

Film Soc.
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7.30 p.m. Mech. Eng.

REDBRICK

formerly GUILD NEWS

Deb Soc
"THIS HOUSE WOULD
NOT SOIL ITS HANDS
WITH COMMERCE"
THURS., NOV. 8th
5.15: COUNCIL CHAMBER

No. 622/7

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 1962

Price 3d.

Society applications drastically reduced

GUILD MUST CUT ON ITS SPENDING

by REDBRICK reporter

EXPANDING Guild Societies on the look-out for more money have been told by Ahmad Qidwai, the Guild Treasurer, "You must cut back your spending. The Guild is in a very difficult financial position."

A campaign is being launched to persuade members to be more careful with the use of electricity and water, and the Union stewards have been given strict instructions that out-going calls on the Union phones must only be accepted from certain named members.

Strong action will be taken against anyone breaking this rule. "We don't like doing this," said Mr. Qidwai, "but the Guild made a budgeted deficit of £6,713 last year; this year we have not got the increase in income we expected from a rise in the intake of students, which we hoped would offset this loss."

"Indirectly the Government is to blame for our troubles. If it had given more money to the University, expansion would have gone ahead as planned, we would have got more money in membership fees, and the problem would have solved itself."

If the campaign fails there may be cuts in Union facilities and in the financial freedom of Guild societies.

Already, Union Committee, which runs the Union building, has had its budget slashed by £3,300 to £28,600 and Athletic Union has lost £700 of the £6,200 it asked for.

The final estimates for the coming year suggest that there will be a profit of just over £1,000.

Borrowing

Mr. Qidwai said, "A small increase in spending in the Union could see the Guild in the red once more. Last year we were helped by borrowing £5,000 from our catering reserve; if possible we want to pay this back, and not draw on the reserve again."

Most of the Guild's income comes from the membership fee of £3 a head, raised by £2 from last

**£6,700 lost
last year**

year. This sum, included in the University fees, is usually paid by LEAs and other grant-awarding authorities, and comes to £37,000 a year.

"It's up to members of the Guild now," said Mr. Qidwai. "We've always been one of the richest and best run student organisations in the country, and by economising on little things for a while, we can stay that way."

"But if things don't go well, we shall take sterner measures. We just can't afford to run at a loss; it isn't fair to those who will be here in later years."

GWYN MORGAN AT BRIEFING CONFERENCE NUS delegates meet

MANY overseas students arrive in this country unprepared and sadly misinformed, particularly upon the financial aspect of their courses. Mr. Gwyn Morgan, the Chairman of NUS, in his address to the briefing conference, held in the Council Chamber, for delegates attending the NUS Conference in Margate, put much of the blame upon the information provided by the British Council and overseas Attaches.

Britain has more overseas students—65,000 at the present time—than any other country. The British policy adopted by Universities, Colleges and the NUS was not to offer overseas students any special treatment or to discriminate against them in any way.

Many overseas students have difficulty in obtaining lodgings. NUS policy of advocating more Halls of Residence and hostels would alleviate this problem.

Segregation of foreign students in their own hostels should not occur. The NUS suggested that hostels catering for foreign students should have a third of their residents British students.

Potted History

Turning his attention to the international student scene, Gwyn Morgan gave a potted history of the International Union of Students, which very early in its life became Communist dominated, and the International Students' Conference, which was later constituted as a non-political international student body.

On a more practical and more useful level the NUS Chairman brought delegates attention to the work in obtaining scholarships for

Photo ALAN COHEN
• Mr. Robert Jackson opposes the motion that "This house would make Britain neutral."

South African students, NUS work camps and the recently initiated Graduate Service Overseas.

He reminded the conference that the situation in South Africa was no better now than it had been, but that students in Britain had become less concerned.

Speaking of the GSO scheme, he pointed out its advantages over similar, un-named, organisations. The range of class of people serving on this scheme is much wider. One similar organisation, he claimed, employed 95 per cent. public schoolboys.

The scheme had the advantage that it sent mature graduates to work abroad, rather than 17-year-old schoolboys. He announced that the NUS will soon be seeking applicants for next year's scheme.



Photo ALAN COHEN
Mr. Gwyn Morgan.

TRAGIC DEATH OF STUDENT

A BIRMINGHAM University student was killed when the plane he was piloting crashed and burst into flames.

He was identified as Christopher Charles Butler, aged 20, a third year civil engineering student.

The plane was a Chipmunk training aircraft, belonging to the University Air Squadron. It was seen to bank steeply before it nose-dived into a field at Moreton, near Gossall, in Staffordshire.

Mr. Butler was trapped by his legs when the plane crashed, making it impossible for him to escape from the fire that followed. A farmworker who was working on the edge of the field into which the plane crashed said, "I could do absolutely nothing to save the pilot."

An RAF spokesman said that the cause of the crash is to be investigated by a board of enquiry.

Mr. Butler had been a member of the Air-Squadron for two years and had done fifty hours of flying.

A Recital on the
VIOLA D'AMORE
will be held at
THE MANOR HOUSE
on Sunday, 11th November
at 7.30 p.m.
ALL WELCOME.

AUTOMATIC CASHIER FOR REFECTORY Electronic change machine

'SWEDA' one of the first electronic change dispensers in the country, is being installed in the refectory tomorrow.

It will take away the brain-work that a normal cashier requires. All she will have to do now is to add up the price of the meal. The built in elec-

tronic impulses presume that the customer is presenting a 10/- note and gives the change accordingly. If change is given, however, it is placed on a slab and Sweda determines what the money is, and gives the correct change.

Mr. O. F. Humbert, the catering officer, said that the new machine would immeasurably speed up operations in the refectory. "We have decided to install 'Sweda' in the Avon room where the limited menu makes for a fast moving queue, if the machine takes five seconds off each transaction, which it should easily do, it will easily pay for itself."

Sweda cost £360 and is causing considerable interest in the scientific departments of the University.

LATE NEWS

Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.

W. R. (Trog) Girdlestone elected Carnival Chairman for session 1962/3.

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Dennis Nowell Pritt is unusual in that he is a Marxist and a barrister. He is renowned for the ingenuity with which he has defended many Left-wing figures.

LEFT-WING LOOK AT THE LAW

by
BOB MUNDY

DURING this open lecture, Dennis Nowell Pritt, Q.C. emerged as a mischievous gadfly acting as an irritant on the sedate rump of the establishment. As was soon made clear, he had chosen the theme of political trials in order to expose, in a series of amusing anecdotes, the prevailing right-wing attitude behind British Justice, and to reveal some of the many diverting stratagems by which it can be made to defeat itself.

Pritt, at 75, is a small, leathery, energetic man with a twinkling eye and a wit which is always penetrating and often cruel. Beginning life, and his career at the Bar, as an orthodox Tory, in 1913 he became a Liberal. From this position his political attitudes evolved until by about 1940, as he explained in an interview, he had become a convinced Marxist and a keen student of the Soviet Union.

Views

He admitted that his extreme left-wing views were assumed at a time when he had already established himself as a barrister, and that they could well have blighted his career had he revealed them in his earlier years.

This was the man behind the Open Lecture, an interesting mixture of the idealist and the somewhat cynical realist, a man whose allegiance to an idea had not destroyed his commonsense.

His keen sense of humour must have become apparent to his lec-

ture audience in the anecdotes with which they were regaled. Perhaps the most amusing story was that of the six Welsh Communists whom he defended against a charge of distributing seditious literature to the Territorial Army.

Certain important charges had been added to the indictment by the prosecution, and Pritt had only been able to obtain a copy of the complete indictment on the day before the trial.

Therefore, on the day of the trial itself, he requested an adjournment. The judge, an elderly person of strong right-wing convictions, "sitting there like a piece of steel," suggested that the extra charges made no difference and declined to co-operate.

Charges

Pritt thereupon suggested that if the charges made no difference, then the prosecution should remove them. This suggestion was not countenanced.

Pritt then turned to his junior, and said in a loud whisper: "If they don't grant the adjournment, I'll exercise my right of challenge in respect of each of the six defendants. I'll eject seventy-two jurors and turn the proceedings into a complete farce."

Capitulated

The judge capitulated and the adjournment was granted.

We can only believe that it was through no lack of ingenuity that Pritt lost this particular case!

Using similarly unorthodox tactics, he successfully defended such left-wing notables as Harry Pollitt and Tom Mann, and to mention a Ceylonese lady accused of uttering a criminal libel against the Governor General.

The lady's article, Pritt told us, contained the most vicious personal attack that he had ever seen made against anyone. Nevertheless, in his usual manner, he had meticulously reduced the proceedings to absurdity and procured her acquittal.

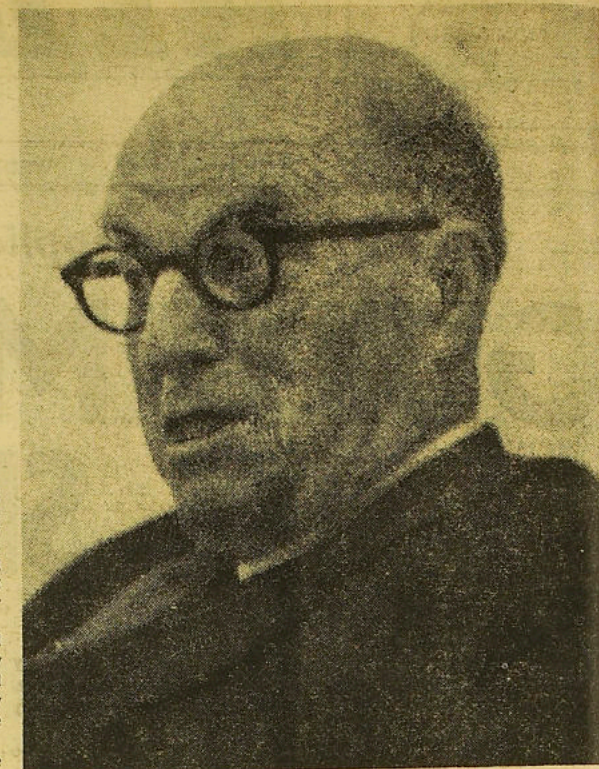
Later Mr. Pritt was asked for his opinions on the first appearance of Jordan in the magistrates' court. His reply was elaborately restrained.

In the equally famous ETU case, he made it clear that in his view, the crime of the Communists was not so much the actual rigging, nor even the fact they had been found out, but the simple fact that they happened to be Communists.

Future

What was the future of our great tradition of judicial independence in a fully socialised state when judges' wigs would be government property? Mr. Pritt replied that to him "justice" was dependent on the expressed wishes of the community which it served.

In spite of their ostensible independence, British judges were out



Photos PETER MURRAY

"I wouldn't feel a bit insulted if you called me a Communist."

ply. The Americans, apparently, couldn't find his telegram to Kennedy in their files."

When confronted with a party led by Mr. Gaitskell? Mr. Pritt was not dogmatic on this point, but suggested that we should vote for Mr. Gaitskell in the hope that he might be influenced to some degree by the socialist wing of the Labour Party.

Amusing

As for Mr. Woodrow Wyatt, he had met the gentleman and had found him quite amusing. He agreed that a suitable niche could perhaps be found for Mr. Wyatt in the ranks of the Conservative Party.

The subject of Mr. Wyatt brought us to television personalities in general and political commentators in particular. About

the latter, Mr. Pritt was derogatory. They were fundamentally ignorant men who, aided by the medium of television, had assumed the status of a social evil. He welcomed the accession of Messrs. Chataway and Johnson-Smith to the Tory benches of the House of Commons where, he considered, they were comparatively innocuous.

After Mr. Pritt had left, extended arguments about him revealed the marked impression that he had made upon us all. No-one, I think, had expected to meet such an active and effective iconoclast. Mr. Pritt-Smith returned from seeing our guest to his taxi, muttering indignantly about judicial independence.

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SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM

REDBRICK comment

The Birmingham University
Students' Newspaper

Cut back on your spending

THIS session will be an economy year for the Guild. The deficit of £6,700 last year has cut heavily into the Guild's reserves, and every effort will be made to obtain a £1,000 surplus during the coming year to build up the reserves again.

The main reason for the large deficit is the fact that Guild membership has not increased as much as was expected. This is because the University has been forced to cut back on its proposed intake schedule.

Almost all the budgets of the Guild departments and Societies have suffered cuts. All societies are being asked by the Guild treasurer, Ahmed Qidwai, to keep their expenditure to a bare minimum.

Union committee is the hardest hit, and this year their budget has been pruned by £3,500. The Athletic Union figure applied for was cut by £700 in the final budget; some of the affiliated societies had received grants entirely out of proportion with their size. Notable amongst these were the Sailing Club who last year received £337 as a revenue grant and a further £160 as a capital grant. The Rowing Club had £288 for revenue and £163 for capital expenditure.

Some Athletic Union Societies put in completely unrealistic budgets in their estimates for the coming session. For instance, the Golf Club asked for £36 for entertainment alone. Many societies spend less than this altogether during the year.

On the other hand large clubs like the Rugby, Soccer and Cricket clubs have to exist on a little over £200. This would seem out of all logical proportion.

Other societies, however, have helped the Guild by cutting down their original applications, among them the Women's Squash and the Men's Hockey clubs.

We can only hope that members and societies of the Guild will follow this example, thereby helping Finance Committee in their very difficult task of minimising expenditure.

Disappearing Act

IT is disgraceful that now we have the new refectory open, the cost of meals is in danger of going up because of the disappearance of cutlery and crockery.

In the first eight weeks after the opening over £100 worth of equipment was missing and the position is just as bad this term. There is no excuse whatsoever for this.

The irresponsibility of those who are removing the equipment looks like bouncing back on the majority after the next meeting of the Refectory Committee. The cost of meals may go up by a penny.

Editor - Mike Coe
Assistant Editor - Celia Layzell
Business Manager - Roger Griffiths

the union,
the university,
edgbaston,
birmingham 15.

SELLY
Oak
1841

PRESS POST

MARCHES ARE USELESS

SIR, It only takes a crisis like the one over Cuba to bring out students in their hundreds to take part in what are subtly called "demonstrations."

These are usually looked on with bemused interest by the public, and with tolerance by students who do not take part—they are great fun, a break in the monotony, for those who do. On the whole they are regarded as healthy signs.

Perhaps they are good for the health of the students concerned. Socially and politically there are several objections. No-one will dispute that although some of the more intelligent are sincere and even responsible, a percentage—probably large—join in for fun, and have no idea what is the object of the demonstration. Some are only vague as to what sparked it off.

Newspapers

And such demonstrations—that skilful word—often do not have any object. Those organised by the CND, of course do, but usually it is only known to the organisers, and is never evident from the sick slogans they display, like "Hands off Cuba" (to whom was this addressed?). Usually the only thing demonstrated by a demonstration is that the demonstrators have read (or not read) their newspapers.

Demonstrations often take an alarmingly practical turn. How violence can be seen as an instrument of peace is baffling. It is hard to see, for instance, how the attempted lynching of the US Ambassador in London could prevent a war between Russia and the USA.

Outlet

Obviously the main reason demonstrations are so popular is that they provide an outlet. People feel that they must do something. It is irrelevant that they have no immediate aim, and that they know they cannot help or even influence matters—anything is better than nothing. Some would say that demonstrations are a good thing, if only for this reason, but are they? Only rarely.

Students have Rag days and hops for outlets. They are credited with an intelligence which should be sufficient to realise the truth. Their judgment should save their emotion. The truth is—it's no use, so why do it?

Yours etc.

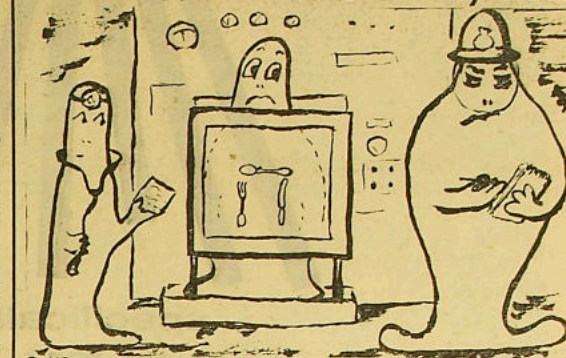
D. H. CALLEAR.

CIV ENG'S FESTIVAL OVERTURE

SIR, We, the undersigned, deprecate and deplore the front page "article" which appeared in the 31st October issue of REDBRICK. The article appears to indicate that Civil Engineers in general, and in particular the Civil Engineers of this University have an apathetic attitude to its cultural activities.

If your reporter, or Dr. McKee, had taken the trouble to investigate the matter fully, they would have discovered that the first year were away for a fortnight on a compulsory surveying course. The

THE PSEUDOPODS by 292



"I must warn you, sir, that anything you say..."

ON WHOSE BEHALF?

second year, it appears did support the Festival to some extent, but were also occupied for part of the time.

In conclusion therefore we wish to say that the public image of the Civil Engineers has been grossly misrepresented, and hope that as a consequence of our letter, a more correct impression will prevail.

69 SECOND AND THIRD YEAR
CIVIL ENGINEERS.

The article concerned included one paragraph about the absence of Civil Engineers at the Festival. It was entirely factual and did not cast aspersions on their characters. It did not refer to Civil Engineers in general—Ed.

SIR, As we live in "The Free World" we feel that we have a right to make up our own minds as to which line of thought we will support.

During the Cuban crisis, however, several students were seen carrying banners condemning a certain political leader, "On behalf of the University of Birmingham." This, they had no authority to do without consulting the remaining majority of members of the Union.

A stop should be made on all such representations. We are sure many people will agree with us that they do not want to be incriminated by the actions of such shallow minded individuals.

Yours faithfully,
K. G. VICKERS.
J. L. GREGORY.

OUT OF DATE

SIR, Congratulations on your excellent issue of the 24th instant, which I managed to see only today. It contained reports of happenings that took place three days later.

Can you kindly let us know how you managed it. We can try the method during examinations.

Yours, etc.

A. QIDWAI.

Sorry—the date was wrong on a few copies—Ed.

All correspondents please note that no letters can be printed under pseudonyms, unless the name of the correspondent is given, in confidence, to the editor.

Tankards FOR GUINNESS ADVERTISEMENTS

Chance for amateur artists and
copywriters to try their skill

A lot of people think they can produce better Guinness advertisements than Guinness themselves. Perhaps you do? Would you care to have a try? It may be serious or humorous. But it must be original. It could be a slogan or a rhyme. Or else you might sketch out an advertising idea. Prizes of tankards engraved with your own name will be presented for the most ingenious ideas submitted. Winning entries may be published in the leading University papers, but will not be used elsewhere without payment. Send your entry to the address below. No correspondence can be entered into and no entries returned unless stamped addressed envelopes are enclosed.

Send your entries to Arthur Guinness Son & Co. (Park Royal) Ltd., Advertising Dept. (Press Section), 8 Baker Street, London, W.1., not later than March 31st, 1963.

G.E.3762:14

This week in The Listener

ISSUE DATED NOV. 8

A UNIVERSITY FOR REJECTS

A new type of university is urgently needed to prevent the present waste of talent, says John Margeson, Admissions Tutor and Lecturer at Hull University.

ART IN WALES

Vernon Watkins talks about the need for the artist to create. The recent Swansea Festival of the Arts and the work of Welsh painters such as Alfred Jones and Ceri Richards are chosen for special reference.

ROUND THE CINEMAS

The film, "The Longest Day" is reviewed in this article, by Eric Rhode, written specially for "The Listener."

A COOL LOOK AT COVENTRY

A modern church should be, not a romantic gesture, but a building which answers the question: What is the church for? From this standpoint Dr. Gilbert Cope, Deputy Director for the Study of Worship and Religious Architecture at Birmingham University, examines Coventry Cathedral.

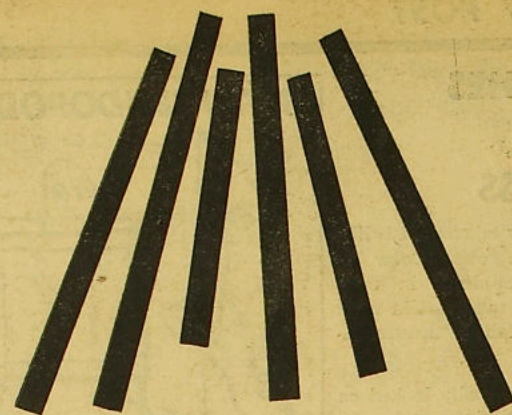
and other features

The Listener

and BBC Television Review

FROM YOUR NEWSAGENT EVERY THURSDAY 6D

A BBC PUBLICATION



specification for AMBITION

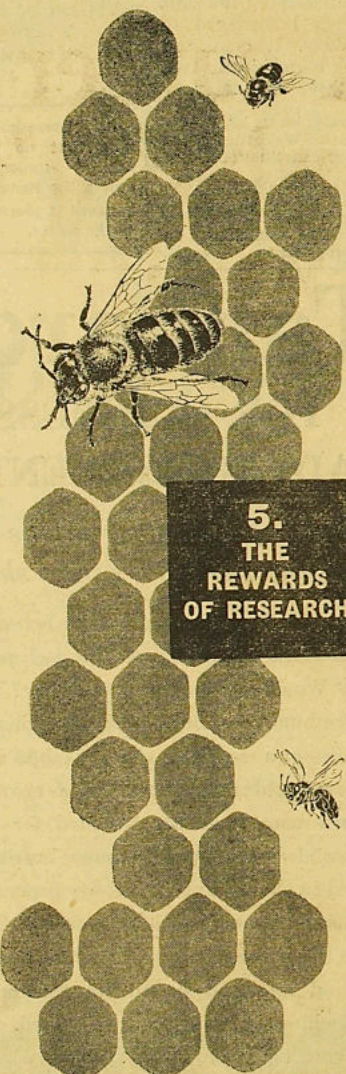
Undoubtedly, you have drawn up in your own mind certain specifications for a career.

If you're ambitious, you'll be looking for a position where there's both size and surging growth. You'll find them with the Central Electricity Generating Board. For proof, consider these two significant facts. One—the Board's output needs to be doubled every ten years. Two—it spends more on industrial construction than any other single organisation in the United Kingdom... as much as £200,000,000 yearly.

Here is a career to match your ambition. In

research and development work, there are direct appointments for chemists, physicists, metallurgists, mathematicians and engineers. In operational work—generation, transmission or design and construction—there is a two-year programme of training for electrical and mechanical engineers. Are you willing to meet the challenge of a career with such a limitless future? Then see for yourself the exciting things that are happening. Spend part of your vacation with us, come and visit a research laboratory or power station or ask for information about the opportunities for you.

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5. THE REWARDS OF RESEARCH

Research in Industry

Concrete reward lies in the payslip; but that is not the only reward. And when the novelty of the payslip wears off, other rewards come into truer perspective. Satisfaction in applying one's knowledge and skill to problems of practical importance, for example; and the pleasure of achieving a useful solution.

Solutions are inescapable in industrial research: for the outlook is frankly practical, whether the project is short-term or long-term, and whether it involves fundamental studies or not. There is scope for planning both short-term and long-term studies, and for interweaving them to provide variety and maintain interest.

But above all there is the incentive to find an answer—a profitable answer—for the sheer pleasure of doing so, for the consequential uplift of one's ego and repercussions on the payslip. It was an axiom of the first Lord Leverhulme that it is more satisfying and profitable to do good for the community than merely to make a profit. For the most part it still holds.

UNILEVER RESEARCH
MEANS INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

ANNE PETTER calls for BIRTH CONTROL FOR THE MULTITUDES

A VERY great difference exists between the rich and the poor nations today, as great as that which prevailed in Victorian England between the upper classes and the lower.

The poor nations, the under-developed countries, are striving to achieve the same standard of development that we in the west enjoy, but are frustrated and hindered by their enormous, and rapidly increasing population.

This large increase in numbers is mainly due to death control: whereas in the past surplus population was eliminated by plagues, and disease, today the prevention of epidemics and control of disease is saving millions of lives.

Meanwhile the birth rate has continued unchecked.

The first population explosion, which hit the western world at the time of the Industrial Revolution, was not difficult to overcome, for relief was found, during the nineteenth century, in emigration to America, Australia, and Africa.

Favour

Later in that century and during the early years of this century, birth control gradually gained favour, particularly in England, where by 1920 the average family consisted of two or three children, not seven or eight as had been the rule 60 years earlier.

Moreover, industrialism and agricultural improvement made it possible for the material needs of a larger population to be adequately met.

However, the situation today in under-developed countries is very different; relief cannot be found in emigration, nor do these countries have the industrial foundation from which to provide their needs. Meanwhile, babies are born at the rate of one every ninety seconds.

The answer lies, of course, in birth control, although this pre-

sents very formidable task. Many under-developed countries are composed of small societies, in which ignorance and superstition prevail.

In many of these societies, a state of semi-constant famine is accepted happily by all, to suggest to them that this condition is undesirable, economic, social and medical in view, is to grossly offend the recognised moral standard of the community, for the neo-control campaign, and in the children a woman bears twelve years alone has suggested as a highly commendable reflection on her fertility.

Furthermore, the disapproval of the Roman Catholic Church, though not an under-developed country, has great influence in the strict sense of the word, a great deal can be learnt from Japan's methods and experience.

However, despite these obstacles, most under-developed countries in the world, similar, have set in motion birth control, not so intensive, campaign and have stars are underway. In China, a limitation programme, Mexico oral contraceptives Ayub Khan of Pakistan widely available, while

in Puerto Rico and certain other South American countries, which are predominantly Roman Catholic, sterilisation is favoured among the women—unhappily, though, they tend to bear large families before undergoing the operation! To appeal to a largely uneducated, ignorant and superstitious people, contraceptives must be simple to understand and apply, non-toxic, easily distributed and, of course, cheap.

Urgent

The present birth control pill, simplest to understand, apply and distribute, is still very expensive. The average cost per birth prevented is £25, as shown by research done here in Birmingham; whereas in a country like India a cost of £4 would be the maximum possible payable for any one couple.

At a recent ORD lecture by Professor Lafitte, the urgency of dealing with these problems was impressed on a large number of

ARE VACATIONS TOO LONG?

ANY writer as prejudiced as myself likes to see a semblance of democracy in his printed opinions. Accordingly, holding strong views on the subject, I collected the views of various other students.

Firstly, in the long academic year, one has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment.

Briefly they were as follows: the university is a place where one can find a wide range of opportunities for personal development. It is a place where one can find a wide range of opportunities for personal development.

Secondly, in the long academic year, one has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment.

Thirdly, in the long academic year, one has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment.

Fourthly, in the long academic year, one has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment.

Fifthly, in the long academic year, one has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment.

Sixthly, in the long academic year, one has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment. One has 21 weeks of such environment.

asks Keith Bassett

Casanova may see his women for 21 weeks unbroken. Oedipus may go home to mummy; budding Miltons and Einsteins may pore over the small print free from troubling lectures. As for the rest of us, we can vow to do next term all the things we failed to do in this one.

Universities "educate people." No person is educated who only knows a small section of his society. In confining academic walls he does not even know himself. Vacations are the "negative" side of university education.

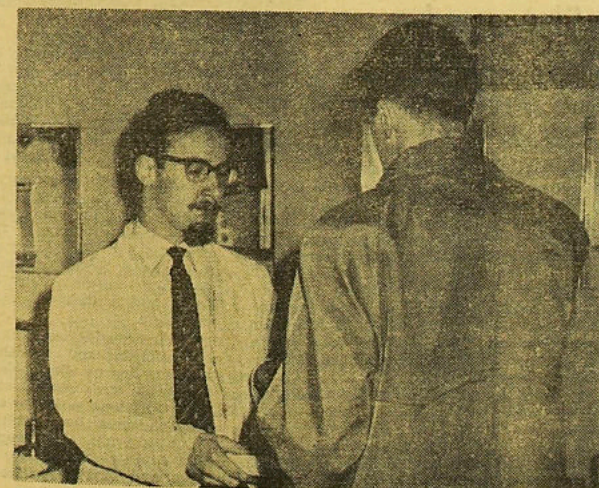


Photo ANDREW HORNIG

... or lavatory attendants.

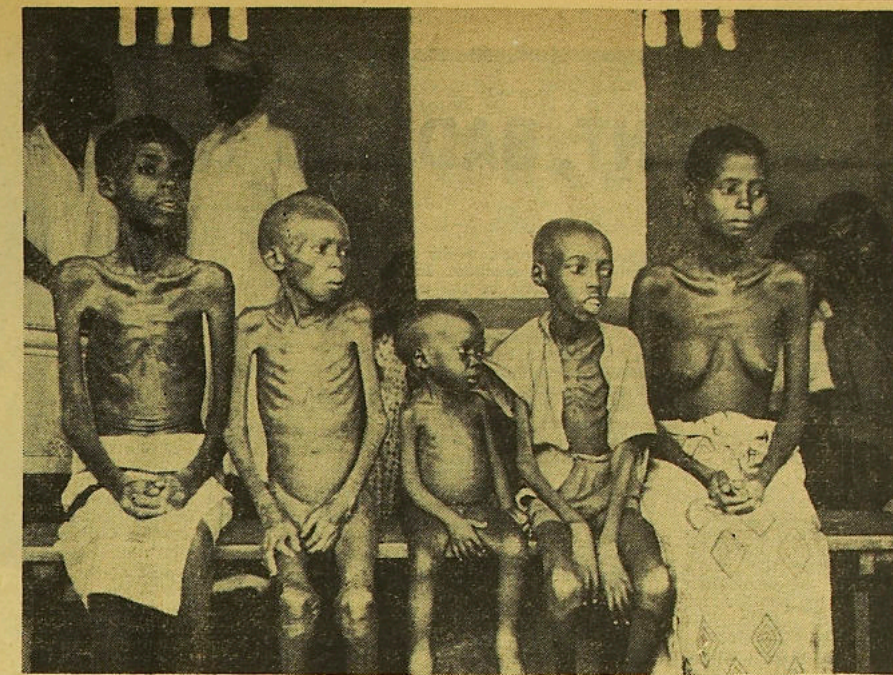


Photo MIRROR PIC

CONTROL OR STARVATION

- In 1 BC world population was 250 million; by 1650 it had doubled to 500 million; by 1950 it had doubled and redoubled to 2,500 million;

In less than 30 years it will have doubled again.

Unless population is checked the world food situation will become critical.

A career is what it's worth

If you divide the population into two groups—those who take THE TIMES and those who don't—you find this: those who don't take THE TIMES are in the great majority. Those who do are either at the top in their careers, or are confidently headed there.

THE TIMES both by its seniority in experience and by its incomparable prowess as a modern newspaper, naturally commends itself to successful people. There is no high level conference, no board meeting, no top executive's private office into which THE TIMES is not apt to be taken.

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REVIEWS

Theatre

INDIFFERENT, BAD AND GOOD

John McVeagh

'SUDDENLY Last Summer' is an unpleasant play. This is not to say that it is 'immoral' or unsuitable in any of the interpretations which we put on these words; but it is profoundly cynical both in its theme and in its characters.

What it displays of human personality is nasty, what it says by implication of human relationships is horrid, what it lacks most glaringly is the slightest compensating trace of pity, compassion or comfort. Moreover, in keeping with the play's general theme, the domination of one person by another for viciously selfish ends, its language is stark and savage.

John Pegg and Brenda White, who produced the play for GTG last week, exploited to the full the opportunities offered by its simple and unequivocal savagery.

The set, for example, consisted of the barest minimum of props beyond what was functionally necessary: chairs (to sit on), a table (to put things on), and a venetian blind to serve as door, window, and wall were all that was actually used, and at the side of the stage—as a symbolic exposition of the play—was a gruesome exhibit of incredible violence, made out of wood, paint and cloth. All attention was therefore focused on the action, or rather on the dialogue, for the action too was reduced to a minimum.

But having praised the set and the presentation of the play, one must modify one's words with regard to its production. In the first place, none of the actors was very bad.

Apart from Jennifer Ramsden who rather overacted the cowed and frightened housemaid, and Jennifer McArthur whose stentorian boomings as Sister Felicity put one more in mind of a sergeant-major than a nun—apart from these occasional lapses, the actors deserve praise for their excellent performances.

The standard, which rarely fell below the competent, was sometimes superb; and deserving of particular mention was the relationship established between Catherine and the doctor in those scenes of interrogation which formed the climax of the play.

Diane Hill as Mrs. Venables, Deanne Hutchinson as Catherine and Stuart Saunders as Dr. Cucrowicz were exceptionally good in parts of great difficulty. Jennifer Howard and Michael Sylvester as Mrs. Holly and George gave convincing portrayals of vicious and small-minded greed.

However, the minor faults, such as unintended pauses and a tendency to shout lines or talk into the back of the stage, were not such as to detract significantly from this excellent production of a most demanding play.

***** Margaret Morgan ONE'S reaction to "The Bald Prima Donna" depends on whether one 'digs' Ionesco or not. Ionesco must

be credited with good pioneer work for the modern theatre, but after the clever "substitution" humour of Simpson and the masterly technique of Pinter the task of maintaining the dialogue is great.

The cast as a whole was very competent, with clear characterisation. Miss Pat Cushman was delightful, and there were some well-sustained moments. Unfortunately, the pace slowed down and never quite regained momentum, even despite Chris Holliday's valiant effort.

The physical movement of the climax held one's attention by the fact that it was movement, but could have been more interesting in its interpretation. The symmetrical, deadpan set was ideal for reinforcing the overall impression of Ionesco's boredom and frustration, enlivened only by the cast's putting some vigour into the verbal play.

Bob Bootle

AS a coffee-laden gathering hissed and grunted its way back into the Deb. Hall after the interval, it looked as if GTG had a bad case of non-reacting audience on its hands. Yet within ten minutes it was obvious that "Trial by Jury" was to be the hit of the evening.

W. S. Gilbert's burlesque of a breach-of-promise case with its outraged and mercenary plaintiff (Elaine Padmore) and pathetically protesting defendant (Don Waite) remains as pointed today as it ever was.

Altera tempora, altera mores, but human character seems to be similar in any epoch.

Gilbert was well served on the stage, notable by counsel for the prosecution (Mike Waite) an agonised Marshall Hall, a quivering mass of senility and sexuality, and the two principals. The defendant cracked a little on the high notes as he lost his case but even that fitted with the plot.

Marion Virgo, the producer, had obviously scoured the gutters of Birmingham for her jury-men, everything from a parson to a National Socialist and including a delightfully oversexed foreman.

In the orchestra, Sullivan came in for some smooth treatment, under the hand of Rufus Gribbin as, for the first time in G & S history, the notorious Sullivan oom-pah oom-pah was eliminated completely.

The law is a Hass but what a splendid Hass it is.

Films

ON THE NORMANDY BEACHES

John Sheppard

ZANUCK'S "The Longest Day" (Gau-mont) tells the story of the Normandy landings in the summer of 1944. The film shows alternately the varying viewpoints of the British, German and American armies on that fateful June day.

England has long been the besieged champion of democracy and all that we hold dear. It has now become an island brimming with troops and other weapons of destruction, ready to launch a major invasion of the Fascist Empire.

The weather is poor but Monty and Ike chance their arms and give the order for the invasion to proceed in order to knock Jerry for six out of Europe. The British are shown quaffing their ale and talking philosophically about the few getting fewer.

This type of dialogue is obviously included to try to persuade us that this is a cut above the average war film. The Americans play crap and chew inordinate quantities of gum and the Germans strut about in slick uniforms. Michael Medwin and his cronies, armed

with guffaws and hearty asides, flounder up the beaches giving one the impression of Weston on Bank Holiday Monday. John Wayne strolls around impervious to machine gun and mortar fire, and yet again wins World War Two. Extras are slaughtered by their thousands in a manner which is almost comic at times.

Meanwhile, Germany waits for Hitler to awake from his drugged sleep because no one dares wake him. The portrayal of the German Army uses every trick of slapstick farce that is going. The Resistance cell includes, of course, a gorgeous French piece dressed in black. By now one wonders why she was not given a beret and a shoulder bag to make the parody complete.

The production has strung reel upon reel hour or two of this one's senses becomes dulled and even one's subconscious horror of the fact that this is a historical occurrence fails to stop the stealthy march of boredom.

Credit must be given for the fact that the film contains more trite clichés, rallying round flags and bloated patriotism than ever before.

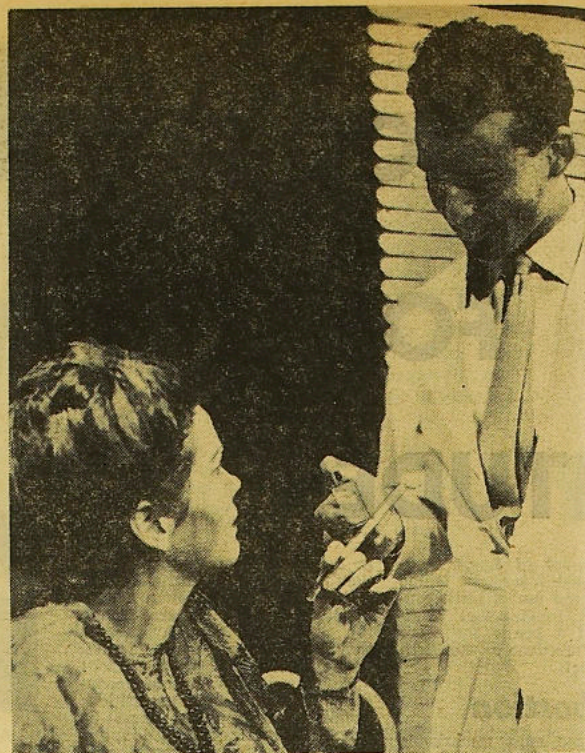


Photo ANDREW HORNIG

• Doctor Cucrowicz (Stewart Saunders) talking to Mrs. Venables (Diane Hill).

Music

EVEN UNMUSICAL

Alan Smith

THIS week provides an opportunity to hear two new works and a "new" instrument. At tomorrow night's CBSO concert, following Weber's overture to his fairy-tale opera "Der Freischütz," Handel's Fire-works Music and Beethoven's "Emperor" piano concerto, played by Gary Graffman, the main work, to be conducted by the composer, will be the Humphrey Searle's Fourth Symphony, which will receive its first performance.

It was distressing to see such a small audience at the recent performance of Berg's Violin Concerto, because (it is suspected), it is a serial composition. As all Searle's works since 1957 have been cast in 12-note technique, there is every reason to believe that this new work will be likewise constructed.

One of the criticisms of this technique, is that it is unemotional, mathematical, even, unmusical, yet the Berg possesses none of these qualities, whilst a definite romantic approach is detectable in Searle's works. He admits unashamedly that he gains inspiration from nature or

personal experiences, so that perhaps this symphony will yet again prove an exception to the generally accepted view.

The other new work will be performed by its composer John Ogdon at Bromsgrove on Saturday. He is not recognised as a composer, excellent young pianist though he is, but his 24 Preludes may be seen as a continuation of the virtuoso Lisztian tradition whereby they are designed specifically to exploit keyboard technique and the player's ability.

Viola D'Amore

The "new" instrument is a revival and reconstruction of an instrument particularly associated with the rococo—the viola d'amore. Shaped like a violin, it is a sensitive instrument with very weak tone—which is probably the reason which forbids its acceptance into the large concert hall. Montagu Cleeve has overhauled its structure to give it a fuller tone, though in so doing he may have ruined its original peculiar quality, possessed because of a set of sympathetically vibrating strings with those actually played.

Nowadays it is a rarity, so for those interested in old instruments the recital at Manor House on Sunday at 8 p.m. should be a notable occasion.

sporting REDBRICK

Cross-country

SEVERE TEST

THE first Birmingham and District Cross-country League race held at Warwick provided the University with its severest test so far this season. The team did moderately well.

Out of a field of 150 runners representing ten clubs, Brown and Gairdner ran extremely well to finish 6th and 8th respectively, over a heavy five-and-a-half mile course.

The gap, however, between the Club's first two runners and the closing scorers, Milne (25th), Yale (27th), Walinsky (38th) and Wrighton (51st) proved to be just too wide for a team place in the first three. But the points scored were low enough to leave the Club in a healthy position for the remaining three League races.

RESULTS (Leading positions):

- | points |
|---------------------------|
| (1) Bliston AC ... 103 |
| (2) AEI Rugby AC ... 118 |
| (3) Cheltenham AC ... 151 |
| (4) Birmingham Univ. 155 |
| (5) Halesowen AC ... 170 |

On November 17th, the Club will have one of its most important fixtures when, for the first time, it will race against Cambridge University at Cambridge.

Sport in brief

Motoring

A FEATURE of the Motor Club's Driving Test meeting last Sunday was the fine performance of two Freshmen, W. A. Lewis and J. L. Sadler, the latter winning his class in a Wolseley.

The fastest time of the day was recorded by A. Poole in a Sprite. Outstanding was the performance of Z. Jaksic in his Bond Minicar, competing in academic gown and crash-helmet and spending some considerable time on two wheels.

Fencing

THE Fencing Club recorded a fine 15-12 win against a powerful London University team on Saturday. London won the foil 5-4, with Kirby (a reserve for the Empire Games in Perth) winning his three fights without a hit against him.

Birmingham retaliated by winning the sabre 6-3. Warner, Bald and La Touche each emerging victorious in two of their three fights. The match was decided by the epee event, where Warner won three fights and Russell two.

sports comment

Come and Cheer

A FORTNIGHT ago in this column, the major University sports Clubs—Soccer, Rugby, Hockey—were urged to take the hint from the smaller Clubs and emerge victorious from their UAU fixtures. Since then, there has been an encouraging revival in the big Clubs' fortunes.

The Soccer team, with the left-winger pair of Brett and Rosser in great form, scored a resounding 3-0 UAU win at Keele, and a close 3-2 victory away over Liverpool, followed by a fine 1-1 draw with London last Saturday. Considering that the team has been without key halfbacks Johnson and Fairly for all these games, it is an excellent achievement.

The Rugby Club, hitting back hard against its vociferous critics, has recorded victories against Keele and Derby, drawn against Kenilworth, and lost to a strong Old Dixonians side. The Men's Hockey team, too, beat Keele convincingly and scored a splendid 2-1 win over a Shropshire County XI.

This afternoon the teams face Loughborough, Midland region UAU giants, at Bournbrook. In the light of recent performances, the Clubs deserve big crowds of supporters to cheer them on. This is probably the Clubs' most important day of the year, so let all non-playing members of the Guild go down to Bournbrook this afternoon and shout hard for Birmingham.



Photo ALAN COHEN

• An incident during Saturday's match with London University.

Rugby

XV PLAY WELL BUT CANNOT WIN

Kenilworth 3, Birmingham U. 3

IN the two matches played this week, the Rugby Club has had one draw and one defeat, but even so, the pre-Loughborough position is not as bad as it might seem.

The match at Kenilworth was dominated by two features; complete monopoly of possession from the set scrums, and the magnificent tackling of the University backs, who never allowed Kenilworth to break through. Kenilworth's try was only scored when a forward dived over, following a line-out on the University line.

For Birmingham, the principle features of the match were the excellent tackling, particularly from centres Evans and Shaw, and some very impressive work by Mills, particularly in the line-outs.

Birmingham U. 3, O. Dixonians 11.

Against a strong Old Dixonians team on Saturday, the Club were without captain Mills, down with influenza, and consequently need not feel despondent at the result. The game was very different from Wednesday's, far more open and entertaining, with play switching quickly from end to end.

Good Tackling

The University performed well in attack, and the tackling too was often excellent, with one superb effort by Nelthorpe outstanding. Birmingham's points were scored by R. Evans, who kicked a long, penalty mid-way through the first half.

The most encouraging feature of the game was the improved play of the forwards, who, though hampered by a finger injury to open-side Richards, used their greater speed and mobility well, gaining more possession from the set scrums than has recently been the case.

The backs, apart from a few tackling lapses, continued to show encouraging form, and Fletcher, called out of semi-retirement to deputise for Steer at full-back, showed that he had lost little of his ability.

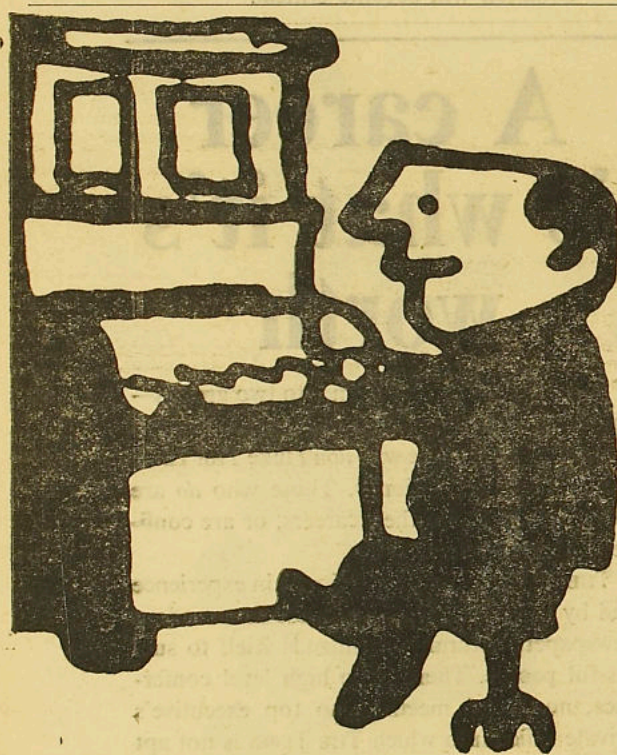
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Losses may mean meals will cost more

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THE amount of cutlery and crockery missing from the University Refectory is reaching such proportions that the catering authorities are seriously concerned.

So far this term 768 half-pint tumblers, costing £56, and 540 stainless steel teaspoons worth £39, have gone from the new refectory. "And these are the only two items we have had time to check yet," said Mr. O. F. Humbert, the Catering Officer. "The matter is coming up at the next meeting of the University Refectory Committee when a line of action will be decided. We just cannot carry on if losses at this rate continue."

Mr. Humbert said that the position was nearly as bad last year, when in the first eight weeks after the new refectory was opened, £87 worth of cutlery, crockery and glassware was lost as well as two dozen new trays.

Suffer

"If we can find no way of stopping this loss, inevitably it will mean that everyone is going to suffer. The University authorities cannot afford to keep replacing the lost equipment and some increase in price may be the only remedy."

Mr. Humbert also drew attention to the misuse of the facilities in the refectory. For example, 400 sugar dispensers had to be withdrawn after they had been misused in various ways. "People wrote their names in sugar on the table, mixed sugar and salt, causing so much mess and wastage that we had to withdraw the dispensers."

"Equally reprehensible is the behaviour of a small minority who are spoiling the furniture in the refectory lounges by putting their muddy feet on it."

"It is a sad reflection that the better standards of furnishing adopted by the University should be accompanied by such disgracefully low standards of behaviour on the part of some of the users," said Mr. Barnes, the University Secretary.

The position in the Union is little better. Mr. C. W. Reynolds, the catering supervisor, said that in the first five weeks of this term equipment to the value of £63 had been lost. This includes 432 teaspoons, 72 knives, 72 spoons, 100 forks and 200 glasses.

In Excess

"We expect some loss from breakages and such but this is far in excess of what it should be," said Mr. Reynolds. "But I am told that this loss is normal for the Union so it seems as if we will just have to bear it."

Plans for buying new equipment may be set back by the losses. Mr. Reynolds said he planned to buy some new, hygienic sugar containers but when 36 were bought about eighteen months ago a third of them were stolen in the first week. "Although it would be very nice to have these new things it's just not worth it at £4 a week," commented Mr. Reynolds.

Returned

Some of the stolen equipment is returned, but only a small proportion. In the case of the Union it is landladies that bring it back at the end of term. The refectory has recently been receiving small parcels of cutlery from guilt-conscious students.

Catering officials both in the Union and the University hope that students will co-operate in stopping this increasing loss of equipment.

Four Sheffield students suspended

NEWSPAPER posters stating "War declared—Official" were placed around Sheffield by four students. They caused panic in the town. As a result the students have been suspended from their Union.

The students, all freshers, intended it as a rag stunt, but both Union and Rag officials disclaimed responsibility. The students' representative committee obtained permission from the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. J. M. Whittaker, to deal with the offenders.

A tribunal consisting of fellow students chosen by the Union Secretary, took three and a half hours to find the four students guilty of conduct prejudicial to the good name of the student body.

The offenders were barred from using the Union building and taking part in any student activities for periods ranging from one to three months. All four were ordered to pay a £1 fine.

Mr. J. Jephcott, the Union Secretary, said the ringleader has undertaken to write a letter of apology to the Vice-Chancellor.

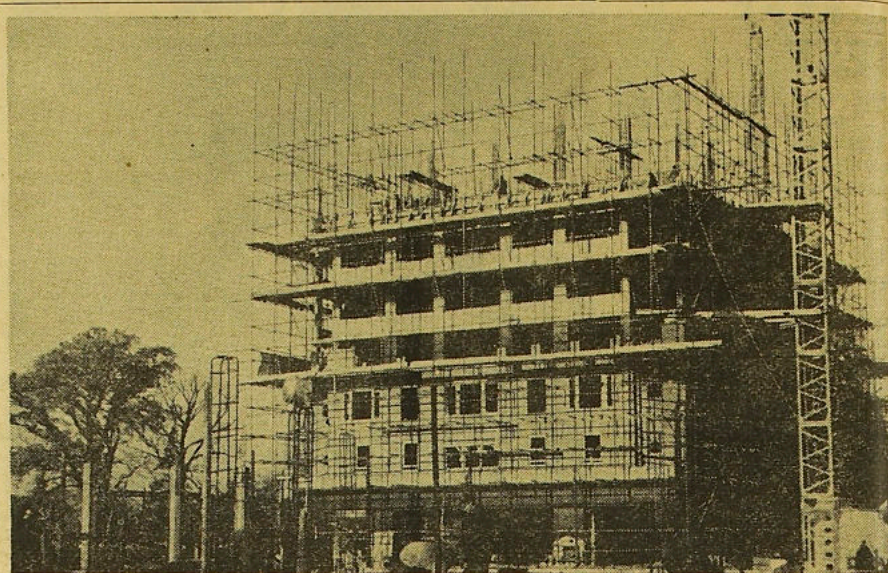


Photo PETER MURRAY

• High Hall, the first new Hall of Residence being built on the Wyddrington Vale site.

More meals in the Union

THE Founders Room and the Lesser Hall are again open for meals.

The President of the Guild, Rodney Klevan, made the decision "after I realised there was a great deal of pressure for this in the Union."

It is hoped that the decision will ease queues, both in the Union and in the refectory. Mr. Klevan said that the position would be reviewed soon to see if both these services were necessary, if they weren't one would be closed.

"This decision is an excellent example of Guild-University relationships," said Mr. Klevan. "We had an agreement with the University authorities to close these two facilities when the new refectory opened. They have now agreed without hesitation to let us re-open them."

Catering Committee, which hasn't met for seventeen weeks, will discuss the decision at its meeting tomorrow.

The University catering officer, Mr. O. F. Humbert, said that the Mason Room in the Arts Block is permanently closed. "It was only intended as a temporary service," he said. The University Catering Committee is also looking for a new firm to supply vending machines, as the firm that previously supplied the University went into liquidation. "These machines cost £400-£500 and it is impractical for the University to buy and service them," said Mr. Humbert.

COLE CRITICISES NEDDY AND NICKY

Commerce Conference

THE Government's failure to see the practical side of economic problems was stressed by Mr. John Cole, industrial correspondent for the Guardian and Spectator in a talk last Friday. He also considered it unsuitable as an arbitrator in wage disputes.

Addressing the Faculty of Commerce on "Nicky and Neddy"—the National Incomes Commission and the National Economic Development Council—Mr. Cole compared them with the parallel Swedish organisation, of which he had made a study on his recent visit to Sweden.

He was enthusiastic over the success of the Swedish organisation, while ours are comparative failures, due to weaknesses and drawbacks which he outlined.

Weakness

The fundamental weakness of "Nicky" is that instead of being a responsible independent body, it has to do a politician's as well as industrialist's job. If it were to take the place of the present, unsuitable, Royal Commissions, a body of important knowledge could be assimilated and used for future comparisons when dealing with wage disputes. A more practical attitude to these problems would also be introduced, now lacking on the part of the Government who regards them merely from the economist's standpoint.

The Swedish organisation constitutes a centralised and responsible body of employers and trades unionists, independent of the Government, which deals with wage negotiations. Trouble is taken to educate the trades unionists, and the result is a high-ranking, well informed democracy.

He saw more hope for "Neddy," although there were numerous stumbling blocks at present. It "could raise an ambition—lacking in British industry at present—and set a target for higher productivity."

Unfortunately, "Neddy" has been set up too late to tackle

ATTACK OUTSIDE CHIP SHOP

FOUR second year Arts students were involved in a fight with a gang of youths, outside Antonio's fish and chip shop in Selly Oak on Tuesday evening last week.

The students allege that they were attacked by the gang, who were about ten in number, and two of them were beaten up and left lying on the ground. The police were called, but by the time they arrived, the gang had dispersed. One of the students was driven round Selly Oak in a police car, but there was no sign of the youths.

He said later, "They weren't drunk, and there did not seem to be any reason for the attack. It was entirely unprovoked." No action is to be taken.

Price-cut

THE new Society Jazz Club, whose formation was announced in last week's REDBRICK has decided to reduce the annual subscription from 21/- to 7/6 to attract more University members to their meetings in the Bournbrook Hotel.

On November 12th, the Fair weather-Brown All Stars will be the Club's guests.

SMALL ADS

External Ads.: 4d. a word.
Internal Ads.: 1d. a word.
Insertions accepted up to
mid-day Tuesday.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION invites you to an open meeting, "Manifesto!" tomorrow, 5.15 p.m. Arts Block, Lecture room 3. Speaker: Rev. R. Turvey, M.A., Leeds. You are also invited to hear Professor Mackay, this week's open lecturer, next Sunday in St. John's Church, Harborne, 6.30 p.m.

LADY'S BIKE wanted in good condition, £3 maximum.—Please contact via pigeon holes, Katy Doyle.

CULTURED IRISH GENT seeks boon companion to share Edgbaston flat, enchanting prospect of Balsall Heath from rear window, reasonable rent.—A. C. Burgess, Mech. Eng. Dept.

MONDAY, 19th, PPS Social with all mod. cons. (trad cons. as well), Founders Room.

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MONDAY, 12th NOVEMBER

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ILLUSTRATED talk on Lee Abbey by Rev. Gordon Mayo, sub-warden, 8 p.m. TONIGHT, at the Anglican Chaplaincy. All are welcome.

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COME to the Arden Group at the Arden Hotel, New St., Sunday, November 18th at 7.30 p.m. to hear the debate on the motion that "Politics without religion goes to the devil."

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