

GUILD NEWS

1959. No. 561
Thursday, Nov. 19,

3^D

The Guild of Undergraduates—University of Birmingham.

N.U.S. Deb. tournament

THE throats are being cleared; the dictionary of quotations is out on almost permanent loan, and impromptu speeches are being prepared. In short the Debating Tournament is nearly with us again. An alteration in the rules this year will put a premium on the ability to speak with the minimum preparation, and militate against the copious research of previous years.

As usual Birmingham is entering three teams, and it is hoped that the success gained last session will be repeated and improved upon. The first team to enter the fray will be our "A" team, comprising Mr. Arthur Large and Mr. Robert Wreford, who will be speaking at Nottingham on November 24. The "B" and "C" teams, made up by Mr. Mike Stanley and Mr. Jack Betteridge, and Miss Jennifer Wood and Mr. David Lane respectively, will both be speaking on November 27 at Loughborough and Leicester. The motion at all three venues will be "That in the opinion of this House Politicians are a Bore." Let us hope that our teams will not be.

FALL BALL TRIUMPH

LAST Wednesday (November 11), the Entertainments Committee held their first formal dance of the season... this was the first of the additional dances which they are organising at the request of Guild Council. These functions are part of the long-term policy, planning to introduce undergraduates into becoming more "formal minded" and I think that few members of Council ever dreamed that this first attempt would be such a success.

The Debating Hall was furnished to induce an "intimate atmosphere," and there can be no doubt that this, together with the excellent music of Don Paine and his Orchestra, produced an atmosphere seldom experienced in this Guild. A certain young lady was heard to comment that Autumn Ball was like Founder's Dinner Dance, without the dinner.

The next of these functions... Guild Christmas Ball... will be held on Friday, December 4, when dancing will be to Norman Jager and his Orchestra.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Vintage Room will be Open For Evening Meals FROM MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, and will remain open all day and EVENING ON SATURDAY. THE VINTAGE ROOM (Thrusells Lower Floor) 25, Temple Street, Birmingham, 2 Telephone: MIDland 1101 Morning Coffee, Snacks, Luncheons, Grills. Afternoon Teas, Dinner.

GROUSE SEASON OPENS

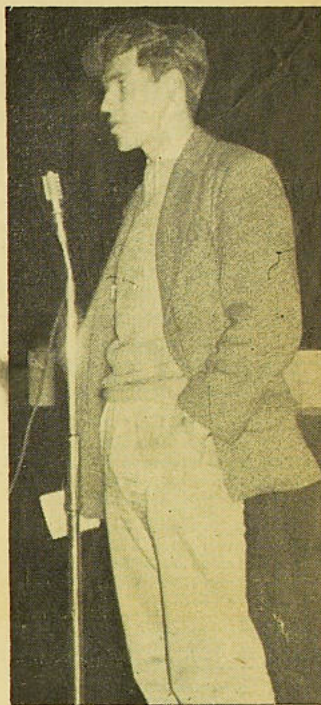


Photo: John Gunn.

Misplaced no-confidence

THE FIRST STAGE IN LAUNCHING THE SHORT-RANGE INTER-CONSTITUTIONAL ROCKET DESIGNED TO PUT EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL OUT OF ORBIT FAILED AT THE A.G.M. LAST THURSDAY. ONE FELT REVOLUTION IN THE AIR AND WHEN I ARRIVED A FEW MINUTES LATE TO FIND A CROWDED DEB. HALL FULL OF CHEMISTS, CHEMICAL ENGINEERS AND LAWYERS I KNEW MY INTUITION HAD BEEN CORRECT.

We heard the Secretary's Report read, yea, and the Treasurer's. All moved in accordance with the Guild Revolutionaries' Handbook. At this stage the President was clearly irritated by the hissing and stampings, and conversely the meeting was irritated by the President's brusqueness.

The questions around the Treasurer's report stimulated thought about the A.G.M., its function and fulfilment. Each year the A.G.M. is considered the scene of our winter discontent, and annually members are frustrated by the failure of their efforts to reform.

This grievous complaint usually arises from two points of ignorance; a confused knowledge of the constitution and an unawareness of the complex complaints mechanism operating throughout the Guild. Council is shortly to discuss the possibility of producing a more readable constitution, and Councillors should be able to help with the complaints system; if they cannot, why were they elected?

EXEC. EXPENSES

This meeting was clearly "Exec. thumping" and the next obvious move was to ask where the Executive expenses went. Initially an evasive answer was given. This was a pity for it immediately put a barrier between Exec. and the members, and whatever one may think of the motives behind the question, a member has a right (a genuine right) to ask any question about the Guild finances. There are solid reasons for spending every penny of the budget of the Guild and they should be given. The President and Vice-President have a great many extraneous expenses, e.g. hire of formal dress, transport, ad hoc entertainment, extra meals eaten in the Union when they have paid for one in the digs, etc., and it is right that these offices should not be confined to those who can afford additional expense (£50-£100).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Other questions were asked and received answers, but gradually. Why could not the answers be given promptly, even if the procedure had to be waived a trifle? The average member is sensible, responsible, but uninformed. The A.G.M. is surely the place to give him the information he requires.

EXECUTIVE ELECTION

On with the meeting. This correspondent then proposed an amendment to a proposed constitutional amendment. That there were no cries of "socks" could indicate that the only live tradition in the Guild is Mr. R. T. Jones. Without going in to the jargon, there were several points made.

First, the Executive of the future will be elected by a combined meeting of the old and the new Guild Councils. This will reduce the effect of a brilliant proposal speech or pre-election canvassing in favour of a poor candidate.

Secondly, they will be elected en bloc and the disposal of posts to individual members will be responsibility of the President. This will mean that the Executive can be shaped to suit the demands of the time and also that the unnatural phenomenon of "sliding" at elections will cease.

There were no opposing speeches, and so an important issue went by undebated.

WARDEN LOUTISHLY RECEIVED

Then Professor Humphries, Warden of the Guild, gave his address. The reception of the Warden, who has supported us faithfully at Guild functions, was exceptionally rude. Professor Humphries deserves our respect and was most unfortunate not to receive it. Possibly next year we

could have a Warden's address on a separate day. I at least would like to hear the Warden discourse on some of his Midland antiquarian experiences.

The only suggestion arising from "Any Other Business" was that the accounts and reports should be more widely circulated. The President, in a more mellow mood, asked for a general discussion (with no motions allowed) but the incendiaries withheld their fire.

Upon reflection it seems that the Guild is faced with two major problems from which spring several minor problems.

Problem No. 1 is what purpose has the A.G.M.? Problem No. 2 is how to make students aware of the administrative structure of the Guild.

GUILD

The A.G.M. exists primarily to present an account of the Guild's activity over the last year. Any member may ask for clarification on any point of conduct and he should be enlightened politely and immediately, regardless of how pointless the question may seem to the responsible Executive member. But specific complaints about catering, cleaning, or accommodation are more effectively made to Catering or Union Committees. It might be worth while to present the budget for the current year so that members can see which way the Guild is heading, not merely where it has come from. For example, each member should know that the

"Is it not a fact, sir..."

estimated surplus for this year is £65, that the new extension is going to be costly and consequently a "smoker" or "rag" which does a lot of material damage; walls plastered with seltape which removes the paint, are liable to put the Guild in the red.

But I feel the graver problem is lack of constitutional knowledge. For although Athletic Union and Carnival are important issues they pale in comparison with the problem of finding a manageable and democratic means of governing thousands of students within a limited space. The immensity of the difficulty can only be realised when one is aware of the present system; when the member is aware of his Constitutional Rights, the structure of the administration and the problems of the present.

LOST CAUSE?

That is why it was somewhat tragic as well as funny, that the leading revolutionary placed his motion, not dramatically into the hands of the Guild Secretary, but into his pigeon-hole. There it lay, and so the motion did not come up for the A.G.M. (That's how it is rumoured, anyhow).

S.G.M.?

So we are faced with the possibility of a Special General Meeting. I confess a thrill at the prospect of addressing 500 standing (not enough room to be seated) people in the Debating Hall. Believing in the responsibility of the student I think that the right decisions would be taken. I also think that a lot of useful information could be imparted.

But if we do meet again, whatever the outcome, we must reflect, think actively and act positively, when the hurley-burly's done, when the battle's lost or won.

JACK BETTERIDGE.

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GUILD NEWS

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profile

BRIAN E. LUBY arrived at the University in Autumn, 1956, after a spell in the Air Force, of which it suffices to say that he ranked high amongst the other ranks. He is claimed to have connections by birth with British Railways (Midland Region), more specifically in the Derby area.

After an uncertain start he proceeded to read for a Degree in Commerce; his bent for accountancy lead him naturally towards an interest in Guild finances; and for the past two years he has displayed a facility in juggling and balancing the precarious accounts as Guild Treasurer.

It is rumoured that recently this activity has taken so much time that he no longer shaves; others maintain the disparity in colour between beard and hair is accounted for by atomic fallout in Exec. Office. However, his calm, well-dressed exterior, preceded inevitably by the pipe that is a part of his character by now, is well-known around the Union, where he is always prepared to indulge in long conversations with the problem-burdened.

Mr. Luby's sporty features and appearance are by no means unilluminated; he has represented the University both soccer and squash. As Chairman of Catering Committee, one of the duties of Guild Treasurer, he has had a pronounced influence; perhaps it was in part his penchant for the better things of life which made him instrumental in the introduction last session of the Vernon Grill, a move which, if originally controversial, must now be regarded as a qualified success. And indeed it

is there that you will find Brian most evenings, a happy contented figure, puffing not vigorously at the pipe of peace.

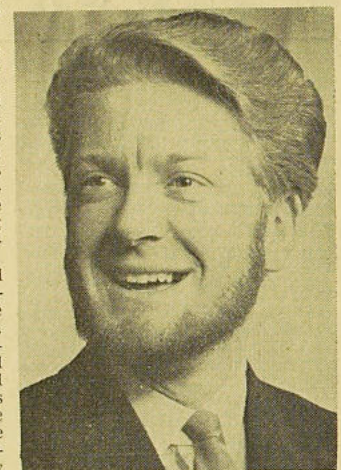


Photo: Dolphin

coffee talk . . .

THERE is a motion of no confidence in the President and Exec. in the air. Were this carried, every Guild Councillor, every elected official would have to resign, pending re-elections. We would be highlighted in the Press, and given querying looks from the authorities who have looked on us as a responsible body, and treated us as such. "My goodness!" people would say, "Have Exec. been misappropriating funds or something?"

The organisers of the motion should rush into obscurity before it is too late. If they organise an extraordinary General Meeting, they will have a huge audience; they always do when there is blood for supper. We all have our complaints, and adequate provisions have been made for Guild Councillors to voice them.

Socially, last week must have been the highlight of the term. Autumn Ball is a splendid innovation that too few people bothered about; let us hope in future years it encourages greater attendance of the University's formal functions. If the standard set this year is maintained, it certainly will.

We seem very eager to challenge the fates. House Ball and Chem. Eng. dance vied with the spirits of Friday 13th, and both succeeded. The beer and crowds on their respective floors indicated that Chem. Eng. dance was as successful as their decorations, while House Dance in its

own sober way left one with admiration for the organisers and Mrs. Friend.

A. OSBORNE.

ED. ST. COLUMN

Readers may assume that due to lack of publicity last week we have now either crumbled into the depths of the fountain, or been unseated by a Midland Red bus. Nothing could be further from the truth as those fortunate enough to penetrate the fogs (aided by lamps on loan from the Ministry of Transport) will have discovered. Cossy little domestic scenes present themselves in Founder's Room . . . firelight, knitting . . . whilst Mary siddles 'twixt the furniture retrieving the remnants. Signs of festivity are already visible in the library. The cards do not signify the early advent of Christmas. . . just another lot for Jill's collection (we couldn't discover any exact dates. . . presuming the one displaying "Now you are Five To-day" to be slightly retrospective).

Meanwhile turtled high above the elements in solitary splendour and appointing audience to the select few (those who solve and survive the mysteries of the winding stair) dwells Fitz Hathaway, meditating on the achievements of Noddy (in manuscript form, of course).

But let us leave this happy community and wander down to New Street Station (pausing at the bargain basement in Chanelle. . . faraway places with strange sounding names . . . Perry Barr, Smethwick, Nuneaton. What has Majorca more?

PUBLIC TASTE

Dear Sir,

Your correspondent Miss Josephine Barstow would appear to have forgotten that the charity concert given by the C.B.S.O. is but one of the many items that have to be advertised during Carnival.

If Carnival Committee had unlimited funds to spend on advertising each function then there would indeed be no excuse for poor attendance at any of them. In fact the C.B.S.O. concert received MORE publicity than any other function, apart from the Carnival procession itself. Several adverts for the concert complete with programme appeared in the local press, and over 50 large posters and 5,000 window bills were distributed. In addition the concert was mentioned on 10,000 handbills and on every car ticket sold.

I would suggest that if more "popular" Carnival functions can, with much less advertising, attract larger audiences than a C.B.S.O. concert, the fault lies not in the advertising but simply in public taste. To ask even Carnival Committee "to take pains to remedy this" is, I feel, expecting a little too much.

Yours, etc.,

P. H. WHITEHEAD.
(Director of Publicity).

UNITED NATIONS

Dear Sir,

There seems to be a lot of unco-ordinated interest in the Guild in the work of the above and in international affairs generally.

Nevertheless, although we are an international student body, we still tend to think and act within the limited boundaries of our national outlook. For an intelligent group of people and future leaders, this can only do harm to the future of our respective countries; we need to learn a lot more about each other if this is to be changed.

A branch of the United Nations Students Association already exists in most British universities. It is an international organisation, a student branch of the United Nations Association, and aims to promote interest in and spread information about United Nations work and to increase knowledge and understanding between nations.

This would seem to be the ideal medium for developing a more international outlook among members of the Guild, and with the intention of forming such a branch, there will be a meeting in the Lesser Hall of the Union at 1.15 p.m. on Friday, November 20. All those interested are urged to attend.

Yours, etc.,

BRIAN PIPER.

STEPHEN OVANESSOFF.

Press Post



HOP PICKING

Dear Sir,

"University Hops" said Adam Osborne in last week's *Guild News* need a shot in the arm. In our opinion it is the University men who require that shot in the arm. Instead of wasting their time in investigating new sources of pretty girls to invite to the Hop, University men should stop overlooking University women. So many attractive University girls stay in on Saturday nights because they cannot stand the "flesh-hunt" of the Hop. They are sick of being shunned simply because they are members of the University and not nurses or shop girls. Personally, we are sick of the constant criticism of the University women and feel that it is about time the men vacated the bars on Saturday evenings, opened their eyes and started treating University women as human beings. They might be pleasantly surprised at the large numbers of attractive women there are, both at Edgbaston and Edmund Street.

Yours, etc.,

SHEENAH W. R.
MACKENZIE.
RAY RODERICK.

Dear Sir,

The state of affairs at hops must change at once, or how could one support life knowing Mr. Osborne was so pained by the sight of the unpretty young ladies? Whose insensibility suffered the less gifted members of the female sex to be present on an occasion conceived for the delights of those connoisseurs of discrimination — the gentlemen dancers? May the apology of one offender prove acceptable to Mr. Osborne; may it placate his just disapprobation, and perhaps secure his indulgence in the future.

Occasionally strange reports are heard from young ladies who infer that improper suggestions have been made to them by gentlemen at hops. To see how intolerable the inference is, consider the inferior intellect of the accuser. Undoubtedly there are alliances of a socially unacceptable nature; but even the most daring young lady would not blame the gentlemen for their instigation. No; it is to the calculating members of her own sex accusing eyes must turn. Gentlemen are as unlikely to think or act in an improper fashion as they are to indulge in an excess of alcoholic liquor.

Young ladies of inferior looks, consider the anguish of the gentlemen, and absent yourselves from their vicinity of pleasure on Saturday nights.

Yours, etc.,

PERAUDRA.

Dear Sir,

Your "coffee talk" correspondent's anthem is indeed a plaintive one. I sympathise with his quest for beauty for do we not all seek the perfection to which he would aspire? But the Hop is hardly an arena for budding "Miss World" competitors, nor is it an organised marriage bureau. Any faults which exist are not going to be corrected by the mass importation of females, who, Mr. Osborne feels, can be found in the city. I am sure they can, but have we become blind to the fine inbred qualities of the species: "Nurse?" Graduates have been known to put nurses on a par with Aristotle, Gray's Anatomy, and "My First Reader in Nuclear Physics."

Your correspondent would interfere with something more sacred than the integrity of the Guild Executive—the balance of nature. No longer is he content

with the aphorism: "One man—one woman"; rather, he would have the noble student grovel at the feet of the salacious females he would introduce from the local canning factory.

Perhaps, too, he would introduce hostesses to encourage the more retiring student into the Deb. Hall fracas. What an anti-climax for the inexperienced Fresher to find himself with an empty pocket and a Conservative Association rosette.

I have merely taken Mr. Osborne's tentative suggestions to their logical conclusions. I respect his criticism, but his ideas are too naively unempirical to proffer any practical solution.

Yours, etc.,

RICHARD H. JAFFA.

SOUTH AFRICAN BOYCOTT

Dear Sir,

A boycott of South African goods is afoot in this country. Several universities are already giving support. Could this university follow? Among other things we could make sure that no South African produce is bought by the canteens and refectories. It would be easiest for the Guild itself to sponsor it, but if it does not many societies could do so. This is one way in which we may show our dislike of South Africa's Apartheid policy, and although it might not have a marked economic effect it would definitely have a political one.

Yours, etc.,

DAVID GILLET.
(Comment).

MERMAID'S BLUDGEON

Dear Sir,

Having given himself more space and a weightier type face, Mr. Roberts has thoughtfully expanded his "poor" into "unwieldy, completely uninteresting, misleading and ugly." His highest commendation for the cover and editorial pages was "pleasant enough." To say the least this is inconsistent with his other sweeping statements. Is this the called for critical appraisal . . . ?

The old excuse of not enough space sometimes works with woe to be critics. To give such a wealth of illustration two lines of dismissal in a criticism of almost one hundred lines is suspicious in itself but when relegated to "as a footnote," one suspects Mr. Roberts' interest in the illustrations. . . . The critic appreciates the "limited" means at his disposal of the illustrators. I wonder if he knows anything about the limitations of the medium of illustration, which economically was the only one available. Those who remember earlier catalogue editions of "Mermaid" will have welcomed these new departures in the way of illustration.

I consider the tiling Quixote and harping angel excellent examples of the line-out. The issue was obviously far from being visually perfect. However, from the point of view of getting the maximum return from a limited medium (and criticism must be based on this unfortunate fact) I think the overall result was very good.

Yours, etc.,

W. D. IAN ROLFE

GUILD CATERING

REVIEW OF A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

LAST session proved to be one of the most successful in the history of the Department. Altogether many improvements were carried out and the services offered to members were extended. Outside bodies also took advantage of our facilities and expressed their appreciation of services rendered.

With the transfer of the evening meal service to the Refectory, overcrowding in the Union during the evening was eliminated. At this juncture the Vernon Grill appeared on the scene and brought with it many headaches. This venture has grown from small beginnings and a few enthusiasts to part of the life of the Union. To-day upwards of 200 meals per evening are prepared.

General picture of the department and its finances

With a turnover of over £85,000, the Catering department must be run on business lines if inefficiency and wastage are to be avoided. It is also essential that the department should not be a financial liability to the Guild whose turnover is just about a third of that of catering.

It is acknowledged that catering should be an entirely separate entity; few members realise that our Guild Catering Department pays all its own overheads, such as gas, electricity, water rates, telephone expenses, staff wages, expenses, decorating costs and the replacement costs of all equipment.

All the above charges, with the exception of major replacements, are borne by the current accounts. Here it is most important to stress that

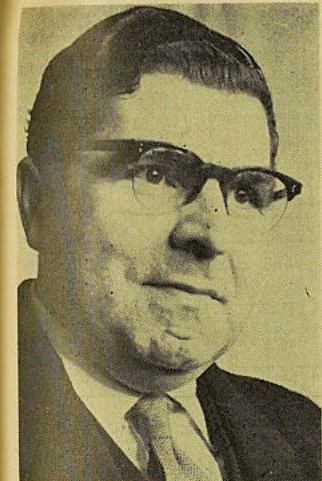


Photo: Dolphin

MR. VERDEGEM: Catering Supervisor

The surplus should not be viewed as a profit since it is added to the reserve account for the replacement of capital equipment or for buying new items of equipment. Thus, the department is an independent, non-profit-making business, the surplus being ploughed back to maintain and improve the facilities.

LAST SESSION'S SUCCESS

Good staff, as everyone is aware, are very hard to find, especially in these days of full employment. The Union is lucky in having an excellent staff and they are to be congratulated.

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gratulated one and all for their contributions.

Mention here must be made of our catering supervisor, Mr. Verdegem. He first came to the Union in 1951 as head chef, and later on, took over as catering supervisor at the Guild Club (September, 1952), when affairs there were in a very serious state. After much hard work he improved the position at the Guild Club tremendously. When the position of Catering Supervisor at the Union became vacant, Mr. Verdegem with his wide experience in every branch of catering, was appointed.

He spent eight years training in Holland in all branches of his profession. He holds many diplomas and these are borne out by his excellent general commercial knowledge, and his experience in the fields of baking, confectionery and the grocery trade in general. He is also a member of the Hotel and Catering Institute and the Industrial Catering Association. But success is not only realised in qualifications; Mr. Verdegem and his staff can be congratulated on a very fine year. . . . as any student will testify, and every one knows it is not easy to reconquer the desires — and pockets — of students, but this he has certainly done. The Guild is indeed very fortunate to have its catering in such reliable hands.

GENERAL PROBLEMS

The Catering Department, despite the fact that it is one of the most modern in Birmingham, was never designed to cater for the present. The desires — and pockets — of students, and it is thought that members of the Guild should be acquainted with these.

VARIATIONS IN TRADING

Perhaps the problem which awaits an easy solution more than any other is that of variations in trading. During the term, the department is working to full capacity; in contrast in the vacation trading is generally very small.

But last session we were very fortunate to cater for outside conferences during the vacation. This, although lucrative, holds no promise of recurrence. Therefore the surplus this year would have been very much smaller if we had not held any conferences whatsoever.

OVERCROWDING

Evening overcrowding was eliminated when the evening meal service was transferred to the Refectory.

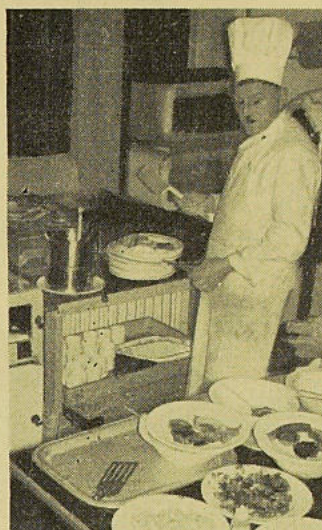


Photo: John Gunn.

MR. BEATON

Queues are formed during the lunch hour but this could be avoided in many cases if members would stagger their lunch breaks. Alterations have been made at the counters together with other improvements to speed up the service. The problem of queuing is acute, but it is difficult to see where any improvement can be made without reduction in variety.

The Coffee Room becomes very crowded at certain times, but at present nothing can be done. Last year it was proposed to open the Vernon Hall for certain periods for any overflow, but this was not used

FUTURE OUTLOOK (Facilities)

With the extension of the Union premises and the move from Edmund Street there will be no extension of present facilities. Mid-day meals are catered for here and at the Refectory (the new Refectory will be ready in 1961/62). Evening meals will be served at the Refectory and waitress service in the Vernon Grill.

It is proposed that when the extension becomes a reality the Coffee Room service will be expanded to include another room, the present Bar. This should eliminate any overcrowding when the Edmund Street departments move up to Edgbaston in the near future. At this time the Union Bar will be situated in that part of the building now taken up by Carnival Office and the Table Tennis Room.

CONCLUSION

This article has been written in the hope of bringing to the notice of the average members of the Guild, some of the problems about Guild Catering of which they may be unaware. We sincerely hope that it has fulfilled its purpose and perhaps created interest in the many difficulties that still have to be faced.

B. E. LUBY

(Chairman, Catering Committee).

J. WOOD

(Secretary, Catering Committee).

Deb. Soc. Report LUNATICS ALL!!

AT the second Pre-Hop Debate of the term, the Society considered the motion that "This House does not wish not to go to the Moon."

Mr. Osborne, resplendent in a maroon corduroy space-suit, opened for the proposition by claiming to come to the House as a humble scientist and launched himself into a lyrical if irrelevant history of man's romantic aspirations. The Opposition allegedly supported by Mr. Rowney, claimed that we are fed up with this earth and that man's spirit of adventure urged him on to new conquests. He described the possible life of Deb. Soc. on the moon and left the House with the thought: "Would the earth have the same sentimental value as the moon now has, if viewed from that vantage point?"

At this point the chairman interpolated a judgment on the House's falling morals. Mr. Bootle, seconding the proposition, discussed the repercussions on hoteliers if we all spent our holidays on the moon. The seconder of the opposition proved mathematically that the moon was in fact made of green cheese and in the prevailing cheese shortage pointed out the obvious advantages of mining this and piping it back to earth.

The best speech of the evening came from Mr. Reed, on the floor; he put forward that Lady Moon's chastity had been outraged by man surreptitiously taking photos of her posterior. He asked the House to support the motion and thus end this shameful conduct.

After several other speeches from the floor and the defeat of a motion from Mr. Rowney that the motion be now put, the house proceeded to the summing up. The motion was then voted upon and was defeated by 47 votes to 18 with 12 abstentions.

The debate demonstrated the abilities of some promising Freshers and thus bodes well for the future.

J. H. GUNN.

HONEST POLITICS FOR GERMANY

In view of the visit of Doctor Adenauer to this country this week we have pleasure in printing the following article written by Stuart Stockdale.

HOW do people in Germany and elsewhere feel about the problems of Germany's re-unification? This article attempts to sum up the attitudes of the people whom I met in Western Germany during a recent visit.

Germany's record itself is not encouraging. The Nazi atrocities are mostly forgiven but will never be forgotten. I do not want to discuss the rise of Nazism, but I believe it was due in part to a tendency of the Germans as individuals to follow philosophy rather than principle. The strategic defeat of 1918 aggravated the situation, but the total collapse of 1945 was a decisive factor in the stemming of this trend. Nowadays, for example, the German in the West shows his principles in his active concern for his brothers in the East and advertises his disapproval with clandestine slogans in white paint. The great majority of East Germans, however, after twenty-six years of Nazi and Communist dictatorship, are sick of politics. One refugee told me he hated compulsory Russian lessons in school, and he thought most East Germans wanted unity in order to spend their holidays on the Rhine and the Mosel. Refugees are an economic headache to the West and East, bearing the results of critical depopulation on the one hand, and a demand for assimilation by a precocious economy on the other. (Random figures show that between August 1 and September 18, 1959, 22,699 refugees from the East asked for asylum.) I say "precocious economy" for the myth of an economic miracle exists only outside Germany. West Germans know that the prosperity is insecure as it was in the 30's and they are asking when it will end.

How do the respective German governments feel about re-unification? Like Great Britain, Western Germany has no diplomatic relations with the G.D.R. and the atmosphere is very hostile. Over the heads of the people both governments engage in hate propaganda. In the West, as a recent television survey showed, the school-child does not know the facts of 1935-45. Teachers, following the government lead, prefer not to mention Hitler. But in the East, Nazism is artificially kept alive, as a foil to the paragon of Communist virtue, and as a synonym for West Germans. In either state, as in Britain, are the people fairly represented. Thus the solution must lie with the governments concerned.

Mr. Krushchev's recent offer should be cautiously accepted, and Western politicians should take the initiative by parting West Germany and nuclear weapons for good. Only in this way can true European security be established and our moral obligations to the people of the East and the West Zones be more satisfactorily met. This is an oversimplification; it is a demand for honest politics.

M & B

It's

Marvellous Beer



A fair wind at St. Helens

You would hardly expect to find a thriving sailing club at an inland industrial town like St. Helens, but every week-end helmsmen match their skills there with as much enthusiasm and as much enjoyment as their opposite numbers at the well-known yachting centres. The sailing club is one of the many leisure activities afforded by Pilkington Brothers Limited, Britain's biggest glassmaking organisation and one of the biggest in the world, who have their headquarters in St. Helens. And for the young man looking for a career it is worthwhile knowing that at Pilkingtons the graduate recruit is given every assistance in steering the course which he feels will be most rewarding.

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

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For full details write to the Personnel Officer (Graduate Recruitment) at the Head Office, St. Helens, Lancashire, giving age and a brief description of education.

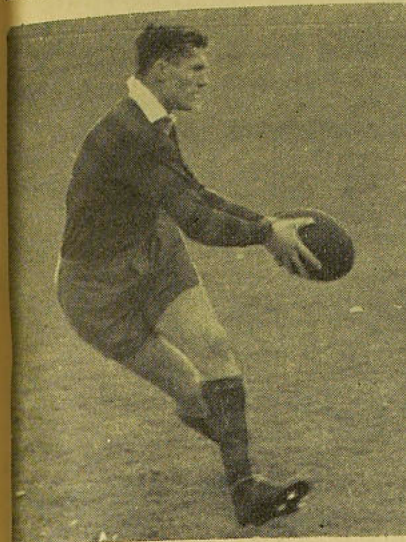
P.S.—Sailing is not the only unexpected recreation you will find at St. Helens. Whatever your particular sparetime activity you are most likely to find there is already a club catering for it.

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PERSONALITY PARADE... No 7



★
ROY
REYNOLDS
AND
THE
FIRST
XV
★

The title of this week's article could well be "Local Boy Makes Good," for Roy Reynolds, who this season captains the First XV, was born at Quinton and at present lives at nearby Harborne.

In 1957 Roy came to University to read Chemical Engineering, having already gained a couple of Schoolboy International Caps—one against France, and the other against Wales—and immediately stepped into the First XV at left-centre. It may come as a surprise to some that Roy has not yet represented the full U.A.U. side, but he has perhaps been unlucky to find his stay at University contemporaneous with those two fine centres, Bailey of Loughborough and Nelson of Manchester. For the past two seasons he has played for the Midland U.A.U. and was recently chosen to captain them against the Birmingham Old Boys' side; and twice this season Roy has played for the North Midlands in the County Championship.

Strongly built, broad-shouldered, and a fast elusive runner with the ball, he is admirably suited for centre-threequarter play. Although his defensive covering and tackling are of a high order it is in attacking play that he really shines. He has that flair for the unorthodox which can sometimes make his play a revelation—it may take him right through the opposing team from his own twenty-five, or end him up in the same place as he started after having traversed the field two or three times.

But Rugby Football is essentially a team or club game, and one cannot talk at length about the captain without assessing the merits and performances of the team he has under him. It is a much younger and less experienced side than last year, but, at the same time it is faster and fitter. Roy thinks that the fitness and speed may well be attributed to the fact that a little less "Keg" is being downed this year... Whatever it is, both backs and forwards seem to be imbued with the idea of opening up the game, and giving Jarvis and Hurworth, the two speed merchants on the wings, a chance to show their paces.

Wilkinson, at full-back, usually a model of safety and sound kicking, has speed enough to occasionally link up with the backs, who are completed by the thrustful Masters at right-centre.

But even allowing for the long, swift service of Davies at scrum-half, the backs would have little chance to throw the ball around without some stout work up front by the forwards. The real strength seems to lie in the back row of Quinn, Mills and the bearded Atherton. Quinn, the leader of the pack, and Reynolds, are the only Full Blues in the team, another reflection of its inexperience. Amongst the rest of the forwards Woodhall stands out both for his hooking and tigerish qualities in the loose; Heitzmann is a real power in the line-outs.

On the results of its showing so far this season, Roy Reynolds has a more than useful side. One can always appreciate a team which tries to play entertaining rugby even if their tendency to overdo it sometimes can land them in trouble. The real tests are yet to come—in fact when this goes to print Loughborough will have come, seen, and possibly conquered—but I think that if the defence tightens up that vital little bit, and the captain's inspiration in attack can be turned into more tries, then Birmingham may cause some giants' heads to roll before the season is over.

D.S.

CYCLE RACING REPORT

The road-racing season just ended has seen an all-round improvement in members' performances. No less than seven have now bettered the old club 25-mile record figures of 1 hr. 5 mins. Fourth year Medic, Rodney Goodfellow now holds the record with a time of 1 hr. 1 min. 56 secs, and he has also broken the club records at all distances up to twelve hours, in which time he covered 242 miles. John Griffin has recorded several good performances in massed start road races and now holds a first category licence, having gained six placings in the first six in open road races. In the first two cycle-cross races of the season, Jim Adams rode very well. He was placed sixth in the first, and ninth out of ninety competitors on a very tricky course over Kenilworth Common at the week-end.

TABLE TENNIS SMASH ON

In recent University matches, Birmingham have heavily defeated all opposition. North Staffs were beaten 15-0 by a weakened University side, and in our other U.A.U. match a full strength side beat Nottingham by 11-4. Another good win was a home victory over Oxford by 8-2 with a side not including our number one, Backhouse, whose consistently good performance in the matches this season have given the side a confidence never previously present.

The second and third teams have not dropped a point in the district leagues, and the ladies' team recently beat North Staffs 8-2 in a friendly match. In general the club is having a very successful season and are anticipating further successes. Perhaps one or two league Championships and U.A.U. and W.I.V.A.B. honours...

J.G.F.

Representative match at Birmingham

SOUND DISPLAY BY FAY

MIDLAND U.A.U. 1, BIRMINGHAM A.F.A. 2

THE U.A.U. selectors will have to seriously reconsider some of their selections after this Midlands display against an A.F.A. side which had no less than six newcomers to representative football. The U.A.U. started by overrunning their visitors and during the first ten minutes the A.F.A. were very hard pressed to keep their goal intact. Gradually the A.F.A. were allowed to settle down and took a surprise lead when Hillier, the young Aston Villa player, sent a speculative cross from the left which the U.A.U. goalkeeper allowed to drop into the net. After half an hour the A.F.A. went further ahead when Hillier crossed to Waterhouse who drew the goalkeeper well out of position before pushing the ball to Smith who had only to tap it home. The A.F.A. players were not challenged at all during this movement. Play was scrappy and the atrocious conditions were not helpful. End to end movements dominated play but the goals were rarely in danger.

Early in the second half Smith had a glorious chance to increase the A.F.A. lead but the U.A.U. goalkeeper atoned for his previous errors by making a fine save. With twenty minutes to go the U.A.U. reduced the deficit when a corner by Raybold from the left was deflected into the net by Turner, the A.F.A. goalkeeper. His display apart from this was very competent.

Play ended with the U.A.U. on top but unable to equalise against the sound A.F.A. defence.

Fay had a competent game for the U.A.U. and his promptings as skipper instilled a good team spirit in the Universities' side. Sandford was not outstanding and may well have some trouble in retaining his U.A.U. place.

The five F.A. Councillors present, including the Chairman of the England selectors, must indeed have been disappointed with the U.A.U.'s display.

D.G.M.

Cross-Country

First defeat - but Shaw triumphs

The Cross-Country Club faced its biggest task of the Michaelmas Term when visiting Nottingham on Saturday, for a match against the U.A.U. champions, Durham (fresh from a closely fought match with Oxford), and a Loughborough College team, which, to quote their captain, is their best side ever. The Southern opposition was provided by Bristol, the newly-crowned Southern Universities Champions, and their runners-up, Southampton, the field being completed by the hosts, Nottingham. In fact the race was virtually a rehearsal of the U.A.U. Championship, with the exception of the strong Manchester team.

On a dull, rainy day, which many would say was ideal for cross-country running, but which to the competitors was far from inviting, the race was run over a wet, but fast, 5½-mile course. From the outset, the pattern of the race was resolved. At the front the pace was set by a trio consisting of Tribe (Durham), Plumpton (Loughborough), and the Birmingham skipper Shaw. They were followed successively by packs of Loughborough, Durham and Birmingham runners, with Slimming, the Southern Universities' champion, and Lynn, the home team captain, the only other runners involved in the struggle at the front.

The race continued very much this way with Shaw eventually breaking contact from his two adversaries and coming home a clear winner, 100 yards to the good of Tribe, Plumpton while the team race had sorted itself out as expected—Loughborough packing six runners in the first twelve for 40 points, and victory; whilst a depleted Durham team rallied splendidly to finish second with 68 points. The Birmingham team ran up to form, their scoreboard reading 108 points, for third position. Nottingham, Southampton and Bristol filled fourth, fifth and sixth positions respectively. Second home for Birmingham was their consistent vice-captain David Spence (13th); Pete Saville excelled in 18th position, though Dai Davis (22) had an off-day. Mike Downs (26) and Dave Royce (28) completed the scoring team and the other Birmingham runners acquitted themselves adequately.

Although we were beaten by the Loughborough and Durham teams, the Birmingham runners are all very fit, and with the greater incentive that can only come from severe competition, which the team had not encountered this season until this match, there is no reason why it should not gain a place in the honours list in the U.A.U. championship. Also our captain Dave Shaw shows signs of regaining the form that last year brought him the individual title in the British Universities Championship.

M.G.D.

OTHER RESULTS

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

1st XI drew with Nottingham, 1-1.
2nd XI beat Nottingham, 2-1.
1st XI beat Exeter, 2-1.
2nd XI lost to Exeter, 0-6.

Rugby football:
1st XV beat Nottingham, 11-8.
1st XV lost to Leicester Extra, 0-6.

Hockey (men):
1st XI lost to Nottingham, 0-1.
2nd XI lost to Nottingham, 2-5.
3rd XI lost to Nottingham, 0-5.

1st XI beat Leicester, 5-0.
2nd XI beat Leicester, 6-3.

Hockey (women):
1st XI lost to Oxford, 1-3.
2nd XI lost to Oxford, 2-5.
1st XI beat North Staffs, 2-1.

Netball:
1st VII lost to N. Staffs, 19-21.
2nd VII beat N. Staffs, 16-6.

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Sailing Club

Tidal Racing

The first matches of the season have been sailed, and the performances have been very encouraging.

In the first match, against the University College of North Wales, sailed on the Menai Straits, a decisive victory of 24½-16½ points was scored, but not without many anxious moments. The race was sailed in a light wind against a foul tide, conditions which made local knowledge a big advantage, and it was not surprising, therefore, when the opposing boats opened up a large lead. Just before the finish of this race, however, in attempting to find slacker water, they sailed under the lee of the shore and got into difficulties.

The Birmingham helms saw this in time and kept well out, so that although they had a faster current to contend with, there was more wind. The gap was quickly closed, and second and third places obtained.

The second race was sailed in an even lighter wind which made progress against the tide extremely slow. All the boats had difficulty in crossing the starting line, J. Keen (B'ham) being first away, to be followed several minutes later by the other three boats, led by R. V. Latin (B'ham). These positions remained unaltered and an easy victory followed.

The following week, the team visited Cardiff, where the local team sail on the Severn estuary. The tidal streams were fast and complex, again making local knowledge a great advantage. The two teams were very evenly matched and each race was fiercely contested. The first race was the longest and the hardest fought, the positions changing several times but the honours eventually went to Birmingham (first, J. Keen; third, J. Welch).

The course had to be shortened for the second and third races, the tide having fallen and exposed a mud-bank on the previous course. The second race was very close, Cardiff being the winners by a ½ point. The match then, depended on the last race, with Birmingham requiring second and third places to ensure victory. For most of the race, the Birmingham teams were comfortably holding these places, but the second Cardiff boat obtained a leadward overlap at the last mark and so snatched third place and victory by a ½ point (45½-45¼).

INTER-FACULTY RUGBY TABLE TO DATE

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Chemistry	3	3	0	0	93	10
Elec. Eng.	3	3	0	0	57	8
Chancellors	1	1	0	0	36	3
Medics	1	1	0	0	30	6
Metallurgy	1	1	0	0	21	3
Biol./Biochem.	2	1	0	1	34	40
Chem. Eng.	2	1	0	1	12	27
Commerce	1	0	0	1	0	16
Education Dept.	1	0	0	1	5	27
Physics	1	0	0	1	6	30
Mining	1	0	0	1	0	25
Geography	2	0	0	2	11	50
Mech. Eng.	3	0	0	3	27	88

Rifle Club:
Lost to Imperial College, 753-774.
Lost to Manchester, 750-770.

Netball:
1st VII lost to N. Staffs, 19-21.
2nd VII beat N. Staffs, 16-6.

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ANNA RUSSELL

MISS ANNA RUSSELL, "the funniest woman in the world," gave an extremely well-attended concert at the Town Hall last week. I was lucky enough to be able to interview her that afternoon, and over tea she told me about her student days. Miss Russell trained as a music teacher at the Royal College of Music, for at that time she had no idea of becoming an entertainer: "I took myself very seriously then."

Among her contemporaries was Earl Robinson. She used her talents to entertain friends at parties but never gave a public performance until she took part in an amateur troupe show in Canada. After some time she was noticed by an impresario who took her to New York, and since then she has travelled all over the world.

We talked about music and I learnt that she likes nearly everything especially Bach and—after a pause—Wagner. I had heard a recording of her analysis of "The Ring" and exclaimed at this—"Oh well, the stories are for the birds, but I love the music." She dislikes all types of musical snobbery and her type of humour is primarily intended to expose this. At the Edinburgh Festival this year she included in her repertoire a satire on "Wozzeck" an opera being presented at the same festival by the Swedish Opera Company. The opera was a new work and consequently sacred so that the purists exclaimed "How could you do it" . . . "But the members of the Swedish Opera Company came along—they loved it."

She commented on the quickness of reaction among English audiences: "With Americans you have to pause—then clout the joke over. If you do that with the English they've seen the joke before you get to it." But at the concert that night her timing, especially in her analysis of "Hamletto" (a Verdi opera which Verdi didn't write), was superb and she handled her audience with a competent and practised air. M.A.B.

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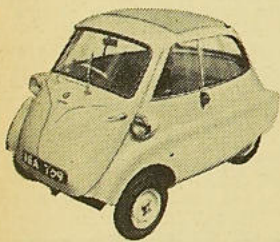
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★ POOR MAN'S MIRACLE ★

The play which the Rep. are currently producing, owes its very existence to a miracle. Written in Poland prior to the last war, only one copy survived the author's flight and the ravages of the war years; whether that miracle was justified is a matter for conjecture. "Poor Man's Miracle" by Marjan Hemar, certainly does not reveal its merits at the first visit.

Joseph, an unemployed electrician with an invalid wife, claims that by miraculous means he has gained the means to pay for her treatment; he is forthwith arraigned for theft. This comprises the first scene and the remainder of the play is devoted to the argument as to whether it was a miracle or theft. The playwright starts several interesting, if not entirely original, hares, but does not chase them to the kill, constantly being led away by other promising scents. He begins, it seems, to examine the reactions of a varied cast list to the miracle, rather reminiscent of "The Song of Bernadette"; after the first interval an

impressive piece of writing introduces the theme of Justice against Human Feeling, but the succeeding scene seems already to veer towards an indictment of a world unable to accept miracles. Here for a long while the discussion remains, again incorporating some fine writing; but shortly before the final curtain, this picture too is destroyed, and one leaves the theatre bewildered as to the author's intentions.

Uncertainty seems also the keynote of the acting. One detected a nervousness in the supporting players that could be due to a lack of confidence in the play. At times the action is slow, notably in the first scenes of Act I and II; unnecessary emphasis is laid on the humorous side of Arthur Pentelow's rector and on a farcical pathologist, who seems quite out of place. However the prosecuting and defending counsels, played by Ian Richardson and Michael Deacon, are adequate portrayals within the limitations of the writing, and Bernard Kilby effectively gains our sympathy as Joseph.

The set is well conceived and executed, economically accommodating the earlier scenes and drawing the eye to the centre when the complete stage is used for the first time in the final scene, in a way that intelligently underlines the action at that stage.

All things considered however this is not the most successful choice of play that the Rep. has made this session.—R.P.W.

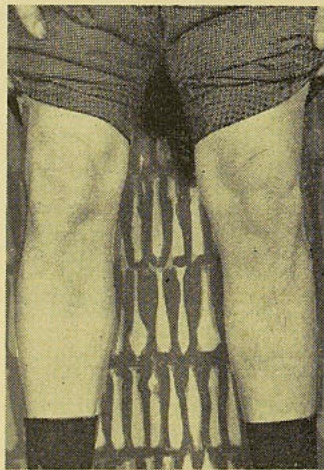
BATTLESHIP POTEMKIN

THE University Film Society seems to be carrying out its work with a reasonable degree of success; though the Barber Institute was only half-full last Monday evening the audience enjoyed the programme with which it was provided.

Seen first was a two reel version of Eisenstein's "Battleship Potemkin," although, unfortunately, the Russian distributors had seen fit to add a prologue and to dub the film with some exceedingly heavy social-realist music. Despite these intrusions Eisenstein's genius shines through, creating one of the best films ever made, as was agreed at the Brussels Exhibition.

It is to this film that we owe the ideas of Montage and Typage, which continue, albeit in a diluted fashion, to influence film-making to-day. Montage, the juxtaposition of sequences so that a further idea not contained in the sequences is created in the mind of the audience, is a concept which acknowledges that the director's job is to persuade his audience to alter its opinion on the matter under study. This, then, is a cinema of ideas, not people; typage is the designing of characters in the film so that one facet of their personalities is emphasised to represent a point of view; a logical extension of montage. Characterisation, as Jacques Tati would appear to have learnt, is immaterial. Thank you, Film Society. K.R.C.

KNEES UP!!!



THIS photo is but one example from a selection of knees showing all this week in the entrance hall of the Union; they constitute a competition in aid of International Students' Week, which by this time should have attracted your notice. We ask you to consider these knees—they are the property of distinguished persons—and judge them for their knobbiness, beauty or utility, registering your selection by means of a coin dropped in the appropriate box provided. The winner will be announced at the end of the week and all money found in the tins will go towards International Students' Week. Even if you don't think any of the knees worthy of your money, please give what you can to a cause that is. If you haven't already made your contribution to this University effort, we would ask you to do so today or to-morrow and to do so as generously as you can.

W.U.S. COMMITTEE.

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M.R.D.S. and ME

"You know, Moosoo—he always addressed me in the subjunctive, as my friend J.D. used to relate—anyone can be a lecturer," said my old friend M.R.D.S. idly sifting through the beer-stained pages of his "Educational Psychology." I did not concur.

"For example," he pursued, willy nilly, "take the case of my friend J.H. Some years ago I told him that I could do his job as lecturer, and he agreed to take me on . . . So next day we went off to Coventry to a public recital, myself in his position and him as my secretary. Well, I delivered my lecture on Prehistoric Lingua-Paialata which do not conform to Darmsteter's Law (vid. "De carberendo illigitimis" and "Numquam animus te Jacobus, ego sum totus dexter"), but I foolishly asked for questions.

"Ah!" I breezed in, "and so you were caught?"

"Oh dear me no," he replied, noticing that Pavlov's dog on page 79 was still salivating when on page 45, it should have been experiencing a mental blackout. "I bluffed my way out of it in the best University style."

"Say on, O scribe . . ."

"Well . . . I took off my National Health Specs., glared at the questioners and said: You expect me to come all the way down here to answer such simple questions? Why, anyone could answer that . . . try asking my secretary J.H. and see . . ."

Well I must give him credit. My old friend, though he has alas acquired some enemies, M.R.D.S. could sell hot-water bottles to African pigmies, or red tape to the Executive. Long may he reign!

Personal Column

YOU MAY ADVERTISE PERSONAL OR SOCIETY NOTICES IN THIS COLUMN. RATE: 1d. PER WORD (INTERNAL). 3d. PER WORD (EXTERNAL). APPLY: THE ADVERTISER, "GUILD NEWS," THE UNION.

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ANOTHER POPULAR RECORD SOIREE will be given by Prof. Fraser-MacKenzie at Chad Hill Cottage, next Saturday at 8.30 p.m.

W.U.S. International Students' Week ends to-morrow (Friday). Contribute now as generously as you can. Others need what you can spare.

WHO GETS WHAT, WHEN AND HOW? Ask Sir William Gmry Williams (Gen. Sec. Arts Council). "State Aid for the Arts" to-night, (Thursday) 7 p.m. Founder's Room.

WHO DOES WHAT, what and how? Dick Crossman, "Future of the Labour Party" To-morrow (Friday) Lesser Hall, 5.10 p.m.

SEATS GOING WELL FOR "THE DUCHESS OF MALFORD" ALL NEXT WEEK. JUST ONE LEFT FOR YOU! SEE YOU THERE NORMA.

CINEMA COLUMN

A.B.C. (Bristol Road): For a season "The Nun's Story." (U). Actresses: Peter Finch. Evening, 7.25; matinees, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2.25. Seats booked in advance. Phone CALthorpe 1944 4479.

West End (Suffolk Street). For seven days, "South Pacific" (U). Actresses: Rossano Brazzi and Mitzel Gurn and John Kerr. Evenings at 7.15; matinees Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2.30. Sundays at 1.15. Phone Midland 0022.

Odeon (New Street). November 15 for seven days, "S.O.S. Pacific" (U). Richard Attenborough, Pier Aron, John Gregson and Eva Bartok. November 22, "Ask Any Girl" (U). David Niven; and "The Man Who Liked Funerals."

Gaumont (Steelhouse Lane): November 15 for seven days, "The Rat Patrol" (U). With Ernest Borgnine and David Brian. November 22 for seven days, "The Night We Dropped a Clanger," with Brian Rix.

Cinephone (Bristol Street): November 15, "Kill or Cure" (X), and "Slice of Life," Nov. 22. Daphne Delorme in "Prison des Femmes" (X), also Giovanni Ralli in "The Most Wonderful Moment" (U). (Programme subject to alteration.)

Forum (New Street): November 15, "Jet Storm," starring Richard Attenborough and Stanley Baker. Also "The Revolt in the Big House" Main film at 11.15, 2.30, 5.40 and 8.55.

Futurist (John Bright Street): November 15, for a further seven days, "The Return of the Fly" (X), Vincent Price, Brett Halsey, and "The Alligator People" (X). Chaney.

Scala (Smallbrook Street): November 15, for a further seven days, "Stairs and Downstairs," with Michael Craig and Anne Heywood. Also Guinness and Peter Sellers in "Ladykillers."

"GUILD NEWS"

PHOTOGRAPHS

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