

Guild News

The Guild of Undergraduates—University of Birmingham

No. 547

Thursday, February 12, 1959

Threepence

SOUTH AFRICA

NAUGHT FOR THEIR COMFORT

MR. WENDOVER must be complimented in that on his relatively short visit to South Africa he saw the 'tragedies' of Apartheid. He is right to be on his guard against 'uninformed, malicious, criticism'. We must, I agree, make sure we are in possession of the facts if our opinion is not to be irresponsible.

BUT when he accuses Father Huddleston and Canon Collins of this, I begin to wonder. Father Huddleston has spent years of his life in immediate contact with the state of affairs in South Africa. Those who have heard him speak, or read his book, "Naught for your Comfort," will know that he is neither "malicious," "uninformed" nor "irresponsible." He has rather the conscience of one who has seen and shared the humiliation and indignity of the non-European population of South Africa. Certainly we want the facts, Mr. Wendover, but I hardly think they will convert us to your attitude.

The facts set out below come from someone with a much more intimate knowledge of the real situation. I speak not of myself but of a South African who cannot criticise publicly his government's policy for fear of reprisals.

"We must not beat our heads against a brick wall trying to remove the colour bar where it is naturally occurring—we must consider this natural barrier disappearing as the races grow closer to each other, so that we must look forward to an integrated society."

What has this to do with South Africa? The problem is not one of evolution, it is one of fear. The white minority is terrified of losing its identity in a black flood. And so we have a policy of repression, aimed directly at forestalling African ascendancy. Look at some of the measures passed.

● The system of pass laws under which every non-European has to have a pass to be where ever he might be at the time.

● "Mixed marriage," says Mr. Wendover, "is inevitable." It is also illegal.

● The South African Government has withdrawn grants for all cultural activities catering for European and non-European together, for example the Christian Education Movement, the Repertory Theatre, and the Institute of Citizenship.

● The Bantu Education Acts withdrew grants for schools unless they gave the non-European a standard of education the government thought fit for the non-European.

● At University level, even Witwatersrand University, one of the two "open" Universities, admits non-European students only to certain faculties. They cannot live in a hall of residence, take part in any sporting activities, or join in full social life; and now Witwatersrand and Capetown are to be closed completely to non-Europeans.

I see no evidence at all of mass integration of black and white. I see no traces of the "patient leading" which Mr. Wendover so rightly says is needed. I see in fact a determination to keep the non-European "in his place," and to make sure that neither in education nor legal rights is he in a position to rival his European master.

Mr. Wendover implies that the answer lies with the United Party and their "progressive policy." What do we know of their record?

In 1936 they removed natives from the Cape Province from the common electoral roll, and put them on a separate roll, giving them the right

to elect three Europeans to the House of Assembly.

The same year they tried, but failed, to make mixed marriage illegal.

In 1946, the Asiatic Land Tenure Act, restricted property transaction before a government permit was obtained.

After the 1948 election they stressed in their programme of principles that they stood for European leadership and authority.

They are opposed to the Nationalist Government, true, but their answer is merely a milder form of Apartheid. Support them by all means, but do not regard them as Crusaders.

by
JOHN B. SNOWDON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN

But what good does it all do? What is the use of "beating our heads against the brick wall?" I think there are two purposes. In the first place the South African Government is very sensitive to criticism especially from this country. Secondly, protests from this country would do a lot to raise the morale of those in South Africa who for so long have been protesting in vain against the Apartheid policy of the government.

The South African Student Segregation Investigation Committee is now organising a fund to finance coloured South African students in order that they may gain entrance to the two open universities, Cape Town and Witwatersrand, before the adoption of the Government Bill which aims at segregated higher education. I am sure that every undergraduate supports the principles of the committee. Action is now needed. The first event will be the "Bachelor of Hearts Ball," on Wednesday, February 18.

COMEBACK

by
DEBATING
SOCIETY

Dear Sir,

I FEEL it incumbent upon me to put "Debating Fracas" in its proper perspective. In fact, the final of the University Debating Tournament was the scene of a standard of debating far higher than any witnessed within the last four years at least.

THE winner of the tournament, Mr. Bayliss revealed a mastery and precision over his control of the audience that merited the approbation even of C.C. The Freshman's prize went to Mr. Freeman who justified the talent accredited to him by the sages earlier in the year and fully deserved the award which, as the only Freshman in the final, he might otherwise have received automatically.

BUT in this report by C.C. none of this is mentioned; only the regrettable incident of Mr. Wreford's withdrawal is commented upon. The article is in itself regrettable since it contains factual errors which are inexcusable. From these errors I can only conclude that this was C.G.'s first visit to a Debating Society meeting, and that would account for his presenting only one side of the argument.

MR. LEVY, in all modesty I crave to insist, gave his opinion to the House after putting the motion, not before. The opinion of the judges was certainly that had Mr. Wreford continued his speech he would have been runner-up; yet the judges also gave their opinion on the wisdom of Mr. Wreford's withdrawing, and the implications of his having moved a vote of no confidence in the Chair; opinions which C.C. saw fit to omit from his report.

C.C. replies

THE editorial disdains any comparison of "Guild News" with newspapers of the "Reveille" class, and yet, is it only a coincidence that the first time that Debating Society hits the headlines on the front page, only pure unadulterated scandal is reported?

BRIAN J. SULLIVAN
(Chairman, Deb. Soc.)

ONE-ACT PLAY WITH PLENTY OF PROMISE

Next week's triple bill of one-act plays which G.T.G. are presenting in the Deb. Hall at 7 p.m. on Monday and 2.30 p.m. on Wednesday promises to be very interesting. The three plays chosen are very different. Fry's now famous "A Phoenix too Frequent" a delightful comedy set, surprisingly

enough, in a tomb, is being directed by a first year member Antony Brown. Jan Genet's spine-chilling play "The Maids" is being produced by Ralph Wilton, who directed "Six Characters" last term. It tells of the love-hatred of two maids for their mistress and their attempts to kill her.

Perhaps the most interesting play of the three is "Aliveo" subtitled "Fragments from a Novelette." It was written and is being produced by a first year Chem. Eng. student Adam Osborne and should prove to be most interesting if controversial.

A MEETING OF COMPLAINTS

THE feature of the second open meeting of Guild Council on Monday evening was the large number of complaints regarding Union and Guild amenities. The agenda contained nothing of a controversial nature, and therefore Councillors took the opportunity of bringing to the notice of the various authorities the grouses of their constituents.

Not unnaturally the major complaint concerned the evening service in the Refectory, the matter arising when Mr. Lunn asked for a progress report on the experiment. After considerable discussion, it was decided to put the matter on the agenda for the next meeting. Councillors showed little enthusiasm for the experiment, and perhaps the feelings of many Councillors were expressed by the questioner who asked: "How much notice must we give the University Authorities of our decision to revert to the old system?"

Complaints were also levelled at the condition of glasses in the Bar. Mr. Hill pointed out that at present the Bar contained only two glasses suitable for serving bottled beers, and many other glasses were cracked. The President asserted that it was up to members to complain and Mr. Luby assured Councillors that a thorough check would be made. Mr. Gunn brought to the attention of Council the poor condition of some of the furniture in the Coffee Room and Mr. Bettridge replied that the matter would be looked into.

The subject of the complaints then changed to Ed. Street when Mr. Wreford asked that something be done to improve the appearance of

Founders' Room. Mr. Heseltine pointed out that Founders' Room had such a short life left that it would be a waste of artistic talent to have the walls decorated with murals.

One of the few positive results of the meeting came when Mr. Stanley announced that he had been notified that the Film Society was about to recommence activities. This Society is worthy of the support of every member of the Guild; it has been the means in the past of bringing many films of valuable cultural and artistic merit within the reach of members. One felt it deserved more attention than the curt remarks Mr. Stanley gave it.

Much of the remainder of the meeting was taken up with the uninteresting but necessary work of Constitutional amendments, which mainly centred around the amalgamation of Grants and Welfare and External Affairs Committees.

Once again few members availed themselves of the opportunity of attending the meeting, but with such a controversial issue as the Refectory catering arrangements on the agenda for the next meeting, perhaps more members will find time to attend.

Concert Diary

AN odd collection of works at last Sunday's concert with virtually nothing into which one could sink one's teeth, but plenty to beguile the ear and, almost, disarm criticism. Mr. Panufnik set the evening off by ushering in the Queen of Sheba to a nice bouncy rhythm. If there was little to suggest the pomp and majesty of the original meeting with Solomon, we can hardly blame the conductor, Handel is too gentlemanly by half.

DO AS I SAY - - - -

● On Wednesday, G.T.G. sponsored another short production course. Time is so limited—a mere ninety minutes—that much of the value of these sessions depends on the visiting producer. However, an accumulation of such visits would be of inestimable value, both to those whose interests are specialised and to those who go to the theatre for entertainment. To know how the wheels turn, and to be persuaded to forget this knowledge, is the height of enjoyment. First, however, you must know how the wheels do turn, and these production courses provide a concise and interesting way to learn.

The form of the course was that taken for Mr. Williams' visit: a scene was produced by a G.T.G. member with G.T.G. actors. Then the professional took over and showed how it should be done. The Greeks, of course, maintain their reputation by having stated the obvious; on the other hand, the obvious is the hall mark of the professional. Mr. Williams stated the obvious professionally. He took Ralph Wilton's production of the cathedral scene from Shaw's "St. Joan" and dolled it up as the orthodox Shavian situation, stereotyped as Gilbert and Sullivan. He softened the harsh and telling grouping, which lent excitement to Wilton's version, and substituted mannerisms and tricks.

Ralph Wilton is wise enough as a producer to have used these tricks had he wanted to. In fact, he is probably too wise to be of much value on one of these courses. An example of bad production and its redemption would be far more instructive.

Mr. Williams made his points apparent and they were worth while, but this is the second such introduction and now we might be allowed to graduate from basic movement. Perhaps for a third visitor a scheme of more questions and less organisation would be fitting. But whatever

The Clock Symphony suffered from tempi which were inclined to drag and there was a too fussy attention to the tick-tock legato phrases of the second movement. Musically, at any rate, this work stood head and shoulders above its brethren. Certainly Haydn has one up on Hummel whose trumpet concerto, even if he didn't write it, sounds like something from one of the poorer workshops of Mozart's Vienna. Bram Gay acquitted himself most nobly in the first movement; later on he warmed up considerably so that the last movement sounded as though it were something more than a divertissement.

The second half was altogether more colourful. From the impressionistic flashes of Debussy's *Petite Suite* through Delius' amorphous tone colours to Ravel's *Bolero*, which always makes me see red. The Debussy was well played, though Panufnik could have injected more brilliance into the final ballet.

Ravel's *Bolero*, written as a vehicle for a certain Mlle. Rubinstein, is set in one of those sleazy Marseille cafes. It is a quite dreadful piece of music. Ravel's own view is quite justified, though it is good to hear it once in one's musical career. The orchestra played well, but for some poor solo work from some members who for this week shall be nameless. Mr. Spinak, who normally leads the violas, had an aberration and played the saxophone, very refinedly though. It was a fine conclusion to a not too serious programme. K.T.

(Continued from previous column)

scheme is adopted let us have more such courses.

In thanking Mr. Williams, Bob German noted that he had demonstrated that the producer was the most important person in the theatre. And this is an orthodox heresy, but rather blatant when Shaw wrote the play and Wilton and Williams produced it. K.W.R.

ALL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
AND ACCESSORIES, TUTORS,
STUDIES, etc.

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EDITORIAL

Guild News

Number
547Selly Oak
1841THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER,
THE UNION,
EDGBASTON

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WHAT is the duty of a Guild Society? By this we do not infer the ordinary Departmental, Cultural, Religious, or National Societies, whose aim is obvious, but rather the "Big Three." The aims, respectively, are to promote University sport, drama and debating, and the operative word is University. They are deemed sufficiently large to represent the student body and for Guild Council to take them under their wing. To this extent all three are responsible to the Guild, and their committees carry at least one member of Guild Council. If, therefore, one of these societies does anything which might be regarded as unworthy, the dishonour falls not merely on that society but on the Guild at large. Let no one deny this, when we hasten to add that the recent successes of G.T.C. and Athletic Union brought, in their turn, honour upon the Guild.

Thus we can hardly accept assertions of members of the Debating Society that we are scandalmongering when we report, with truth and accuracy, the goings-on at one of their meetings. Not only has this meeting, or rather what transpired at it, shocked those present, but the Guild generally has been gravely disturbed, and has expressed its dissatisfaction. We reaffirm the views expressed in this paper last week, and add that those members of the Society responsible for what happened conducted themselves in a manner prejudicial to our reputation, especially when in the presence of members of the academic staff. We must remind them that the Constitution reads as follows, under the heading of "Conduct of Members": "At all meetings of the Society, no expression of a personal or offensive character shall be used." We are led to believe that even a chairman—temporary or otherwise—is not exempt from this. One cannot cry any longer over spilled milk, but let us not try to cover up a most regrettable affair by pretending that it never happened.

"Guild News" itself has been very happy to support the Mission. Whatever one's beliefs, we believe, as did Voltaire, in fighting to the death for the right to express them; moreover, some belief is better than none at all. However, on looking back, one wonders at the efficacy of the Mission. It advertised itself well—in fact so much that our office was bombarded with complaints by members at the size and duplication of the posters. Where are your rules now Exec.? The bookstalls did good trade, and so they should, for many of the books were worthwhile, and not merely pamphleteering material. But when all is said and done, what practical achievement has been made? Who went to the meetings but the already converted? And was the spirit of the undergraduate roused to anything except indignation or exasperation? Alas, it is a waste of time preaching to the student who, unless already within the fold, will never believe in anything not of this world, and the large sums of money expended on this Mission, would have been better employed in helping the aged and infirm, or, equally important, sent to Mr. Snowden to swell the rather diminutive funds of the South African Student Segregation Investigation Committee.

Solomon's Column

'Pon my soul!

So now, after weeks and weeks of preparation, dedication and supplication, it's all over! When we're standing in front of the awful throne we can't say we weren't warned! Nope! If we're locked outside them pearly gates it's our own fault!

'Cos we've been told. Although, just what exactly we have been told seems to have gone over my head... true, there were all those pictures of clergymen in Guild News and then there were the photos of the clergymen's motor-scooters and all that. But I had secretly hoped to see a few spectacular soul-savings; perhaps it was too much to expect to see a prominent member of Exec. leading a rousing chorus of Guild Councilors in "Whipping up the Sheep." No such luck! As usual, everything is as quiet as a mill-pond on the Union front.

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Dear Sir,

I HAVE read the Profile of Mr. Hamid Noshirvani of the Mechanical Engineering Department in Guild News on February 5, and wish to criticise it.

I am myself a student from the Middle East and would like to say that it does not take long at all to adjust oneself to University life. In its academic or social aspects, I am convinced that the first year we spend in this University is wasted, for most of us have three or even four subjects at Advanced level of G.C.E. The main difficulty of students from the Middle East is not adjustment to academic life, but rather to such things as Chacha-cha and coffee bars. The idea that in English Universities more emphasis is placed on sport and non-academic activities than in Middle Eastern Universities is wrong. The difference is that the English University places more emphasis on practical and applied lessons mainly due to the lack of laboratories and equipment in the Middle Eastern Universities. However, sport plays a vital part in the activities there. The range of activity during a course of education differs largely because of the society itself, its way of living, history and traditions.

It is not true that when a student graduates he wishes to stay here because of a disturbed political situation at home. Most of the students from the Middle East have taken part in movements to liberate their countries from tyranny, injustice and corrupted undemocratic regimes. Students have always been in the lead of popular movements and are consequently respected by the people. The students feel the responsibility in developing their country and raising the standard of living of the people. They would like to go and work for a better life, better living and an honourable existence for themselves and their helpless people who wait for their return with great patience.

Yours, etc.,
A. H. H. AL HAKIM,
Petroleum Production,
Chem. Eng.

Ed. Street
column

KEEP AWAY FROM ED. STREET! At least, don't go near unless you are first rendered immune by Beecham's—powders not pills—, Aspro, and their like. Even our coffee, noted for its lethal properties, has proved incompetent in conquering "the germ."

Meanwhile the French play charts its wheeled course. Audiences may be struck by the more personal attributes of the set. If we are honoured by a visit by a well-known member of the English staff, he will be surprised to find his likeness embellishing the right-hand side of a 17th century portal. To the right, another familiar face comes into view, shrouded in ecclesiastical garb and expression.

Celestial garb and expression has been much in evidence this week. Tea and coffee in the Refectory seem to have inspired the eloquence of our clerical visitors who have been providing a suitable foreground to those stained glass windows remaining. It is strictly untrue that "Guild News" is to adopt the name "The Warrior," and that this column is to report Sunday School picnics. Enthusiasm is stretched to the erection of a turret—that opposite the library door. Its purpose has been mistaken by many. The people operating it, found themselves also operating a service for receiving brief cases rejected by the librarians. WE HOPE THAT THEY SOLD THE OCCASIONAL VOLUME.

PRESS
POST

THE MIDDLE EAST

Dear Sir,

SOME of Mr. Noshirvani's opinions, expressed in his Profile in last week's "Guild News" would, if taken seriously, leave a false picture in the mind of the average student as to the true situation in the Middle East. Firstly, the majority of the Middle East graduates are only too eager to return to their own countries to join their people's struggle to emancipate themselves from Western colonialism. The "unstable political situation" is due to the interference of Western powers in the internal affairs of the Middle East countries, their propping up of discredited regimes, and the extensive exploitation of Middle Eastern natural resources by giant Western monopoly concerns.

Secondly, the "frustration" felt by Middle Eastern students arises from the fact that young people in this country do not appreciate the problems of the colonial and semi-colonial countries. This is, of course, not the fault of the British people, but rather the fault of the capitalist Press and the apologetics of a social system which flourishes not only on the misery of the colonial people but also on the exploitation of their own people as well.

Yours, etc.,
TARIK AL IRHAYIM.

Dear Sir,

I READ in the "Guild News" Mr. Hamid Noshirvani said that education in the Middle East, as I am from that part of the world, is either unfair when he generalises the system of education held in that country—if it is so—to all Middle East countries, as he does in his long stay in England. I know much about the present state of education in the Middle East.

Physical education and activities are regarded as essential factors in education in most of the Middle Eastern countries. Emphasis is put on this important side, as on the academic side.

Magazines, wall newspapers, acting, societies, handicrafts, singing, etc., are organised. All teams are also formed at colleges and universities. Such activities are encouraged by the national authorities.

Large numbers of sports clubs have been opened in the past and larger scale nowadays. These clubs and teams are playing an important part in national sport in the world. Every year a sports festival held in one of the Arab countries with all of them taking part in it. Some of the Middle Eastern countries, such as the United Arab Republic, have participated in many international sports activities and have gained the praise of the world.

Youth hostels and the Scout movement are organised on a large scale to encourage the youth to take part in many non-academic activities. I hope that I have cleared up some of the points mentioned by Mr. Noshirvani and statements like "Middle Eastern student lacks the solid, comprehensive education of the average English student" would look doubtful.

Yours, etc.,
F. M. ALI

This week in
The Listener

(ISSUE DATED FEBRUARY 12)

LANDING ON THE MOON

Sir Harold Spencer Jones

A FREE POUND AND THE FUTURE

(Two Views on Convertibility)

Sir Roy Harrod and Anthony Crosland

REVOLUTIONARIES AND THEIR PRINCIPLES: SIMON BOLIVAR

R. A. Humphreys

WHOSE SHOP IS CLOSED?

Boris Gussman

THE PRIME MINISTER'S COMING VISIT TO MOSCOW

Thomas Barman

THE LE CORBUSIER EXHIBITION

Colin Rowe

THE PROMISE OF LIFE

(on reading American Novels)

Arthur Mizener

and other features

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FROM NEWSAGENTS & BOOKSELLERS

6

COMMUNIST
VIEWS...

Dear Sir,

CONTRARY to Mr. Steer-Wood's accusation, we Communists recognise the validity and strive to uphold many of the social ideals preached by Christianity. However, we believe that man derives the whole of his spiritual, intellectual and moral life from his social environment and thus deny any transcendental authority for morality. Furthermore we believe that the aforementioned social ideals will only be fully realised in a classless society and are thus striving to implement them.

To refute this, Mr. Steer-Wood solely reiterates the hoary old argument that Marxists are prepared to make use of any means which will attain their aims: thus things normally forbidden become not only permissible but obligatory. The charge implies of course that non-Marxists on the contrary never under any circumstances believe that it is right to depart from moral principles to achieve their aims. Both the charge and the professed principle opposed to it are false. Every morally serious person finds himself occasionally in a situation where he must break a moral rule to achieve a greater good, and believes he is right to do so. The only difference with Marxists is that they do not pretend that moral principles are inviolable.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has recently explained the occasions on which the Sixth Commandment (Thou shalt not kill) may be broken; in punishment for murder, for

treason, in war, and in cases of self defence. The taking of life then depends upon the case in point and that depends on the end in view.

The massacre of 150,000 defenceless civilians by the dropping of atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was justified on the grounds of expediency, that is, was carried out to shorten the war and to save further loss of American lives.

On the question of coercion, violence and the suppression of free speech, was it objected to when the British Government put 60,000 Kikuyus into concentration camps, to suppress their papers and political organisations? Were moral principles invoked when the same thing began to happen in Cyprus or earlier when the constitution of British Guiana was suspended. On the contrary we are continually told that Britain's economic and strategic interests are paramount and we accept without question the right to suspend a principle when our vital interests are concerned.

The real controversy then between Marxists and non-Marxists is not as

... CHALLENGED

Dear Sir,

I REALLY cannot allow Mr. Wakeling's letter to pass without comment, as some of his remarks are, to say the least, questionable.

"We Communists are opposed to Christianity because we believe it to be a philosophy of the past, outgrown..." What does he mean by philosophy? If he means a way of life, then he is contradicting himself when he says "Christians, like Communists, desire, justice, truth and happiness." If he means a stream of thought, then he is forgetting that Christianity is centred on one man, who lived, died, AND ROSE AGAIN, and to whose LIVING and PRESENT power, thousands of people will testify.

Also what does he mean by saying that Christianity is used to deceive the people? Deceive them about what? The one thing which Christianity does teach is that all men are equal before God, and are all equally precious to Him. Is this deceit?

And really, it amazes me that any person at a University can accept as logical the statement: A is wrongly used, therefore A is a bad thing; yet this is the "logic" which Mr. Wakeling appears to be using.

As far as co-operation is concerned, Christians can never compromise with those who deny the existence of God.

Yours, etc.,
P. MILLWARD.

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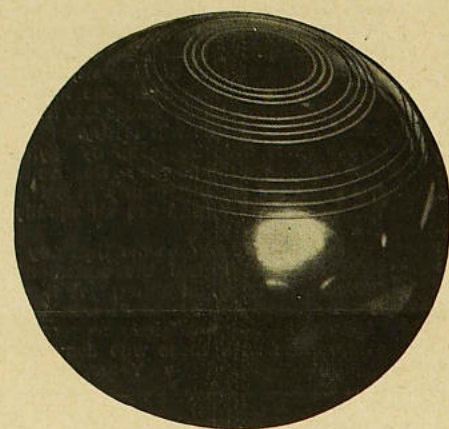
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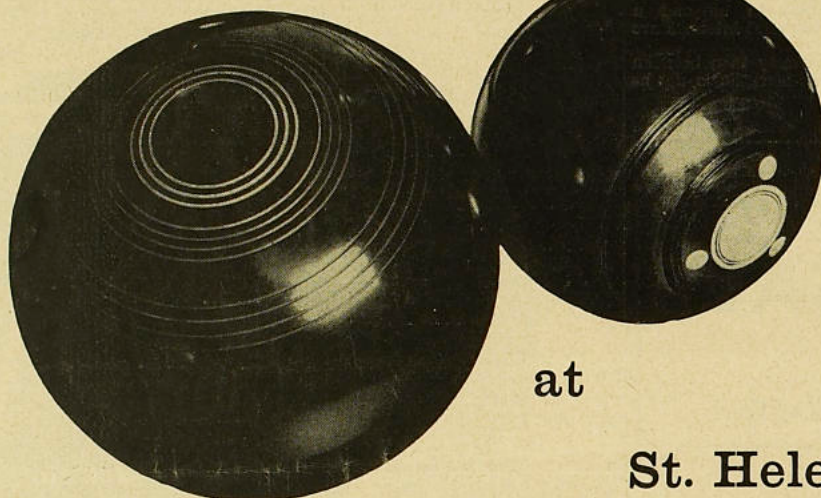
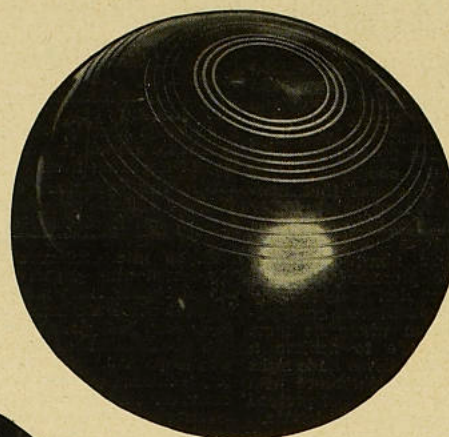
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If you have ever watched a game of bowls, it is more likely than not the players have been bowling straight across the green, then back along the same track, and so on, all the time using a predetermined strip of green. That's not the way they play bowls at St. Helens. There, it's the Crown Green game, and that means not only that the green has a hump in the middle, but the player bowling the jack picks his own direction and length—across corners, straight along one side, wherever he thinks he will gain most advantage.

Pilkington Brothers Limited, Britain's biggest glass-making organization, and one of the biggest in the world, has its headquarters at St. Helens. And for the young man looking for a career it is worthwhile knowing that at Pilkingtons the recruit will not find his first years rigidly planned to a set pattern but will be given every opportunity and encouragement to follow the line which he finds most satisfying and rewarding.

A lot of people have the idea that in a big organization, everything is regimented and inflexible. Pilkingtons are big all right—they employ almost 25,000 people—but the business has never lost its intimate, family touch or become "big business" in the soul-destroying sense. The progress of graduate recruits is the special concern of a panel of directors, and periodic reviews of the career of the newcomer ensure that he is never pigeon-holed and forgotten.

And the work? Glass is one of the most basic and versatile of today's materials. Describing the present day as the "Glass Age" is no fanciful phrase. Glass is everywhere... in a vast number of forms in buildings... in observation panels at the very heart of nuclear research... in the form of insulators carrying electricity all over the world... as lenses and television tubes playing a large part in our entertainment... as glass fibres for the plastic industry.

These are just some of the many purposes for which

Pilkingtons produce glass. And the versatility of the product is matched by the variety of the work constantly going on in the organization's research laboratories, technical development departments and production plants. Recruits are given every encouragement to sample that variety to the full before they decide on their own particular bent—be it pure research or solving intriguing production problems.

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LIGHTS IN THE GYMNASIUM
SQUASH COURTS AND
CHANGING ROOMS AT EDCBAS-
TON.
On and after Monday, February
16, 1959, warning bells will ring
in the building at 9.10 p.m. and
all lights will be switched off
automatically at 9.25 p.m.

JUDO CLUB

The regional finals of the University Championships were held in the Sports Hall on Saturday last. Loughborough go forward to the National Finals on February 28, having beaten Birmingham by one contest in extra time. The match was a hard-fought draw 21-21; so that Barry Heywood, the captain, had to fight an extra bout with the Loughborough orange belt to decide the issue.

Ernie Hobdell won his contest with Tai-o-toshi after a stiff tussle. Alan Fox also won, and Alan Scott drew his bout for Birmingham's points, but Alan Caines fell to a good Harai-goshi by a Loughborough yellow belt, and the captain, Barry Heywood had a good contest with their 4th Kyu (orange belt), before being caught in a scarf hold. These results necessitated a further bout and in this Barry Heywood again went down to their orange belt.

After the match both teams engaged in a much appreciated

randori with John Thatcher (1st Dan), from the B.A.L. who had ably refereed the match.

HARD GAME V. ANSTY

The Netball Club took part in a triangular match on Saturday, when they were hosts to Ansty Training College and Cardiff U.C.

Cardiff were completely outclassed in both their matches losing 19-1 to Ansty and 14-2 to Birmingham. The University's match against Cardiff was characterised by the control of the game shown by the Ansty referee, which resulted in a clean fast game. Birmingham were superior in all departments of the game and the score was a fair reflection of the play.

ANSTY HAVE THE EDGE
Until half-time Birmingham held the college, but after only the game the fitness and remarkable agility of the Ansty players made itself felt, and the college went ahead to win 12-4. The half-time score of 3-2 was due, in no small part to M. Mannell who had a very fine game in the Birmingham defence, and captained the side most ably.

The match was a most enjoyable one, a fast game, and one serving as excellent warmer-up for the W.I.V.A.B. final to be held this month.

MISSION WEEK—REFLECTIONS

MISSION WEEK in the University ended on February 8. Students will not hesitate to praise and admire the work which Canon Fison and his team have been carrying out with such zealous industry. It is not easy, however, to judge this undertaking so soon after the actual event; only time will allow it to fall into perspective. Even then, perhaps the object of the Mission was not to achieve results essentially practical. Even so, I think that one can reflect upon the carrying out of the Mission.

What was the object of the Mission, and was it fulfilled? To use the words of the Vice-Chancellor, it was "To preach the Gospel to all who will hear." Possibly then the object of Mission Week was twofold. Firstly to bring atheists, agnostics, and those uncertain to the Church, and secondly to strengthen the religion of those already Christians. I place them in that order of importance, for surely it is more important that the Mission Team should help those who have nothing, and who are in search of something, rather than to strengthen the beliefs of people who were already believers.

But did the Mission succeed in its aims? I think not with regard to the first one. Throughout the lectures both at Edmund Street and at Edgbaston, the speakers seemed to have imbedded in their minds the assumption that their audience was comprised of Christians, or of people with some belief in God or some higher power. Canon Fison especially seemed to suffer under this delusion. This assumption was almost immediately apparent at the first meeting when Canon Fison explained the work of the Mission; he offered very little for the agnos-

TIPPLES SAVES ANOTHER PENALTY WEAKENED TEAM BEATS CHELTENHAM

University 3, Cheltenham 1

THE University soccer team introduced R. Cockitt at left-back, D. Gray at centre-half and K. L. Hughes at inside-right for their home game on Saturday against St. Paul's College, Cheltenham, who were captained by former University player, Chris Thayne.

Conditions were considerably better than in recent weeks and the standard of play improved in consequence. Cheltenham at first were quicker on the ball, and clever interpassing kept the University defence at full stretch.

The visitors seemed likely to score, and did so when a defensive slip let in the right-wing, who shot home from close range.

The University players were guilty of some erratic passing in the first half and it was not until they had settled down and showed some determination that the team established its superiority in the second half. Sandford opened the University scoring with a fierce shot from just outside the box and as University continued to press, Openshaw hit the box with a fine wide from the penalty spot, but University made sure within minutes' time with two quick goals. The first was from a well-placed shot by Evans, and the second when Openshaw followed up a fumble by the Cheltenham goalkeeper.

The visitors were awarded a penalty in the closing seconds of the game, but this was saved by goalkeeper Tipples.

West and Gray were prominent in University defence and Presher Hughes impressed at inside-right.

HARD FOUGHT GAME AT MANCHESTER

Manchester University 3, Birmingham University 2

On an extremely heavy pitch at Manchester on Wednesday, the First XI went down by the odd goal of five after a hard-fought game.

Birmingham were by no means disgraced by the result, and after losing centre-half Fay with an ankle injury after only ten minutes of the second half, with the score at 1-1, the team fought with renewed vigour, going very near on several occasions.

Manchester kicked off into a stiff breeze, and from the outset both teams found difficulty in moving the ball through the thick mud. Manchester, however, showed that they could adapt themselves better to the conditions, and their forward line was backed up well by the half-backs.

Manchester scored first after some strong Birmingham pressure, but the University fought back again and equalised through centre-forward Openshaw.

After the interval and following Fay's injury, Birmingham fought with great spirit, but Manchester took the lead again with a fine header by their inside-right. This was just the spark that Birmingham needed, for they hit back strongly and for a while were completely on top, with wingers Roper and McIntosh making some really good runs. Openshaw hit the underside of the crossbar, and several other near misses followed before finally Openshaw headed a great equaliser.

As so often happens, however, Manchester regained the lead within a minute, and for the last ten minutes they were well on top.

R.F.C. AVENGE DEFEAT

Birmingham R.F.C. nil,
University 19pts.

The University maintained its unbeaten home record, when it had a convincing win over Birmingham R.F.C. on Saturday, at Bournbrook. This victory was all the more pleasing as it reversed the result of last term's game at the Birmingham Clubs ground.

The University opened the scoring after about five minutes when, after a fine run, P. Robson passed out to Owen who burst through to score. Robson converted. The University pack were playing well, particularly Woodhall who hooked admirably, against both tight and loose heads. The home team went further ahead, when Mannion dropped a goal after a good break, and when P. Robson converted a penalty from about 35 yards.

During the first half the University had been well on top, but it was only very good covering in defence that prevented the visitors from scoring when they made a concerted effort at the beginning of the second half. However, the University gradually regained control, and tries by Masters and Woodhall, one of which Robson converted from a difficult position, placed the University in an unassailable position.

Outstanding for the University were B. Saunders at full-back, Russell who was prominent in line-outs, and Quinn whose good display at lock had a lot to do with the better play of the pack.

The "Any Questions" meeting and the informal coffee parties one could really get down to the basic fundamental of religion by questioning the speakers. Thus no one can complain that he had no opportunity for asking questions.
PATRICIA M. BOLTON
History I.

STRENGTH IN DEPTH

The combined effects of flu and anxiety resulted in the Cross-Country Club turning out at Reading on Saturday without half of the recognised first team. A win by 10 points over Reading University was therefore very creditable. The race, run over 58 miles of rather heavy grassland, resulted in an unexpected individual win for J. Heywood (Reading University), a prominent U.A.U. runner.

Outstanding for the club were Dave Spence (2nd), and Glynn Jones (4th), whilst Dai Davies and Mike Down, despite each losing a shoe in the latter part of the race, finished 7th and 9th respectively. D. Fiddes (12th) and C. Clarke (15th), completed the counting team, with C. Barnes (20th) and F. James-Moore (23rd).

RESULT

Birmingham University: 2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 15-49.
Reading A.C.: 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14-59.
Reading University: 1, 3, 8, 16, 17, 21-66.

LIVERPOOL BEATEN

IN the return match held on Wednesday at Northfield Baths the Swimming Club beat Liverpool University by a convincing margin for the second time. Jane Spencer won the ladies' backstroke, Pauline Barton the freestyle, and Sheila Lowe the breaststroke. In all these races a Birmingham swimmer was second, but as Liverpool had only one swimmer this did not count. The final women's total was Birmingham 9 points, Liverpool 3 points.

In the men's match, Liverpool again provided only one competitor per event, but here the match was closer and depended on the relays. We had won in a similar situation at Liverpool last term, by taking the freestyle squadron, but on Wednesday we lost this event narrowly, and it was left to Donovan in the last leg of the medley relay to give us a fingernail win. The result here was Birmingham 17 points, Liverpool 15 points.

NOTTINGHAM OVERWHELMED

Two hockey teams travelled to Nottingham on Wednesday, and with Verona Bolan scoring six times Birmingham were easy winners in the first team match. The second XI were not so fortunate, for although play was fairly even, they lost by 3-1.

Birmingham on the attack

The first team match consisted almost entirely of Birmingham attacks interspersed with an occasional Nottingham break-through. Indeed it was during a scramble in the Birmingham goalmouth that they managed to get their solitary goal. Rita Thompson did much to maintain the Birmingham attacks and there was little work for the backs to do. By half time Birmingham were leading by 3-0, all by Verona Bolan, and after half time they increased their lead with three more goals by the same player, two by Valerie Catliff and one by Anne Edgington.

On Wednesday the University 1st hockey XI lost by 5-1 to the Lincolnshire Poachers. The absence of Ellingham, Draysey and Sood was keenly felt, and the forwards lacked thrust. The defence was no better, and was too slow for the speedy Poachers' attack. Lack of fitness seems to be the main problem, and until all the players are fit once more, nothing much can be expected of the side.

On Saturday the 1st XI drew 2-2 with Olton.

SPORTS SHORTS

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE IT WAS INSTITUTED, THE INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITIES CHAMPIONSHIP, HELD OVER THE WEEK-END AT MANCHESTER, WAS WON BY A BIRMINGHAM REPRESENTATIVE. PAULINE DREW GAVE A MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE TO WIN THE TITLE WITHOUT THE LOSS OF A SET. RITA MILLS, ANN HOUGHAM AND MARGARET SADLER ALSO DID WELL. PARTICULARLY THE LATTER, WHO GAVE THE EVENTUAL RUNNER-UP, PAT MARSHALL (ST. ANDREWS) HER BEST GAME.

On Friday evening five members of the club travelled through the fog to see the weight-lifting club's first match in the Midland Olympic League at Dudley. The visit was most successful, the University winning by the very large margin of 236lbs.

Both the club's lifters, Howard Payne and Joe Holder were on top form, and both beat their previous best totals. Howard Payne's total of 720lbs. included a clean and jerk of 290lbs., and Joe Holder cleaned and jerked 235lbs., 80lbs. more than his body weight, in making a fine personal total of 565lbs. For the Dudley team, T. Nichols totalled 540lbs. and R. Dunn 465lbs.

If the club can maintain these standards, it should do well in future matches. On Saturday next the club's strength-lifting team will visit Sheffield.

MATCH RESULT

1. Birmingham University 1,305lbs., (Payne 220lbs., 210lbs., 290lbs.), (Holder 170lbs., 180lbs., 235lbs.).
2. Dudley 1,068lbs.

The Fencing Club won their match against London School of Economics on Saturday by the decisive margin of 15-3. In the foil they won by nine fights to nil, with none of the opposition providing any real difficulty. In the sabre they won by six fights to three, and in this case most of the fights were less one-sided.

Warner (six fights), and Hoffman (five fights), showed a welcome return to form, but, although Haworth won four fights, he was fencing rather scrappily. The result of this match is very welcome after some recent reverses and augurs well for the U.A.U. Team semi-finals and finals to be held in Birmingham on Saturday, March 14.

Martin Warner is to be congratulated on his recent successes in the West Midlands A.F.A. Championships, when he was second in the sabre and fourth in the foil.

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On Saturday the 1st XI drew 2-2 with Olton.

You'd be better off

with an

M&B



M&B EXPORT

YOU AND N.U.S.

This is the first of three articles designed to give members of the Guild an insight into the mystical workings of the National Union of Students.

The N.U.S. comprises 100,000 students from universities, art, technical and training colleges, about 250 in all. Twice yearly, representatives from all member organisations meet at the National Council, which is the highest governing body of the N.U.S. Here policy is thrashed out on a national basis.

Each constituent organisation can send motions which are automatically placed on the agenda. After receiving a copy of the agenda consideration is given to the attitude on motions submitted by other bodies and the local organisation decides to support or oppose.

A delegation is then sent to the National Council, the number of delegates being limited by a system of proportional representation. Here it puts forward the views of the body it represents. If, in the light of discussion, the delegation changes its mandate it has to justify its action to its union.

At Birmingham, motions, which come from any member of the Guild, are considered by External Affairs and Grants and Welfare committees, from here they pass to Guild Council whence, if ratified, they are passed to N.U.S. and are placed on the agenda in the name of Birmingham University. We are allowed six delegates, three are ex officio (chairman of External Affairs, N.U.S. secretary and Grants and Welfare secretary), and three are elected by Guild Council. This group is mandated by, and responsible to, Guild Council with respect to voting. Remember you are ultimately responsible for N.U.S. policy. The delegates are answerable

to Guild Council and Guild councillors are responsible to you. It is up to you to see that your views and interests are represented at National Council.

Obviously the N.U.S. has no coercive power as such, but it achieves its aims by winning public support and bringing pressure to bear on national, local and college authorities. The N.U.S. is in constant touch with the Ministry of Education, and I think it would be fair to say that the Anderson Committee, to which Guy Rastall referred last week, has resulted from pressure by the N.U.S. Five Members of Parliament (two Conservatives, two Labour and one Liberal), together with a Member of the House of Lords are honorary vice-presidents of the N.U.S. These gentlemen are of great importance in contacting ministers, asking questions in Parliament and occasionally initiating debates. The N.U.S. approaches local education authorities both directly and through the Association of Education Committees. It also maintains a joint committee with the Association of University Teachers and keeps in close contact with the Vice-Chancellors' Committee. By all these contacts the N.U.S. look after the student's welfare.

Democratic Union

Dear Sir,

I SHOULD like to thank those in our midst who, unfortunately, cloak their identity under the tongue-twister "Anti-Democratic Union"-type-Democracy-Democrats for enabling us publicly to answer and clear many of the rumours which are circulating with regard to the "Democratic Union." It is indeed a fact that the general meeting was not publicly advertised, but there is a further fact of which the writers of the letter appear to be unaware, and of which they could have acquainted themselves with a little more effort.

A society consists of its members, and it is only they who are entitled to vote and elect a committee. Every member of "Democratic Union" was notified of the impending general meeting, and invited to attend. These included leading personalities of the Conservative, Liberal and Labour parties, all of whom were strongly urged to bring along as many supporters as possible. However we did not notify those known to be Fascists, Communists or fellow-travellers, as it was felt, and I think with reason, that they would have no great interest in propagating the interests of democracy. Perhaps this is the reason for the disgruntled letter which appeared in *Guild News* last week.

True, for the purposes of publicity and of expanding the size of the Society, it would have been advisable to advertise the meeting a little more widely. But this is negligence and an error of policy purely internal to the Society. Thus, any dissatisfied members are quite at liberty to convene a meeting, and to re-elect their committee.

We were quite unaware that this newly formed Society had so much support in the Guild, and would like to thank our critics for bringing this to our notice, inviting all who would like to join to notify us immediately.

Yours, etc.,
R. W. BATES,
Chairman,
"Democratic Union."

Animal behaviour

The great and mighty Kangaroo
When there is little else to do,
Will leave the ground by leap and bound
And hurtle through the air,
—Which proves little or nothing.

In Southern seas, the Flying Fish,
On feeling slightly liverish,
From rolling wave, with visage grave
Leaps forth from Neptune's lair.
—Which proves even less.

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FILM NEWS THE INN OF THE SIXTH HAPPINESS (Odeon)

'THE INN OF THE SIXTH HAPPINESS' (Odeon). 'MONSIEUR VINCENT' (Mission Film).

The run of the film "The Inn of the Sixth Happiness" happily coincides with the Christian Mission in the University. It deals with the life of Gladys Aylward, a London housemaid who worked and saved to earn her fare to China, in order to become a missionary, when the authorities refused to help her because she was unqualified. Gladys Aylward is played by Ingrid Bergman, who, while not bearing the slightest resemblance to a London housemaid in manner, speech or appearance, nevertheless gives a fine portrayal of this woman of indomitable courage and endurance. She seemed to capture the essence of the spiritual, deeply humanitarian character of the missionary.

Despite Miss Bergman's performance and that of Robert Donat, who gave a very convincing and moving portrayal of the ageing mandarin in whose territory Gladys Aylward worked, this film has to be viewed sympathetically before it can be enjoyed. The story of Gladys Aylward, while inspiring as a tale of missionary endeavour, has obviously provided a problem for the scriptwriters, because it contains little that is exciting, sensational or romantic in the ordinary sense of the words. Perhaps only the climax of the film, a journey across mountainous terrain, undertaken by the missionary with a hundred children in her care, might be termed conventionally tense and exciting cinema.

But to counteract this lack of positive excitement, there is fine characterisation, a warmly told tale of noble endeavour, with many a touch of humour, which combine to produce a very

pleasant and thought-provoking film.

On Wednesday, the University Mission presented "Monsieur Vincent," a film which won Grand Prix du Cinema Français in 1947. Pierre Fresnay plays Monsieur Vincent, a priest of humble origins who rose in the Century France to great positions in the State and Church, but abandoned them all to devote his life to the poor.

This film proved to be more dramatic and moving, gave a stirring picture of priest's struggles against overwhelming odds in order to relieve the misery and suffering of the poor, the aged, and the disabled, and his extraordinary humility in the face of his own magnificent achievements. The Mission could hardly have chosen a finer film to illustrate the power of God working in man for the good of Humanity.

Student awards

by

W. G. RASTALL

BEFORE discussing the significance of the most important recommendations summarised in the last article "Your Grant," cursory mention must be made of a document that has come into my hands.

It is the special issue on Grants prepared by the National Student Committee of the Communist Party, which has been addressed to the Anderson Committee. The only points of worth are made in fact reiterations of N.U.S. policy, and the bulk of this Statement is concerned with the inequalities arising from the differentials in the State Scale of student awards. The rest of the Statement is made up of ways in which various awards should be assessed with regard to different types of students, the final section being devoted to the "Value of Grants." There is of course a strong political bias, with such pearls of wisdom as:

"The N.U.S. claims that it is non-political and that it must stay that way. This is nonsense. Anyone with an ounce of political sense knows that the demand for increased grants comes smack up against the love of the Tory Government for large arms programmes on the one hand, and its equal love for economies in social services, including higher education on the other. Tories don't want every young person to have a full opportunity in education or in life."

I feel that somebody ought to tell them that the Anderson Committee is considering the structure of awards, and not their value. This renders about 95 per cent. of their Statement irrelevant to the problem under consideration, the other five per cent. being factual information that I would call "interesting" for want of a better word.

The setting up of the Committee on Student Awards is an attempt to resolve the problem of providing greater opportunity in higher education, so that the more able of the country's potential students, are not prevented by lack of material assistance from developing their talents. For as D. J. Grennan, the President of the N.U.S. has written, "It is obvious that the present machinery does not produce that measure of equality of opportunity which we regard as desirable." Thus it is the function of the Committee to examine

the methods of financing and allocating student awards, and if necessary to make recommendations for their improvement. The determination of the value of the awards still remains the responsibility of the Minister of Education and the L.E.A.'s, with the fundamental problem of how much money students should receive in the form of an award remaining unsolved.

But the most important recommendation in the latter part of the memorandum is:

"That awards should be made without any reference to the parental income." (Part V. Sec. 13).

This would effectively remove the "Means Test" with the following benefits. Firstly where families are not attuned to higher education, and are willing to make heavy sacrifices to keep their children at school beyond 15, it would make a very substantial difference in their attitude.

Secondly, it would remove the burden from the parents who under the present system has to pay heavily the privilege of sending their child to University or other form of higher education. This particularly applies to the professional classes, excluding many of those who, from the background very likely produce good professional men and women. Thirdly it would remove its progressive incidence, as Editor of "The Times" called it, because it duplicates the work already done by income tax. Lastly, but no means least, it allows a student stand on his or her own feet, the cost of abolishing the means test would not be prohibitive, about £1 a year for State and County schools after deducting income tax, the allowances foregone.

Finally let me leave you with thought, taking into consideration the main recommendations of the memorandum, do they imply a further step in what might be called Nationalisation of education? should be pleased to receive your views on any of the aspects that have been discussed.

On snowy slopes of Everest,
The silent Yetis never rest;
But feelings pent may still be spent
In hunting Mountain Hare.
—But what the hell!

On palmy South Pacific Isles,
The dusky maids, with crafty wiles,
Pass happy hours in picking flowers
And dancing almost bare.
—Goodbye . . .

"RUARIDH."

PERSONAL COLUMN

You may advertise personal adverts or Society notices in this column. Rates: 1s. per 12 words and 3d. every additional 5 words, (internal); 2s. 6d. per 12 words and 3d. every additional 5 words, (for external adverts). Apply: The Adverts Manager, "Guild News," the Union.

TO-MORROW NIGHT the Commerce Association is holding a Valentine's Eve Dance. Dancing to Maurice Green and his Orchestra 8 p.m.—1 a.m. Bar until midnight, at which hour it is proposed to revive the ancient ceremony of St. Valentine with a human sacrifice. Tickets 7s. 6d. double, 4s. single may be obtained at the door.

EXPERIENCED TYPIST requires work at home. Please contact—B. Wright. ACO 2874.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE ORGANISATION at the University invites you to a lecture on Christian Science entitled: CHRISTIAN SCIENCE: The Pathway to Spiritual Healing, by Francis William Cousins, C.S.B., in St. Francis Hall on Friday, February 13, at 5.40 p.m.

MAJOR GENERAL SIR HUBERT RANCE, G.C.M.C., G.B.E., C.B., the distinguished soldier (Batman to Terry Dene?) and talented speaker will be the guest speaker at the Commonwealth Association Dinner on Tuesday, February 17, at 7 p.m. Tickets 10s. 6d. from committee members.

Constellation causes celebration



The Mystery of the Toucan

Although it is situated in the Southern Hemisphere, a small constellation known as TOUCAN is exerting a benevolent influence in the British Isles. Astronomers, who often refer to it as "the Guinness-carrier," are astonished what Toucan do.

Guinness in the Ascendant

Saturn has rings but these are nothing to the rings that surround Guinness, all full of admiration. Other heavenly bodies suffer eclipse from time to time, but for 200 bright years GUINNESS has poured out its goodness, and presented an ever-cheerful sight.



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Designed and produced by Industrial News Service, 192, Corporation Street, Birmingham 4, Central 5154, for the Guild of Undergraduates, Birmingham University. Printed by Nuneaton News-papers Ltd., Bond Gate, Nuneaton.