

URGENT appeal for humanity today FAMINE CRISIS IN THE CONGO

TWO hundred Congolese, men, women and children, will die today—another 200 tomorrow, and the daily death rate will continue unless something is done and done TODAY to relieve the nationwide famine that has followed independence.

In South Kasai, 250,000 people are starving. Take a look at the human skeletons in the picture—they're lucky they have been rescued from lingering death.

They have been rescued by relief agencies and they can count on a basic existence and meals of maize, dried fish, palm oil; and milk—THEY WILL LIVE.

MUST, MUST, MUST

More must be done to keep them alive. Drugs, equipment and transport for medical rescue teams, MUST be found. Congolese doctors and nurses MUST be trained to take over from European volunteers.

A further £100,000 MUST be found to provide basic food and seeds for a crop that MUST be harvested by 16 weeks from today.



Photo: "Daily Mirror."

University Tin Collections:
Thurs. & Fri., 16th & 17th Feb.

So far global appeals by United Nations agencies, the International Red Cross and other voluntary bodies have guaranteed the continuance of this work.

The famine has been halted and deaths from starvation have been cut back by 75 per cent.

We have heard of the Congo and the names Lumumba and Kasavubu and Tshombe have become monotonously familiar but the starving thousands are unknown.

In Great Britain, the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief has given £100,000.

Universities and colleges have launched a separate appeal. Every student is asked to help—take another look at this terrible picture—Can you turn a blind eye?—You could give till it hurts? The decision is yours!

ILL-OBSERVED

Too much Communist influence

"THE OBSERVER" last Sunday saw fit to carry some 'news' about 'Brum' sent in by one of their University Correspondents. According to the report printed in the "Observer" under the headline, "Religion v. Politics," we are "demanding a new and larger chapel or an extension of the existing St. Francis Hall."

This gives the impression that there has been a huge outcry from thousands of students unable to find any place in which to worship.

But in terms of unsensational fact what has happened is that the St. Francis Hall Committee, with an eye on the proposed expansion to 10,000, has said that the Hall is not really large enough even for present needs and will certainly become inadequate long before the next 5,000 arrive; and Guild Council, as a result, has sent to the University a formal recommendation that the possibility of extending the Hall or rebuilding it elsewhere should be seriously considered.

Changed climate

Sundry other interesting, though not demonstrably misleading, pieces of information are offered in this same report. Contrasting the intellectual climates of the thirties and the sixties, it says: "Then it was political issues which were live

and commanded heated discussion. Today religion is as much talked about."

And it goes on. "Although there is no Communist student society as such, ironically a handful of Communist supporters is probably the most effective student political force. Having engineered the absorption of the Labour Student Society by the Socialist Society, they now exercise quite disproportionate influence over its activities and over those societies which attract students from developing countries."

Is this true? We are well aware that Communism moves in a mysterious and insidious way, but we have never noticed this "disproportionate influence." The "Observer" report was almost certainly written by a member of the staff, someone who has been with the University for 20 or 30 years. Has distance lent enchantment to his view, or has objectivity clarified it?

A STATION ON THE Survey in progress SITE?

HOW do you get to the University every day? Have you got your own transport, or are you one of the thousands who rely on public services and have to hop off one bus and then on to another and dash up Edgbaston Park Road just in time to be five minutes late for the first lecture? If so, you will probably be very interested to know that British Railways are at the moment considering the possibility of providing passenger services to a railway station at or near University Road Bridge.

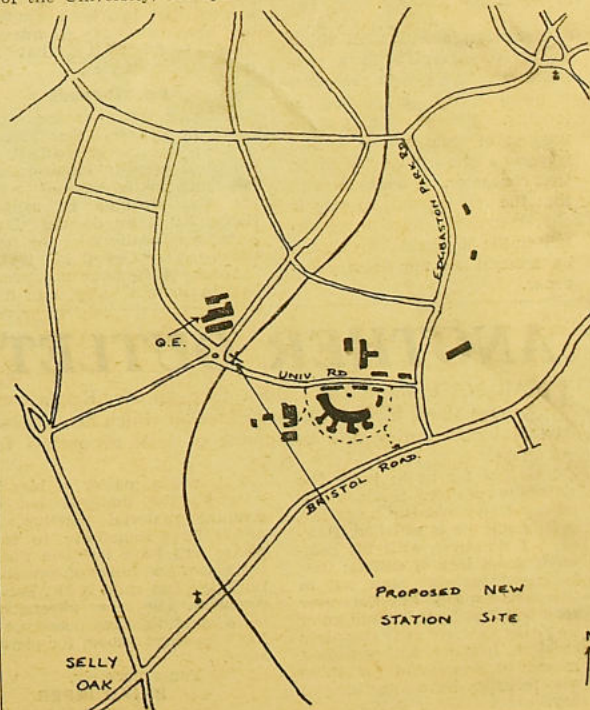
This possibility has arisen because Railway authorities have recently seen that in the educational centre, which is comprised of the University, the Q.E., and the King Edwards' Schools, there is a sizeable number of potential commuters already, and there will be some thousands more when the University has ex-

panded to 10,000.

Evidence of the probable use that would be made of such a service is, however, required before the authorities can make a final decision. Accordingly, staff and students in these three establishments either have been or will be sent a questionnaire designed to find out how many people would use the station if it were provided.

The service, if instituted, would consist of about 30 trains per day in two directions, running from New Street Station on the lines serving Birmingham, Barnt Green, Redditch, Evesham, and serving Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Worcester, and Malvern. The time needed to cover the distance between New Street and the proposed station would be six minutes. British Railways, although they have not decided anything yet, are wondering what they could call the station if they had it, and would welcome any suggestions for a name.

The staffs of the three institutions have already completed and returned the questionnaire, a large number of those from the University have said that if the station does come into being, they would probably take full advantage of it by living further out of Birmingham than they do at the moment. It would probably also mean that the area useful for student's digs would be similarly widened as fairly cheap, fairly swift transport, was available.





GUILD NEWS

THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER

THE UNION, EDGBASTON

Tel. Selly Oak 1841

EDITOR Maureen Jones
ASSISTANT EDITOR Bob Bootle
BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Goddard

COFFEE-MAD

Criticism of the new wing

MADAM—Since we now have so many committee rooms in the new extensions of the Union, why are they not used instead of the women's old lounge, which has now become the meeting place for all and sundry? In fact it is so often in use that confusion has arisen, as for example when the H.S.F. had to find another room last Thursday because the U.N.S.A. had also arranged a meeting in the women's lounge. Let this lounge remain as it was, and U.N.S.A., H.S.F. and similar societies can use the committee rooms.

Conversion

I would also like to suggest that those illogical persons in authority should seriously consider the possibilities of converting one or two of the superfluous committee rooms into a coffee room, which I assure you is ardently desired by the saner

portion of the student population. The only alternative to this is more drastic; that is to build more extensions to include a coffee room, which will thus be easily accessible to all those in the new half of the Union.

Yours dissatisfied,
KATHARINE BLIGH.

* * * *

The Guild Publicity Officer

replies:

MADAM—May I make a few comments on recent opinions about the Extensions. Some of the criticisms were quite valid and have either been made privately already or have now been noted.

The committee rooms are too many when it can be shown they are not being used, nor likely to be used as our numbers increase towards the planned 7,000 mark. In neither case can we judge at the moment. Members who knew the organisational acrobatics necessary to book rooms previously for meeting will certainly not think there are too many committee rooms.

I doubt if more eating facilities are possible or right. The Union is a student club, not an extension to Joe Lyons. The time to consider this is when the new refectory opens. At the moment we have five rooms selling food in the lunch-hour and this is well above what was planned.

Unfortunate

The position of the Stewards' Office is rather unfortunate. When general access to the new Entrance Hall is possible, things should improve. Perhaps someone would like to draw us a map of the layout to be hung in the Entrance Hall to avoid too many people being "lost, presumed died of starvation"?

Regarding the lift, I think we sometimes forget there are others in the Union apart from students, namely our staff. They give good, loyal service and suffer long and silently under

ANOTHER OUTLET

DEAR MADAM—I feel I must take up Mr. Ealy's comment about University magazines, in which he criticises Mr. Howell's policy and complains of lack of outlets for material.

It is not for us to judge the rightness of Mr. Howell's decision—if he sold the magazine, presumably he is satisfied. However, I do agree with his comment about lack of outlets; that is why "Moment" came out in the first place. If Mr. Ealy ever read our first issue, he will know we exist to try to stimulate creative thinking, and provide a means of expression for those who feel they have something to say.

Geologists hate women - ROOT OF ALL EVIL

MADAM—It would seem that your reporter, who recently gathered material concerning male opinion of our female counterparts, obtained a one-sided opinion, and thus, we feel, must be under the influence of female intellectuals.

As two members of a department void of women, the only contact we have with them is at hops and dances. We should like to point out to any fresher who is still ignorant of the presence of women in the university, that a good 99 per cent of the female population of this institution is incomparable with the portrait gallery in last week's "Guild News."

Of this 99 per cent, 50 per cent are completely devoid of female characteristics, 25 per cent have them but don't know how to use them, 24 per cent try hard, and the builder leaning on his cement mixer was privileged indeed to view the remaining 1 per cent.

Few at Hops

It is a well known fact that

very few university women attend the Hops; the reason being, so they say, that they doubt the morals of the men who attend. We maintain that the average male student is not essentially lecherous and would not dream of taking advantage of the obvious innocence of university women.

We claim that during two years, the most charming and entertaining young ladies we have met have been secretaries, training college students and nurses; never university women.

It is debatable whether the effect of further education is harmful to a woman's outlook on life. As regards women on Guild Council, we deplore the action of those males who elected those

already present, and who were apathetic enough to leave their fates in the hands of these budding "Pankhursts."

Parliament's greatest mistake was the emancipation of women. Why should we have followed suit?

Oh for the days when women knew their place.

Yours etc.,
**P. TOCHILL,
G. M. FELL.**

P.S.—Women are not allowed in the billiard room. The 1 per cent can apply via the pigeon holes, for interviews.



M.R.A.—THE DEVIL?

MADAM—"Ideology is a horrible word." John Lester's article on Moral Re-armament proves this beyond all doubt.

Even bearing in mind that the freedom of the Press becomes the super-freedom of students when a publication such as "Guild News" is under consideration, I, and many others, am shocked that an article such as this should be allowed to disgrace your pages.

M.R.A. O.K.

MADAM—For the sane, clear-thinking and realistic person, there can be only one reaction to last week's "Guild News" article on M.R.A.—complete approval. Ignoring the expected apathetic grunts and the inevitable bitter cynicism, this movement holds the ultimate key to our future.

Moral Re-Armament combines a deep individual sincerity with a burning and dynamic drive towards solving the countless world problems. The great practical success that has been achieved has been based on an international moral revival that the movement embodies.

At cross-roads

We now stand at the cross-roads in Britain. Our society, which "has never had it so good," is morally impoverished. We must not be allowed to follow the example of ancient Rome, for if we do, our "Dark Ages" may easily take the form envisaged by Orwell in "1984." Apathy is the force most prevalent in Britain today, and it is

rampant right here in our University. The ultimate choice must be M.R.A. or Communism, and "he who is not with us is against us." I shall make my stand with M.R.A.

Yours etc.,
BILL GOTHARD.

SIT-UP, NOT DOWN

MADAM—I have seen in the Union notices put up by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament calling for volunteers to join with the hundred or so chief exhibitionists in staging the Civil Disobedience campaign. Surely the Guild, as a responsible organisation, ought to draw the line at this and discourage the display of so dangerous a plea?

However sincere the intentions, it is more than obvious that Civil Disobedience is an open invitation to certain seditious elements.

Anyway, does the Direct Action Committee really think the public will sympathise with a collection of beatniks led by an old man, sitting in the middle of the road.

By all means let the C.N.D. march, but don't let them sit down.

Yours,
A. N. LANE.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN PIPER
Editor "Moment."

Cigarettes, coffee, chocolate, milk? LIFE IN THE MACHINE AGE

A PARTICULARLY large and shiny machine, apparently of American origin and labelled "Candy" in bold letters, was installed in the bottom corridor of the main building just before Christmas. On inserting sixpence and pulling the appropriate shiny red knob, one can obtain a packet of any one of the variety of sweets offered by the machine.



The strange thing about this machine is that it is hidden well out of public view, past the stairs up to the Registry rooms and practically in the Mining Dept. It would be fair to assume that very few people, apart from Miners, regularly pass this machine. Yet, every single day, between £5 or £6, more than 200 sixpences, are fed to this baleful monster. Surely the Miners do not eat this amount of sweets?

Accordingly, "Guild News" started enquiries and found that the vast majority of people never went to that part of the building, were ignorant of the machine's existence and certainly never bought anything from it. Only two people could be found who admitted buying from the machines and then only "very irregularly." A watch on the machine followed and this disclosed three more purchasers, none apparently operating on a large scale.

Who is it then that spends so much on "candy"? The machine is filled twice a day at tea-time and early in the morning; a large proportion of business is done on the "night shift." We are forced to conclude that there are a number of unfortunate addicts who creep out at dead of night, and put sixpence after sixpence into the machine just for the thrill of it.

Milk machine

A few yards nearer civilisation, neatly hidden behind a large brick buttress lurks a milk machine which does even better business. One engineer, after having gone at least a hundred yards out of his way between lectures just to get some milk said he used it "whenever he could."

In the Union next to the Vernon, is the Coca Cola machine. Some customers had several Cokes a day even though this term the machine does not respond to kicks and foreign coins.

Successful

Also in the Union opposite the shop are two machines selling chocolate and cigarettes.

This devilish combination is so successful that people will seek change to work them even when the Union shop, not three yards away, is open. This procedure is caused equally by the habit-forming qualities of the machines themselves and the fact that

some cigarettes are a halfpenny a packet cheaper.

It must be pointed out that there are some perfectly innocent machines in the University, notably the famed coffee-machine in the Arts block. This saves overworked Arts students from having to come all the way over to the Union to join the queues. Others also use the machine; many physicists swear it makes the best coffee in the University.

Innocent?

Despite this we feel it our duty to warn members of the Guild against the menace of these contraptions. Shall we become slaves to our own inventions? Examples will show the grip the machines already have on our way of life.

An Electrical Engineer spent a whole afternoon in and out of the University telephone kiosks, pressing Button "B." Admittedly he won over five shillings, but...

Out of six students in a "pub" recently, four were not drinking but practically fighting for a turn over a small ball-playing machine. One was so keen on this activity that he didn't even buy a drink... all six were Chemical Engineers.

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Take a look at your surroundings

307 Grosvenor Square,
July 11th, 1900.

Dear Mr. Chamberlain:—My son and myself beg to offer to the University of Birmingham about 25 acres of land on the Bournbrook site of the Edgbaston Estate, as a site for the new scientific department of teaching and research which it is proposed to establish.

There will of necessity be certain conditions, but these will occasion no difficulties.

Yours very truly,
CALTHORPE.

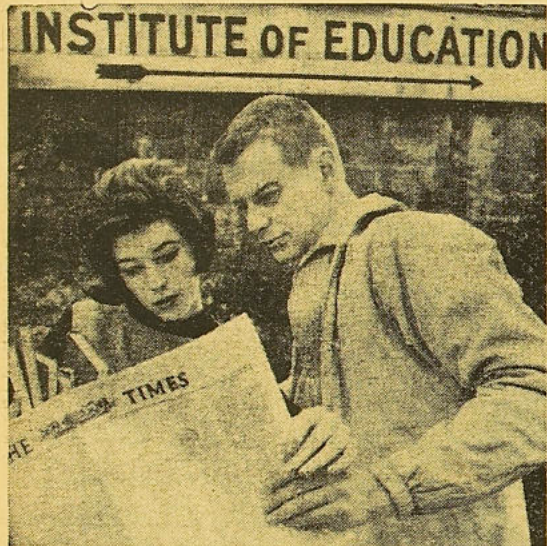
SO the Edgbaston story began. An unexpected beginning to the 60-year accumulation by fits and starts of one of the strangest collections of buildings in the history of university architecture.

When Chamberlain received that letter he commissioned Aston Webb to design the first buildings at Edgbaston. The result was the appearance between 1902 and 1907 of Aston Webb's Accrington Brick monument, known to us as the Main Building. The clock tower, a result of Chamberlain's encounter with the campanile in Siena added the final absurd touch. Although we may not think much of the Aston Webb building architecturally, it is at least not depressing and is indeed distinctive, picturesque and to some amusing.

Dream of one Campus

Ever since the Edgbaston site was obtained the dream of a University united upon one campus has been cherished. Only 60 years later was this dream finally realised. Until that date the need for expansion of existing facilities and

war-shattered economies prevented the brother disciplines from uniting. Hopes were again strong after the last war but in 1946 lack of money, materials and workers meant that little progress could be made. But the University had to expand and in the nineteen-fifties work was begun at last on Elec. Eng.,



Students of the world read The Times

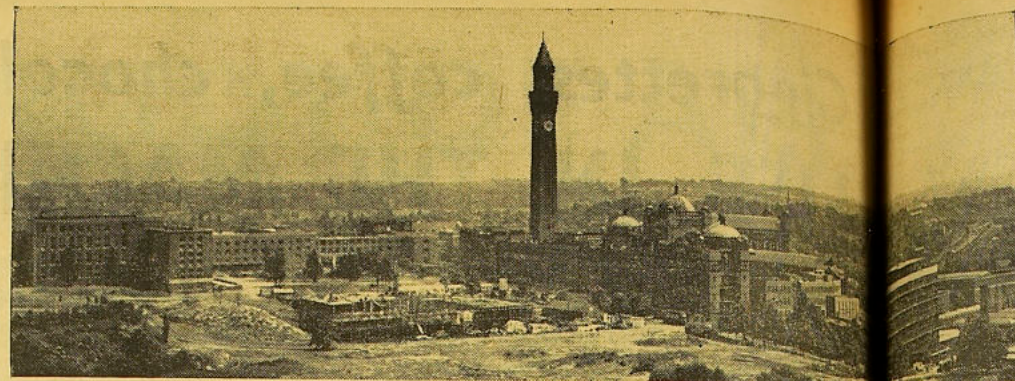
PEOPLE whose minds are still open and eager learn about the world from The Times.

There the resemblance of Times readers ends and their infinite variety begins. They are scattered all over the world. They do not necessarily agree how the world, or even their own countries, should be run. They read The Times because it does not attempt to bolster one set of opinions, but provides the facts on which intelligent opinions are formed. It has views of its own, but it does not attempt to pass these off as factual reports. This is the reason why those who will shortly be examined on facts read The Times; and why those who like to be free to examine the facts for themselves so strongly prefer it.

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"One of the strangest collections of buildings in the history of university architecture" (Birmingham Post)

THE HOUSE JOE BUILT

A "Guild News" Survey by Malcolm Howell

Mech. Eng., and the extension to Chem. Eng., which were completed in 1957.

The enclosure of the whole University population on the Edgbaston site had again been reviewed and in 1948 plans had been drawn up by Verner O. Rees for the new Library, Arts and Law Block and Refectory. For a number of years this plan had to be shelved, though not before the University had rather unwisely committed itself to Rees's plans.

In 1955 it at last became possible to start building on a large scale again, but the plans were hampered by Rees's design, which, belonging to a former architectural era produced buildings which would have been considered in 1935 to be slightly modern. Fortunately only the Library and Arts Block were allowed to follow the original design, slightly altered, before additional advice was called upon.

Shape and Lay-out

Sir Hugh Casson and Mr. Neville Conder set about deciding the position and shape of buildings and lay-out of ground between them and designed themselves the new Refectory and Staff House which were begun last year. Their biggest problem was to expand a plan which had been designed already as a unity, and to make amends for the unimaginative siting of buildings erected since the war.

The Semi-circle had to be broken and the uninspired landscaping altered. Thinking ahead, there was every likelihood of greater expansion and symmetry was fatal to an expandable plan. The back of a building might one day become its front. An asymmetric, open free plan was called for.

Today the developing complex of buildings shows how this is being done; the gap left in the northern diameter of the Semi-circle, the siting of the Refectory and Biology Block, the paths in front of the Library and Main Building, and the adoption of courtyard design.

The buildings being erected now give us hope that the worst is over; the further outlook bright. The new Phys. Ed., the Swimming Baths and Commerce plans and models all have exciting new lines.

At this stage it would not be fair or wise to pass too damning a criticism on the policy of the past. Mistakes have been made by the University and much has been learnt from them. To take control of the administration of future building, our first bursar takes up his appointment in March. He is Mr. Charles P. Thompson, C.M.G., B.Sc., re-

cently Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Economic Development of the Federal Government of Nigeria. The setting up of a bigger organisation for obtaining money and deciding policies augurs well for our future development.

Pompous and Monumental

Meanwhile to those who will decide what goes in planning on our campus let us say this: we do not want pompous monumental buildings which attempt to reflect the dignity and position of the University, but we want buildings which are pleasant to live in and around. They should distinctively state their purpose; their design should represent functionally what goes on within them. Let them be honest and not hide their concrete skeletons in brick or adorn their facades with ineffectual insignia. Let them show the elegance and vigour that modern engineering techniques can give.

The most beautiful building in the University grounds is undoubtedly that of Civil Engineering. It is also the cheapest building because it is designed to fit exactly all the activities that go on inside it. Nothing is superfluous. Inside it is light and invigorating. The shape of the roof is decided by the differing heights of rooms and apparatus, and is one of the most exciting structures yet to be seen here. Even the roof water tank is made an object of interest. The whole building could not be anything but a civil engineering block. The carefully functional design, both of the buildings and their courtyard gives a strong feeling of distinction and identity. Function means beauty.

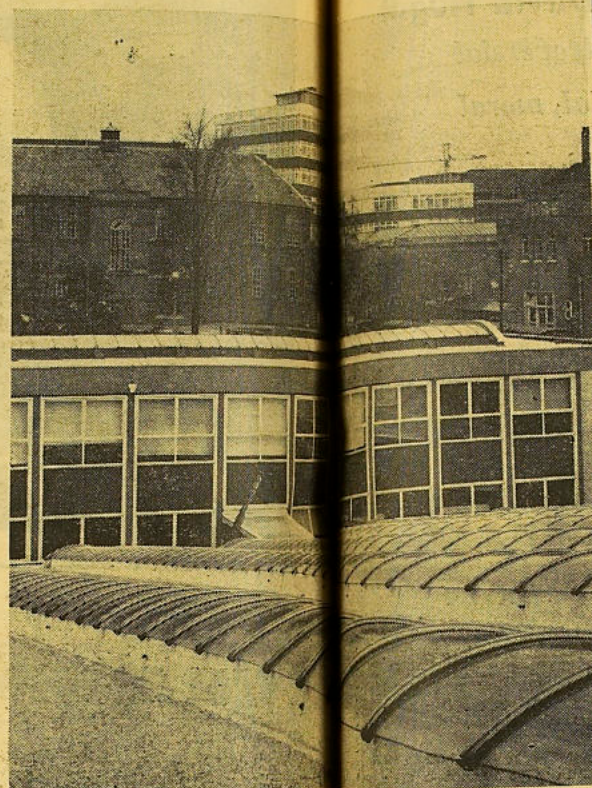
Too often the plea of not enough money has been used to justify undistinguished building. But Civ. Eng. have proved that this is no excuse.

LAW COLUMN

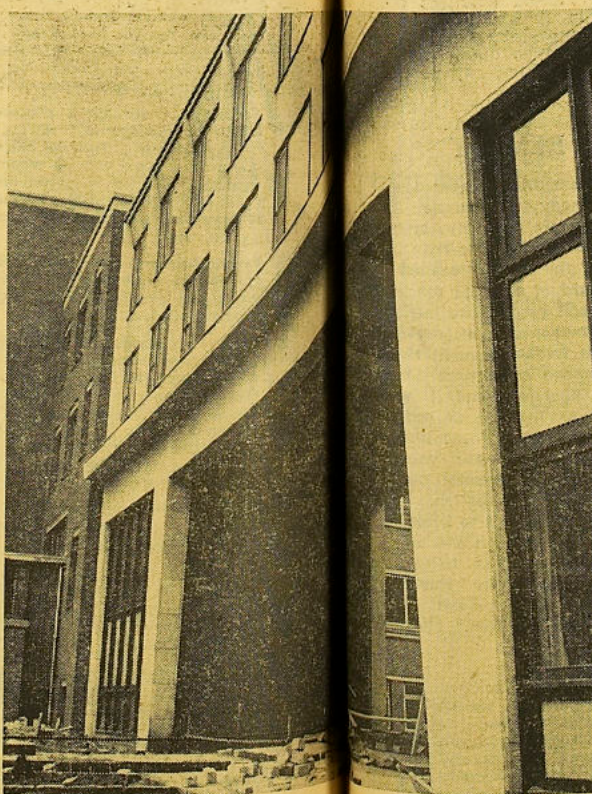
DO you have trouble with your landlord—or landlady? Did your grant fail to arrive on time this term? Did you get caught driving your moped along the Bristol Road sans tax, insurance, licence and brakes?

"Guild News" is unable to work miracles, but this week we are pleased to announce a new service for our readers... a weekly legal column.

We shall be pleased to receive notice of any of the myriad legal troubles that beset you. Write c/o "Boz," "Guild News" Pigeon Hole.



A contrast of styles. The new Chem. Eng. and the red-brick ugliness of Chem. Eng., photographed during roof of Civ. Eng. (Photo: Arthur Burgess)



The bridge across University Road by Sir Hugh Casson. (Photo: Arthur Burgess)

MEDICS ON THE MARCH

Behind the headlines

SIR FRANCIS RUNDALL, Deputy Under-Secretary of State, Foreign Service, spoke last week at the Open Lecture on "The Foreign Service."

During a considerable number of years' experience in the Service, the speaker has held posts ranging from that of British Ambassador in Israel, to that of British Consul in New York.

He stated that the diplomats in the Service, despite the fact that they rarely hit the headlines, have four main functions to perform. Firstly, to represent the Government; secondly, to fulfil negotiations with foreign powers; thirdly, to report accurately on current events, and finally to advise the Minister of Foreign Affairs on any relevant policy.

Sir Francis stressed the fact that negotiation was a difficult task, and often, even to effect a compromise with leaders of a country was an achievement. Here he illustrated the importance of cocktail parties and other such entertainments as a part of their service.

Amalgamation

The modern Foreign Service was formed in 1943 by the amalgamation of various existing Diplomatic and Consular Services. In 1946 they were joined by the British Information Service and all are now headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. Personnel are drawn from a wide cross-section of the community, and it is no longer necessary for them to have private financial means.

In concluding, Sir Francis reviewed career prospects in the Service, saying that for anyone with personality and a second-class honours degree, an opening of challenge, interest and responsibility, can be guaranteed.

A CHANGE OF VIEW

THE aim of this, the second Arab Exhibition to be held in the University, was to correct to some extent, the widely-held student view of the Arab states, which seems to consist chiefly in a mental picture of camels and endless deserts.

The Exhibition was the product of a month's concentrated work and organisation. It sought to be both cultural and informative, and essentially centred round an efficiently-arranged sequence of excellent colour photographs. These strikingly contrasted the splendour and aesthetic appeal of the Ancient World with the vitality and progress of the modern states.

Remarkable social, educational and technical advances were clearly evidenced and the sumptuous elegance of many of the buildings photographed, particularly in the oil-producing regions, indicate an increasing prosperity.

ANOTHER EDITION

TAKEOVER bids and new Sunday papers notwithstanding, "Moment" will be making its appearance again shortly, filled as usual with a variety of thoughts and opinions which should keep coffee talkers going for the next few weeks.

Following the example of the more established members of the profession, the editorial board decided they too needed to assess the type of readers at which they were aiming. "Lively minds" and "Top people" were certainly included, as well as those who wanted to know the facts.

All could be reckoned amongst those who brooded over our pages. They obviously feel they can take opinions different from their own, be stimulated by arguments, the deeds of others, the less palatable challenges of our generation.

In fact they are balanced people, willing to learn or perhaps willing to write, prepared to be angry, prepared to think. So if you are balanced, or even if you are not but find the material to your liking, keep your eyes open for the next edition.

ROUND WON

ALTHOUGH only the contestants knew about it, the preliminary rounds of the Open Debating Tournament took place last week in the new Council Chamber. Thirty potential Ciceros held forth on topics ranging from Blood-Beasts from outer space to the Bolivian Shrub-leaf that can be eaten as a stimulant.

After much deliberation the judges announced that

the finalists were Messrs. Beatty, Petty, Reed, Kama-rudin, Plant, Wreford and Staples, and Miss Doran.

The finals will take place today at five-fifteen in the Council Chamber where the motions debated will be: "That Science has Grown Too Big for its Boots" and "That this House should drink when it likes." The contest will be judged by Mr. J. P. Garner of the Law faculty, Mr. Sweeney of the French department, and Mr. Julian Levy, ex-treasurer of the society.

TWO annual upheavals are about to shake the Medical School. Trembling Third Years shortly undergo the baptism of 2nd M.B.; Fourth Years are about to move out to pastures new on "specials."

Looking back one wonders how one passed 2nd M.B. One remembers the frenzy of trying to cram one-and-a-half year's work into one term. One just swallowed large lumps of ill-chewed fact and hoped to vomit forth appropriate bits at the appropriate time.

There was no time to digest what we learnt, no time to live with our new-found knowledge, which mostly we have forgotten. Partly it was one's own fault; but the Pre-Clinical years anyway seemed rushed and hurried through, with "the wards" dangled in front of one as an incentive to get through by learning the minimum amount of knowledge required.

DECISION

Sour grapes? Perhaps, but one feels that a decision has to be made about these years. Either they should be completely integrated with the clinical years, as was once the case in England and now is in some American Universities, or they should be completely separate from the clinical years, with the student obtaining a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences first and then getting post-graduate teaching in the hospital.

One's personal preference is for the second method. Having worked on the Professorial Units with their academic "research" atmosphere, one regrets the lack of scientific training. People trained on the non-academic units probably prefer the first method, with their anatomy and physiology taught by their clinical teachers in the old "master-apprentice" way. Both these methods would be more satisfactory than the present one, and it might be possible to offer the prospective doctor the choice of them.

PLANNING

The Fourth Years are trying to plan their lives for the next year. The problem of Obstetrics residence has again occurred. People have found themselves stuck out in the wilds (eh, H-ig-?) alone with the more notorious of their year (eh, J-nn-f-r-?) and with no one in their year willing to change with them.

For some, too, string-pulling unaccountably failed to work (eh, H-ig-?). Others gave thanks to E-ck-!, particularly your correspondent who managed to crawl back into the shade of the old Q.E.

TABES.

1961 GRADUATES

Are you graduating this year?
Do you want a challenging job?
Do you want to discuss the opportunities that are offered by the Steel Company of Wales?

If the answer is "Yes" to these three questions, members of the Company will be pleased to see you when they visit the University on the 28th February.

For more information regarding these visits please contact your appointments board, or write to the



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BEWARE OF M.I.5

Political investigations in London

LONDON University was shaken to the core at the beginning of the month by the disclosure of secret investigations into students' private lives. The trouble started when Miss Nicola Seyd, of Chelsea College, went on a seven weeks' working holiday in Cuba, later lecturing on it to the College Socialist Society.

Then, at the beginning of this term, rumours began of a Secret Investigation into Nicola. Enquiries revealed that a man from Scotland Yard had examined, without her permission, Nicola's enrolment card, which gave details of her academic record.

This intrusion into the private lives of students has had sharp repercussions. A question has been tabled in Parliament on the matter and it has been taken up by the National Council for the Protection of Civil Liberties. The question is, does this sort of thing happen in Brum, behind our backs?

Spring again

With the approach of spring, the Cambridge undergraduate's mind apparently turns not to thoughts of love but to thoughts of marriage. General opinion seems to be that getting married at college puts one at a tremendous disadvantage in getting a job. Besides, with the abolition of National Service, the average age of male undergraduates is getting less.

It seems though, in spite of these difficulties, that student marriages are usually successful. This can probably be attributed to the amount of sex education available in Cambridge and consequent lack of shotgun marriages.

At Sheffield the elections for President and Vice-President are approaching fast. There are a number of candidates for both posts but, owing to one of the

rules of the election, it seems that there will be no Vice-President in the next session. The rule is that a candidate must have been on the Council or a Committee for at least eleven months before the election. This of necessity excludes all first and most second-year students from standing for presidential posts. In a small university like Sheffield there are very few women who are qualified under this rule.

GRANT FOR RESEARCH

£157,000 from Ford Foundation

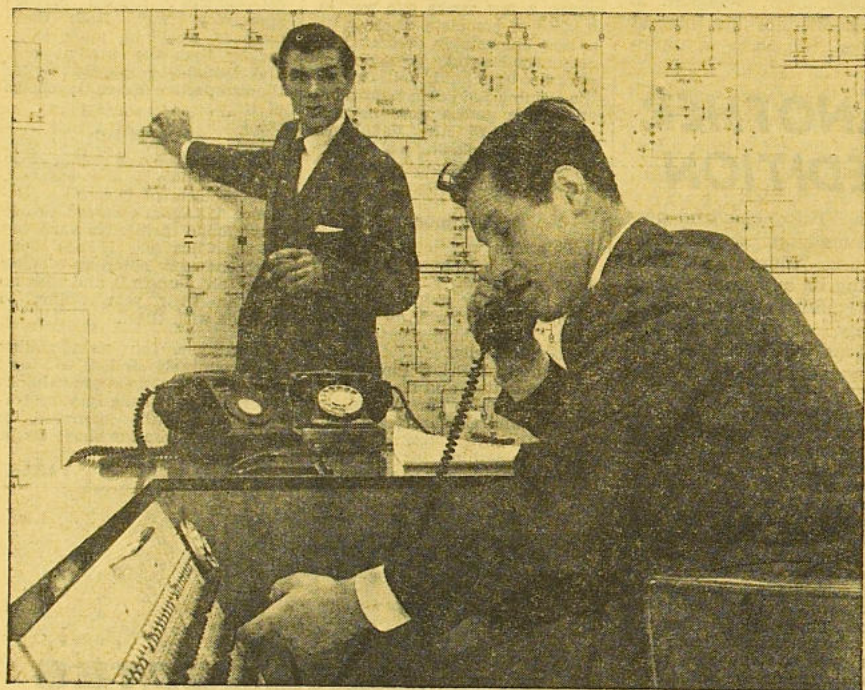
A GRANT of 440,000 dollars, approximately £157,000, from the Ford Foundation of America, will enable the University to increase the scope of its research into the harmful effects of nuclear radiation.

Following the announcement of this grant the University issued a statement saying that it would support a programme of research in the Department of Anatomy into the reproductive physiology of monkeys.

The statement said: "This research is of a long-term nature and the grant from the Foundation will be used to finance such a programme for the next 15 years."

"The Department of Anatomy has been made the recipient of this benefaction because, under the direction of Professor Sir Solly Zuckerman, work of this nature has been one of its main interests over the past 15 years. At present Sir Solly Zuckerman is Chief Scientific Adviser

to the Minister of Defence, and during his tenure of this office, his association with the University is of a consultative nature. Over past years much research has been done into the harmful effects of radiation on the reproduction cells of non-human primates (chimpanzees, monkeys, etc.) Other mammals, mainly rats, have also been used. The grant will provide the opportunity for male non-human primates to become the subject of controlled experiments.



Cloudburst crisis

Place: London. Time: Two-thirty p.m. Weather: Cloudburst. Result: Sky dark as night, every light and drainage pump turned on—and a suddenly soaring demand for electricity.

More power is needed fast, but this need has been foreseen. At Thames North Control an Assistant Control Engineer, aged 28, makes a decision, gets on to Norwich Generating Station. Within minutes extra power is being transferred to London. This is the kind of responsibility he likes, the reason for which he joined the Electricity Supply Industry, as a Graduate Trainee, five years ago.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The demand for electricity doubles every ten years, so opportunities for promotion are outstandingly good. Careers are really secure, too, and the work is varied and interesting.

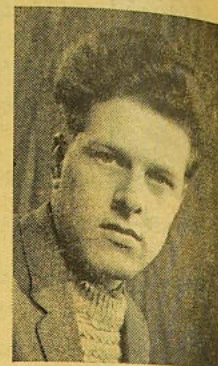
You can join as a student apprentice from the science sixth form of your school, or you can join as a graduate with an engineering degree. For full details, please write to the address below; tell us your age and what exams you've passed—that will help us to give you advice that's really personal.

The Education and Training Officer,
The Electricity Council,
112 Winsley Street, London W.1.

Young men get on, in Electricity

Talking point—5

THE BEST FOR BOTH



Fifth in a series presenting controversial points of view on social, moral and political questions

by David Hugill

COULD anybody confronted with an unmarried mother who was preparing to commit suicide because of an unwanted pregnancy, sincerely say that she ought to bear the child; and at the same time could they maintain that this would be the best course of action for both mother and child?

Such a tragic situation must surely force anyone to question the basis of their attitude to abortion. It can never be simple to put a qualitative judgment on the action of human beings, and this moral problem needs especially careful thought.

Without being too concerned with technical terms I shall assume that induced abortion refers to the destruction of an unborn child. While we, say in certain circumstances, sympathise with a murderer, the destruction of a fully-grown man or woman is an act that we immediately condemn.

LIKE AN ANIMAL

The attitude that compares the unborn child with an animal is not very difficult to understand even though we may disagree with it. Even up to a few months old a child is very like an animal. It can neither talk, think, nor walk and seems only a mass of reflexes with a strident voice. We cannot know its human potential; we may even have to execute it in later years for murder: thus we tend to think of it as something less than a man.

Official religious opinion has much to say on this subject, but I shall deliberately avoid a religious discussion since for some readers the whole issue can be decided on religious grounds—while for others an already difficult problem will only be further complicated.

DEFENCE

We must ask ourselves whether induced abortion can be defended on any grounds and if so in what cases. I have already suggested an instance where an unmarried woman could be driven to suicide because of pregnancy, and the

opinion of many magistrates suggests that this is a circumstance that leads to a fair proportion of suicides.

There are other cases that we could think of. What of a young girl who became pregnant as the result of a rape? Would we then oblige her to bear the child of her attacker? Unfortunately the law is not explicit and if, as usually happens, the girl has an abortion, the doctor may be liable to a criminal action.

SURVEY

It is unfortunate that the full statistics of abortion, both therapeutic and criminal, are not known. Instead we must rely on the estimates of experts. A recent fertility survey in America by Freedman, Whelpton and Campell says that the estimates for America vary from between one abortion in three conceptions to one in 20. Even a minimum figure of this magnitude is appalling. It is known that many illegal abortions occur in Britain each year and provided one knows where to go and one has enough money, any woman can have one.

REMEDY

If something is ever done to remedy this situation in Britain we probably could not do much better than to follow the Swedish example. A board of advisers considers each case on its merits and makes the recommendation for abortion. In 1951 in Sweden there were 6,325 legal abortions and if we acted as they do we could expect about 30 to 40 thousand abortions per year; this would be far better than the present situation. If the reader wishes to become more informed on the subject I can advise him to read either "The Human Sun" by C. H. Rolph, or "Law for the Rich" by A. Jenkins.

Until the time that the law is amended we must expect that the usual number of unwanted and unloved babies will be born and that back-street abortionists living off the wages of fear will continue to risk the lives of unhappy women.

SPORT

EDITORIAL

IN the administration of sport, however, we feel there is much need for more efficient machinery... the second development of sport requires good national administration." This was one of the summary conclusions of the recent Wolfenden Report on "Sport and the Community." The Universities, which have for a long time been the nurseries of sport at its best, are at last recognising the need to organise University sports activities on a national basis. At the moment the organisation of their activities both on a domestic and international level is in a very rudimentary and haphazard state, being controlled by three separate bodies.

The Universities' Athletic Union and the Women's Inter-University Athletic Board were founded in 1919 and 1923 respectively to promote sport among the Universities of England and Wales, which provide a certain amount of financial support. Oxford, Cambridge and London and the Scottish and Irish Universities, which have controlling bodies of their own, though not full members, take part in some of the activities arranged by the U.A.U. or W.I.V.A.B.

Single Body

The British Universities' Sports Board, a separate organisation, was founded in 1951 to further participation in international sporting events and has been the force behind sending representative teams to the World Student Games held every two years. The financial difficulties have always been considerable and will grow even worse as funds have to be raised by voluntary efforts, often by the students themselves. Consequently, competitors have had to pay a part of their own expenses to compete in the games. This has clearly prejudiced team selection, as some of those chosen have had to decline acceptance for financial reasons.

It is obvious that none of the controlling bodies are properly equipped to meet the present, let alone the future demands there are likely to be made on them. Lack of money is clearly the problem. With this in mind, a single body has been proposed not only to improve the standard of administration, but also to widen the scope of inter-university sport in the U.K. and secure the best possible representation in international events. This is a BRITISH UNIVERSITIES SPORTS FEDERATION.

It would incorporate all the Universities and University Colleges in the U.K. and take over the duties of the three existing bodies.

Support

Already the proposals have won general support from the majority of universities in the U.K. It is a long overdue plan, but things must not be rushed. Success can only come from careful and decisive action, and whether money is the root of all evil or not, it is the only single driving force that can ensure the smooth and efficient running of the new machinery.

HOPES SOAR—THEN FALL

but fine individual performances



DOWN, SPENCE and DAVIES who ran for England in the British Universities Championship.

LAST Saturday saw the climax of the season for the cross-country club, for the British Universities Championships were held then at Loughborough. The sun shone but it was breezy as the 180 runners assembled at the start. Spence, Down and Davies were somewhat elated when it was announced that they were running for an England team against a Scottish team simultaneously with the main Championships.

Then the mass of athletes turned from the college playing fields on to the heavy and sticky course of 6 miles. The route included long stretches of plough and a loop which was run over twice. Not until the 1½-mile mark had the field strung out, but Dave Spence and Mike Down were in the leading twenty, and at this stage Peter Roy was actually leading them. Jim Feast was not far behind; however Dai Davies, after a bad start, was much further back than expected.

Quick lead

The Cambridge runners, Turner, Johnston, and Briault, the English international, went into a quick twenty yard lead, while Hill of Manchester and Wood of Leeds were leading the next group. By the time the runners came round to the end of the first loop after three miles, Turner seemed to have the race well in hand, but Hill had moved up to second place and was clear of Johnston while Heywood of Reading had come through the field to fourth; Briault on the other hand having only just covered from the 1½ mile feeling the effects of the fast pace and dropping away.

Meanwhile Spence had established himself to 7th position and was maintaining it—an excellent performance. Similarly Down, just recovering from a glandular infection was only another 8 places back and was running well, while Davies had worked through the field, and was closing up on Feast who was in the early thirties.

There were no changes in the leading positions over the last two miles. Turner winning from Hill and Johnston. The four Birmingham runners maintained their efforts and Spence finished 7th, just fighting off a late challenge from Yeats of Durham over the last half mile. Down, only 19 seconds behind came in a very tired 15th while Feast and Davies were 28th and 30th respectively.

Not good enough

Hopes were high, but we knew our fate depended on the 5th and 6th scorers, and it seemed an age before Bob Groves and Peter Roy were in. Groves was 79th, and Roy a disconsolate and disappointing 101st. Inexperienced John Walsley came in 130th while, surprisingly, Dave Horwell could only manage 145th.

It was clear that our two last scorers just weren't good enough, but when the results were announced, it was a shock to the team that in the U.A.U. championship, Loughborough had won the title, with the favourites Manchester second, and ourselves third. It was rather a disappointment for the team. After the fine performances of the first four Birmingham runners—particularly Spence. Even so, it was Birmingham's best performance for many years.

VINTAGE RUGBY

Oxford Greyhounds ... 6pts.
Birmingham ... 12pts.

NO-ONE can remember the last time a victory was recorded against Oxford.

After being 6-3 down at half-time, the University played like men possessed and produced some champagne rugby. Although in the first half the University lacked determination and their tackling was a trifle weak, Garrett managed to slip over from a loose scrum following a good kick ahead from Knowles.

With the wind in their favour in the second half, the University really began to move the ball around. With Purdie, Pole and Scard in full cry, the pack ground their opposites into the turf while Davies kicked two penalties, one from forty yards.

The University produced many fine three-quarter movements but it was not until Woodhall linked up with the B'ham three and sprinted 25 yards to plunge over, that victory seemed certain. The game ended on a high note and Dai Scard enjoyed a happy 21st birthday present.

CHAMPS AGAIN?

THE University Badminton Team visited North Wales on Saturday, Feb. 4th, for the semi-final of the U.A.U. team Championships. Their opponents, Bangor, were unfortunate in having their captain down with flu and Birmingham had little difficulty, emerging victors by 9-0. Birmingham, the champions, now go forward to the final where they meet Manchester who beat Bristol 5-4 in the other Semi-Final.

The University side comprised: G. Laurie, D. Hartshorn; S. Hardy, L. Essex; A. Cook, J. Megson.

SMALL ADS.

"THE NATURE OF LIFE"
The Biological Society presents a symposium on this subject on Thursday, Feb. 16th, at 5.15 p.m. in the Large Botany Lecture Theatre.

Chairman: Prof. J. Heslop-Harrison.

Speakers: Mr. R. B. Drysdale (Dept. of Microbiology); Dr. B. John (Dept. of Genetics); Prof. O. E. Lowenstein (Dept. of Zoology); Prof. S. V. Perry (Dept. of Biochemistry).

UNITED NATIONS STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Joint political meeting on "Disarmament." Geoffrey Johnson-Smith (Conservative) and a Socialist speaker. Friday, February 17th. Committee Room 3. 5.15 p.m.

JEWISH SOCIETY PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Wolf Mankowitz. 2.30 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 26th. The new Council Chamber, the Union.

ATTENTION ALL MICE

Special lunches for cheese lovers.

PLACE: Founder's Room (Tuesdays).

Med. School (Thursdays).

TIME: 12.30 to 1.30.

MENU: Bread, Cheese, Jam.

PRICE: As for normal meal.

PROFIT: To World University Service.

SUNDAY FLIC:

8 p.m.: Deb. Hall.

"The 99 Steps"—with Kenneth More, and "The Bespoke Overcoat."



OLD THEME : OLD HERO

Davy Crockett rides again

AMONG my film heroes I must now number John Wayne, who has performed the tremendous task of producing, directing and starring in "The Alamo" (West End). This is just the sort of film I know I'm going to enjoy before I see it, and I wasn't disappointed. Even those who simply loath films of civil war in the early West—surely a small minority—should find much in this film to appreciate.

I'm not sure whether it is an adverse criticism to say that I wasn't quite with the set-up at the beginning. I eventually caught on but had already been impressed with the intelligent use of the big screen, the gorgeous colour, clear detail and unusual camera angles, all contributing to give a sense of great

power, lessened only by rather flabby variations of a basically good musical theme, "The Alamo."

No comment

One feels no need to comment on the performances of John Wayne and Richard Widmark (Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie) who seem as much at home in western-style acting as having breakfast, but Lawrence Harvey (Will Travis) seemed rather out of place, four thousand miles too far west in fact. However, as a soldier of true military calibre with all its unpleasant associations, he proved a convincing man of courage and the necessary contrast for the redoubtable triangle conflict.

With these three men lies the burden of delaying General Santa Anna's power-packed troops to allow time for General Houston to muster sufficient men to deal with them effectively. A comparatively small number of regulars, a handful of volunteers, a tumbledown mission and a limited food supply comprise their resources. Some wonder to us, who can reasonably expect a D.S.O. for outstanding bravery, that even the volunteers, in the face of certain and violent death, elect to stay. No wonder they discuss among themselves their beliefs in a "hereafter."

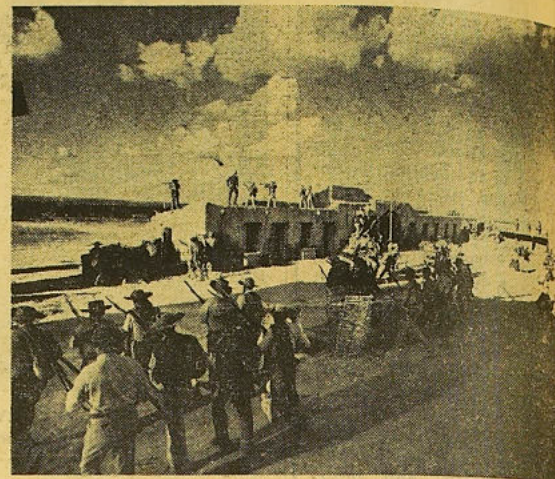
Calculated carnage

The ensuing battles were graphically presented. As never before, the futility of such calculated, cold-blooded carnage was brought home to me with every gun-shot, every corpse. It was only a matter of time before each side had levelled out its

opposing numbers, leaving the victorious surplus in the rear ranks. Our trio of heroes die in the spectacular manner expected of them, taking many with them in their death-throes. Such a thrilling climax is justified on the ground of commercial appeal, but we should never lose sight of the fact that war knows no man's true deserts.

This film is a true epic of quality, and to miss it would be to do John Wayne an injustice.

HARVEY JERVIS.



BATTLE SCENE IN TODD A-O.



John Wayne as Davy Crockett.

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with **FULL DIVIDEND** too

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BATS TO AID RADAR

TV research fellowship for Elec. Eng.

THE Electrical Engineering Department has been interested in research in both Radar and Sonar for the past four years. In collaboration with the research on underwater Sonar described in "Guild News" two weeks ago the work on Radar has resulted in the development of a system of electronic scanning. This is a technique which enables a radar aerial to look in different directions without having to move the aerial mechanically. Since this involves no moving parts, it means that aerals can be scanned very much faster than with mechanical scanning, in fact, it is possible to scan so fast that a radar system can be made to see in many directions simultaneously.

Further researches in these fields have recently been assisted by the setting up of an Associated Television Research Fellowship in electronics in the Department.

A more unusual project likely to start in the near future has arisen from a Biological study of

Science column

the behaviour of bats. Some species of these animals use high frequency sound waves as a method of locating objects in their surroundings. Some of these species are completely blind and navigate entirely by this method, that is, by making high frequency noises and then listening for the sound echoes from the surrounding objects. This represents a system quite similar to radar, but it appears to be a remarkably good one since the bats are able to detect and catch quite small insects, even against a fairly strong background of interfering noise.

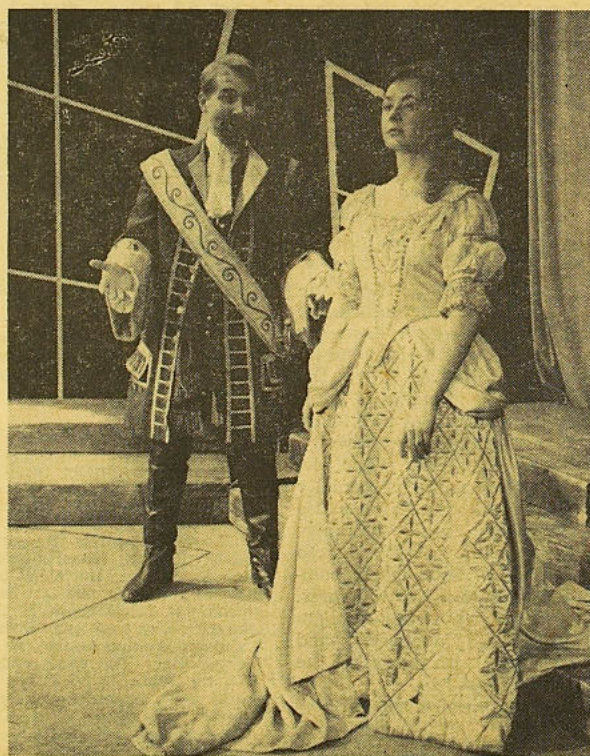
Recently some theories have been put forward which suggest how the bat is able to estimate accurately the position of surrounding objects by using its mouth as transmitter and two ears as receivers. It is known that some species of bats emit a noise which is a frequency increasing linearly with time, and the previously mentioned theory suggests how a bat could correlate the signals received at its two ears in order to estimate both the range and bearing of all surrounding objects.

Consequently it is proposed to construct in the Electrical Engineering Department, a radar system taking the form of a radar copy of this acoustic navigation system used by the bat. This would represent a completely new radar system although developed from biological research.

It is also interesting to consider that since there seems little doubt that the proposed system could be made to work as a radar system of some kind, it really does not matter to this research whether the relation of the theory to bats is true or false.

D. E. N. DAVIES.

A TRAGIC SIGHT



NEVILLE HOLMES as Aeneas and Jane Gilding as Dido in last week's production of Purcell's "Dido and Aeneas." (Photo: Dolphin).