

20,000 students take part in the demonstration against the Thatcher Plan



Disappointing Demonstration

Words: RUSSELL BRYANT Pictures: GARY MARKS

UNINSPIRED and predictable were the main characterising features of Sunday's "Hands Off Student Unions" demonstration in London. About 20,000 students from all over the country were disgorged from various modes of transport at Speaker's Corner prior to the march. No speeches were made at this stage but a punch-up broke out involving Ed Straw, of the N.U.S. Executive.

The march was headed by Digby Jacks and Stan Broadbridge (President ATTI) and proceeded in very orderly and disciplined style to Trafalgar Square. The police exercised strict control of the nine columns of marchers and there was only one arrest.

At Trafalgar Square the dozen or so speakers had very little constructive comment to make and the rally lacked any form of atmosphere.

A U.C.S. shop steward opened the rally and mentioned that a particular university had made a £557 donation to the Clydebank fund, and in turn the U.C.S. workers were making a donation of £8,000 to the miners.

The Student Union financing issue was hardly mentioned in this speech but the message was definitely that of defeating the Tories.



CLINTON-DAVIS

Stan Broadbridge of the ATTI made a swift analysis of the Thatcher Plan and concluded that the Government was either trying to save money, or weaken our position in Higher Education.



In an interview with "Redbrick" afterwards, he said that the ATTI would be liaising with the NUT, TUC and NUS in order to provide as much support for the students as possible. He foresaw a subtle manoeuvre by the Tories later on in the year, probably with a Registrar in mind.

The only high spot of the afternoon was the reaction to Clinton-Davis, Labour M.P., by some of the students. Chants of "Labour out, Socialism in," completely destroyed Clinton-Davis's speech which could not even be gauged as favourable or unfavourable.

Afterwards he remarked that he was upset that he was not given a hearing, and believed that the students who chanted represented only a minority. He thought that the deferment of the Thatcher Plan represented a victory for the students but they must not now become too complacent.

The main sentiment expressed by each speaker seemed uniform; unite with the miners, Upper Clyde and the Irish and throw out the Tories.

Digby Jacks however did speak on the point in question and said that the introduction of a Registrar would mean death to the Student Unions.

Presumably a more profitable experience will be had at the emergency conference called for two weeks' time by the NUS.

News in brief

Honorary degrees

SEVEN well-known eminent persons will be receiving honorary degrees at the Degree Congregations to be held in July 1972. Mr. William Edmund Kenrick, who will receive an honorary L.D., comes from a family which has been instrumental in establishing the institutions of higher education in Birmingham. He himself is a former Governor of Birmingham College of Art and Design and is at present a Governor, and the Chairman, of Birmingham Polytechnic, having been deeply involved in its creation. Mr. Kenrick is also a Life Governor of this University.

A gentleman whose work has affected everybody in Birmingham is Mr. Neville Borg, the City Engineer and Surveyor, who will be receiving an honorary D.Sc. Mr. Borg is in charge of one of the largest urban reconstruction and renewal schemes in Europe. He has been responsible for a total expenditure of £200-million on major schemes and improvements during recent years. He is an honorary lecturer in this University and has strong links with the Department of Transport and Environmental Planning with which he has co-operated over many years.

Professor E. R. Dodds, the acknowledged doyen of Greek scholars in the United Kingdom, will receive an honorary D.Ch., at least three of his books have acquired the status of classics. Professor Dodds was Professor of Greek in this University for 12 years from 1924-1936, and he has kept up his interest ever since, opening the Faculty of Arts building in 1960, and recently giving the lecture which inaugurated the new School of Hellenic and Roman Studies in that Faculty.

Professor Michael Knowles (better known as Dom. David Knowles, O.S.B.) will also receive the degree of D.Litt. He ranks among the half-dozen or so of the most eminent English historians of this century, his special field being medieval and monastic history.

This year's President of the B.M.A. and a former President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Sir John Peel, will be awarded with a D.Sc. He has close connections with this University and has been a past External Examiner to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

☆☆☆

Guild Council by-elections

THE nominations for Guild Council By-Elections opened last Monday, because of vacancies for first-year undergraduate and postgraduate councillors. Nominations will close next Monday at 10 a.m., followed on Thursday by elections.

It should be remembered that everything in the Students' Union and Athletic Union is controlled (for better or worse!) by students. If you are interested or feel you can help improve the Union you should stand for election to Guild Council. This body, composed of over 100 students, has the final responsibility for all Union activities, although it is often concerned with the more political side of student life.

Debates have included such subjects as the formulating of student policy on the Thatcher Consultative Document, Rhodesia, Guild Commission, Review Body Report, Hall Food, etc., etc. Guild Council also elects most representatives on University Committees.

The time spent as a Guild Councillor varies considerably. As a guide, Guild Council meetings are held fortnightly on Tuesdays at 5.15 p.m. and generally last about two hours. It is also most important to talk to, and listen to, members of the department you represent, to find out their opinions.

All the official details of the Elections have been posted at selected places and nomination forms can be found at Reception, in the Union.

'redbrick'

OVER the past few years student journalism has suffered a decline in numbers and more specifically "Redbrick" has felt the effects of a reduced staff. No-one would dispute the utility of a campus newspaper which offers facilities for an exchange of information and viewpoints, and the opportunity to present news and features in a concise newspaper.

However for "Redbrick" to be efficient and effective in its coverage and production it must be sufficiently staffed and utilised.

One of the main difficulties confronted by the Editorial Staff is the gaining of sufficient information from the innumerable parts of the University for wide news coverage. What is really required is a network of students who are willing to report on any items they feel topical within a certain area or field. In other words "Redbrick" needs correspondents.

A larger problem also confronts the staff of "Redbrick" at present, namely the recruiting of sufficient replacement staff for next year. There is no doubt that the jobs of the Editor, Business Manager, Reviews, Features and Sports Editors, necessitate a degree of commitment and hard work.

The roles of the Editor and Business Manager can cause the holder's academic course to suffer and hence cannot be sustained for longer than a year, or maybe even a term. Possibly "Redbrick" should be fortnightly or the staff should hold office for a term. Whatever the answers the problem is who is going to take over?

If you're interested in the future of "Redbrick" or if you wish to help in any way, there will be a full staff meeting at 1 p.m., Friday, January 28th, in the office. All correspondence concerning "Redbrick's" future will be welcome.

The Editor and Staff send their best wishes to Andy Holden and hope that a swift recovery is forthcoming.

Chunderful

Avoiding the issue

NOTHING conceives but excess. Or so the University Centre Committee, the governing body of the Refectory seems to think. Nearly three years ago it was suggested by students that contraceptives be available in the building. After blushes amongst University administration and hasty assurances to over-anxious parents that THAT sort of thing did not happen at Birmingham, a selection of the nicer durable were discreetly placed in the Barber's Shop in the Refectory. However, student promiscuity, excited by the victory, continued its onslaught and demanded vending machines in the toilets. Horror among the University powers—think who might walk in and see them. The matter was deferred meeting after meeting. Firstly it was just plain-nasty to have such machines; secondly, contraceptive machines might detract from the good name of the University. Thirdly, there were difficulties over supply and maintenance. However, perseverance has won the day; last Wednesday two gleaming machines appeared dispelling any further misconceptions.

Poster thief

THE University snatch squad seem this term to have moved their centre of operations from the Guild of Students building to the Refectory Snack Bar. Handbags, wallets and books have been carefully removed from student portfolios while the unsuspecting have been deeply engrossed in trendy discussion solving the world's problems. Perhaps the coup of the week, however, came at the end of last week. Mr. Humbert, the catering officer, in order to combat the Refectory Snack Bar crime gang, put up some very attractive police posters stating, "Watch out, there's a thief about." Within a day three of these had been removed without trace. It seems as if our campus thieves have narcissistic tendencies.

Geog your memory

THE students in the Department of Geography are beautiful. Few would deny this, particularly a certain Professor in the Department. Last week at one of his inspiring lectures which are said to evoke in the recipients such joy and ecstasy that they rarely attend, Professor Thorpe produced a series of photos of his students. Waving this latter-day rogues' gallery at the amazed Adonises he proceeded to explain that this new teaching aid was required to check if all the photogenic Geographers actually turned up to his tirades to pick up the proverbial pearls. Indeed, the tradition of using photographs to check on people a well-established Continental habit—Rohm and Goering would have approved.

redbrick staff

Editor	- - - -	RUSSELL BRYANT
Features	- - - -	GARY MARKS
Reviews	- - - -	PAUL AND GINETTE
Sport	- - - -	ANDY HOLDEN
Redbreast	- - - -	BARBARA SLOMNICKA
Around	- - - -	GINETTE AND PAUL
Photography	- - - -	JOHN REDFERN
Artist	- - - -	MIKE HORSEMAN
Business	- - - -	NICK BOOKER

HELP & CONTRIBUTORS

ROD PLAYFORD	PAULINE MUNDY
JOHN GROAKE	LINDA STROVER
DAVE PARRY	ANDREW GRAINGER

The Editor does not necessarily agree with the views expressed by the contributors. 021 472 1841 ext. 34

Are you a member of RESEARCH STAFF?

If you are a member of research staff you will have received a questionnaire on your conditions, aspirations and attitudes. The Research Staff Association asks all its members to fill in and return the forms as a good response will make the survey much more effective in replacing speculation on the situation of research staff with facts. This is the more important at the moment while the University is contemplating far-reaching changes in its structure which could benefit research staff.

(Spare copies of the Questionnaire can be obtained from Dr. A. B. Clayton, Transportation).

Droppings in Trafalgar Square

WHEN the editor of this noble news-sheet begged me (all right, I begged him—what's the difference?) to write an independent piece about January 23rd, it seemed to be a good opportunity to get the facts straight for once. Not that "Redbrick" isn't normally concerned with straight facts, indeed sometimes they get them almost accurate, but it seemed predictable that the paper would concern itself with what went on in Trafalgar Square and, as must be apparent to everyone, the least important thing that happened on January 23rd happened in Trafalgar Square.

No, if I was to have anything to do with the "Redbrick" account of events it must be as an independent witness... as neither participant in the march or official reporter. (He did it as both—Ed.) So, let us begin at Hyde Park Corner where the gallant brigade were led off by representatives of Welsh universities (why Wales?). Very exciting. Off down Regents Street, with the thoughtful Mr. Jacks ordering a slow pace, so that, presumably, everybody got a chance to look at the sale bargains in C. & A.

At 1.15 we were passing Selfridge's, where the Dingley-Dell chimed of the clock provided an uneasy accompaniment to a ditty sung(?) by some members of the cavalcade which, if I recall correctly, commanded someone unknown to have carnal knowledge of Mrs. Thatcher. Even at the time this seemed a pretty nasty punishment on whoever would have to do it, but let it pass.

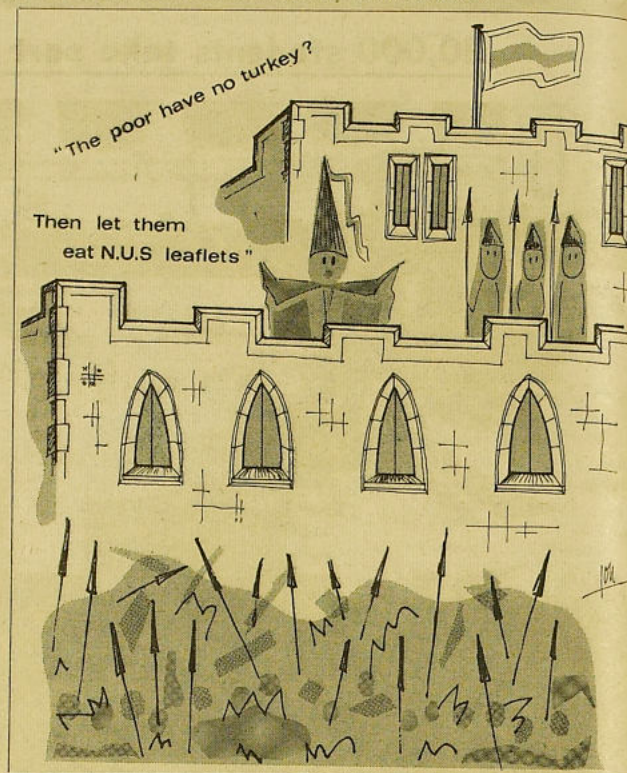
At about 1.30 an observant young lady in front of me was heard to remark that the only reason the police were leading the procession with a van was to try and kill us all before we got to the Square, an idea which seems less silly every time one thinks of it.

At 1.55 the time had come for some personal initiative. So, assisted by the editor (well, led by the editor). I questioned the public at large on the day's events. And what a funny lot they were. Most had never heard of (a) Mrs. Thatcher's plan, (b) Mrs. Thatcher. One Scottish lady spluttered through her dentures that students should not waste the money the Government gives them for education. "The money is not given for education—it's meant to be used on the unions," say we. "Then the Government wants their heads examined!" replies she, making a statement which has the unique ability to be truthful but ungrammatical at the same time.

And so on to the Square where, mingling with the other Press lads, we learned by accomplished ear-holding that Ron of the "Telegraph" was going to be late. Shame: There followed the demo. A peaceful little affair, with the assembled multitude quite attentive except for howling down Mr. Stanley Clinton Davis, M.P., who said, I think, something to offend them. (The public address was grotty so one can't be sure).

Two students decided that their own particular protest could be made only by jumping in the fountains and taking their trousers down. If there was symbolism there it evaded. The only surprise of the

afternoon was the arrival, prior to the talk starting, of a coffin, purporting to be the coffin of student unions. This seemed to me to be a failure totally unbecoming such a defiant occasion.



LETTERS

DEAR SIR,—In answer to the recent announcement by Mr. Martin O'Shea in the *Telegraph* to stand for the Presidency of the Guild, we the undersigned now believe it is right to declare the reasons why we are standing.

The coalition Presidency which we represent will have a number of main objectives.

- (1) To refund any money left over at the end of the year from Guild subscriptions to certain underprivileged and needy folk, i.e. us.
- (2) To redevelop and expand "Redbrick" under present editorship, to become a compelling social document and electrifying purveyor of up-to-the-minute news, views, interviews and mystery voice challenge standing at £15 worth of Government bonds.

- (3) To declare Mrs. Thatcher's hat an historical monument and game reserve, with membership of the club exclusive to students.
- (4) To abolish all lame ducks in the Guild—goodbye External Affairs, Welfare, Events, Camival, John (Nosh) Ringguth, Education, etc., etc.
- (5) The re-creation of a Guild elite comprising of the undersigned. This letter is written in the full knowledge that the views and electoral manifestoes of a collection of ambitious, publicity-seeking, self-abusing, power-mad morons, like us will not be of any interest to anyone but ourselves.

Yours faithfully,

L. Beaumont, Esq.,
P. J. 'Hermes' Hitchener,
Kingsley Manning (Retd.),
Jimmy Tightzacks,
R. Playford (Again),
N. Clarke,
Mr. Michael Gordon,
Miss Ann Davies,
Mr. John Tustinoutlover,
J. MacFie.

LIBERALLY DEFENDED

I DON'T know whether you know this, but the University clock, or "Jo," as it is called after Mr. Grimond, has a very closely-guarded secret. I have often gazed wistfully at Jo, waiting for it to fall down, but I had never imagined that it was anything other than an unpunctual timepiece. Until recently, that is.

It seems that, apart from chiming quietly to itself, Jo is helping to strengthen Britain's air defences. By a system of microwaves, beamed from reflectors behind the clock faces, Jo links the University computer to an undisclosed receiver situated somewhere in Stirling. Also involved in the link-up is Birmingham Airport, the University Health Centre, and another undisclosed receiver in Stirling. By means of this electronic network, centering upon Jo, it is possible to link all the receivers with the computer.

When I tried to find out why this had all been set up, I met a wall of silence, in the form of a Mister Ivor Bladder, spokesman for the operation. His only statement was

that it was to do with the piece of bacon found at the bottom of "Jo." He then stormed off, muttering something about an Unidentified Flying Object.

Toeing the line

The sports centre has added a new item to the list of articles that can be hired from the fee of 15p a foot, wooden legs must surely be a step in the right direction.

When I spoke to the porter, a stooping man with a racking cough, he said: "You'll have to speak up a little, mate—the battery in me deaf aid's flat." Anyway, I tried

a game of tennis with one of these wooden legs. I must say it's unusual—but don't expect it to return your service.

ADVERT.: Would the person who left a fried egg as a bookmark in "Humour in Speech" in the main Library, please collect from me, as I have no further use for it.

'SNIPPITS'

By DERIK BISHOP

Narrow minded students

The water lies still and tranquil, and gently simmers in the sun, as you look out of your study bedroom at 8.45 a.m. for a nine o'clock lecture. Yes, this might just happen to you. I have the pleasure to reveal that plans are under way to build floating halls of residence, to float on the canal that runs past the University. Imagine being able to lie in bed until 15 minutes before that lecture. No longer will lecturers become harassed as tired students clump their way into a lecture late. No, with Barge Halls, it will be the student who will herald the late arrival of his lecturer with cries of "Shame" or "Walnuts."

Already, the first purpose-built Halls-that-float is taking shape in a secluded backwater on the Client Hills.

Each "Barge Hall" will have its own President, or "Captain", who will have the customary nautical privileges—keel-hauling, walking the plank and the cat-o-nine-tails. It seems that Halls could at last become fun.

By the way, the press-gang will be calling at the Union during Lent.

ZIMBABWE: SETTLEMENT OR SELL-OUT?

BY JOHN BUTCHER

DURING 1971, a series of discussions were held involving Mr. Ian Smith, Premier of the illegal Rhodesian regime; Sir Alec Douglas-Home, British Foreign Secretary; and Lord Goodman—the British Foreign Office's chief messenger boy. These discussions culminated in November, 1971, in the publication of a White Paper which proposes a basis for a settlement which would grant formal independence to Rhodesia under the leadership of Ian Smith and his fellow supporters of white supremacy.

It was this white élite who voluntarily opted for the rôle of highwaymen when they announced the Unilateral Declaration of Independence on November 11th, 1965. Their illegal act was a blow struck for the preservation of the princely standard of living which they regard as the natural due and preserve of the few white men in the country. Theirs is the rule of a privileged, racist minority.

After U.D.I. the British passed the Southern Rhodesia Act declaring the territory to be under the jurisdiction of the Parliament and Government of the U.K. A further Act declares that any constitution adopted by Rhodesia is null and void. This situation has been the basis upon which no country has formally recognised Rhodesia as a sovereign state. However, South Africa and Portugal (through Mozambique) have consistently acted to support the Rhodesian economy in the face of a U.N. boycott on trade. They have also lent military assistance in the face of guerrilla activity.

On March 2nd, 1970, a new Republican Constitution was enacted in Rhodesia. This constitution excludes majority rule, and separates the franchise on a specifically racial basis, increasing the importance of tribal chiefs, whose rôle is seen to be compliant with, and complementary to, the aims of Smith's Rhodesia Front party.

PRINCIPLES?

Sir Alec says the present settlement proposals are in line with the famous five principles, which he himself formulated in 1963-64 as the basis for any settlement with the rebel regime. However, it is important to emphasise that where the principles refer to "improvement" or "progress" they take as their base-point the legal 1961 Constitution, approved by the British Government, and not the illegal Republican Constitution referred to above. The present proposals have

As to whether the present proposals abide by the five principles—a cursory glance is all that is needed to see that Sir Alec (also of Munich and Suez fame) has sold out yet again. (1) Can an agreement without a time-table and without a defined time-limit for majority rule be satisfactory to the now disfranchised African majority?

The Five Principles

- (1) Unimproved progress to majority rule.
- (2) Guarantees against retrogressive amendment of the Constitution.
- (3) Immediate improvement in the political status of the African population.
- (4) Progress towards ending racial discrimination.
- (5) Any basis proposed for independence must be acceptable to the people of Rhodesia as a whole.

A sixth principle added by the Labour Government and now the policy of both parties stated: It would be necessary to ensure that, regardless of race, there was no oppression of majority by minority or of minority by majority.

IAN SMITH has said: "I don't believe in any of these principles; I don't believe they are principles in the first place."

ACTION!

ON December 29th, 1971, the Anti-Apartheid Movement called a meeting in London to discuss action which could be taken to counter the Government's proposals. This meeting was attended by representatives from a wide range of organisations, including trade unions, political parties from Britain and Zimbabwe, the churches, immigrant groups in Britain, the N.U.S. and many others.

At this meeting Mike Terry, N.U.S. secretary, proposed that a Rhodesia Emergency Campaign Committee be set up whose approach to the situation would be based on the slogans, **No Independence Before Majority Rule**, and **Support the Struggle of the Zimbabwe People**. This proposal was overwhelmingly accepted. Stuart Hall of Birmingham University and Rev. Dr. Colin Morris of the Methodist Church were elected joint chairmen of the committee.

N.U.S. has placed its full support behind the R.E.C.C. and asked that all individual unions should do likewise. It is very important that we do not give the Government the impression that students' involvement in issues of such tremendous significance as independence for the

people of Zimbabwe is in any way lessened by the threats of the consultative document. Indeed this is an ideal opportunity to emphasise our demand for the right to fight. There will be a General Meeting of the Guild at 1.15 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2nd, to discuss a motion on the Rhodesia situation. The following Wednesday, February 19th, at 7 p.m., Bishop Muzorewa will be speaking at a debate on the settlement to be held in the Union. The Bishop is head of the African National Council, which is a Zimbabwe nationalist party recently formed with the specific aim of fighting the settlement proposals.

On the evening of Thursday, February 10th, a teach-in is to be held in the Council Chamber on the state of affairs in Southern Africa

as a whole and on Sunday, February 13th, there will be a major national demonstration in Trafalgar Square to show our opposition to the settlement proposals. Other films and talks will also be organised and your support for all these activities is very important. A petition is being circulated to be signed by all those who deplore any settlement in Zimbabwe before majority rule. This petition is to be handed to the Government on March 21st, which is the U.N. International day for the elimination of racial discrimination. So far the story of Rhodesia has been that of the temporary triumph of might over right. Let us work now for justice in Rhodesia and the establishing of an independent Zimbabwe.

Most Rhodesians now living will never see majority rule.

(2) On the question of retrogressive amendments to the constitution, once we have abandoned our legal claim to sovereignty we will be even more powerless in the matter than now; there is nothing to stop the Rhodesia Front following its own precedent and acting illegally!

(3) Any improvement in the political status of the African population is supposed to be an improvement in the status they held in the 1961 Constitution. The Republican Constitution has more than halved their electoral power and the apparatus of a police state has been created to repress them. The proposals hold out the immediate prospect of no more than the restoration of two (or at most four) seats in Parliament.

(4) A Declaration of Rights is incorporated within the settlement proposals but it leaves untouched the major racist and repressive legislation and it subordinates all rights to the Government's interpretation of "public order and public security."

(5) On December 1st-2nd, 1971, the Houses of Parliament approved the settlement proposals and endorsed the Government's decision to put them to the people of Rhodesia for their judgment. This test of acceptability is being carried out not by a referendum after free discussion but by a Commission made up exclusively of Europeans under the chairmanship of Lord Pearce. The Commission is being serviced by the illegal regime, while the "aspects of a police state" (to quote Mr. Heath himself) remain intact and the national leaders remain in detention or gaol.

THE COMMISSION

Lord Pearce's brief is to "canvass as thoroughly and impartially as possible the views of all sections of Rhodesian opinion, including Rhodesians resident abroad or in detention." During this period, normal political activities are supposed to be permitted but, from what we have seen, it seems blatantly obvious that Mr. Smith's interpretation of "normal" is very peculiar.

That the banned political parties, including Z.A.N.U. and Z.A.P.U., would not be allowed to participate in "normal political activities" was, although deplorable, to be expected. But detaining your critics, sending security police to take notes at pub-

lic meetings, and excluding from the country those sympathetic to African opinion, is the type of activity which is regarded as normal only in countries such as South Africa and the Portuguese territories.

It seems that the sudden demonstration of African opposition to the Rhodesian regime has shaken the Smith Government's self-confidence for nearly ten years, the Africans inside Rhodesia have remained quiet to the point of apparent apathy. Now they are demonstrating their feelings outside and inside the tribal areas. The Salisbury Government responds by shooting demonstrators and detaining those sympathetic to their cause such as the ex-Premier Mr. Garfield Todd and his daughter Judy.

Sir Alec responds to the increasing disorder by sending another official to view the scene but he refuses to bring pressure to bear to allow a party of Labour M.P.s to visit the country.

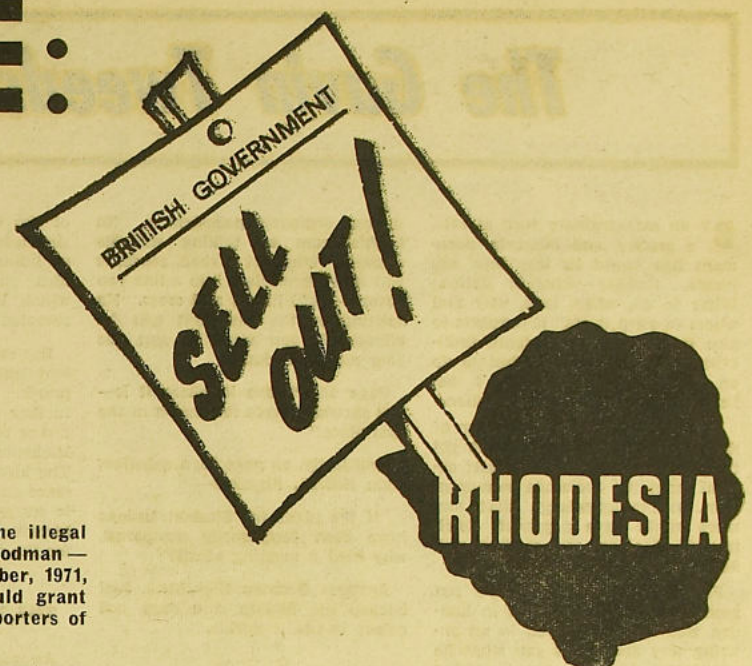
THE WAY FORWARD

There now seems little doubt that the settlement is not going to receive the popular acclaim that the Home-Smith duo had hoped for. But that is not the end of the matter. Continuing support for the struggle of the black people of Zimbabwe is vital. The settlement could only give them vague compromises which would keep them in a second-class limbo indefinitely.

Smith and his supporters do not only want independence, they want a right to racial dictatorship. We have a duty to see that there is no independence before a true and meaningful majority rule is established. Zimbabwe is of crucial importance, for the outcome there can determine the nature of the relationship between Europeans and coloured peoples, not only in Africa but throughout the world for many years to come.

If the illegal government is permitted to succeed, then millions of coloured people are going to conclude that the West's talk of racial equality is just hypocrisy. They will believe that whenever the interests of the white man conflict with those of the coloured man the West will support the white man.

Unless the British Government forces a morally just settlement in Rhodesia, serious violence will break out as the black majority fight to overthrow the Smith regime. This will lead to a bloody struggle as South Africa and Portugal lend support to the Rhodesian minority in a desperate bid to retain white domination in Southern Africa.



The Gavin Tweedsmuir Column

By an extraordinary turn of fate, a grubby and illiterate document has found its way into my hands. Headed—"Student Action: What to do, when, how, why and where to sleep it off," it purports to give instructions to students (militant or intelligent) on what to do on January 23rd—a day, I believe, designated as one of action.

The document lists a number of does and don'ts when students get to London. I quote only a brief extract from the ludicrous memorandum, in the knowledge that any more might have a gravely detrimental effect on my readers' well being.

For example—page 15—"Do not speak to any strange man in London who approaches you in an enticing way and offers you what he cunningly describes as 'a ticket for an interesting journey.' It is probably Paul Dodgson trying to palm off unsold return tickets."

Page 18—"All students will walk in single file at a pace not endan-

gering ordinary pedestrians. No bubble gum or talking will be allowed. When at a road, students will form themselves into a line two abreast—hold hands and cross. No spitting on the pavement will be allowed—if you want to spit see your section leader."

Page 22—"Leave it where it is—you shouldn't have touched it in the first place."

And lastly, on page 25, a question, from H.B.W., Physics:—

"If the plans for Student Unions have been temporarily postponed, why hold a meeting at all?"

Answer: Because the N.U.S. had booked the Square and dare not refuse to use it ducky.

Returning from Corfu to Birmingham I was immediately cheered and delighted to find that Mr. Martin O'Sheer Nonsense has declared himself a candidate for the Presidency

of the Guild. At last Martin has shown himself to have a great sense of humour. This is a very good idea since a certain organ with which he is associated has never revealed him in this light.

But even dear Martin did not content himself with this mischievous prank. He has taken his joke further by actually asking the rather eccentric person of Mr. Peter Hichener to support him in this bid. The idea of course, of Messrs. Nonsense and Hichener combining faces is enough to make even Kingsley Manning look a serious candidate for the job.

★ ★ ★
THE TWEEDSMUIR AWARDS
FOR 1971

Awarded each year to Guild personalities under the auspices of the Sir Hesketh (Noshier) Tweedsmuir Trust:—

(Nicest dinner of the year—Debsoc (ta).

Best dramatic actress in a tragic rôle—Anne Naylor.

Best dramatic actress in a comic rôle—Anne Naylor.

The most boring Guild Councillor of the year—(due to the abundance of material available, the trustees have yet to decide this one).

The Stuart King Memorial Award—awarded to the Stuart King Memorial.

The Redbreast Award for Outstanding Achievements in the World of Journalism—not awarded this year.

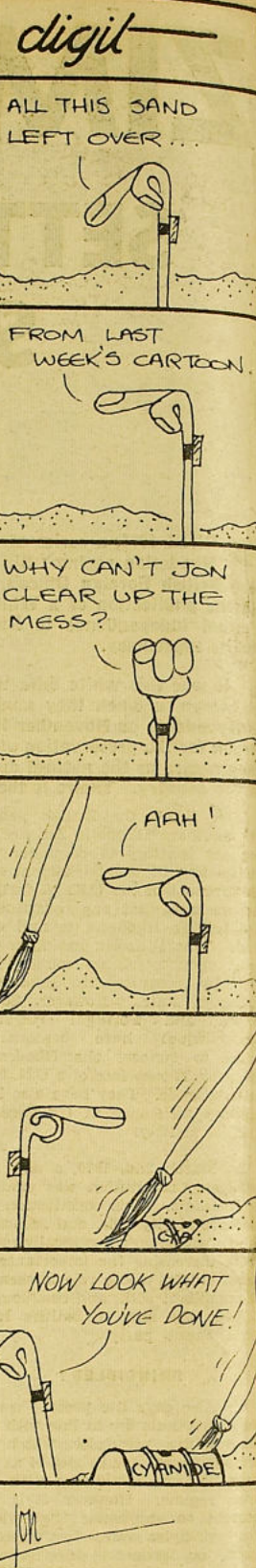
Most promising newcomer—awarded annually to Rod Playford.

The Grand Award for Outstanding Guild Intellectual of 1971—Gavin Tweedsmuir.

★ ★ ★

Quote of the Week:

"Edward Heath will be the most popular Prime Minister of the next 10 years." — Peter "Hermann" Hichener.



AIESEC DINNER — FEB. 3rd
Speaker: G. SMITH
(Regional Director of Ready-Mixed Concrete)
"The Social Role of Management"
Tickets:—
Members £1, Non-members £1.25
See Nick Booker, via P.H.S.

FREE COLOUR POP POSTER 20" x 30" with every article purchased
LOON PANTS Heavy cotton 26in.-28in. Flare trousers, inside leg 24in. SPECIAL OFFER: £2.55 (p & p free)
Waist sizes 26 to 34 (girls state hip size). COLOURS: Black, maroon, dark green, navy blue, light blue, khaki, purple, brown, burgundy and white. State second and third choice of colour. Enclose P.O. or cheque for £2.55 (p & p included) with your name and address (waist/hip size) and send to:
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redbreast LOOK before you leap!

BY BARBARA SLOMNICKA

It can hardly have escaped the notice of even the most unobservant that 1972 is a leap year—that time when by tradition the woman may propose to whichever young man she has set her sights on, be it by reason of his silky blonde locks, baby blue eyes, sensitive fingers or whatever. Perhaps she is even impressed with his mind! The only question, therefore, always presuming that you do not subscribe to the "modern" theory of marriage as an outdated bourgeois institution or else feel that a husband can only hinder the pursuit of the more worthwhile things in life—is how do you get him to accept?

Although it is an old convention that the woman waits for the man to propose, the waiting has never been passive. As one unusually perceptive male once said: "The woman awaits the man. Yes, but just as the spider waits for the fly," and unless you're the sort of girl (not so numerous as imagined) towards whom men rotate trustingly even when sober, you have to learn how to attract them—and very few men are capable of being attracted without a great deal of heavy assistance.

But who can say that the woman is not right to lure into marriage the one man who, she thinks, mistakenly or otherwise, can ensure them both real happiness. True, she is sometimes forced to manoeuvre in a slightly devious fashion, but this is only because the man, jealous of what he regards as his "liberty" is soon suspicious and on the defensive.

This, then, is for the woman plunged suddenly into the situation where she finds herself sitting nervously next to a criminally gorgeous specimen of virile manhood, be it at a dinner party, in a pub or what-

Naturally she'd like to see him again. Whether he would like to see her again is immaterial. But how? The Victorians had the dropping of lace handkerchiefs down to a fine art, but what gentleman today would dream of stooping for a snotty, dirty, make-up, lipstick-ridden paper tissue.

No, the key to the masculine attitude is pride. All men are proud and incurably vain, moreover Girardoux proved that however ugly a man might be, if a woman finds him handsome, he is always ready to believe it.

Flatter the beast, for the shortest cut from friendship to marriage depends on the interest a woman shows for the man, his work, his interests, hopes and aspirations and her admiration of the same.

Fix him with a basilisk gaze. Ask him what he does. For a living that is. Whatever the reply, raise your eyebrows without disturbing too drastically the pure symmetry of your forehead, open your eyes as wide as your eyelids will comfortably permit, flutter your eyelashes helplessly at him and say... "No, but how fascinating," or something equally encouraging.

A man's interests can usually be deducted from his occupation. If he likes what he's doing you're well on your way, if he doesn't then ask him what he does when he does like what he does.

Either way remain sadly withdrawn and deeply compassionate which is much more attractive than admitting you always thought Etruscan Relico were Very Old Mesopotamians.

If marriage is your objective, you must learn to listen to your Chosen One when he talks of himself or his work. Be it in love or politics, success in life awaits those who don't mind being bored... And even more those who suffer boredom with a look of rapture.

Occasionally interrupt the monologue with witty intelligent comments, to be adapted needlessly to suit different circumstances. Thus "Did you really get seven-and-a-half votes for the Guild Commission? will do admirably for the would-be politician, while if the love of your life is a farmer, you'll show a passionate interest in



from 'vous' to 'tu', from 'Mr.' to 'Jim', it's darling and come to my place in the first hour."

Like many time-savers, small pleasures are sacrificed: you travel fast, but you miss the pleasures of the flowers of the road-side. And when you get there, what do you remember of the trip? No, the sophisticated woman does not tip the man's hand too soon, she savours the moves of the game, until urgent reasons impel him to quick dis-closure."

Which brings me to advice on what you've all been waiting to hear about—SEX. Two possible paths are relevant here. If uncertain, you may feel it best to withhold the summit of your man's aspirations, like a carrot to be dangled before the nose the wedding ring must slip through, otherwise if you are confident that your seductive wiles can keep him firmly grovelling at your feet for more...

Either way, a final point deserves consideration. As one man said, albeit anonymously: "It begins with a prince kissing an angel. It ends with a bald-headed man looking across the table at a fat woman." Having succeeded, are you sure you can face the same man over the Corn Flakes every day for the next forty years...

How can he do that with a wife and children?

Marrying means giving up adventure in more than one sense. It is saying farewell to the mentality of adolescence. It means duty, obligation and work and the men are scared.

They are therefore, all the more likely to follow the principle of "love them and leave them" and it is here that the wise woman exercises caution.

This is made considerably easier by the fact that the approaches of our home-grown stereotypes differ only in the crudity of their application and the fact that too often they are impelled by alcohol (drop into Mermaid one night if you don't believe me).

I for one, have never considered the amorous lunch a compliment, nor the mumbled repetition of certain endearments accompanied by uncertain groping. I am bored by a man so simple, or so unsure that he can only approach a woman by the chemical solvency of his inhibitions.

Reticence and sophistication go hand in hand, for discovery is one of the joys of life: the gradual peeling of layers. It is perhaps a pity that the demoralisation of society has accelerated this process to Instant Intimacy or "Intimacy." "Instant" of a relished progression

SEE OPPOSITE PAGE

Equality in higher education

DESPITE the impression created by Mrs. Thatcher's recent antics, the Government is publicly committed to "equal opportunity for all." This must mean equality in education above all, and some progress has been made with comprehensive schools and so on. The debate about grammar schools indicates that substantial numbers of people are both aware and interested in what is happening.

But this is not true of higher education. We at the University are part of an elite in education. We are the whizz-kids who bring a gleam to the eye of the industrialists and politicians as they reach for their chequebooks. The other colleges are largely ignored. In particular the 28 polytechnics are forgotten, although there are around 100,000 students at them, compared with 250,000 in universities.

The polytechnics were created as "second-string" universities by the Labour Government in 1966; they clail tight-fistedness, although there are well over 40,000 doing degree courses in polytechnics. How can these students be expected to get

proper degrees with the poor facilities provided?

Let us take some examples. Contrast the cramped conditions and

gymnastics and games, because lack of money forced a late change in design, with lecture halls over the sports hall.

Examples like these can be found around the country with depressing frequency. If they are to continue to award degrees, then their facilities must be rapidly improved to university standard. We may complain about our union, library or

that the Union, with its greater resources, will take the campaign under its wing.

For those who want figures, the best I have been able to find are as follows: In 1968-69, the running expenses of universities were £242m. for 217,000 students, while for the remaining 340,000 in polytechnics, technical and other kinds of college, including teacher training, the total expenditure was £199m. This is roughly twice as much for each university student as for the rest, at about £1,100 a year per university student (last year the figure was £1,500 per student at Birmingham). While it would be dangerous to try to conclude too much from these figures, especially as the Government does not publish separate figures for polytechnics (an official cover-up?), they do indicate unequal treatment.

The Guild Council resolution comes before the Senate within a few days. Whatever the result, your support will be needed to carry this campaign. We ask you to work for equality amongst students, to care for people less fortunate than ourselves, and to do something to help them. There will be further information in a later article, and no doubt there will be meetings, leaflets, and various forms of demonstrations. We ask you to give your support.

department, but they are princely compared with what is available at many polytechnics. The present system must end.

Last term Guild Council passed by a large majority a resolution proposed by the Young Liberals opposing the present system and calling upon the University to take steps to assist the polytechnics specifically to share our library (including the right of polytechnic students to borrow our books). We already share Union facilities.

Subsequent attempts to rouse some interest in this problem received a small response, due to ignorance, apathy and feelings of self-interest which can be summed up as "It's not my problem, why should I bother?"

If we were a polytechnic, there would be unrest about the poor treatment received compared with universities. The N.U.S. has asked our University, as part of a national effort, to campaign on this unequal two-part education system. By the time this appears in print, the Union President will have discussed how to mount the campaign with the Young Liberals, and it is likely

CARNIVAL QUEEN COMPETITION

Sun-drenched golden sands, exotic night life and a taste of paradise, can all be yours, if you enter now for the Carnival Queen Competition. Yes—if you've got the personality we desire, a holiday for two in jewelled Jersey, the island of fun, frolic and sunshine, plus other fantastic prizes, can be yours. Enter now, remember all entries must be in by January 31st.

ENTRY FORM

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Entries must include a full-length photo. Also:—

- 1.—Name and age
- 2.—Address (and Tel. No. if any)
- 3.—Occupation
- 4.—Hobbies
- 5.—Other interests
- 6.—Any other information

I agree to abide by the decision of the Judges.

Signed

RULES

- (1) Entrants must be resident in the Birmingham Area. College and University students resident for a course qualify for entry.
- (2) Entrants must be between the ages of 17 and 23.
- (3) Twelve entrants will be selected to take part in the finals at Birmingham Union, on February 12th.
- (4) The winner will be required to fulfil the duties of the office during or before Carnival Week.
- (5) Entries to be submitted to: "The Carnival Queen" Organiser, Carnival Office, Students' Union, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15, or Aston University, Gosta Green, Birmingham 4.
- (6) The closing date for entries is January 31st.
- (7) The winner will receive a fabulous holiday for two in Jersey, but not the cash equivalent.

STUDENTS—SPECIAL ANIMALS?

by JIM AUKETT

THE health service is one of the most comprehensive of any university in the country. It provides diagnoses and treatments, from a simple word of comfort, to a major surgical procedure, if it is not trusted or used correctly.

In the near future, the health service is conducting a survey of student health on this campus, with the ultimate aim in mind of providing facilities, and knowledge of facilities offered on this campus.

But do students get the specialist facilities, despite this contention that they do not qualify for special treatment. In this article, we are going to prove that students are a special case, and that we do qualify for a specialist service.

Apron strings

A student embodies a rare perfection and fragility. Like the thoroughbred racehorse, the thoroughbred student is a creature of the family unit, the happy family spirit, the absence of loved ones, brothers, sisters, friends to whom in the past you have been able to turn in times of need for intimate confidential advice for assistance, or even just a friendly word, perhaps just someone with whom to have a drink, these are all gone, must all be forgotten and discarded as relics of the past, history, put down to experience, and gone, unthanked.

The student is alone amongst the metropolitan majesty of the university campus; a stranger on the shore of a new life, of a vast ocean of experience and knowledge, of a mighty cauldron of relationships and hardships, alone.

A child when he sees the sea for the first time, with no previous experience to guide him, either accepts the challenge of the seemingly infinite vastness, or is afraid, and turns back to his mother for protection, for comfort, for help.

Similarly, a student, faced with the same frightening vastness of the future, with no similar previous experience, has no-one to turn to, no familiar face or voice, no friendly smile of recognised assurance, no store of past knowledge, just a void. A huge infinite void of empty vastness. A devastating experience to the new freshman.

On top of the mundane experience of loneliness and rejection, the student creature now has to fend for himself. No more will mummy tell him that he's going out with the wrong sort of girl, no more will daddy warn about strange men, lifts in cars, sweets offered, boyfriends, girlfriends, attack and problem which started this episode becomes a real psychological or psychiatric episode with the associated problems of overall depression, nervous breakdown, and medical conditions.

Were the student to have a slight insight into the severity of the minor fits of depression and upset, this circle could be cut, or perhaps never started, and ended before the ultimate effects make themselves apparent, before the trend becomes almost irreversible, before the student destroys himself completely.

If the students on the campus could be educated in the basic fundamentals of their own needs, if less time was spent by the Students' Union in educating students in the poverty and insufficiency of the rest of the world, and a small amount of time and energy devoted to ensuring their own academic and social health, if the inter faculty essay study periods were put aside by the University, and the time devoted to more

with their cheap meals limit the student financially to one meal a day, leaving other meals to be prepared by the "do-it-yourself" method.

More pressure, less time, and increasing tension. All these have a deleterious effect on the mental constitution of the student. Together with an insufficient diet, pressure of essays to be handed in on time, tutorials to prepare, dissertations, theses, and finally, yes, finally, the ultimate realisation, exams to pass, these pressures can cause conditions in the student which, if undiagnosed and untreated, can cause severe difficulties and hardships to the student.

Effect at work

Having established the increased vulnerability of the student over the normal individual to the increased tensions and pressures of everyday life, the results of these forces are considerably more apparent in the student.

The mental health of a student is reflected in the quality of concentration at studies. If a student can concentrate and work well, everything is bright and happy for him.

If, on the other hand, some trivial mundane occurrence causes him to lose this concentration, then he becomes more worried, loses more concentration, cannot work sufficiently to satisfy himself, becomes more worried, more agitated, and his work suffers further.

As his work suffers, so he becomes more and more agitated, and a vicious circle is set up. This circle expands and increases in all dimensions until the trivial mundane problem which started this episode becomes a real psychological or psychiatric episode with the associated problems of overall depression, nervous breakdown, and medical conditions.

Were the student to have a slight insight into the severity of the minor fits of depression and upset, this circle could be cut, or perhaps never started, and ended before the ultimate effects make themselves apparent, before the trend becomes almost irreversible, before the student destroys himself completely.

If the students on the campus could be educated in the basic fundamentals of their own needs, if less time was spent by the Students' Union in educating students in the poverty and insufficiency of the rest of the world, and a small amount of time and energy devoted to ensuring their own academic and social health, if the inter faculty essay study periods were put aside by the University, and the time devoted to more

fundamental, less capitalistic materialistic studies, then the vicious circle would never join its ends in the first place.

The signs and symptoms of depression, of emotional upset, of slight irrationalities, of lack of concentration and difficulties with work, are not too difficult to recognise, and even if they are confused with the less serious day-to-day temperamental episodes of the highly-strung student, it doesn't really matter, for it is these day-to-day fits of depressive tendencies which can all too easily spark off the vicious circle, and thus initiate a serious response.

The important issue is that the student should be educated that this sort of condition is a medical illness which can and should be treated. How many students would walk around with raging toothache, with acute stomach pains, with a streaming cold, or a broken arm? Obviously not very many, yet students neglect their psychological disorders, fail to have them treated, even though they are as serious as, or even more serious than, their physical disorders.

But were the student to recognise these signs and symptoms, and be concerned about their psychological welfare, how many of them would know that services do exist to help them?

How many of you would know what to do were you to recognise that something of this nature was wrong with you? How many students ever see their personal tutor, or would turn to them for help in this sort of situation? How many students know that the Guild Chaplains are there, and can help in this sort of situation?

How many of the students know of the service offered by the Health Centre, by the Student Welfare Committee, by the University Student Welfare Advisor? How many students know how to contact the "Open Door," or the "Sanctuary"? The average university student is ignorant of the services offered, and of how to contact them.

Out of prison

One of the more far reaching permanent effects of the leaving from home, of the leaving of restrictions and parental captivity, is the utter freedom of habits, and the destruction of morals, and the increased time, availability, and opportunity for social activity.

No more is there the guilt feeling if the student is late home, perhaps three or four days in a row. No more does the student have to endure the presence of parents if he wants to take his newly-found acquaintance somewhere for coffee, and a quiet "talk." No more is parental restriction imposed upon the courting processes. No more the parental hand brought to amorous advances, through fear of intrusion and lack of privacy.

The only obstacle along the path of sexual harmony, leading to its ultimate end, is the moral code of the people involved, which comes from their parents, and from their parents' community anyway. The unfamiliar surroundings, and the uninhibited university life soon destroy the male's moral barrier to intercourse, and the female's physical and mental barriers are soon broken!

Thus although each individual may have the high moral codes of their previous society and community when they first come to university, once this controlling effect is no longer present, the moral code of those people is likely to change to the new uninhibited, permissive code of the university life.

Although there is no danger, no harm in the life which the student is now leading, although the male student is perfectly well provided, physically and mentally for the act, the female student is sometimes younger mentally than she is physically concerning her sexual life.

Having committed the irreversible insult to her young and tender body, she may be overcome by feelings of guilt, of having let herself down, and depression and emotional upset may follow, leading the unfortunate non-virgin into a work-interfering condition.

But however well the male and female students may be adapted, physically, mentally, morally, and circumstantially, sexual relationships may be marred by, in the first place inharmonious and unsatisfactory intercourse, or by pregnancy.

To whom does the student turn in times of difficult sexual relations? Students are traditionally suspicious of university tutors and may not wish to trust them with the confidentiality of such an issue, with the details of their personal lives; or with medical practitioners, who might be inclined to give them a lecture on the morals of the situation, rather than the advice necessary to correct their faults and to allay their grievances and misperceptions.

Outside organisations

Outside organisations, such as the Brook Clinic, the Family Planning Association, charge for consultations, and the impecunious student, even if he knows such services exist, will not be able to afford the luxury of a visit.

Feelings of frustration may build up; fears of inadequacy, of sexual imperfections, and of immaturity may lead to impotency, to insecurity and above all, to the worry and upset that may cause work-interfering conditions.

The ordinary lay person, whilst not perhaps coming to this situation via the same set of circumstances, may well arrive at the same situation, but, by being in familiar surroundings, with familiar people, a fact which in itself tends to delay these symptoms, knows of the facilities and services offered in the area, knows of the views and feelings of the doctors and advisors in his area towards pre-marital intercourse, and knows of the degree of confidentiality he can expect from them.

The student, in his strange new world, is ignorant of these mundane, usually parochial services, and has no-one to whom he can turn. This is when the situation starts to interfere with his work, and the vicious circle is set in motion.

Most of the present university students come from the period preceding this present enlightened trend towards sex education in

schools, and as such, may well be ignorant of the contraceptive devices and methods available, of their efficiencies, and inefficiencies.

Some students may have gone out of their way to educate themselves in this subject, but most people do not take an interest in this subject until the need arises, by which time it is too late anyway, and the first experience of sexual intercourse has already taken place, unprotected by any means, apart from luck. Contraceptive advice is freely available from a number of sources within the university and the Guild, but many students must feel the same about seeking this advice as they would about seeking advice on sexual relationships, as mentioned above, and are thus precluded from this service because of their own ignorance.

As before, if the students on the campus could be educated in the basic fundamentals of their own requirements, if less time were spent by the Students' Union in educating their members in the poverty and insufficiency of the rest of the world, and a small amount of time and energy devoted to ensuring their own academic and social health, if the inter faculty study essay period could be put aside by the University, and the time devoted to more fundamental, less capitalistic and materialistic studies, then sexual and contraceptive problems may never arise, and the work-interfering symptoms would never materialise to form the vicious circle.

Away from home

So basically, the problems arise with students because they are away from home, in unfamiliar surroundings, with unfamiliar people, and have a work load put upon them which they will never have exceeded before.

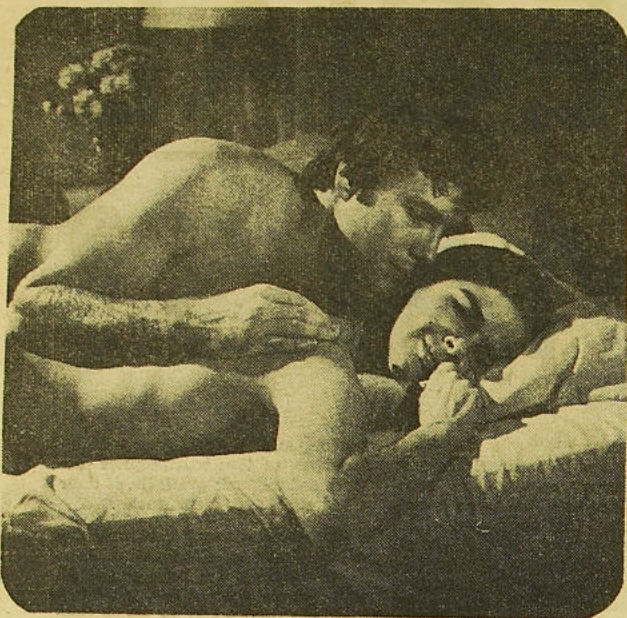
Most students start a new life at university, a new life which, with its associated freedom, brings problems of a new moral code, problems which concern simple matters like drinking and smoking, which concern more serious matters like drugs, like financial insufficiency, and problems of a more far-reaching nature, like the turn-about of sexual morality, possibly like the consequences of taking drugs, all of which add to this basic insecurity and the lack of foundation of the student.

Whatever the cause of the anxiety the effect is that it reflects on the work of that student, and ultimately on the future of the student. This is why students should be educated in the sciences of their own situation.

This is why students need the special facilities offered at Birmingham University. This is why the Health Centre at this University is one of the best centres in the country, and why the students are dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Confidentiality is a must in the medical profession, and if you find that the Health Centre have not respected your confidence in them, that they have given away one of your more intimate secrets, or have divulged the nature of your complaint, you are within your right to prosecute the doctor concerned, and the Guild of Students will back you and help you to do so.





"Love Story"—move to ABC New Street?



"Sonny Boy" by Incubus — Arts Lab



"Nicholas & Alexandra" — Gaumont.

—reviews—

cinema

IN general, cinema in Birmingham is only just recovering from the Christmas period, with new films beginning to trickle through again. However, the Gaumont has been showing "Nicholas and Alexandra" since Boxing Day. This Sam Spiegel and Franklin Schaffner production gives "the last of the Tsars" the big epic treatment.

The film centres around the relationship between Tsar Nicholas and his wife Alexandra from the birth of the Tsaravitch Alexis, through the 1917 revolution to the obliteration to the Romanov family. Overall, the tendency is to overdo the relationship at the expense of giving time to developing the conditions that the Russian peasants were suffering due to Nicholas's incompetence.

There is also a problem with length: by the end of the three hours there is little hope of sustaining the climax leading up to the killing of the family.

Nevertheless, with such a distinguished cast (the list is almost endless) "Nicholas and Alexandra" manages to hold its own despite the defects.

The most promising new film in the city this week is "Family Life" at ABC, New Street. This is the latest release from the Ken Loach and Tony Garnett team (makers of "Kes"). As with the Garnett's "Cathy Come Home", the intention is to stir public reaction and red tape indifference. In "Family Life" the cause is the young girl encountering the usual frictions at home, which gradually bear down on her. The breaking point comes when she is forced into having an abortion and results in her being admitted to a mental hospital.

The ABC Cinema continues with "Love Story" until February 5th, when it closes down for conversion to a triple cinema—a 600-seater for major films and two smaller theatres for other films. The success of double and triple cinemas has been proved in several cities but the non-central location of the Cinema may not make it such a viable proposition.

With the tremendous success of "Love Story" (in its eighth week and bookings still increasing) it is unlikely to leave Birmingham and may well move to ABC, New Street. Should this happen, the Futurist will take over ABC, New Street films that are about to be shown, including "Klute." The Cinema's conversion should be completed in three or four months.

The Jacoy is showing Peter Brooks's "King Lear" with Paul Scofield and Irene Worth, while the Futurist is showing "Murder in the Rue Morgue" and "The Return of Count Yorga."

The Carry On team strike again at the Odeon, New Street, with "Carry On At Your Convenience" (not showing Saturday).

THE new Arts Lab Cinema programme begins on February 7th following a break for theatre and music productions. The new programme is undoubtedly the most ambitious to date.

The first week opens with "Borsalino" and "Performance." "Performance," with Mick Jagger, has already made a brief showing in Birmingham, but it will be good to take it in again.

Sunday, February 13th, sees the start of the Lab's first major Film Festival. The emphasis will be on new films, some drawn from this year's London festival. The obvious attraction will be "Trash" from the Warhol-Morrisey team. "Trash" has been under much discussion by major film critics, who have been dismayed at the censor's refusal of a certificate. However, it would be unfair to single out any film from

this festival with such a wide range in content.

There are two films from Goddard—his unfinished "1 p.m." and his latest film, "Vent D'Est" made in conjunction with Daniel Cohn-Bendit and Glauber Rocha.

Other films in the impressive list include "The Valley" (Best Foreign Film 1971, "Films & Filming"), Mike Leigh's first feature film, "Bleak Moments," "Punishment Park," by Peter Watkins (of the "War Game") and "Bombay Talkie."

After another break for theatre at the end of February, the Cinema Clubs puts on a Festival of Revolutionary Films, including "Battle of Algiers," "Ice," "Quemada" and "Memories of Underdevelopment."

This is Birmingham's first (and long-awaited) attempt to get a festival atmosphere. Undoubtedly the Arts Lab have managed to get together an interesting selection of films. If the festival gets the support deserved, it is hoped to make it an annual event possibly extending it to other city cinemas as well. Could this be another drop of water in the cultural desert?

PAUL TAYLOR.

theatre

THE end of last week saw five performances of "All's Well That Ends Well" by the University's Department of Drama and Theatre Arts. The play got off to a shaky start with rather wooden, nervous acting, but with full credit to Jocelyn Powell's direction, the cast overcame their opening-night nerves by the interval, and one could sense their relief as well as the audience's, at the success of the difficult scene where three women watch and comment as "the Duke of Florence and whole army" encircle the stage with full pomp and ceremony.

One further minor criticism is that the stage movement of individual actors seemed, if anything, over-rehearsed in places, but taken as a whole, the strong reliance on movement in the production enhanced rather than detracted from the visual impact, and certainly utilised the extended stage to full advantage.

The acting was of an impressively high standard throughout, and indeed, Alison Sabourin as Helena, could not be faulted. A special mention of Steve Lacey as Parolles should also be made—he gave an extremely lively and comical presentation of the stock Shakesperian braggart character. The scene of his capture and improvised interrogation by the unrecognised lords of the court was magnificent.

Altogether this was a sensitive interpretation of a difficult play—an enjoyable performance.

ALI NEVILLE.

A ONE-WOMAN production might sound a little limiting, but Nancy Cole, at the Arts Lab a couple of weeks ago, certainly managed to hold her audience with her production of Gertrude Stein's "Gertrude Stein." If, as I was, you are completely ignorant of Gertrude Stein, she was an American philosopher/writer living in Paris around the time of the first world war. Nancy Cole's interpretation of her writings and acquaintances, built up a compelling picture of a woman who wrote in a style as unusual and vivid as that of Joyce.

The set was Stein's living room in Paris, with Nancy Cole switching between almost straight reading of pieces, enacting others and taking on the role of some of Stein's, now famous, close friends. The writings, and portrayals, of Picasso and Matisse were particularly expressive.

With the end of the show, the audience were invited to stay, if they wished, and discuss what they had seen and how they felt about Stein. Very few people left their

seats and there followed at least an hour of anecdotes and questions from both the audience and Nancy Cole. It is from such sessions that Cole derives new material to add to, or modify her production. People who had met, or had relations who knew Stein often attend. Perhaps because there was no-one in this category at the Arts Lab the reactions in this "chat" session occasionally seemed a little forced. Nevertheless, the evening produced a fascinating insight to Stein and, for one, shall certainly look out for books of her work.

Incubus Theatre Company perform at the next Arts Lab production starting tomorrow evening and running through until Sunday. Incubus originated from two productions at the 1969 N.U.S. Drama Festival. Despite some shake-up in organisation since then, they have managed to explore a wide range of theatre activities. They will present three productions at the Lab: "Sonny Boy," "Klute" and "Pqumkwat".

PAUL TAYLOR.

music

I ARRIVED at the Town Hall last Wednesday evening hoping that Procul Harum would give a concert that would bring out their obvious talent and show that they were on the way to achieving greater recognition. For me, they failed by a long way to live up to those hopes, although, judging by the reaction of some of the audience, there would be several people who disagree with me.

The tickets for this concert had Livingstone Taylor down as support, so it came as a bit of a surprise when the support was announced as Amazing Blondell, with no apology, or even mention of why Livingstone Taylor was not appearing. Amazing Blondell somehow managed to combine delicately sung, and played, folk songs with unnecessarily coarse introductions. The main redeeming feature was the pleasant use of recorders, flute and crumhorn.

The interval was dragged out to its utmost limit. The roadies had finished their job within 20 minutes, and yet it was another 25 minutes before Procul Harum took to the stage after being introduced as "destined to become Britain's No. 1 group of 1972."

For the first two numbers, the balance was so bad it was not possible to comment much, except to say that the intention seemed to be to see how many eardrums could be split. Admittedly the balance did improve as the evening progressed, but the vocals often seemed to come over too shrill to distinguish anything. It was only on older numbers such as "Hamburg" and "Salty Dog" that the volume seemed to be at the right level and the lyrics could be appreciated.

Everyone knows that the acoustics in the Town Hall are far from ideal, yet most bands manage to get a reasonable balance. The problem with any band with an organ is how to use it without completely drowning everything else. Procul Harum seem to sort this out a lot better before they get anywhere near that No. 1 group prediction.

ALEXIS.

THE Lake/Wydd mixed media event on Friday took in a number of well-known artists, and I was interested to see how they would turn out the second time round for me. I expected some good entertainment and it was there.

I came in as the Ian Campbell group did a nice little parody of the Birmingham folk scene in the last few years, among other things. The Black Columbus poets followed; in this session there were the new ones of this year. Most interesting with a verse dissertation on the military use of the snail, and then the possibilities of the exploration of space in poetry.

Then Bridget St. John came, and despite problems with the P.A. and feedback, gave an excellent version of "Suzanne," followed by one of her own compositions telling us that "Love is Nice" in the complimentary sense. I hadn't heard her before, but I hope she returns.

Then there was another interval for poetry, this time with last year's poets, who were, as I expected, good. Finally, Dando Shaft came on and treated us to Irish rock 'n' roll, better known as a jig! They have an all-acoustic sound, with guitars and double-bass backed up with lute, mandolin or violin with miscellaneous hand percussion.

Bridget St. John gave vocals on one or two numbers, and rounded off an excellent performance. Lake/Wydd seem to do these events to a formula, but it is a pleasant one, and popular.

DAVE PARRY.

THE first album by Wild Turkey has been out for a couple of months now, without making much headway. However, an ex-Tull man Glenn Cornick's standing is not to be ignored, and there is certainly potential in his new venture.

Overall, the album lacks identity, yet paradoxically, attempts to have too much. Entitled "Battle Hymn," it expounds, in language ranging from beautiful to banal, from poetically clipped to pathetically clichéd, this theme which has been treated so often and so much better, before.

The musical quality is similarly variable. Naturally, the influence of Tull is frequently to the fore in Cornick's own songs, but not too much so—this is no album of feeble lip-service to a past master. The strongest songs are by Gary Pickford-Hopkins, an accomplished guitarist whose writing moves well away from the over-used chords of Cornick's numbers, and whose excellent vocals help to life the album above the run-of-the-mill new band's type of first attempt. The weakest songs are undoubtedly Jon Blackmore's. He is a poet, for better or worse, not a musician.

On the whole, the album makes pleasant and interesting listening, with "Easter Psalm," "Battle Hymn" and "One Sole Survivor" standing out above the rest. It is not great, but how many artists, musical or otherwise, produce a masterpiece with their first sketch.

LIZ AND JOHN.

MOVED by charitable concern, an anonymous black musician was once quoted in "Rolling Stone": "The trouble with white people is, they don't know how to shake their asses." Barclay James Harvest aside for a moment (they were left to their own relatively adequate devices on Friday night, so why rush to mighty judgment?), there was no shortage of stomping music throughout the evening, but asses remained generally unshook.

Friday night's event was by no means historic, but it was indicative of a pervasive fear of coming alive, or of being seen to come alive. Death, or passivity, is the norm to be deviated from on one level by the smashing of a window or two, on another level by filling a mental hospital or two. Meantime life goes on all around you, getting immeasurably worse. (That was thrown in to indicate that this "review" is more than the disgrunt of an old mod.)

To put it another way, there is more than one manner of Pulling the Finger Out. Merely to pull your finger out, stiff-upper-lipped, is self-deceptive logic. A far more satisfying way is to shake your arse away from the finger. This is infinitely more enjoyable, and is the only way of achieving success if it wasn't your finger in the first place.

Concert-halls have taken over the colonialist cool of the white man's death. Barclay James Harvest played cerebral music to an audience of appreciative seated dead; walking wounded propped against the walls; and a small percentage of the inelegantly and furtively drunk or doped.

Funfully enough, those old white bones rallied hearteningly as B.J.H.

finished their last number and for ten minutes solid the dead man's chest rang with a rhythm of applause more soulful by a long shot than anything that had gone before. It was, suddenly, a genuine, expressive wish for more, more... too late though. B.J.H. didn't play an encore.

Surprised? Allegorised? As the man sings, every picture tells a story, don't it?

GRAHAM BARKER

COLUMBUS are probably too well known. An odd thing to say, perhaps, but if large numbers of the audience didn't know that it's "only" Tom and Steve and Bill and Chris who sit in the coffee bar from time to time, might not their music stand a better chance of being appreciated in its own right, and not, unfairly, as the product of a "student" band?

On Saturday night, they played an interesting set made up entirely of their own compositions. Of these, probably the most interesting, but perhaps the least easily appreciated, is "Three Year Song." The chordal structure and changes are unusual, and well-arranged, the melodies are good, and this particular performance was excellent.

"Sunny Days," the only new number, relies heavily on contrasts for its effect, and these don't come over too well on stage. The mood and melodies are lingering and contemplative and perhaps it will be the type of number that improves with further hearing.

Their sound system is now working very well, and its quality is exceptional for a band with their limited resources. When will University audiences overcome their totally unwarranted prejudices?

LIZ AND JOHN.

TAKE a few thousand young people, add the intense atmosphere that is generated in the Town Hall, and bring to the boil with a primitive rock group such as Black Sabbath. The result is mass hysteria approaching that of the Hitler Youth Movement. Cold Turkey, the support group, gave a very audible and varied selection of numbers in their short spell (including a folk number called "Country Fox") which by no means pre-conditioned the audience for the response they gave to the major artists.

Black Sabbath obviously stirred those that knew them from the second they came on stage, but in general the audience was quiet and receptive. However the incredibly loud rock music coupled with the invitations of the lead singer, Ozzy Osbourne, to "Stand up and move if you want," provoked one of those frightening reactions which is perhaps not uncommon in the heavy pop world.

The group's music is needlessly loud and invariably indistinct; the predictable rock beat vibrating through all of 40 speakers. Whatever the beauty and grace of the words, numbers like "Iron Man" showed clearly that the audience was only interested in one thing, namely releasing all the energy they had with the most effort. However the will to do this was not entirely in their hands; the musicians fought to realise the hysterical response which so often characterises heavy music.

JEREMY BENDER.

"CANDLES IN THE RAIN" was an L.P. through which Melanie offered us her own and highly personal philosophy. The arrangements and orchestrations were uncomplicated and the emotional power of her voice was given full range. Typical tracks on this L.P. were the "Good Guy's Song" and the "Citest People".

Melanie's latest single "Brand New Key" could similarly be used

as an illustration of her new album *Gather Me*. Although the emotional content is still very much to the fore, the songs are reinforced by a new style of arrangement. On "Brand New Key" the most noticeable effect is that of "Crickets" style chorus, adding a humorous note, along with the inevitable coyness of Melanie in childish mood. The track is altogether a light-hearted music session.

Despite a considerable amount of adverse criticism upon her instrumental abilities Melanie is nevertheless an effective song-writer and an entertaining artist. Her songs also contain the power and beauty of compositions deceptive in their apparent simplicity. To judge Melanie by her single "Alexander Beetle" is as foolish as considering Joni Mitchell's "Big Yellow Taxi" as typical of her skills.

TED HEATH.

books

THREE novels of interest recently published by Penguin are: "A Pagan Place," by Edna O'Brien (30p); "The Wild Cherry Tree," by H. E. Bates (30p); and "The Marriage of a Young Stockbroker," by Charles Webb (25p).

"A Pagan Place" is in style, very similar to Gunter Grass's "Tin Drum," and consists of a diary-like stream of childhood recollection. The main character being a young Irish girl, the story evolves round her life in a village.

Edna O'Brien manages, superbly, to bring to light the conflicts of an adolescent schoolgirl, and the way in which she overcomes these problems by practising her religion devoutly. As she grows up her attitudes change towards her family while the whole time she is fighting within herself to do what is right.

This is an extremely sincere novel with touches of humour to make an entertaining piece of reading.

"The Wild Cherry Tree" is a collection of 10 short stories by H. E. Bates.

Most of the stories hold the reader's attention, but do not leave a lasting impression, the sort of thing that can be found in any woman's magazine.

I found the title story to be the most enjoyable because in this the two principal characters were more realistic, unlike those in another story, "The World Upside Down," which seems to have been an experiment of fantasy in relation to reality.

It must be said that H. E. Bates can certainly paint colourful characters, all of these verging on the extreme, but representing so many different personalities.

One of the best examples of this is a character named Hartley Spencer in "The Black Magnolia." Bates says of him: "If he had been a stick of rock the word 'good' would have been printed clean down the entire centre of him." The only two other characters are both women; Mrs. Vanessa La Farge, a wealthy but bored lady, and her friend, Kitty O'Connor, a young Irish girl. These both contrast greatly with Hartley Spencer, which is the essence of Bates's style.

Charles Webb, the author of "The Graduate," has written another witty novel which has also been filmed. Now, "The Marriage of a Young Stockbroker" is available in Penguin.

The young couple, Lisa and Bill, really do not know what they want out of life or what they want from each other. Lisa leaves Bill during a summer holiday and goes to stay with her sister, Nan.

Webb not only explores the incongruities of their marriage, but also those in the marriage of Nan and her husband, Chester. Nan is the bossy type, who, having conquered her own husband, intends to conquer both Lisa and Bill. Needless to say, she is not victorious in Bill's case and eventually he untangles his wife from her sister's clutches.

With similar repartee that made "The Graduate" so popular, "Marriage of a Young Stockbroker" is sure to be equally successful.

GINETTE TAYLOR.



Buffy St. Marie at Lake/Wydd.



Album from Wild Turkey.



Joanna Shimkus and Richard Benjamin in the film version of "Marriage of Young Stockbroker."

sport 1

Cross Country Club on its knees

Holden rushed into hospital in lunch-time drama

by RANDY SOUTHAM

IN the early hours of last Sunday morning, our beloved Golden Wonder Boy was rushed into hospital. Stricken down in his prime by appendicitis. As always, your "Redbrick" reporter was on hand to cover the story. (This was because Holden phoned me up and ordered me there).



Fly-swatter in chief

Looking pale and wan, our hero was slowly sinking before our eyes.

There at his bedside sat the friend and confidante of all Birmingham athletes, Dr. Mike Holden. Sobbing pitifully into his handkerchief. "We will never win the B.U.S.F. cross-country now," he wailed. "Don't worry, Mike," said our Andy. "I'll make it." But deep down we knew he would not.

Then the time came for the operation and with a heavy heart we left.

Not to be deterred, your ace reporter returned that night to the Q.E. There was G.W.H.'s bed behind the curtain.

G.W.H.: "Nurse, give us a kiss."

Nurse: "No."

G.W.H.: "Go on, give us a kiss."

Nurse: "Look, I'm not supposed to be in bed with you."

Yes, he had pulled through.

O happy day.

T.P. star

T.P. 75, Exiles 35.

TOWER POWER have started the season showing the same promise that they showed throughout last term. This was very much a practice game for the tough opposition expected at Exeter in the U.A.U. tournament.

Man of the match was undoubtedly Mal Saville who put the nails in Exiles' coffin in the first half by scoring 18 points with the outside shot against the zone defence. He finished the game with 22. It was nice to see Tay back in his No. 6 shirt and Aydin in No. 10. Rich Post again showed that he is going to be invaluable at Exeter because of his versatility and experience at University of California.



Holden enjoying the prospects of all those nurses.

Gratefully we muttered our thanks to the beautiful Miss Watt who had doctored our hero so well. (They even have the same colour hair).

When the lads of the cross-country team were told, first O'Mania and then G.W.H. out of B.U.S.F., they looked grave. The heart torn out of the team. But, with a dour determination they resolved not to give up their trophy without a fight.

Football jottings

by Matt Choftheday

WE hear Mike Speake has been having his share of problems with the footy club. Having drilled his men to a basic pattern of play, they now play so inflexibly it's all done by numbers.

The back four push up to the half-way line so that the playing area is reduced by half. Thus their superior fitness is wasted as they keep running into each other.

Monstrous crosses to the rear post fail to exploit the confusion always found at and beyond the far post at this level of footy. As the England team is finding, within the basic pattern the players must still improvise for themselves.

Mind you, our Mike is busy breeding his new team to take over next year. His courageous selection policies deserve success.

Recently the 2nd XI to play Lancaster University showed some clear-sighted thinking. Four of the players had to be rescued from retirement and another had never played before.

This team, uninhibited by the complexities of the modern game, turned on a devastating performance of individualistic play. A mesmerised opposition lost 5-1. These boys deserve success.

HOCKEY SOCIALITES

By our Incognito Reporter

THE Hockey Club have not been having their most successful season ever. A player from one opposing club commented after a match against them: "They would not have scored against us if we had played all week." Their "form" has been reflected in the aftermath celebrations. Not only did they not buy the customary first pint as hosts, but they resolutely refused to even socialise with the opposition. As the opposition spokesman said, "Well, we cleared off, taking our beer-money with us."

Perhaps B.U.H.C. could find a little inspiration from an unusual quarter, for in the midst of A.U. shelters a hockey star. Would you believe short, grizzly Tony Rankmore was once the Cinderella of Welsh hockey. For most of his serious playing career (about 150 years ago) he was permanent reserve in the Welsh team to the legendary Austin Savage (the Gordon Banks of hockey). Now if someone asked him nicely...

SAILING

LONDON FLOUNDER

ON the Sunday before term Birmingham achieved a tremendous victory over London, who until then were unbeaten this season and were last year's National, as well as University, champions.

Conditions were far from ideal with the wind gusting and swinging violently. After a general recall the first race started with London gaining a slight advantage.

This was however lost when one of the London boats collided port and starboard with a Birmingham boat and had therefore to retire.

This combined with decisive tactics at the first buoy left Birmingham in a winning combination which they had little difficulty in holding on to, to cross the finish line 2, 3 and 5.

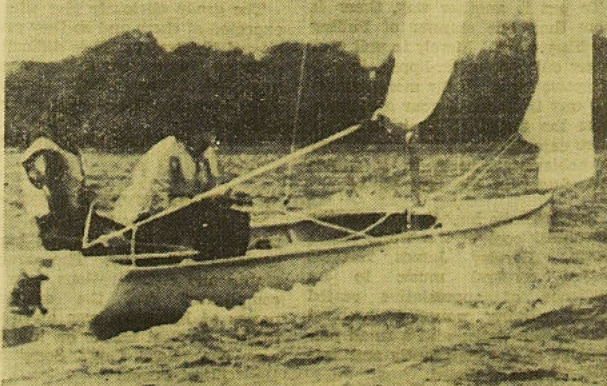
The start of the second race once more went in London's favour but Birmingham managed to gain a winning combination round the first buoy by furious roll tacking.

Mike Mackie managed to fight his way into the lead and hold it by sheer boat speed for the rest of the race. But the remaining two Birmingham boats, outnumbered three to two, were unable to hold on to their winning combination when London really turned on the heat on the second beat, with a tremendous display of cover tacking.

Approaching the final buoy it seemed unlikely that Birmingham could regain the initiative.

But brilliant tactics and boat control by Birmingham's Rod Carr allowed him to slow down London's third boat, which was lying fifth, sufficiently to allow Birmingham's third boat, helmed by Ian Brealey, to power its way past.

Thus Birmingham crossed the



Sailing Club — running before the wind.

sport 2

Some you win, some you lose—WIVAB round-up quarter finals

BADMINTON—reached the quarter-final after a play-off against Surrey last week. HOCKEY—both teams reached the quarter-final. 1st XI lost to Leeds but 2nd XI live to fight again in a replay. LACROSSE—played a vital match against Bristol on Saturday. NETBALL—both teams have reached the semi-finals after winning against Newcastle and Durham this weekend. SQUASH—reached the quarter-finals without playing a match, and defeated Leeds 4-1 to go into the semi-finals. TABLE TENNIS—reached the quarter-finals and played this weekend during the B.U.S.F. championships.

HOCKEY—FIRST TEAM

Birmingham Univ. 2, Leeds Univ. 3.

BIRMINGHAM, hot favourites for retaining the W.I.V.A.B. Hockey trophy this year, met their Waterloo in Manchester on Saturday, when they were beaten by Leeds in the quarter-final, after extra time.

Birmingham managed to pull one goal back but, as has been evident throughout the season, the forwards lacked finesse in the circle and failed to score a third time.

Disappointing though the result may be the match was never a foregone conclusion; the Birmingham side knew Leeds would provide tough opposition and the match (which produced some extremely good hockey and was, I think, enjoyed by everyone) would have been worthy of the final.

SECOND TEAM

Birmingham 2nd XI 3, Leeds 2nd XI 3.

A TREMENDOUS battle between probably the two strongest

NETBALL

Twice a day!

BIRMINGHAM'S 1st Team started off the term energetically by playing a league match on Monday evening against S.U. Carburers. Although not playing up to the usual standard, probably due to lack of practice, the final score was 33-3.

On Saturday it was the W.I.V.A.B. quarter-finals, the 1st team being drawn to play Durham at home and the 2nd team, Newcastle at Manchester.

The 1st team took to the court at 10.30 a.m., the average sleeping hours of the team probably not being conducive to good quality netball. The team however made a brisk start and soon came to control the game. The passing down the court was slick and the defence particularly strong. After four quarters of 15 minutes each the

second teams ended in deadlock after a thrilling match which went to extra time.

Playing with tremendous skill and spirit against the "old enemy," Birmingham, after having most of the play, were unlucky to be 1-0 down at half-time.

The second half saw a complete reversal of this score. Fred fleet of foot on the wing mesmerised the opposition, the inside-forwards caused all kinds of chaos in the Leeds defence with Sue creating panic with her flicks.

The constant pressure was rewarded when Fran equalised after a through pass from Gill. Birmingham went ahead when Fred took a free hit quickly, Gill deflected it

forward and Fran was there to put it in the net.

Birmingham held on until 10 minutes from the end when Leeds equalised. Again Birmingham pressed forward with the halves giving superb support with fantastic passes and cutting out Leeds attacks with great positioning, and Lucky saving great Leeds shots.

On to extra time and a quick goal by Gill which gave the goal-keeper no chance.

But again Leeds equalised to make the final score 3-3. No more goals but Birmingham, with a fine team display, kept running, running, running until the end.

Now to the replay at Manchester, again on Wednesday.

FOOTBALL

Support wanted

Results:

1st XI v. Loughborough Univ., won 6-1. Scorers: Moir 2, Harrison 2, Barlow, Thorpe.

2nd XI v. Loughborough Univ., won 5-1. Scorers: Habberton 4, Baldwin.

1st XI v. Leeds Univ., won 7-3.

Scorers: Barlow 3, Moir 3, Harrison.

2nd XI v. Leeds Univ., won 9-3.

Scorers: Barton 4, Habberton 3, Shaw, Weedon.

B.U.A.F.C. having got off to a good start in the spring term are warming to a possible confrontation with Liverpool (or should that read U.A.U.?) in the U.A.U. Quarter-Finals.

This match, Birmingham University v. Liverpool/Newcastle, is to take place on this Saturday, January 29th, at 2.30 p.m. All support will be welcomed, and FREE buses leave the North Car Park at 1.15 p.m. Admission free.

I.D.S.

INTERIM REPORT

WE have now reached the halfway stage in the I.D.S. competitions, and all seems to be going reasonably well. At long last we have acquired a new 11-a-side league organiser—one G. Cunliffe. Judging by the time it took, a lot of people are prepared to play but none are prepared to put something back into the game. Or is this typical student apathy?

People should realise that I.D.S. can only function if everybody helps, and that, in my opinion, is not a great deal to ask.

The five-a-side organiser (S. Tither) reports that the idea of a two-term competition has been abandoned. The present arrangements are that every other Sunday afternoon, five interested teams compete on a league basis. Those interested should sign the notice on the board on the Monday following the previous game.

On the basketball front J. Pringle, Chem. Eng. retain the title, with Chemistry and Mason being relegated from Division 1. Staff and Chinese took second and third places. Turks and Commerce are promoted to Division 1 and Law have been excluded for disciplinary reasons.

An interesting point is that there will be four national sides (Chinese, Turks, Persians, Arabs) in Division 1. It is hoped that politics are forgotten here at any rate.

D. Taylor reports that hockey has made good progress, losing one match to the weather and two to unidentified persons. Exiles won Division 1, with an unbeaten record, with Biology close behind.

Medics took the second division, followed by Mason and High. Biochemistry won a close struggle to the third on goal average and Law thrashed the rest of Division 4. Please remember that no kit means no matches.

In table tennis (G. Woolcott), Biochemistry won the Tuesday League and Manor II the Thursday League. There seems to be a lack of discipline here, Commerce and Chemistry being expelled and German, Jew Soc and Turk Soc having only one more chance. It is hoped to arrange a challenge match between the leading teams of each league.

The six-a-side first division was won by Lincoln Court, with Metallurgy second and Civ. Eng. won the second division. The evening league was won by Ind. Met.

G. Cunliffe (11-a-side) hopes that the competition will be finished early, to as to allow time for a knock-out competition.

Commerce team lead Divisions 1 and 3 and Maths are at the front in Division 2, having dropped only one point.

All fixture lists are now available from A.U. Office. Please keep your eye on the notice-board. There will be a meeting towards the end of term so start thinking about your successors. I hope all have an enjoyable sporting term.



As there is no rugby report, perhaps you might like a picture.

Sportswrite

IT is with considerable regret that my first taste of editing this infamous sports page should happen under such circumstances. Elsewhere on this page a full account of the activities of last Sunday appears. Everyone I have spoken to wishes Holden a speedy recovery, if only to return to sanity in the "Redbrick" editorial office. Although there is not much to choose between their running, Holden is a much better editor than Southam.

Under the strictest security precautions I was ushered to Holden's bedside just before he was "put out." There the secret of the combination of the "Redbrick" sports safe was revealed to me. With glee I later plundered the safe for all the secret information revealed below. So read on, if you are not here this week, there is always next week.

As is usual, we have not been exactly swamped with sports reports for this issue. As Mr. Rose says in his I.D.S. round-up: "a lot of people are prepared to play but none are prepared to put something back into the game." Why does not each club have a committee member with the special title of "publicity officer"? At least there would be someone to blame if no report was forthcoming.

As an example, take the Badminton Club. They have not had an entirely unsuccessful season, but for all the rest of us know, the earth opened up and swallowed them at the beginning of last term. Of course, they may be ashamed of their success and not wish to show everyone else up!

Enough of the moaning. Now what can I find in these files to send Mr. Carr reaching for his Dictaphone?

Top of the file is a little snippet about that prestigious dentist, Chopper Harley. As you will remember, he was featured as a star defender in Swinbrant's Ace footy.

with Southam

team. Mysteriously a copy of this article reached his mother, who was so impressed by his performance that she now refers to him as Chopper. However, the spectator at that game says that the description chopper could not possibly refer to his football abilities.

The passing reference to Skint-brant reminds me that his exploits have not been reported for some time. This is because he has not been seen for ages. A recent report suggested that he had been inhabiting the weights room occasionally.

After one of these sessions he went for a run and regurgitated along Pritchards Drive and outside the Q.E. Investigations showed that this was not our Skinty but that other star hammer-thrower, Critchton, of Lake.

By the way, if you take your student's card to one of the sports shops in town you can buy sports goods at a price which is very competitive with A.U. Usually they also have a full stock of sizes. If the demand is sufficient we will reveal the name of this stockist. Of course, A.U. could improve their service.

It's not that we want to cause any trouble, but if the "Redbrick" vigilantes find any mal-practices it is their duty to expose them. We wait with bated breath to see what action the crusading Marsdyke and Nobby take over our irresponsible revelations.

(1) Whilst returning from a road relay not unadjacent to Oosterley Park, the A.U. Mk. II minibus was driven 70 miles up the M.1 in a time not a million seconds away from 50 minutes.

(2) A kind and generous philanthropist offered the Sailing Club, per gratis, for free, at no cost, about £5 worth of nautical charts. As this clubs got so much money from A.U. they did not see fit to acknowledge the offer.

What action will our dynamic duo take over these matters? We wait with bated breath and promise to report anything we hear.



Three good reasons for playing lacrosse.

around

DAY BY DAY

Wednesday, 26th

Poetry—George Macbeth and Mike Horowitz. B.M.I.
7.30 p.m. 40p

Organ Recital—Town Hall. 1 p.m. Free.

Thursday, 27th

Folk Club—Liz and Stefan Sobell.

C.B.S.O.—Pieces by Sibelius, Mendelssohn and Brahms.
Town Hall. 7.30 p.m.

Film Soc—Diary of a County Priest. Mech. Eng. 7 p.m.

Friday, 28th

Fifth Dimension—Odeon, New Street. 6.30 p.m. and 9 p.m.
Tickets from 60p.

Wishbone Ash—Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. Tickets from 40p.

Birmingham Film Soc—"Les Bas Fonds," by Jean Renoir.

Thin Lizzy—The Bear Hotel, Bearwood.

Saturday, 29th

C.B.S.O.—Pieces by Eric Coates and Dvorak. Town Hall.
7.30 p.m. Tickets from 30p.

"Variety Show"—Indian Music, Songs and Dances. Deb
Hall. 6 p.m. 10p.

Heads, Hands and Feet—Belfry, Sutton Coldfield.

Sunday, 30th

Stone the Crows—Barbarella's.

Sunday Flic—Weekend by Jean Luc-Goddard. Deb Hall.
15p.

Third World War—Henry's Blueshouse, Station Street.

Monday, 31st

Jimi at Berkley—Jimi Hendrix film plus live on stage—
Cat Mother and "All Night Newboys." 7.30.
Tickets 60p Town Hall.

Film Soc—"Belle de Jour" by Bunuel. Haworth Lecture
Theatre. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, 1st Feb.

Folk Club—Friedmann.

Audience—Town Hall. 7.30 p.m. 50p.

CINEMA

Odeon, New Street—"Carry On at Your Convenience" and
"Kona Coast." L.C.P. 7.15 p.m. (not showing Saturday).
Next week: "Please Sir."

Odeon, Ringway—"Paint Your Wagon." L.C.P. 7.15 p.m.
Next week: "Women In Love" & "Midnight Cowboy."

Gaumont—"Nicholas and Alexandra." L.C.P. 7 p.m.

Cinephone—"School for Virgins" plus "Girl/Boy."

Jacey—"King Lear." L.C.P. 8 p.m.
Next week: "My Love and I" plus "Love is a Splendid
Illusion."

ABC, New Street—"Family Life." L.C.P. 8.10 p.m.

ABC, Selly Oak—"Soldier Blue." L.C.P. 7.40 p.m.

ABC, Cinerama—"Love Story." L.C.P. 8 p.m.

Futurist—"Murders in Rue Morgue" plus "The Return of
Count Yorga." L.C.P. 7 p.m.
Next week: "The Grissom Gang."

Arts Lab: See Theatre.

THEATRE

Birmingham Rep—"Good Time Johnny."

Arts Lab—Incubus Theatre Company:
"Sonny Boy"—Thursday to Sunday, 8 p.m.
"Koax" and "Pqumkwat"—Friday & Saturday, 11 p.m.

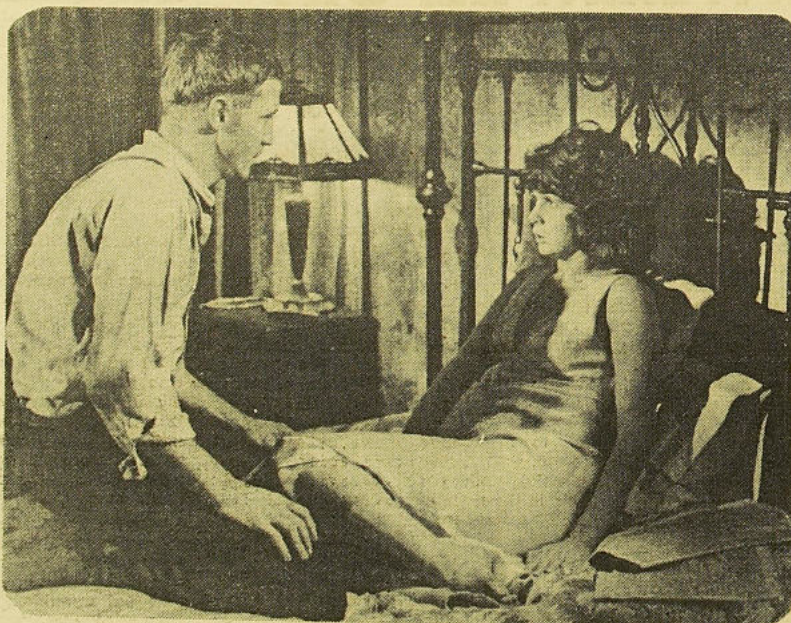
Midlands Arts Centre—"Rumplestiltskin" and "The Fairy
Tales of Hoffman." Opening January 27th: "This
Jockey Drives Late."

Alexandra Theatre—"Robinson Crusoe."

Crescent Theatre—"The Rehearsal" until January 29th.

GALLERY

Gallery Compendium—Central and Upper Gallery—
Gilbert Mason, paintings and drawings.



"The Grissom Gang," Futurist from Sunday.



"Sonny Boy," by Incubus, Arts Lab.