

NEW CUTS

TOO EXTREME

Carnival needs YOU

Carnival needs people who are interested in poster painting and design and internal publicity in general.

Anyone who fits the above categories please get in touch with John Norman Internal Affairs, Carnival Office.

Appreciable cuts in Halls expenditure are being made in an effort to reduce the expected loss at the end of the year. Staff on the Vale Site halls are at present "very disgruntled" over recent changes in their working hours, and over the matter of Hall Staff

parking fees.

Reductions in the hours worked by Hall Staff have been made in recent weeks in an effort to save money. Already it is widely felt that the Vale halls will make a large loss this year and the latest staff changes seem to be confirmation of this.

At Mason there were rumoured threats of mass resignations on the part of the staff when they heard of the new working hours. Weekday work has been cut down by up to half-an-hour daily, and in addition the staff Christmas party, paid for by the Halls, is no longer to be held on the Vale site.

No bonus

A further cut in wage expenses has been made by the elimination of the conference bonus paid to the staff for working during the vac, when conferences take place at the halls. The bonus used to be in the region of £4, but now these wages will be the same as during normal term-time.

The reaction to the proposed Hall staff car-parking fees—£5 yearly or 10s. for a staff member to bring his car briefly into the Halls grounds for visiting purposes, has been so strong that "the University is now reconsidering the matter," Mr. Currie, the Halls Administrator, said last night.

Further cuts in expenditure have been made by the introduction, in great secrecy, of dried milk in the place of the natural variety, thus saving another £3,000 yearly.

It is expected that the Presidents of the Halls J.C.R.s will also have their own comments to add, once the true state of Halls finances is made clear.

Empty seats

WHEN nominations for freshmen Councillors and Guild Council by-elections closed on Monday only Medical Sciences and Postgraduate Certificate in Education had no nominees for either freshmen seats or by-election seats.

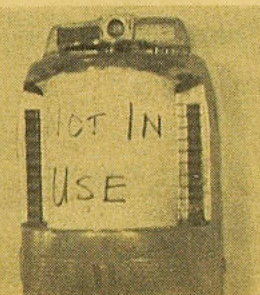
In the freshmen elections 12 departments have candidates standing unopposed, and only six departments have more than two candidates standing unopposed, and three have more than one candidate standing.

There are eight nominations for the three seats on the University Court of Governors.

CONTACT ASTON

Volunteers are still required to act as control patients for a survey being conducted on contact lenses, no lenses will be worn, but ten shillings will be paid for every examination made. If you wear spectacles and are interested write to: The Contact Lens Clinic, University of Aston, Gosta Green, Birmingham.

MORONS WIN



(Photo: Dave Robinson)

THE jukebox may now be played in both Founder's and the Coffee Bar.

Guild Council last night rescinded its decision of four years ago and let the jukebox supporters have their way. Ray Phillips, proposing the motions, said: "There is a vast body of opinion in the University watching Council tonight." He said that the jukebox supporters had been described as "a wave of moronic people" by Mike Hartley-Brewer, but we must not disregard the majority at the expense of a minority. There were many alternative rooms in the Union where the jukebox could go.

An amendment to the motion was moved by Mark Burke, who said that the jukebox should be played in the Games Room and not the Coffee Bar. However, the amendment was defeated, after much discussion, and the motion was eventually overwhelmingly carried.

Dearer books ahead

PRICES of American books will rise by 15 per cent following the recent devaluation of sterling.

The manager of the University branch of Hudsons Bookshops told "Redbrick" yesterday: "Prices are bound to go up. We had a message from John Wiley today, saying that they would require us to pay extra for their books."

It is understood that there will be no immediate rises in Hudsons present stock of American books, but as new books come in the prices will go up.

Reports show up failings

IN an attempt to rejuvenate Guild Council and stimulate interest from the student body in its meetings, the Council is introducing departmental reports as part of the agenda. This Tuesday, reports from the medical and the physics department are being read, and the medical report promises to be an interesting one.

There are three groups of activities in the Medical Department Society, catering for the educational, social and the sporting interests of members of the faculty.

The report states that relations between the Guild and the Medical School are almost non-existent, due partly to the distance of the Union from centres of medical activity and partly to the feeling by medics that "Union cliques or In-Crowds" exist. The medics often feel "out" of university life in general.

The report levels complaints about inadequate facilities for relaxation in the hospitals, car parking arrangements, general overcrowding in the Medical School facilities and repetition and time-wasting in the academic curriculum. The medics suffer from overworking as a result of too full a curriculum, and from severe financial hardship. Financial difficulties are especially acute for clinical students, who are "up" for 48 weeks a year at least, and must manage on only £6 6s. per week for 18 weeks of it.

In conclusion the report states that "interest in Guild Council verges on 100 per cent derision" and the medical students themselves believe that the interest of Guild Council in them and their affairs is non-existent.

LATE NEWS

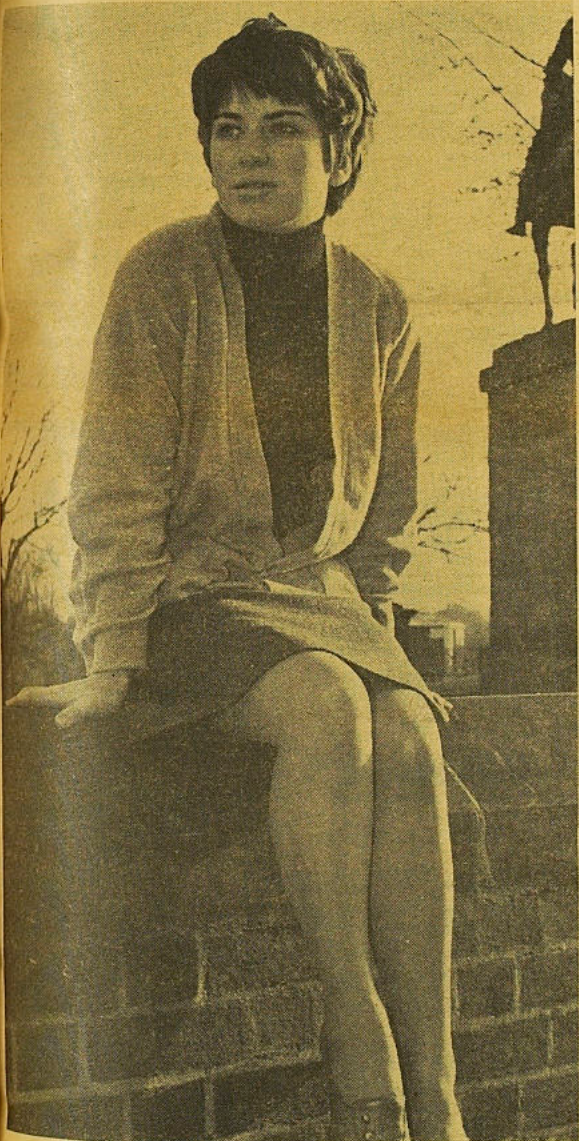
Elections: Pete Leach Assistant Ed. of "Mermaid."
Gabe Thomas: Refectory Commission.
Carnival Committee elections deferred to early in spring term.
Guild Council: Motion to change date to Monday heavily defeated.

JUNCTION JAZZ

EVERY MONDAY, 8.0-10.45

Junction Hotel,

High Street, Harborne



Mancunian Kathy Smoker likes jazz, foreign cinema and acting. She studies Law, as well.

(Photo: Pete Mills)

ELBOW ROOM

EVERY NIGHT
HIGH ST ASTON

REDBRICK SAYS...

Pointless elections

FOR the election of student representatives to the University Court of Governors, which takes place tomorrow, there are eight candidates for three places. This is something of a farcical situation, when one considers that the duties are purely nominal, and that the Court of Governors—the supreme ruling body in the University, with some five or six hundred members, meets but once a year, and is in no way a policy-making body. What do the candidates want to be elected for?

In the past, candidates for these elections have been confined largely to the Union Executive, and a few politically-minded students, with little in the way of political fighting to contest the result. Such a monopoly, for want of a better term, by the Union clique, is in principle bad.

Admittedly, this is only token student representation, but if students can take an interest in choosing which candidate they personally want, whether scientists or the Exec. political figures, then in future years, when student representation on policy-making university bodies is a possibility, then interest in these much more important elections is much more likely to flourish, students feeling that they have some power in choosing their preferred representatives.

Many keen but few plodded

The sad little band who plodded round the North Birmingham Outer Circle last Saturday, collecting for Vietnam Medical Aid, had their already hollow efforts made even hollow, by the absence of all of Exec. save Charles Wright. Guild councillors were not noted for their numbers, and there was a notable absence of the people who had mandated the march and had donated £15 towards the cost of it.

Editor: Phil Irving

Assistant Editor: Graham Barker

News Editor: Dave Fraser

"View" Editor: Jan Baker

Business Manager: Pete Ullathorne

Sports Editor: Dave Meacham

the union,
the university,
edgbaston,
birmingham 15.



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(Next to Oak Cinema)

Personal

External: 6d a word.
Internal: 3d a word.
Insertions up to mid-day Tuesday

ASTRONOMICAL Society. Dr. G. R. Isaak talks about "Does a preferred frame of reference exist?" Nov. 27th, 5.15, in the New Lecture Theatre Physics Department.

WILKIE.—No, come back again.—Theresa.
GERALD.—Sorry, but Geoff's torn it.—Kai.

HUMANIST Group. Film evening, showing two "Concord" films, "Women in Prison" and a "This Week" discussion on penal reform. Nov. 22nd, 7.30, Council Chamber.

HUMANIST Group. Teach-in on penal reform, with Ivor Cook, Renee Short M.P., Bill Wilson M.P., Jonathan Steele and others. Nov. 24th, 5.0-10.30, Council Chamber.

NUDIST Soc. starting.—Apply Ian Coldcott, 917 High Hall, Telephone 89.

CATHY.... a white dove with rubber wings?
JOIN the brand new U.F.O. Research Group. Come along to Committee Room 4 tonight, 7.30 p.m.

THE U.F.O. Research Society will welcome you, tonight, 7.30 p.m., Committee Room 4.

GRAHAM Sharpley wishes to announce that he has resigned from Carnival Committee and is now shooting for "Mermaid".

THANKS for the matches, Len.

KEEP WARM. INCREASED numbers of "Morning Star" on sale each day at Reception Desk.

TRANSISTORISED Elephant, not house-trained, first offer accepted.—Apply 269 Maryvale Road.

I HOPE the b— who punched my seat chokes himself with it.—Nick (Met. D.).

COLIN.—Why have you bought yourself a holder for your nighties?—Mike, Pete & Stu.

COLIN.—If you don't get rid of it, I'm moving out.—Stu.

PASSPORT PHOTOS Today 1-2 p.m. CR.4.

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42 PER CENT Discount on new tyres. See Union notice-board. M.B.J.

NICK and Julian wish to emphasise that they are not even good friends.

TOM, next time you fall off, land on your head.

MECH. ENG. Vote for Richard. Is Brian Kirkland in love?

NEWMAN CATHOLIC SOC. Barn Dance, 8 o'clock, Catholic Chaplaincy, 29 Harrison Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15.

YE OLDE RED LION King's Heath, 14 Vicarage Road.

Sundays : Students 2/6
FOLK KLUBB OLD CROWN INN High St., Digbeth, 5 Members' Club only Students : 5/-

WARMTH.

You may be furry, Richard, but you're the wrong species.

METHSOC this Sunday, 3.30. Prayers, 4 tea, 4.30: "Is Wesley Dead?" All welcome at Selly Oak Methodist Church.

HAIRY Bristolian requires new maid.—Apply High 1209.

CHEVALIER. Still struggling for survival but will soon succumb.—Gloria.

IT'S sad, Mary. You meant a lot to me.

DISSIDENT DISSIDENT BROKEN any car seats lately, Bertie Scouse.

PAROKIA members look in your Pigeon Holes.

BROKEN any more seats lately, Mike.

PAD Hurst Sound Sensations. Disco as good as any dance. At the James Watt Soc. Dance.

CHESS CLUB meets on Wednesday nights, 7.0 p.m. C.R.I. All welcome.

JOHN and Margaret, best wishes from all your friends.

NICK: What does Claudia do during your lectures?

PAUL.—Had a good time on Holiday?

FOR accurate thesis typing contact 14 Sussex Court, Holgate Road, Selly Oak.

WANTED (Buy or Borrow): Straw boater; black, broad-brimmed hat; fob watch. Crompton (Union P.H.).

TONY. Quality not quantity. BOOK now. Bugs Beat Ball. No. 3.

BUGS.—the new Ents. Comm. YOGI—Poo is coming back.—Eeyore forgives all.

OPEN LECTURE: Moral Licence.—Is it really freedom? Vic Ramsey, Tuesday, November 28th, 5.15 p.m. in the Council Chamber. Evangelical Christian Union.

SOLISTICE CARDS. The trendy way to greet your friends this Yuletide. Brilliant art nouveau design, 9/- per doz. with envelopes post free. Solistice Enterprises, 83 Leeds Road, Aberdeen.

JENNY: May we have many of them.—Dave.

L. Quote: Don't men have flies then.

PEOPLE who live on mantle shelves should not sprain their ankles—if they do they need to be helped down.

PAUL.—Do all midgets drink their textbooks?

MICK can throw puke six feet at least.

PLUGHMAN'S LUNCHEONS in postgrad Hut on Friday, 1 to 2. Cheap, quick and sociable.

DON'T Punch your Judy but bring her along to the P.G.A. party on Friday.

POSTGRAD Punch and Judy Party in Hutte. Friday night, 3/6.

JUDY! Punch will be delighted to put you into a good mood on Friday night in the Hutte.

TINA. We like you in a skirt. Throw away those trousers.

BILL. Where are the birds nesting now?

TERRY. How can you stand it?

BILL. Who's your best friend? O.R.D. Bread and Cheese lunches. Mixed Lounge. Tuesdays at 1/3.

POSTGRAD Party in Hutte on Friday night, 8 p.m. Tickets limited. Booze endless.

WANTED.—Man reader and experienced defizzer for injured pipe smoker.

SHELTER GROUP. Monday November 27th. Mr. Daley of the Housing Management Department will speak on the Local Authority's role in housing. 7.30 p.m. Committee Room One.

JAMES WATT SOC. Dance. Three Groups. Discotheque Bar. Friday, 8 p.m. Five shillings.

BRIAN AUGER TRINITY. JAMES WATT SOC.

Cinemas

CINEPHONE, Bristol St. "The Young Sinner" (X), also "Wild Youth" (X).

ABC CINERAMA THEATRE, "Far from the Madding Crowd" (U). Tech. Seats 7/6, 10/6, 12/6, 15/6.

ODEON, New St. "Two for the Road" (A).

ABC, New St. "The City Dozen" (X). Col. Late Night Show, Friday at 11 p.m. House on Haunted Hill (plus "Frankenstein 1970")

Tomorrow

JAZZ, Golden Eagle, Hill St. Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. 8.0.

Thursday

FOLK SINGING, Civic Hall, Digbeth: Jug O'Punch Folk Song Club. 7.30.

Friday

FOLK SINGING, Birmingham Arms, Moat Row: Birmingham Arms Folk Song Club. 8.0.

Old Crown, Digbeth: Old Crown Folk Club. 8.0.

Saturday

JAZZ, Civic Hall, Digbeth: Midland Jazz Club. Vision. 8.0.

Old Crown, Digbeth: Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. 8.0.

Sunday

JAZZ, Old Crown, Digbeth: Ken Ingram's Eagle Jazz Band. 8.0.

FOLK SINGING, White Lion Hotel, Horse Fair: Grey Owl Folk Song Club. 8.0.

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OPEN LECTURE: MORAL LICENCE—IS IT REALLY FREEDOM?

By VIC RAMSEY (Experienced worker with drug addicts)

TUESDAY, NOV. 28th COUNCIL CHAMBER 5.15 p.m.

QUO VADIS STUDENT TRAVEL FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Informal and inclusive Student Rates from £15 per week to the Bournemouth Winter Art Festival in Masson

attractive Winter Sports Centre in Austria and new exciting sites in Eastern Europe! — Quo Vadis Travel Ltd. (Ref. 3A) 43 Douglas St. London, W.C.1. (CHA 0062).

Education at Caemach

THE Broader Education Committee set up by Guild Council held its first meeting last week. Already a weekend conference is being planned for next term, at the S.F.H. cottage at Caemach, in Wales, on the subject "Is the University Failing?" The possibility of holding lunchtime beer and cheese discussions in the Mermaid Bar in the Union is also being investigated.

The Committee was set up to find ways of counteracting the increasing dissatisfaction among Guild members with over-specialisation in their courses of study. Guild President Charles Wright, Chairman of the Committee, said: "Guild weekend schools and lunchtime discussions can only scratch the surface. What we are going to discuss on the Committee is the narrow specialisation and lack of intellectual stimulation that the University often seems to encourage, and to suggest improvements. The University will only provide a truly liberal education when it provides truly liberal degree courses."

There are several members of staff on the Committee. At present, the Inter-Faculty Studies Course is the only experience most students have of a course outside their chosen degree subject. While there are some students who would like to see even this dispensed with, there are many others who would like to see its scope extended. One suggestion put before the Committee is that weekend seminars on the inter-Faculty subjects should be held if desired by the students and staff participating.

GALLOW'S DISCO

THE Gallow's Discotheque will open at the Kyrle Club in Sheep Street, Aston tonight. Designed by two Medical students, Vernon Coleman and Geoff Orr, to fill a gap in the Birmingham late night scene, which was, according to a New Street hot-dog man, pretty wide, the Gallow's will be open each Wednesday from 7.30 to midnight.

As yet there is no license but a request for one will be reviewed by the magistrates on December 2nd. Meanwhile, patrons will have to make do with Coffee on Coffins and soft drinks.

The resident disc jockey is Terry Martin, and the Strange Fruit will appear for about an hour every week. (The Strange Fruit is set Terry Martin, but a group.) For the first week at least there will be no entrance fee for females.



Last Saturday's Folk Concert at the Broadside Club featured 'The Watsons'. For a review of this concert, turn to Page Eight.

V.C. AT VIENNA

SIR ROBERT AITKEN, Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham, is a member of the Conference of European Ministers which opened on Monday in Vienna. This is the first time that Ministers from East and West Europe have ever met to discuss education.

Britain's delegation is headed by Mrs. Shirley Williams, Minister of State at the Department of Education and Science.

The Conference is designed to discuss "Access to Higher Education", and particularly the problem of educational explosion.

One of the important aspects of higher education which has been discovered is that British Universities have a higher percentage of working class students than any other European country outside the Eastern bloc and Russia.

The comparative figures quoted in a working paper prepared for the conference show that about 25 per cent of British university students are children of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers, as compared with 20 per cent in Norway, 14 per cent in Sweden, 5 per cent in France, and West Germany.

MEANS TEST?

A QUESTIONNAIRE on the means test and the effects of it is being sent out by N.U.S. Committee to a sample of students at the University.

It is hoped that the questionnaire results will be used to provide data on the effects of the means test, and what type of payment students want, for the next N.U.S. conference.

The principal disadvantage of such a questionnaire is that students who are adversely affected by the means test will tend to reply, rather than students who are not, and so a biased result is obtained. However, some useful conclusions should come from the survey.



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New cure for English disease

by Jeremy Laurence

A REMARKABLE new cure for homosexuality? The possibility was revealed by Dr. Feldman, of the Psychology Department, to nearly one hundred people attending the first meeting of the Psychological Society last Thursday.

His introduction was informative though somewhat sparse. "The English disease, as it is erroneously referred to in Europe, seriously afflicts five per cent of the population, according to the Kinsey report," he said. "That is about three-quarters of a million people in England and Wales."

With regard to the present orthodox treatment, he criticised it as "very long, necessitating attendance five times a week for three years, and therefore very expensive, with only a 25 per cent success rate."

In view of this, Dr. Feldman and his associates performed research on a group of 43 volunteers, all of whom had been confirmed homosexuals for at least six years.

The procedure was to show a subject a picture of an attractive male for eight seconds. At any time during this period the subject could remove the picture and replace it with one of a female. If he did not do so in time, he received an electric shock, his reward for changing the pictures being an avoidance of the shock.

"After 20 half-hour sessions 25 of

the 43 subjects had improved ratings of one or two (normal heterosexual) in the Kinsey scale."

But possibly the most important finding was that subjects who had had at some stage an interest in the opposite sex were much more successful than those who had never shown any interest at all.

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Exec absent from walk

by Dave Meacham

OVER £200 was raised for medical aid to Vietnam by a 20-mile walk round the outer circle ring road on Saturday. About 100 students set off from the Union at 11 a.m., and walked along the ring road and the Coventry Road to the Bull Ring. All walkers were sponsored at a minimum of 1/- per mile, though many still have not found sponsors. These include Charles Wright, who was hoping to find a sponsor among the staff; on the other hand Rosemary Gillham was being guaranteed 8/9 per mile.

Of the 98 starters, the first people completed the course at 3.42 p.m., and by 5.30 p.m. 70 people had finished, 13 were reported to have retired and Charles Wright and his companion had taken the wrong route after the second check-point and eventually found their way to the Bull Ring by 4.0 p.m., estimating that they had covered 17 miles. Mr. Wright said that he had developed a blister after four miles, but it hadn't bothered him. He estimated that on route he had collected between £2 and £3. At the finish he said he thought "more support should have been received from Exec. in view of the fact that Guild Council officially backed the walk."

While the walkers were plodding round, other students were collecting money from shoppers in the Bull Ring. They met with moderate success though one or two people refused to give, saying, "Why give to Vietnam, when there are several starving children in Britain?"

Most people seemed satisfied with the results, even though it was hoped that there would be 500 walkers and £1,000 raised. Conspicuous by his absence was the organiser, Mark Burke, who was seen neither at the start, nor in the Bull Ring. The only other criticism was that the checkpoints were rather difficult to find, and five people missed the second checkpoint when they arrived late through being held up by the traffic.

OASIS

Jerry Jones arrived about 5 p.m. and commented "a long way. Are the boozers open yet?" Ron Playford (Hist. & Social Sci. I) said after he finished: "I am slightly sore, tired and hungry. However, it was worth while though poorly supported by Guild Council." He took under five hours to complete the course, excluding a stop at a pub, which he said "was like an oasis in the desert."

Just after 5 p.m. a girl from the History Department arrived running and looking very hot and bothered. She said: "I ran the last three-quarters of a mile just to get finished. What a fantastic day for a walk! I enjoyed the first ten miles, but the last ten began to drag a bit, though it was well worth it." When asked if she would go again, if another walk was held

Overseas questionnaire

A STANDING committee on overseas students has been established; one of its first jobs is to send out questionnaires on accommodation problems to overseas students. The findings of the questionnaires may be used at both local and national level.

The committee also hopes to involve overseas students more in things concerning them; for example, very few took part in last year's protest march over overseas students fees. According to some foreign students this was because the fee rise was seen primarily as an insult to British Universities.

It is hoped that in future there will be more collaboration between the Guild and overseas students on all aspects of student life, which should be achieved with the aid of results from the questionnaire.

UNSPORTING

Following recent disturbances Manchester University Students' Union have banned all visiting sports teams from their bar.

It seems that Manchester have their problems as well.

A.A.M.

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Over 28,000 members represented on the Burnham Committee and on all important Educational Bodies.

THIS IS YOUR OPINION

Gaseous Liberals

DEAR SIR.—We, the undersigned, had the embarrassing experience of witnessing the insipid performance of the Young Liberals at last Friday's talk by Roy Jenkins. Their ostentatious posters displayed radical disagreements with both the present Government policies and the points raised by Mr. Jenkins himself. Yet the boldness of their hoardings contrasted with the paucity of their voices. Where was the torrent of dissenting Liberal voices? Where was the "Bomber Thorpe" spirit? Was it shattered somewhere over Rhodesia?

What a load of wet farts are the young Liberals.

Yours, etc.,
J. R. WALKER,
(Geog. I)
R. B. JONES,
(English I)
C. GLYNNE-PATON,
(English I)
S. W. BRADBURY,
(English I)
R. A. HOLROYD,
(E.P.S. I)
P. R. MILES,
(English I)
S. MARTIN,
(English I)

STEPHEN VICTOR WARD,
(Comb. Hons. I)

More tower power

DEAR SIR.—The appearance today of the letter by Miss Jefferson has led me to write in support of the T.P. articles, the identity of whose author I could easily see from the very first offering.

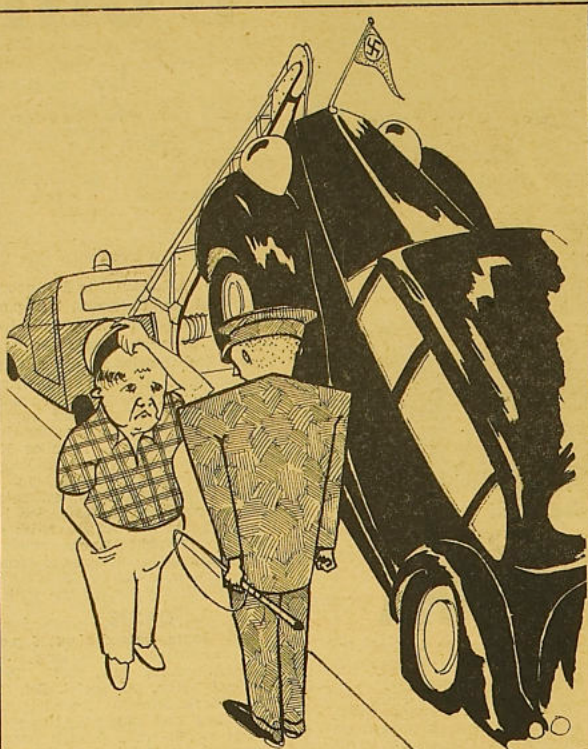
Perhaps the articles which he, i.e. the gentleman "with the hint of the orangutan," writes are not very complimentary to the opposition, but are reports which are entirely devoid of spirit or originality (i.e. all the others) any more so?

Let us quote the first two words of some of the other sports articles of the same week: "Last Saturday"—Netball, "Last Saturday"—Cross Country, "Last Saturday"—Athletics, and for a change, "Last Wednesday"—Medics Soccer.

There was no greater ingenuity throughout the rest of the articles, and with a couple of changes of numbers and the headings changed, the same articles could be used week in week out for any sporting activity. The opposition is hardly ever mentioned, never complimented, and judging from some of the reports, the games might have been played in isolation by Brum alone.

A number of the other reports comment on the poor state of the pitches / tracks / courts / conditions, but with nowhere near as much effect—or enjoyment—as that "treated with several pounds of best Dairy Milk." Enjoyment is my main point; a list of results is all that is needed if the articles cannot be to enjoyed *per se*. The "tall English person of uncertain, possibly animal, descent" has even been congratulated by someone unaware of his literary tendencies on the fact that the T.P. articles could be read and enjoyed without reference to the game, and if "Redbrick" wants to win readers, it should print more not less of this type of informative, but still amusing, article.

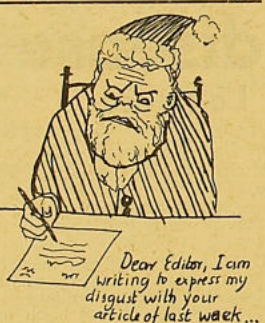
On the non-sporting attitude of the writer of jersey number 22, the one who plays in an "Idiot League" not an idiot? Finally, the attitude of the man who scores 24 points against "those who work in the heart of the chocolate country" and is refused the award of the C.D.M. cannot be all that condescending if, as he has done, you accept an invitation to deliver a lecture on



"I don't care if you didn't know it was mine: you should have left it where it was."
Rumour has it that the Chief of the University Police has not got a sticker for his car.

Modern Mexico to another group of those self-same people.
Therefore, Sir, I beg you to ignore Miss Jefferson's letter, and to publish more T.P. style articles. Perhaps it will help to destroy some of the apathy around the University. In the hope that neither the writers of the other sporting articles nor Mr. . . . will recognise my style as easily as I did his, I beg to remain someone without tower power who nevertheless occasionally plays basketball.

R.J.G.



THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

DEAR SIR.—I am very sorry for Mr. Barker, who is so obviously confused and frustrated about the meaning of Christmas.

I suggest that the reason for this is contained in his paragraph explaining the birth of Jesus Christ.

If he knew the truth about Jesus, Christmas would be transformed into the great event that it really is.

The truth is simply this: that God Himself became a human being and was born on earth so that He could die, and in dying take upon Himself the punishment for all our sins.

The true explanation of the Birth of Jesus is to be found in the Bible: Luke 1:34—"The Holy Spirit will come upon you (Mary) and the power of the most high will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called Holy, the Son of God."

A. ALLCHIN,
(Physics I)

YO-YOS COME BUT ONCE A YEAR

SIR.—Is Graham Barker's embittered attack on Christmas the result of a traumatic experience with an Empire-made yo-yo at an early age? Or defective potty training? Or an editor desperate for printing fodder asking him for something controversial on any subject he liked in half an hour flat? Whatever the answer, vitriol seems to have prevailed over sweet reason (not that the latter is ever to be found in "Redbrick" nowadays, anyway). And at the risk of banging my head on a brick wall, six thousand cloth ears and an editor whose ability to make up for lack of newsworthy stories by inventing rumours and then debunking them would have surprised Tacitus himself (omnium consensu capax imperii nisi imperasset—et tu, Mr. Irving?), might I make the following comments?

First, people DO still enjoy themselves at Christmas, and especially children, who incidentally are the recipients of more educational toys to "develop the individual personality of the child" than ever before. Secondly, history shows that any society needs an annual cathartic booze-up to get a lot of things out of its collective bloodstream, and Mr. B. seems in very great need of this himself.

Indeed, our present way of celebrating Christmas originates from the old Roman festival of Saturnalia, which in the latter days of the empire was tacked on to Christian rejoicing at the birthday of Christ. The Muslims live it up after Ramadan, the Aztecs had annual rending ceremonies. Take away Christmas, and we'd all get drunk on Guy Fawkes night instead.

Thirdly, people who treat Christmas as a religious festival as opposed to a secular one (as opposed to people who watch carol services, the goggle-box) find that the celebration of Jesus' birthday does add a meaning to a festival that Mr. B. finds sadly lacking in meaning.

Fourthly, as a student without a grant I am in the position of "financial hardship" and "mental anguish." And I say that this Christmas WILL be a festival. WILL be happy, and IS something to look forward to. Mr. B. must have had some pretty poor Christmases in the past if he can claim that "the only time people think of Christmas with anything remotely resembling pleasure is when they are not actually undergoing it." Speak for yourself Mr. B. And further, "the real thing is nothing like the traditional, romantic image we have been led to accept."

That may be Mr. B's experience—and also his own fault for being so glibly as to be led astray by the rampant commercialism of the world. But now that he seems to have come out of his little dream world, why, Mr. Editor, sir, do you let him splurge it over the centre spread of "Redbrick"?

Yours faithfully,
ROGER HIRD
TREVOR LEWIS
(Law II)

The LEFT affair

DEAR SIR.—Having seen the piece on the Chairman of Socialist Union which appears in the current issue of "Wall," I have to join in, with great reluctance, the chorus of those accusing "Wall" of irresponsibility and misrepresentation.

We went to London to see the printer in person, on October 20th, to find out why they were unable to stick to their contract, as established by letter dated September 18th, signed by Terry Chandler. Thoroughly dissatisfied with what I saw, to say nothing of the delays, I proposed to the person left in charge, in the absence of Terry Chandler and Mike Randle (by then already sentenced), that I assist him with finishing the printing. I was told that this would not be necessary and that the printing would be completed by October 25th.

The copy eventually arrived (October 29th), incomplete and virtually unsaleable. Faced with this obvious breach of contract and being responsible to our members for the money committed to producing "Left," the only course of action open to us was to see a solicitor. It was established that we could not take action against "Pirate Press" without involving Randle and Chandler. Although we will make every attempt to get our money back, it cannot involve suing Randle and Chandler.

If "Wall" is to continue to play its useful role in the Union, the Editor must make sure of his facts, the most elementary rule of journalism.

GEORGES MICHEL,
(Editor of Left)

No blunders?

DEAR SIR.—It is a pity that in your front page lead last week, "UNION BILLS BLUNDER," a misleading headline and a lack of background information spoilt an otherwise fair piece of reporting. May I thus use your columns to state some of the facts?

Every summer Union Committee approves a list of repairs, redecorations and replacements to be carried out over the long vacation. Such work has to be done during the vacation if Union facilities and services to members are not to be curtailed. Usually work costing about £1,700 is commissioned. As the Guild's financial year ends in July most of the work has to be charged to the new session's account.

At the end of last session there was a large backlog of maintenance and redecorations which had built up due to the age of the old wing of the Union building, and the general shortage of money in past years.

At the same time, a large increase in Guild membership fees has just been negotiated, partly to allow us to carry out such repairs. In the light of this, last year's Union committee decided to authorise that some of the more urgent work be carried out (immediately) over the vacation, above and beyond routine work.

About £1,800 worth of extra work was authorised, bringing the total expenditure over the summer to about £3,500. These decisions were made, quite properly, by last year's Union Committee, and were duly minuted.

The expenditure has been completely provided for in this year's Union Estimates, which were approved by Guild Council. In par-

ALL SEXES?

DEAR SIR.—Quote from Charles Wright's speech at the freshers' dinner on November 10th: "We have at this University every conceivable sex . . ."

Was he referring to male, female, hermaphrodite and Charles Wright?

—From Six Wrightfully inexperienced freshers (2nd category).



G.T.G. rehearse "Their Very Own And Golden City," by Arnold Wesker, their entry for the N.U.S. Drama Festival at Bradford. (Photo: Ian Salmon)

G.T.G. waiting for further successes

ONE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED people over four nights! That's how many people came to see G.T.G.'s first success of the year, "Waiting for Godot." Now Barry Kyle, producer of the Group's next show, "Their Very Own And Golden City," by Arnold Wesker, is hoping for at least that amount and more.

Barry says of "Golden City," entered for this year's N.U.S. Drama Festival at Bradford, "The play itself charts the progress of a gifted young architect, Andy, who plans to build six golden cities and in so doing improve radically the quality of life for his inhabitants."

The story tells of the difficulties and compromises forced on the exciting ideals of Andy but Barry insists that the play is not pessimistic. "We are young we have the ability to act boldly. Nothing gets done by being reasonable, by wearing ourselves the luxury of all points of view. We've got to make bold, rash, impetuous gestures for what we believe in."

Set and costume design, by Chris Calvert and Corinne Whalley, are very ambitious, and special music is being composed by first-year drama student Fiona Sekacz.

The play goes on in the Deb. Hall, November 28th, 29th, 30th and December 1st and 2nd. Tickets are 4/-.

IS YOUR EDUCATION TOO GOOD TO WASTE ON THE ARMY?

WHAT'S the use of knowing Sainte-Beuve backwards in primary jungle? Who cares about the Second Law of Thermodynamics in an Infantry Mess? Does the Army prefer its Officers to be like its steaks—good and thick?

The profession of Arms is practised, to a great extent, out of doors. And there is not much culture in, say, laying an ambush in primary jungle at four o'clock in the morning. Do we, then, waste our time in speaking to undergraduates—and would you, when you graduate, be wasting your expensive education if you became an Army Officer?

The answer is no; and for a good many reasons. One is that few jobs require so much of a man's mind as that of an Army Officer. You will have to think fast, to think under stress; and you will have to think correctly, because men's lives may depend on your thoughts. The wisdom gained from a hundred A. J. P. Taylor tutorials could never be said to have been

wasted if your mental agility led to the saving of even one soldier's life. Nor will your innate originality and inventiveness be put to sleep in the Army. Wellington did not win his victories in the Peninsular War by being dull and unoriginal. To do the unexpected, to do it well, efficiently, and at the right time—these are the hallmarks of a good Army Officer.

Global Security During your career as an Officer, it is possible that you will take part in—and help to form—the workings of a new system of global security. Some British troops today wear the pale blue beret of the United Nations. Their Officers' tasks are highly complex, often calling more on their talents as diplomats and peace-makers than their prowess in battle. No less demanding are the jobs of Officers with troops in Commonwealth or NATO roles. The challenge is at all levels: it may fall to a General's lot to decide the overall strategy, but it is on the junior Officer's skill that depends, say, the successful solution of

a potential international incident in Hong Kong or at the Berlin Wall.

Many changes are due—and many overdue—in Europe and the world. You may prefer to take your part in bringing them about as an industrialist, or a market researcher, or a technician, or in any number of jobs which deal, as most jobs do, with commodities. An Army Officer deals, more simply, with people. Many find that is the most exciting subject of all. If you do too, and would like to know more about a career as an Army Officer and, possibly, go to an Army Unit for up to 5 days on a familiarisation visit, write to:



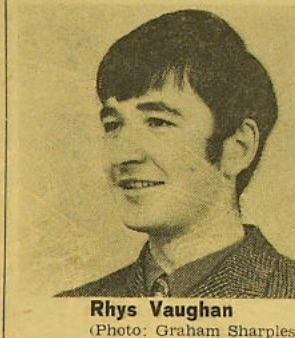
Col. A. H. M. Noble, M.C., B.A., Army Officer Entry, Dept. 283, Lansdowns House, Berkeley Sq., London, W.1.

Big test for N.U.S.

By Tricia Ellison

THE coming weekend's N.U.S. Conference at Margate promises to be crucial both for N.U.S. and the position of Birmingham within it. Last year Birmingham, emerging from a lengthy period of parochialism, rivalled Leeds as the most influential voice at the conference and this year's delegates intend to maintain, if not improve the University's reputation.

The delegation consists of Charles Wright, Barbara Phipps, Rhys Vaughan, Brian Orange, Perry Christie, Malcolm McCourt, Ray Phillips and Tony Klug, plus two observers, Paul Hardman and Martin Lowe. Birmingham is interested in all three principal motions. Firstly, N.U.S.'s role internationally, viz. membership of I.U.S. (eastern dominated) and I.S.C. (supposedly western dominated), especially in the light of recent alleged C.I.A. involvement in I.S.C. Secondly, problems of student finance, grants, means tests, wages, salaries and loans. Finally, and possibly most important on this occasion, consideration of the structure of N.U.S. itself.



Rhys Vaughan
(Photo: Graham Sharples)

In the past considerable time has been spent on the discussion of minor internal problems and, for the second year running, the conference will consider a report containing recommendations for the overall reform of N.U.S.; plans for the decentralisation of policy implementation on a regional basis, and connected issues.

Difficulties have been caused by the growth in the student population while the structure of the National Union has remained unaltered. The practice of having two conferences a year led to a considerable amount of paper work and financial expenditure, and the problems of preparing policy for one conference while the decisions of the last were still in the process of implementation.

If this weekend's conference can settle the structural difficulties, N.U.S. will become far stronger, more influential and able to devote an increased amount of time to educational issues.

Black magic not a myth

MR. EDGAR TROUT, former J.P. and city councillor, said last Tuesday that "Black magic is not a myth, but reality," during a lecture on the subject, "Spiritism—Counterfeit of the Christian Faith," arranged by the Evangelical Christian Union.

He explained that Devil worship, in the form of black magic and similar cults, has been carried out since Old Testament times and is still flourishing in Britain today.

Mr. Trout elaborated on many points by explaining his own experiences, varying from demon possession, to people involved in evil black magic practices, and he emphasised that the fear brought on by these cults can only be overcome by faith in Jesus Christ, and the power that He gives through His blood, to resist the Devil.

He concluded the lecture by saying that it is very dangerous to play with "table-tapping" and this should not be treated lightly.



Tony Klug
(Photo: Chris John)

WAR STRANDS STUDENTS

AT least 2,000 students, mostly from Biafra, face destitution in Britain as a result of the Nigerian civil war. Those on Government grants have been asked to sign an oath of allegiance to the Federal Government as a condition of financial support.

Many have refused to sign, some because of the inclusion of their entire conduct must continue to reflect your sworn declaration; others because they do not think students should be involved in the dispute.

Even privately-financed students cannot get money from home because of the blockade on all mail imposed by the Federal Government. The chairman of the Biafran National Union had had no news from his mother for nine months. "I don't even know if she's alive," he commented. He said it was impossible for the stranded students to go home.

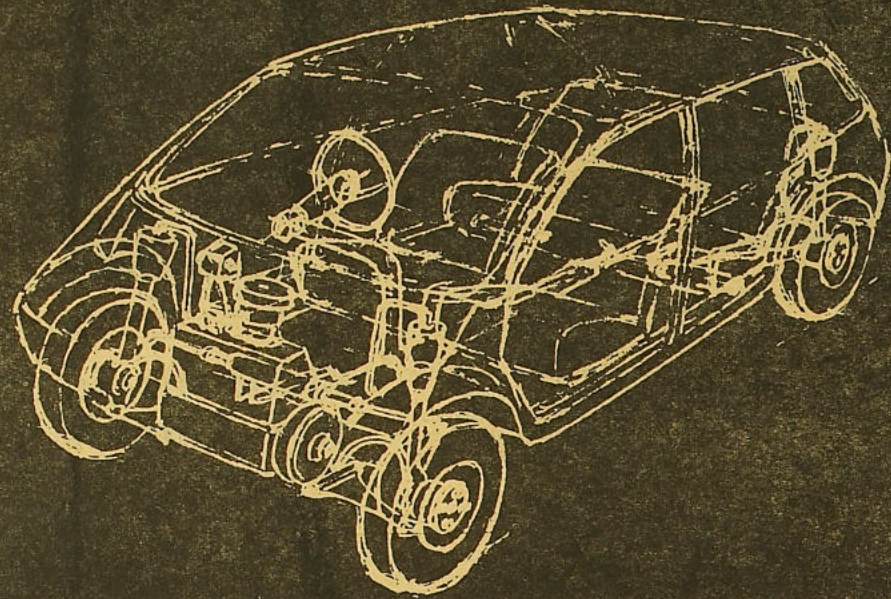
The Union is organising a welfare fund and will ask universities to defer fees for the time being. The British Council, which looks after overseas students in this country, will be unable to help.

Union villains

Union personalities Tony Klug and Dick Holt are portrayed as a couple of villainous gangsters, and Alan Booth plays their victim in a film currently being shot by the University's Film Production Unit, under the direction of Martin Reemes.

Set variously in Christchurch Passage (off New Street), a fast-moving car, and the Union's Committee Room 4, it portrays the kidnapping and interrogation of an innocent Brummie, and its subsequent effect on him, and, claims Martin, has social relevance. When complete, the film will be shown by Film Soc.

We're looking for people to get ideas like this off the drawing board.



This particular one is how Alec Issigonis sees the small car of 1984. But before then a lot can happen at BMC. There are countless tests to be made and details to be considered. And this is where you come in. We want people to help us get prototypes like these onto the road.

The sort of people we want will be able to train for the top in many professions. Production, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers, Physicists, Chemists and Mathematicians. Economists and Arts Graduates. BMC are Britain's largest motor organisation—comprising Austin, Austin-Healey, MG, Morris, Riley, Vanden Plas and

Wolseley. This incorporation of a number of large companies means that there is scope for transfer horizontally within the organisation.

Your Appointments Board will be able to give you all the details about BMC entry and an application form.

BMC are an expanding organisation where promotion, based on performance, comes from within. You can learn more about how you can be part of it by writing to: The Director of Personnel, British Motor Corporation Limited, Longbridge, Birmingham.



TIME TO LOOK AHEAD

TO the majority of students, the Appointments Board exists only in so far as it will help them get a job when they leave after their degree course. The general idea is to leave the choice of occupation until about Christmas of the third year, and only then start searching for the most lucrative, most advantageous positions.

The only trouble with this is that everyone else in your year is in the same position and so it is wise to start thinking seriously about what you really want to do with your life quite a long time before anything concrete has to be done about it, otherwise you are going to be left behind.

The first thing to do is to make yourself familiar with the workings of the Appointments Board (to be found in the Nissen huts behind the Great Hall), where comprehensive and up-to-date catalogues of firms, both at home and abroad, are kept together with relevant leaflets and lists of jobs which are available. It is also possible to obtain information about short-term or vacation work, but these are mainly for science and engineering students, and invariably offer rather unexciting rates of pay.

In fact, the whole bias of the Appointments Board system seems to be on the side of the scientist or technologist. This is, of course, understandable, as there are large numbers of these at Birmingham,

and the demand from industry is still very high. However, the Arts student who does not particularly favour a career in industry, the choice is limited and he is left to a large extent to look after his own interest, though the Board is willing to give all assistance possible.

For those who decide to take up a career in industry, the greatest consideration is naturally to find an organisation offering the widest opportunities for advancement. The most obvious of these are firms such as I.C.I. and Unilever, world-wide concerns offering jobs to suit virtually everyone.

There are, however, many other groups of this nature which do not immediately spring to the mind of the prospective applicant. One of

these is the British Motor Corporation which, classified by sales, is the ninth largest industrial organisation in the world. Its principal products are, of course, motor vehicles of all kinds, but other manufactured products include marine and industrial engines, material handling equipment, vending machines, bicycles, washing machines, refrigerators and kitchen sinks.

The firm also has subsidiaries in U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and 13 other countries. In this country alone, over 90,000 people are employed by B.M.C.

Another company with quite a wide diversification of interests is the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, or "3M" Company. Their concerns lie mainly in the fields of abrasives (sandpaper was the first successful product, in 1902), adhesives, business communications, magnetic, electrical, printing, film and medical products.

In Britain, their newest factory, built in 1964, is at Atherstone, 20 miles north-east of Birmingham; it uses some of the most up-to-date abrasives equipment in the world.

With both these firms, as with many others, opportunities also exist for arts graduates, in administrative positions and, more creatively, as advertising staff.

FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE —£100 A YEAR

Professor H. S. Ferns

FIRST expressed my doubts about the steady decline in the income of British universities in an article published last July in the "Political Quarterly". I proposed in that article a practical plan for universities to recover their income and escape from bureaucratic controls imposed by the University Grants Committee and the Department of Education & Science.

The loss of independence of universities, their incapacity to respond to the needs of the community and the challenge of scientific developments, and the bureaucratic sclerosis of their affairs are due to one cause: their dependence on the Government. The Government will not determine its contribution to higher education in universities by fixing the number of students it will subsidise each year. The universities will be free to determine their own policies, their income, to admit as many or as few students as they wish, and to make use of their own resources to students without recourse to loan schemes and purchase arrangements.

Substitute
In my view the best way to substitute the growing independence of the Department of Education & Science in the affairs of universities is to substitute

ties to decide for themselves their own policies with respect to finance, development and degree of specialisation. This will be restored to the universities the capacity to respond directly to community need, to develop their individuality and to meet directly the challenge of the arts and the sciences.

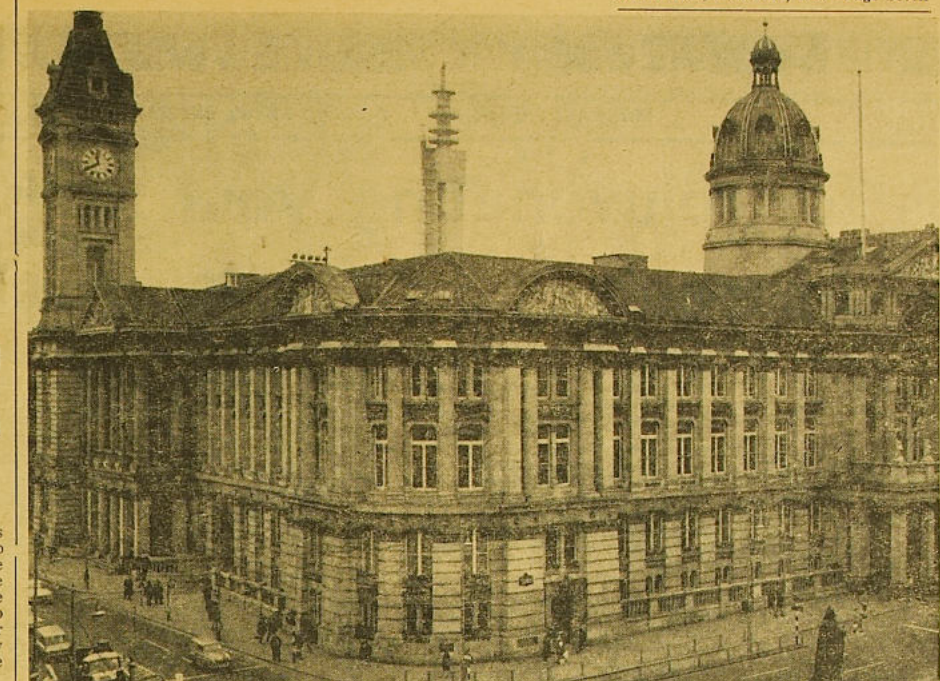
As a result of the mismanagement of university policy by the U.G.C. and the Government, we now have a high cost system of cottage universities, few of them big enough to be any good. A system of free competition for students and staff will go a long way towards righting this situation and towards separating the men from the boys.

Freedom

Professor Ferns was born and educated in Canada, and from 1940 to 1944 was on the secretarial staff of the Canadian Prime Minister.

Coming to Birmingham in 1950, he was first a lecturer in the department of modern history and government; in 1961 he became Professor of Political Science, and was Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Social Science.

At last February's campaign against the increase in overseas student fees, Professor Ferns was one of the several members of staff to criticise the action of the Government at a demonstration in the Great Hall.



Booing, note-passing, boredom — all part of the process of spending millions of pounds.

TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADERS

"If it rains, you get wet." (Laughter from Council. Councillor sheepishly elaborates) — "Well, when it rains, children can't go out to play." Council mutters, tuts and generally disapproves.

This was how part of this month's Birmingham City Council meeting was conducted, as the Chairman of the Parks Committee replied to grievances of inadequate drainage in some municipal recreation grounds and football pitches, where flooding has prevented children playing in some of the city's green open spaces.

Such banal comments, as an example of one level of discussion which takes place in the monthly meeting of the City Council, lead

you see how much time is wasted in Council.

However, when discussions on one resolution run into hours and at the end of it all the voting shows no reflection of the diverse opinions which have been expressed, the time seems to have been fruitlessly spent. The Council spent over an hour discussing the resolution that the Corporation should offer rate rebates to families below a certain income in municipal and privately-owned dwellings. Fine points were quibbled over, but when it came to the vote, the resolution was carried by 141 to 0. This shows that all agreed with it in general principle and the individual reservations and grievances, which the councillors were so adamant about expressing to the whole Council, were not really significant enough to influence their votes.

It would be unfair to say nothing about the merits of the Birmingham City Council. It does have

Anonymous

For most voters, once they have put their cross beside the appropriately coloured name, give little further thought to the way in which their affairs are being handled. The Birmingham City Council, for most Brummies, as most city councils are for most laymen, is an anonymous body of people which they regard with some awe, and in whose capable hands they trustingly place their welfare, their education, their recreation and their rates.

But anyone who sat in the Strangers' Gallery and watched a Council Meeting would be greatly entertained and perhaps shocked by the childish cheering, booing and heckling of these so-called adult, responsible citizens who make up the Council. In fact, staid and respectable as they look on the outside—mostly middle-aged, "well-respected men" in conservative dark suits with red carnations in their buttonholes, and tweedy ladies in brown felt hats—they undergo some kind of metamorphosis in the imposing Council Chamber.

Threat to City

They are like children as they sit sucking boiled sweets, passing discreet notes under the benches or quietly dozing off in boredom, as some fellow councillor, having gained the floor, suggests that the droppings of the pigeons in St. Philip's churchyard are a threat to the health of the city.

The most ridiculous characteristic of the meeting was the incessant stream of comments, mutterings, cheers, boos, "hear hears" and laughter which punctuated the speech of a councillor from the floor. Speeches became almost inaudible at times and consequently quite insignificant, thus defeating the purpose of the democratic process. A few members of Council, such as Alderman Sir Frank Price, the Socialist leader, the Tory leader Alderman Griffin, and Lord Mayor Meadows, were obviously respected, and their contributions to discussion were always listened to with attention, but the majority of speeches were lost in the general hubbub, and at one point the councillors had to be called to order by the Lord Mayor, like naughty children talking out of turn in class.

Often the Council sits from 2 p.m. until past midnight, but these incredibly long sessions, which seem at first to reflect great dedication on the part of the councillors, in fact become quite credible when

By Linda Potter

some. In the field of welfare, Birmingham is progressive and efficient, and the Council has inaugurated a register of "old people at risk"—a comprehensive list of all elderly people who are liable to come to some harm in their own homes. Birmingham is looking ahead in education, too, with plans for a new polytechnic, well under way.

Some councillors during the meeting brought forward individual problems related to their wards and mentioned particular areas where problems, such as inadequate recreational facilities existed. Thus one felt they were in touch to some extent with the areas and people they represented.

Precarious

Since the work of a councillor is largely voluntary, with most councillors engaged in other jobs and receiving only expenses for their duties on Council, their public-spiritedness is very creditable, for they are devoting precious personal time in trying to serve the interests of the community. Yet whilst the title "member of Council" gives a man certain prestige and respect, his image, personal and public, is in a precarious position, for it can be made or shattered in a matter of moments in Council.

This month one alderman's image was shattered when he stood up and wasted the Council's time for 15 minutes with a crazy and unintentionally hilarious speech, in which he suggested that a special welcoming committee should be formed by the General Purposes Committee to receive any Martians or other kinds of zombies who stepped out of one of the recent crop of unidentified flying objects. He was worried about whom he should direct them to if they asked "Take us to your leader."

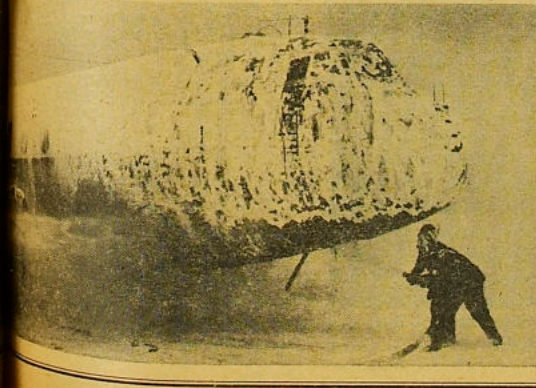
3M are Playing With Fire

games, we've added Aero-Space and Nucleonics to our list. Which is why we say it's fun to use your brain at 3M.

Fun isn't all. The continued expansion and development of this dynamic U.K. company — part of an international organisation making and marketing over 37,000 quality products — holds exceptional challenge for graduates in Science, Engineering, Arts and other disciplines. For the man who applies himself with diligence and initiative, promotion prospects are excellent — the sign of a healthy growing company.

Ask your appointments board for further details or write direct to:

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FASHION

MARGARET QUYSNER

Drawing: PATSY SIMISON

Tips for rejuvenating your Ball dresses

WHAT fits of ecstasy does Yuletide cheer conjure up! Rising around four come crimpling morning and raving positive hysterics over Hornby double 0 No. 11 complete with automatic signals? Or gorging yourself on a veritable cornucopia of stuffed prunes and bread sauce? To some of us it is the season of special parties and balls when one can return to the elegance of the last century and Victor Sylvester's come dancing.

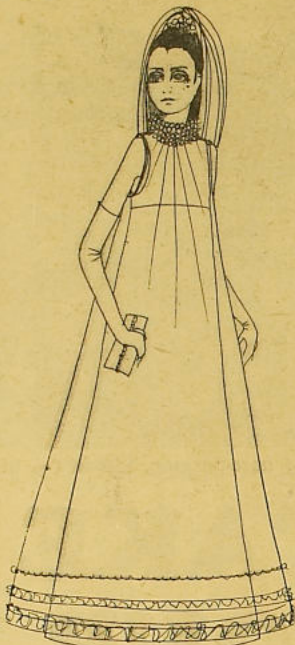
Seriously though, Christmas is the perfect excuse for dressing up in long dresses. Unfortunately evening dresses are twice as expensive as ordinary clothes, so unless you are a dab hand with a needle, or have a generous papa one evening dress has to do for more than one occasion. This dilemma only becomes worrying when you find that you're wearing the same dress for the same ball a year later. So before we launch into the 20th. evening numbers you can buy in Rackhams, here are a few tips for rejuvenating last year's evening dress which you might only have worn once.

A tent covering of chiffon, or Sari material available at the

Indian stalls in the rag market with lures threading, can completely transform a dress. You can choose the amount of fullness you want, then stitch two identical pieces of material together, leaving the arm-holes open. Gather the top into a mandarin collar, or band to fit over the head. The transparent material need not, of course, match the evening dress, for example an orange dress could look effective with the right blend of pink.

Alternatively, evening dresses are looking more like negligees and nighties every year, and short of actually buying a Marks and Spencer special, most people could just about manage to make a sort of semi-transparent cross-over caftan decorated with flowers. Walter Austin and Rackhams sell artificial daisies which are not too heavy even for silk. (If you are really desperate and interested in our creations contact us for further details.)

If after spending your last button on your evening dress you should happen to lose your gloves, and can't afford another leather pair, don't despair. Woolworths do a nice line in old-fashioned home knitted gloves in a lovely pillbox red for about 5/3. Really, Woolworths is the biggest camp shop out at the moment.



DESIGNER: AN OLD EVENING DRESS BY WEAVERING A LOVELY OF CHIFFON OVER THE TOP AND GLAMOUR WITH AN ORNATE BEADED BUCKRAM, BANGS OF LURE AROUND THE BOTTOM.

REG WEBB

JAZZ

The polished jazz of Roland Kirk has great appeal

ROLAND Kirk made his first Birmingham appearance last Thursday night at the "Opposite Lock," Gas Street.

Very often, musicians touring this country are required to play with backing trios, thrown together at short notice, having had no opportunity of rehearsal, which effectively precludes the playing of interesting arrangements, and makes all concerned sound rather more like noble British amateurs than the professionals they really are.

Kirk and his audiences are therefore fortunate that he has his own group with him: John Burden (piano), Steve Novaselle (bass) and Jimmy Hopps (drums).

Everything he plays is loaded with latent or overt emotion, a framework within which he calls upon those he plays with to have considerable facility in playing a range of music which is as wide as the variations in his treatment of it. "The Song Is You," "Alfie" (the Bacharach and the Rollins), "Bacchanas Brasilieras 5" (Villa-Lobos), and "Give Me That Old Time Religion," bear sufficient testimony to this.

Within all these different settings, it was immediately obvious that he is not concerned with evangelising one particular concept, such as the development of original harmonic thought, or Negro separatism.

BREATH CONTROL

His theory, as he told me, is much more general. He seeks to escape from the bounds of the bar and the chorus in his improvisation; limits which are imposed by the rhythm section, and followed by the soloist to allow him to breathe. Kirk's contribution to the music is his breath control, which permits him to extend a phrase through the barline and thus avoids creating a solo which is clearly chopped up into 32-bar sections, or whatever the duration of the tune happens to be.

"I'm not interested in anyone thinking that I'm the best, except my woman. How can I erase all these people that were before me? If you do that you have no roots, and if you have no roots there's no dirt for anything else to stand in." Apart from this general idea, which says nothing about melodic content, his music draws upon many roots. His tenor saxophone playing for example lies anywhere on a rough jazz spectrum between Ronnie Scott and Albert Ayler.

His multi-instrumental talents were as always abundantly represented, miraculously executed, and enthusiastically received. Playing three saxophones at once must involve considerable breath control in itself. He denied "playing down to the people," but the difference between some of the numbers on

his records, and those which he was playing on Thursday was quite striking, and I am left to assume that he is so much of a natural showman as to be unaware of adapting his programme to his audience.



Roland Kirk plus two alto and one tenor sax at the Opposite Lock last Thursday.

(Photo: Pete Mills)

FOLK

America's social problems in contemporary songs

THE "Three-to-One", a group resident at the Broadside Club in town, started last Saturday's folk concert with a mixture of jazz and folk. Two guitarists and a girl singer, they played over half an hour of songs—mainly of American origin—and finished with Donovan's song "Sunny Googie Street" complete with cello.

Hedy West followed them on stage to sing a fast-moving series of songs grouped to tell of different facets of the American tradition

RECORDS

GRAHAM SHARPLES

Ukelele man is still superb

THE Inimitable George Formby (I'm the Ukelele Man) MFP 1182, released this month, is a collection of some of his better known numbers and includes "Leaning on a Lamp-post", "Auntie Maggie's Remedy", "The Window Cleaner" and "In My Little Snapshot Album", mentioning just a few of the 12 tracks—most of them from musicals.

The recording quality is superb considering most of the tunes were recorded in the forties—far better than on the old 78's. The level of tone reproduction is surprisingly high for an L.P. of this price.

I cannot fault this album in any way and it is excellent value for the 12/6 asked. It is a pity though that some of his forces' songs such as "Bless 'Em All" have not been included; perhaps it might be a good idea for E.M.I. to release a companion volume some time in the future.

and interspersed with commentaries on America's social and political problems in the form of contemporary songs. Hedy West has a tremendous knowledge of the American tradition, and is regarded as one of the finest balladists in this country; but she also plays the guitar, and last Saturday she alternated between the two to create a very well-balanced programme of songs.

The second half of the concert was opened by John Swift, the composer for the evening who played two traditional songs accompanied by a lute, and who then introduced the Watsons. The Watsons consist of Mike Watson, his two sisters Norma and Elaine, and their cousin John Anderson, and they split up last April and are now living in Leeds. Bill and Wendy, they still meet for concert dates, losing none of their musical freshness by separation.

They sang 18 songs, starting with the "Lancashire pace-song" and calling on the audience to join them on the choruses.

These the audience tried to follow, but for the most part found too complicated to sing, and in any case most people found the music of the Watsons too entrancing to need embellishment. Their music was, except in one case, unaccompanied and choral in form, especially in one song, the "Malpaso Wassail song" which even after a technical hitch in the second verse (Mike singing falsetto by mistake) left the audience stunned.

At the end of their act the Watsons received an ovation which brought them back for an encore—a sea shanty "The Plains of Mexico." They are perhaps the most original sound to come from the revival, and it was fitting that the Deb. Hall should be packed to capacity for what was probably their last concert in Birmingham, as the group will be splitting up for good in February.

BOOKS

ALAN MUNTON

Mailed first in empty taxi

"Clem Attlee" (Panther Record, 5/-).

BACK in the early days of Attlee's post-war government, the Tories used to have a joke about him. It went: "An empty taxi drove up to Number Ten, and Mr. Attlee got out." Behind this lay the assumption that Mr. Attlee was a figurehead manipulated by Sir Stafford Cripps and by the strong men of the Party, Bevin and Bevan. But in fact Attlee was very much in charge. Since he died there have been several published anecdotes demonstrating his modesty. On his showing in this long interview, given on the understanding that it should not be published till after his death, it is obvious that he could afford to be modest because he also possessed a devastating determination, a carefully concealed mailed fist.

Herbert Morrison once called a "Cabinet meeting" to oppose bread rationing. Question: "Did he have any right to call the meeting?" Attlee: "No, he thought he was a bit of hero they will not tolerate that door. Films like this give him the chance."

But it is a lie—not irony—an inconsistency, when the narrator praises him for the Dozen who died in the line of duty. They were out to save themselves from war or life sentences. Similarly, when the foppish officer tells the narrator, "Get well, soldier, we need men like you out there," the "out there" could mean "not here." The any right to call the meeting? Attlee: "No, he thought he was a bit of hero they will not tolerate that door. Films like this give him the chance."

His judgment of others was decisive, sometimes acid, sometimes just contemptuous: "Oh, Crosswell, there is always that lunatic fringe. He was unhelpful about himself. During the 1945 election: 'I pointed out that it was quite useless for me to pretend I was a colourful figure like Winston.' Was he a man of destiny? 'No, you see, I didn't see myself as a potential hero.'"

He speaks with real enthusiasm only on India (its independence was his greatest achievement). There is too much triviality in the interview, but Attlee does emerge as a great deal more interesting than one's conventional impression.

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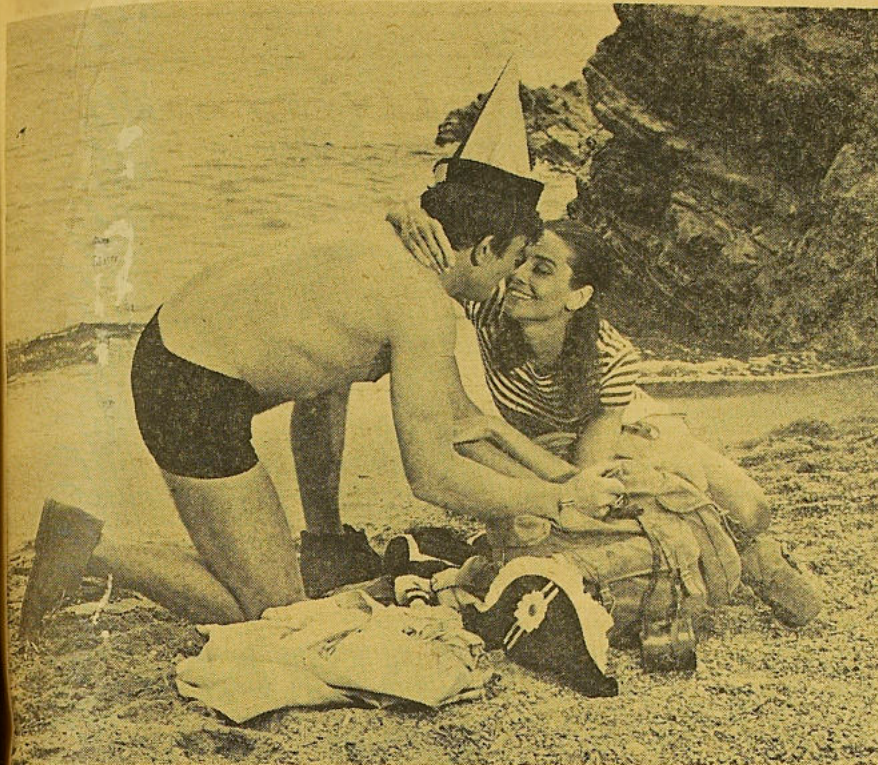
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Albert Finney and Audrey Hepburn in "TWO FOR THE ROAD," enjoying one last kiss for the road before splitting up. (Odeon)

FILMS

MAURICE YACOWAR

Society makes of man a soda fountain

UNDER the trite and amusing surface of Robert Aldrich's "The Dirty Dozen" (A.B.C.s) is a pretension to thought.

Major Rismen (Lee Marvin) sees 12 psychopathic outlaws to destroy a chalet full of officers behind Nazi lines. The humour, quality and ingenuity of 11 of the Dirty Dozen make them undoubted heroes. So the film is that peculiar American type, proud of the cowboy or killer outlaw, confident that the wildest forces in man can be turned on and off for society's use like a soda fountain.

But there are ironic touches. Aldrich pits the worst of America against the best of Germany (likeable home-loving Germans, all female and ladies) and his Americans use gas and brutality. Aldrich excludes the usual excuse for the second world war by having the "Master Race" argument spoken to a Southern Negro. He sentenced to death for defending himself against castration. The Dozen hate and fight the privileged classes on their own side, not the Nazis.

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"Bramble Bush." Stretches it to epic (dragging) length. He will not make it straight, good and glory, nor will he extend humorous characterisation into satire.

Aldrich does not achieve the complex ambivalence of art moving beyond moralising. What we have here is the glossy equivocating of a pander, moralising between two stools in front of the box office.

The most sincere and moving religious feature film yet is Pier Paolo Pasolini's "The Gospel According to St. Matthew" (Scala). Pasolini tells a realistic, often documentary, story of Christ, playing it with ugly and inhuman humanity instead of De Mille-on heroics. The land and the faces are bleak Southern Italy.

The story wings into poetry on the sound-track, Odette and the Missa Luba giving to the visual realism a glow of the future and the remote. No attempt is made to encompass the significance of the events by the actual event itself. The result is an expression of faith, not the faith of the Christian, for Pasolini is agnostic, but the larger faith of the poet.

EATING OUT

CHRIS JOHN

Successful investigation

THE Kismet Restaurant probably ranks amongst the least well known of Birmingham's innumerable curry-houses—especially as far as students are concerned. Certainly it appears to have very little to recommend it on first sight.

It is situated in an obscure corner of Hurst Street, some 150 yards down from the Ringway, where it can attract custom from neither cinemas/theatres nor pubs. The exterior is hardly inviting, with its dingy paintwork and dimly-illuminated windows, and the prices on the displayed menu are quite high.

Persevere, though. Go inside, ignoring as far as possible both the musty smell which permeates the dining-room, and the rather inadequate toilet facilities. (If you've ever wondered where the flies go in the winter, a visit to

Pasolini possibly apart, the best film this week is "Two for the Road" (Odeon), the Frederic Raphael-Stanley Donen "Anatomy of Marriage".

Audrey Hepburn and Albert Finney are two lovely people trying different cars and speeds on the road to happiness. But the husband, an exceptional architect, doesn't realise that contentment is not a "spatial concept," so he speeds through his schedule of worldly and womanly successes, getting nowhere inside.

Simple theme but the film is filled with sharp characterisations, witty lines and shots, and as close as the American cinema has come to approaching "Un Homme et une Femme".

The time sequence is like a shuffled scrap-book to contrast past promises with future disappointments. Even the most obvious parallel between past and future suggest the pathos of a terrific romance doomed to marriage.

Colehill Street late movie Friday is a double horror, including "House on Haunted Hill".

THEATRE

MIKE WALKER

Credible and gripping trio in 'Deathwatch'

BIRMINGHAM REPERTORY THEATRE was near packed on Friday last for the first of its enterprising late shows. Genet's "Deathwatch" was so well received that only the house lights ended the applause.

A simple stark set of two black bunks and a square of white on the floor represented the cell of a French prison, and against this economic background three convicts mesh, clash and swish (yes, dears) like claustrophobic goldfish. One of these men, Lefranc (played by Peter Brooks) plays a manic social climber jealous of Green Eyes' standing as a condemned murderer (played by Mike Gambon). The trio was sensitively completed by Anthony Corlan as Maurice, a consciously beautiful young thug with an unnatural adoration for the murderer.

The plot festers and arguments flash back and forth. If anything a little too quickly for the audience's mind to keep pace with Genet's, and I felt that Mike Gambon had a voice too cultured for the part... but I may well be wrong, for at times the lyrical glutinous phrases (and near obscenity) sound weird in uncouth mouths. Much could have provoked titters from a predominantly student audience. (I have never seen G.T.G. turn out so well even for their own plays) but the trio made it all credible and gripping.

There were some dicey points though... such as the occasional prompt, understandable with the dialogue and the fact that this is a one-night stand... but what a pity that the one with the mental lapse had to shout for his prompt... what a pity the others did not cover at all!

Keith Drinkel was there as a guard who made a couple of brief appearances, but he looked far too young for the role. With what had been going on one wondered why he wasn't whipped through the bars and his truncheon nicked.

Sound effects, consisting of ominous and foreboding clangs of metal gates, were good, but what a pity the cast had to mime the opening of doors. We could have heard it without, whereas the mine (and the deliberate synchrony with the sound) was obtrusive.

The direction was excellent and the acting exciting. If I were the Rep I'd be considering more showings in future. It was a good half-dollar's worth and if the word gets round, as I hope it will, the next late night show will be booked out the month before.

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BUGS DANCE

MIKE DUNN & KATE TAYLOR

Good and moody

AFTER some excellent and boisterous publicity, the Bugs Beat Ball held in the Avon Room was financially, at least, a success.

The Moody Blues gave a polished and professional performance, and though their numbers were hardly at psychedelic standard, they were impressive enough to hold the attention of most of the audience.

A twenty minute gap while the Moodies chose between spotlights and amplifier could have resulted in their playing to unsympathetic listeners, but the brilliant instrumentation of "I Gotta Dream," and the emotive lyrics and overpowering harmony of "I Don't Want To Go On Without You" captured their audience immediately.

Despite an unexciting sequence of standard dance numbers, the dance floor remained quite full, chiefly because the Bugs committee lived up to their forecast of at least 50 per cent women. Even at the end of the dance, frustrated birds littered the table at the end of the room. The Lennon-McCartney sound of "Tuesday Afternoon" and the haunting quality of "Nights in White Satin" completed a superb performance, far in excess of their chart popularity.

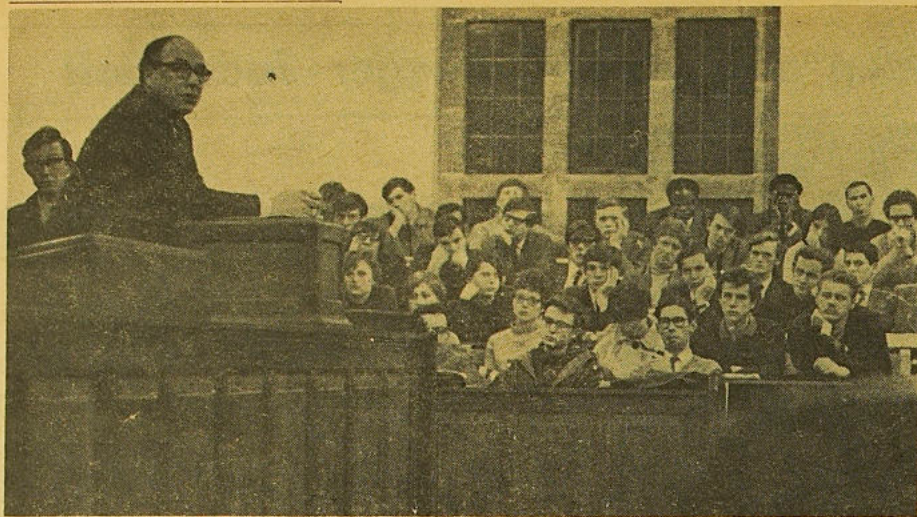
The success of the dance was mainly due to the Avon Room itself. With plenty of dancing space, pick-ups were both easier and more civilised, and the vast seating areas in the discotheque and main dance floor provided some excellent smooching facilities.

However, at the end there were rumours of discontent at the inadequate bar and the most unsupervised "supervised" cloakrooms yet devised.



The Moody Blues' lead singer shows his prowess as a flautist during BUGS Beat Ball last Friday.

(Photo: Graham Sharples)



(Photo: Dave Robinson)

Debate

SUCCESSFUL BLOOD SPORTS

LAST week's debate on blood sports was probably the nearest that we have been this year to a successful debate. Successful in the sense that the majority of the audience went in with a fixed set of prejudices, and left having been made to question a few of them.

Patrick Sherry, proposing the motion, viewed hunting as just one of a number of methods of control, and found it sadly wanting. "Hunters know that it is cruel, but choose to ignore the fact," he said. "Hunting is an anachronism in a civilised society."



William Price, M.P. for Rugby, before last week's debate.

Opposing him, Bill Sutton-Coulson countered Mr. Sherry's arguments with the Royal Commission on Blood Sports. He bemused the House with his rare knowledge of the animal's habits. Shooting, he showed to be far less effective and far more cruel than hunting, and while gassing was painless, you first must catch your fox. It seems that foxes do not sleep in their dens, so all that is left is to use gin-traps and snares, as cruel a method as any.

The seconder for the proposition, Mr. Bill Price, M.P., "felt very strongly." What about we do not know, but it seemed to be concerned with the effects on society of blood sports. He was the only speaker to deal with hare-coursing, probably the cruellest sport allowed, but found them all abhorrent.

His opponent, Marcus Kimball, M.P., chairman of the British Field Sports Society, took the part not of urban man, but that of the wild animal itself. What method was likely to cause the minimum pain to that animal? Was it better to die of gangrene from a gunshot wound, or to be torn to pieces by hounds?

He found his opponents hypocritical. When did we last have a debate on cruelty to rats? Legislation exists to stop cruelty; it must be more closely observed, to stop it.

Scientists from University Court

THE usually uncontested elections to the University Court of Governors have been given a new importance by the nomination of three Science and Engineering candidates. These three candidates, who are all ordinary scientists, have been nominated in the hope that Scientists and Engineers will all vote for them.

One of the campaign organisers, who preferred to remain anonymous, said that he hoped that a massive Science and Engineering vote would show to whoever was President that the Guild was out of touch with the bulk of the University; he added that Science and Engineering made up almost half the total population of the University.

The campaign has so far had publicity in all Science and Engineering departments, and the candidates, Tom George of Civ. Eng., Chris Grice of Physics and Dave Ruddlesden of Chem. Eng., were confident of success. Commented one of the candidates, Chris Grice: "I think it is about time the Scientists had more influence in Guild politics." On the other hand, Tom George said that if he were elected he would try to encourage the University to give more days off for Carnival.

The other candidates for the election are: Charles Wright, John Palmer and Malcolm Macourt.

N.U.S. Housing survey

THE N.U.S. has produced an interim report on its survey on student housing. Among the recommendations it makes is the setting up of a National Student Housing Advisory Board, under the Ministry of Housing & Local Government. This would assist in the consideration of student housing within the context of the overall situation: it would also break down into regional/area student housing boards, with representatives of local colleges and universities on them.

The report condemns traditional halls of residence as useless; it recommends conversion of old property as a good interim measure, but says that the best method of student housing is purpose-built flats such as those at Leeds and Essex. The conventional warden should be abolished, and the hostels should be run by governing committees which should have a majority of students.

A photo in last week's "Redbrick" of the Russian Revolution teach-in, with the caption "Soviet official at the teach-in," was in fact of Mr. Leo Labedz, a noted anti-soviet. We extend our apologies to Mr. Labedz and to the Soviet officials for any embarrassment the reference may have caused them.

NOW AT CARDIFF WHY NOT HERE?

PLANS are going ahead at University College, Cardiff, for the purchase of 12 out of an anticipated 200 houses, the experimental beginnings of the establishment of a student village. The houses are to be renovated and converted to contain several study bedrooms, and communal kitchen and living-rooms, each house to accommodate about eight students.

The area chosen for development is close to the intended site of the new Students' Union, and both the University and the Welsh C.A.T. are involved in the project.

For some years past Birmingham has had similar intentions. However, financial negotiations with the U.G.C. still continue, as attempts to raise the money privately have proved completely unsuccessful.

HARSHER MEASURES IN FUTURE

THE three students who were arrested for stealing books from Hudsons some weeks ago have now appeared before the University disciplinary committee.

The committee decided to censure each of the students concerned, for conduct unworthy of a member of the University, and for bringing the "good name of the University into disrepute."

The students, all from the Commerce and Social Science department, have also been cautioned that "conduct of this kind will have to be dealt with more seriously in the future."

Copies of the committee's decisions have been posted throughout the University and copies sent to the parents of the people concerned. None of the students has appealed against the decision.

Aston arrests result from Jenkins talk

TWO Aston students were arrested as Roy Jenkins left the Union last Friday. They were protesting against general Government policy, and tried to stop Mr. Jenkins' car from leaving. The Police Special Branch arrested one student in Edgbaston Park Road and the other outside the Union as he struggled to free his friend. They were taken to Selly Oak Police Station, interrogated for two hours, and later released. No charges are being made at present.

Earlier Mr. Jenkins had told students of his proposed new legislation against racial discrimination in employment, housing and credit and insurance facilities which, he said, would "make a considerable broadening of the definition of 'public place' in the existing legislation."

Speaking to a meeting of Socialist Union in the Council Chamber, he said, "Further anti-discrimination legislation, though it obviously cannot begin to solve the whole problem, is overwhelmingly desirable at the present time."

"Integration is rather a loose word, though one that it's rather difficult to avoid using; and I certainly don't regard its meaning as the loss by immigrants of their national characteristics and culture. I regard integration not as a flattening process of discrimination, but as equal opportunity accompanied by cultural diversity."

The Home Secretary continued that "to legislate against this as opposed to sex discrimination is to single this out and to mistake the nature of the problem. Broadly speaking, women will continue to live with men and not withdraw into social and geographical ghettos of their own."

Prophetic posters announcing "Liberal students say people come before the pound" and demanding "Polaris money for housing" seemed to make little impression on Mr. Jenkins. Efforts to draw him on Vietnam produced nothing more than a witty reply: "I always agree with the Foreign Secretary, and the Foreign Secretary always agrees with me. Though sometimes we agree even more strongly that we do at other times."

Sober UFOs

FLYING objects in the sky are not uncommon to those of us who frequent the Main Bar. However, some sober-minded scientists have decided to start a society to investigate these Unidentified Flying Objects. The organiser, Pete Amoss, of second year Physics, said that the study of U.F.O.s was one of the few regions of science where amateurs could participate, and that in fact most of the work done on this subject was done by amateurs. He added that for anyone interested in U.F.O.s there would be a meeting at 7.30 p.m. this evening in Committee Room 4.

FLIGHT IN DANGER

A MEETING is being held tomorrow at 1.15 in the Council Chamber for all those interested in the Guild charter flight to North America; so far not enough interest has been shown in the flight by Birmingham students, though Aston students seem extremely enthusiastic.

The price of the flight, originally put at £50, has dropped to £47. The flight is going to Canada, where it will probably be very easy for students to get work. They will not need a visa, only a letter of facilitation from the Canadian Government and proof that they are full-time students.

All those interested in the flight should be sure not to miss the meeting, as if insufficient interest is shown the flight may have to be cancelled.

More use for library

A POSSIBILITY of extending Library opening hours to 11 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays afternoons and Sundays was revealed at Guild Council last night.

A motion proposed by Charles Critcher, was passed overwhelmingly, undertaking to examine all possibilities of improving the facilities offered by the Library.

A questionnaire is to be sent out to elicit the facts about what library facilities are available, what students want, and what changes can be made.

Particular reference was made to the possibility of extending the Library opening hours, and amending the new term loans system.

In his proposal speech Mr. Critcher said: "This motion is of importance to every student on the campus. The head of the Library, Dr. Humphries, has shown considerable interest in the possibilities for improving Library facilities, especially with regard to the book allocations for final-year Combined Honours students."

A report on the results of the allocations for final-year Combined Council as soon as possible in the spring term.

REALITY MADE OFFICIAL

NEGOTIATIONS are under way with other Birmingham colleges to obtain reciprocal Union and common-room membership with all the colleges concerned.

The move, being conducted by Charles Wright and Ray Phillips, will make official what has in fact existed for some time now; other students use the University Union, and students from the University use the common rooms of other colleges.

FRIDAY
5/-
DEB. HALL

JAMES WATT SOC
DANCE
★
Brian Auger Wynder K. Frog

Also
PADDY HURST
DISCO
and 11.30 BAR