

# Redbrick

BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY

Price 3p

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 8th, 1972



Carnival 72's procession fights through the rain and snow down New Street on Saturday afternoon. Thirty-five departments and colleges had floats in this year's procession which was watched by approximately 800 people and collected between £600 and £700. More Carnival News and pictures on page three.

## ULSTER UNIONISTS REFUSE TO SHARE PLATFORM

by JOHN HASLETT

**T**HE organisers of Wednesday's Teach-in on Ulster (Council Chamber, 1.15 p.m.) were surprised last week by a condition imposed by the Ulster Unionist Party before agreeing to attend. For they refused to share a platform with another of those invited, Paddy Kennedy, the Republican Labour Party M.P. at Stormont, claiming that he has "open and admitted links with the Provisional I.R.A."

As a result, the Teach-in promises to be the scene for high drama, for as "Redbrick" goes to press, it is unclear whether Paddy Kennedy will come or not. As he is "on the run," contact with him has proved very difficult. And, if he does come, what then will be the position of the Unionists? Such is the perennial problem of Ulster politics.

Unfortunately, as yet, the Unionists have still been unable to commit letters and phone calls, although they have agreed to send someone to represent them. Nevertheless, with this exception, the organisers have been extremely pleased with the response to their requests for speakers. They feel that the line-up in the Council Chamber will give British students in Birmingham a real chance to untangle for themselves some of the confusion of N. Ireland.

Richard Ryan is the spokesman on Foreign Affairs for the opposition (Fine Gael) in the Dublin Parliament, the Dail. Although there is disagreement amongst the parties in the Dail on other issues, it is fair to say that Mr. Lynch's policy on N. Ireland does have general support in the Dail. This policy is that whilst no long-term solution is possible without reunification, this cannot come about without the approval of the people of N. Ireland; and that although the complete and immediate withdrawal of British troops would be disastrous, the present British policies, including an unwillingness to abandon an unreformable Stormont, is aggravating a bad situation.

Kevin Boyle is a law lecturer at Queen's University, Belfast, and has been involved since its inception with the People's Democracy. For the last 18 months he has been the Press Officer of the Civil Rights Association, and has been identified with the recent decision to bring the widespread opposition to the government at Stormont "back to the streets." The recent marches in Derry and Newry were examples of this.

Also in opposition to the Unionist Party, but not to "union," is Tom Hadden; although his opposition is as a journalist, not as a politician. He is another law lecturer at Queen's, and is the editor of an independent political review, whose content is both witty and well-informed. Its policy is that there are "no saints, but all sinners."

Conor Brady, whose name also appears on the posters, is a reporter for the "Irish Times," the only "heavy" daily in Ireland. Since we have just heard that Mr. T. E. Uley, the main leader writer for the "Daily Telegraph," has agreed to come, it is certain that the comments on the differences in the

coverage of events in Ireland by these two papers (and by the British and Irish press in general) will be most revealing.

Since the Government of N. Ireland appears to be unlikely to be able to nominate a representative, the case for the Government at Westminster will be put by Andrew Neil, of the Federation of Conservative Students. He has recently returned from a four-day tour of Ireland, during which he met representatives from all Parties and sections. The Unionist Council have agreed to this.

For the record it should be pointed out that the only speaker actually refused was a spokesman for the Official I.R.A. For although the Guild was mandated to invite "... I.R.A., if possible," at this late stage all the expenses allocated to Guild had been spent!

The teach-in was organised as a result of the widespread concern on the campus a few weeks ago about the NUS policy towards the I.R.A. The Guild has also called a General Meeting at 5.15 p.m. in the Debating Hall on Thursday to discuss a motion on Northern Ireland in the light of the teach-in's discussion.

## Council goes in quorate

**G**UILD COUNCIL went in quorate last night at 9.10 p.m. after a long debate on the Guild of Students' evidence to the Review Body. Much of the discussion centred on the question of departments and Faculties and a heated argument took place on whether the Law Faculty should be merged with Social Sciences.

Guild Council decided that it agreed with the Review Body's proposal to abolish Law's Faculty status despite speeches against by Law Guild Councillors.

After this the atmosphere of the meeting became unconstructive and finally resulted in several councillors walking out and inquiring the meeting. As a result it is unlikely that the Guild will be submitting its views to the Review Body although it is hoped individual students will continue to do so.

## Lord Avon to invest Ambassador with Honorary Degree

**T**HE Baron de Courcel, French Ambassador to the Court of St. James's since 1962, is to receive the honorary degree of Laws at a degree congregation next December. It is to be conferred by the Chancellor, Lord Avon.

Geoffrey Chodion de Courcel was a member of the Free French Forces in North Africa and was awarded the British Military Cross for service there.

He and Lord Avon are friends of long standing, having met during the war when they were respectively British Foreign Secretary and Chef de Cabinet to General de Gaulle.

On the same day the honorary

degree of Doctor of Music will be conferred on Dr. George Thalben-Ball, who has been organist to the University since 1949 and is also organist to the City of Birmingham.

Dr. Thalben-Ball has been a regular performer at the Sir Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, has given concerts in America and Europe and was guest organist at Australia's Jubilee celebrations in 1951.

## Day Nursery for Leeds

**T**HE first purpose built Day Nursery for students' children in a British University was officially opened at Leeds University last week.

The Nursery, which has been operational since January, was declared open by Leeds University's Chancellor, H.R.H. the Duchess of Kent.

This venture, which has facilities for 50 children, has been financed jointly by the University and the University Union. The Nursery is run by a trained supervisor, three paid staff and unpaid volunteers.

The children enjoy outside play areas and daily hot meals. Charges are 35p per half-day session and 15p for a lunchtime session.

Mr. Ken Hind, President of the Students' Union, is reported as saying that this new facility has "enabled some student mothers to start or continue University courses."

## ELECTIONS

**N**OMINATIONS opened last Thursday for the Guild Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections. The Polling will take place next Thursday between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. in the Union and Refectory.

"Redbrick" next week will publish the candidate's manifestos and pictures. Withdrawal of nominations must be made by Monday next and details of hustings will be advertised in the Union.

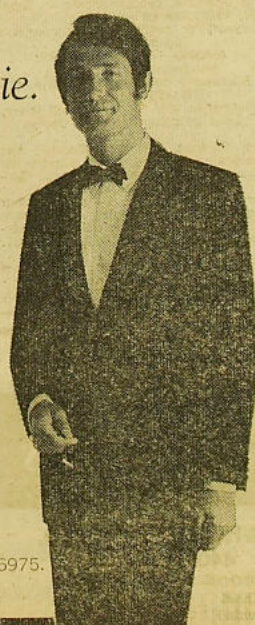
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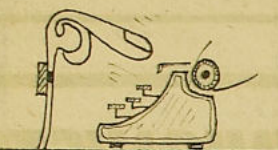
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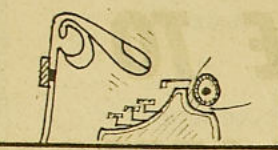
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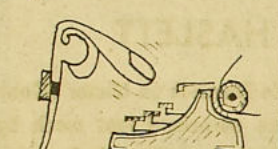
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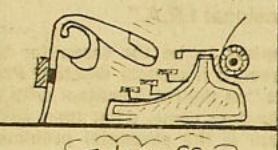
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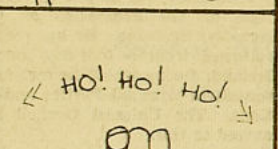
work for  
my finals



and not  
spend my  
time here.



rides off  
into  
sunset  
with a  
thousand  
girls sobbing  
into their  
handkerchiefs



HO! HO! HO!  
END

OBITUARY—Next Week

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## LORD HAILSHAM IN BIRMINGHAM

LAST Friday the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham, visited the University to address the Holdsworth Club, of which he is President. The Haworth lecture theatre was full of practising lawyers, academic lawyers and students past and present, to hear him speak on "The Problems of a Lord Chancellor."

Not the least of these problems is that he must be a lawyer whose "knowledge and understanding of the law must stand up to comparison with the highest attainments in the profession." He must also balance and keep separate the three traditional elements in the Constitution: the legislature, the executive and the judiciary—all of which he is, of necessity, an integral part. One aspect of this is the keeping of law reform out of the "arena of party politics."

The Lord Chancellor commented on the springing up of the many local and specialised courts—industrial tribunals, land tribunals etc.

The fact that these bodies work outside the existing court structure would seem to indicate that "the ordinary courts are not considered suitable by the public for the decision of a great range of new questions which have to be decided..." This may be accounted for by an inherent distrust of trial by judge alone together with fears of expense and delay.

In fact, delay in disposing of criminal cases is one of the Lord Chancellor's greatest worries; court accommodation is the main reason for delay as well as other factors. The Bar and the solicitors' profession are both "hopelessly under-manned" and competition from business, commerce and industry is

providing bigger and better inducements for the newly-qualified lawyer.

The office of Lord Chancellor is one of the oldest in the realm; but it is not older than the conception of law. Law and justice came first and must precede or at least accompany any peace which is worthy of the name. Law is also "the first of the social sciences, the first to be practised, the first to be taught and studied systematically and, I would claim, the first logically and in importance."

Lord Hailsham concluded his address with a reminder that law should not be divorced from morality. There must be "an objective set of values independent of law" to make a law just. If it were otherwise, the road was open "to the gas chamber, to genocide, or to perpetual and irreconcilable strife between man and man."

## An alternative restaurant and more!

LAST Friday, St. Francis Hall Coffee Room was full of people enjoying a cheap, wholesome lunch in the weekly Macrobiotic Restaurant run by the Vegetarian Society. But why a restaurant? How can it be so cheap?

The restaurant is an alternative to the established facilities both in menu and in price. The basic lunch of lentil soup, followed by mixed vegetables, beans, rice, and buckwheat, costs only ten pence. Bread, tea, and apples can also be bought at very low prices.

All the food is of the best quality—fresh vegetables, 100 per cent stone-ground compost-grown bread, and organically grown rice and grains. Good health comes from eating gently cooked fresh vegetables, and wholefoods such as

bread made from the the whole of the wheat, and unrefined rice and cereals.

Because of the great response to our first macrobiotic lunch a few weeks ago, we decided to serve one every week. Since we can offer meals cheaply, and in a restful atmosphere, this is an added incentive for people to use our restaurant.

Macrobiotics involves striking a balance between foods which are Yin (sugar, fruit, alcohol and vegetables) and Yang (meat, fish, cereals). The middle way is based on cereals such as rice and grains, balanced by vegetables and beans, with some fruit.

Today many young people are moving away from the commercialised plastic products, and the Macrobiotic Restaurant is just a tiny part of this movement; if enough people group together there is no reason why we can't have regular supplies of bread made from 100 per cent of the wheat, vegetables and grains grown without pesticides in healthy soil, delivered directly to the campus.

The restaurant needs help with preparation and cooking food—any period between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., and in serving it. For those who want wholefoods supplied, the

by  
**Alan  
Martin**

Vegetarian Society, which is organising the purchasing, would like to contact anyone interested. These facilities are here if you want to make use of them. As Sussex University a restaurant such as ours has grown till it now is open every day. Could we do such a thing here in Birmingham?

### Master's Degree Course in MICROWAVE and COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING

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by components  
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AMONG THE TOPICS ARE:  
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Information and random signal theory  
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The Science Research Council has designated the course as suitable for tenure of its Advanced Course Studentships.  
For further details write to either Professor J. O. Scanlan, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, The University, Leeds, LS2 9JT, or Professor P. N. Robson, Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, The University, Sheffield, S1 3JD.

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## Chunderful

### Carnival of flours

IT seems as if God doesn't like Birmingham University Carnival. Every year the innocents are frozen while collecting for charity by the usual deluge of snow, sleet and rain ordained from above for past misdeeds.

One cannot help but admire the brave students, often scantily clad, who despite weather gaily ride through empty Birmingham gathering plentiful pennies. One cannot help but also admire the high spirits of many of the participants who maintain some sense of joy by healthy competition between the floats. Flour-bombs, water and red dye are lobbed merrily between the lorries like some present-day Roman broadside.

However, this year it seems as if things got out of hand—some students, obviously excited by atmosphere, started peppering those few members of the Birmingham populace who had gathered to watch student antics legitimised in the name of charity. The results of this action need hardly be retold. People had a lower opinion of students than before, were unwilling to give money and naturally angry and resentful at having their best garments destroyed by over-privileged middle-class young adults.

Perhaps the most pitiful scene I witnessed was when an old man in not too expensive clothes was doused with flour by students in the Kayak Club float. Were any of the students regretful of their action? Did any of these latter-day Eskimos jump from the lorry and help him to clean his garments? They gathered together, looked back at the man being helped by his wife and just laughed. Somehow I felt at that moment Carnival had been destroyed; I regretted being a student in the procession.

One wonders how far such actions achieved the stated aims of Carnival—raising money for charity and forming better relations with City. Perhaps even more important—it detracts from the very commendable work done during Carnival by giving it as an excuse for student irresponsibility.

## Legal defence

IT'S rather entertaining to watch the Lawyers in the University organise to prevent their Faculty being merged in a reorganised Faculty of Social Studies. Lawyers are essentially complacent creatures who never bother to cough unless someone questions their existence. Guerilla tactics recently have included the following:—

(a) Neo-continual browbeating of certain students members of the Review Body with arguments at best irrational and at worse hysterical.

(b) The use of the Harding bequest—a typical legal con. Apparently it is argued that because a certain Mr. Harding donated books and money to the University so long as a Faculty of Law is maintained the University would not abolish the Faculty. This argument has declined in importance recently when it was pointed out that one carefully-aimed blazing cross tossed in the Harding Law Library would solve this objection.

(c) The use of a Faculty of Arts lecture by the Dean of Law to be a defence of Law and the Law Faculty as a separate entity.

(d) Finally last week, the big guns, Lord Hailsham gave his Presidential address to the Holdsworth Law Society. One can only imagine the faces of his listeners when he exclaimed in his speech: "Law is the first of the Social Sciences."

Review Body proposal—3  
Law Faculty—1



One in the eye for students! A young boy makes use of the Stocks and Pillory erected in Victoria Square last Monday week (one of the Carnival stunts) which helped to give publicity to the other events put on during the week.

## Carnival expected to raise £8,000

DESPITE the appalling weather conditions of Carnival Week, the collection of money for Charities seems to be higher than tallies in recent years. Carnival funds received an unexpected asset in an unpredicted £1,000 from entertainment profit. Last year the committee received only £50. Although stunts were badly supported this year—raising only £100, funds from the sponsored walk and Barb selling were much higher than usual—£6,000.

The procession on the Saturday took place in the now almost annual snowstorm but despite this attracted some 35 departmental and college floats. More collection tins than last year were handed out, nearly 800, and it is expected to pass last year's total. The best float this year judged by the Vice-Chancellor from the Council House balcony was the Physics entry—a railway train.

The Car Competition ticket selling was adversely affected this year by the late arrival of tickets

and the refusal to display the vehicle in the Bull Ring Centre—a privilege that was granted last year. The lucky winner of the new B.M.C. Marina was a Birmingham man, Mr. J. Mattimore of Erdington.

Participation by local colleges and schools was increased this year and Carnival Committee would like to express its thanks to all students who participated in the week itself and helped in the trying weeks beforehand.



Jenny Salmon, one of the organisers of the Hora Dancing under Colmore Circus, shows no sign of flagging towards the end of the 50-hour stunt, of which she danced for nearly 20 hours. The stunt was poorly supported during Monday and Tuesday but the numbers swelled to about 500 people late on Tuesday night.

## News in brief

### RESIGNATIONS

Guild Council received with regret last night the resignation of the Welfare Committee Chairman Barrie Thorner (Classics III). In a letter to Ann Naylor, Guild President weeks had been to the detriment, Miss Thorner stated that increasing academic demands in remembrance of her Executive and Committee work and as a consequence she felt she must resign.

Mr. Peter Davies was elected by Guild Council last night to replace her.

John MacFie (Medicine IV) resigned two weeks ago for similar reasons and was replaced by Colin Turner, a second-year student doing a joint honours course in Mechanical Engineering and Economics.

In accepting the resignations, Ann Naylor paid tribute to the amount of work and commitment that Barrie Thorner and John MacFie had contributed to her Executive.

The Environmental Action Group and the Young Liberals are jointly organising a survey next Saturday morning in New Street to discover people's attitudes to free public transport, pedestrian precincts, etc. The aim is to produce a comprehensive plan for transport in the city, based on a traffic-free centre, and a combined free bus and train service. All volunteer helpers will be welcomed.

And whilst we're talking about buses—West Midland Passenger Transport Executive have (upon request) told us that any adult is entitled to board the buses going to and from King Edward High School. The buses follow the number one route from Acocks Green, then they come up the Bristol Road, halting at the school (just opposite the Barber Institute). There are approximately three buses in the morning and three in the evening and, of course, if they are full they will not stop. But it's useful to know—you might even be lucky enough to board the girls' bus!

The Department of Ophthalmic Optics in the University of Aston is looking for experimental subjects for a project in connection with the development of a new form of contact lens. The lenses being developed are softer and more flexible than the traditional contact lenses and will be more comfortable.

Volunteers will be paid 50 pence per hour for their services and will be seen on several occasions. Enquiries should be addressed to:—

Soft Lens Research,  
17 Highfield Road,  
Birmingham, 15.

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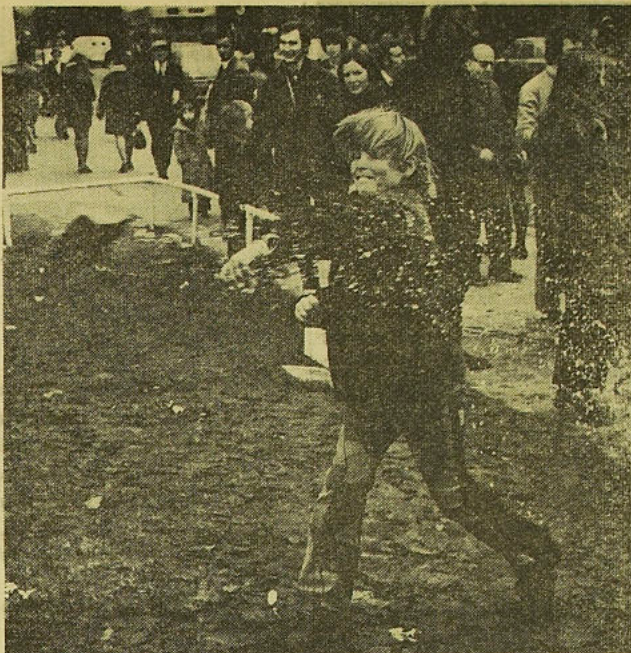
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Rodney Watts, via The Union P.H. or  
Dept. of Medical Biochemistry

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## Carnival

### PARTY'S OVER TOO SOON

CARNIVAL events came to a resounding close with the Carnival Party last Saturday night. Such diverse entertainment as "Man," "Axe," Jazz-band and Steel-band were provided for our edification and delight, not to mention the odd bar or two.

The biggest disappointment of the night must surely have been the closing of the Main Bar at 10.30 p.m., thus increasing the pressure on the already overcrowded Founders and Mermaid bars. Still,

if you'd managed to get stoned before the rush you wouldn't be in a state to worry about it!

The groups appeared to fulfil all that was required of them—as I was wandering from room to room I didn't get a coherent impression of any one of them. Everybody seemed to be enjoying themselves—at least it was drier than the procession in the afternoon!

For a change, the normally impenetrable disdain for dancing usually found in students was broken down and people were seen actually to be dancing—can't be bad!



The prize for the best float in the Carnival procession was awarded to Physics, who built the steam engine shown above.

# letters

## Labour hopeful

DEAR SIR,—I am writing to you as electoral sub-agent for Selly Oak Ward Labour Party. As you know there is to be a local government election on May 4th and the Labour candidate, Arthur Knapp, hopes to unseat the Tories from Selly Oak and so help gain control of Birmingham Corporation for Labour.

He can only win if we organise an official campaign. To do this we need lots of support; in particular we must conduct a thorough canvass of the whole ward, and this requires a considerable number of people prepared to go door-to-door canvassing support, delivering leaflets, helping the sick and aged to get postal votes or transport to the polls etc.

Therefore I should like to make a plea for anyone who would like to help to contact me, Lawrie Schonfelder, 32 Selly Wick Drive (472 5562) or David Wishart, 99 Oakfield Road (472 1768).

Even if you can only spare the odd half-hour this will be a great help. An event with which we urgently need help is a Jumble Sale to raise funds for the campaign which is to be held on March 18th in St. Steven's Church Hall, Pershore Road. We wish to combine publicity with the canvass in the area near the hall and so we re-

quire as many people as we can get to help NOW.  
I should add that it would be greatly to the benefit of students to have Arthur Knapp elected as he is very interested in education and housing and has recently been involved in fighting the proposed Tory policy of using a legalistic interpretation of a by-law on multiple-occupancy of houses to evict groups of students sharing houses in this area.

Yours faithfully,

LAWRIE SCHONFELDER

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## Propaganda

DEAR SIR,—Where does ASTMS get the information from on which to base its propaganda these days? Mr. Webb ("Redbrick," 1st March) apparently imagines that their membership of 600, mainly in the technician grades, justifies his assertion that ASTMS is the predominant union in this university, yet they have a long way to go before they reach the AUT, membership of 746 among academic, research, library and administrative staffs. Moreover, AUT is the only union recognised both locally and nationally as representing the latter grades on the main campus, with the BMA also involved among clinical staff.

Yours sincerely,

C. F. WELLS,

Honorary Secretary,  
Birmingham Association  
of University Teachers

# DEBSOC DOES IT AGAIN

by ANGY MANN

WITH unprecedented violation of tradition, the curtain rose on Tuesday, February 29th, on the Carnival debate. Concern was expressed by the House, traditionally enough, for the reading and/or non-reading of the minutes, and for the progress of the sub-committee set up to inquire into the chairman's private life.

Eventually the public business was reached: a debate on the motion:—

"This House believes England could once, but can't again."

A startling row of celebrities confronted the House: in fact, no-one seemed to miss Tim Brooke-Taylor, who had decided at the eleventh hour that filming "The Goodies" was likely to be more lucrative than debating at Birmingham.

Mr. Roger Ordish (a B.B.C. producer and noted wit—the two are not mutually exclusive) rose to propose the motion. He realised, sorrowfully, that no-one was proud of being English any more. People still said their compatriots in a complimentary fashion: "Tu es un vrai français" or "Boy, you're a real American," whereas in England petulant debutantes could be overheard to reproach their chinless escorts with "Charles, for God's sake don't be so English."

The highlight of Mr. Ordish's speech was his remarkable imitation of a tape-recorder playing backwards; this was prompted by Mr. Bates's request that he "retract that statement sir."

Mr. Dennis Main - Wilson (a sprightly fifty-year-old and head of B.B.C. comedy director) rose to oppose the motion. The substance

of his speech was an analysis that, despite the fact that he could once but can't again he was sure, looking round at five hundred red-blooded and vivacious students, that we could again and no doubt would. Exposing his braces, he resumed his seat.

The climax approached at Mr. Gerry Bates, chairman-elect, rose to second the proposition, complete with pint mug and sheaf of loo paper. This subtly indicated where inspiration had first enlightened him as to the implications of the motion.

Mr. Bates, exhibiting a not uncommon psychological condition, felt it necessary to secrete his head inside the Dispatch Box. But since there was no room for that and a pint of Newcastle Brown as well, he abandoned the idea.

The most memorable of his colourful similes in the ensuing speech likened England to a woman—and we all know that if a girl has once she can never be again.

Mr. Tony Lee, who merits no introduction, rose and revealed himself as the padded, boxed and bat-brandishing typically English cricket-playing gentleman. After indulging in some sophisticated double-entendre with Mr. Bates on the subject of "balls," he launched into a speech seconding the opposi-



ROGER ORDISH

tion. With Monday's "Times" and a large black umbrella to complete the picture, he cited Mr. Heath as living proof that England never could and never will. Mr. Lee's vitriolic satire abated only when he paused to remind the house that (quote): "Mr. Heath has bent over forwards to accommodate the English working man."

Speeches from the floor showed that the house was numbered into manly having experienced the blinding wit of the four speakers. The vote and a collection for Carnival were taken, yielding, respectively, no definite result and £8. When shall we do it again?

## SNIPPETS

BY

DERIK BISHOP

## Alpha beta

AN amazing story has come our way, regarding the "Futurist" Cinema (City Centre) and the new film, "SHAFT." As you probably know, the Futurist has a large display wall at the rear, overlooking one of the entrances to New Street Station. The story concerns their new display artist, one William Cranberry.

Last Saturday night he was appointed to paste up the posters for "SHAFT" and this he set about doing with great gusto. Unfortunately and sadly, friend Cranberry has had no formal education so the first attempt ended up as "FASHT."

The manager realised, didn't tally with the title of the film, and William was ordered to re-paste the letters; his next attempt was "ASHFT," quickly followed by "HAFTS."

In despair, the frustrated manager did the job himself. But the last laugh was with William. For the manager, in his gusto, left out the letter "F." "SHAT" has had very good reviews.

ADVERT:

Currently showing at the Pornoplane:

"Guess what we're having for Breakfast?"

"My Danish Meatball."

"I've lost my You Know What."

"Sex is not for Vicars."

# Just a pretty face?

ACCORDING to the old adage, "Wine, women and song go together," but not women and work." Surprisingly enough, however, as has been pointed out in recent years, many women would rather work than sing in a bath of wine. Nevertheless, Women's Lib or no, the woman who devotes herself to her career is still regarded by society in general as being unfeminine and in some ways unnatural. If married, she is accused of neglecting her husband and children, while whether she is or not, she will frequently find difficulties in achieving career ambitions.

Despite the fact that today the fair sex are to be found in most professions, from the law to engineering, few seem to be as successful or eminent as men of equal ability. How far this is due to discrimination is somewhat difficult to prove, since where there is a conflict between family responsibilities and the parent's employment, it is the woman who invariably has to give way. It seems to be this factor rather than mere "conditioning" the female receives during her formative years, that "forces" women into those professions which fit in more easily with their domestic responsibilities rather than to find ways around the problems posed in other jobs.

And what of pay and promotion prospects? It is generally assumed that a woman must be considerably better than her male colleagues, in order to stand a fair chance in the promotion stakes. Even then she is often paid considerably less than a man in the same or a similar job; even where equal pay exists theoretically more often than not, men are paid above the minimum or start at a higher part on the (equal) salary, grades.

The problem is in defining "equal" work for this has far wider implications than differences in the jobs men and women do. How far for example is the reason that salaries for teaching and nursing are comparatively low, due to the fact that both professions have a large number of women in them?

Although more men than women graduate from universities and colleges each year, the numbers are less desperate in the non-science subjects—while in arts subjects, women outnumber men and it is the woman arts graduate who is usually referred to when unemployment problems are discussed.

When one looks at the jobs they do, the first point to emerge is that a higher proportion of them become teachers, go into Government service, the Civil Service while more men than women enter industry and commerce.

On the face of it, they might appear that women are discriminated against in the latter categories. In fact as "Career" pointed out last year, there are jobs available for which women are eligible but either they do not realise this or else have preconceived ideas about the kind of work they consider suitable and do not consider many of the jobs on offer.

By

BARBARA SLOMNICKA



"It is one thing for women to be discriminated against in employment and quite another for them to want jobs which are not available. If women want equality they must be prepared to compete."

Graduates are no longer rare birds, but a fairly common species, and as supply exceeds demand they will increasingly need to consider work in areas which have not previously recruited them, although the responsibility and challenge offered may be considerable. Appropriate employment is after all a selective term. Education must be considered

as basis for training for a job rather than the be-all and end-all in itself.

It would appear then that for so long as women insist on thinking for themselves as a separate group in terms of employment, then the greater problems of women's employment, as opposed to men's will remain.

When they and their employers face up to the real situation, which is that nearly all jobs for graduates are available to both sexes, although some organisations may not offer equal terms (this is still something to fight for) then many of the difficulties will disappear.

# BOOM OR DOOM

by Tony P. Atkinson

THE last open lecture on the general theme "What sort of society do we want?" was given by Dr. Mishan. He currently holds a readership in economics at L.S.E., "after a rather dull life" the audience filling the Debating Hall was told. His lecture was a thorough statement of historical background followed by cool analysis of the present, flavoured with his own style of armchair pessimism.

As an economist he was able to show how the development of economics reflected contemporary problems, or at least his view of them. Keynesian theories of employment and increasingly sophisticated models of economic growth are no longer sufficient to explain Western Society, and as chronic inflation replaces chronic unemployment as the main focus of concern, more and more professional economists absorb their energies in the study of money.

After miraculous recovery from the material ruin of world war, and the optimism of the Marshall Plan, desire for normancy and international understanding and peace has been upset by a series of political events. But despite this, trade grew, despite all restrictions. Only the underdeveloped countries were a nag to the conscience. Post war prosperity became a mundane fact of economic life.

The IDEA of economic growth was firmly embedded in society with little concept of its true impact. Obsession, anxiety and self-concern soon arose over the imaginary growth race, judged by the Economic Growth Index.

Meanwhile, inflation gathered pace. Excessive wage demands and constant pressure on the supply of goods led to fiscal manipulation and increasing central control of the economy. Social and political factors aggravated inflation. Electoral propaganda emphasised forecasts of material growth, improved growth targets, increased per capita income. Productivity was institutionalised, everyone became hypersensitive to his own portion, often forced to strike on account of maintaining his differential.

Then came the Prices and Incomes solution, with a rapid

pesticides and synthetic foods; rapid transit transport — with mounting mutual frustration like the increasing aggravation of greater mobility of the molecules of a gas.

Cities are becoming fit only for machines to navigate, and visited only by the commercial spirit. The advantages of larger markets outweigh any encouragement to stop population growth—what is good for business must be good for the nation as a whole. In fact, the current rate of environmental degradation is accelerating without much increase of population to blame.

The thrusts of modern technology are unabsorbable, and while the adverse spill over effects are the incidental by-products of the legitimated pursuit by others of leisure and profit, no solutions are forthcoming.

The spirit of eat, drink and be merry is gaining stronger support especially amongst the young; but with it goes cultivated detachment, disallowing the magnitude of nearby events to even ripple this.

The commercial ethos guides economic and social life. Quick profit is not just successful marketing of a gimmick, but the creation of a volatile consuming public, severed from traditional tastes and standards.

The highest level of expenditure goes into the continual re-creation of new dissatisfaction. The technocrats show us how we are emancipated by perpetually accelerated change. The result is no social norms, where right and wrong are functional and ephemeral.

Such a moral vacuum cannot be explained by family tensions, but rather the disillusionment obtained from the collapse of the ethical consensus. Only the instant matters, the individual is amoral and exploitable. The fastest grower of all is crime, where the apparent reward and the apparent risk are further than ever apart; especially with glossy magazines convincing

everyone that they are not the freaks that all around are.

The ideals of education have been perverted—a means to an end. Closer to the ideal of universal opportunity perhaps, but also nearer to a fully working meritocracy. Here, accident of birth is paramount and an efficient, though not necessarily more just, economy may result, but this is probably more irksome than the hierarchy of aristocratic privilege.

The market for sexual perversion and aphrodisiac art has expanded unbelievably and has ubiquitous influence. Surely not a growth in tolerance, rather helpless bewilderment, and anything but a show of coolness, with suppressed excitement, is regarded as obscene!

Conditions of work have improved; satisfaction has been lost. The craftsman is now a machine-minder, his hand and brain have been demoted to his own detached hobby world. More people are lonely, more people feel unwanted.

Sucked into the vortex of modern capitalism, all impetus for community life is lacking. Machine dependent, isolated in dormitory suburbs, Mr. Average suffers from the institutionalisation of his estrangement from his fellows compensated by his TV and private car.

In the face of such obsolescence the economic growth model improves its abstraction, it includes limited resources, absorptive capacity and rapid accumulation of poison in the biosphere. Unease, frustration and bewilderment continue. Little is done to promote general welfare or to increase the flow of sympathy and understanding.

So the lecture ended, showing how dreams of power had been realised by Man, with Life left as a residual by-product of economic progress.

The topic is not yet stale, and the analysis will stimulate a few academic thoughts. But unlike a God-filled preacher, no hope was extended, nor counter idea, with spirit of faith, bestowed.

## The Gavin Tweedsmuir Column

GREGORY v. TWEEDSMUIR  
(1972) IDIOT'S LAW  
REPORTS

THE plaintiff, an uncouth and contemptible wretch, complained of an article about him written in a column noted for its fairness, truthfulness and impartiality of comment. The plaintiff proceeded to scream at anyone he could find who would listen, that he would take the defendant to Press Council, Disciplinary Appeals Committee, Constitution Committee, Guild Council, Midland Broadcasting Council, Milk Marketing Board, etc., until the defendant would be a ruined man.

On several occasions he approached the defendant demanding an apology printed on the front page of "Redbrick"—a periodical with only one known regular redeeming feature (see above).

The defendant, having told the plaintiff that he was discharging nitro-glycerous waste body-lid in the face of opposition from the prevailing wind, refused his request, whereupon the plaintiff threatened and withdrew his threat, to pursue remedies several times. The plaintiff, eventually realising that he would be non-suited, gave up his claim.

The decision of the above action for libel demonstrates the legal principle that Robert Gregory, Esq. is an irritating and ludicrous bore who should be thrown through the holes of his own complaints.

On Tuesday, February 28th, a dinner for the guests of Debating Society had to be held in a windy communal dining room due to the occupation of the private dining room by the Guild Inquisition (sic), a young group of people who are so incompetent and uninteresting that the only way they can bore people effectively is to do it as a group. The Commission, whose more notable characters include Mr. Martin O'Sheer Nonsense, the noted psychopath and vagrant; and Herr Johann Yale, a Guild groupie. The Commission is now much the worse off for losing the handsome aging Mr. John MacFie, who was replaced by the rather less handsome, ageless Barbary Slammed Knockers.

This means that the Guild Commission is now totally unbelievable. It is a pity that such a body should waste the time of no less an eminence than Mr. Eric Graham, and force him to say that "the only interesting thing that happens at Guild Commission meetings is when someone opens the door by mistake."

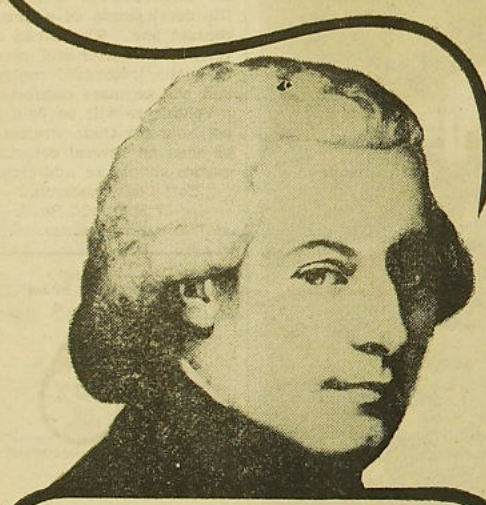
## OF PUBLIC CONCERN

The following story is so scandalous, that I feel sure that "Wall" magazine, that rampant polisher of other people's indiscretions, will want to call for a full investigation. A member of the Guild, not unknown for his repeatedly carping criticisms of the Guild, its members and its fiscal outgoings, was seen and heard to be making a private phone call on a Guild society telephone (i.e. at the Guild's expense), concerning the fate of his father's car.

This is the sort of behaviour which is so disgustingly hypocritical, that I feel the editor of "Wall" should lose no time in bringing this itinerant degenerate to his knees.

The name of this revolting swindler is, of course, Mr. Lawrence Wybranice, Editor of "Wall."

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the music people

## The gravy stakes

Those of you who eat in the Refectory or Union have probably at one time or another complained about the steady increase in prices; one followed by the other. Why can't the two places compete? Well, some years ago they did, with catastrophic results.

Ernie Tibbs, the then Union Services Chairman, ordered a dramatic cut in the prices of all Union food. The Refectory was stunned into emptiness whilst Vernon and Moseley Halls, the

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## Pop surprise

McCartney's surprise flight to Deb Hall with his new group recalls an event of some years ago when Elvis Presley visited the University. But, you say, Elvis has never been to Britain. Following research by ace Elvis historian, R. Miller, of "Grey Towers," Moseley, "Snippets" can reveal that Presley actually played and sang in Founders Room some years ago.

Amazingly, nobody either believed or recognised that Elvis Presley, on leave from the U.S. Army in Germany, had decided to make his British debut in the illustrious surroundings of Founders Room. His only audience was an appreciative Reg.

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# HOME IS WHERE YOU SLAVE....

**I**n what is perhaps the most significant African movement since Sharpeville, the South African Government is turning to the repressive measures it knows best as the massive strike in Namibia (South-West Africa) goes into its third month. The African workers in Namibia are largely recruited under the contract labour system. This has been described by the International Commission of Jurists as "akin to slavery" and under the provisions of the contracts, the workers are forced to leave their families for periods of up to 18 months and receive pay at a minimum rate of £2 per month and maximum of £4.50.

After the First World War, the German colony of South-West Africa became a League of Nations mandate administered by South Africa which has continued to rule it since, in defiance of the League's successor, the United Nations.

The mandate was subject to safeguards for the indigenous population and these involved such obligations as promoting the moral well being and social progress of the territory's inhabitants. In fact, the only inhabitants to benefit have been the Afrikaner and German settlers through the extension of the old German system of land reservation and segregation.

On June 21st, 1971, the International Court of Justice ruled by 13 votes to two (the negative votes from the British and French judges) that Namibia should be handed over to the U.N.

The South African Prime Minister, Mr. Vorster, immediately repudiated the court's findings in a nation-wide broadcast—the Republic is now in illegal possession of Namibia.

The Ovambos who make up over half the African population and over 90 per cent of the work force are fully aware that South Africa has no right to control their country and that the apartheid system imposed on them violates their human rights and their international status as the responsibility of the United Nations.

The South Africans, in fact seem to have misjudged the feeling of the Africans completely (almost the entire work force has withdrawn its labour, which amounts to about 25,000

Africans)—a revealing example of their insensitivity to the current mood was the ultimatum to the strikers: get back to work or be sent back to the reserve. The strikers asked to be sent back.

In the context of South Africa can rule this strike is a deeply significant and courageous act on the part of all the participants. They receive no strike pay, and it is a measure of their rejection of the apartheid system and South Africa's presence in their country that they are prepared to endure starvation and police harassment.

The possibility that the South-West African Peoples Organisation (SWAPO) is behind the strike is an open question and SWAPO spokesmen are understandably reticent about claiming responsibility for organising the strike as they would be suppressed immediately — already 13 men are being tried on these charges.

The charges of "intimidation" and "incitement" made against the strike leaders immediately recall Mr. Smith's similar attempts to explain away the African response.

Most of the strikers' grievances and the authorities' responses can be paralleled elsewhere in Southern Africa. The contract labour system in Namibia is the same form of profitable exploitation as in the mines in South Africa and the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique.

Pretoria provides a "stable" political environment for South African and Western mining corporations. So far, South Africa has taken enormous



profits from South-West Africa and put very little back.

Namibia has been described as the "most exploited territory in history" since a third of its GNP is exported as profits by foreign mining companies.

British interests are heavily involved particularly Rio-Tinto Zinc which is opening up a new mine to extract Uranium for sale to the UK Atomic Energy Authority (the go-ahead was announced at the RTZ annual general meeting, May 1971).

The South-West Africa Company is British-based and is a major owner of the Tsumelo mine. Charter Consolidated, involved in the diamond mines, has a large element of British capital.

Among other companies involved are Shell and BP, Barclays, Standard Bank and Wimpys. Total British investment in South Africa and South-West Africa is about 10 per cent of total British foreign investment.

While British investments in Canada and Australia are even greater, investments in South Africa bring home the most earnings because profits are so high there, and these earnings contribute much to Britain's balance of payment surplus.

This is not a new theme. Defending the slave trade two centuries ago, Lord Dartmouth, Secretary of State for the Colonies said: "We cannot allow the colonies to check or to discourage in any degree a traffic so beneficial to the nation." The argument was persuasive. Just how much so we ourselves are well placed to understand today — the Conservative government returned almost exactly the same reply to critics who condemned the sale of arms to the Republic of South Africa. The sale might have its unfortunate side; it was too profitable to be stopped.

Last week, some 60 members of church and action groups took part in a symposium sponsored by the World Council of Churches to make recommendations to the commission of the Programme to Combat Racism which meets next month.

If the Commission agrees with the recommendations, they stand to be approved by the central committee of the World Council in August.

One of the recommendations urges states to recognise land taken from Namibia as "plunder" which can be restored to the legitimate owners in national courts; it also discourages governments and industrial commercial enterprises from supporting schemes like the Cabora Bassa dam and other such projects which entrench racist and colonial minority regimes in Africa.

The Cunene river scheme falls within this category. Rising in central Angola and flowing down to the Namibian border before turning west to the sea, the Cunene has long been dreamed of as a source of irrigation and electric power.

Ostensibly, the scheme is admirably humanitarian. However, the political, military and strategic implications of the scheme go far beyond considerations of electric power and communications. The scheme will supply cheap electricity to both the Kassinga mines in Angola and the Tsumeb mines in Namibia which will benefit the Portuguese and South African Governments and European and North American companies — not the Africans.

The scheme will also settle half a million white settlers (Portuguese, South Africans and West Germans) in Southern Angola which will involve the movement of the indigenous people into what in South Africa they euphemistically call "homelands."

In Namibia, the South Africans have admitted that the mineral production of the country will take at least one year to recover from the effect of the strike, even if all the strikers went back to work which they have stated they will not.

Most significant of all is the strike at the Orangemund diamond diggings near the South border with South Africa. Orangemund is isolated, has very tight security precautions, and offers better pay and conditions than most enterprises in Namibia. And as one white put it: "If the strike can reach there it can get to the mines on the Rand."

This is exactly what the South Africans seem to be most afraid of. Amongst the Ovambos morale is very high and even the government's willingness to abandon the contract labour system is a considerable victory for the strikers. Even if they go back to work, the raised morale and militancy and the experience of organisation and a successful strike which they will leave behind will enormously strengthen the developing guerrilla struggle in Ovamboland.

If the strike continues to spread the prospect of a labour vacuum could turn Namibia into a dwindling asset. If industrial unrest on the Namibian scale were to spread to the South African mines and the rest of the economy, the apartheid system would be challenged at its roots. Whatever happens next, the people of Namibia have taken a huge step forward in the struggle for their country's liberation.

**SALVADOR BORGES**

**T**O most of us the name "University Centre" indicates not a lively, throbbing social amenity building, the pulsating heart of the campus, but a re-named clinical eating house. The following article is concerned with looking at the concept of some form of University Centre at Birmingham and how it may be realised to the advantage of the academic community.

The idea of a University Centre was first discussed by a University-Guild of Students working party in 1969. It was felt at the time that very few buildings on the campus actually facilitated cross-faculty and inter-disciplinary liaison. The growth of staff and student numbers since Robbins had not been accompanied by a corresponding increase in staff-student contact; indeed some argued that it had rapidly declined, making the Edgbaston campus a somewhat alienating experience for its students members.

After a heated debate it was agreed that some specific area for staff-student contact governed by a joint staff-student committee was desirable. The lack of money for any new building for this purpose coupled with student demands for control of the Refectory led the working party to agree that the Refectory building should be renamed "University Centre" and put under a committee which made provision for a student majority of one.

Since its inception in 1969, formally accepted by Guild Council and University Council the following autumn, the University Centre has been seriously hampered in its progress to create a genuine staff-student community and identity.

The major of these difficulties stems from the recent development of Birmingham University at Edgbaston which seems to have placed a premium on segmented and dispersed units strung around the periphery of the campus rather than any long-term plan to work towards a co-ordinated whole. In a sense this reflects difficulties in obtaining the necessary finance for building projects.

The Careers Service is the opposite side of the campus from the Health Service. The Lodgings Office is distant from the Guild of Students buildings. Each department and faculty is usually equipped with its own coffee-bar or machines which, while generating staff-student contact at a local level, can inhibit attempts to make it inter-departmental.

Faculties are rather neatly allocated their corners of the campus which engenders a conservative bias against any feelings of cross department and

## Towards a University Centre

by ROD PLAYFORD

faculty liaison. The tradition is very much set and enhanced by status and academic competition that university life begins and ends in one's department.

Perhaps even more unfortunately for the concept of a University Centre was that it was initiated after a new Staff House was constructed separate from the Student Union and at first restricted solely to the use of academic staff. The Union itself was developed at the same time on its present site, a rather isolated position beyond the physics block.

With the opening of the Refectory itself in 1963 and the development of the campus towards the canal side of the campus the student body was divided. Students began to choose and compare the Union and Refectory. Despite the activities of recent Presidents, this gulf still remains to the detriment of a united and responsive student body.

More recently Halls of Residence and Griffen Close Flats have completed the drain away from any form of campus. The nightly trudge down Edgbaston Park Road or to Manor House aptly shows the increasing nightly trend away from the University and its activities. Student eating habits reinforce this. In recent years the meal lunch has been replaced by the snack causing the catering units on the campus to resort to enormous subsidy and reorganisation.

This change in eating habits helps to highlight another important difficulty for the University Centre—one of cost. The University Grants Committee stipulated in 1956 that prices be equal to labour costs. As well as this the University requires the Centre's catering services to be open throughout the year including the abysmal trading

period of the summer vacation. Inflation in food prices coupled with the narrowing level of the student grant has meant that subsequent price increases, usually one a year, have resulted in a serious loss of customers. This, given the heavy overall costs of running the catering services, has meant a large loss which the University has to meet out of its own pockets—last year it was £28,000.

This downward spiral finds its physical epitome in groups of students who leave the campus every lunchtime to sample the delights of a cheaper and prosperous Selly Oak restaurant service. In the past three years the restaurants in Selly Oak have doubled in number, one in size, to meet this increased demand. The resulting loss of custom has meant a reduction in the University Centre's services. In 1970 the Avon Room was closed. In 1971 the Saturday service closed.

The paradox has been in the three years of the University Centre which ideally was to increase the utilisation of the building, the opposite has occurred—use is declining, facilities are being closed, services are being cut back.

In trying to provide for the social needs of the campus community the University Centre has met the same difficulties as that of the Guild of Students Entertainments Committee. It does not really have the facilities to accommodate a large audience for the top groups necessary to attract support. Avon Room's fire capacity at the moment is only some 750. After alterations have been to the Avon Room link doors, only 1,300.

The cost of major groups would be prohibited by such small audiences or alternatively tickets would be so expensive as to seriously affect student grants already eroded by inflationary trends. Further to this is the small amount given to the University Centre for social purposes—£500. Such a sum induces a conservatism not conducive to the essential risk-taking element necessary for any major social function.

Certain particular features of the University Centre remain as a drawback. It was built as a functional eating-house, not as a centre. The policy of the University at the time of building the Refectory made a clear distinction between "eating" in the Refectory and "meeting" in the Union. This false distinction was maintained until 1969. The structural alterations necessary

are as a consequence costly and any modifications of the existing building within the financial constraints at best scrappy—the case of Mezzanine Lounge indicates this.

At attempt has been made in Mezzanine to give it atmosphere, a welfare desk and work-room. It still remains a rather unimaginative place hindered by the metallic central stairway. One can add here and there to the building, improve its services—such as contraceptive machines in the toilets and a television in Chelwood Coffee Bar, but it does not solve the basic problem of converting a former Refectory into a Centre.

Given these problems and difficulties the concept of a University Centre would seem to be unobtainable, some form of misconceived concept that has no relevance to the present needs of the University.

This line of reasoning however fails to account for several significant factors which in recent years are influential in determining the viability of such a centre. Perhaps the most important of these is the catering question. Recent trends indicate not the continuance of the present differing and often competing catering units on the campus, but a substantial move towards a co-ordinated complementary service involving Staff House, Student Union, Halls and Centre.

Such a trend must look towards some form of united management to make these services beneficial and responsive to its members.

Similarly entertainment is beginning to move away from the Sectarian Guild / Hall / Staff House approach to a wider and more co-ordinated form for the advantage of staff, students and workers.

The University Centre despite its difficulties has a valuable wealth of experience of staff, students, graduates and lay councillors working together that can only be an asset. Another trend no less significant is concerned with the quality of University life. On one hand it expresses itself as a reaction against the desire to expand infinitely and on the other to keep things limited to the horizon of one's department.

Educationally cross-faculty courses are being stimulated, socially there is a need in a campus of nearing 10,000 staff and students for a feeling of belonging which neither inhibits nor restricts. In this sense a proper University Centre can provide an area, an identity for this.

Unlike the Union Building it

is ideally suited for such a role. Close co-operation of staff and students in its activities and functioning can provide a more personal atmosphere in which more genuine human relationships can be fostered and where barriers of standing and status can be eroded.

In this way the University Centre represents not solely a way of looking at a building or even the University but of life itself. It could form a very vital role in establishing a new way of thinking of human being to human being. Part of this transition however must be the integration of social activities and the development of the existing Centre.

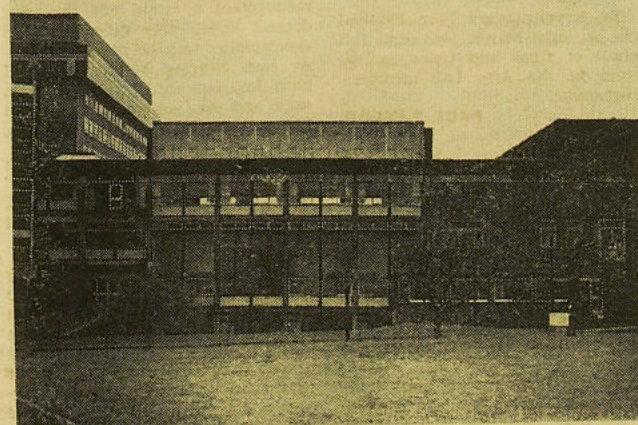
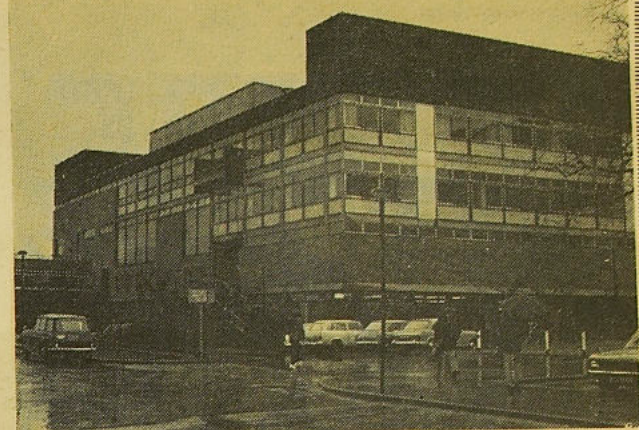
An important factor here is the very increase in size of student and consequently staff numbers in the next decade. Last year Senate agreed to set a target of nearly 10,000 students by 1977. This must entail some change of existing facilities. The opportunity to move towards a Centre is thus in the offing.

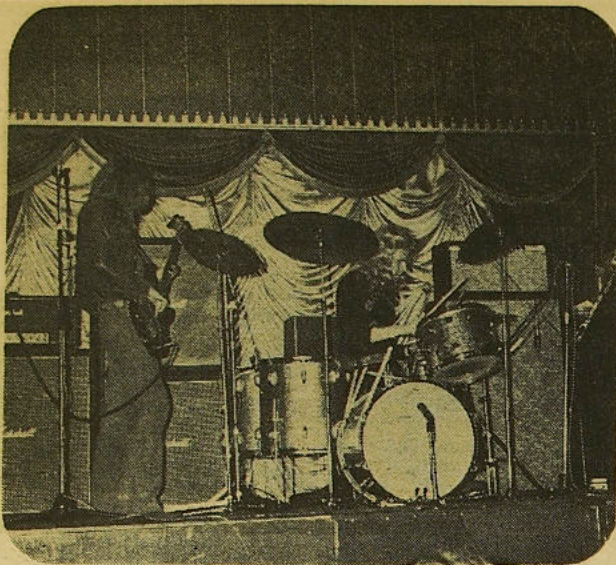
Initially the expenditure will be great. As stated above, the present Centre is in itself inadequate. What could be a better gesture towards the concept than to build alongside the existing Centre a new Student Union building with appropriate social facilities for 10,000. The deficiencies of the present Union building are already well known but not least is the physical incapacity to house more than one-third of the total student body.

The Centre would thus become a true and symbolic centre of staff and student facilities ranged together in three linked buildings. Around such a complex could develop other campus facilities such as the Careers Service, the Lodgings Office and the Guild of Graduates. Shops such as a Laundrette and Supermarket could also be introduced.

As funds for Universities become increasingly scarce in the next decade, the University of Birmingham will have to look closely at its educational, social and welfare activities. As the control of the Comptroller and Auditor-General's Department becomes tighter it will have to evaluate where to achieve maximum effect for minimum cost.

Can it continue to sponsor a loss on catering of some £28,000 per annum? Can it instead plough for a short period the much-needed funds into a viable concept instead of a paper gesture? Can the University move towards some form of Centre that will effect not solely the social life of the campus but its educational and power situation more than five Review Bodies?





Peter Hammil of Van der Graaf Generator, playing at Carnival Dance, at the Mayfair.



Medicine Head, Carnival Dance.



Mick Softley provided music during Carnival poetry evening.

## —reviews— carnival

A MIDST the opulent vulgarity of the Mayfair Suite, Carnival's Annual Dance made three hundred and fifty pounds profit. Despite the shortcomings of the dance, this contrasted favourably with the previous four years when no profit at all was made.

As usual the "dance" turned into a concert, which may have been because of the kind of groups booked, but was probably the fault of the solemn audience. Medicine Head started it all off (Flash were delayed) but they did not go down too well because of long delays between several of their numbers which started with "Come On." Their performance was undistinguished. They finished with their old favourite, "Pictures in the Sky" which got by far the best reception. On the whole their new line-up was not well received.

Flash followed with several driving numbers including "Black and White" and "Nightmare" which succeeded in getting the audience warmed up. They worked hard and got a good tight sound together finishing with a competent guitar solo marred only by masturbatory antics with the mike stand and guitar neck.

Then POW! The moment we had all been waiting for—Van Der Graaf Generator. They blasted straight off with ultra-loud electric jazz. The spirit of Roland Kirk smiled upon them. "Lost" screamed to a close. The style changed briefly as Peter Hammill played a quiet song with acoustic accompaniment. Then back to the brain-shaking with "Kill." This was the style for the rest of their act and even managed to get some of us jumping around. The evening ended with the deserved encore but, despite Van der Graaf's enthusiasm the general atmosphere throughout the whole evening remained constrained.

TIM COLGRAVE

THE deb. Hall was well filled for last Friday evening's Drama Festival, featuring the General Will Theatre Group and special guest Ron Geesin.

The programme began with "The National Interest," a series of sketches portraying the effects of Mr. Heath's industrial policy. The Industrial Relations Act played a starring role, together with "The Tory Gang's" masterplan to stop strikes.

The four players (and pianist) were original in their approach and raised quite a few laughs, but the biggest round of applause came after a "stripper" song from the female member.

Guest Ron Geesin followed with an individual performance of some originality, assailing the audience as much by his silences as by what he said. Some brilliant piano and banjo was interspersed by some of his "stories"; he really has an amazing talent for putting words together.

Following Ron Geesin, General Will Theatre Group performed "The Rupert (Oz) Show."

EVENTS Committee's idea of holding free lunchtime concerts in Founder's Room should receive all praise. However there is room for improvement: the artiste should be raised on a small stage so that everyone would be able to see him; and the amplification equipment should be good enough to carry the music over the inevitable babbling and munching of lunching listeners.

Lightning Slim on Tuesday was, frankly, a rather boring disappointment. All set to see a real live black blues guitarist spreading the all to well known news of the blues, the audience expected a little more than the run of the mill bass lines, simple runs and ancient, well worn riffs, following the twelve bar fashion, which is what we got.

To those at the back, or even the Peckinpah, who also directed "The Wild Bunch," breaks the audience in gently—a few laughs from Dustin Hoffman; the stunning Susan George—it's easy going, with only a mock review which carries some information).

The feeling of the blues was certainly communicated—especially to one girl whose many matrimonial proposals on this leap year day were politely but firmly turned down.

JOHN ARCHER

## —reviews— cinema

THE number of film directors who can see the cinema as something other than a commercial enterprise is, sadly, few. The city centre cinemas are proof of this, especially during the last week when Birmingham was presented with the most diabolical collection of films ever. The "Revolutionary Film Festival," already started at the Arts Lab, is an attempt to give Birmingham the chance to have a look at the other side of cinema—the cinema which has a purpose other than lining Arthur Rank's pockets.

Perhaps one of the biggest criticisms aimed at a "revolutionary film" is that it is too heavy—it can become almost an ordeal to sit through. Jean Luc Goddard comes in for a fair share of this criticism and his "East Wind," previously shown in the Lab's Film Festival last month, will undoubtedly put some people off his work.

"East Wind" is, apparently, a Western—or at least that's how it started out life. But in the end product the action on the screen can be labelled as irrelevant and the important part is the continual bombardment with revolutionary tactics. "East Wind" is something of an intellectual endurance test and if you like at least a hint of a storyline even in your revolutionary films, it is not for you.

The same cannot be said for Peter Watkins's "Punishment Park," also shown in the earlier festival. Shot in documentary style, it is so real that the audience can feel that the events are actually taking place and want to get up and do something about them. "Punishment Park" is a superb film, undoubtedly amongst the best of this year so far. If you haven't seen it yet, make sure you don't miss it again.

Also shot in documentary style is "The Battle of Algiers," dealing with the Algerian fight for independence from France. Here, the emphasis is on balance—there is little attempt to present a definite one-sided view, either of the terrorist action or the French counter-attacks. The events wind their way naturally to produce a highly effective piece of political cinema.

"Queimada" and "Memories of Underdevelopment" are both films that have been well received and make a welcome appearance in this festival. Other films include Robert Kramer's "Ice," centring on urban guerrilla action in New York, and Rocha's "Black God, White Devil."

The Revolutionary Film Festival goes on until March 14th, and full details of films and times can be found in the Arts Lab members' programme.

PAUL TAYLOR.

CINEMA audiences are a funny lot: tell them about a film that centres completely around violence; a film that will undoubtedly sicken most of them; and they will turn out in their thousands to see it. "Going on the basis of that argument, "Straw Dogs" should be guaranteed to stay at Odeon New Street for at least a couple of weeks and probably longer.

For there is no getting away from it, "Straw Dogs" is undoubtedly one of the most effectively violent films to get passed the censors. Sam

Peckinpah, who also directed "The Wild Bunch," breaks the audience in gently—a few laughs from Dustin Hoffman; the stunning Susan George—it's easy going, with only a mock review which carries some information).

Then suddenly everything erupts and the tension constantly bears down through the whole of the second half of the film. The horrifying spectacle that fills the screen continues to snowball more and more as if to try and push you to the limits of your tolerance.

The inevitable question that is, and has been, asked, is what is the point?—having seen "Straw Dogs" what have you got out of it? The answer to that is no less complex than asking the point of making, say, "Up Pompeii" or any other film.

Peckinpah has set out to show how far a man will go to stick by his principles—even if that entails the violence he is so opposed to. "Straw Dogs" does not shy from hitting out and hitting out hard. When you go to see it be prepared for what you get.

The rest of Birmingham is going through its usual phase of showing repeats or films that are just a waste of time. "The Deserter," at the Futurist, is probably the best bet if you can't face "Straw Dogs." Starting off well, it does tend to sag a bit by the end, but nevertheless has its good moments.

"Love Story" continues its marathon run at ABC New Street for yet another week whilst Odeon Ringway is preparing to finish with "Nicholas and Alexandra." The Jacey continues to act as sideman for the Cinephone, with "Sexy Bozen." The Gaumont has settled down for the predictable long run with "Fiddler on the Roof."

But do not despair. There are whispers in the air of good things to come... "Gumshoe," "Traffic," "Klute." The ridiculous thing is that not only do the city's cinemas all show the rubbish together, they also compete excessively with each other by all putting on good films at the same time.

PAUL TAYLOR

## —reviews— music

A SURFEIT of Jethro Tull music has left me somewhat bemused. Three hearings of their new album is a heavy experience—throw in the Town Hall Concert of Monday and it becomes shattering, particularly as the live show kicks off with "Thick as a Brick," one elongated song which forms the new album.

This "piece," whilst missing some parts from the album, was extended by solo intermissions to quite a bit longer than the recorded track, which is all a bit much when the number is based on two major themes, neither of which is a particularly strong part of the Tull repertoire.

It is very interesting instrumentally and from the arrangement point of view, but the song doesn't merit the extension and development to such great lengths. At each hearing of the record I have lost concentration more than once, and even on stage after about half an hour, interest waned.

The variety and freshness which was prevalent on the "Stand Up" album seemed to have vanished, probably due to blasé acceptance of world-wide adulation.

A word of praise, unfortunately not of a musical nature—the album cover is magnificent although puzzling at first due to the apparent lack of information. It is in the format of a local weekly newspaper (St. Cleve Chronicle) but unfortunately I only happened upon the words of "Thick as a Brick" halfway through the third listening to

## —reviews— books

the album and after I had been to the concert. (They are tucked away on page seven along with a mock review which carries some information).

Individually on stage the band are more showmen than instrumental soloists, even classically trained John Evan has a limited repertoire of organ solos. Jeffrey Hammond-Hammond is an exception in that he does no solo but continually lays down great bass lines, particularly the superb riff in the high-spot of the night for me—Jeffrey goes to Leicester Square (an oldie of course).

Other high-spots were the first extended crescendo in "Thick as a Brick" and the long encore "Why Not?" which included the best solo of the night by Cuddly Little Martin Barre on searing guitar which is out of apparent character.

You may ask why no mention of Ian Anderson yet—well there's no need really—he still sings and plays flute in his inimitable style both on record and on stage and of course performs the usual histrionics with enjoyable enthusiasm. One point—his flute playing when not being featured has matured considerably, but in solos his flamboyant technique—although virtually perfected now—does not hide the musical limitations.

Jethro Tull's strength is in the rock solid foundations provided by guitar bass and Barriemore Barlow's drums, particularly when tightly arranged with flute and organ drifting over the top of the barrage.

Tir Na Nog opened the concert and engendered a warm response with a well-balanced mixture of humorous and tragic songs. I was most impressed by Leo O'Kelly's version of Leonard Cohen's "Bird on the Wire"—full of conviction, and the bouncy energy, their new single, "The Lady I Love" with excellent acoustic accompaniment.

JOHN HEADON

A CONCERT given by Roy Harper depends very much on the mood he's in. Put him in a club, with people drinking and talking and his anger at being ignored is reflected in his music; he'll give a strong, forceful, mean type of set. Friday night at the Town Hall saw Harper in an unusual mood, sitting on a stage surrounded by four guitars and being gazed upon by a highly attentive audience.

The result was a concert—in the true sense of the word—which was marked by almost unintelligible introductions and the length of the songs played. At times the audience were lost as Harper muttered into the microphone a series of "Wows" and "Too much." Add to this the fact that he had a sore throat, which forced him into an early interval, and prevented him from playing for too long in the second half, and it added up to a rather mediocre concert.

Mediocre, that is, in comparison to what Harper is capable of producing, because when he really gets down to it, he proves to be one of the best solo artists around.

To anyone who was seeing Roy Harper for the first time on Friday, and felt a bit disappointed, don't be put off—go and see him next time round.

GRAHAM MOORE.

## —reviews— theatre

"VIVAT, VIVAT REGINA!" showing in repertoire with "Man and Superman" at the New Rep is, like Shaw's play, well worth seeing.

It is a historical drama based on the lives of Elizabeth I and Mary Queen of Scots and, like many of the historical plays and films which are so popular at the moment, the chief interest lies in the interplay of personalities, since the main events of the story are already known.

Mary is a passionate, ruthless but irresistible woman who lives for her own fulfilment without concern for the state. Elizabeth, her foil, sacrifices her personal happiness for the sake of her country—is betrayed, manipulated by Cecil and grows ugly and unloved.

At the beginning of the play the queens seem fairly similar young women. As it progresses they both have to make choices between self and country, and their different lines of action transform them into vividly contrasting characters, until Elizabeth's final agonised decision brings the downfall of Mary.

The queens are excellently played by Stephanie Bidmead and Susan Jameson. Both elicit a sympathy from the audience which gives the play its sustaining interest, although Elizabeth becomes associated with pathos and Mary draws a grudging admiration for her sheer nerve. The minor rôles are well supported and the play is often witty, especially in the interchanges between Elizabeth and Cecil, Mary and Knox.

Robert Bolt describes his play as exploring "the impermissible sacrifice of self which power demands and gets and squanders, to what purpose?"

It is an apt description. It is a moving play with its two chief characters destroyed by the impossible demands their countries make upon them.

JILL LINDSEY NORMAN

## —reviews— books

WHAT can one say about a book like this? Anthony Burgess's "The Novel Now" as a "guide to contemporary fiction" mentions some 700 books by 300 authors—all of which he has read. Very few people could claim to be as well acquainted with modern fiction so, for the most part, this is a guide to books "one should have read."

It is nevertheless readable and interesting—Mr. Burgess is able to summarise well both a novel's content and style. But trying to cover such a wide range of writing in little more than 200 pages must make any criticism in depth quite impossible and a certain degree of superficiality is clearly unavoidable. On one page John Updike fleetingly described as "brilliant" and yet not mentioned again.

Mr. Burgess's main theme is that the great novel is no longer being written. The professional novelist is now a dying race and many novels today are written by those who wish to purge themselves of "the novel they have in them." Of course the professional does still exist but the trend today is away from the single masterpiece (nowadays novelists do not care sufficiently or believe enough) and towards the "oeuvre"—fragments of individual vision built up book by book, like Anthony Powell's "Music of Time" or C. P. Snow's "Strangers and Brothers."

The last chapter is the most revealing. After all, Anthony Burgess

is a novelist himself and he likes to regard his own books as objects of craftsmanship. Deeper issues are for the commentators. The Muse of Inspiration doesn't come down to novelists—novels have to be created cold-bloodedly by dedicated people. And the hope is that one day someone will produce the work that will burn up the world.

Other accounts of contemporary fiction like Walter Allen's "Tradition and Dream" are rapidly becoming dated. Although "The Novel Now" is too short, it is recently published and entertainingly written.

CHARLES FOSTER

"What I'm Going to Do I Think," by L. Wolvode, the first by 29-year-old author.

Plot: college girl meets college boy. He introverted intellectual, she neurotic over-sensitive orphan with a tragic past. After about three years they eventually marry in a big hurry because she is pregnant. Christian Scientist grandparents outraged.

Novel commences with arrival of the unhappy couple at the honeymoon lodge belonging ironically to the grandparents. Traces the young man's mental meanderings backwards and forwards from past to present and speculative advances into the future. Lacks ability to come to terms with life and the new found responsibilities of a wife and baby boggles his imagination.

Vividly descriptive passages, I would say Lawrencean, the blurb says like Hemingway; either way it can't be bad for L. Wolvode. (I wonder what the L stands for?). There is a great deal of use made of symbolism and sometimes almost supernatural forces seem to be at work. As when the couple simultaneously have a premonition that their child is going to die, the girl subsequently miscarries. Granny, in her infinite mercy, writes a cherry note: "the wages of sin dear, is death."

The novel is absorbing and provides a strange interlude, but the atmosphere so cunningly evoked is over-intense, and one finally loses patience with these two intellectuals who seem to know so much about life but are unable to enjoy it.

The novel is absorbing and provides a strange interlude, but the atmosphere so cunningly evoked is over-intense, and one finally loses patience with these two intellectuals who seem to know so much about life but are unable to enjoy it.

IN his forward to "The Waters of the Wondrous Isles," Lin Carter sums William Morris up as "a master of all trades and Jack of none." Born in 1834 in Essex William Morris hated the industrial age and in his hankering after medievalism invented the Morris chair, wove rugs and tapestries, introduced socialism into the 19th century and, almost in passing, invented the fantasy novel.

"The Waters of the Wondrous Isles," is an extremely vivid book, and despite the medieval prose we are swept along with the beauty and excitement of the language. Even though the novel is a fantasy we become involved because of the human feelings of love, hate, and jealousy which surround the characters.

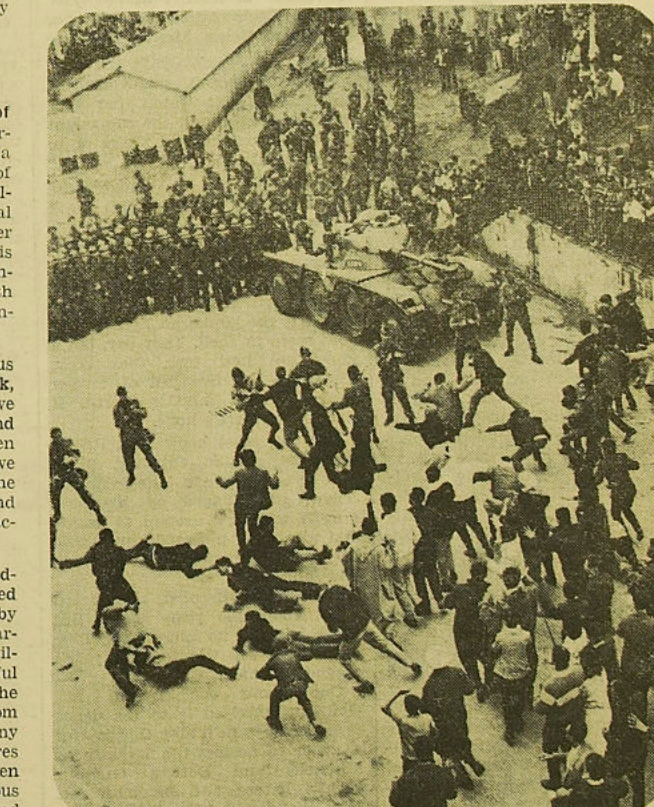
The book is an account of the adventures of a young girl called Birdalone. When she was a baby she was stolen by a witch and carried away into the forest of Evilshaw. She grows into a beautiful young girl and realising that she is a slave of the witch escapes from her in a magic boat. She visits many islands and meets many creatures and the strange things that happen to her illuminate the marvellous imagination of William Morris, and show how he certainly was the forerunner of such people as Tolkien and C. S. Lewis.



Dustin Hoffman in "Straw Dogs" (Odeon New St.) prepares for violence.



"Queimada," from the Arts Lab's Revolutionary Film Festival.



"Battle of Algiers," Arts Lab.

## sport 1

## HOCKEY

## LADIES' CHAMPIONS

## 2nds Win Wivab

AFTER an unintentional sight-seeing tour of the suburbs of Liverpool, our valiant Second XI arrived at I. M. March College prepared to uphold the honour of the Ladies' Hockey Club against all opposition.

However, despite these good intentions, the first 20 minutes of the match were played only in second gear and the defence had a hard time trying to clear the ball through to the forwards.

The game speeded up though, greatly helped by the (encouraging?) shouts and comments of our supporters doing their best to drown the voices of the Liverpool followers and by the end of the first half the team was showing much better co-ordination and speed and a superb flick by our tireless captain, Gill, made the score 1-0 at half-time.

The second half brought some good play on both sides with Birmingham slightly on top most of the time and the game was virtually settled when Fran, keeping up the battle with Gill for leading goal-scorer, helped a deflected shot by Gill to reach the back of the goal.

## ODES TO LAKE RACES

By MIKE MAYES

AH! spring has nearly come at last. I know it well for, when strolling by the Lake of late I went, I caught the scent. Young men and maidens were out in force stretching limbs over our well loved course.

Of course, you've guessed. Round seven, this well lit Friday night, the Lake Races will start.

Great memories linger when framed eras die. Poor Lake's era began when most of you were still so young. But they say that it must die. Not even the wiles of Edwards,

## RUGBY

## Wins again

AFTER defeating Westminster Hospitals convincingly the week before, Birmingham triumphed again by beating a fancied West Midlands College side last Saturday by 12 points to nil. With a waterlogged pitch and atrocious weather conditions, both sides were deprived of the chance of playing open rugby.

In view of this the game was decided on strength and perseverance. Birmingham read the situation slightly better than their opponents and produced several good flashes in the first half with both forward and three-quarter moves. The Birmingham forwards had the edge in the rucks and in the set scrummages took all their own ball and six against the head, whereas the West Midlands pack were dominant in the line-outs.

The backs were fairly evenly matched, but Birmingham showed more enterprise and very slightly stronger in defence, with devastating tackling by both centres Young and Scott.

It was not until the second half that a score was made. Bruce Ward, as always, raced for a ball that had been driven over the West Midlands line to score a try in the corner, which Butler converted. Not long afterwards, big boy "Buzz Bastable" went over for a try under the posts, after picking up a ball from a loose ruck. Butler added two points for the conversion to make the final score 12-0.

Congratulations again to the Seconds, who recorded their biggest win of the season by defeating the College of Food 64 points to nil.

Liverpool fought hard but failed to score and the final result was 2-0 in favour of a jubilant Birmingham team.

Team: Gill, Jan, Fran, Fred, Sue, Anne, Mary, Wendy, Viv, Chris, Lucy.

## First lose

Birmingham Univ. 1st IX 1, Bedford C. of P.E. 4.

ON Saturday the University first XI withdrew their support from Carnival and travelled down to that most superior of physical education colleges in Bedford.

Arriving with a depleted team—Kate got lost in the loo at Newport Pagnell Services—the club were dismayed to find that they had left their bicycles behind and would be unable to cycle with the Bedford girls to the pitches. This, it transpired, was the latter's warm-up to the game—a thought, Kate, for next year?—after all, it isn't THAT far to Wast Hills and I just happen to know where you could acquire five bikes.

Back on the pitch, the team, some of whom had not played for

three weeks and were having difficulties fastening their skirts, proceeded to wage war with the opposition—and Ange, the Stick, Edwards, managed to score within the first 10 minutes. This proved to be Brum's downfall for the Bedford side retaliated strongly and by half-time were 3-1 up.

Neither side played particularly good hockey—the pitch and weather conditions making sure of this. But some were having more trouble than others and I have heard suggestions that a certain wing should either buy a pair of glasses or a longer stick—balls have a habit of going over the line if you don't stop them soon enough.

By the middle of the second half both sides seemed to have become fed up with the game—the strong wind having removed a lot of its enjoyment. But the Birmingham side were co-ordinating a lot better and conceded only one more (dubious) goal—the score would have been a lot higher but for some fine saves on Aileen's part.

## GOLF RAMBLINGS

SPRING has been a disastrous time for the golf team. In fact we haven't won a match for a month! But this time it wasn't the opposition who beat us into submission, but the weather.

We return to Trentham to meet old golf team members including Andy Dathan, "the only person I know who gets up at six o'clock in the morning so that he can have two breakfasts," quote from another old favourite(?) Paul Birt-whistle, accompanied by that barefooted wonder, Jenny Sanderson (a sad(?) note, Mike Paterson couldn't come).

Well, into battle; Bill Harrison

## ROWING

## RAY MISSES SUCCESSFUL HEADS

CHRIS LOGAN came an easy second in the restricted sculls division at Worcester on February 26th, he and the winner finishing the four-and-a-half-mile course with hundreds of yards to spare. The two novice fours entered did moderately well after an unexpected annoyance at the start, but seemed to show some unfamiliarity with long-striding events such as this.

They took middle position against very strong opposition and arrived well ahead of the Loughborough teams. Attendance at Worcester was down on last year, and next time we hope to put in an eight-crew in what is largely an eight event.

Ray New was to have rowed on the 26th, but had to cancel his entry after colliding with a squash

ball in the region of the eye a few weeks back. He intended to compare his performance in the Senior Sculls division with that of Birkmyre, an Olympic international who won his event. Ray has won every race he has entered since he joined the club, including the three-mile Bath Small Boats Head at the end of last term.

Only last month Leicester Uni-



Second at Worcester.

(Photo: Joshi)

## MEN'S HOCKEY

## Conditions defied

AFTER some deliberation on the hard pitch at Redditch on Saturday, the home side took the shallow end with the wind in their faces. The University lined up as: Burt, Allum, Taylor, Steptoe, Longman, Tapp, Hughes, Kundi, Hawkes, Dwarf. (Editor please note—only 10 names—this is deliberate!)

Despite the dreadful conditions, some good hockey was played by both sides. Although we had the deep end, Dave Taylor did not have to wear stilts—but his aerial balls still proved highly effective! The University had slightly the better of the first half—Roger and Kundi playing well up front with good prompting from Longman in the middle.

Rumour has it that Baldie passed a fitness test before the game and was down to play at inside-left. However, as with Sampson, with his locks cut off, he faded and his only notable contribution to the afternoon's proceedings was rubbing up our skipper in the showers afterwards, when Dave got cold.

Nevertheless, the other 10 played their hearts out, but continued pressure eventually breached our defence. Dick, who had played his normal sturdy game, came out to the edge of the circle but on his way the left kicker chose this moment to disintegrate, poor Dick had no chance, went arse over tit and ended up with a boot in the gut. Poor lad!

After the game, Baldie claimed that he had played soccer for Civ. Eng. that morning, but we all knew that due to lack of strength he took all night to do what he used to do all night.

Is Skintbrant dead? If not, a warning from Trev. Critchton of Lake. Following two weeks of serious weight-training T.C. reckons to throw 50 metres this summer. So come on Skryby, you can't let T.C. beat you. One, of course, wonders about T.C.'s claims. His best throw in competition is about 112ft. (33 metres). He does claim to have thrown 145ft. (41m.) "several times" in training.

A similar tale can be told about Sir Elf Edwards. He returned to Brum a couple of weeks ago to tell an incredulous group of cronies that he was one again the Herefordshire cross-country champion. "Redbrick" sports can now verify his claim. The five people he beat were, in order: his sister, his dog, a neighbour, a spectator and Dave Brum a couple of weeks ago to tell ner was an imposter.

## EDITORIAL

By HANDY BOLDEN

## sport 2

## BLIZZARD AT THE NATIONAL

remarks Randy Southam with a brass monkey at Sutton Park

IN conditions better suited to staying at home, watching the television and getting boozed, B.U.C.C. herded over to Sutton Park for the National Cross-country Championships last Saturday.

First to compete were the Juniors. A misleading misnomer since the age limit is 20 years. Our super-stars were headed by that dynamic duo: Raymondo "The Supremo" Aggro Smedley, and Miles Gilmour, the well-known twit. Needless to say, these two were up with the leaders, with Aggro happily slotting into and holding second place. Miles, running the race of his life, was tenaciously holding on to fifth place.

A bad fall with a mile to go saw him limping and he was eventually forced into sixth place being passed inches from the line. A visit to the Accident Hospital on Sunday morning revealed a broken bone in his foot.

After racing over a mile in this condition it is obviously an experimental verification of that well known rule "Where's there's no sense, there's no feeling."

Edwards (small, gnome-like, etc.) and Andy Morley were the other scorers who brought the team into second place!

## OLD BOY WINS

In the senior race our stars acted as if they had received fewer lessons in idiocy from a well known twit. By the simple expedience of not listening to the official announcements they missed the start. In the massed start of over 1,000 runners it is impossible to pull back from a bad start.

The best showing from the team was by Gordon Thomson, who finished just outside 110th.

But by far and away the most impressive performance I have ever witnessed by a Brum runner came from that ex-Civil Engineering student, Male Thomas. Male smashed the best runners in English

cross country for an epic victory. Storming in over a minute up, covered in snow, near exhaustion, the greatest race of his career.

## POISON PEN PICTURES No. 4

## Jack Andrew Holden

by Michael Noparkinson

OUR subject this week was born a natural athlete, and only just missed the London Olympics by one year. A son of Preston, he caused the construction of the famous by-pass so that weary travellers need not come into contact with the red-headed terror.

His mother, a sweet and gentle soul, wanted him to become a footballer. His father, a perspicacious character, urged Andy to let his natural talents grow. A man with legs so fast could easily evade the cops. His early training was to this end and consisted of pinching apples from people's gardens.

Being chased out of gardens by dogs, the quickest exit was over the wall. It was in this way he picked up his penchant for steeple-chasing. His long-suffering mother kept trying to instil the basics of football into him. Her favourite play was to throw a ball at him just as he was about to jump a garden wall. As his hands were full of apples he could only head it away.

There he barged in on an interview-committee. When asked what he wanted he replied: "A single to Preston." Not wishing to appear confused, the chairman offered him an unconditional offer on a U.C.C.A. computer card.

Four years later Andy is still trying to use this card to get back to Preston on the train. When he finds out and manages to leave, Brum can revert to normal.

This is the cause of his famous "dip" before he takes a barrier. He

The opposition both fielded strong teams but Brum traditionally fielded a weakened team. A team missing Banthorpe, Hove and Herbie Sewell cannot stand a chance in this sort of competition. With these in the team, it would have been close, instead of the massacre it was.

But those who turned out put up a stirring performance. George Trymal sailed over 13ft in the pole vault. Aukett took the 600 metres and came second over 300 metres. Steve Quay was up towards a superb 46ft. in the triple jump and Pete Lewis cracked 2min. 30secs. for the 1,000 metres.

Captain Pete Cornes won the second-string 300 metres but showed a disappointing and disturbing lack of speed over 60 metres. Perhaps things will be better with an extra 40 metres in the summer.

Keeping to my policy of not saying anything if you cannot say anything good, I finish with the reflection that for the past two years Loughborough Colleges have gone to U.A.U. expecting to win. Their confidence has rebounded on them. Perhaps the evil Cornes is breeding complacency in Loughboro' Colleges once again.

## A PREDICTION

The betting is 3 to 1 on that the athletics track will mysteriously disappear under water prior to next Saturday's match against Cambridge. This will save embarrassment all round, for the club is heading for its third defeat in a row.

## SPORTS HEARD

ONCE again this layout comes by courtesy of R. Southam enterprises, G.W.H. having imminent exams. Just a few points to raise. Firstly you will all be pleased to hear that K.W.H. will shortly finish his course here and move to far-off lands. A replacement Sports Ed. is urgently required. To make things easier for his pending replacement, please note contributors: Articles between 100 and 250 words, double spaced, one side, legible, typed if possible, in by 5 p.m. For this issue several articles could not be used because they violated all the criteria. Also the story should be interesting and if possible have a slight sporting connection.

As an example of an interesting

story take Holden's appearance on Dougars sports radio programme. G.W.H. was the mystery guest. The Doog asked him four questions and listeners had to phone in and guess who it was. The four questions being asked there was an embarrassingly large number of wrong guesses. With the prospect of the programme overrunning the day was saved by one of the final-year dental students "guessing" correctly.

Following G.W.H. we have Moira Niccol. She was accosted in A.U. by an interested third party. "I see you are building yourself up to improve your shot-putting," he said. "Is that a polite way of telling me I am getting fat," she enquired.

## Sports scene

AT a special committee meeting of the "Redbrick" sports staff, it has been decided to award the Sports scene plastic cup to Pete Crone (short, hairy-legged captain of the Athletics Club) for "Optimism." He earned the award for his recent performance in taking his kit to the international match against Spain at Cosford.

Apparently he did this in case the whole relay team (and most of the other males in the stadium with two legs in working order) would develop sudden and convenient injuries. Congratulations, Pete.

Poor old Fingers Fionbar Costigan. He has waited so long for a mention in "Redbrick" so that he could send a copy home to his mother. When his big moment arrived he was thwarted by the printers who reduced his little cutting to gibberish.

In despair Fionbar rushed out and consumed another whole pint of beer. Unfortunately, the effect of two pints in such rapid succession (11 days) had a rather dramatic effect. He rushed down Broad Street through the lunchtime traffic. In front of the Hall of Memory he took off his clothes, leaped into the fountain and proceeded to douse passers-by, using a stolen police-

by Andy Holden

man's helmet as a bucket. He was last seen being led into the Central Police Station by six saturated scuffers.

Birmingham University's hidden poetic talent sits writing sonnets to himself in his lonely pad on the Alcester Road. Graham Thewlis, master metallurgist, has been seeking peace of mind ever since leaving Leeds University many years ago. On completing his finals he said, in strict confidence: "I don't fancy doing research, that would be boring. I don't really want to teach, and I'd hate to be in a job I didn't like. What I would really like to do is get married."

He has spent most of the winter philosophising on the team spirit in the Cross Country Club and the central tenant of his theory is that his presence in the first team is essential. "I'm such a beautiful mover—such a lovely body position" he often states.

On finally realising his ambition at Salford he almost missed the race. He sat in a cafe over an untouched pork pie, drawing inspiration from the ducks playing in a nearby pond, and composing an ode to the occasion.

Frank, outspoken Bill Gough, manager of the all-star Medics rugby team, has banned all pressmen from all his team's home games. "It's my empty empathy," he spluttered. "Always gets worse at this time of the year. But seriously, my boys are suffering from over-exposure. Look at poor old Paddy Welligan. Had his pants ripped from him last week only inches from the line and right in front of a passing women's hockey team. I keep telling him about not wearing a jock strap."

Many reporters would point out that Cough has benefited from the mass media in the past. However, he remains adamant. "I remain adamant," he maintains. "You can get too much of a good thing—ask Chopper Harley."

A full-scale row has been created over the "transfer" of balding, bandy-kneed Andy Maile from Loughborough back to Birmingham for a record fee of 2½p and a new corner flag. "As far as I'm concerned he's on our staff," stated Bike Spoke—the Birmingham coach. "We'll be parading him round the Bull Ring this afternoon."

Loughborough deny any knowledge of the transfer and state he is still on their books (actually they don't have books, they have hieroglyphics hewn into the cave walls). When asked to comment on the situation, U.A.U. Secretary Jolly Roger Bottomless, stated: "I'm just going for my lunch, I'll be back next week."



We seem to have hundreds of pictures of Smedley and Gilmour. Can you spot them. Any more pictures gladly printed.

# around

## DAY BY DAY

### Wednesday, March 8th

Rory Gallagher plus Nazareth—Town Hall, 7.30 p.m.  
From 50p.

Organ Recital—Town Hall, 1.15 p.m. Free.

### Thursday, March 9th

Electric Light Orchestra—Kinetic Circus.

Manitas Da Plata—Odeon New Street

G.B.S.O.—Town Hall, 7.30 p.m. From 30p - £1. Pieces  
from Saint-Saens, John McCabe, Britten, Ravel.

Film Soc—"The Roaring Twenties." Haworth Lecture  
Theatre, 7 p.m. 15p.

"Live Like Pigs"—Mason Drama Group, 8.15 p.m. 20p.

### Friday, March 10th

Roy Young Band—Deb Hall.

"The Spinners"—Town Hall, 8 p.m. 40p-90p.

"Live Like Pigs"—Same as Thursday.

### Saturday, March 11th

Disco—Deb. Hall, 8 p.m.

Salena Jones—Barbarella's. Last night.

"Live Like Pigs"—Mason Drama Group, 8.15 p.m. 20p.

### Sunday, March 12th

Status Quo—Barbarella's.

Sunday Flic—"Wonderwall," Deb Hall, 7 p.m. 15p.

Nigel Dever—Bournbrook Folk Evening, 8 p.m.

Film Soc—"Rashamon", Haworth Lecture Theatre, 7 p.m.  
15p.

## CINEMA

Odeon New Street—"Straw Dogs" and "Strip Poker."  
L.c.p. 6.30 (not showing Thursday).

Odeon Ringway—"Nicholas and Alexandra". L.c.p. 7 p.m.  
Next week "Midnight Cowboy" and "Sunday Bloody  
Sunday."

ABC, New Street—"Love Story". L.c.p. 8.25 p.m.

Futurist—"The Deserter" and "Little Fauss."

Jacey—"Sexy Dozen" and "Anybody's". L.c.p. 6.50 p.m.

Cinephone—"Virgin on the Verge" and "He's at it again".  
L.c.p. 7.25 p.m.

Gaumont—"Fiddler on the Roof". L.c.p. 7.15 p.m.

Arts Lab—Revolutionary Film Festival. See Arts Lab  
programme.

## THEATRE

Birmingham Repertory—"Vivat, Vivat Regina" and "Man  
and Superman" on Monday and Wednesday.

Alexandra Theatre—"Perchance to Dream", by Ivor  
Novello. Until March 13th.  
March 13th-20th: "Me Times Me".

Canon Hill—"A Collier's Friday Night" by D.H. Lawrence.

Crescent Theatre—"Edipus Rex" & "Fratricide Punished".

## GALLERY

Compendium—Alex Mann, paintings, Upper Gallery.  
Claire Spencer, paintings, Centre Gallery.  
Until March 25th.

Ikon—Marc Chaimowicz, "Waste"; "Celebration"; "Piece".  
Until March 11th.

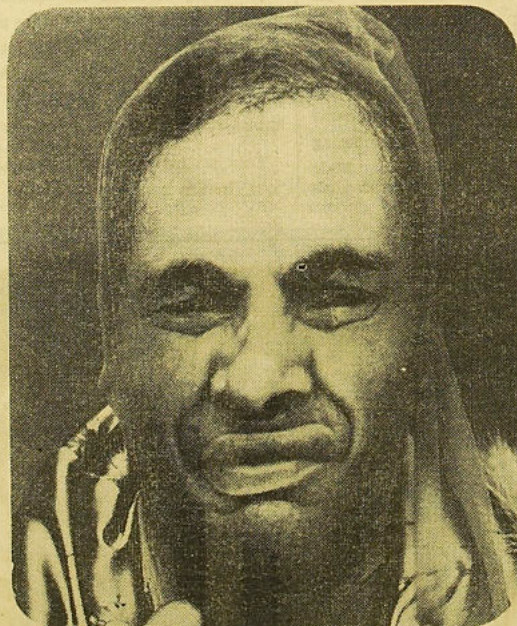
R.S.A., Birmingham—Oil painting and sculpture from  
March 13th.

Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery—Modern French  
Tapestries until April 9th.

Canon Hill—Modern photography. Until March 26th.



Violence erupts in "Straw Dogs," Odeon New Street.



"Memories of Underdevelopment" —  
the Arts Lab.