral allow non-religious plays?

Coventry Cathedral has its own Drama Director and a very active theatre programme. The Cathedral believes in the validity of the arts, whether secular or sacred. Mr. Robert Prior-Pitt, the Drama Director, has been tremendously encouraging—he welcomes the idea of a university company performing Shakespeare in the ruins. When we have mounted the play here, the ruins are ours, for rehearsal and performance, free of charge.

Won't the actors' voices be lost in the open air? How can you hope to convey anything but shouting? Naturally there are different demands made on an actor's voice in the open air. But remember we are not in a field or a park, we are within a stone ruin with all its resonances. The Cathedral complex is isolated from major roads, so disturbances are minimized, and our performances are in the evening. And remember also that our actors and audiences are in intimate relation by virtue of our open stage. We tend to forget that Shakespeare's plays were originally performed in what were essentially open-air theatres.

Don't you think "Antony and Cleopatra" is a difficult play for students to perform? Why not something simpler? Stratford spends thousands of pounds on its productions. What can a University company hope to achieve?

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We can hope to bring to this play the qualities of intelligence, vigour, and commitment, which are the resources of a University company. We will succeed on our own merits which are different from those of a professional company.

What makes you think you can produce this play? What have you done before?

I produced "Romeo and Juliet" at Harvard, and "Macbeth" in the Uganda National Theatre. This experience has, I think, given me some understanding of the problems of Shakespearean production. I am now a post-graduate student in the Department of Drama.

Is it true that you are doing this play for charity? Why?

by
Nat Frothingham

Yes. For the Dresden Appeal Fund. The old Cathedral was destroyed by Nazi bombs. The German people made a substantial contribution to the building of the new Cathedral. Now the Cathedral is restoring a hospital in Dresden. The fund is to finance this work of reconciliation. We are grateful to the Cathedral for the use of the ruins, and doing this play for charity is our way of thanking them. And more than that, we desire to make our contribution to this urgent work of reconciliation.

What about the wet English summer? It could rain for a week. Are you going to provide each member of the audience with an umbrella?

Yes, that's true. It could rain for a week. It could also snow. But it's very unlikely, at least according to weather records.

At the very worst it is likely that we shall lose no more than two performances in a nine-day run. Then, of course, we can insure against losses due to rain.

Does that mean there will be no scenery?

Not at all. But it means no scenery in the strictly literal sense. The scenic effect will be derived from words and costumes, and to such properties as the actors will, from time to time, carry with them. We intend to place our emphasis on the verse of the play. It becomes an actor's play. His delivery of lines and the visual effect he creates becomes all-important. Lighting is also important. It can extend or limit the acting space, and suggest a variety of atmosphere.

People who want to see Shakespeare go to Stratford. Who will come to see your play?

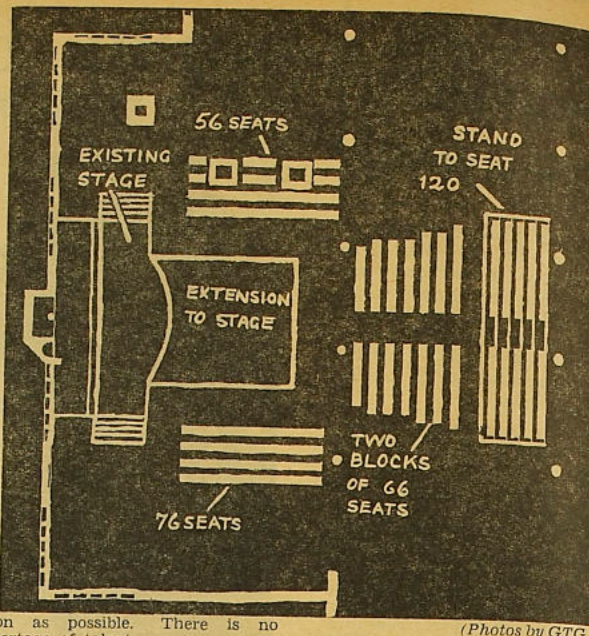
There is a certain guarantee of audiences from schoolchildren since the play is a G.C.E. set-book. One would hope to attract to our performances some of the thousands of tourists who visit the Cathedral in the summer. Given adequate publicity, and support from the University, the idea of a young company performing Shakespeare in the ruins should prove to be attractive.

How are you going to get your cast and crew to Coventry every day?

Free accommodation has been found for us in Coventry. Thirty mattresses from North Wales have been put at our disposal.

Can you find an "Antony" and a "Cleopatra"?

It would be premature to take a definite decision before auditions. Obviously I have been looking around and thinking, but I would like to hear as many people audi-



tion as possible. There is no shortage of talent.

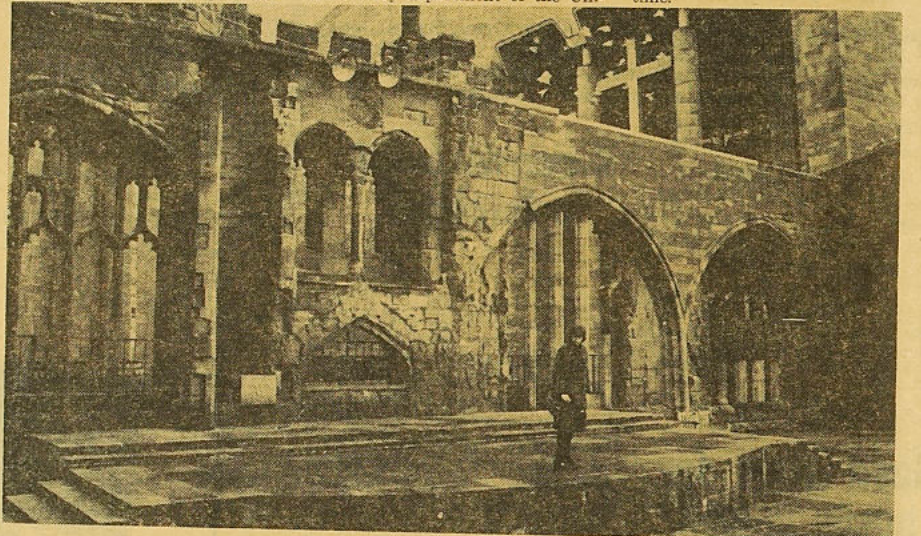
What about soldiers, messengers, attendants, fan-bearers, eunuchs, clowns, soothsayers, to say nothing of the major roles. Where are they coming from?

We will perform with a company of 22 actors. By skilful doubling we can fill the parts with this number. Thus the actor who plays Lepidus in the first half of the play might return to the stage as the Clown in Act V with his basket of figs. This is more rewarding to the actor than simply carrying a spear. I would like to invite interested students from every department of the Uni-

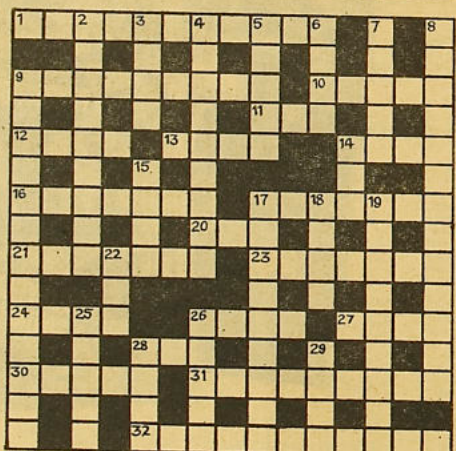
• Above: Plan of the ruins showing how seating will be arranged and the stage extended.
Below: View of the existing stage.

versity to our auditions which begin Monday, 28th February.

As to the difficulty of the play, let that be accepted as part of the challenge of any worthwhile undertaking. It will have been worth our time.



CROSSWORD by FRED



ACROSS

1. All male races of some standing (11).
9. By chance, an enclosure in string is going on (9).
10. Companion to a politician — 8 e.g. (5).

DOWN

1. Invite a newt (3).
12. Kind and golden-hearted saint (4).
13. Later looked back on by nonagenarian (4).
14. Elf's personality (4).

16. Paltry number in court proceeding (7).
17. Beautiful lady from Russia? — slightly flushed though! (7).
20. Seeing 5 (3).
21. Where to use both sides, mind the stairs and not to spit (7).
23. I had one on the ear—silly of me! (7).
24. Does a book (4).
26. Teaches notes — causes anguish (4).
27. Maid Marian's song (4).
28. The first note, and the fifth to follow... (3).
30. ...but the fifth's before the fourth for the cow-catcher (5).
31. Whole things from 4 made to order (9).
32. Opposers to reorganise (11).
3. (2, 3, 4).
9. (5, 3, 1, 4).
14. One of those tender dirt-removers in the ads (3).
15. Members of the Alcohol Imbibers' Society (4).
17. Parliament is in its charge (9).
18. Daisy's noise on the platform (4).
19. Breaks in travels (9).
20. Hall of the awkward side-issues (3).
25. Trials undergone by some recently, in sporting but vain pursuit of an urn (5).
26. 70 often grazing for one stag (5).
28. She's in a party with artists (4).
29. A trap in opposition (4).

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 Oliver Twist, 6 Bumble, 8 Banana, 10 Stetson, 11 Chum, 13 Cook, 14 Meter, 16 Right, 17 Rogue, 18 Loot, 19 Reno, 20 Sober, 22 Dover, 23 Seven, 25 Dean, 26 So-so, 27 Dickens, 30 Melton, 31 Saline, 32 Artful dodge.

DOWN: 1 Osmium, 2 Ills, 3 Rlot, 4 Iran, 5 Test-pot, 6 Bachelordom, 7 Ether, 8 Bowie, 9 Asks for more, 12 Mention, 13 Charles, 15 Rotor, 16 Rules, 20 Serin, 21 Reins, 22 Dahlia, 24 Novice, 27 Don't, 28 Keel, 29 Sand.

Wilson's busy day in Brum

by Brian Whitaker

FIVE o'clock on a wet afternoon. And in Broad Street black Rolls are parked. One of them, crested and flying a pennant from its bonnet, indicates that the Omnipotent is already present within the walls of Baskerville House. Lights blaze from all the windows. The whole building hums with activity. On the ground floor, secretaries hurry to and; phones ring; typewriters click.

Upstairs, beyond the suspicious gaze of slinking policemen, in the precincts of Room 129, two members of "Redbrick" staff moved among the hallowed ranks of senior reporters and top political correspondents at this exclusive gathering.

The Prime Minister appeared in the doorway. Everyone stood up. Amid an impressive silence he took his seat at the front. The dignity of the occasion was broken only by sound of "Redbrick" photographer's exposure meter falling on to the floor. At five past five, "It's five past five," observed the Prime Minister. He was a few minutes ahead of schedule—a fact which he attributed to good planning.

Harold looked at his audience, then at a small wooden mallet on the table. "I'm in charge here chaps, so don't get up to any tricks," he seemed to be thinking. "May I have the first question, gentlemen?"

The time had come to make an important announcement, said Mr. Wilson. "I am not hiring a fur hat from Moss Bros. for my visit to Moscow."

The questioners laughed politely, and tried to get a statement about a possible election. Cooler than any Conservative, and twice as witty, the Prime Minister paused and lit his pipe. Feeling into his inside pocket, he produced a handwritten statement which he unfolded carefully. "The decision which falls on a Prime Minister to take to advise the Queen to dissolve Parliament is one which can never be taken lightly or judged on short-run considerations."

This statement which, at the time, seemed so equivocal and unimportant, was immediately lapped up by the national dailies. Perhaps Mr. Wilson, who already knew of Mr. Mayhew's resignation, really was saying he did not want a spring election. But he left plenty of room for a different interpretation.

A few short questions about the trip to Moscow. But Mr. Wilson was not giving any definite answers, and soon the pressmen emerged once more into the rain.

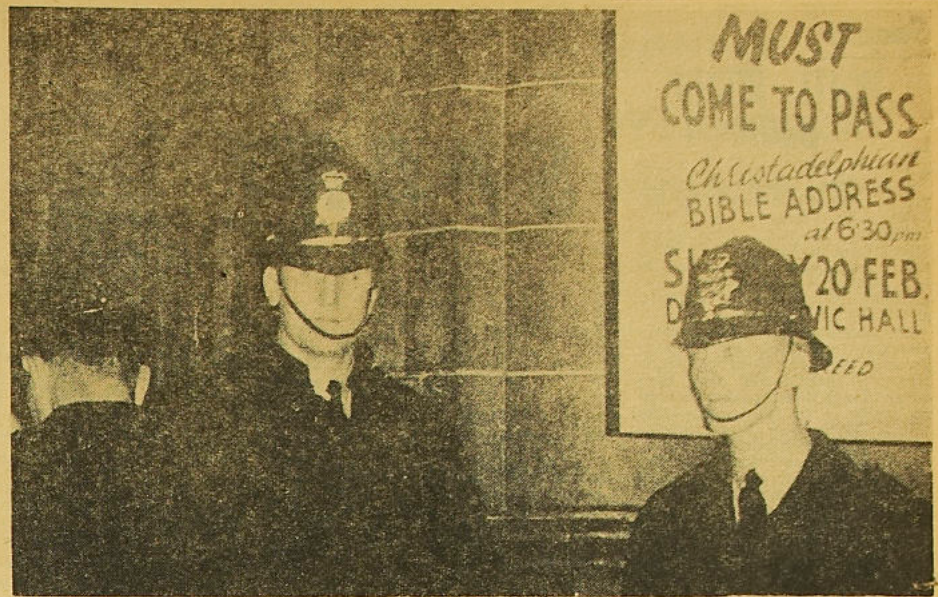
and a few hours later . . .

At the demonstration:

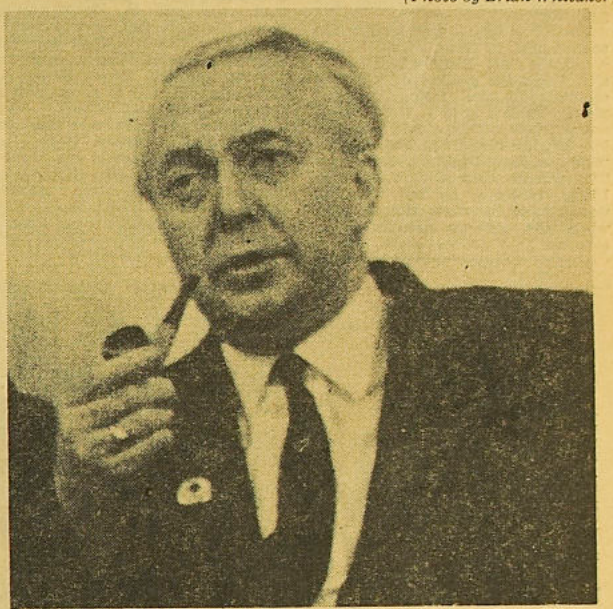
THE current god of socialism, Harold Wilson, concluded his Birmingham visit last Friday by spending a "relaxed social evening" amongst his faithful "active" party members. And, as all Union poster-spotters observed the C.N.D. spent all last week in urging University students to arise from their political lethargy and convey their opinions to Wilson by means of an anti-Vietnam demonstration.

Rain began to fall soon after Friday lunchtime, persisting through the early evening, and becoming a steady downpour as the hour of the demonstration drew near. Although it is impossible to calculate how many were restrained from joining the protest because of the gloomy weather, the cheerful group of demonstrators who clustered noisily beneath umbrellas and placards seemed well satisfied with their near two-hundred turn-out.

Birmingham University were prominent in this wet, bedraggled and hustling crowd, and they nattered to each other as they impatiently waited away the hour before Wilson's arrival. Unfortunately there seems to be a peculiar lack of agreement amongst the demonstrators as



(Photo by Brian Whitaker)



(Photo by Brian Whitaker)

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THE DENIMS 4/-

SUNDAY, FEB. 27th: FLIC
Cert. X
"THE BIRDS"
Ep. 7: "Batman and Robin"

Soccer

NOTTS. NUDGE BRUM

ON Wednesday the 1st XI travelled to Nottingham University. On a cold and windy day neither side seemed able to produce attractive football. Birmingham scored once in the first half when they were playing with the wind behind them, but after half-time Nottingham, using the wind to better advantage, scored twice.

Birmingham did most of the early attacking but rarely looked dangerous. On an afternoon when plenty of shots would have been advantageous Birmingham produced no more than five worthwhile efforts. Hollinshead was unfortunate to hit a post from a free-kick, though he did succeed in scoring Birmingham's only goal. The goal came from a bad mistake by a Nottingham defender who passed back to his goalkeeper, leaving room for Hollinshead to intercept and shoot into an open goal. In the meantime Nottingham had done very little attacking and must have been well pleased to change round only one goal down.

The home team's first goal in the second half, however, resulted from a mistake near Birmingham's goal, and Wallis, the goalkeeper, who was otherwise in good form, was completely baffled when Nottingham scored their second goal; a harmless looking centre caught in the wind and dipped just under the bar. The defence cannot take all the blame, however, as the forwards were unable to relieve the pressure when the defence succeeded in clearing.

SPORT



Ladies' Lacrosse

Fame for females

ALTHOUGH the team's match against Bedford C.P.E. was cancelled, three members of the team took part in representative games last Saturday. Penny Baines and Alison Brown played for the Midlands Counties team against the East at Hatfield. Penny Baines as first-home did well to fit in with a depleted Midlands attack, and, although she did not score, she had a good game. Alison Brown, at cover-point, took several good interceptions but found some difficulty in keeping up with a faster second-home, especially when East, with several international players fought hard at the start of the second half.

to go ahead 3-2. However, the Midlands defence held on, and a 4-all draw was perhaps the fairest result.

The third member of the team to play on Saturday was Margaret Dick, who was representing W.V.A.B. against Scottish Universities at Oxford.

The result of a very hard game was a win for the Scots by 6 goals to 5, and, although playing against a Scottish international player, Margaret put up a hard fight. So, in view of this representation at higher levels, last weekend was certainly a very good one for University lacrosse.



Fyfe Robertson looks at Procter & Gamble

and has this to say, in a booklet on the company, about professionalism in management.

"Everybody in this British HQ, where effort wears such a casual air, is concerned in one way or another with the company's products, chiefly soap and synthetic detergents, and they are all more than willing to hook a finger in the privileged visitor's lapel and talk about their special territories. But I discovered quite early that the most important subject I was learning about was not cleaning materials but something more fundamental and (if that is possible) of more universal application.

"It seemed to me, though I never had the hardihood to mention it to such specifically dedicated men, that after a certain point it

wouldn't matter what they were making and selling, what kind of business they were managing. They were *managing*. Just as in the P & G laboratories at Longbenton I moved from applied particular research to fundamental or pure research, so on the administrative side I found myself moving into levels which could be described as pure business, or more accurately as Pure Management."

If you would like to read what else he has to say about us you should ask your Appointments Secretary for the booklet "Fyfe Robertson Looks at Procter & Gamble Limited" or write direct to the company.



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Fencing

U.A.U. quarter finals

Athletics

CLOSE CONTEST

AT Gosford, last Wednesday, the Athletics Club staged the first ever indoor athletics match of its kind to be held in this country, when they competed against both Loughborough and Cambridge. The match was hotly contested, with Loughborough emerging as victors with 107 points, Cambridge with 91 points and Birmingham 87 points.

The slight Cambridge margin was undoubtedly due to the wonderful running of Wendell Motley, the Cambridge President and Olympic Silver Medalist in Tokyo, who recorded 47.8 secs. for the 40 yards, which smashed the existing European record. Motley opened up an early lead, leaving Peter McMahon, a Birmingham runner, to fight it out with Mike Rawson, a guest competitor, and John Sherwood, an international quarter-miler from Loughborough, whom he beat with a time of 50.9 secs.

Birmingham were obviously weakened on the track, with sprinter Pete Victor injured, David Shepherd ill, and other team members lacking match fitness. However, there were some superb achievements in the field events, notably those of the triple jumpers, with Harrison winning with a leap of 47 ft. 5 1/2 ins., and Derek Glendinning recording 46 ft. 6 ins., both personal best performances. Another good performance was recorded by Perry Christie, Bahamas international, when he won the long jump with a leap of 21 ft. 6 ins. Terry Brown also distinguished himself in the 60 yards hurdles, which he won in a time of 8.0 secs., yet another personal best. In an unofficial walking race, John Padick, an international walker from Birmingham, beat the World indoor mile record by a good margin in a time of 6 mins. 38 secs. Bruce Maddick also beat the world record, but was disqualified for "lifting" in the last lap.

In the light of such achievements, it would seem that the University are having their best season ever.

LAST Saturday, the Fencing Club, in a U.A.U. Quarter Final, met its greatest challenge for two years within the U.A.U.

The Quarter Final was between Birmingham and Bristol Universities at Bristol. The Bristol team was very strong and confident of winning this match. Birmingham took a team of only three fencers to face Bristol's six, but all three fenced well and economically to conserve their energy right through to the last bout.

In the foil, the team fenced particularly well, and surprised both themselves and the opposition by winning by five bouts to four. When the team fenced Bristol last term, Birmingham lost the foil 8-1. This startling improvement reflects great credit on the determination of the team.

The sabre followed and Birmingham maintained its now well-known superiority at this weapon, winning by seven bouts to two. This is a large margin, but it was by no means an easy victory and many of the bouts were won only narrowly.

At this stage Birmingham required two more bouts to win the match. These were speedily attained in the first two bouts of the epee. As the result of the match was now decided, the remaining seven bouts were fenced under considerably reduced tension, and Birmingham lost the epee by 4 bouts to 5.

This was a hard-fought and difficult match; of the 16 bouts won by Birmingham, four were by a margin of only one hit, and of the eleven won by Bristol, seven were by a similar margin.

The result of the match was a 16-11 win for Birmingham. The Birmingham team was: PILLER (captain, 5 wins), BUCKLEY (4 wins), PARSONS (7 wins).

In the swim

ON Saturday the Swimming Club carried on its current run of successes by avenging last term's defeat by Liverpool University. The men won convincingly by 39 to 29, while the ladies' team managed to hold off a strong late challenge to win 35-33. Gill Carr and Helen Larson won all of their races. In the water-polo match afterwards, a poor game resulted in an 8-3 win for Birmingham.



Motoring

TREASURE HUNT

THE Motor Club were prevented, for the second consecutive year from holding their Spring Term Welsh Rally. An all-day Treasure-hunt was organised instead for the forty or so entries to the "Welsh

that Was," as the Treasure-hunt was called.

Tony Edwards, the Motor Club chairman, explained the change: "Three years ago the club organised a Welsh rally at this time, but for the past two years, national rally events have conflicted with our programme. As these events have precedence, we ran an all-day treasure-hunt with extra-special features along the route." These features included special stages, sprint and production-car trials and driving tests which were held in a disused quarry. The competitors started from the Union at 11 a.m. The hundred-mile route took the contestants through the Welsh Border country, and the treasure-hunt finished at the Union in the early evening.

This was the biggest event organised by the Motor Club this term. Events planned for the future are driving tests to be held in the West Car Park of the University on March 13th; March 27th is the date set aside for further driving tests at Dudley, which will be promoted in conjunction with the Dudley and District Motor Club.

Sailing

SAILORS SAIL HOME

LAST weekend, the Sailing Club were hosts to a team from the University of East Anglia.

Birmingham's fortunes changed when the club's up and coming helm, Ted Tolliday, found that it was "just his wind" and came first in both the races. He was well supported by the other members of the team who, on both occasions, kept the visitors in the last three positions. The result was a very enjoyable day's sailing and a convincing win for Birmingham, by 48 1/2 points to 29.

TOUGHLINE

FOOTBALL

Mermaids 3, Warwick Univ. 1
1st XI 1, Nottingham Univ. 2
2nd XI 0, Nottingham 2nd 1

Men's Hockey

UNBEATEN RUN MAINTAINED

THE club's unbeaten record stretched to 16 games this week, with a draw against a strong Gloucestershire side and an easy win at A.E.I. Rugby.

On Wednesday the game was played on a shale pitch and it was some time before the University side could judge the pace of the ball on the fast surface. Nevertheless, they took the lead early on when FIELD forced the goalkeeper to make an error, and the ball trickled over the line. During the second half, Gloucestershire came much more into the game and went close several times, before scoring in the final seconds of the game. However a draw was a fair result, as the University failed to show their usual solidarity in defence and the attack was only effective on occasions. Only STAPLEY at left-back approached his usual form.

At Rugby, against relatively weak opposition, the forward-line regained their rest and sense of purpose, when they scored three goals without reply. The defence had an easy time, and an encouraging aspect of the play was the support of the half-back line. LONG, at centre-forward, had an excellent game making many openings, and scoring two of the goals. The other goal was scored by GROAT after a goal effort by FIELD had been used. MARSHALL made a most encouraging debut at left-half, and GROAT, left-wing, made many fine runs and was always a source of danger to the A.E.I. defence.

Being unbeaten for the last 16 games, the Men's Hockey Club is certainly now one of the most successful major sports clubs in the University.

Judo

Birmingham thrown out

LAST Saturday Birmingham's judo team travelled down to London University to take part in the final stages of the B.U.J.U. championships, along with teams from Leeds, Glasgow and London. The Birmingham team did not succeed in reaching the final, but had the consolation of losing to the eventual winners, Leeds.

The University side was very much outgraded in the contest, but they were not disgraced and produced a creditable performance of positive judo.

J. White and D. Sparrow for Birmingham lost the first two bouts to higher graded men, although Sparrow's contest was very lively. With two wins to their credit Leeds played safe in the next three contests, all of which were drawn.

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MEN'S HOCKEY
v. Gloucestershire, Drew 1-1
v. A.E.I. Rugby, Won 3-0

SOCCER
1st XI v. Nottingham U. Lost 1-2
2nd XI v. Nottingham U. 2nds, L. 0-1

MOTOR CLUB RALLY
1st Richard Scotcher, Morris 1900
2nd Gerry Brown (1934) Wolseley

LAWN TENNIS
v. Sheffield University, Lost 1-3 1/2
v. Loughborough CAT, Lost 1 1/2-2 1/2

RUGBY
1st XI v. Burton, Lost 3-6

BASKETBALL
v. Birmingham Lions, Won 87-67
v. Derby Tech, Won 76-56
Sports Editor: JOHN BALDWIN
Assist. Editor: CLIVE MOON.

Basketball

Weak team wins twice

ON Wednesday, a weakened University side faced Birmingham Lions in the West Midlands Colleges League. In the first half the University played well below the splendid form which they have displayed so often this season. However, in the second half they quickly regained their poise and determination and opened the period with 20 points to 2 from the opposition, going on to win 87-67. Top scorers were K. Gee (28 points), U. Inne (16 points).

Saturday saw the University again put out a much-weakened side. Injury kept some players off the court, while others who did turn out were smitten by flu. Fortunately for the University, Derby Tech. were considerably under strength. Even so, the afternoon provided an interesting and enjoyable game. Better shooting and good defence secured victory for the University, 76-56.

Inter-departmental Basketball

Lightning to strike

THIS coming Saturday, February 26th, the Inter-Departmental Basketball Club are staging their annual Lightning Tournament, a competition between selected top teams in the league. This year, six teams have been invited to take part. They are: Golden Horn (the present holders of the cup), Chem. Eng., Phys. Ed., Chemistry, Elec. Eng. and Spanish. The teams have been divided into two pools.

Pool A: Golden Horn, Phys. Ed., Elec. Eng.

Pool B: Chem. Eng., Chemistry, Spanish.

Each team will play the others in the pool, after which the winner of Pool A will play the second team of Pool B and vice versa, in the semi-finals, and the two bottom teams play for 5th and 6th positions. The two losing semi-final-

ists will play for 3rd and 4th places, and the winners play in the final.

All matches are to be played in the gym, and it is expected that two outside referees will be in charge of play on the court. It had been hoped to use the new physical education buildings, but as yet there are no backboards for the basketball court. All matches are only seven minutes each way and matches will follow one another at about 20-minute intervals.

The competition will begin at 2.10 p.m., and finish about 6 p.m., and all spectators are very welcome. The standard of the tournament should be higher than ever before, specially since Birmingham are now U.A.U. champions and most of the University team will be participating.

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Debate Go home Britain!

DESBOS struck the right note last Thursday for the debate on "Britain has no role East of Suez." A highly receptive and attentive audience was rewarded by a number of very informed and well thought-out speeches both from platform and floor speakers.

Mr. Terence Heelas, for the proposition, delivered an excellent speech based on real political thinking and not on vague, abstract generalities. Taking "role" to mean "military role" he said that such a role East of Suez is neither desirable nor possible for Great Britain. "One of the facts of life we must accept is that China will develop a Monroe Doctrine, which means that she will not tolerate active military opposition in S.E. Asia," he said. "Thus Britain might find herself pursuing a dangerous policy which is bound to be unpopular."

Mr. Anthony Kershaw followed the fruitful line of Mr. Heelas' discussion but disagreed as to the role Britain should play. "If the principle of defence of interests is accepted Britain is entitled to defend its far away interests as well as those nearer home." "There are some friends of Britain East of Suez," he said "and if they are threatened Britain has a duty to help them."

Mr. Chattrabuti seconded and oozed with oriental tact. "After its two great wars Europe has learnt the lesson of the necessity of unity. This lesson also applies to S.E. Asia." "And" Chat. argued, "S.E. Asia, because of geography, economics and colour of skin, must identify itself with China and not with the West. The British Government's only role in the Far East" he concluded, "is to get out and mind its own business." Chat's. message was clear enough.

Ted Waters disagreed. "There is an economic and an educational role which Britain can play even if she is not needed militarily," he said. Ted had a number of good points but he did not put them clearly enough.

The subject was hotly debated from the floor and eventually the motion was accepted. It was a great pity that this excellent debate did not have the big audience it deserved. One hopes that next Thursday a much larger house will attend for the special debate when two American students will defend their country from being a "cultural wasteland."

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Boglers beat the weather



LAST Friday evening between eight and nine o'clock about 1,400 students set off from Lancaster on the Bogle and Tortoise Stroll arranged by Manchester's Rag Committee. The "Stroll" consisted of a 52-mile walk down the A6 via Preston and Chorley to Manchester.

It was a cold and windy night with force 8 winds between Lancaster and Preston, and driving rain persisted for much of the night. The conditions were the worst in the history of the "Stroll" and a large number of competitors dropped out before the halfway mark.

Appalling

In spite of the appalling conditions 262 students completed the walk, arriving in Manchester between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday. The winner was Roger Grimshaw of Manchester C.A.T. in a time of 9 hours 20 minutes.

Checkpoints on the route were manned by Rag organisers and the Civil Defence, who served hot soup and food and to the cold and wet "strollers." All the food was donated to the Rag by companies and was provided free to the walkers.

On the whole the Stroll was efficiently organised, although several hundred people who gave up at Preston had to wait some time in the cold before they were transported by bus back to Manchester.

Several people suffered from mild exposure and one student was treated for frostbite of the hands. Chiropodists were available at the checkpoints and also treated the footsore walkers who finished the "Stroll."

John Darnon, Manchester's Rag Chairman, said: "Considering the terrible weather the Stroll was a great success and in the conditions the participants were remarkably well-behaved."

So now all the students who walked the 52 miles look forward to receiving their free tie, and wonder whether it was really worth it.

High Hall Treason

HIGH HALL'S J.C.R. may face strong criticism tomorrow night at their "Any Questions" session. Last week dozens of notices appeared on committee members' doors protesting about their inefficiency and lack of action.

The main complaint seems to be that the committee of thirteen makes important decisions without consulting the J.C.R. as happens in other Halls. The dissatisfied students want more

open meetings and more say in how J.C.R. funds are spent. This would prevent expensive purchases being made before discovering whether there was any demand for them. A point in question is the recent purchase of a slide projector.

THE WAR GAME

UNIVERSITY students throughout the country are pressing to be allowed to see private showings of the controversial B.B.C. film "The War Game". At Birmingham the Executive have written to the B.B.C. requesting to be allowed to show the film to Union members.

C.N.D. and Humanist members at Oxford have also written to the B.B.C. asking to be allowed to show the film. Last week, York University passed a motion instructing the Student Representative Council to write a similar letter.

Leeds University, King's College London, and University College London are also attempting to get hold of copies of the film. Whether the B.B.C. will continue with their policy of suppressing the film remains to be seen.

Another complaint is that inadequate arrangements are made for the members who do not want to go to the Raves and Balls. After last week's ball, the non-participants were issued with a tin of spaghetti and two slices of bread in lieu of their evening meal. A spokesman for the Hall staff said, "Arrangements could have been made with other Halls to supply a meal had it been requested." A member of the Hall commented, "This was surely the Committee's job."

No-one is sure whether the J.C.R. committee will receive a vote of no confidence or whether the dissatisfied group will find themselves in the minority that Brian Barker, president of the J.C.R., thinks they are.

• A team of three chiropodists treated Boglers' feet when they arrived tired and blistered at Manchester University Union.



Pro-loans man will stir things up at Libsoc

A. D.C. PETERSON, director of education at Oxford University, is the speaker at the Liberal Society meeting next Monday evening. Mr. Peterson supports the view that student grants should be at least partly, and possibly wholly, in the form of loans to be repaid once the student begins to earn a salary.

As Liberal Party spokesman on Education and chairman of the Party's Advisory Panel on Education, he is well known in educational circles as an expert in his field. He has expressed some controversial views on the future of comprehensive education in Britain, and he will discuss this and student loans at Monday's meeting.

Government course

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY is about to launch its high level courses for local government officers. The Institute of Local Government studies is supporting the course, and this is thought to be enough for the scheme to gain acceptance.

Ho Chi Minh: Pearl of the East



• Mrs. Verdun Perl.

FAG drooping from her mouth, Canadian-born Mrs. Verdun Perl beat the anti-American drum at a combined C.N.D.-Liberal Society meeting last Friday, when she stressed that Ho Chi Minh, rather than being the little communist devil that the American press would have us believe, was more sinned against than sinning. This was fine food for the eager C.N.D. listeners who were digesting it well in preparation for the evening's demonstration at Digbeth.

Mrs. Perl has only recently returned from Vietnam, and had several surprising tit-bits to add to her main anti-American dish. For example, she recounted the astonishment she experi-

enced when noticing that American planes were flying only minutes from the Chinese border, and a personal statement of American prisoners who admitted they were well treated by the communists.

As previously stated, however, the main dish was a huge helping of anti-American facts, with Mrs. Perl making it quite plain that in her eyes, at least, America were the aggressors: that it was America who had broken the Geneva Agreement; that it was America who had insidiously gripped this foreign land by the skillful manipulation of puppet governments; and that it was America who were in the wrong.

Mrs. Perl also made reference to talks which she had with Ho Chi Minh when he gave plausible reasons as to why he refused to participate in unconditional negotiations with a power which is regarded by him as one that committed the initial breach of diplomatic relations.