

"WE WANT A FULL
DISCUSSION"

REFEC. PROBE?

"STUDENTS FEEL
THAT THEY ARE
NOT GETTING A
FAIR DEAL BOTH
SOCIALY AND IN
CATERING."

Tkachenko mystery

DR. VLADIMIR TKA-
CHENKO, the Russian
scientist whose abrupt depar-
ture from the country a fort-
night ago caused a considerable
stir in Whitehall and the Press,
had been studying low-tempe-
rature physics at Birmingham
University for about ten
months. Considerable mystery
still surrounds his case, and
there are many questions yet
to be answered.

Talking about his mental health,
the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert
Aitken, speaking at a press con-
ference recently, said: "Such symp-
toms as an ordinary person could
recognise seem to have developed
very quickly."

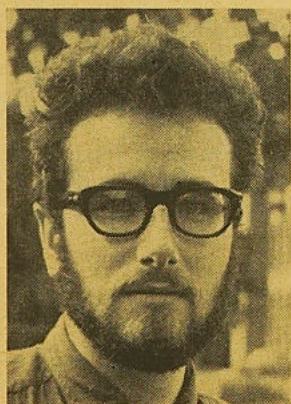
But Michael Jagger, Tkachenko's
research colleague, added, "looking
back with hindsight, he was a bit
pensive during the last few days."
Tkachenko often went away from
the University on visits to Cam-
bridge, sometimes for a week, some-
times for a fortnight, in connection
with his studies.

It would appear that, along with
some other Russian physicists, Dr.
Tkachenko had been interested in
buying low-temperature equipment
from the Oxford Instrument Com-
pany. The sale of plant of this
nature, which costs £30,000, is
banned to the U.S.S.R. because the
patent lies with the Atomic Energy
Authority and does not extend to
Iron Curtain countries.

Yesterday, the Oxford Instrument
Company were not available for
comment on the matter.

Without doubt, Dr. Vladimir Tka-
chenko is an excellent physicist.
"He is a very good scientist, good
enough for the Russians to want
him back," Prof. Moon, Head of the
Physics Department, told the
BBC's "Weekend at One" on Sun-
day, September 17th:—

On the subject of his home and
family background, Michael Jagger,
who was also Tkachenko's dis-
gust, admitted that communication
was naturally rather difficult be-
cause of the language barrier, but
the Russian had sometimes talked
perfectly freely about his wife and
one-year-old daughter. Mr. Jagger
added that he had in fact met Dr.
Tkachenko's wife while she was over
in England. "She was very pretty,"
he commented.



Jerry Jones: "A hell of
a lot of evidence."

INTELLECTUAL BEER & CHEESE

THE Guild should take more
responsibility in educa-
tional matters. This is the
opinion expressed by President
Charles Wright. The
weekly Open Lecture should
be retained and regular beer
and cheese lunches, with a
guest speaker, should be held
in the Union.

Debates could be a useful way of
dealing with most aspects of higher
education, but the main idea of the
scheme would be weekend schools
similar to those of S.F.H. run with
the co-operation of the University,
which would also serve to further
staff student relationships.

Charles Wright says that pub-
lishers have shown some interest
in the idea. For instance they might
supply books on a subject for dis-
cussion.

To find ways of "improving and broaden-
ing the range of facilities offered by the
Refectory building" will be the job of a new
Guild Commission if the proposals of Ray
Phillips, Guild Secretary, are accepted at
next week's Council meeting.

This news comes only a few days after the publication
of an article in the Socialist Union magazine, "Dissent,"
which was strongly critical of the running of the Refectory.

Ray Phillips told "Redbrick"
last night: "We want a full dis-
cussion of the present situation
whereby the Refectory, taking
the majority of students at peak
hours is providing little else
than catering facilities."

"We want discussion at Guild
Council level to provide ideas so that
eventually we shall be able to go
to the Refectory Committee with
a document that has the backing
of the Guild."

Little priority

He explained that he wanted to
do this rather than go immediately
to the Refectory Committee because
students had only three represen-
tatives on the committee and "it is
very easy for our motions there to
have little priority. But if the stu-
dents can go and say, 'This is what
the Guild of Undergraduates wants
and feel should be happening,' then
we have a much better hope."

He hoped for as much co-operation
as possible between the Refectory
Committee, members of the Union
Catering Committee and the pro-
posed Commission so that they
could "collect all the ideas, assemble
them into some sort of coherent
opinion which can be given weight
by a vote at Guild Council and
which we hope will prove beyond
doubt that the majority of students
is far from satisfied with the
facilities offered."

Fair deal

Ray said his main grievances
against the Refectory building were
lack of notice-board facilities and
rules and regulations about holding
dances there "which if not nonsen-
sical, are very difficult to justify."

Also, he saw no reason why the
Union tannoy system should not be
extended to the Refectory.

Asked whether his proposed com-
mission would consider food prices
and catering efficiency, he replied:
"Students feel they are not getting
a fair deal both socially and in
catering."

Recent articles in "Redbrick" and
"Dissent" have also been critical of
the catering side of the Refectory.
The "Dissent" article had claimed
that staff turnover reached "astro-
nomical proportions" and suggested
that there might be something
wrong with staff-management re-
lationships. It also pointed out that
a substantial meal could be obtained
in the Aston Refectory for three
shilling to 3s. 6d. or for four shil-
lings with waitress service.

Student interests

Jerry Jones, Chairman of Social-
ist Union, had attacked the recent
10 per cent price increase and had
told "Redbrick": "For a long time
now there has been a hell of a
lot of evidence that the Refectory
had been guilty of gross inefficiency
and that the Refectory Manager has
not the slightest care for student
interests."

John Palmer, Union Catering
Chairman and a student member
of the University Refectory Com-
mittee, commented yesterday:—

"The Guild representatives on the
Refectory Committee will be on the
look-out for any indications of in-
efficiency in the Refectory, but until
the final accounts for last year
have been studied carefully no fur-
ther action will be taken."

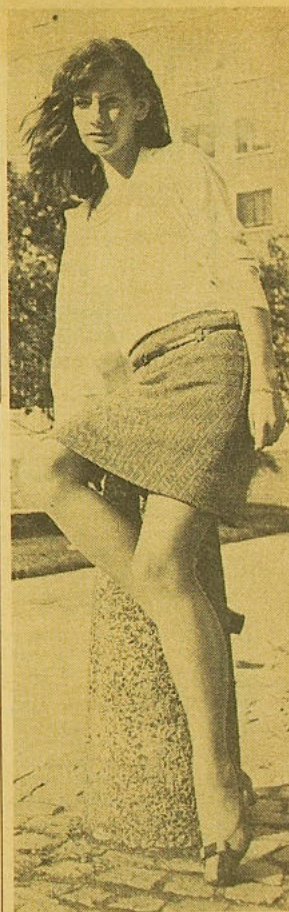
Mr. Humbert, Refectory Manager,
refused to comment on the allega-
tions "Dissent" had made against
the Refectory.

FLAT WEEK COMING

IN common with many
other universities, Bir-
mingham has been study-
ing the possibility of build-
ing student flats using
borrowed money, and let-
ting them to students. The
University Grants Com-
mittee has taken an inter-
est in schemes of this sort
in the past, and with their
assistance the University
of Lancaster is engaged in
building flats.

A planning committee is be-
ing set up, and the Guild is
being asked whether it will
nominate two representatives to
sit on the committee to help
with the discussions. Also,
students may consider helping
themselves by investigating the
possibilities of a conversion
scheme.

University interest in student
flats comes at a time when
N.U.S. is organising a cam-
paign for better conditions in
students' flats, with the slo-
gan "Students cannot study in
squalor." The campaign runs
from October 9th to the 14th,
and President Charles Wright
is organising a squalor exhibi-
tion in the old entrance hall,
and both he and "Redbrick"
would be grateful to receive
details of flats or digs which
could be considered squalid and
which could be used in
the exhibition.



Rosemary Irving-Bell has
come from Chard, Somer-
set, to study Biologi-
cal Sciences at Birming-
ham. Rosemary, who is
interested in ballet, modern
dancing and swimming,
posed for "Redbrick" pho-
tographer Pete Mills.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6th, at 8.00 p.m.
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TOM PAXTON
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REDBRICK SAYS....

MANY students will be wondering why Mr. Humbert had nothing at all to say about "Dissent's" criticism of the Refectory. He may feel that his arguments against the article are complicated and open to misunderstanding by students. Or he may believe that if he keeps quiet criticism will die down.

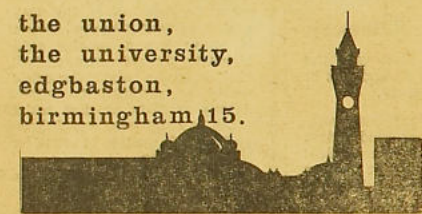
Whatever his reasons, two important questions are unanswered. Firstly, were the recent 10 per cent price increases an easy way out or a last resort after every other way had been tried to cut losses by increased efficiency? Secondly, how high is the staff turnover in relation to other similar establishments?

If the Refectory is run efficiently, there seems to be no good reason why it should fight shy (a) of a proper work study and (b) of publishing figures for staff turnover providing others could be obtained for comparison.

Until students have something to reassure them, many will continue to feel there is something wrong.

Executive members now seem to be preparing for some action even if they do not yet see the need for student control of the Refectory Committee, and even if at the moment they are concerned more with the Refectory building than the food it serves.

the union,
the university,
edgbaston,
birmingham 15.



Westminster Guide for Students

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Your bank account will play a vital part in your career
Having achieved your Bank Manager's confidence, you'll find his friendship a valuable asset for the rest of your lifetime! Should you move your address, you can take your account with you; Westminster Bank has 1,400 branches—one is sure to be nearby. If your career should take you abroad, we'll be happy to arrange the necessary financial facilities.

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Westminster Bank



The Information Desk, in the New Entrance Hall, which was kept busy throughout the whole conference.

DOWNTOWN

Cinemas

JACEY News Theatre, Station Street. (Daily 10.15, Sun. 3.0) News, Cartoons, Comedy.
A.B.C. Cinema Theatre, Bristol Road. "South Pacific." Evens at 7.0. Mats. Mon, Wed, & Sat. at 2.0. Sun. 6.15. Box Office 4479.
GAUMONT Theatre, Colmore Circus. "The Sound of Music" (U). Evens 7.05. Mats. daily 2.05. Sun. 6.05. Box Office CENTRAL 1488.
SCALA Superama, Holloway Circus. "A Man for All Seasons" (U). Sun. 4.30 & 7.30. Mon-Fri 2.30 & 8.0. Sat. 2.0, 5.0 & 8.0. Box Office MIDLAND 2418.

Theatres

ALEXANDRA Theatre, John Bright Street. Until Oct. 7th. "And Suddenly it's Spring" by Jack Poplewell. Evens at 7.15. Sat. 5.25 & 8.0. Matinee Wed. 2.30. Box Office: MIDLAND 1231.
REPERTORY Theatre, Station Street. Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri., Sat. (Mat.), Oct. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th. "The Severed Head" by Iris Murdoch and J. B. Priestley. Thurs., Sat. (Eve), Oct. 5th, 7th. "The Circle" by W. Somerset Maugham. Evens at 7.15. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2.30. Box Office: MIDLAND 2471.
BIRMINGHAM Theatre, Hurst Street. Until Nov. 11th. "The Black and White Minstrel Show." Twice nightly, 6.15 & 8.30. Box Office: 622-2576.

STUDIO Theatre, Midlands Arts Centre for Young People, Cannon Hill Park. Oct. 4th-7th. "The Servant of Two Masters" by Carlo Goldoni. Daily at 2.30. Sat. 2.30 & 8.0. Tickets: 5s. (Members 4s.). Box Office: 440-3838.

Today

MUSIC.—Town Hall: Organ Recital by Lionel Rogg. Adms. free. 1.15 p.m.
LECTURE.—Engineering and Building Centre, Broad St. (Inst. of Materials Handling). "Traction Batteries Present & Future." Speaker: Mr. D. Clayton. 7.15 p.m.

MUSIC.—Town Hall: City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Conductor: Hugo Rignold. Soloist: Sergio Varella-Cid. Wednesday Pops. 7.30 p.m.
GREYHOUND RACING. — Alcester Lanes End, Kings Heath. 7.30 p.m. Walsall Road, Perry Barr, 7.30 p.m.

JAZZ.—Golden Eagle, Hill St.: Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. 8.0 p.m.
FOLK SINGING.—White Swan, Bradford Street: Cygnet Folk Club. Admission: 3s., 8.0 p.m.

Thursday

MUSIC.—Town Hall: City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Conductor: Hugo Rignold. Soloist: Wilhelm Kempff. 7.30.
FOLK SINGING.—Civic Hall, Digbeth: Jug O'unch Folk Song Club. Guests: 5s. 7.30.

Friday

MUSIC.—Town Hall: An Evening with Tom Paxton. Tickets 10s., 7s. 6d., 5s. from Town Hall Box Office. 8.0.
FOLK SINGING.—Birmingham Arms. Mont. Song. Birmingham Arms Folk Song Club. 8.0.

Saturday

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.—Villa Park: Aston Villa v. Birmingham City (L2). 3.0.
Hawthorne: West Bromwich Albion v. Wolverhampton W. (C.L.). 3.0.
JAZZ.—Civic Hall, Digbeth: Midland Jazz Club. Visitors: 6s. 8.0.
Old Crown, Digbeth: Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. 8.0. Admission: 5s.

Sunday

JAZZ.—Old Crown, Digbeth: Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. Adms.: 5s., 8.0.
FOLK SINGING.—White Lion Hotel, Horse Fair: Grey Cock Folk Song Club. 8.0.

Bathing & swimming

FINNISH SAUNA BATHS.—Bourville Lane only. Ladies: Mon, Wed. & Fri. Men: Tues., Thurs. and Sat.

Exhibitions

OCT. 2nd-7th.—Kean and Scott, Corporation Street: Collection of Victoriana. Daily 9.0-5.30. Admission free.

DANCING.—Gray Tower, Reservoir Road, Edgbaston. 16. Sessions Tues.-Sat. EDGBASTON 0107.
The Heart Beat, Pershore St. 5. Mon. to Sat. 8.0-1.0. MIDLAND 6969.
Locarno, Smallbrook Ringway. 5. Sessions daily. MIDLAND 1286.
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Insertions up to mid-day Tuesday

DICK. I don't know about the History Department but why do you think I should help you? GOD.

HOLT. I'll see your hairy bits and up two seeds.

CHRIS. watch out for the hairy bits.

EMPTY fire extinguisher for sale, 2.6d. Apply CAL 2704 and ask for Hancock.

BYE-BYE Folks—Ted.

FRESHERS' Social (Meth. Soc.). All welcome. Thursday evening at 7.30 in the Mixed Lounge of the Union.

ORD Fashion Show, Deb Hall. LOUDER, Graham, louder.

BRITISH Bricks at Sallibury Gasworks help make for warmer lifts.

GRAHAM. do you wear it on the bog?

ANYONE wishing to sell a copy of "Deck of Cards" (this really is serious, Ed.) by Wink Matindale, please come to "REDBRICK" Office.

METH. SOC. Sunday 8th. The Chaplain speaks on "Commitment" at 4.30 preceded by prayers at 3.30 and tea at 4.

Please join in at any time. **COME** back Mackintosh Williams all is forgiven.

VIVI—Deeply sorry I was late.—Rob.

POLISH SOCIETY—all Freshers and others interested contact Pat Sagallo via Union P.H.

ORD Fashion Show, 1 p.m.

MARTIN LOWE would like to thank all those well-wishers during his recent illness—come to tea whenever you like, Dick.

MARGARET and Rosemary—are you living happily together—or is there still space for me?—Martin.

EDWARD-AUF Wiedersehen. The University and more especially the Union is much poorer for your loss.

WOULD the person who removed my brief-case from the Library Cloakroom last Friday be kind enough to return it to the Library or myself—W. G. Thurston EPS III.

WANTED—Wealthy gentleman friends for two charming girls, kind to guests. Contact Pat and Elise via P.H. AR.

MERRY Christmas Sue. **CALLING ALL FRESHERS.** U.N.S.A. free tea today.

Prestley Hall at 5 p.m., followed by Social at High Hall, 7.30 p.m. All freshers (and not-so-freshers) welcome.

MY sister wants a boudoir. **COME** and learn what the Socialist Union does at the Freshers' tea, 5 p.m. in Priestley Hall, Friday, Stuart Hall of the New Left Manifesto will speak.

ORD Fashion Show, October 12th.

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Sir Robert attacks Government policy

THE Government's attitude to the universities was strongly criticised by the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Robert Aitken, earlier this week. Speaking mainly about university admissions, he said that cuts in Government spending have already meant a cut in the University's planned expansion. This year there are only 50 more admissions than last year, although the target earlier was 150.

In science and engineering there are 12 applicants for each place. In arts and social science, the ratio is 19.3 applicants for each place. The worst situation is in the Medical School where one applicant in 21.8 was successful.

Although this year there will be 1,598 people reading for degrees compared to 6,080 last year, new admissions are up to only 2,570 from 1,320 of whom 1,598 are undergraduates.

"The figures," said Sir Robert, "show the build-up of pressure on Arts and Social Science. The odd thing is that this has been going on for several years now and has not been marked."

What yet the government is

assiduously promoting polytechnics up and down the country and is not promoting institutions which take arts and social science people." He expressed his surprise that no great alternative or provision seemed to be made for arts students.

Sir Robert then attacked the Government for "what looked like a deliberate leak from the Department of Education and Science." The situation as the universities knew it, was that the government was planning to increase the number of university students from 197,000 in 1967-8 to 218,000 by 1972-3. But an article in a "certain newspaper" last week suggested that the government were planning to use other figures.

When pressed to name the newspaper concerned, Sir Robert said that it was "The Times."

He continued, "I take it very ill that the Department should inform the universities of its plans through a journalist." The Vice-Chancellor hoped that matters of policy would be discussed with the universities during a formative stage.

Librarian's degree

During the vacation, the Head Librarian, Mr. K. W. Humphries, was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from Trinity College, University of Dublin.

Student leader loses his citizenship

JOHN SPRACK, the President of the Students' Representative Council (S.R.C.) at Rhodes University and Vice-President of the National Union (N.U.S.A.), has been advised by the Interior Minister that he is no longer a South African citizen. Sprack returned to South Africa in early August from a visit to Great Britain at which time he allegedly presented his

British passport instead of his South African passport.

This action was interpreted as an act of disloyalty. Sprack was told that he had lost his South African citizenship and would thus have to apply for a visa if he wished to remain in the country. If his application is not then accepted he can be expelled from the country.



Rhys Vaughn in good voice at the Freshers' Debate.

Four debates a week for Rhys

RHYS VAUGHN, the Celt who won the Freshmen's debating cup last year, will be debating at Manchester University today. He is opposing the motion "Britain is the Land of Hope and Glory," for the Freshers' Debate there. Said Rhys: "I'm feeling overworked; I've got four debates in a week. But I'm enjoying it, and Tony Klug's sherry is keeping me going."

He has also spoken at both Freshers' debates here, and will be appearing again for tomorrow's debate on "This House believes that the English penal system is both inefficient and unjust."

United States Ambassador

At the invitation of several Warwick students, a delegation from Birmingham will be joining local demonstrators when the U.S. Ambassador opens a new Hall of Residence today. The Warwick University administration, in order to avoid any embarrassment, have arranged for the ceremony to be held before the Warwick term starts. Martin Lowe, Libsec Chairman, said, "We are going to show that Britons do not hold with American foreign policy."

LIAISON WITH THE COMMON HERD

THE latest move in the Guild's attempt to improve liaison between the Executive and the rest of the university is an information desk, to be set up in the new entrance hall; at first, the desk will be manned by members of the Executive, but later the job will be

taken over by Guild Councillors. At present, the desk will be open between one and two o'clock every day. It is thought, however, that it might be more convenient later on to change the times to 12.30 and 1.30.

The object is to break down the "them and us" feeling which exists with regard to the university and the Guild. Guild pamphlets, news, and Guild Council reports will be more readily available than before; this, it is hoped, will bring about the desired improvement in relations.



Roger Hird, Guild Treasurer, at the Guild news desk in the New Entrance Hall.

SQUALID FLATS WANTED

"Students cannot study in squalor" will be the title of a campaign organised by the National Union of Students during the week commencing October 9th.

"Redbrick" is anxious to collect evidence of squalid living conditions in flats or digs. Please contact "Redbrick" office (second floor of Union) as soon as possible. Photographers will be available.

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THIS IS YOUR opinion

MYTH EXPLODED

DEAR SIR,—In spite of the plug in your front-page lead story, Socialist Union does not appear to have flourished this Freshers' Conference—not really surprising as in my view they have relatively little to offer in comparison with the other political societies.

It's about time this myth of S.U. as the "biggest and most active political society" was exploded for good. Where are the super-active 200 members we hear so much about? They weren't recruited this year or last. The fact is that S.U. is living on its past record. During the past 14 months well over 200 students have joined the Conservative Association and well over 100 the Liberal Society.

B.U.C.U.A.'s activities are not, to quote Dissent, "confined only to (speaker and discussion?) drop dead meetings." I challenge S.U. to provide half the political and social activities that we provide inside and outside the university.

Furthermore, B.U.C.U.A. is not "dead" to any political party. We are an independent organisation and we press whatever views we choose, so let's have no more of these false smears.

Finally, sir, I would ask all those freshers who did not join a political society during the Conference to

think again during the next few weeks. Politics are important because they deal with the way people live. All of us should care about what kind of society we and our future families are going to live in, and the time to start worrying about it is now. It's no use waiting until we want to settle down.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY J. PAGE,
Vice-Chairman,
B.U.C.U.A.

Demolition

DEAR SIR,—I feel I must write to congratulate the principled gentlemen who last Thursday night felt it was their painful but necessary duty to censor that scurrilous and pornographic "magazine," "Wall."

For years we have put up with its offensive and obscene drivel, and at last someone has had the guts to stand up to these purveyors of voyeurism. Always lacking humour, its attacks are generally vicious, often unnecessarily so; and they are written not because of a desire to inform, but to get a cheap laugh. I hope and trust that the Union will accept the demolition of "Wall" as a fait accompli, thereby banishing this mucky imitation of satire from the University.

DICK HOLT

FRESHER CHARLIE

DEAR SIR,—As a fresher newly arrived on the campus, I attended the much-publicised Freshers' Dance. Never

have I been to anything quite like it. On entering the dance-floor I was plunged into pitch darkness.

When I was at last able to see, I discovered that there were about fifty couples on the dance floor surrounded by a crowd of what appeared to be around three hundred disconsolate males who seemed, like me, to be thoroughly disillusioned with the whole business. Admittedly the situation improved later in the evening, but are we really expected to turn up to future dances unless we get some assurance that something will be done to make the odds more favourable to the male of the species, especially so, seeing that we are being asked to pay the outrageous sum of twelve shillings and sixpence to attend the Georgie Fame dance?

Yours in disgruntlement,

CHARLES PRINCE.

Unsporting sport condemned

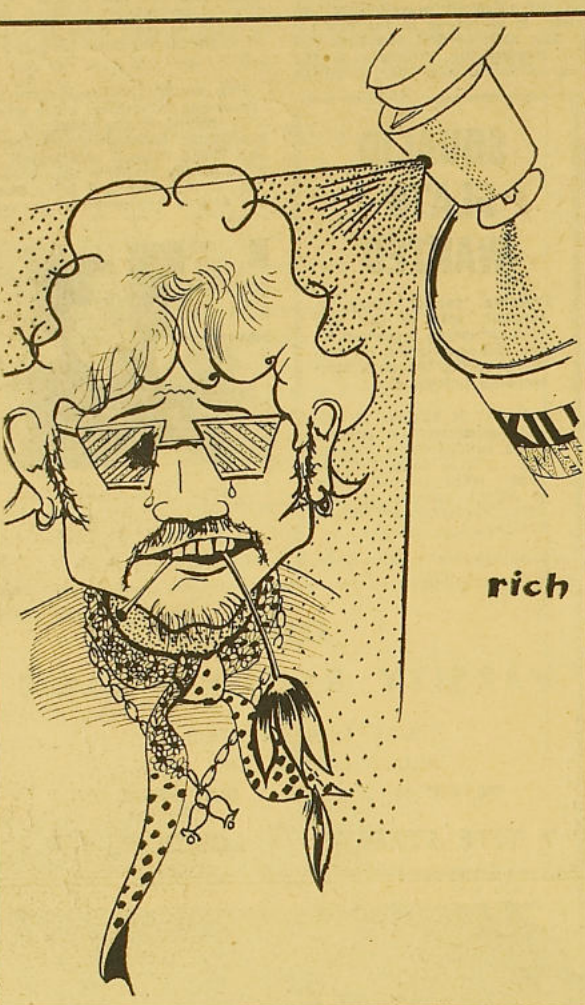
DEAR SIR,—When I knew that I was coming to University, I thought that after an interminable number of years, I would at last be free from the farcical and, to me, unpleasant ritual of being forced to participate in some form of sporting activity.

More fool me! In my indescribable stupidity I chose to come to what I believe is the only University in the country where this relic of one's school days is rammed down one's throat.

What justification is there for the University authorities' high-handed attitude in this matter?

Yours faithfully,

LETHARGIC FRESHERETTE



rich

Members are invited to submit their letters to "Redbrick" for use in the Opinion Page. Letters should not be longer than 400 words.

LAW IS BETTER?

DEAR SIR,—Before the annual round of 3rd-year versus first-year letters arrives in "Redbrick," we would like to point out that in the Law Faculty, at least, this year's first year are especially welcome, as they contain about 400 per cent more women.

However, we feel that the introductory lectures and talks for Law freshers are ill-advised as they tend to give such people the impression that there is something better in being a Law student than say a Chemistry student. This inevitably leads to Lawyers forming a faculty clique, which means unnecessary bad feeling between Law and members of other departments.

Yours etc.,
A. FRITCHARD,
(Law 3),
BRUCE BUCHAN,
(Law 3),
R. G. LOGAN,
(Law 2),
ANTHONY J. PAGE,
(Law 2),
RHYS H. VAUGHN,
(Law 2).

If you can solve this problem in under 3 minutes
VSO would like to hear from you

Insert the missing number

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VSO needs 1500 volunteers for 1968/69...

...YOU?

VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS
3 HANOVER STREET LONDON W1

More money but go easy

—SAYS TREASURER

MORE or less complete financial autonomy for the Guild would be the result of a rise in the Union capitation fee, predicted Roger Hird, Guild Treasurer this week. The capitation fee, the amount paid by the University authorities to the Guild, has been raised from £8 to £12 10s. each year per head of student population.

Roger warned, however, that greater autonomy "brings greater responsibility to build up our reserves for the future. The university will not now expect to be approached for special grants for such bodies as G.T.P. or Athletic Union."

Much of the increased income would be absorbed by the increased costs of the white paper on prices and incomes "by maintaining present services rather than initiating new ones."

Applications for increases in capitation fees have been made in several unions in the past few years. Liverpool, whose financial policy has been affected by their move to a new union building, now have a fee of 17 guineas.

The President of Leeds Union, said that although their fee was fixed to 10 guineas about two years ago they would certainly be applying for a further increase as the union expanded.

Postgrad centre extends services

THIS session the Postgraduate Association is off to a great start with full support from the Guild. The P.G.A.'s main aim is to provide the services that only postgrads require. Thesis typing, baby sitting, and translations are good examples. Full details are available in the Postgraduate Centre, which also has a coffee machine, newspapers and a television.

Postgrads from other universities can get in on the scene by meeting Bummie postgrads either in the Centre or in Gradsnack.

There is also a full social programme kicking off with a wine and cheese evening on October 12th. Finally the Vice-chancellor will welcome all new postgrads at a tea in Priestley Hall at 5.15 p.m. —tomorrow!

S.C.M.'s Vietnam protest

THE General Council of the Student Christian Movement has sent a letter of protest to the Home Secretary, Mr. Jenkins, in support of four North Vietnamese students who were recently refused visas to visit this country.

The letter says: "It is realised that the requests already made by Mr. Frank Judd, M.P., appear to have been interpreted as support for North Vietnamese policy. This we feel is a misunderstanding. This country is not only not at war with North Vietnam but trades with it with the full support of Her Majesty's Government. Her Majesty's Government also offers itself as a mediator in this dispute. The General Council urgently requests that you reconsider your decision in the realisation that the national interest of a prospective mediating nation is best served by allowing the full and even-handed expression of the views between which mediation is required."

BRIEF CASE
(p. & p. 5/10)
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Money back Guarantee.
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Chelsnack goes Grad

POSTGRADS have long complained that they have no place to meet, and last year the Hut was opened to provide snacks, coffee, and a meeting-place. However, this was felt to be inadequate, and the University agreed that Chelsnack might become "Grad-snack."

Ian Johnston, President of the Postgrad. Association, said: "At present a postgrad finds it very difficult to meet other people of his or her own age because the Union coffee-bars are mainly filled with undergrads."

He continued: "The aim of Grad-snack is to provide a central eating place where postgrads can freely invite anyone—staff, student or visitor—to eat with them."

At first it was suggested that undergrads should be excluded, and that this should be enforced by a vapo on the door, but Mr. Johnston said: "We want to avoid the exclusive atmosphere of Staff House and yet maintain a predominantly postgrad clientele."

ANTI-NAZI TO ADDRESS LIB. SOC.

MRS. NOTBURGA TILT, a former member of an anti-Nazi sabotage group in Austria during the last war, is to speak to the Liberal Society on Monday, October 9th, at 5.15 in Priestley Hall.

Living at present in Kenilworth with her husband, a retired R.A.F. officer, and a four-year-old daughter, she has been subjected, over the past three years, to threats of personal violence, menacing telephone calls, swastika-daubing and broken windows—all this because she refuses to stop lecturing to audiences on her Resistance work. "If I stopped, the intimidation would stop," she says. "That is what these people want. And that is why I will not give up."

Arrested

During the war, Mrs. Tilt was arrested three times and was finally sent to Dachau concentration camp, but managed to escape from the train taking her there. Since then, she has given many lectures, mainly to Women's Institutes and ex-prisoner-of-war associations; and after every lecture she has received more threats, many of them directed against her daughter. She is still determined, however, to carry on her work, which is now directed mainly against neo-Nazi groups such as the National Socialist Movement, a member of which was recently bound over by magistrates for sending printed leaflets to Mrs. Tilt.

DURING the vacation a hippy was unfortunate enough to be turfed out of Leeds University Library for the crime of disturbing the peace with his bells. Mr. K. W. Humphries, head librarian of Birmingham University, said that "although there is no rule specifically forbidding the carrying of bells, pet alligators or pocket battleships in the library, I would not be very pleased to see them there."

At present there is no plan afoot for silencing Big Joe.

Exec. Vacancies

THERE are now three unfilled vacancies on the Guild Executive. The third resignation is that of Roger Cliphams, Chairman of the National Union of Students, who has left the university.

The position of Union Secretary and Guild Relations Officer became vacant at the end of last term when the elected officers, Kevin Brehony and Roger Mathew left the University.

Elections will take place at Guild Council on Tuesday, October 10th.

BACK FROM THE HILLS

By
Duncan Martin (Chem. Eng. 2)
Jeremy Cuss (Chem. Eng. 2)
Christ Cumbers (Chemistry 2)

"MY only regret was that we had to leave so soon," said Duncan Martin, second-year Chem. Eng. He and twenty others had just returned a week before the beginning of term from five days' maintenance work at Caemarch. This is an old farmhouse in the hills near

Doigellau, North Wales, used by St. Francis Hall for week-end discussions, conferences and generally getting away from it all.

Living conditions there are described as primitive, but with tea in bed in the mornings (the only humane way so far discovered of getting the day started) and highly professional cooking, the house deserves a five-star rating.

Although called a "working party," the visit was much less work than holiday. The jobs done included re-pointing the ageing stonework, roof repairs, painting, woodcutting and the inevitable cleaning and cooking. These occupied the mornings, leaving the rest of the day free. Most spent the time mountain-climbing, walking, swimming and probing the depths of a derelict gold-mine. Talking late into the night, drinking, singing and dancing to a tireless accordion, filled the evenings.

Activities at Caemarch are open to all and information about visits can usually be found in S.F.H. It is especially hoped that this year many freshers will join parties there and take this opportunity of meeting people and making friends.

Library extension

Substantial work has been done on the next stage of the main library building; the whole extension project is scheduled to be completed in two years. It is then hoped that the library will have doubled its present capacity, and the target is space for thirteen to fourteen hundred readers and one million books.

Tricia Thomas (Theology Research) tries her hand at using cement.

Extra burden on Brum

SIR EDWARD BOYLE, M.P. for Handsworth, said on Monday that Oxford and Cambridge, together with the very new universities, tended to share the headlines, but universities like Birmingham, Leeds and Sheffield had to take on the extra burden of undergraduates.

He was speaking at the inauguration and prizegiving of the University Medical School. Sir Edward predicted that post-graduate studies would play an increasingly important part in education during the 1970s.

But it was important, he added, that the public should never lose sight of the value of either the consultant or the general practitioner.

New Manor President

DR. A. D. INGLIS of the Spanish Department is the new President of the Senior Common Room of Manor House. He was appointed during the summer vacation when Dr. C. E. Harrold left after many years' valuable service. Paul Bishop, President of Manor J.C.R., said: "We all know him here, he's been a member of the S.C.R. for some time. We all appreciate what he's done for us here, and we wish him luck."



Working on the Caemarch farmhouse are Dot Elworthy (Education), Roger Hird (Guild Treasurer), Jeremy Cuss (Chem. Eng.) and, up the ladder, John Grayson (Centre for Russian Studies).



FRIDAY, OCT. 6th 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

GEORGIE FAME
DEB. HALL 12/6d. BAR.

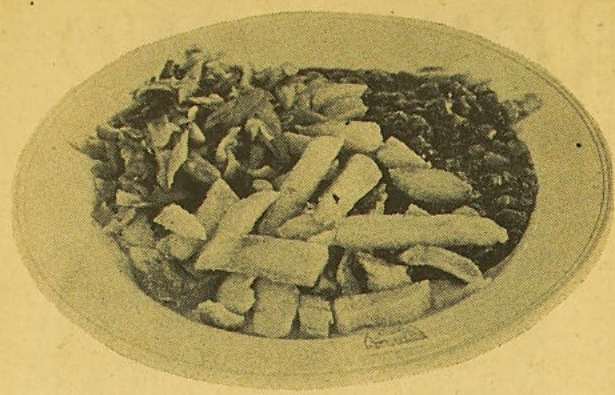
★

SATURDAY, OCT. 7th
FOLK CONCERT
IAN CAMPBELL, BOB DAVENPORT.

★

SUNDAY, OCT. 8th 7.30 p.m.
FLIC: "LORD OF THE FLIES"
FOUNDERS 2/6d. From Reception.

THIS IS AN ENTS COMM ADVERT



After many letters and phone calls, Redbrick has managed to obtain a selection of refectory food prices at provincial Universities. Obtaining the list was somewhat difficult as the relevant committee and catering officers were notable in their reluctance to help and provide information. Below, some of the items which contribute towards the final price of your meal are discussed.

Comparative investigations of the food prices in different catering concerns must be judged extremely carefully when trying to decide which is the better bargain. The number of variables which can be taken into account is enormous, and a complete investigation of the accounts of each concern, taken over a period of months would be necessary, before deciding if any particular concern could cut its costs and reduce its prices.

As can be seen from the table of university meal prices that "Redbrick" has obtained over the past week, differences in prices between individual items are rather meaningless and inconsistent and a better idea is obtained from the price of a whole meal—again comparisons are somewhat difficult as none of the refectories cook precisely the same menus.

However it seems that as a general rule, the Union and the other universities are much the same, while the refectory seems to be about 4d. or 5d. dearer than the others. The most obvious difficulty here is that one has no idea of the size of portions received at the different refectories. It is possible that in some places one is apparently getting a bargain, whereas in fact, the portions may be so small that one eats more in snacks and ends up by spending more. On the other hand a high price is not necessarily indicative of a large portion. The initial cost of the food will obviously affect the final price as will the way in which the staff is employed, and the modernity of the equipment.

ADMINISTRATION

With special emphasis on the refectory, the structure of the administration is of some interest. It is managed, as most members of the campus should have realised by now by Mr. Humbert, who is responsible to the refectory committee. On this august body sit three student representatives, representatives of the administrative and technical staff, the senate, the non-professional staff, Dr. Alty the university Deputy Principal and the university Secretary. Committee is chaired by Mr. Ghetoes, an accountant who was elected by the university council. One of the disadvantages of student representation appears here, in that they are of a transient nature, and by the time the full workings of the committee have been fathomed, it is too late for positive action to be taken. Committee is responsible to the University Finance and the refectory is required to put £4,200 aside for capital expenses, and should break even after this.

BAR PROFITS

In addition, even in the day there isn't a steady flow of customers and in a period of about half an hour 50 per cent go through the serving hatch. The refectory must be

staffed for this period and hence outside this time it is overstaffed.

SNACKS

The staff in the refec are paid on a scale to Hospital staff (Witney Council) and this means that hourly wages are up to 1/- more than in normal catering concerns.

The union is at something of an advantage over the refec in that a much greater proportion of snack meals are served. While the 50 per cent food costs are maintained, the

In an interview with "Redbrick," Mr. Verdegem, the Union Catering Officer (the equivalent of Mr. Humbert in the Refec), was loath to comment adversely on the recent refectory price rises, and pointed out, as was mentioned above, that there are many factors which could contribute towards the apparent discrepancies.

DIFFERENCES

He elaborated on the ways that it was possible to account for the differences in the refec prices, i.e. the initial price of the food, the efficiency of the staff set up, the refec, the way the food is served and the way a Chef cuts up portions.

When asked about the extent to which the Union Bar profits subsidised the Union catering, he said that "there would be a significant difference in price if bar profits were excluded from catering accounts." A large part of the bar profits were offset by high running costs of the kitchen which include high wages for barmen and glass breakages—run at two to three hundred a week.

EQUAL PRICES

He pointed out that the prices had been raised to "basics" such as chips and tables in line with the refectory there was "no point in bringing down the price of the refec as the union would not be able to cope with the extra demand." Cutlery and crockery losses from both the union and refectory he described as "credible" and these accounted for a significant part of the cost of the university.

cost of preparation and serving is certainly less than for hot meals which form the majority of the refec trade.

The Bar also has a tremendous turnover and is included in the final accounts of the catering committee and helps to maintain a surplus. To a limited extent, then, the bar subsidises food prices. This is offset by the tremendous number of breakages which occur in the bar.

INCREDIBLE LOSSES

Cutlery and crockery losses in both the refec and the union are quite "incredible," and something which no outside restaurant has to cope with to the same extent.

Other advantages that the refec has are: it contains much more modern equipment and is designed exactly to specifications of Mr. Humbert including two expensive washing-up machines costing over £5,000.

Also, although the refec (a two-tiered structure) has considerable handling problems with the food. This is even more true of the union in which the kitchens are on the second floor, the stores in the basement and the eating facilities in between.

Investigation for this report carried out by members of "Redbrick" News Staff.

Photos: Graham Sharples

REDBRICK comparison of student eating places

The items shown are on various menus which were common to all the establishments

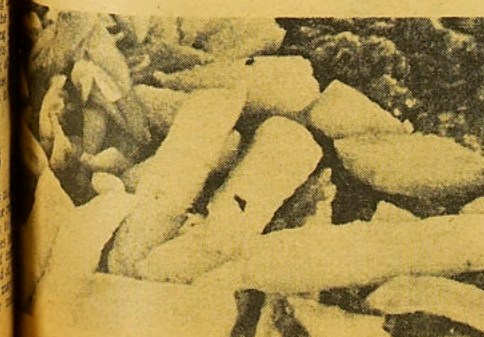
Article	Refectory	Union	Liverpool	Manchester	Sussex	Typical Moseley Eating House	Reading
FRIED COD	1s.10d.	1s. 9d.	1s. 2d.	2s. 5d.	1s. 8d.		All
PLAICE	2s. 9d.	2s. 4d.	1s. 8d.	—	2s. 7d.		Fish 1/6
ROAST CHICKEN	3s. 6d.	2s. 9d.	—	—	—		
R. BEEF & YORKS.	2s. 6d.	2s. 4d.	2s. 2d.	3s. 9d.	2s. 3d.		
STEAK & K. PIE	2s. 7d.	2s. 4d.	1s. 4d.	—	—		All meat 2/-
ROAST LAMB	2s. 6d.	2s. 4d.	2s. 2d. max.	3s. 9d.	2s. 3d.	3s. 9d. (3 veg. inc.)	
ROAST PORK	2s. 6d.	2s. 4d.	2s. 2d. max.	—	2s. 7d.	3s. 9d. (3 veg. inc.)	
CHIPS	8d.	8d.	9d.	3d.	9d.		6d.
VEGETABLES	7d.	7d.	8d.	Inc.	8d.		6d.
SWEETS	10d., 9d.	9d., 8d.	8d. to 11d.	6d.-10d.	10d.-11d.	10d.-1/6	9d.
SOUP	6d.	6d.	7d.	6d.	8d.	9d.	



Mr. Humbert, Refectory Manager, who has been the subject of adverse criticism.

Mr. Verdegem, a recent award.

HUMBERT PIE



Finally it is worth noting that Verdegem himself regards the cost of food at university as being in proportion to student grants. He seems to be largely correct, but not keeping pace with rising cost of living.

ACCOUNTS

While Mr. Humbert refuses to publish accounts of the refectory, speculation remains as to the origins of his price rises. It has been levelled against him that he is running the refec as a business in his food buying. This may not be true—there are many factors to remember.

CONFERENCE AND ITS AFTERMATH

MOST Freshers liked the Conference and complaints were few. But a large proportion did think it was too long and that Thursday evening was unnecessary.

Jane Sayer (Commerce and Soc. Sci.) asked "Why did they have to bother about Thursday? There was nothing to do." Richard Darton (Chem. Eng.) said all that he was told on Thursday was a list of things he would do on Friday. Philip Young (Dentistry) just said "Thursday evening was flat."

Brenda Smout (Comb. Hons.) complained she didn't get a proper tour of the campus. Tours of the Union and Departments, though, were considered excellent. The coach trips had much criticism. "Damn silly," said Stephanie Kucharek (Fre. & Germ.). Susan Rolph (Comb. Stud.) found the trip boring and would have liked a tour of the city centre.

Both Mike Bridger (English) and John Elliott (Civ. Eng.) complained about a lack of directions in the city. Chris Owens (Civ. Eng.) thought there should have been transport from the station to the campus available in addition to the Corporation buses which were all full. Richard Darton said: "A better idea would have been to put up signposts to the Halls rather than just 'Freshers' Conference.'"

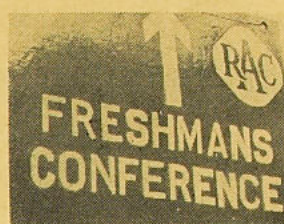
Project 84 trips slammed by freshers

FOR those freshers who first saw Birmingham when they came for their interview and couldn't tell the Bull Ring from the Town Hall, the conference officers, in conjunction with Project 84, organised sightseeing coach trips.

A commentary inaudible in the main, and remarkable for little more than the inclusion of the word "bloody"; oft repeated expressions of little faith in the capabilities of Birmingham Council as regards catering for the less banal requirements of the city youth; and a series of statistics which anyone living in a town of more than 100,000 inhabitants could have predicted; these were the main characteristics of the trips "to the city."

The "city" turned out to be composed of nothing more than the dreary suburbs of Kings Heath, Moseley, Balsall Heath, Bournville and Selly Oak. Varna Road earned a passing mention as we passed it.

A few minutes Caucasian-spotting in Balsall Heath was followed by a quick glance at Cadbury's non-alcoholic Bournville estate. As an introduction to the whole city, as one was led to expect, these trips were disappointing; the standard of the driving also left much to be desired.



TEACH-IN ONLY PARTIAL SUCCESS

ANY lack of numbers at the Freshers' Conference Teach-in was not due to any lack of effort on the part of the organisers, who had collected a formidable array of local speakers. Roland Chaplain, the organiser, said that he was disappointed with the attendance, but was sure that the teach-in had undoubtedly been a success. He thought that the poor attendances, which ranged from a handful of people to about seventy at one stage, could be attributed to the teach-in being a little too early in the term, and said that perhaps freshers should have been given a little more time to settle in.

The main attraction of Saturday's programme was Charles Wright, the Guild President, talking about his own ideas for Carnival. He thought that stunts and money-raising activities should go hand in hand with a week of intensive social work in Birmingham. The President's speech was preceded by a rather confusing talk by Mark Burke, Chairman of External Affairs, which did little to explain to the Freshers the work of External Affairs. Perhaps the most interesting part of Saturday's Programme was a short talk by Trevor Fisher, who is Chairman of Birmingham Young Liberals, on local pop culture.

Sunday's highlight came in the half-hour of the Teach-In when two prominent city councillors were talking about the local housing problem. Talking about the recent decision of the City Council to sell council houses to tenants, Councillor Ruck, a Conservative, said that the two basic principles behind this decision were firstly that it gave a tenant a security in possessing his own home and secondly that on a financial basis it was a great saving for other tenants. When asked about the very low poll at recent local elections, he said that the average person had the attitude that the outcome of the local election would not really affect him. He thought that this attitude was due to a lack of high pressure electioneering by the Councilors.

The Liberal Councillor Lavelle said that it was absolutely necessary to build as many homes as quickly as possible, but made a more philosophical point about a society which spends millions of pounds on building homes but still has thousands of people underpaid.

The general impression of freshers at the Teach-In was that no-one could be expected to attend all of both sessions, and thus it would have been more effective if it were shorter.

FRESHERS' DANCE

By PETE MILLS

THE familiar sight of Fresher blokes watching Fresher birds at their Hop occurred again on Friday evening. "All the spare girls had gone in ten minutes," commented on second-year male.

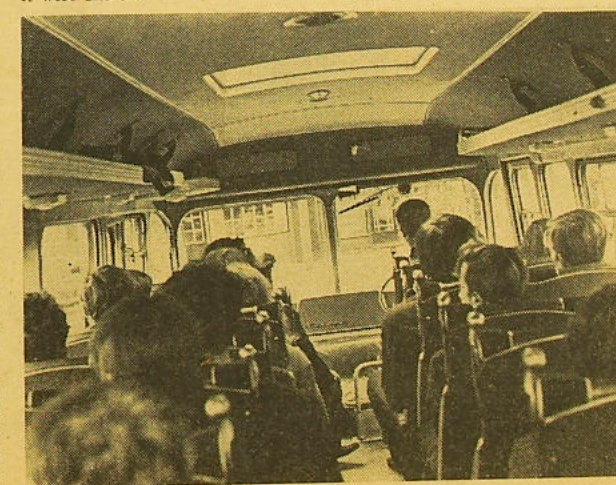
Somehow it was managed to squeeze all the Freshers into the Union spreading them between Founders, Concourse, Priestley and the Deb Hall all of which were packed at one time or another throughout the evening.

Chris Farlowe and the Thunderbirds played to a Deb Hall solid with people, once again girls were imported from outside colleges. Nevertheless the imbalance in numbers of the sexes makes one wonder whether it's all worth while.

Coach profits

OVER 500 students took part in the coach trips organised by Project '84 on Saturday and Sunday. Profits from the venture are expected to be about £25, and will be used to subsidise the cost of the Freshers' Conference as a whole.

Anne Davis, one of the organisers, thought the venture had been generally successful, and hoped that it would be repeated next year.



FILMS

JIM LEACH

Children and mother-care

SEVEN children conceal the death of their mother and bury her body in the garden. This is the basic situation in *Our Mother's House* (A.B.C.'s New Street and Colleshill Street). The interest of the film derives from the endeavours of the children to come to terms with their secret and from the tensions in their close-knit community. Things are complicated by the arrival of "mother's husband" (Dirk Bogarde), whom they hardly remember and who tries to win them over to his side.

Mother dies in the opening minutes of the film and the children gather round the bed to read from the Bible. "I found him whom my soul loveth, and would not let him go, until I had brought him to my mother's house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me". The sensual poetry sounds wildly irrelevant as the cold, white corpse of mother stares at them, but, unconscious of the meaning, they gain comfort from the familiar words. Mother will be pleased. They worship mother but mother is dead. Her spirit is used to create a kind of Old Testament police

state; religious mysticism takes on the trappings of political puritanism. Then "father" arrives, typical cockney layabout, half anxious to help the kids, half after what he can get out of it, completely bewildered by their devotion to mother's memory.

In one memorable sequence, Bogarde takes the children boating on a lake which is a mock-up of a primeval swamp. As they float past the weird extinct animals, a train crosses an embankment behind them. This is one aspect of the conflict faced by the children: between the primitive, half-understood, religious feelings associated with mother and the mechanical, everyday world of business deals, betting, and cheap women associated with father. Bogarde and the children laugh at the dinosaurs.

Only at the end is the full significance of the Biblical quotation made clear, but to say how would be to tell all. Suffice it to say the ending is beautifully ambiguous. So is the style of the film. Jack Clayton's direction is extremely lyrical, with no harsh or ostentatious camera movements or angles and with a sensitive and beautiful use of colour. Together with the delicately tuneful music, these elements often cut against the image on the screen, just as the two worlds of the children clash. Just as the rambling, century-old, decaying house in which they live clashes with the everyday, suburban landscape which surrounds it.

★ ★ ★

EATING OUT

ANDRE

Sweaty Betty's

ONE of the most disgusting feelings that can befall a flat-dweller is getting up early on a Sunday afternoon, after a drunken and/or lecherous Saturday night to face having to cook dinner. Since at times like this the thought of a curry or a Chinky is likely to fill one with a feeling of nausea, the problem is simple. Where can you eat plainly and cheaply on a Sunday?

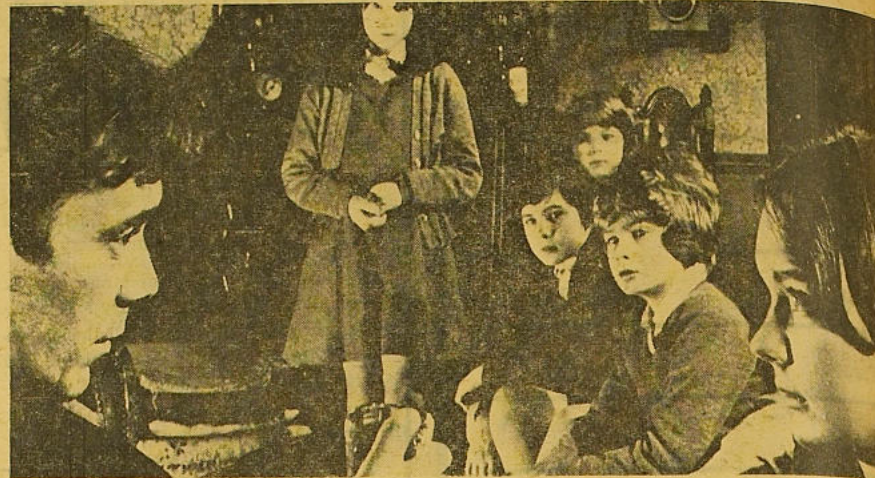
One answer is to try the exotically named "Café de Paré", in Woodbridge Road, just off the Moseley Road. The only thing that is remotely connected with the Continent about the menu is an item called "Curried Vienna Steak," the remainder being roasts and so on.

Prices are comparable to those of the refectory, a three-course lunch costing about five shillings upwards. The food is reasonable, considering the price, and portions adequate. The soup seems to change as the day goes on, so that vegetable soup acquires a pink hue, perhaps due to tomato soup, which has been crossed out on the menu. Nonetheless, this café provides fair value for money, and is all the more useful owing to the fact that it is situated in the heart of Birmingham's own version of Greenwich Village.

FILM SOC.

Sawdust and Tinsel

INGMAR BERGMAN

THURSDAY, OCT. 5th
HAWORTH - 7.30

Dirk Bogarde blows the gaff and the walls come tumbling down.

FILMS

MAURICE YACOWAR

Rosy and hackneyed but some good moments

THERE are several fine moments in *"The Rape"* (Cinephone) although the final message on Jewish-German reconciliation is rosy and hackneyed.

At one point the innocent (ie. young) German has been fooled by the Jewess to ransom the girl. He breaks free and promises the other men he will rape and kill the girl.

But as the hero kicks the Jewess along the beach he is undecided what to do. He may love her and feels guilty about Nazism. But he is disillusioned that she has abused his trust and threatened his life. She too is torn between attraction to him and guilt.

Their mood is a mixture of love and hate. The music is a variation on the most famous Jewish prayer of all, "Kol Nidrei" the Jew's prayer for forgiveness for his past year's sins, including — the first one mentioned — the violation of trust. From this long and deep prayer the Jews are cleansed for the new year. Here the music welds the two figures together into one feeling of penitence and resolution.

★ ★ ★

Unless you dislike Westerns you will find *The Professionals* (A.B.C. Selly Oak) a pretentious, cliché-riddled bore.

(M.Y.)



Dirk Bogarde tries to put their mother's house into disorder.

JAZZ

DICK MAYNARD

Flugal-horn a joy to hear

ONE of my favourite pastimes is disagreeing with critics—Steve Race is the unfortunate victim of one of my current vendettas. My worthy adversary recently criticised a record called "The Power of Positive Swing" by a Clark Terry-Bob Brookmeyer quintet on the strange grounds (for jazz) that it was too perfect (i.e., well rehearsed and integrated) which presumably meant that the music was sterile. I disagreed then; having heard a similar group live (at the Town Hall, Monday), I still do. This was expertly played, inventive and timeless small-group jazz, with the immaculate, mellow flugal-horn of Clark Terry a joy to hear, as usual.

Clark's stage manner is, in my view, tremendous—full of good-natured clowning and obvious good humour, for which Bob Brookmeyer is a perfect foil. These characteristics are transferred to the music, which was nearly always witty, sometimes blatantly taking the mickey. Great stuff.

In contrast, the rhythm section—the Nat Pierce Trio—opened each

half of the concert with a couple of numbers that could truly be described as sterile. Although competently performed, this was "cock-tail music"—effete and spineless, totally lacking in excitement and guts.

In the second half this group was joined by Doc Cheatham and Benny Morton, leading to a handful of Dixieland numbers upon which I will refrain from commenting.

The evening was rounded off by the Maynard Ferguson Anglo-American Orchestra, which boasted such names as the Ronnies Scott and Ross in the Anglo half. I confess that I expected to hate this band, since the leader is one of the squealing high-note trumpet school, a breed about which I have a huge mental block.

In the event, it was a thoroughly entertaining performance, devoid of subtlety, but again full of fun, a great spirit being generated by Maynard's hilarious compering. It is worth noting that, judging by the antics on the stage, this was one of the most internal strife-free bands that I have seen my pleasure to watch. In addition, the audience was one of the most responsive that I have encountered at the Town Hall.

Whilst on the subject of jazz, I would like to get a plug for one of Ent's Comm's most ambitious ventures to date: on Sunday, December 3rd, they are promoting a concert with the "Indo-Jazz Fusions" (Joe Harriott, John Harriott, John Meyer, etc.). If it is well supported, it might be possible to do this sort of thing again.

BOOKS

JOHN NORMAN

Economy and Marx

IT seems stupid to recommend books which are virtually textbooks in the first week of term. Most people are either receiving the first of many mammoth book lists or just haven't the time.

However, Penguins have recently brought out two new Pelicans which are well worth recommending to both social scientists and anyone else interested in the social sciences.

"Problems of the World Economy" by Richard Bailey (4/6) examines the growth of relations between the West and the "Third World" which led to the development of international institutions designed to solve the problems which today beset the world economy. It goes on to question their effectiveness and to stress the growing gap between the developed and underdeveloped countries.

POETRY

TUPPENCE ANTHOLOGY

LAST year's poetry is recorded for posterity in the "Tuppence" anthology, now on sale. The anthology claims to be a representative selection of the poetry of Birmingham University and contains the best of the poems published in "Tuppence" last year.

Five poems by Stephanie Smolins dominate the first part of the anthology and these are in characteristic style. Over sexual imagery and ostentatious obscenities abound. The poems contain a poignant mixture of the lyrical and the absurd, and, as representatives

of student poems they are probably fairly typical, although words are handled better than in many cases.

Martin Remes' "Poem" with its abundance of "Kabings" and "kabongs" is one of the most refreshing in this anthology, which is fraught with all the conventional student psyches. His approach is direct and he manages to escape the tortuous imagery of so many budding poets.

"A Post Freudian Fairy Story" by Alan Booth is also outstanding in this collection. He handles his

BOOKS

DEREK PALMER

Like a public hanging

"A TRAGIC masterpiece, a classic of our times" is a bumptious claim to make in the blurb on the back of any contemporary book. When the claim is made on behalf of "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote (Penguin, 5/-) it becomes ludicrously sick. Any society which hails a "novel" of this nature must be unsavoury as the book itself, which is about as pleasant and humane as a public disembowelling, with the victim's intestines offered for sale as souvenirs.

I don't know if Mr. Capote wrote the book with the sole intention of making money. If he didn't, it should never have been written; and if he did, he becomes a contemptible purveyor of voyeurism.

The book reconstructs the mass murder of a prosperous, respected family in an obscure village in Western Kansas called Holcomb. The murderers are two men who had shared a prison cell, one of whom heard of the richness of the Clutter family while in jail, and teamed up with his ex-cellmate with the intention of killing and robbing the family. The story unfolds the details of their flight, capture, interrogation, trial, imprisonment and eventual execution.

No-one can deny that Mr. Capote is an able raconteur who pays tremendous attention to detail and has a flair for conveying obscure details as if they were eternal truths.

One can deny that the book is necessary or enjoyable. Mr. Capote gives no evidence of being anything but a detached analyst who sees himself in God-like superiority to every other human being. He is merely a slightly sordid muck-raker who happens to write a convincing and vaguely refined brand of selective journalism. The book is a sort of extended yellow-Press Sunday smut session.

Mr. Capote stands condemned by his own arrogance. In his introduction he makes the statement that emphasises the fact that he must be regarded as a computer rather than a writer, that emphasises the lack of a need for people:

"I have never skidded a pulse-beat over what others have thought." I can only hope that when he does it's over something a little more important than the human tragedy he manages to reduce to a peep-show into nausea.

MEG GRIFFITHS

THIS WEEKS SPORT: Soccer Tour—Cricket—Squash

Soccer Tour

GOOD TOUR— POOR RESULTS

THE soccer club tour of Czechoslovakia, possibly the most ambitious tour ever undertaken by a university sports club, proved a great success. Travelling in the A.U. minibus, the team arrived on September 19th, and played two games before returning home on the 24th.

The Czechs were magnificent hosts. Nothing was too much trouble, and the team were shown round the sights of Prague and the surrounding countryside as well as being supplied with all the ingredients of a good evening's entertainment. As befits a sports club tour the trip was packed with incident from start to finish and the team nearly lost one member of the party when they drove off without him.

In view of the great all-round success of the tour, it was a pity that they only managed a draw in one match while they lost the other. It must be remembered, however, that for the Czechs this is the middle of the soccer season, while for Birmingham these two matches were the first.

The deciding factor in the first match was fitness. Following a half-time score of 1-1, the defence wilted in the last twenty minutes when the Czechs (who included six Czech second division players in their team) scored three goals.

Until then the game had been fairly even, with the Czechs attacking for much of the time, but the university looking dangerous in quick breakaways. From one of these, Rosbrook scored, while holding off a strong challenge from two Czech defenders, following good work by Jones and Harrop.

Cricket

Brighter prospects this year

LAST season's cricket executive did a fine job in taking over an organisation that had faltered a lot in recent years, and in uncovering a considerable fund of enthusiasm for the sport in the University, despite the distraction of summer exams. The nucleus of a very good team emerged during the season with new members especially prominent.

G. B. Harris, this year's captain, and N. Guy both scored hundreds and topped 500 runs for the season, while the most successful bowler, P. Gilchrist, was also in his first season for the club. Although the First XI record was only fair, the fact that 7 of its 8 wins came in the second half of the season is an augury of better things to come.

The most encouraging feature of the season, however, was the number of people who turned out for the trials and maintained their interest in the Second XI, which had an outstanding season, losing only two of its matches. Next season there are plans to run three elevens, and the fixture-list has been extended to include attractive fixtures against M.C.C. and Leicestershire C. and G.

The University now has an impressive list of fixtures including Worcestershire and Warwickshire C. and G. and many good club matches, and it is hoped that the response from players next season will be as enthusiastic as last. New members of the University might like to note that the indoor nets at Edgbaston County Ground are regularly available for practice during the winter.

Although the Czechs equalised before half-time, the game was going quite satisfactorily, because the University defence was playing very well, with Helowicz tackling particularly effectively.

The same pattern continued in the second half, with a lot of pressure being well held by the University defence.

At this time however, the forwards were not working hard enough and the prolonged pressure finally told, when the defence tired about midway through the half. A second Czech goal knocked the heart out of the University, and although they kept fighting, superior fitness and speed told.

Brum 2, College of Agric., Prague 2

In this match, Rosbrook and Jones swapped positions, Rosbrook going to his normal position of left-back, with Jones moving to centre-forward. This put more bite in the attack, and added solidity to the defence. The forwards all worked much harder, and so the defence did not have so much pressure on it.

The University attacked from the start, and had at least 50 per cent of the play. The forwards moved around well and the midfield players were given more of a chance to link up. The University took the lead when Sinclair made a fine run and slipped a through ball for Harrop to run on to and score from close range. Again the Czechs equalised before half-time but it was from a direct free kick given very dubiously indeed, for hand-ball, and at this stage it looked as if Brum could win.

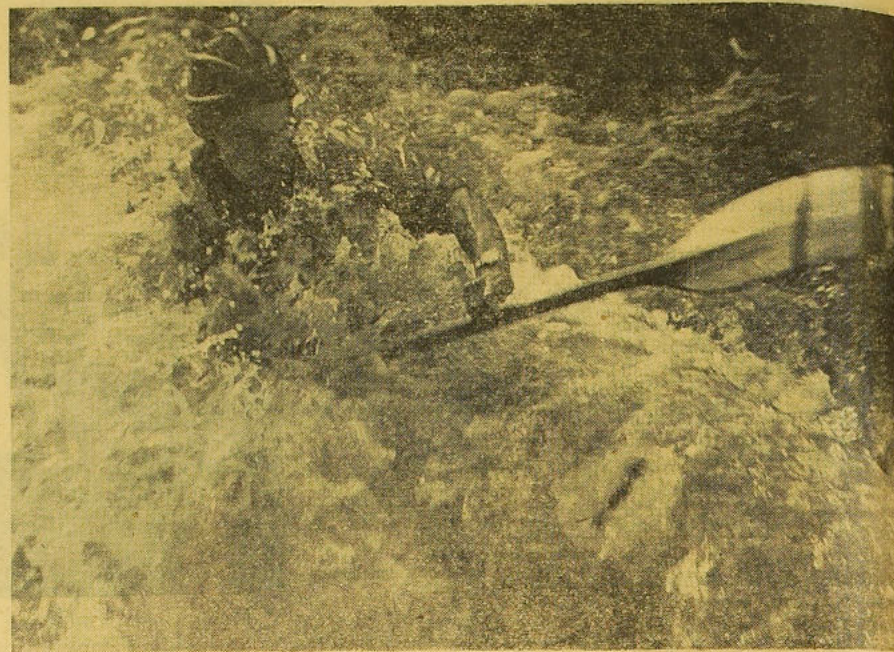
The second half started well for the University and we attacked with some good quick passes. After about 15 minutes of the half Brum went ahead following a brilliant passing movement going the whole length of the pitch. Barracough, Johnson, Sinclair, Brown and Jones combined superbly to give Harrop the easy job of scoring from about eight yards.

With the University in the lead at this stage they were confident of winning, but some strange refereeing decisions undermined their superiority. The most straightforward tackles were penalised and tempers frayed. Also, the University had what looked like a perfectly good goal disallowed when Harrop was given off-side, following a brilliant shot by Hawkins from the edge of the area.

Finally, with the last kick of the game, the Czechs equalised with yet another free kick, given for seemingly nothing. Following a square pass, a brilliant shot from outside the area gave Walker no chance.

The University was a bit unlucky not to win this game, but it was a good display which augurs well for the coming season.

Members of the party were: G. Collins (capt.), G. Walker, D. Barracough, P. Jones, D. Rosbrook, J. Helowicz, D. Sinclair, H. Brown, J. Harrop, R. Hawkins, K. Johnson.



Richard Prince (Capt., B'ham Univ. C.C.) almost submerged but still battling on.

Canoe Club

Youngest club expands

THE Club gained Athletic Union recognition in October, 1966, and is therefore the youngest club in the Union. It was formed to promote canoeing in all its aspects but especially competitive canoeing. At the moment the Club is mainly interested in slalom and white water racing, but hopes to branch out into two other types of competitive canoeing, sprint racing and long-distance paddling.

Squash

New system for booking

STARTING this term, a new system for the booking of squash courts comes into existence. This system is based on the reception desk of the new Sports Centre in the following way.

(1) Booking sheets for all courts are available at the reception desk at the Sports Centre, which is staffed from 8.20 a.m.-9.30 p.m. Monday to Friday and 8.30-6.00 p.m. Saturdays.

(2) The Receptionist will enter the name of the intending player and his/her opponent on the booking sheet, on production of their Guild of Undergraduate cards or Senior Common Room cards. The courts are available to students or staff holding these cards.

(3) It is possible to book up to one week in advance.

(4) A player may not book again until he has played his game.

(5) Squash matches and student club nights may be reserved on these sheets by application to the Assistant Director of Physical Education at the Sports Centre.

(6) No reservations may be made by telephone.

(7) A court is a free court if it is unoccupied 10 minutes after the start of the reservation time, and may be played on without booking.

REDBRICK

badly needs one female (experienced or otherwise) for the position of ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Work (not very much) entails collecting results and reports from Women's Clubs, hence knowledge of Captains, etc., preferable. Literary experience inessential.

APPLY REDBRICK OFFICE

Any lunchtime, or via Reception.

Prospects: Canoe Club—Sailing Club



Bullying off for a fresh season.

Freshers finding feet at Wast Hills trials

SATURDAY and Monday afternoon saw the return of activity to the University sports field at Wast Hills. On Saturday the Freshers had their first work-out and response seems to have been satisfactory. On Monday trials were held for freshers and non-freshers alike for selection of faculty teams. The captains of the various clubs worked very hard trying to combine the old talent with the new. The soccer club captain was absent through illness but the rest of the selection committee seemed quite pleased with the results of the trials.

Tennis

Men reach semi-final

IN the B.U.S.F. lawn tennis championships recently John Palmer and Mike Donovan reached the semi-final of the men's doubles event to take the bronze medals.



John Palmer.

After a good win against a pair from Sheffield University, they defeated the number one seeds, Doyle and Roy Shearer largely because the former had a sprained elbow which later caused him to withdraw from the singles.

Nevertheless this was a fine performance, especially since Mike Donovan did not command a regular place in the first six this year but certainly improved a lot towards the end of the season and played a large part in this excellent result.

In the semi-final the Birmingham pair lost 6-3, 6-2 to Bob Bago and John Thompson from Manchester.

John Palmer also reached the last of the men's singles, losing in two sets 6-3, 6-4 to Geoff Woodward, the number three seed. Also at the Championship were the Ladies' L.T.C., but they were very unfortunate to meet seeds in the early rounds. They did however play together in the W.V.A.B. team which lost narrowly to the Scottish Universities immediately preceding the championships.

They have found one or two useful potential first-team players including another goalkeeper, Finch, which means that the club now has three first-rate keepers.

The hockey club have had a large intake of freshers who according to club captain M. Norris, are of a fairly high standard, though no outstanding freshers have so far emerged. Mick Doyle (Captain of the Rugby Club) had a busy Monday afternoon arranging a rearranging of the combinations that might elicit. He appears to have the players for a potentially good 1st XV but they will need a great deal of moulding together before a highly successful team emerges.

Prospects for men's sports this year seem little better than last year at the moment, but only time will tell. The women, however, should again do well in every field and certainly the hockey club are easily capable of retaining their U.A.U. title.

Many people argued last year that one reason for the generally poor showing by the men was due to the poor playing conditions at Wast Hills. That was true, though not very severe was on the whole rather wet and Wast Hill did suffer from water logging at times. This year, so far they had a good soaking the other weekend but stood up well to use on Monday. They generally seem much firmer than last year. However when the really bad weather comes I am afraid the pitches may be as bad as ever.

TOP CLASS

THIS year the University has been blessed by the intake of several top-class fresher sportsmen and sportswomen. The most notable of these are two athletes, both ex-record holders. The first of these is ex-world champion for the indoor 300 yards, Margaret Critchley, whose best times are 10.8 sec. for the 100 yards and 24.6 sec. for the 200 yards. The other, the local boy Ralph Bantorpe from Wolverhampton, who has run an impressive 22.1 sec. for the 200 yards and 9.8 sec. for the 100 yards.

The Women's Hockey Club has received more than their fair share of talent including Patricia Parkin, an exceptional all-round sportswoman who can throw 130 ft. in the javelin and who is also an ex-member of the South of England junior hockey team. Jane Davidson (Rottamstead Ladies) and Margaret Pike (Essex Juniors) complete the wealth of female talent that the women's clubs have again acquired.

Footnote: The Physiotherapy Service starts on Monday, October 9th.



* Freshers fighting for the possession at a line-out during the weekend trials.

Sailing

NEW BOATS BRING NEW HOPES TO SAILING CLUB

B.U.S.A. has bought six new fibreglass dinghies. They belong to a new class, the Lark, which is designed by Michael Jackson and which made its debut at the boat show last January. For some time B.U.S.A. had been anxious to obtain new boats, but had been hampered by lack of funds.

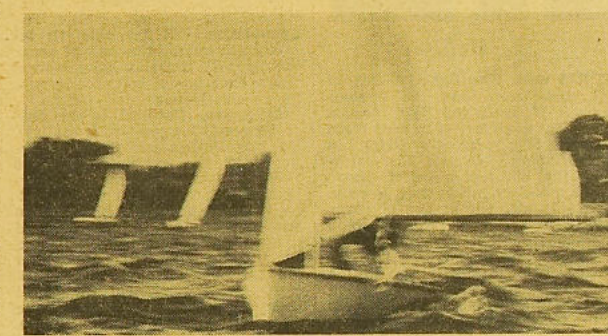
Then, last Easter term they heard that the University Finance Committee had offered to loan the Guild of Undergraduates sufficient money for the purchase of the new dinghies. The next problem was, what kind of boat to buy.

New Fireflies could have been obtained, but after some discussion the club decided that this was a good opportunity to change class and to buy a boat that is strong, needs less maintenance than the Firefly and has a faster, more lively performance.

The Lark is, the club hope, all

these things, and is also cheaper to purchase. However it must be stressed that great care must be taken with these boats to keep them

in top rate condition, especially since their durability over years of constant hard use has still to be tested.



* One of the new Larks on trial with the Freshers.

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ENCLOSED ONE GUINEA

THE
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION
is organising the following courses during the Winter Term,
1967-68, open to all students and staff:

BADMINTON (for average players)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 10.30 - 11.00
for ten weeks.

JUDO (for beginners)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5th - 4.00 - 5.30
for ten weeks.

In the
NEW SPORTS CENTRE

There may also be opportunity to attend classes in OLYMPIC GYMNASTICS, TRAMPOLINING, SWIMMING & BASKETBALL. Details will be published NEXT WEEK.

Social awareness as the new carnival image?

PLANS for improving relations with the city and changing the "rag" image of Carnival were discussed by Executive when the Guild gave its first press conference last Saturday.

"This is a crucial year," said President Charles Wright. "This year the rising tide has got to the point where we can push off." Increasing criticism of Carnival stunts was one factor, but a change in student attitudes was also important. For example last year two societies involved in social work had been set up (Project '84 and Shelter). The turning point, he said, had been the protest on overseas student fees.

SUE ENTERS NOTORIOUS CHEM. ENG.



Sue Holliday

THIS week Miss Sue Holliday, of Doncaster, has the dubious honour of being the first female Chemical Engineer for at least three years. Sue, presently living in Wyddrington Hall, said (last Saturday) that she had heard of Chem. Eng's notoriety, but at that time she had only met one or two of them. She remarked that the university seemed to be "a very friendly place." Perhaps fortunately for her she drinks only occasionally; she wanted to study engineering and liked chemistry. Although there were some other girls at her interview, it turned out that she was the only one to be accepted. She will now be shared by approximately 300 male chemical engineers. Who, one asks, will be the more affected? The progress of Little Sue and her struggle against the Engineers will be followed with close interest by "Redbrick."

Carnival would be concerned with a project to alleviate social problems in the city, as he is convinced that "the real deficiency in Carnival is that it is not geared around the people it purports to help, but merely around money-raising." Societies involved in community work and even departments such as Social Science, Politics and Environmental Planning could also contribute their knowledge in this field. Previously, Carnivals have appealed "to the student who likes to indulge his sense of fun." If these ideas are implemented he hopes that "stunts will be geared to Carnival's aims and it will not just appeal to people who like to mess around."

Added Roger Hird, Guild Treasurer, "The point is not to eliminate the people who want to have good fun, but the image will be much different."

Some old fairground ideas may be incorporated into the entertainments provided by carnival in order to involve the people of Birmingham as well as students. There may also be "sort of 1968 morality plays" in the streets to illustrate social problems.

New image

Changes in the nature of Carnival will not come all at once. The Commission will be able to report until nearer the end of term, and it will probably take several years experiment before the new image clearly emerges.

At present Carnival is the only real means of contact with the city, but Ray Phillips said he was looking into the possibility of the Guild as a whole joining the Birmingham Consumers Group. Already people from the Birmingham and Midland Institute were invited to attend some Union functions and he thought that students might also use some facilities of the institute. "At the moment we expect them to come out of their way to meet us," he said. Mark Burke, External Affairs Chairman thought co-operation with sixth formers could also be increased. Charles Wright pointed out that in Manchester there are two "education shops" where parents can get information. He thought students would be able to help run such a venture in Birmingham.

Student responsibility

STUDENTS, although justified in regarding themselves as workers, are only "apprentice" workers. So says Mr. Kenneth Lewis, Conservative M.P. for Rutland and Stamford. As a former member of the party's Labour Committee, he has made a special study of industrial relations.

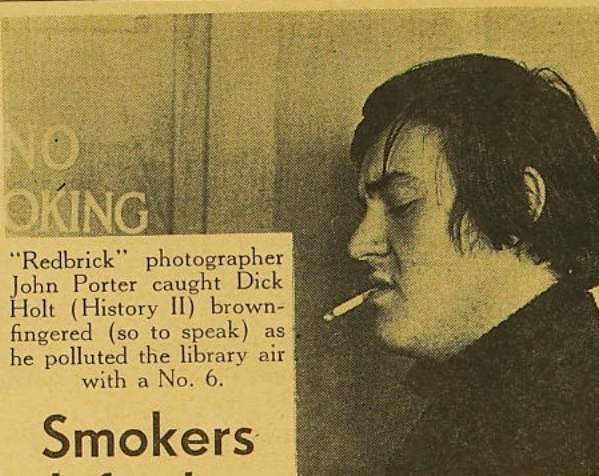
He points out that the National Union of Students is now the seventh largest union in the United Kingdom, with a membership of over 350,000. "Just as workers through their union should accept agreements of managerial decisions which have been discussed and explained, so with students. Responsibility must follow from involvement."

"Above all, where students seek to flout authority, the public expects

the penalties shall be imposed. A student sit-in, with grants continuing to be paid, hardly appeals to a heavily-taxed working community."

No wall?

BECAUSE of the sudden withdrawal from the University of Mike Turner, last year's Editor of "Wall," this position is now vacant. The new Editor must be elected by Guild Council, which does not gather until October 10th. A fresher's edition of "Wall" was written and edited by Mark Burk, Editor of "Mermaid," but it is not known if he will bring out an edition this week, especially as the board on which "Wall" is exhibited was torn down one day last week.



"Redbrick" photographer John Porter caught Dick Holt (History II) brown-fingered (so to speak) as he polluted the library air with a No. 6.

Smokers defy ban

REGULATIONS laid down last session by Guild Council are being blatantly flouted by students and ignored by Executive—at least as far as smoking is concerned.

Ardent anti-smoker Keith Salway last year persuaded Council to ban smoking in Priestley Hall during lunch and to issue propaganda dissuading students from smoking. Ashtrays were then removed from

Priestley and the Union Secretary, under pressure, eventually obtained some posters.

Now that Mr. Salway has left the University the posters have disappeared, and the temporary "No smoking" notices in Priestley are ignored as much as the permanent signs in the Union Library.

Commented Medic Ivor Robinson, second of the motion, "Guild Council's resolution is being openly flouted and it's about time the Union was provided with non-smoker facilities."

'Mixed dining is out'

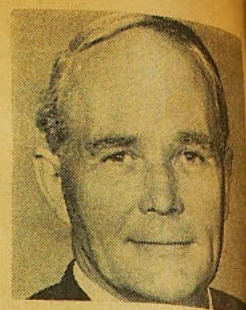
THE new President of Ridge Hall, Miss M. M. Rigby, outlined her policy for the running of the hall in the future at the freshers' formal meal last week. Miss Rigby's election as President followed the resignation of the previous incumbents, Doctor and Mrs. Gray, resulting from the controversy centred around the question of mixed dining for the two halls. When mixed dining was proposed at the end of last term to the hall's committee, the Grays said that if this became reality there would be "two vacant places on the hall committee in future."

During her speech, Miss Rigby affirmed her intention of making Ridge "the women's hell of the University." Certain aspects of her policy will remain unchanged from last year: mixed dining is still out, but visitors will be allowed in for meals on a chit system, as before.

Nevertheless, she would like to see much more social mixing between Ridge and High, although she is determined that the Ridge girls shall not be "dominated and overruled by the men next door." She mentioned the Ball and Christmas party as examples of opportunities to mix more fully.

Muriel Marsh, new President of the J.C.R., thinks that there is plenty of scope for improving relations between the two halls. This she feels is the aim of the two J.C.R.s; she does not want to see independence turning into isolation.

In future, Ridge girls will be allowed 11 late keys for the 11 weeks of term. Otherwise they must be in by 11 p.m. (In the other two girls' halls, Wyddrington and Mason, there is no known restriction on the quota of late keys).



Professor Robert Brockie Hunter, the Vice-Chancellor-elect.

New V-C appointed

THE new Vice-Chancellor, 50-year-old Professor Robert Brockie Hunter, M.B.E., M.A., Ch.B. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), will take up his appointment on October 1st, 1968. Professor Hunter was appointed by the Court of Governors to take over from Sir Robert Aitken, when he retired at the end of the current session.

Professor Hunter is at present Professor of Materia Medica in the University of St. Andrews. He was educated at George Watson's College and the University of Edinburgh.

He left the R.A.M.C. as a major, and was appointed in 1947 Lecturer in Therapeutics at the University of Edinburgh, and Assistant Director of the Edinburgh Post-Graduate Board for Medicine.

In 1948 he went to St. Andrews as Professor of Materia Medica, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics. He is also a consultant physician to the Dundee General Hospitals and Director of Post-Graduate Medical Education. From 1958 to 1961 he was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at St. Andrews.

Professor Hunter is a member of the General Medical Council, a member of the Ministry of Health Committee on Safety of Drugs, and chairman of the Clinical Trials Subcommittee, and is an editor of the quarterly Journal of Medicine.

Since 1964 he has been a member of the University Grants Commission. He has held several lectureships, and was awarded a Commonwealth Fellowship in Medicine in 1948 and a Senior Commonwealth Travelling Fellowship in 1960.

BRITAIN'S ROLE UNINSPIRING

ON Saturday night the first of two Freshers' Debates was held in the Council Chamber. The motion, "This House believes that Britain has no role East of Dover," could have provided the basis for a serious and stimulating debate but the freshers were to be disappointed.

Charles Wright, opening for the proposition began in a nonsensical way by announcing that he wanted to talk about why we are talking about the motion and by asking the House why it was punishing itself. Ironically it was a very relevant question. The President spent the rest of his time in complicated and unnecessary geographical explanation.

Ex-President, Tony Klug, spoke first for the opposition and defined the motion as meaning Britain has no role in the world. Helped along by the bottle which he had produced earlier he set out to show that Britain does indeed have a political, or economic and a military role in the world. Even if Britain was pursuing the wrong role at present, he ended, there was no doubt that it did have a role in the world.

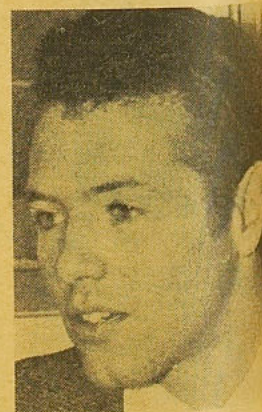
Barbara Phipps, the Vice-President, commenced by describing Britain as a band of hope and glory, Ted Heath and slag-heaps, and London as the home of the Queen and prostitution! "Britain has no role in the world and must put her own home in order" was her conclusion.

Rhys Vaughn in what was the wittiest speech of the evening showed by a number of examples how Britain could help the world and benefit from so doing. Several promising speeches were made by freshers, who obviously felt more able to speak in the Council Chamber than they would have done in Deb. Hall, and the motion was defeated by 98 to 83 votes with several abstentions.

FOR
HENRY PICKARD
GRAHAM DARBYSHIRE

TOMORROW'S DEBATE:
"This House Believes in Penal Reform"

AGAINST
RICHARD SHARPE
JOHN REDDIHOUGH



Past President Tony Klug

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