

REDBRICK

Birmingham University

No. 767

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15th, 1969

Price 3d.

THE price of "Redbrick" will be increased to 5d. (two new pence) on October 22nd. It has been found impossible to maintain the present price of 3d. for another year.

Last session the paper was in a position of serious financial debt. Printing costs have increased and advertising revenue has not. In an attempt to pay off some of our debts the price has been increased to a more realistic figure in line with most of the national papers.

We hope this action will not cause any one of you to lose interest in "Redbrick".

Has your car been towed away today?

POLICE are now towing away all cars parked by members of the University on Edgbaston Park Road or on the corner of Pritchatts Road and Edgbaston Park Road. This was done last year with some success, but the situation has now worsened again. People who have their cars towed away will

be liable to prosecution and will have to pay £5 10s. towing-away charge before they can recover their cars.

Police have also issued a warning to all bicycle owners to make sure that they know the frame number of their bicycle, as there is a continually increasing number of bicycle thefts in the area of the University.

SOCIALIST SECRECY PROTEST

by JOHN KEETLEY

MEMBERS of Socialist Society plan to attend a closed meeting of a University working party next Thursday. This was revealed yesterday when a letter stating the Society's intention was sent to the University Secretary, Mr. Harris.

The decision to send observers came during a committee meeting earlier yesterday. A spokesman said that Socialist Society believes in the principle of no secrecy in the government of the University and consequently will invite its members to observe the proceedings of the working party.

The working party was formed as a result of last year's sit-in and is intended to look into the membership and terms of reference of the projected Commission which is "to consider and make recommendations upon democratic alternatives to the present government structure of the University." There are six student representatives.

One of the four principles that emerged from the Occupation was that of the abolition of secrecy which, if accepted, would permit any member of the University to attend meetings of various University committees in the capacity of observers. It already seems likely that the Guild representatives on the working party will be using this and the

other three points as a basis for further negotiations.

One of the student members, Carolynne Dennis, is under a direct mandate from Socialist Society which means that she will be under obligation to act in the manner which the society dictates. This could mean that she might be banned from attending the meeting as there has been a policy not to accept mandated representation in the past.

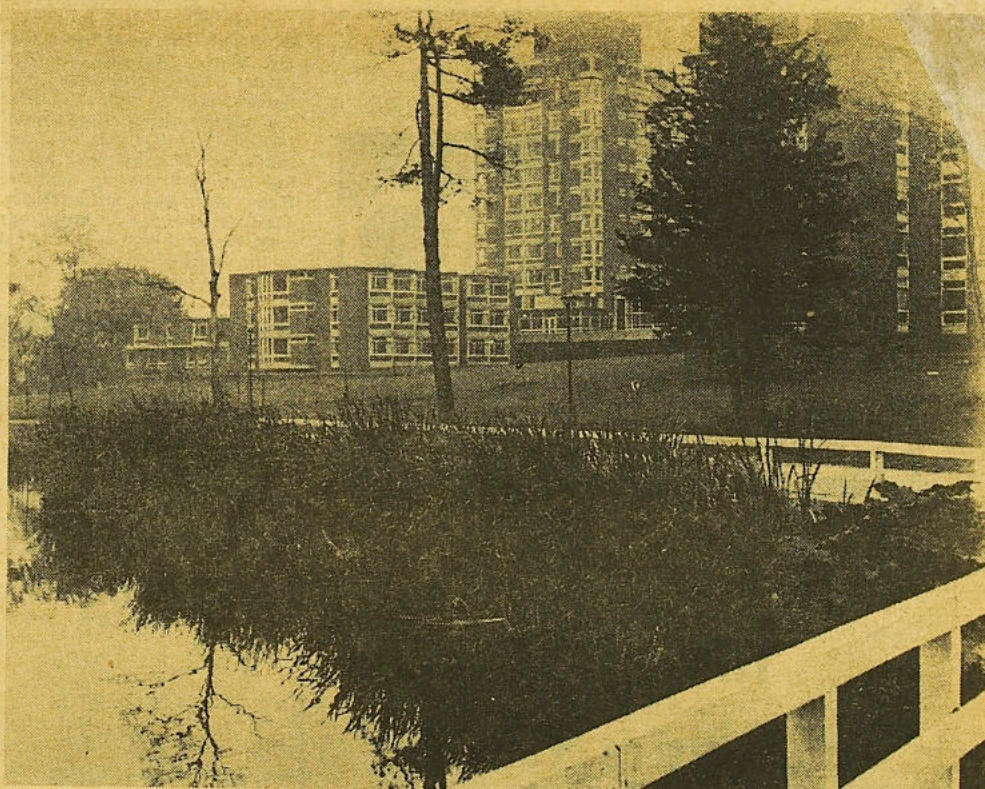
Such a ban by the University would make a further protest by Soc. Soc. quite probable and action by the Guild might possibly be considered. One course has already been hinted at and this could involve the Guild in a withdrawal of its representatives from this and other committees.

Barnabas for teach-in

ON Wednesday, November 5th the University is holding a day-long open forum consisting of discussions and debates. To go with the open forum Events Comm. are providing various entertainments of a different sort, the main one being a dance in the evening. This will feature Big Bear Ffolly, a multiple group consisting of Tea and Symphony, Locomotive, Sacrifice and Black Sabbath, who will do a solo spot and then join together for a semi-jam session.

The dance will take place in Deb. Hall, and costs 5/-.

During the day Barnabas will be playing in the Great Hall, and there are possibilities of a programme of films and an Open Theatre Group activity.



Mason Hall on an autumn afternoon.

Photo: MARTIN COOPER.

COLLECTION FOR RENT STRIKERS

A CAMPUS-WIDE collection is being held today and tomorrow to provide financial backing for the Balsall Heath rent strikers. There are now almost 40 people on strike, all of whom are determined to withhold their rent until they are rehoused, and rehoused at a fair rent. This compares favourably with the eight strikers six weeks ago.

Last Sunday an outdoor meeting in Balsall Heath was attended by about two hundred tenants and some local councillors, whose suggestions to end the strike were treated with derision. Wallace Lawler, Liberal councillor and M.P. for Ladywood, the constituency adjoining

Balsall Heath, was constantly heckled and interrupted. New strikers were enrolled at the meeting.

The Sunday meeting also decided to set up a Balsall Heath Tenants' Association which would include both tenants in slum dwellings and

those in the new council flats; the problem of the latter is exorbitant rents, and initial canvassing has shown a militant mood among them.

A meeting was held in the Union on Monday to try and enrol more student help—both from people with a general Socialist commitment to join TAG and from those prepared to help with general casework, canvassing, transport, etc. TAG is to have its own notice-board in the Union.

In Redbrick
TODAY

Page 5—F.U.B.

Centre Page—The Occult.

Pages 8 & 9—Reviews:—
The Marijuana Papers.

Heads Tales

WHENEVER I feel that the cultural side of "Redbrick" is somewhat lacking, I shall devote this column to some aspect of the Arts. Today, the topic is "Sex in History." I hasten to add that this is not the Editor's annotated memoirs, but an attempt to find the true causes of the Trojan War.

In the past, archaeologists have developed a number of theories to explain this momentous non-event. They have advanced economic motives, social motives, and political motives; in fact, one learned gentleman has been quoted as saying that the Greeks attacked Troy because they were after the world-famous Trojan poppy-fields. However, "Redbrick" is proud to give space to a thoroughly refreshing point of view, that of Mr. Reginald Pubes, a well-known amateur necrophile, and part-owner of a plastic dustbin factory in Manchester, Japan. Mr. Pubes is also the author of "Homosexuality: No-madic Poofs of Ancient Solihull," and of an as yet unpublished work, "The Convent and Virginity: The Sexual Athlete and his role in the modern Church." Of course, Mr. Pubes is also a firm believer in Astrology as a guide to modern life. He told me that he was a Virgo, and added proudly, "Hope is not yet lost, as my Aries are continually in the ascendant." He then showed me a photograph of a split rice pudding and claimed he was Queen of Scotland, and Bognor Regis' Council Monthly Pin-up of the Year 1937. With such qualifications, he can hardly fail to stimulate our interest in one of the most burning questions of all time...

Why was the Trojan War?

Reg. Pubes writes, "In my researches into the subject of the Trojan War, I believe I have struck completely new ground. As an example, I have undoubtedly proved that the citadel of Troy was not in Asia Minor, but instead stood high and windy on Hampstead Common, a mere stone's throw from Stone-

henge and Aberystwyth, the two greatest prehistoric bingo halls in the whole of South Africa. Evidence for this startling revelation will be forthcoming in a later edition of "The Lancelet", a weakly comic.

In an effort to find out the truth about the origins of the Trojan War, I have systematically rejected everything that has ever been written on the subject, including all the myths that used to be the bases of our information. I have also dismissed archaeology, as it is both irrelevant and issue-clouding. The real issue is this: if all this rubbish about wars and what-have-you actually happened, why did it happen? Helen, later known as Helen of Troy, was at this time an ordinary housewife, Mrs. Menelaos. Her husband, Menelaos, was universally regarded as a bit of a raver; he was youngish, and a man of considerable means. Yet Helen left him for a very young alien prince in a foreign land of which she was not of. The reasons for her departure cannot be economic, as money had not yet been invented, as any 14-year-old water-buffalo will tell you. Nor can they be political, as Marx had not yet invented real politics, as any 14-year-old Gerald Hitman will tell you. (Editor's Note: Try stopping him.)

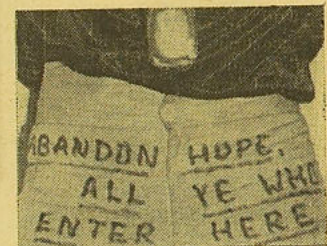
I am quite convinced that the truth is more basic. Evidence has recently come to light that will prove beyond any doubt that Helen ran away with Prince Paris of Troy simply because he had the biggest.

Unfortunately, lack of space prevents me from continuing. Until next week, then, adieu. In the meantime, a horny problem for you to solve...

What has Paris got that Menelaos hasn't? What is "the biggest", and just how big is it? Did Klaus really work late at the office? Can Jack and Martha work things out? Can I make it to the Main Bar before it shuts?



It is with regret that we publish today only two small portions of Mr. Bluer. Although we took several photographs, some mysterious quirk of nature rendered the middle section of each print invisible to the naked eye, and turned his more southerly person into an indescribable state of flux. For this, our apologies. (Editor's Note: Mr. Bluer has since informed us that he sneezed in the direction of the camera at the vital moment.)



This week back to front was brought to you by Pete Donkin B. B. Slayer (and a cast of thousands).

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A revised version

YET further pitfalls have this week beset B. B. Slayer, in his attempts to produce the "Gospel according to Pariah" poster. Despairing of ever getting it printed in its original form, and fearful of the wrath of the upholders of the obscenity laws descending upon him, he has modified some of the frames of the poster.

Another picture from it was to have appeared in this space this week; unfortunately moral censorship struck yet again, and so we have had to fill the space with another of Mr. Slayer's drawings, this time a well-known(?) local personage—no prizes for guessing who.

Otto Homburg

WE are anxious to trace the writer of a mysterious article left on the noticeboard in "Redbrick" Office. It deals with the suspicious behaviour of one Otto Homburg, and his attempts to wipe out the world.

First evidence indicates that the writer is a final-year or postgraduate student and is familiar with the Manchester winter supply. He, she or it also has some knowledge of American culture.

Any help with our search for this mysterious but talented person will be much appreciated.

Bluer: a man and his crutch

OBSERVANT inhabitants of the Main Bar may have noticed a peripatetic pair of pink denim trousers transporting a lugubrious-looking gentleman about the Lower Union. They are delicate and easily frightened trousers, and I was unable to apprehend and interview them; I was therefore forced to inquire of their nature from their trainer, Mr. Richard Bluer, a philosopher of little quality.

"My trousers are a satire," he said. "They mock our civilisation and all that it stands for. I am protesting against a barbarous cultural tradition which denies equal opportunity for the literary trouser."

As you may have gathered, Mr. Bluer's nether garments are much inscribed with words of wisdom and wit. His zippered region carries the legend, and also the phrase, 'Abandon hope all ye who enter here.' The left limb wears the symbolic arrangement of the chemical constituents of LSD, believed to be a reference to a consciousness-expanding hallucinogen. The arranged chemicals are described as 'The Prescription', and the trouser further recommends 'To be taken three times a day instead of meals.' The limb ends with the enigmatic exhortation, "Turn on your hot-water bottle TODAY."

I asked Mr. Bluer what was running down his right leg. He replied, with a gay laugh that I found somewhat disconcerting, "A personal appeal to millions of women. Also the chemical formula of tetrahydrocannabinol, known to thousands as T.H.C., a derivative of the active principle of cannabis. This is accompanied on my leg by a plea for kindness to my trousers, as they had a deprived childhood."

Mr. Bluer was honest with me to

the point of embarrassment. Leaning forward, he whispered confidentially, "Actually, 'Abandon Hope' is a reference to Dante's Inferno. You see, my crutch is a fiery hell." In a spasm of religious fervour, he leapt to his foot, cried, "I tell you, NO-one knows what my crutch is really like, deep down inside," and fled posthaste to the Anglican Chaplaincy. Thus did the trousers of Richard Bluer leave my life as they had entered it... wrinkled, lovable, and under considerable strain.

STOP PRESS

19th October. Sunday Stirrer writes:

"Trousers arrested in midnight swoop.

"In a dramatic midnight raid on a flat in Edgbaston, police seized a pair of pink denim trousers, owned by a Mr. Bluer, a Pakistani immigrant living with four teenage white girls and a thalidomide parrot called Hieronymus. A police spokesman said: 'The raid was carried out by my men when it was realised that these garments were being worn in contravention of the 1968 Drugs Act. Make no mistake about it... these trousers are DANGEROUS.'

"It is believed that the trousers will be charged with possession of an illegal member of the University; pink slavery; being an illicit still; there may also be a charge arising from copyrights held by the publishers of Dante's Inferno. There will be a joint charge of indecent exposure, in which Mr. Bluer will be prosecuted. He also faces several charges connected with minor motoring offences. Bail is not being granted."

Bread and Cheese for Third World

TODAY sees the first of a regular series of Wednesday meetings at 12.30 in St. Francis Hall. These "Third World Forum" meetings will be Bread & Cheese Lunches organised by International Club in aid of the South African Student Fund, and each week a speaker or a film will deal with a different aspect of the Third World.

This week's meeting is important as the launch-pad for a massive Third World First campaign in this University. This movement was begun in Oxford last February by students disgusted at the personal and national apathy towards the problems of the impoverished two-thirds of the world's population.

Defense of Hope and Glory

WEDNESDAY'S debate in Council Chamber was livelier than those which have preceded it this term, but the overall success was marred by an audience of only 120.

A Canadian touring team from McGill University, Montreal, proposed the motion "That Britain should be given back to the Druids." John Warre opposed the motion to a background of "Land of Hope and Glory" while Bob Vella made a vaguely anti-anarchist speech. The Canadian team had gone to considerable lengths to prepare their speeches and maintained a high standard throughout. The abstentions accounted for most of the votes cast but the motion was defeated.

Tonight there will be a debate on "Student power" with the University of Liverpool. Gerald Hitman will be speaking for Birmingham.

3WI, for short, attempts to persuade students to sign banker's orders for one percent or more of their grants, to go to any development project or radical movement of their choice. More important is the educational follow-up leading to more political action on aid and development.

At least 50 volunteers are needed to take the University by storm in 10 days' time and to reach a target of 1,000 banker's orders—members of the original group will be at today's meeting and you are urged to come and help get 3WI moving in Birmingham.

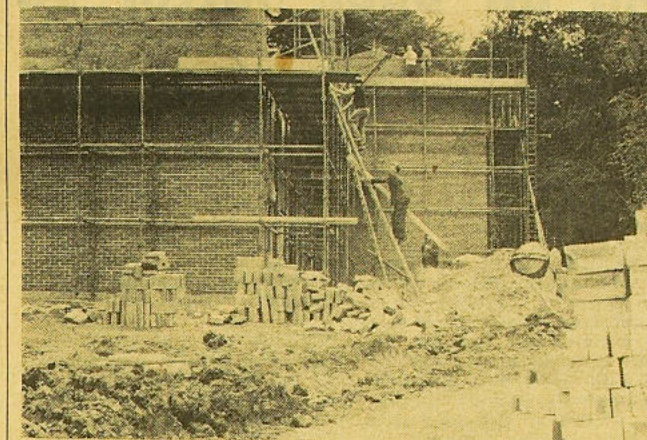
NEW MIDLAND ARTS MAGAZINE

THE Midlands are soon to have their own magazine for the publication of the works of young writers.

The magazine is to be published by a company set up recently for this very purpose. It is Midlands Arts Publications, of 44a Mell Square, Solihull, whose directors, all honorary,

RACIALIST LANDLORDS CONDEMNED BY N.U.S.

By
PETER
DONOVAN



The Manor flats under construction at the moment.

The N.U.S., in response to pressure from its membership, has prepared a statement on lodgings to clarify its policy on the subject. The statement, which recognises that "lodgings are not only becoming increasingly difficult to obtain, they are becoming increasingly unpopular with students," urges people to consult the Lodgings Officer if rules in lodgings are found to be particularly irksome, and draws attention to the "tremendous inconsistency in residence regulations" as a whole.

Students should be clear about their legal position concerning the giving of notice and payment of rent, and should also be aware of the 1965 Rent Act, whereby tenants or landlords may take complaints about unjust rent to a Rent Tribunal.

On the question of shortage of lodgings, the statement rejects the view that there should be an increase in the number of students living with their parents.

Racism as practised by landlords who refuse to take overseas students on the grounds of colour are particularly condemned and it is urged that such landlords should be struck from the lodgings lists. It also mentions the shortage of accommodation for married students, and calls for the setting-up of more day nurseries or creches.

The statement recommends that there should be area housing boards responsible for all types of accommodation for students in a given area, as well as "adequate student presence on all committees which deal with accommodation."

comprise a printer, an ad-man, a sales rep and a journalist.

Although the primary purpose of the magazine is to provide an outlet for creative expression of young writers, it is also intended to include critical articles on many other arts as well as a diary of artistic events.

The company, which anticipates a Midlands-wide circulation, is at present scouring the area for contributions of all kinds.

The magazine's editorial staff say: "We are waiting with open arms for contributions from anyone who thinks his work needs publishing."

They add that although the magazine will have an initial bias towards the literary arts, they intend to expand the scope of the

publication as soon as circumstances allow.

The first edition's deadlines have not yet been set, so it is not yet known when it will be available to the public.

C.A. at Commons

MANY old people living in Birmingham Corporation dwellings do not make use of their heating equipment, says a report by Festival's "Community Action" section.

The report, which has been prepared from questionnaires completed by over 200 old people from four different districts in Birmingham, is being presented at a press conference at the House of Commons at 12.30 p.m. today.

The subject of the report is "Hypothermia"—a condition of low body temperature induced by living in cold surroundings—which was responsible for 92 deaths in this country during the winter 1968/69. During Festival week investigations were carried out by students into the living conditions in modern council flats, "substandard" terraced houses and a number of other Birmingham Corporation dwellings.

Living-room, bedroom and kitchen temperatures were recorded, and the residents were asked to supply information about how they used their heating equipment and the type of food they ate. Many people were not using the electric under-floor heating devices because they thought the cost would be too high. Those living alone tended not to bother cooking themselves hot dinners.

Amongst the recommendations arising from the report, the compilers stress the importance of educating people in the use of their heating equipment for optimum results.

The Chem. Eng. Committee apologise for the non-appearance of their Celtic Maidens in this edition of "Redbrick." A typical "Redbrick" photo would not have given the desired effect. Everyone is advised to go to the Dance and see them in the FLESH.

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The Listener

October 16 is a special

Universities Number

with particular reference to the teaching of Communications

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by TOM HOPKINSON
Teaching Television in
American Universities
by KENNETH ADAM
formerly Head of
BBC Television
University Radio York
by PETER NICKOL
University Magazines
by MARY-KAY WILMERS

The Scientific Pretensions
of Sociology
by GEOFFREY HAWTHORN
Lecturer in Sociology,
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Interview with
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A conversation recorded
shortly before his death with
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Extracts from an open letter to the President

DEAR MIKE,—I have sadly come to the conclusion that Council and Executive are not the "legitimate" representatives of the student body. I base this on two assumptions. The first, a purely political one, is that such a small percentage of students participate in elections that by a link process Council and Executive cannot claim to represent the student body. The second assumption is that you claim to represent the student body but I believe that many of your actions, and those of Executive and Council would not receive widespread support amongst the student body.

What we have representing us is no more than a bureaucratic elite elected by the minority political strata, and representing their own interests. These interests are becoming more and more alienated

from the interests of the mass, as the latter becomes more disenfranchised with events and progress.

Yourself and the majority of your Executive seem to be more interested in the status and privileges of their positions, rather than trying to make the Guild more relevant to the student body as a whole. A certain Executive officer spends most of his day strutting about the Union, sitting in the coffee bar telling people he is an Executive officer instead of spending time seeing how our services in the Union can be improved, for there is indeed scope for improvement. They seem inclined to indulge in petty vendettas and intrigue. Obviously there is not a lot of work to be done.

I feel that we lack direction at the moment. What is our policy towards University? What have we really achieved since the sit-in? What are our objectives? There is no satisfactory answer to these questions.

We are involved in a power struggle with astute and experienced University administrators who outmanoeuvre us at every turn. One of the reasons for this is that we lack fixed objectives to fight for. We were able to generate quite a lot of interest which culminated in the sit-in because we had a fixed objective to fight for in the form of Student Role, this being what the struggle revolved around. Now that we have achieved in arithmetical terms the contents of Student Role, I think two points must be accepted.

- (1) We will never be allowed by the University authorities to play a constructive role in the government of this establishment until we have a substantial proportion of students supporting an existing policy. For it is in mass support that the potential for sanctions lies, and this and only this will make them shift.

- (2) Interest cannot be stimulated unless there is a concerted effort on the part of the leaders of the system directed around a focal point.

It is in respect of the above two points that I charge you with lack of action. Your regime has lost the incentive that was provided at the beginning of this academic year, before students settled into fixed patterns of behaviour, to initiate discussion on what our role in the University should be. You as President were too busy concentrating on external issues not directly relevant to the student movement. Priority should be given at all times to matters directly relating to the student movement. Festival, Guild Television, the dismantling of an over-loaded bureaucratic union, etc., must not be neglected while personal ambitions and interests are pursued. Resources in the form of money, manpower are very scarce. If they are diverted all the time on external conflicts, then the basic priority issue will suffer.

Being outside the system and living in Mason Hall gives me the opportunity of discussion outside the Union elite. You would be surprised by the derogatory remarks that are made about the Union clique. Remarks which at most times are justified. While we participate in our petty intrigues and power games, those we are supposed to represent have nothing but contempt for us.

Definite changes are needed in the whole fabric of the Guild. I have now been convinced that the changes can only be brought about by action stimulated outside the Union elite. It is because of this and the other reasons previously stated that I tender my resignation.

There is a restlessness amongst some sections of the student body because the sit-in has made no difference to their role and if one is interested in change, then one's time would be better spent in assisting them with their endeavours.

In conclusion I would like to add that as a former Executive officer I have been guilty of all that I accused yourself and your Executive of. However, I feel that because of this personal experience I am in a position now to critically appraise the situation.

Yours sincerely,

ELVIN B. MC DAVID

Politics of the Townswomen's Guild

DEAR Madam,—I was one of those involved in the "scenes of political bickering, naive political wrangling and emotional outbursts" which took place in Executive Lounge after Professor Halsey's Open Lecture. It would appear that your report of the occasion was written by someone with a remarkably vivid imagination whose nearest experience of politics has been the Townswomen's Guild. If that was political bickering, your reporter is going to run out of words before long.

Professor Halsey's valuable research on Educational Priority Areas does not exist in a vacuum; it is based on a particular view of the way government does and should work and of the relationship between the government, "reformers," and those whose social circumstances need to be changed. The idea that one feeds information to ministers and civil servants, who then hand down the reforms to those who need it, appears to be contradicted by our experience of fighting for changes in the structure of the University and of the experience of the tenants of Balsall Heath in fighting for decent housing.

The Fabian assumptions of Professor Halsey also mean that he differs from us in his estimation of what kind of reforms can be achieved in a capitalist society governed by Social Democrats. We thought that this was a fairly crucial debate. The fact that Professor Halsey was "trying to keep his temper," in your reporter's words, is irrelevant to the substance of the argument.

Yours,

CAROLYN DENNIS,
(Socialist Society)

Regrets to Simon O. Ber-
man, Chem. Eng. I. We
did not have room to print
your letter but it was a
beautiful idea anyway.
You beat us at our own
game.

Yours, etc.,

ANDY SHEPHERD,
Econ. & Eng. IV.

The Israeli point of view

DEAR Madam,—Though I am broadly in sympathy with the humanitarian feelings expressed by Matt Connolly in his article "Jordan: the circus has ended," particularly with regard to the refugee tragedy, I feel it necessary to offer some criticism not only on a factual level, but more importantly, on the direction towards which his conclusions lead us.

Firstly, I feel the traditional claim that the Arab side is not given a fair hearing in England is wearing rather thin. When he complains: "The much-pitied Israelis, with whom the Western World shows so much sympathy are not the only people to suffer in this war," he ignores the recent contributions of "The Observer" and particularly Michael Frayn, Keith Kyle, for the B.B.C., and last, but by no means least, the now influential pressure group at Westminster centred around Margaret Mackay. If, after this, Western support is still towards the Israelis, Matt Connolly must draw his own conclusions.

Secondly, in such an article as this, how certain can we be of the writer's authority with regard to facts concerning the Israeli economy? Who has told him about "the meteoric fall in tourists" and "the failure . . . to fill the kibbutzim with the usual supply of European students"? It seems to me that an Arab source would be particularly unsatisfactory, bearing in mind their excellent propaganda agencies.

Lastly, and the most important point, what is the aim of El Fatah in the Middle East? The writer admits himself that Arab groups have

Motor club not habitual lawbreakers

DEAR Madam,—We feel that we must draw public attention to the numerous inaccuracies contained within the article concerning the Motor Club which appeared on the sports pages of last week's "Redbrick."

We strongly deny the implications of bad feeling between the Motor Club and the public and should like to point out that no complaints whatsoever were received by us, or any other body, following last year's November Rally. The Motor Club has always taken great pains to consult the public and police over its routes and has never found "barricades" or "corn fields" blocking the route.

We must emphasise that the Club's November Rally is a novice's event and is, in fact, suitable for any driver in any car to enter.

The allegations that our members indulge in personal duelling on the public highway are totally unfounded; our members are not in the habit of breaking the law.

We beg to remain, madam, your humble and obedient servants.

Yours respectfully,

ROGER WISDOM,
Chairman,
DAVID BROWN,
Press Officer,
pp Motor Club.

Hymn to the Dawlish Road chippy

DEAR Madam,—I read with interest your centre page article in the Freshers' Edition of "Redbrick", concerning the various delights of Birmingham for the Student Gourmet. "The journalist and I have a lot in common," thought I, until the closing remarks about "chippies."

May I take this opportunity to enlighten your journalist and our freshers alike, by referring them to the unsung hero of University life, namely the "Dawlish Road Chippy" as myself and many other followers prefer to call him.

Not only is his fare cheaper in all respects to the "Selly Oak" (i.e. Bristol Road) version, but it is of infinitely superior quality. Since it is situated near the University end of Dawlish Road, and is barely further from the Grange Road exit to the University than its unfortunate competitor, how it escaped your journalist escapes me!

My connection with the food palace is simply that of a very satisfied customer, who, over a period of three years, has never ceased to be amazed at the wonderful Brummy Friendliness that the "King" has always shown me.

Yours, etc.,

ANDY SHEPHERD,
Econ. & Eng. IV.

The structure of your mind

THE Free University of Birmingham (or FUB) is an attempt to fuse the consciousness of the survivors of the intellectual decay which grasps this city in its clammy and apparently unyielding vice.

The prototype of the Free University (or open university, or what you will) movement was created at Berkeley in the U.S.A. in 1964, when the overwhelming dissatisfaction with the mechanical and manipulative teaching methods finally welled up into the first of the direct action movements, whose sit-ins and demonstrations are now such a familiar part of the educational scene in almost all "civilised" countries.

Free University

The resulting crystallisation produced the Free University of Berkeley, which now has many courses and involves hundreds of both students from the Old University and eager members of the intangible and ephemeral "community." From this beginning, other universities in America and Europe have followed the way of change, and Free Universities are now rampant, most notably in Amsterdam and Berlin.

The history of the Free University of Birmingham is analogous, if rather diluted. The crisis which

resulted in its inception was the sit-in and its antecedent mood and subsequent events. The desire for educational change seemed to be too valuable, both because of its intensity and its rarity, to be allowed to lapse into a state of suspended animation until its reincarnation by the stimulation of more inspired rhetoric.

And so, not without some furtive fumbling in the dark, the virgin birth of F.U.B. took place in a bare committee room because there was no place at the Executive Lounge, and heralded by neither trumpets nor sackbuts. Its aims have never been written in a book of rules because one of them is that there should be no rules.

Everybody has his own conception of the Free University—its structure is the structure of your mind.

Everyone welcome

The aspirations of the instigators of the thing are known only to them, but have things in common. That those who learn, learn what they like. The nature of the course, the things it discusses, the way it is structured, are decided by those who participate. Any member of the human race, paid-up or not, is welcome. If your pet cobra is interested, bring him too.

Since those who attend come from all compartments of humanity and from many different disciplines, the courses tend to be interdisciplinary, to pull in the relevant parts from the relevant subjects of the Old University and fuse them into what is hopefully a constructive educational project. They are not for the technologist who wants to

learn more about the tiny fragment of science that he is tossing about. But the technologist who wants to learn the social and philosophical bases of his subject, its place in the scheme of things can gain nothing but profit, both for his own broadening consciousness and those of whom he manifests his technology.

No barriers

That the traditional authoritarian barrier between teacher and taught should be abolished. The existing lecture system cannot but perpetrate, then perpetuate, confusion in the minds of anyone whose consciousness is not fused with the lecturer's. The Free University does not recognise anyone as having authority or as demanding any respect other than that he deserves by virtue of his own personality.

the person who's talking at that moment.

As regards particular courses, last term courses on Workers' Control and Industrial Democracy, Man and his Environment, Women's Liberation, Free University Principles and Practice, and Workshops on Poetry and Political Theatre were flourishing.

The Political Theatre Workshop incorporates arousal of political awareness by means of revolutionary theatre performances and street theatre. It is held at the Arts Lab (and is run by them). To find out details ring Pete Stark at the aforesaid institution (359 4192).

The Man and his Environment course explores the broadest aspects of human ecology, such as population increase and means of control, the relationship between projected population increases and likely food resources, pollution of air and water and, in general, the way that man is destroying himself by virtue of his technology being so far in advance of his realisation of its implications.

Meetings

The course is action based, both long-term in the shape of infiltration into, and awakening of, planning and public health departments, for instance, and short-term, e.g., clearing of rubbish from local (potential) beauty-spots. It meets in the Gun Barrels Pub (at the bottom of Edgbaston Park Road) in the first bar on the right —also at 8 p.m. on Wednesday.

Hopefully this article has presented a résumé of the nature and aspirations of the Free University.

Small number

At present it consists of only a small number of individuals and many more people are needed before the groups can manifest their full potency.

If you would like to see a course on any topic started, then start it yourself. The only things that would be required of you would be to act as a co-ordinator, to make mundane arrangements and attend to details of organisation. No matter who you are—staff, students, lavatory-cleaner or other amateur schizophrenic, please come and be involved. Don't worry about entrance qualifications—interest and activeness are the only ones. Or any form of assessment—we have enough confidence in our courses for judgment to be unnecessary.

If you would like further details of any aspect of the Free University, please correspond with L. S. D. Head via the Union pigeonholes.

Conference visits

The course on Workers' Control and Industrial Democracy is run in collaboration with the adult education establishment at Fircroft College in Selly Oak, and exists to explore the theory and practical possibilities of particular factories and, by extrapolation, industry in general, being controlled by the workers who participate in them. Visits have been made to conferences and also to the only factory in England where workers' control is already in operation and has been shown to be viable. The course is continuing at Fircroft College (on the Bristol Road on the far side of Selly Oak) on Wednesday at 8 p.m.

For reasons of dissipation of anarchy, masturbation, circularity and such evils, it is sometimes found necessary for a member of the group to give a short talk to form a base for further discussion, but any such assignment of role is purely temporary.

The teacher at any moment is

And if anyone wants to help

THE F.U.B. and Guild Education Committee will be working together on a counter-curriculum catalogue which will be a comprehensive critique of all first-year courses.

The catalogue will be compiled after close examination of this large section of the student body, it is proposed to rate courses and supply information which will provoke useful and controversial

discussion on course content and teaching standards throughout the campus.

Anyone interested in contributing by discussion or practical work should attend the next meeting of the group on FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17th, at 1.00, in St. Francis Hall and/or contact Education Office in the Union.

every department). On the basis of the collective experience of this large section of the student body, it is proposed to rate courses and supply information which will provoke useful and controversial

THE BIGGEST HIT IN THE CINEMA TODAY!

"I LOATHE DRUG TAKING, HATE HIPPIES. BUT I URGE YOU TO SEE 'EASY RIDER'. A CONVINCING PICTURE . . . CAPTURES THE FRIGHTENING ATMOSPHERE OF VIOLENCE IN THE UNITED STATES"

GERARD GARRETT—DAILY SKETCH

"NO FILM BEFORE HAS CAUGHT THE PRECISE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE DRIFTING GENERATION OF YOUNG AMERICANS, THE CONTRACTORS-OUT, AS WELL AS THIS . . . IT IS WELL WORTH SEEKING OUT"

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR
—THE TIMES

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TERRY SOUTHERN
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FROM SUNDAY FUTURIST BIRMINGHAM

CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES
DAILY 12.15, 2.45, 5.15, 7.50 pm. SUN. 3.00, 5.25, 7.50 pm.

REVIEWS



BOOKS

PARIS was not Petrograd; May did not reach October. But Paris was in no way a defeat. For years the Left in Europe has been writing letters from afar, attempting analysis, expressing solidarity, discussing strategy. In May the struggle suddenly arrived at home. In all advanced capitalist countries revolution has been placed on the agenda.

Analysis of what happened in France has been the basis of all subsequent theory. The "ouvrierist" disparagement of the student role in revolution has been totally discredited as has Marcuse — and his theory of the integration of the working class. Events have disproved it.

We present this week extracts from the work of Ernest Mandel on the May events. Ernest Mandel will be speaking at the University later this month. He is renowned as perhaps the greatest Marxist economist now working. He is also a revolutionary activist. He is a leading member of the Belgian section of the Fourth International.

The first extracts come from a speech made at the Mutualite in Paris on the night before the barricades. His audience was vast. It spilled from the hall into the corridors and outside into the streets. His subject on the eve of the greatest confrontation between State and worker to have hit the European front for decades was the proletarianisation of students. The effect of his speech on the revolutionaries who heard it should not be underestimated.

"What the student revolt represents on a much broader social and historic scale is the colossal transformation of the productive forces which Marx foresaw in his Grundrisse: the re-integration of intellectual labour into productive labour, men's intellectual capacities becoming the prime productive force in society.

This is still embryonic and is un-realizable within the framework of capitalist society but it is already powerfully announcing itself. When we hear pseudo-Marxists talking disdainfully about the students as "bourgeois youth" and "future bourgeois" we see a threefold error.

First of all, they fail to understand the university explosion which has made these "bourgeois youth" a small minority today in the student world (as the children

of workers are also still a tiny minority today). Next, they do not understand that as a result of profound changes in intellectual employment of the majority of university graduates will no longer be bosses, or professionals, or even direct agents of the bosses with strictly supervisory functions, but white-collar employees in the State or industry, thus part of the great mass of salaried employees.

From this basic Mandel draws his idea of the role of students in the struggle. His celebration of intellectual power was not isolated. Already the slogan "Imagination is Seizing Power" was on the lips of the student vanguard. He went on:

"And underlying this three-fold error is their unwillingness to understand, or accept, a fundamental fact — that man's chief productive force will be his intellectual power. This intellectual power is only potentially productive today because capitalist society beats it down and stamps it out as pitilessly as it beats down the personality and creative power of the manual workers."

Mandel was acting as a mouth-piece generalising what the revolutionary movement already knew at an individual level. They knew that their real interests were not with the bourgeoisie. Mandel concretised this feeling:

"There is an urgent task to be done of re-integrating the student movement into the workers' movement. Yes, the workers' movement must win back the student movement, most of all inasmuch as the students are workers."

But Mandel refused to follow in the footsteps of those who felt that the students could go it alone:

"It is within the working-class, rising up in spontaneous struggle against the capitalist system, creating its own new leadership, its own committees, that this reconquest will take place, through action and in action, in their mutual interest, and in the interest, the supreme interest of the revolution. And if we fight for this reunion — if we fight for this alliance and this convergence between the student revolt and the revolution in Western Europe, it is because we know very well that neither by virtue of their numbers nor by virtue of their place they hold in society, can the students alone overthrow bourgeois society in the West.

"They can and must play a powerful role as detonator. By playing this role within the working-class, above all through the intermediary of the young workers, they can free in the working-class itself enormous forces for challenging capitalist

EXHIBITIONS

THE exhibition of baroque art in Bohemia (at the City Art Gallery) is exuberant; it is not something to go and see if you're feeling depressed, as the exuberance of the art becomes merely oppressive if not countered by good spirits in the observer. Indeed, the exhibition has the spirit of an all-conquering, if rather cynical, optimism, which is so characteristic of Czechoslovakian art; it has been evident in the classic "Good Soldier Schweik" and in films such as "Fireman's Ball" and "Closely Observed Trains."

The first part of the exhibition is devoted to photographs of baroque buildings in Bohemia (or in present-day Czechoslovakia)—many are churches, but there are some unexpected manifestations of this rich art, as in the rococo farmhouse at Plastovice with its curly-ended gables.

The simple monastery church at Sedlec, whose plain walls flower

into superbly intricate ceiling vaulting, is one of the most beautiful of the buildings; the ceiling and the plain pillared walls would be a perfect foil for the rich-golden church vestments which are also on display in the exhibition.

But the photos only serve as background to the statues and paintings which form the bulk of the exhibition. The paintings, in particular have a robust simplicity; they are naïvely uninhibited, amazingly human, as in Kupecky's beautifully poney portrait of the miniature painter Karl Bruni, with his elegant posture, embroidered jacket, sleek skin and carefully ostentatious jewels.

Similarly human is Petr Bandl's portrait of a man in a brown cloak, which is dominated by alcoholic arrogance—but Brandl's self-portrait conveys a similar expression, only tempered by surprise.

The more detailed pictures, of which there are few, have a Breughelian quality, in spite of the fact that they were painted a couple of hundred years later; the best of these, and by far the most intricate picture in the exhibition, is

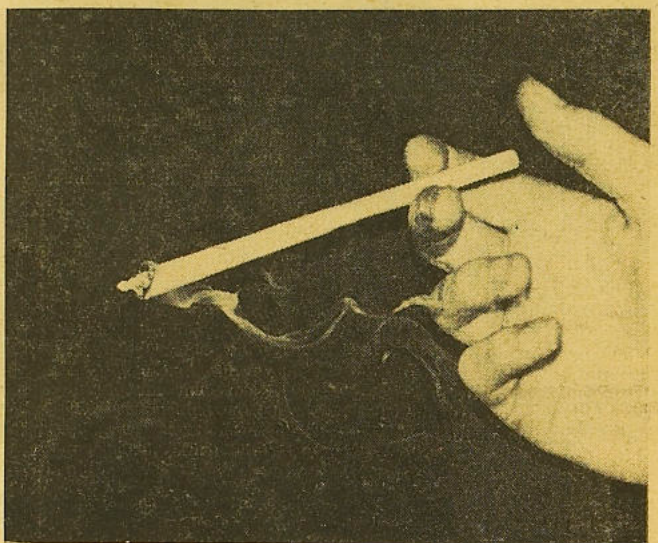
Roelant's Savery's "Wooded Landscape."

The statues provide an irreverent but, not disrespectful treatment of Christian and pagan saints; there is a statue of St. Gregory, benevolent and homely in spite of its gilt, and a crude but lively carving of St. Nicholas. One of the most striking pieces in the whole exhibition is the ashily pale, awestruck St. John.

In spite of its joyful magnificence the baroque art also provides some incredibly fine pieces, as the 18th-century glass and the inlaid chests and boxes.

The whole exhibition (which is, incidentally, beautifully mounted) is of a rich and optimistic art, which makes no comment on, and gives no impression of, poverty, squalor and oppression. This Bohemian art, for all its magnificence, retains a happy simplicity, which even the pictures of the buildings (built for outside enjoyment as much as inner comfort) and the magnificently baroque Prague, do not hide.

JENNY WICKHAM



A JOINT

IN any reasoned discussion of a subject evidence is essential. On the subject of the control of Marijuana there has been much discussion and little evidence. Non-users assert that it is (a) a dangerous drug in itself, (b) leads on to other deadly drugs such as heroin and cocaine, (c) is addictive and is therefore a social menace. Those who do use it argue, on the evidence of their own experience, that it is not addictive, is not dangerous and results in graduation to other drugs only in a few cases, and then rather because of the person than because of the drug.

The earlier argument was that marijuana "fills the victim with an irrepressible urge to violence" and "incites to revolting immoralities, including rape and murder." It also "causes insanity as its speciality."

This is a far cry from the present image of the marijuana user as someone incapable of moving, let alone harming anyone.

The differentiation between various products of the cannabis sativa plant is also a surprise to most readers; apparently the 'marijuana' commonly smoked in the west is but a very mild form of the 'charas' which is "the finest product of the cannabis plant."

The book consists of a variety of sociological, cultural, literary and scientific papers including the Mayor La Guardia's Committee on Marijuana report. This report, together with the one by the Advisory Committee on Drug Dependence, headed by Baroness Wootton, and the Report of the Indian Hemp Drug Commission are the only three detailed investigations of the effects of marijuana. All three reported that the dangers of the drug were grossly over-estimated, all three have been ignored.

R. D. Laing said in introducing the book: "Within the covers of one paperback are to be found, I think, all the significant references to the subject, up to 1968." This is about as good a recommendation as one can give.

The other side of the argument can be obtained in publications by the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

ANTONY STEIN

society and the bourgeois state."

But, as I have said, Paris was not Petrograd. In Paris the question was posed but the inevitable answer was not yet forthcoming. Since May Mandel has attempted an analysis of the reasons. The subjective preconditions necessary for revolution were not present:

"As the P.C.F." (the French Communist Party) "is not a revolutionary party, and as none of the vanguard groups as yet has at its disposal a sufficient audience in the working-class, May 1968 could not terminate in a seizure of power. But a general strike accompanied by factory occupations can and should terminate in the conquest of anti-capitalist structural reforms, in the realisation of transitional demands — i.e. in the creation of a dual power, an empirical power of the masses opposed to the legal power of Capital. To realise such a dual power a revolutionary party is not indispensable; all that is necessary is a powerful spontaneous thrust by the workers, stimulated, enriched and partially co-ordinated by an organised revolutionary vanguard which is still too weak to dispute the leadership of the workers' movement directly with the traditional organisations, but already strong enough to outflank it in practice."

"The May explosion at one blow confronted the whole of French society with the social question of the epoch for the imperialist countries. Who will govern the machines? Who will decide investments, their orientation and location? Who will determine the rhythm of work? Who will select the range of products to be made? Who will establish the priorities in the use of the productive resources at society's disposal? Despite the attempt to reduce the General Strike to a problem of payment for labour power, economic and social realities oblige and will oblige everybody to discuss the fundamental problem, as formulated by Marx: 'Not merely ignore increased wages but the suppression of wage-labour'."

"Revolutionary socialists can only rejoice. The turn of events has confirmed what they have proclaimed for many years; that the logic of the neo-capitalist economy and of the intensified class struggle will increasingly displace the centre of gravity of debate and of action away from problems of redistribution of national income towards those of maintaining or overthrowing capitalist structures — in the firm, in the economy and throughout bourgeois society."

Ernest Mandel will be speaking at the University on the 28th of this month. His work will be available before then from the Socialist Society. Next week we will publish a review of his major work "Marxist Economic Theory."

GERALD HITMAN
(Copyright: "New Left Review")
Ken Tarbuck

The first misconception that is altered when one reads the book is that the present argument that marijuana leads on to the more dangerous drugs has always been

CINEMA

IF a film calls for an involvement to the extent that "Easy Rider" does, then it is difficult to criticise it. It is only on closer inspection that one realises that beyond the highly emotive surface the film achieves an objective coherence and form.

The direction, by Dennis Hopper, creates a horrible unity out of the odyssey of Captain America and Billie through the violently hostile country.

There are many ironies that become apparent such as when Fonda covers his dying friend with his stars-and-stripes leather jacket. The ending has a sickening inevitability, as the film cuts to a shot of Fonda speeding towards you.

It is not the eulogy of "Hippy" life that it was "exposed" as when it was first released. The use of marijuana throughout the film seems natural in context, and the repudiation of one kind of life does not entail the complete acceptance of another. The commune, as seen in organised society which is both brutal and degrading, but it is no easy way out. The scene where the commune scatter seeds in the dust

which they are stirring up with their feet, and the account of the last winter, when "they were out on the road, searching for dead horses" show that.

The use of "flash cuts" to join two scenes makes the changes less abrupt, and also prefigures the flash of the final sequence that occurs when Fonda looks at the plaque.

The differences between the characters of Captain America (Peter Fonda) and Billie (Dennis Hopper) form part of the complex patterns of reference that make this film so much more than a simple rejection of conventional life. Fonda is sympathetic and optimistic. "They'll make it," while Hopper is belligerent and sees money as the only way out of the system.

It is Hopper who insists that they leave the commune and continue to Mardi Gras. Eventually Fonda realises that they have lost their opportunity. He knows about time. The difference in character is underlined by the costumes, and when they are joined by George, his baseball outfit seems curiously appropriate.

The script, much of which was improvised, shows traces of the black humour of Terry Southern. The music is carefully chosen, and comments on the action

same path as the equivalent Royal Court productions the previous year, the D. H. Lawrence Trilogy (European Tour, Belgrade Festival, and a gradual wakening of interest in the provinces). This production marks an important step in the wider acceptance of his work.

Bond's plays are not simple, the stand repeated examination, offering fresh pleasure each time, and they are not dominated by one all-imposing message. Making huge advances with each play, Bond reaches his present apex in "Narrow Road to the Deep North," a play whose subtlety is the antithesis of Shaw at his ponderous worst. Nevertheless, Saved seemed more popular, possibly because it arose as the familiar, contemporary Setting. Bond believes in teaching moral scepticism and analysis to mitigate moral illiteracy, and that "Clutching at straws is the only realistic thing," are less effectively served by Saved.

Bond's craftsmanship matches the subtlety of his theme. He is scarcely the only modern author who can confidently manage that most vital

which gave the improvisations their form.

Alvin Lee is Ten Years After, just as Hendrix is the Experience. As an exponent of the guitar he is comparable with Clapton and Hendrix. All three have attempted to explore the full potential of the electric guitar, and to use the power and range of tones.

Lee has developed techniques which others used as mere effects, for example using the mic. stand to stop the strings, to such an extent that they have become an integral part of his solos. The strange chord sequences and his use of percussive effects are the more obvious characteristics of his style.

On Friday they played well "Hello Little Schoolgirl" and "Help Me" were totally overpowering. Nothing had changed. But that was really the problem. Their music has become static. Ten Years After really need a drastic change. Barnabas are rapidly evolving

It is hoped that the restaurant will serve two purposes: firstly as the only place in Birmingham where people can go to eat Macrobiotic food, and secondly, somewhere you can go to find out about Macrobiotics. To this end, there are printed recipe sheets available, and anyone who wishes to come into the kitchen to see how the food is prepared and cooked, or to have any queries answered, is welcome.

One of the difficulties in starting Macrobiotics is knowing where to buy the basic foods, and once that problem is solved, one of the de-

THEATRE

EDWARD BOND'S play Saved opened last week at the repertory theatre. It is a mark of our cultural aridity that Bond's work is not yet widely known.

His plays Pope's Wedding (1962), Saved (1965) and Early Morning (1968) were performed privately at the Royal Court Theatre. Pope's Wedding has been quietly forgotten. Saved refused a licence, and a repeat performance of Early Morning presented under threat of police action.

Shortly after the abolition of theatre censorship, Bond's fourth and latest play, Narrow Road to the Deep North (1968) appeared, specially commissioned for a two-week run at the Belgrade Theatre, Coventry, the first public production of Bond. At Easter, 1969, the Royal Court revived Bond's last three plays with great success.

These are now following much the

MUSIC

AMERICA is, I believe, a very big country. It also abounds with riches beyond the elfin imagination. Many talented musicians have been lured hence, sometimes never to return. "Ten Years After" have been absent for almost two years, and consequently their appearance at Mason was an event of immense magnitude.

Their sojourn in America curiously, has isolated them from the commercial pressures so injurious to Fleetwood Mac and other products of John Mayall's personality problems. Ten Years After, like Cream, developed a unique style which shared the common basis of blues, but subsequently expanded in amazing directions. The original influences provided a structure

FOOD

ON Wednesday nights, from 7 until 10 p.m., a Macrobiotic Restaurant is open at the Arts Lab, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham, 19.

There is usually a choice of main course, with dessert, cakes, bread, etc. Prices are kept as low as possible, bearing in mind that we do try to use only organically grown, chemical free foods, some of which have to be imported from Europe and Japan.

REVIEWS



PAUL BRETT SOMMERS.

WIDE screen stereophonic spectacles are but a dubious way of turning on. However, if you think you can blow your mind by watching a mountain blow its top, "Krakatoa, East of Java," at the Gaumont, may give you a certain measure of success.

No-one is likely to deny that the eruption is the only reason the film was made, but it has been gift-wrapped in an appallingly confused plot which provides even further excuse for epic action, whilst lending the film a form of continuity.

Maximilian Schell, Diane Baker and the rest of the cast deserve medals for saving some of the lines they are given. Even so, the whole thing goes off with a bang and provided you are not carried away, on a wave of excitement, the film is not likely to do your sensibilities any harm.

Footnote: I am reliably informed that Krakatoa was west of Java. So much for the film's research department.

JONAS LEGRIF



EASY RIDER



PENTANGLE, OCTOBER 29th, AT THE TOWN HALL



TEN YEARS AFTER

into an entity. They were rather better positioned than the main group, who, thanks to some quirk of organisers, were playing to a blank wall.

Another group, whose name I have mercifully forgotten, also appeared.

My unwise remarks concerning the talents of the photographer recently repaid their inevitable reward. We therefore are reprinting last week's picture.

The Pentangle are deservedly reckoned one of the most inventive forces in contemporary music. Although they are occasionally rather disorganised, they represent the fusion of the best elements in folk music. In spite of the conservative tendencies of some of their audience they are constantly introducing new songs into their repertoire. Their current tour should prove that they are still a vital force.

ANTONY STEIN

To help with this, the organisers do have some basic ingredients for sale—rice, tahini, loaves, etc., and soon will have a link with Ceres, the new Macrobiotic shop off Portobello Road, in London, and will be selling food that is not at present available in Birmingham.

ANGELA TANCOCK.

sport 1

CROSS-COUNTRY

OPPOSITION FROM COLLEGES EASILY SNUFFED OUT

THE first big test on the calendar of the University Cross-country Club is the annual University College, London Relay at Parliament Hill Fields, which brings together all the top university and college teams in the South and Midlands. As the result of the early season trials, the Birmingham team went there with very high hopes of success; but even the greatest optimist would not have predicted the margin of their success.

Dave Gallaway, a post-graduate newcomer to the team, ran the first stage for Birmingham. He was one of a group of three runners who came up the final hill clear of the rest of the field. Freshman Nigel Bailey took over and lost no time in establishing a lead which he had extended to 15 seconds by the end of the lap. Behind our lads, Loughborough Colleges, Southampton University and defending champions Borough Road College, were desperately battling for the honour of following the U.A.U. champions home.

Andy Holden and Malcolm Thomas on the next two circuits, ran the day's two fastest laps (only just outside Mike Tagg's course record), extending Birmingham's lead to over a minute.

John O'Meara suffering from a knee injury all last week, ran so well on the fifth stage that Borough Road star man Mal Absolam could hardly make any impression on the lead. Pete Griffiths strode around the last stage, never needing to respond to the fans' chants of "Geno, Geno..." and broke the tape with a suitable salute almost a minute ahead of the next team and well inside the previous course record. His subsequent celebrations had to be seen to be believed.

The second team also exceeded expectations by steadily improving to an eventual sixth place. Especially pleasing was the form shown by Phil "Mr. Manor" Smith and Gordon Thompson, who have improved tremendously this year, showing the benefits of enthusiasm and extra training.

A week on Saturday the team will venture up to Manchester, to take on the might of the Northern Universities, and after this week's devastating performance their hopes must be high.

Results:—
1 Birmingham University "A", 47m. 15s. (Gallaway 7m. 58s., Bailey 8m. 08s., Holden 7m. 43s., Thomas 7m. 41s., O'Meara 7m. 58s., Griffiths 7m. 57s.)
2 Borough Road College, 48m. 15s.
3 Loughborough Colleges, 48m. 42s.
4 Birmingham University "B", 50m. 35s. (R. Brown 8m. 30s., C. White 8m. 44s., G. Russell 8m. 19s.,

Smith 8m. 27s., Thompson 8m. 16s., S. Gibbons 8m. 19s.).
Fastest Laps:—
1 Thomas (Birmingham) 7m. 41s.
2 Holden, 7m. 43s.
3 J. Lane (Southampton) 7m. 45s.
4 M. Absolam (Borough Road) 7m. 48s.



Welsh international, Mal Thomas, last year's captain, winner of the fastest leg in the U.C. relay this year.

ORIENTEERING

VICTORY FOR FRESH VAL PACEY

AT the Midland Orienteering Championships at Welshpool last Sunday, the University's freshers acquitted themselves well. Valerie Pacey crushed the inter-ladies' field by over 90 minutes, and in the inter-men's race, fresher Edward Finch snatched fourth place in a high-class field, including University captain Roger Start, who managed third.

A competent run by Dave Goodwin saw him into eighth place, and with Peter Stevens completing the scoring four in 16th place, the University team gained second place behind national champions Combined Harvesters.

During the vacation, Dave Hay was fifth in the Welsh two-day event and in the Lakeland relay race, Alan Jones and the Goodwin Bros. brought Birmingham home in first place. Roger Start enjoyed five weeks of Orienteering abroad. At the Euro meet in Belgium, he ran for England, over an eight-mile course for Senior men, finishing 56th out of 120 starters. He then went to Norway for a training week and on to Sweden for a five-day event featuring 6,000 competitors. Last part of call was Switzerland for an international five-day event.

It would do you good to come and join us; full details of our fixture list appear in the Sports Centre.

Midlands championships results: Intermediate Ladies: 1st Valerie Pacey.
Intermediate Men: 3rd Roger Start, 4th Edward Finch, 8th Dave Goodwin, 16th P. Stevens, 18th M. Cleator, 19th M. Powell-Brett, 20th G. Bell.
Senior Men: 17th G. Thompson,

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES IN THE PROBATION & AFTER-CARE SERVICE

If you are concerned about people, would you like to offer a professional service to the community and face the challenge of helping offenders and their families? The probation and after-care service offers real opportunities for young men and women graduates. This is demanding but satisfying work which calls for an unusually high degree of initiative and personal responsibility if effective help is to be given to a wide variety of people. Training before and after entry helps the new officer to develop his skill and confidence in dealing with difficult problems of human relationships.

Career prospects are good and there are opportunities for work connected with research, training and administration and for secondment to prisons for experience of work in institutions.

There are vacancies for trained probation officers in most parts of England and Wales. Training combines academic and practical work, and lasts between 17 months and two years, according to the course chosen. If, however, your degree is in social studies or allied subjects you can complete training in less than a year.

Students taking a professional course for probation and after-care work will be treated as trainee employees of the service and paid a salary. Graduates will enter the trainee scale at a minimum of £930.

After appropriate training, graduates enter the probation officer salary scale at not less than £1,080, increasing to £1,600. Officers working in the London area receive an addition of £90 a year. Senior Probation Officers' salaries rise to £2,015; the salaries of higher grades range up to £3,320 according to area (£3,830 in Inner London).

For fuller information, write or telephone:

Mr. M. Wilkinson, University Liaison Officer,
Birmingham Probation and After-Care Area.
Telephone: 021 236 0285.

sport 2

RUGBY

GOOD START BY STARLING WASTED

UNIVERSITY 3, SHEFFIELD TOWN 18

THE University, fresh from their exertions against Birmingham, when they managed much against the expected odds, to force a 6-6 draw, faced Sheffield Town on Bournbrook last Saturday with high hopes of increasing their unbeaten run of games to three!

They started off well when Starling charged down a kick and followed up to pick up and score. At this point the University appeared to feel that they had exerted themselves enough for the afternoon and decided that a studious introspection was required.

Sheffield, however, by no means overawed by their mighty opponents, adopted Fabian tactics and awaited the inevitable technical infringements which have been the outstanding feature of the 1st XV game this season. Three penalties were kicked and a try was scored in this first period by the Town.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Representative honours for Longman?

SHOWING the determination missing in their last match, the University bounced back to win their "league" of five clubs, played on a round-robin basis at Stourport. From here they go on to play Worcester City in the semi-final.

The first three matches were perhaps predictable; Rob Fishburn scored two goals to beat Tenbury; a hard-fought goal-less draw with King's Heath; Rob again with three goals and Rich Williams gave us a good win over Brintons—and so to the final match.

Birmingham Univ. 0, Stourport 0.

As expected this proved to be the deciding match of the afternoon. Although a fitter team than their senior opposition, this could not detract from a fine performance, where lack of goals was more the result of poor shooting than failure to make the chances.

Special mention must be made of P. Butler, who had a faultless game, converting all the tries from impossible angles, and adding a huge drop goal to ram home his intentions that the first and second team full-backs will have to watch out.

With a little more fire up front in future, Akkers must be a force to be reckoned with in future.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

2 MEN SHORT?

Birmingham 5, Malvern Abbey 14

In spite of excellent opposition, Birmingham showed promise in their performance on Saturday at Malvern Abbey. Playing two men (?) short, their co-ordination was successful though lack of practice and fitness was all too evident.

If you've seen our posters you'll realise that this is the game of 1970, so come and join us.

WATER POLO

Freshmen show promise

BIRMINGHAM scored a convincing win over Leicester University last Wednesday, but the most pleasing outcome of the match was the standard of play shown by the freshmen. Each played well individually but will need a little more match practice to co-ordinate their efforts. D. Summersgill and P. Minchom controlled the ball well and J. Kirtley has a shot that could make him a consistent scorer this season. J. Preston and K. Cruickshank, playing back, could have marked the opposition tighter. However, very few of the shots which eluded them were good enough to present that competent goalkeeper, C. McDonald, with many problems.

Big Al ("give us a bit of 'ball, love") Lindley, captained the girls against Leicester's men's team. Playing as well as ever, with the help of freshers Wendy Dodds, Mary Elliott and Sheila Pook, they lost by only three goals. No doubt their 100 per cent record against girls' teams, set up last year, will remain throughout the coming season.

GOLF

Will Harrison replace Dathan?

BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 3, NOTTINGHAM UNIV. 3
LADBROOK PARK 2½, BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 5½

ON Wednesday, Birmingham drew with a strong side from Nottingham. Evergreen Andy Dathan, now just an ordinary member of the team (if that's possible) won 2 and 1. Fresher Bill Harrison, current Cambridge County champion, had a good win against an English Youth International. Mike Paterson found an opponent playing worse than himself! Responsibility was too much for captain Alan Cox; he lost out in the country. R. Lister and Miss J. Sanderson also played.

Last Saturday, Birmingham took revenge on Ladbroke Park G.C. Dathan just managed to talk his opponent out of the match. Harrison thrashed his man seven and six. Cox, Pete Bielby and Lister won against inferior opposition. Paterson scraped a half after being well down. Paul Birtwistle, fresh from his Canadian tour, had a little trouble with his footwear, and was beaten easily. The delightful Miss Sanderson is still looking for her first University win.



Graham Sterling reaches high for the ball in 1st XV line-out, while Julian Bond waits ready for action.

SOCCER

IS TOO MUCH ALE CAUSE OF SLUMP?

SINCE winning their first match of the season against Rugby College, the 1st XI have yet to win another game and there has been a noticeable decline in performance.

Against a Paget Rangers side the team played like fairies and deserved to lose 2-0. A representative Birmingham Wednesday League side should have beaten the University and would have done if they hadn't missed a penalty. As it was, the 1st XI scrambled a 2-2 draw with the only bright spots in the game being the goals. Two great through balls from Fraime led to Maile and Harrison scoring.

The following match against Birmingham City Juniors only emphasised the deficiencies in the side, although the University was weakened by injury and unavailability. Bob Stockley, in his first match for the 1st XI, although he has been here for a number of years, scored the University's only goal in a 4-1 defeat.

For Saturday's match against a Birmingham Works F.A. XI, Dave Hughes was recalled to add some much-needed bite and fire to the forward line. It certainly looked as though the University would win this match in the early encounters but it wasn't long before the team slipped into their lazy attitude once more. Bad defensive play allowed the Works team to score after half-time and this proved to be the only goal of the match, although it could have been quite different if a rasping (etc.) drive from Wortley had gone in instead of being well-saved by the opposing goalkeeper.

After their recent dismal performances, this was certainly an improvement, but there is still a long way to go if this year's side is to do better than previous teams.

Jack Lyle played well in his unusual role of double centre-half and was well supported in the back four by "Wine Gum" Payne, but the least said about the left flank the better. With their vast amount of experience to call upon it is to be hoped that the two players in question pull their fingers out. Less ale and more sleep would seem to be the first steps towards improvement. Team: Finch, Payne, Lyle, Hart, Eastman, Wortley, Thorpe, Fraime, Maile, Harrison, Hughes.



Action in First XI Soccer match on Bournbrook, being closely watched by the referee.

Substantial Discount in Men's Wear

Austin Jeffs

586 BRISTOL ROAD, BOURNBROOK
(2 Doors from Woolworths)

REPRIEVE FOR GTV

by PETER DONOVAN

AT a meeting of the Committee on Technology in Education on Friday, it was decided that no charge would be made for the use of the U.B.T.S. studios "for an interim period."

Such charges would have placed G.T.V. in a very difficult position, possibly resulting in its closing down. It would also mean that smaller departments would not be able to use the service. Now the television service will charge only for expendable items, such as film and video-tapes as it has done in the past.

The committee felt that to impose charges at this stage would be "un-

fair" since departments had had no warning and had therefore not budgeted accordingly. However, it was felt that charges may have to be introduced at the next quinquennium.

Dr. Peter Whittaker, head of the T.V. service, said yesterday that he would like to see the service become self-supporting, being financed by the University rather than departments. "It would be nicer if people could use it without having to worry about finance," he said. He added that when he took up his position he thought that this would be the case, but then the University "refused point blank" to finance the service.

He felt that the service would be able to "ride out" the present difficulty, as all the equipment is new, replacements of costly items such as camera and T.V. tubes are likely to be needed for at least a year, by which time some arrangement about finance will have been reached."

Bob Sabin, head of G.T.V., said yesterday: "G.T.V. is now in a position to look forward to expanding its activities. We hope to put out a full programme on G.T.G. later in the term, and we can now devote some of our finances to film-making so that students interested will have the opportunity to make films."



Bob Sabin

Shelter teach-in

SPECULATION is increasing as to whether Wallace Lawler will turn up to speak at the Shelter Symposium next Sunday. After he let down the Balsall Heath rent strikers following assurances made during the housing teach-in at the beginning of term, he may feel it expedient not to attend. On the other hand, it is a valuable platform upon which to rectify any misconceptions.

Also due to speak are Father Burne, the dynamic Irishman who runs the Shelter Advice Centre; Alan Edgar, of Midlands Housing Improvement Association, and Val Karn, who will speak on race and Housing.

The meeting is in Mixed Lounge at 2.30 p.m. this Sunday.

OPEN LECTURE

SIR JOHN WOLFENDEN, personal adviser to the Vice-Chancellor on aspects of the University, is to speak at next Tuesday's Open Lecture.

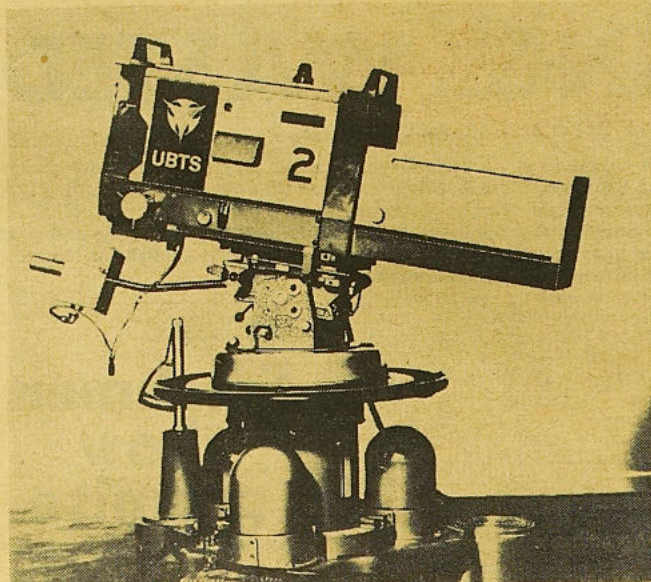


Photo: U.B.T.S.

One of the new U.B.T.S. cameras.

ASTON ELECTION

ELECTION fever is mounting at Aston, where the Presidential election will be held next Monday. There are four candidates — three from the University and one from the College of Commerce.

The election is unusual in that it takes place at the start of the year, when the first-year students will be unaware of the representations of the various candidates. Therefore yesterday's hustings proved significant in the presentation of the candidates.

The post of President is vacant due to the resignation of Anne Foden, President-Elect, after she had to leave the University for academic reasons.

REVOLUTIONARIES CONFER IN BRUM

ON Saturday and Sunday, Birmingham Socialist Society was host at a National Executive Committee meeting of the Revolutionary Socialist Students' Federation.

Representatives from universities and colleges all over the country and several from America met to discuss co-ordination of revolutionary activity over the coming term and year.

Among subjects discussed was self-protection at demonstrations, and defence against the increase in police repression, especially the new method of bringing conspiracy charges against leading militants, which has been used against members of R.S.S.F. at Sussex and London.

The most heated debate was on

the subject of Ulster. At one point an angry Maoist denounced those present as "counter-revolutionary lackeys" and was threatened with expulsion from the meeting. The conference agreed to take solidarity action with Irish workers in this country against British policy and presence in Ireland as a whole.

The meeting also decided to hold the biennial conference of RSSF in London at the end of November at which the developments and decisions of the coming months can be discussed by student militants from all over the country. Although several Birmingham representatives were critical of what they regard as lack of a clear political attitude in RSSF, they generally agreed that its value as an information and co-ordination centre has been proved over the past year.

COMEX RETURN

THE Birmingham group of the COMEX expedition to India returned to the Vale site this week. The 26 people left on July 15th, travelling overland in a mini-bus, through Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan to India. They stayed mainly in Delhi, but also visited other parts of the country, including Agra to see the Taj Mahal.

The expedition was "very successful" according to its leader, Dave Haslam, and went without any major incident. Altogether 500 people took part in the scheme, which organises such trips annually.

Last year several people were killed when one bus was in collision with a tower crane in Yugoslavia.

Scholarships

A complete review of scholarships offered to British students by overseas Governments and universities is available in a booklet published by the British Council.

The booklet, "Scholarships Abroad, 1970-71," contains details of about 200 such awards, which are open to members of all universities and comparable institutions and are mainly designed for graduates and those who will have graduated by the time they take up awards.

Copies of the booklet may be obtained from the British Council, 120 Colmore Row, Birmingham, 3.

National Front meeting cancelled

A ROW which blew up this week over the United Nations Students Association's decision to invite a speaker from the National Front has resulted in the invitation being withdrawn. Last night, however, a spokesman for the National Front said that they had received no notification of the cancellation and their speaker would still be coming.

The representative who was to speak is Mr. Michael Lobb, who is Press Relations Officer of the Eltham (South London) Branch of the National Front.

The Association decided to invite him in order to draw attention to racism, not to condone the views of the Front, according to the chairman, Jeff Rodin. Despite this, they received protests from the Co-ordinating Committee Against Racial Discrimination (C.C.A.R.D.) and U.N.S.A. urging them to call the meeting off.

"On Monday evening it was clear that attempts would be made to prevent Mr. Lobb speaking, though not necessarily by physical violence. There had been a threat from C.C.A.R.D. to march on the University, and the meeting was held in a reasonably nasty frame of mind."

Jeff Rodin also felt that the Association's tactics aimed at focussing attention on racism would be misinterpreted. They had received a message from the racial committee of U.N.S.A. congratulating them on the decision.

Last night, Mr. Martin Webster, activities organiser of the National Front, said: "We do not accept telephone calls as cancellations of meetings. Until we receive a letter from an official we consider the invitation to be still on." He added, "We have had the same nonsense from Leicester when Tariq Ali was due to speak." When told of Soc. Soc's plans to stop the meeting if it took place, he described them as, "Silly hypocrites" and "neurotic hairy freaks." He was not worried about the threats, saying that the members of the Front were, "Well able to look after ourselves." "They may be able to bully individual policemen," he said, "but they do not bully the National Front. We reserve our right to defend our freedom of speech."

The meeting will still take place tonight but will take the form of an open forum on racism, with Olive Jordan, the National Chairman of U.N.S.A., and speakers from C.C.A.R.D. and other organisations. It is understood that last night the University branch of U.N.S.A. were hastily trying to get written communication to the London office of the National Front.

Wednesday

C2-30 2 p.m.

THIRD WORLD FORUM
BREAD & CHEESE
LUNCH

EVENTS COMM.
DISCOTHEQUE

8 p.m. 2/6 Founders

Thursday

FILM SOC.

"LES ENFANTS
DU PARADIS"
(Marcel, Carne) 1943

7 p.m. HAWORTH

Friday

CHEM. ENG. DANCE

with

SPOOKY TOOTH

DEBATING HALL.

8 p.m.

Saturday

EVENTS COMM.

DISCO

FOUNDERS

8 p.m. 2/6

Sunday

SUNDAY FLIC

"THE TRAIN"
plus CARTOONS

FOUNDERS

6.30 p.m. 2/6