

GUILD NEWS

No. 581 Thursday, Nov. 17, 1960 Threepence
The Guild of Undergraduates—University of Birmingham

Close fight on control

IF all the regular speakers at Deb. Soc. were laid end to end, one of them would be sure to move a point of order and spoil it." Fortunately this state of affairs did not hold at last Thursday's debate that "The Opponents of Contraception are the Opponents of Progress." Points of order were mercifully few.

Moving the motion, Mr. David Lane, in a logical and clear-cut speech, argued that progress was a secular idea. The advance of human happiness rather than human knowledge was the ideal of civilisation. As we developed control over nature we must help ourselves to a better condition, and control of world population and the lifting of the burden of pregnancy were advantages that far outweighed any dubious moral arguments.

In answer to this, the House was pleasantly surprised to find the Rev Keith Wilkes adopting no heavy moral tone. He contradicted Mr. Lane's definition of progress. Progress, he thought, was an advance in morals and civilisation—in other words, in the right use of things. No matter what our opinions were, we must respect the ideas of those who thought that contraception was wrong.

Could these sincerely-held ideas be the outward sign of an opposition to progress? Need the House be led astray by the proposition's good intentions?

Course of nature

Mr. Ahmed Qidwai attacked the opposition on the grounds that it had only mentioned immoral and unnatural arguments. Whatever man did for his own good was in the course of nature. The speaker drew an analogy between the control of water in a river with a dam and the control of spermatozoa with a contraceptive.

Mentioning some quite horrifying statistics on the growth of population, he suggested that only contraception could keep this growth within reasonable limits.

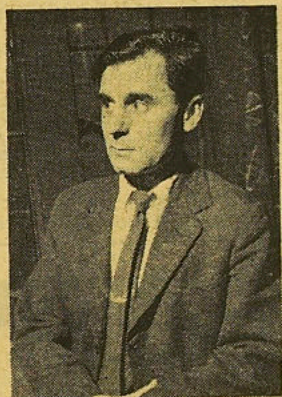
These theories did not appeal to Mr. John McVeagh. All Malthusian prophets had proved false, he cried. Even if the prophets of doom were justified, contraception, not being completely efficient, was not necessarily the best remedy. He concluded by asking how he could be called an opponent of progress when he advocated the "dignity and grandeur of Man."

Floor speakers

The House was most energetically interested in the motion. No fewer than eleven speakers put forward their ideas before

the Chair called a halt. Mr. Goodrich asked why nobody thought happiness morally right. Mr. Plant made an avowal of faith; Mr. Ash mourned, in stately phrase, an age without principles; Mr. Deitch appealed to the House to put a Fair Isle sock in it.

After two counts, the motion was carried by a narrow margin.



Richard Hoggart
(Photo: Dolphin)

Not the only ones

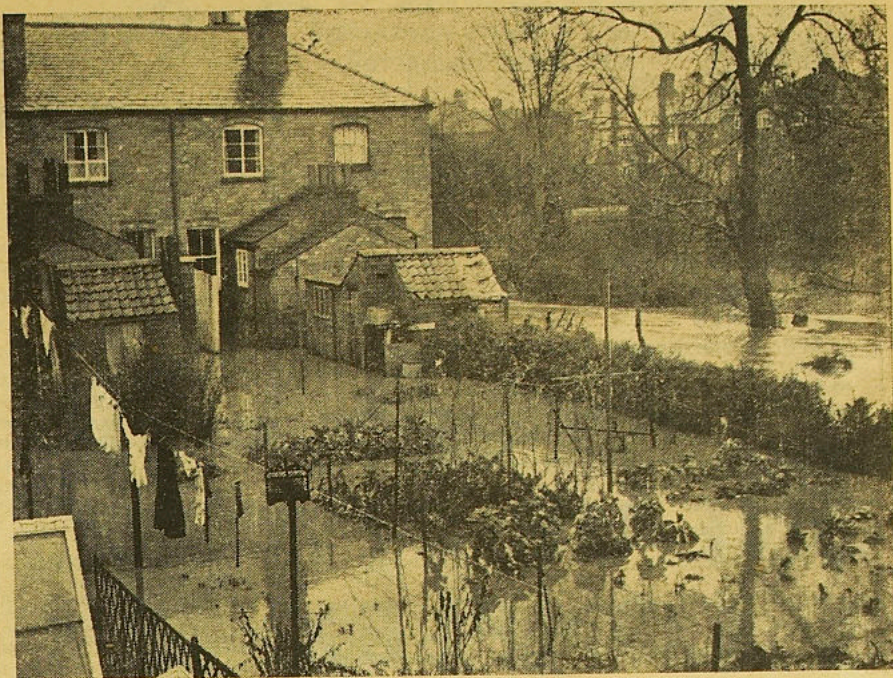
LEEDS University has come out in opposition to Fascism. The Leeds exec., recommended that an International society within the Union should reconsider their decision to invite a speaker from the Fascist Party.

Although many members of the Union feel that it is a good idea to listen to the views of a member of the British Nationalist Party, they at the same time feel that such liberal minded behaviour may lead to riots.

A survey carried out at Durham has shown that among 36 per cent of the freshers there are no existentialists, Zen Buddhists, Communists, Anarchists, Fascists or Jehovah's Witnesses. One wonders what they must find to argue about.

However, nearly 80 per cent were democratic and with a huge sigh of relief the investigators were pleased to report that "only one man gave support to a political belief that was anti-democratic."

FORGOTTEN FLOODS



A typical flood scene in the West Country.

(Photo: 'Bham Mail')

WHEN last month turned out to be one of the wettest Octobers for many years, it was not surprising that part of the country was inundated. Nor was it a surprise to find that the part most affected was the West and South of England where the tragedy of the Lynmouth floods several years ago led to the Government declaring it a national disaster area and the whole country responded with promptness and generosity.

PACKED FOR PAPER-BACKS

LAST Tuesday's Open Lecture on "The Paperback Revolution," attracted vast numbers to hear Mr. Richard Hoggart speak. A record-breaking audience, estimated at 700, must have been lured by the notoriety of the "Lady C. case" (at which Mr. Hoggart gave evidence for the defence) yet only an hour later they howled down a question on this very subject. Such are the vagaries of the human animal!

Mr. Hoggart, author of "The Uses of Literacy" is a well-known authority on paperbacks, and while carefully skirting the more controversial aspects of his subject, gave a wide-ranging and absorbing lecture.

One of his most interesting points was that nobody knew exactly who the readers of paperbacks were.

While it was fairly easy to define minority readerships—the students, and people with specific hobbies to read about—Mr. Hoggart seemed to have a poor opinion of the average paperback reader—for him, "Japanese prisoners of war, mixed up with gangsters and women, seem to have about everything."

Lower prices

Student readership, although small, was normally of a fairly predictable size. For this reason it was possible to publish textbooks at a considerably lower price as a paperback than as a hardback. In recent months a large number of new "egghead" paperbacks had come on to the market and this should be a great help to impoverished undergraduates.

The general public had a very curious nature and would read anything put before them—from westerns to archæology. The publishers tried to exploit this, with the result that there were now a large number of "pseudo-cultural" paperback on sale. The covers of these books gave a completely misleading idea of their contents. But, said Mr. Hoggart, sexy covers attracted the wholesaler rather than the reader.

A new figure

The wholesaler was in fact a new figure in this field; previously paperbacks, like other books, had been sold by the publishers direct to the bookshops; now they were distributed in the same manner as newspapers were.

It was Mr. Hoggart's opinion that this trend would continue and eventually paperbacks, like

cigarettes, would be sold from slot machines. Even now psychological market research was being carried on, with the intention of boosting sales still further. The layout of sales displays was now planned so as to remove people's inhibitions. Books were even shown face down, on the principle that "once they turn it over you've hooked another customer."

* * *

In connection with the open lecture, the University Librarian requested Hudsons, the bookshop, to organise an exhibition of paperbacks. This was held on Tuesday in the corridor outside the Debating Hall and attracted large numbers. The books shown were for sale and business was good enough "to have made the venture worthwhile" for Hudsons.

HUMPH'S OOMPH

WEDNESDAY, November 9th — Jazz Band Ball.

One of those rare occasions when a crowd enjoys itself. Art students, drunk students, jiving students, smooching students, blonde students wearing sweaters and not much else, listening students, student nurses and non-students, and one or two sedate students who weren't sure what they were meant to be doing. And they had all come to hear Humphrey Lyttleton.

Anyway, that's what they would have told their mothers. Not many did stop to listen, but they were all affected by the exuberant swing of one of the most compact, infectious little bands to have blown an evening away in the Union—diminished but undaunted. Its mainstream leanings meant that

One might have hoped for the same on this occasion but, as the rain was continual rather than torrential and the situation deteriorated more gradually, the floods seem to have been ignored by most people.

It seems natural that we should turn our attention to this disaster. The friends and relatives of many of our own students are involved. Many of them have spent anxious hours trying to telephone parents in devastated regions where cables were down, roads cut, farms and towns isolated.

Even now, those on the spot say the danger is not past. The drainage from Exmoor and Dartmoor has yet to pour into local rivers. Rain and winds continue, winter is almost here and the prospect of snow was mentioned by one local observer.

Many of the householders and business men, unable to get flood insurance in this type of area, have lost nearly everything and M.P.s are still pressing the Government to make it a national disaster, while the response to the appeal fund for the area set up by the Lord Lieutenant of Devonshire has been poor.

The Guild is launching an appeal starting today and continuing tomorrow with collections during the lunch period and tins at strategic points around the University. Anyone who cannot contribute during this time should send their contribution to Brian Piper, Publicity Officer, by next Wednesday.

when it abandoned its more controlled self in the interest of excitement, it could drop riffs and gain its effect by impassioned repetition rather than indulgence in a chaotic free-for-all.

Featured, of course, was Humph Lyttleton himself—fiery, growling, plaintive, at times delicate, at times abandoning his trumpet and pretending to be Jimmy Rushing or Louis Armstrong, and supported by a band that didn't put a note wrong.

Friday, November 11th: English Club and Chem. Eng. Society Dance. A very enjoyable evening, with Beatniks as its theme. English Club were responsible for decor. Imaginative use was made of newspaper, streamers hid the ceiling and grotesque "beat" characters the walls. Bob Gough and His Sextet provided the mainstay of the evening's music, supported by the Beatniks, a jazz band consisting largely of Chemical Engineers.

GUILD SERVICES

Sunday, November 20th—

8.30 a.m.: Holy Communion.

6.30 p.m.: Guild Service.

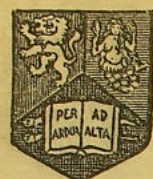
Preacher: Rev. Dr. R. P. C. Hanson.

DAILY PRAYERS: Monday—

Friday, 9.30 a.m. and 5.10 p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION: Tuesday,

12.15 p.m., Friday, 7.30 a.m.



GUILD NEWS
THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER
THE UNION, EDGBASTON
Tel. Selly Oak 1841

EDITOR Maureen Jones
ASSISTANT EDITOR Bob Bootle
BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Goddard
ADVERTS MANAGER Peter Carr
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STAFF: Valerie Jennings, Celia Layzell, Wendy Burrow, Phyllis Burg, Prudence Cutmore, Moira Sutherland, Myra Barrs, Ian Ellis, Chris Mackie, Dick Thorne, Peter Ealey, Tim Betts, David Vine, Robin Tomlinson, Mike Coe, Tim Goodrich.

ONE-UP COMPLEX

Madam,
THOUGH I tend to think as Mr. McGlynn suggested that there is a lack of strong tradition in the University as a whole, he made other comments which I feel were intolerable and unbecoming for a person of his "intellect."

It seems to me that he has elected himself spokesman for a minor body of students who would like to distinguish themselves from the people of England (as the "ill-bred workmen and builders" undoubtedly are, by wearing gowns. I should suggest that Mr. McGlynn examines himself and tries to correct the inferiority complex he has by other more constructive measures rather than by thinking that the mere fact of him being a University student automatically makes him superior to 97 per cent. of the population.

"Confession"

Another most relevant factor dawned upon me whilst reading his "confession." I feel it is the duty of students to get to know the 97 per cent. "ill-bred" ones and to help them however they can. I would hate to feel that the fortunate minority is trying to divide the country into two nations. I seem to remember "united we stand, divided we fall."

I myself would like to see all students wearing gowns, if it were practical and if it would help to build upon our traditions, but not for one moment would I contemplate wearing a gown for the reasons that Mr. McGlynn suggests.

At least his letter did show me

Gaitered Goons

MADAM.—Of course University students should wear gowns. In addition the authorities should issue each student on entry into the University with the following essential items of student attire:

- (1) mortar board
 - (2) gaiters
 - (3) walking stick
 - (4) bow tie
 - (5) bound edition of Kafka's works . . . on the understanding of course that no one need actually read them
 - (6) hunting crop
 - (7) cummerbund
- The authorities should also see to it that working men whom it is found necessary to have around the premises smoke clay pipes and have string around their trousers so that we may properly distinguish them from students.
- Yours, etc.,
TIM GOODRICH.

NO PROTECTION

MADAM.—In a recent letter to "Guild News" two mathematical freshers stated their regret at not seeing more gowns about the University. May we point out the erroneous reasoning of their letter?

They say gowns would be a protection against inclement weather. What utter rubbish! Apart from being useless in wet weather, imagine the awe-inspiring sight of knots of wind-eyed students desperately tackling against a Force eight head wind in their voluminous garb.

Vibrant cells
They also remark that as they are now among the top three per cent, they would like to wear gowns to distinguish themselves from the workers in the other 97 per cent. They should remember that it is no credit to themselves that they are equipped with a throbbing mass of vibrant brain-cells. To have their superior attitude is regrettable.

Another statement is that students at bike-ridden Universities have not given them up due to lack of manoeuvrability. But closer examination shows that such students wear waist-length gowns (at Oxford anyway) called by a term including a three-letter word.

If these freshers are not convinced they can copy the habit of many other freshers of wearing University scarves every possible minute of the day.

Or perhaps they do so already?
Yours, etc.,
**T. OSBORNE
R. O'SHEA**

ANOTHER VIEW?

MADAM.—May I suggest that you discontinue the "Profile series in 'Guild News'?" I find it to be not only uninteresting in itself, but it gives the impression that somewhere in the higher levels of the Guild is a mutual admiration society which awards a "profile" to the chosen few who are well and truly "IN". I know, of course, that this impression is quite false; why not, then, drop the articles which foster it?

Yours, etc.,
D. J. MALLOWS.
(The next "Profile" will be the last, as we are pretty sick of them too.—Ed.)

Over-crowded

MADAM.—While I am sure that everyone who attended Jazz Band Ball enjoyed themselves, there were one or two blemishes which prevented it being a more successful occasion.

Firstly, there were far too many people there; and there was no room to jive properly. I realise many more fans would have liked to have gone than actually got tickets, but surely the University authorities know how many students the Debating Hall can hold comfortably.

Secondly, many people there, particularly women, were not even University students. Cannot some means be devised by which outsiders can be kept outside? Their admittance at the Hops and other second-rate functions is not a matter for complaint, but for such a big event as this, it is.

Thirsty work

Jiving, as anybody knows, is thirsty work, but was there an extension? No! The bar closed at ten. If minor societies can have an extension for a private social, why on earth cannot it be obtained for a major function such as Jazz Band Ball?

And what a time you had to wait when you wanted a drink! Why must the bars be understaffed on occasions like these? Is it not possible for students to be recruited as temporary bar-men and barwomen?

I did not go looking for something to complain about. I went to have a good time. I had a good time. But it could have been so much better. By what great feat of mind do the organisers manage to display such crass stupidity and negligence?

Yours etc.,
RICHARD THORNE
(History 2).

AWAIT YOUR CUE!

MADAM.—Before it dies may I seize the stigma cast off from Lady Chatterley and direct it with more justification? That duller sort of morals called "good manners" is losing ground to all familiar depravity.

Let me cite the example of jumping the queue for meals in the Union. It is becoming as advanced a technique as tax evasion. Firstly, there is the sort who meets a buddy on the way to the bar; conversation proves so vital that it regrettably involves melting into the queue; secondly, the arrangement, made four years ago whereby the **biggest one keeps place for his or her diminutive** and under privileged associates; thirdly, the groups who walk straight into the hall and linger over water until the first "friend" rounds the doorman when they all charge, crying "Hallooooo!" "Well, fancy!" and "Shove over!"

Immaturity cult

In my limited experience, the worst offender is the yellowish pygmy type who has harem arrangement with his harem; this party often swells by five or six during the wait and the other day I saw four uninvited women whip in simultaneously. Perhaps such people are members of a cult. I have encountered before who believe that the attainment of maturity is marked by the absence of nervousness to ride "rough-shod." I am afraid it displays an absence of the patience that comes with the adult mind. Therefore let us start an anonymous reform movement by merely stating our views and not turning a blind eye. Let those who realise explain to the next man that "sauve qui peut" went out with

SUFFICIENT SEX

MADAM.—There must be a large number of undergraduates, like myself, who are heartily sick of being inundated by the uncalled-for opinions of self-styled "sex experts" on such subjects as contraception and pre-marital intercourse.

BROKEN BRIDGE

MADAM.—We, the undersigned, deeply regret the passing-on of the Bridge Column, which was one of the brightest features of last year's "Guild News".

What has happened to it? Surely there is someone on your staff capable of playing bridge and translating the more interesting problems into bridge symbols. We hope you can see your way clear to reinstate this feature, perhaps at the expense of the profile.

Yours etc.,

**B. P. ABRAHAMS,
S. Y. JYNG,
M. I. SHANSALL.**

(Any volunteers to write a Bridge column?—Ed.)

COME UNSTUCK

MADAM.—With so many posters executed with varying degrees of proficiency calling for our attention everywhere in the Union and departmental buildings is it really necessary for the new library to be defaced as well?

The first notice appeared in the women's cloakroom this week stuck to the clean walls with sellotape. Before a precedent is established would it not be possible to arrive at some arrangement whereby the library is exempted from such treatment?

Yours, etc.,

LINDA HOUGHTON.

It is a good thing that many of the taboos that once surrounded sex are no longer with us; it is also a good thing that talks or lectures by experienced and more serious persons should be held for the guidance of the uncertain.

On the other hand it seems poor taste to discuss sex relations in the same manner that one would discuss politics. Fortunately these super-sex columns are not many, and students are adult enough to hold their own opinions and keep them to themselves.

Possibly this preoccupation with sex problems is an indication of a disturbed emotional approach (shades of Auto da Fe). In common with many others I have firm opinions on birth control and pre-marital relations but I consider them matters concerning only myself and my conscience.

It is high time these adolescent, self-conscious postures ceased. They are neither clever nor profound—nor do they serve any further—the intensely personal, useful purpose. They only display a very beautiful factor of human sexuality.

Yours sincerely,

BRUCE P. ABRAHAMS.

SELLY OAK

—continued from Page Eight
other buildings had been erected. The castle was lived in until the time of the Civil War when, as the carrier Thomas Jerveys, fought for the King, the place was abandoned and never again lived in.

The city Museum has excavated on the site for a number of years (see photo), and a small museum adjacent to the walls of the castle contains many of the objects found during excavation.

Weoley Castle is easily reached from the University on a No. 11 bus from the Bristol Road which will take you to Weoley Castle Estate. From the bus terminus the castle is but a short walk. Admission is possible on most days.

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Political Forum

They sip in our cup

THIS month the Co-operative Party publishes the first of a series of booklets on current economic problems. This presents a comprehensive survey of monopoly and restrictive practices which is an invaluable aid to the reader of "The Organization Man." In this it was argued that capitalism would be replaced by the system of managerial economy which would be a type of corporate exploitation, as opposed to the private exploitation of capitalism, and that "as great firms grow larger and more complex specialist and professional management grows increasingly more important." The stage is set or, at least, Mr. Wood's historical argument would seem to indicate this.

He deals cursorily with the idea of free competition. This, as he points out, led to "imperfect competition," i.e. to monopoly capitalism. Adam Smith and Mill had assumed a certain sense of responsibility to the national economy and the consumer. This was lacking and should have been supplemented by legislation. Once the land-lease started, once vested interests began to assert itself, it was too late. Does this neglect entitle us to say that Adam Smith and Mill were wrong?

EVEN PRICES

It seems that co-operative policy is a roundabout way of achieving a price level which would be fair to the private consumer without damaging the producer and which would benefit the national economy. The alternative is extensive and complicated legislation. Ultimately, as this would seem to be necessary in any case, it might be better to let the market decide what Smith and Mill were right after all.

The neo-economist will need to persevere with Mr. Wood. The argument is sound, except for his remarks on a property owning democracy. The statistics are interesting sources if presented rather dully. Mr. Wood's proclamation, written between the lines, that the Wall Street hyenas are upon us, is perhaps over-dramatised, but none the less valid. He quotes Sir John Colepepper who compares the multitude of monopolists with the frogs in Egypt.

They sip in our cup; they dip in our dish; they sit by our fire. We find them in the dye vat, the washing bowl and the powdering tub. They have marked and scaled us from head to foot. Perhaps like the fairies, they are at the bottom of the garden too.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion runs: "The object of national policy in the 1960's should be a progressive increase in the economic efficiency of the nation enabling its citizens to earn and enjoy

— by —

Stuart Stockdale

the fruits of increased well-being. Monopoly tends to frustrate the achievement of that object and to strike at the essential liberties of a free society, and for that reason it must be curbed." No concrete solution is offered, nor is this the intention. Where then, does the significance of the booklet lie?

The left would agree with Mr. Wood. The right would say it agrees (he exposes this one in the text). This pamphlet is really the aftermath of the Clause Four dispute. If not nationalisation, then what? Co-operatives? Co-partnership? The co-operative party may well be right in anticipating an official split in the Labour Party. If we have

Talking point

FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE

I HAVE only one object in writing this article, that is to plead for a change in the laws on divorce. While many people consider that divorce is a sin and immoral I feel that a change in the law, making divorce much more readily available, can be justified.

The reason for this change is the inadequacy of the present laws. Because these make it difficult to get divorced, many people are driven to commit perjury.

The law takes no account of the feelings of the married couple, nor does it take into account the desirability of the proposed divorce. In effect, the law looks at it from the standpoint that divorce should not be allowed at all, with a few specific exceptions. The point of view I support is that because the law deals with the personal relationship of two people, there should be very few exact rules laid down. Divorce should be granted in every case with very few exceptions.

RELIGIOUS PROBLEM

Naturally the problem of religion will arise, but let us be

— by —

David Hugill

clear on this question. The law of England is there for a people to obey and to enact a law for Christianity is religious persecution; this would be deplorable at any time, but is intolerable in the twentieth century. If to be divorced is to break a religious law then let the punishment also be of a religious sort, i.e. excommunication and not punishment that takes the form of imprisonment.

I must now consider the way in which I think the law should be changed. In essentials I would say that all divorces

should be granted on the mutual consent of the two people, the exception to this rule being when the couple have children younger than 16. Then the couple should go to a marriage guidance council or similar body and be granted a divorce only if this council recommended it for the sake of the children.

Of course this will strike many people as a vicious heresy, but we must consider the effect of such a change in the law. Unhappy couples would be able to obtain a divorce without having to commit adultery or perjury and without causing themselves more misery by having their private lives subjected to publicity.

The law in its working would be forced to consider the social desirability of the divorce and not solely which of the couple was the "sinner" and which the "sinned against."

LEGAL PROBLEMS

There will be many legal problems to overcome before this law could be properly effective, but since they are only legal problems they do not invalidate the claim for a change of law. I can almost hear it said that the children will suffer, but it is the function of the Marriage Guidance Council to decide if they will suffer more with their parents married or divorced. The question of the happiness of men and women in a particu-

THIS IS RIDICULOUS

AS a Christian I was interested to read Politicus's comments of a month ago. I smirked at the obvious inference in the last sentence, then chastised myself for my pride, confessed to being no better than a politician and waited for the political societies to erupt into print and self-defence. But no—a squeak from a Liberal which was more in the category of "How dare you?" and then silence.

This is ridiculous! Here we are at a point in history when things never looked so black, when daily we read of fresh threats, new dangers, another clash of political interests. Countries at economic loggerheads, nuclear deadlock, political impasse and confusion all darken the horizons of aspiring youth such as some doubt we shall even see old age.

Yet those who claim to lead the politics of youth are, like the sheep before the shears, dumb. They open neither their pens—nor, it seems, their minds.

No comment

The only political comment so far has been a requiem for the "News Chronicle," probably by a Liberal and the Congo article, written by a Christian. Apart from "Moment," under Christian sponsorship, a sporadic "Vanguard" from the Socialists, an uncertain "ad Lib." just due out for the second time this year, there is little local political comment.

Writing for nationally sponsored magazines is all very well, but this does not reach the rest of the Guild. It might build up the writer's reputation; it will not solve the problem of making the intelligent potential voter think intelligently about politics.

Various news

The Liberals say the real issues are no longer fought by political parties, the Socialists say the big

an out and out Socialist Left, which way will Mr. Gaitskell go? Will he repent or will he plump for the co-operatives? These are the only reasonable alternatives.

* "The Challenge of Monopoly," by J. M. Wood. Price 1/-.

decisions affecting our livelihood are no longer taken by the people's representatives and the Conservatives say we've never had it so good. If the latter are right the first two are irrelevant. If the first are right the Conservatives are blind and false. One may well ask, if political parties have ever grasped thorny issues in a clear-cut way. When they have it has usually split the party (Free Trade, the Corn Laws, nuclear disarmament).

Thus the world writhes in the tangles of men searching in darkness, and the generation which will have to sort it out raises no cry. I challenge the political societies to answer these questions, which seem to me of vital political significance, either through these columns or in open forum. I might even be prepared to join them in the latter.

Questions

1 What is the eventual answer of Western Civilisation to the threat of Communism? Is it a threat?

2 How do we equate our satisfaction with our British way of life which we are so determined to defend even to the extent of destroying it rather than submitting to oppression with the fact that two thirds of the world is starving?

3 How do we balance the demands and limitations of national sovereignty with the need to live in an independent world community? Is national sovereignty still a valid concept?

4 How can we sort out the political conflicts of racial groups? Is the problem a political one? If not, is the answer?

5 Does the rapid concentration of economic power now going on in this country, constitute a political threat? Can private owners of such vast resources be relied upon to act in the national interest? Is there something incongruous in what Gálbraith called "private opulence and public squalor"?

I shall follow these columns with interest.
TACITUS.

ad lib

∞

out soon 1/6

Dis-honest Injun



SCIENCE COLUMN

Stars down to earth

JUST inside the main entrance to the new Physics building is to be found a model of the Galactic System. It is set at an angle and enclosed in a glass case to give a most impressive effect. Dr. Martin Johnson, Reader in Astrophysics, told us a little about the model's construction.

An octagonal glass plate is sprayed with white paint to represent the distribution of interstellar hydrogen. Blue heads, representing clusters each containing 100,000 stars are set in fixed positions by means of nylon threads. The dimensions are such that our solar system would spread across less than .00001 inches in the model.

Several technicians worked on it for months, gathering data from as far afield as Australia and Holland.

Interview technique

On November 7th, the Chemical Engineering Society had a lecture entitled "Interview Technique" presented by Mr. F. R. Miles of Thomas Hedley Ltd. Mr. Miles defined interviews as face to face meetings between two persons followed by mutual character appraisals. He stressed the need for preparation for an interview and said that systematic collection of information and careful selection of the right company were most important. Apart from many general qualities, specific qualities were

needed for specific jobs. He enumerated his 19 qualities for "Top People," convincing about 97 per cent. of his audience that they did not fall into this category.

The art of maths.

Much research goes on in the Pure Maths Department behind the Barber Institute. Unfortunately the research done in this not-so-well-known Dept. is not understood by its own undergraduates, let alone by arts and other science students. However the findings of the Mathematicians, although not all applicable to present-day science, will certainly be employed in the future.

On November 7th, Professor Hilton will give his inaugural lecture in the main Physics lecture room. Although he has held his chair here for three years, he has only just been called upon to deliver his lecture. Using the title "The Art of Mathematics," he will endeavour to explain the spirit behind research and give some idea of the methods employed. The lecture is open to all members of the University.

The two metal objects to be seen on the Geography Department roof are for a weather-vane and anemometer. After Christmas a complete meteorological station will be set up there for research purposes.

Link with Harwell

At frequent intervals during the year, teams of scientists from Harwell come here to work on the synchrotron in the Physics Department. The Harwell men are engaged in the construction of Nimrod, a new high energy proton synchrotron, and as we in Birmingham already have such a thing it is convenient for them to try out their equipment here. One group, employed in building Nimrod, test new electronic detectors.

When complete, Nimrod will provide high energy particle facilities for all the Universities in the country. This idea of "helping" the Universities by providing expensive equipment was the reason for the foundation of the National Institute.

WINIFRED J. HASLAM.

BRACE OF GROUSE

MEDICAL students are perhaps not noted for "well-known sprightly insouciance." Nevertheless the average sensual medic is a cheerful fellow, not given overmuch to grumbling about his condition. It is therefore disturbing to find that discontent is percolating through the smoky air of the canteen; a chill wind even blows round the grim-faced ranks of card players in the common room. Why?

It is coming from the clinical years; happy anatomists have not yet rubbed off the fresh bloom of eagerness—physiologists are too busy. However, the clinical students more than make up for these reluctant supporters of the Establishment. Their grouse is in two parts; one concerning work, the other leisure.

Post-graduate approach

The medical school is trying to replace much of its didactic teaching by a more informal "post-graduate" type of approach. Whilst this is excellent, neither staff nor students have got used to the new system. The student finds himself taught like a child one day and treated like an adult the next. He may find on one ward he is allowed to do every procedure that his Houseman does, while on another even blood taking is made difficult for him. Final year students rightly

complain that usually they are not allowed enough individual responsibility.

The other grouse is the perennial one about vacations when the clinical student has nothing to do and nowhere to go.

A medical club seems the obvious answer, but it would increase even more the "clannishness" of medical students. The first grumble happily should resolve itself.

TABES.

Concessions

LAST year External Affairs Committee decided to see if the Guild could get concessions in Birmingham and, so far, the venture has been quite successful. The organisations who have given concessions to N.U.S. and the Guild are as follows:

The Belgrade Theatre, Coventry; The Hippodrome; The Crescent Theatre; The Repertory Theatre; The C.B.S.O.; Warwickshire County Cricket Club; Northfield Motoring School; Birmingham Motoring School; Civic Radio Services; S. Child & Son (Jewellers); Lilly White Frowd; and High Fidelity Co.

Further details of how to obtain these and other N.U.S. concessions are to be found on External Affairs Notice Board.

It is hoped that members will make full use of these concessions as it is only by support that they will continue.

If anybody has suggestions for other concessions, I would be only too pleased to hear of them.

D. C. VESSEY,
(Ext. Affairs Committee).

QUIET PLEASE!

["Guild News" has just received a copy of the journal of the Noise Abatement Society.]

AT last the "Mothers and Others, Unions" have found something useful which they can do in this country. I speak, of course, of the Noise Abatement Society, which we have heard so much about.

We are all aware that life is travelling faster, is more hectic, and is noisier than ever before. And so Organised Womanhood has banded together to make "one concerted, persistent, purposeful effort to cut the 'Noise Demon' down to manageable size."

CLEVER CAMPAIGN

But gone are the days of world safety through the Women's Guild outlawing the H-bomb; something a little more concrete has got to be done. And, indeed, an excellent scheme has been formulated, in which every aspect of noise production has been covered. The campaign starts with that facet very close to the woman's heart—bome training for the young, who are to forsake rowdy games of soccer in the park, for the intricacies of Bridge. The traffic problem is covered 24 hours a day by old age pensioners mounted on motor scooters and ready to tail offenders through the streets. Noisy neighbours are dealt with by sending them anonymous cartoons which depict "You make too much row." The cartoons are specially designed and are sent for a small charge as part of the N.A.S. service.

Members are encouraged to write letters of complaint and suggestion to newspapers and magazines, and even their local M.P.'s.

So "kneez up Mother Brown," rubber dustbin lids to the fore, and the war-cry is "Quiet, Please!"

Looking Ahead

A 'CUSHY' JOB

MANY people look on personnel management as a rather pleasant, amiable sinecure; as long as you are "a good chap" you can't go wrong. Don't you believe it!

I talked with Mr. Reay, a personnel officer at a large chocolate-manufacturing firm in Birmingham, who enumerated the tasks and responsibilities connected with the work.

Personnel management is concerned with the development and application of policies governing:

Recruitment, selection, placement, training, education and promotion; Terms of employment, methods and standards of remuneration; Working conditions and employee services;

by

Richard Thorne

Formal and informal communication and consultation, both through the representatives of employers and employees, and at all levels throughout the enterprise;

Negotiation and application of agreements on wages and working conditions, procedure for the avoidance and settlement of disputes;

Human and social implications of change in internal organisation and methods of working, and of economic and social changes in the community.

What type?

Still think it's a sinecure? What type of person is best suited to this sort of work? Mr. Reay said that if you are "a good chap" it is certainly an asset, if one means by that phrase that you are friendly, easy to get on with, tactful, adaptable, interested in your fellow-beings as individuals, ingenious and extrovert.

All these qualities are essential. You should also have the ability to put people at their ease, and to make them feel that they can confide in you and trust you. You should know how to handle different types of people, and how to proceed in certain circumstances. Ideally, you ought to be familiar with psychology, in order to see more of the person than the person wishes you to see.

Your work will necessarily involve you in complicated human problems. You should be able to detach yourself from them, look at them objectively, and even take a slightly cynical view of them.

The vast range of these problems calls for someone with initiative, a sound general knowledge and many and varied interests.

What qualifications?

Does this description fit you? Right; now what qualifications do you need? "It is the person, not the degree that counts," said Mr. Reay. No degree will bar you or make you, but the most useful degree is in Commerce or Social Science.

Before you begin your career most employers will insist on you having passed the examination set by the Institute of Personnel Management. This examination is usually preceded by a year at either London, Manchester, Oxford, Cardiff or Glasgow Universities and the course includes industrial experience.

What prospects?

The prospects in personnel management are rosy indeed and are becoming rosier. Among the reasons for this are the growing size of many industrial units and groups, leading to such concentrations of salaried staff that it is no longer practical to leave their administration to the accountant or the secretary.

Nationalisation which has brought in its train the unionisation of staff up to senior levels, and the consequential need for new machinery for collective bargaining.

The general shortage of technical staff, most notably scientists and engineers.

Today many firms are looking to personnel management to help them make the best possible use of their human resources. Personnel management is an important and very worthwhile aspect of modern industry; it is arduous but interesting, taxing yet greatly rewarding, (take that which way you will).

Profile PETER JAMES

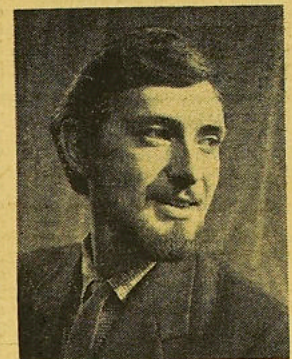
PETER John James of the English Department does not play bridge or rugger or the clarinet: in these and in most other undergraduate pursuits he has only a general interest. Yet there has been hardly one evening this term which he could devote to the pleasant pastime of "doing nothing special." For Peter has taken on the mammoth task of producing G.T.G.'s Autumn Major, "The Great God Brown."

In this one activity, he says, he finds ample scope for the expression of all his interests. For example, he likes eccentricities; and in an age of conformity the few eccentricities there are left are to be found among the curled darlings of the theatre world. He likes to be liked and prefers to know and be known quite well by a limited number of people rather than to know and be known just vaguely by thousands. He candidly admits: "When I talk to lots of people about lots of things I know nothing about. I always manage to fool absolutely nobody."

There is a story that when he was born, not in a trunk but in a props box, there was in his mouth not a silver spoon but a well-thumbed acting edition of "Hamlet." Be this as it may, one member of the cast of "The Great God Brown" pays tribute to his patience and insight in these words: "Peter knows what he wants from me, and I know what Peter wants from me; and he knows I can do it, and so I know I can do it; and he knows he'll get it in the end, and I know he'll get it in the end."

In the posh seats
His instinct for the arts and crafts and tricks collectively known as theatre may be one of those things "felt along the blood," but all the same, as he readily concedes, he smokes too much.

When, in his first term here, he went out with a certain young lady to the cinema for the very first time he took her to the posh seats to impress her and was consequently much embarrassed.



Peter James

(Photo: Dolphin)

been a willing and adept seamstress and had a needle and cotton handy.

Peter's only strong feeling about the University is that it will be a vastly better one when and if the projected Drama Dept. and University Theatre materialise. As well as making the University more complete, this might also solve his problem of what to do when he finishes his English course.

Ultimately he sees himself as Director of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre; "but," he says, "I would at a pinch settle for the Old Vic."

T.A.S.

FOUR LETTERS TO FAME

DURING the past few weeks a great deal has been written and said about "Lady Chatterley's Lover." It has been hotly discussed in pubs, queues, and coffee bars, usually by people who have never read the book, and who have based their opinions on what others have written in the Press. The trial caused more comment than any murder trial, and bookshops all over the country are wishing that they had had the courage to order more copies.

What has caused this great eagerness to read D. H. Lawrence? Unfortunately, it is probably not a desire to read something of literary worth, but rather curiosity which has led to the vast queues in bookshops. The expurgated version of this novel has been widely read for years, and people have been alternately bored and infuriated by the obvious cutting. Now the reader is treated as an adult and can form his own judgment.

Lawrence said that this work would only bring him "abuse and hatred." He wanted "to make the sex-relation valid and precious, instead of shameful," and this is an approach to the novel which many of the critics seem to have ignored. The four-letter words (which must on no account be printed, regardless of the fact that they are frequently used) seem to have exerted a fatal fascination, and although Lawrence uses them very naturally, they will, unfortunately be sniggered at by many.

Sincere and moving

He treats the sex-relationship in a sincere, gentle and moving

way, and if people would only realise that this was what he had intended, there would be no question of its being pornographic literature. It is not one of Lawrence's best works, but it is infinitely better than any of the sex-trash which can easily be obtained in this country.

Critics have argued that as a result of this trial the country will be flooded with pornographic literature from abroad. They have ignored one factor: that is the self-respect of the individual. We are capable of judging for ourselves what is worth reading, and this judgment is not easily warped.

Indeed some of the blood, thunder and sex novels which decorate bookshelves with their lurid covers, could have a much more damaging effect than "Lady Chatterley's Lover." Anyone who intends reading this book for prurient titillation is doomed to frustration. However, let us hope that more people will read the novel before so heartily condemning it.

C.L.L.

Never the twain shall meet?

SEVEN weeks having passed since the Faculties of Arts and Law were induced to exchange the golden filth of Ed. Street for the brick-red filth of Edgbaston, "Guild News" has carried out a preliminary investigation to find out how, if at all, this cross-fertilisation has affected the general character of the University, and the attitudes and occupations of individual members.

The scientist who said he was delighted with the change because at last there were some "civilised" people around, and the artist who claimed to be equally delighted because at last there were some "real" people around, were extreme cases and represented minority views; so did the other scientist who said that he wished the bearded ice-cubes had kept to their refrigerator in town where they belonged, and the other artist who said he was more strongly than ever convinced that scientists ought to be exterminated en masse with their own inventions.

Irritated

The first reaction of most reasonable people, however, was that they hadn't noticed much difference; then after a few seconds thought they remembered the physical crush at their times. Some were not particularly irritated by this and said that they had met some interesting people while hanging about corridors in the general vicinity of the doors of the Vernon. A young lady whom everyone knows and therefore need not be named was delighted with the packed conditions of the Union these days: with the glint of battle in her eyes she said, all in one breath, "All these lovely men around in such close contact, I like it."

The Ladies

This remark leads into a consideration of the different sex-ratio now in force at Edgbaston. Whereas before there were only two or three hundred women among something like three thousand men, there are now about eight hundred women among just over three thousand men. As a result the young ladies who at Ed. Street last year were merely a part of the environment, and their counterparts at Edgbaston who were so few in number that their main value was one of rarity, based on an objective assessment, are now a prize commodity, all the more valuable because not completely unattainable.

As a result, this term has seen the formation of a Society which would have been impossible last year, the new Dance Club. Even so, ladies are at such a high premium that they are admitted free to meetings of

the Club. And even one of the long-established Dances last month offered reduced rates as

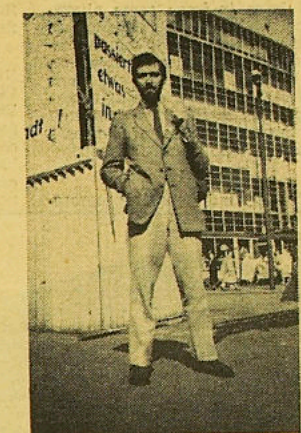
dents when he lectured them, and better academic results at the end of the year.

He proved by statistics that the mere presence in the same block of buildings of several specimens of the fair sex was a sort of psychological catalyst to even the most bookish and pedantic of students.

The Cliques

Ideas seem to disseminate very slowly and the "complete university" which, it was envisaged last year, would emerge from the fusion of all five faculties, does not seem very much nearer now than then. Social intercourse is of a more varied nature for those few who take the trouble to seek it; but most students questioned said that they had not met anyone whom they did not know last year, and still moved in the same cliques. There is, however, some ground for optimism; those who had made the effort to communicate found that it was not so hard after all and welcomed the move.

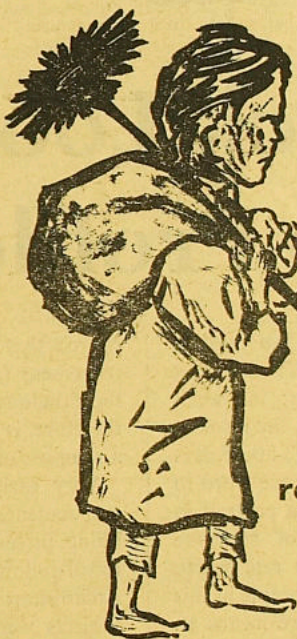
It is impossible at this stage, of course, to attempt to make any final appraisal of the situation for it will probably alter radically in two or three years, when all members of all faculties have shared the same environment since their coming-up.



Portrait of an artist . . .

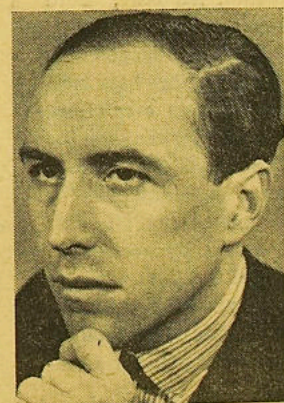
an inducement to young ladies to bestow their presence at this function.

Lecturers as well as students have welcomed warmly this change in the proportions of the sexes. A member of the staff of the Electrical Engineering Dept. looked confidently forward to better manners among the stu-



Were they really the good old days?

ON NEXT WEEK'S BILL



RAY JENKINS, M.P., who will second the motion that "This House dislikes the prospect of continued Conservative government" at tomorrow's political debate. (Photo: 'Bham Mail')

Even now (although it's not so fashionable as it was) we hear people talk about "the good old days." Remembering good times and forgetting bad is part of the human mechanism of defence. Certainly our picture of the Victorian era tends to be a rosy one of serene prosperity, very far removed from the hurly-burly of modern life.

But just how good were those "old days"? A closer look at Victorian society reveals an average life span of not much more than 40, compared with close on 70 today. And the family of nine or ten children, living in what we today would consider utter squalor, contrasts poorly with our compact modern family in their neat semi-detached.

In any comparison between those days and these, there is one difference which stands out clearly. It is the widespread knowledge and practice of family planning . . . spacing the arrival of children as and when they are desired. Yet a great deal still needs to be done to make the understanding and acceptance of family planning universal. There is a small booklet called "Planned Families are happy families" which is designed to encourage clear and objective thinking on a controversial topic. We should be happy to send you a free copy if you will write to H. F. Booklets Ltd., Dept. 12 Oval Road, London, N.W.1.

THE ETERNAL CARROT

TO many members of the Guild this must seem an apt description of the much promised Union Extensions, but believe it or not, work is pretty well advanced in making it ready for next term. The Union Extension Secretary told your reporter that on his last visit on Thursday his general impression was of steady progress in making the shell into recognisable accommodation.

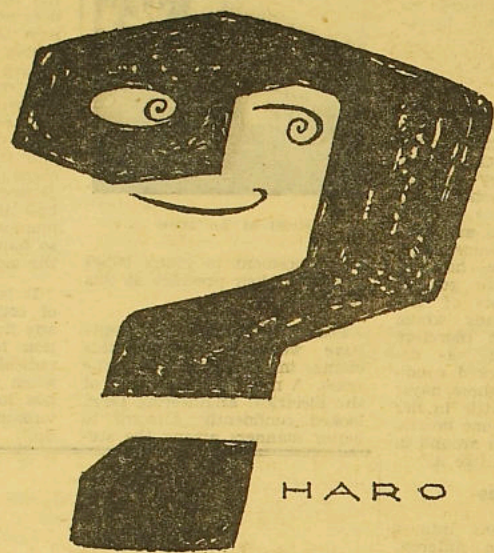
Inevitably, when the major structural work is done the refinements seem to take a long time to the onlooker. But bricklayers, electricians and french-polishers all have to avoid spoiling each other's work, and if one gang is short or held up, the rest who follow are also affected.

Nevertheless, the soft furnishings continue to arrive and are stored in the administrative

block on the second floor. Apart from some electrical fittings, that floor is now finished. The library will have to have some alterations made to its floor, but is otherwise waiting for the decorators, who are now occupied on the stairs. The Committee Rooms on the first floor are being decorated while the new Council Room now has most of the seats in and the dais half-finished.

Ground floor

The ground floor is progress-



Quick Look at a Profile

A PROFILE is . . . what? An outline. That side-on view of a face that can reveal so much: the weak chin, the determined mouth, the insolent eyebrow, the insecure Adam's apple. It is a sound instinct that applies the word to a newspaper article that is a portrait in words—a revealing view of someone worth knowing (or at any rate worth knowing about). For many people in this country a profile in this sense means an Observer profile.

These Observer Profiles are now famous. There is one almost every Sunday, with only an occasional break. And, when those rare breaks occur, there are disappointed readers everywhere, for to meet a celebrity via a Profile can have advantages even over meeting him face to face: it is less risky, perhaps more amusing, almost certainly more informative.

The Observer started this remarkable series back in the mid-war years, in 1942, when newsprint was so scarce and crowded that no feature rated more than a half-column with a one-line head. It was one of the innovations of the issue of

March that year which announced the retirement (after 34 years as editor) of the fabulous J. L. Garvin. The Profile, therefore, is a post-Garvin phenomenon, a signpost of the latterday Observer.

Very early the characteristic variety and acuteness made their appearance. A biting picture of the discredited Pierre Laval followed a friendly assessment of Archbishop Temple. Amongst other early subjects were Gandhi, Molotov, 'Lord Louis' Mountbatten.

Who are latest in this ever-lengthening portrait-gallery? Recently they have been as varied and revealing as ever. Lord Home ("He is not ambitious—yet he now holds one of the great offices which traditionally serve as launching pads for the Premiership"). Balenciaga ("He never sees a customer except by accident"). Dr. Ralph Bunche of the U.N. ("... a black man who has proved too big for his community"). Charles Orr Stanley, head of Pye and campaigner for Commercial Radio . . .

Who will The Observer "profile" next Sunday? You may well ask.

J.B.L.

3 POINTS FOR GOD

ON Sunday, November 6th, the Rev. Keith Wilkes (Chaplain to the University) gave a talk to the George Grenfell Society on "Why I believe in God." He started by telling us of his Christian upbringing, because of which there had only been short spaces of time in his life when he hadn't believed in God. He owed quite a lot to his mother especially for his impression of God in his youth. The personal parent-to-child relationship was easily transferred to a similar personal relationship with God.

The main reasons for his belief were three-fold. He said that through a feeling of forgiveness as he has been brought nearer to God. "This awareness of forgiveness is at the heart of my faith," he said. Secondly, he continued, his faith has been validated by personal conviction: "One knows that it works when one tries to trust Him." He said a little about what the whole Christian church can add to one's faith: "Doctrines and dogmas can be distilled from history and tradition, and these have their part in faith, but it must be worked out for oneself but his feeling was that these things were so much bound up with producing the beings that we are that this is the price God has to pay."

In conclusion he said that the supreme thing that confirms our faith was the historical account of His people and the story of Christ crucified and resurrected. Although Christ's resurrection was not scientifically proved without doubt, it again conforms to and confirms the awareness of God that man has. Following on to his third point, he showed how one's faith could be correlated with the faith that the Bible talks of. He said: "We can test out the biblical experience and know it as our own." He was quick to point out that this did not mean that one's faith was conditioned by what the Bible said.

What causes?

Having made this as a basis for his faith, Keith Wilkes said

THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE

"FRENCH kissing is wrong"; this was a view expressed last week by the Reverend Father Byron in his contribution to the "Sex and Marriage" series entitled "The Theology of Marriage."

This concept Father Byron considered to mean the relationship which exists between God and marriage; from the human viewpoint he saw marriage as a way of religious life which fulfilled God's purpose. However, a theology of sex must precede a theology of marriage, and the fundamental question was: "What is sex for?" There were two aspects to the answer to this question; firstly, it was for the production and upbringing of children, and secondly it was for the love and union of two people, the former being the most important; if man did not see God aright he did not see life aright, and without theology marriage was a caricature. Thus an audience of some 400 was given a very fair and unbiased approach to the religious background or should it be foreground? to sex and marriage.

Like a tiger

Speaking about the turbulence of sex, Father Byron alluded to sex as being like a tiger, and he added, "tigers play with people, not the reverse." The sex act was a culmination, but one could not take liberties with it, for, as he put it, "It is in the nature of a process to proceed."

Turning to the theology of marriage, Father Byron made the statement quoted at the head of this report, for he said, French kissing was the seeking of sexual stimulation outside marriage, and this, he asserted, was wrong. He defined marriage as a contract which produces a relationship in which each party possesses exclusively the right to sexual intercourse for life.

Qualifying this definition, Father Byron stated that only in a marriage which had "exclusiveness" and was "for life" could a complete union of the personalities involved be achieved. Married couples should see themselves ideally as being companions on the road to eternity.

ISLAM

THE Islamic Society has arranged an open lecture on ISLAM on Thursday, the 17th November, at 5.30 p.m. in St. Francis Hall. The speaker on this occasion will be Mr. Mohammad Tufail, M.A., Imam of Shah Jehan Mosque, Woking (Nr. London). The lecture is of general interest, dealing with the basic ideology of Muslim faith and everyone is most cordially invited.

You are cordially invited to an exhibition: "ISRAEL: A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS" In the Rotunda, Main University Building. Thurs. Nov. 24th: Noon - 9 p.m. Fri. Nov. 25th: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sun. Nov. 27th: 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. Mon. Nov. 28th: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

SPOTLIGHT ON BASKETBALL

THE Basketball Club is hoping to have its best season for several years. Results so far show that these are not idle hopes. Already Cambridge and Loughborough have been overcome in one giant-killing week and Hull, Leeds, Manchester, North Staffs. and Nottingham have been overwhelmingly defeated. Only London University, against a weakened team, and Dolobran, one of the nine clubs forming the new National League, have got the better of this very strong side.

The Basketball Club is the most colourful of the University sports teams, for, unlike most others, it has a whole array of international talent. In the first squad as many as five countries are represented, and as only five players are permitted on court at the same time one could not ask for a more truly international line-up.

Perhaps the most notable member of the team is 30-year-old American graduate Art Dugas. Art, a graduate of Massachusetts, came to Birmingham last year to study Nuclear



A tactical talk.

Physics. His eventful life has included military service in Korea. He tells me that he used to "warm the bench on the sideline" as sixteenth man for Massachusetts Freshmen, one of the top Basketball-playing universities in the States.

He asserts strongly that he would much rather sit on the side of a winning team than run around in circles for a mediocre one. Art has made a big impact here with his uncanny tactical and positional sense coupled with an ice-cool temperament, and has already played several times for the U.A.U. He plays at guard and is generally reckoned to be the brain behind the team's present run of success. Unfortunately, however, he will soon be leaving Birmingham home, and his departure will be a great loss to the history of the club, and yet another crushing defeat handed out—this time to Aberystwyth by 105 points to 36.

Another exhibition of superb basketball.

Perfectionist

Playing alongside Art at guard is Tom Komoly from Hungary. He used to play for Csepel Vasas in Division One of the Hungarian National League. Since then he has played in the major division of the Scottish League. A key member of the side, Tom is a perfectionist in every way, always of the opinion that the team is not practising hard enough. Such a man is obviously an asset to any team. He is an expert at the long shot, hitting the bucket impeccably with any angle and distance with great consistency.

But statually the defence is dominated by 6 foot 6½ inches pivot, Canadian Ben Smith. From the University of King's College, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Ben used to play in the Nova Scotia Inter-Collegiate League. Though quiet and unassuming, if caught when in play he is an object of great envy to his opponent, as he springs to touch the rim of the basket.

The attack is made up of five main players. The lone Englishman of the team, Nick Bond and Bob Kempson. Umid played as a junior with Istanbul Technical University and has played for his town team at home. Generally looked upon as "the bad man" of the team, Umid is well acquainted with the sin-bin. But for all his over-keenness he is perhaps the University's most prolific scorer. He was rewarded last year with a U.A.U. place.

Nick, on the other hand, has a much more casual approach to the game. I am told that he found it too much of an effort to make the trip to a national schools' trial once. Nevertheless he makes up for this apparently lethargic approach to the game with his skill and shoot-

ing ability. Bob, last year's captain, is the other U.A.U. player of the team. The great strength of the team is indicated by chief substitutes Dave Nokes, a schoolboy international trialist, and skipper Tony Draper. It is interesting to note that none of the club officers, including Tony, has a regular place in the leading squad. But they make up for this with their tremendous enthusiasm. Tony is the match tactician and is often to be seen working furiously at the sideline, to ensure the best possible combination on court. He is ably assisted by "girl-friend" Margaret, who I am told, is very critical of the team's playing at times and is only welcomed as an encouraging supporter.

Outstanding

Dave Errington, the treasurer, is very popular within the club, but perhaps the most overlooked man is efficient secretary Roger Perkins. Roger, who only took up basketball at University when told by the doctor that he could play no more rugby, has become an outstanding player considering his height, which is well below that of the average basketball player. This season the club has the services of American Walter Brooks, a Physical Education instructor from Washington D.C., and qualified basketball referee.

The success of the Basketball Club this season is obviously due to their very skilful and impressive line-up of players amongst the first squad, combined with strong and solid support, and depth from the second team. It is only in this way that a team can make good. It is trusted, therefore, the loss of Art Dugas in the near future will not be felt too severely. All round, it seems that the basketball team have had their greatest success during the next few months. One thing is certain, the talent is there.

Stop press

Hopes of gaining the U.A.U. Championship mounted on Saturday last when three figures were reached for the first time in the history of the club, and yet another crushing defeat handed out—this time to Aberystwyth by 105 points to 36.

MIKE DOWNS.

GREAT VICTORY

ON Saturday the Cross-Country Club at last fielded their full team, and won the most important fixture of the Michaelmas term. They were worthy winners in a five-way match with Nottingham, Loughborough, Leeds and Reading, at Nottingham. Over a fast, dry, grassy course, Davies, Down and Feast showed the rest of the 70-strong field a clean pair of heels, finishing six miles in 31 mins. 4 secs., without being pressed at all.

Altogether this was a fine team effort, with Spence finishing in 27 mins. 27 secs. behind the winners, indicating that the running was up to the high standard expected of these leading University clubs in the country.

Horwell, Saville and Clayton finished a creditable 20th, 22nd and 24th respectively, completing the first team, and gave the University a well-deserved win by 57 points to Loughborough's 69. Leeds '74, Notts' 134, and Reading's 216. In all a great and unexpected victory for the University team. Hopes of gaining the U.A.U. championships are now in the air.

Honours were not confined to the first team, however, as the second team also overwhelmed the opposition. A very memorable afternoon, indeed.

Weightlifting

New venture a success

BIRMINGHAM was honoured on Saturday with the first-ever U.A.U. Olympic Weightlifting championships, and her lifters performed in a style equal to the occasion. In this previously definitely-non-U.A.U. favoured sport, the University came first in two weight divisions, and had one second and two thirds, which meant that all her lifters were placed.

Our two new champions are Keith Wylie (featherweight) with a 470 lbs. total, and Howard Payne (heavyweight), with a 725 lbs. total. Although Keith was lifting far below his best, he was a clear winner in his class. The lifting of Howard Payne is ever consistent, and he totalled 85 lbs. more than his Cambridge opponent.

In the lightweight and light-heavyweight division, Pete Staples and Bill Foreshaw were up against strong opposition, and deserved their placings. In Staples' division was the Welsh champion T. Williams of Cardiff, and ex-junior Mr. Britain, Stuart Baumgard, of Manchester. This class provided the best lifting of the day. T. Williams, with a body-weight of 10 stone 6 lbs., had a total of 620 lbs., which was bettered by only three other competitors at any weight. His lifts included a 200 lbs. snatch and a 245 lbs. clean and jerk, and for any with the slightest knowledge it is easy to appreciate his class.

In the bantamweight division, P. Afshar, of Birmingham, was second to C. Khud, of Glasgow, who had a 400 lb. total. Other class winners were O'Carroll, of Cambridge, Falle, of Oxford, and Hickman, of Sheffield.

The day closed with Dennis Hillman, the National Heavy-

weight Champion, attempting a national record in the clean and jerk and just failing.

In all a successful first venue for the Championship, and one which demands praise for the organisers of the club, and for

the lifters. The attraction of competitors from as far apart as Glasgow, Cardiff and Cambridge will bring home the importance of this "junior" sport, and the high place which Birmingham holds in it.

AT LAST!

Nottingham U.6, Birmingham U.3

AFTER two good wins last week, the University Rugby team suffered a disappointing U.A.U. defeat at Nottingham last Wednesday.

When the University reduced a three-point deficit through a fine opportunist try by Atherton, there arose a strange negative approach to the game on Birmingham's part. The side seemed satisfied simply to prevent Nottingham from scoring, making no attempt to attack.

Not until Notts. took a deserved lead with a dropped goal ten minutes from time did Birmingham attempt to play constructive rugby. At this point they took complete dominance with crisp passing movements and were unfortunate not to score on at least three occasions.

Despite this late supremacy, Nottingham well deserved their win, having called the tune for at least three-quarters of the game.

BIRMINGHAM 11, LEICESTER 6

A DIFFERENT-LOOKING side defeated Leicester Extra on Saturday. More determined in attack and defence, the University took the lead early in the second half with a fine penalty by Davies. This was followed by yet another dropped

goal by Scard from a difficult position.

The try we have all been waiting for came at last when Jarvis snapped up a loose ball, following a Leicester mix-up, on his own twenty-five. No one could lay a hand on him and in characteristic style he put the ball down between the posts with a trail of bewildered opponents behind him. Davies converted.

Leicester's six points came from their forwards near the end of the game, though the University did not really lose their grip.

The man of the match was Alan Jenkins, whose tackling was devastating and whose thrust in the centre might well have been used more.

KEY MATCH OPENS DOOR

THE third and final U.A.U. divisional match was played in the Great Hall on Wednesday, 9th November, when the University was at home to Nottingham University. The Birmingham side was unchanged from that which beat both Loughborough and Leicester 9-0: G. Laurie and D. Hartshorn; L. Essex and R. Cass; S. Hardy and A. Cook.

Both sides were so far unbeaten in U.A.U. matches, and so victory within the division depended on the result of this match. Although the Nottingham first pair took all their three games, this was not sufficient to give them the match, and Birmingham ran out winners by six games to three.

Birmingham now go into the semi-finals where they will be opposed by the winners of the Welsh Division for a place in the final of the U.A.U. Divisional Team Championships.

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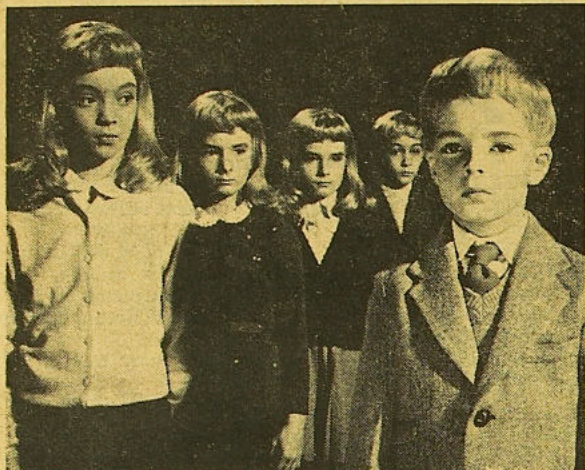
Marvellous Beer

CUCKOO'S NEST

by Anthony Stanley

TO produce Mr. John Wyndham's novel under any other title than its original one, "The Midwich Cuckoos" was to destroy a considerable portion of the meaning of the story. To entitle the film "Village of The

A small village falls asleep for several hours, and when it awakes, even stranger phenomena are observed. Every woman in the village gives birth to a strange blonde-haired child with piercing eyes. These children are telepaths, and have a common intellect and feeling which in the film is necessarily



The weird children.

"Damned" was to go one step further and pervert the meaning.

"Village of The Damned" at the Forum is based on one of the most meaningful science fiction novels of the last decade: a novel of sensitive writing and ingenious allegory. The film version has added nothing to the quality of the novel, and has, indeed, proved unable to convey the essential interest of it.

evil; but in the book has its appealing aspect as well. The "father" (i.e. husband of the mother) of one of these children befriends them and tries to protect them, though in the end he comes to the conclusion that he must destroy them. In the film this attitude is inexplicable: in the book, every reader must needs feel the same sympathy with the children that he feels.

Acting, on the whole was flat and uninspired. The children,

A CASTLE IN SELLY OAK

THE Birmingham area is well endowed with places that are of interest from historical and architectural points of view. Some of these places, such as Aston Hall, are very well known; others much less so.

I hope in these few articles to bring to your notice some of these less well-known places, all of which are within easy reach of the University.

And I hope that some people who read these introductions will be interested enough to spend an afternoon visiting some of the places I mention. Those who do will find it not unrewarding and their appreciation of this area in which we all work and live will be deepened.

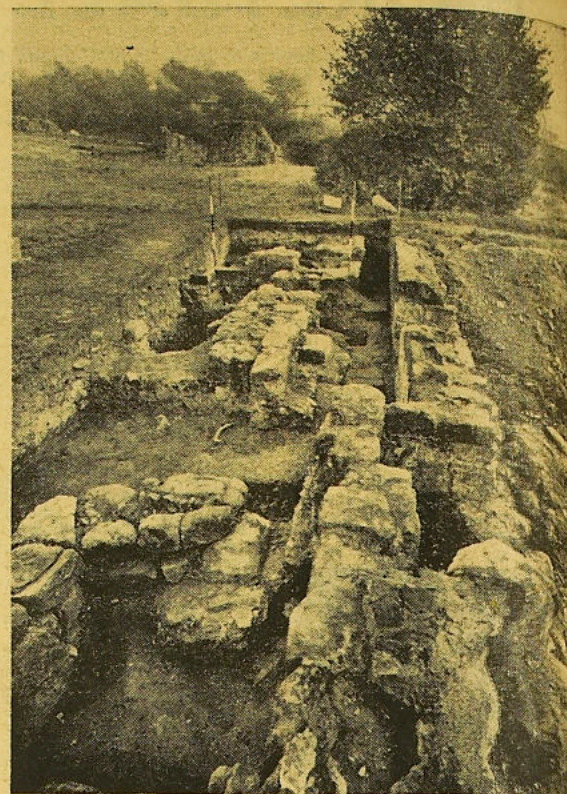
Within two or three miles of the University, between Selly Oak and Northfield, lies Weoley Castle. Here, in the valley of the Bourne Brook, and now nearly engulfed in municipal housing estates, are to be found the imposing remains of a large defended manor house of the medieval period.

Welsh incursions

In the Middle Ages many defended houses of this nature were constructed in the Welsh borderlands and West Midlands to protect the local inhabitants from incursions of wild Welsh from over the border. Weoley Castle is larger than most houses and is really a small castle, for in its hey-day it probably housed about sixty persons.

Thanks to much work down on the site by the City Museum,

however were sufficiently convincing to save the film from the attachment of the word "ham." Photography was in a rightly-chosen monochrome, with some really excellent shots. It is hard indeed to praise the film as an interpretation or as art, but it is fair to say that it afforded an excellent evening's entertainment.



the castle is well preserved. The walls, for example, are still an impressive feature, with their towers and gateway (which would once have carried a drawbridge) and the moat is still in evidence as are the fishponds that must have provided an important part of the diet of those living in the castle.

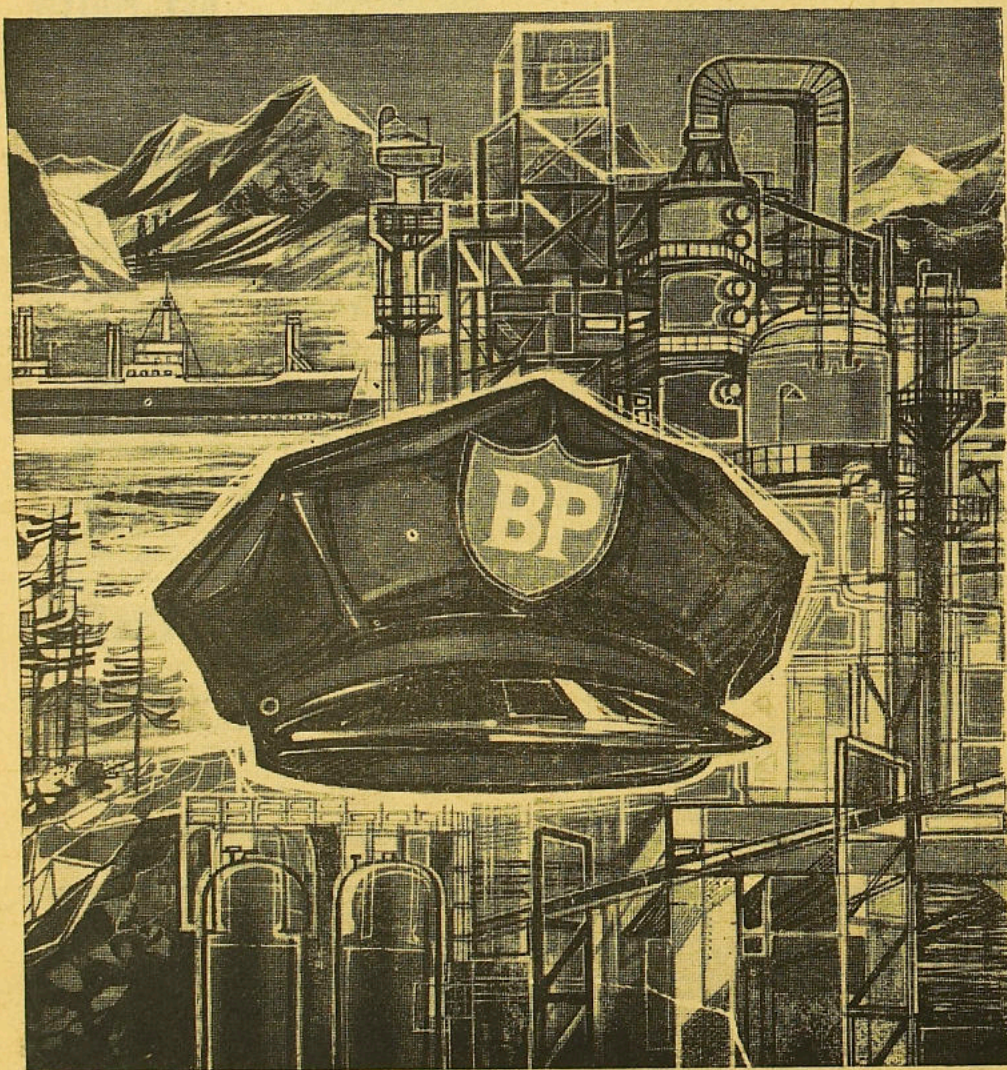
Within the walls one may still distinguish the various buildings that were erected there, in-

cluding a chapel and a great hall.

Saxon connections

The site was first fortified in the middle of the 13th century by a certain Roger de Somery—although there was probably a building at the site earlier than this (the name itself has Saxon connections). By the late 14th century the chapel and

(Continued on Page Two)



Canadian caps, a new world of

UNTIL MAY 1957 the BP shield was not visible in Canada. To-day you will see the green peaked cap of the BP service station attendant on more than 700 forecourts in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

Some six months after the beginning of this marketing scheme, early in 1958, British Petroleum started to build a refinery on the outskirts of Montreal. This refinery has now come on stream. It will produce about a million tons of petroleum products a year.

BP is also active in exploring and developing Canada's resources of crude oil and natural gas.

Throughout this comprehensive operation one precept has been followed by BP. Plan ahead. BP believes in 'hats off to tomorrow'.

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