

Guild News

The Guild of Undergraduates—University of Birmingham

No. 546

Thursday, February 5, 1953

Threepence

DEBATING FRACAS

THE final of the University Debating Tournament was the scene, on Thursday evening, of an unprecedented and regrettable incident. It resulted in Mr. R. J. Wreford, one of the eight finalists, withdrawing from the tournament.

Mr. Wreford was to oppose the motion, "That this House deplores the use of Whips in party politics." No sooner had he begun his speech than he was subjected to a spate of irrelevant points of order and information. After conceding several of these, he sought the protection of the chair from what he called "an organised attempt to sabotage my speech." Mr. Sullivan, in the chair, replied that this protection would be afforded, adding "We of Chancellor's must stick together."

Mr. Wreford then continued, but almost immediately Mr. Jack Betteridge rose and proposed "that the speaker be no longer heard." This was seconded, and, despite his earlier assertion that he would protect Mr. Wreford from such banter, Mr. Sullivan proceeded to put the proposal against the House. While this was being done, Mr. Wreford turned to the Chairman and announced, "You need not bother, Sir, I withdraw from the tournament." With this the tournament continued, and after the remaining speakers had debated, the judges withdrew to consider their verdict.

Mr. Wreford immediately rose and proposed a vote of no confidence in the chair, which was seconded by Mr. Betteridge, whose motion had led to the incident. Mr. Sullivan vacated the chair which was then taken by Mr. Julian Levy. Before Mr. Levy put the motion to the House, he gave his opinion that Mr. Wreford was taking a "childish" attitude, and perhaps it was this obviously biased attitude which led to the House to defeat the motion of no confidence. For a Society so well versed in constitution and the right of free speech, several members of the Debating Society showed a complete disregard for democracy.

Mr. Wreford, who could well be forgiven for his outburst, then apologised to Mr. Sullivan. A speaker from the floor then rose and suggested that the House should show its disapproval of the tactics adopted by the hecklers. This was greeted with murmurs of approval.

Mr. Betteridge then rose and in Mr. Wreford's withdrawal, and he apologised for the part he had played was followed by several other speakers who also apologised. Each, in expressing his regret, pointed out that since Mr. Wreford was an experienced debater, they were of the opinion that he would gain in the estimation of the judges for the manner in which he handled their interruptions.

The withdrawal of Mr. Wreford who, with Mr. Bayliss, the eventual winner of the tournament, had reached the regional final of the "Observer Mace Debating Tournament," took much of the interest from the proceedings. The blame for his withdrawal must fall on the shoulders of Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Betteridge. It was extremely unsporting of Mr. Betteridge to propose that a fellow competitor be no longer heard, and regrettable that Mr. Sullivan should accept the motion. Mr. Wreford can be consoled by the fact that the judges, in their adjudication, announced that in their opinion, Mr. Wreford, had he continued, might well have been runner-up.

C.C.

Mission opens

THE Debating Hall was almost filled for the opening of the Mission last Sunday evening.

The Vice-Chancellor opened proceedings by introducing Canon Fison and his team, observing that he thought that in matters of religion more than any other subject, it was difficult to see the wood for the trees. He illustrated this by reference to Josiah Mason, who believed that "In the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," yet refused to have any catechism taught in his orphanage, and thus alienated many of his supporters who insisted that this should be done; neither of the parties really had the wood in perspective. The Vice-Chancellor said that whilst Canon Fison's team would not attempt to give the whole answer, perhaps they would enable some of the trees to fall into perspective.

Canon Fison then thanked everyone for the reception which had been accorded to him and his team, given warmly in spite of the fact that he came from the other side of the Tamar. He hoped that there would be a concerted keenness in the search for the Truth, while he warned that we should not in our keenness let the wonder of being taught pass by all so that our quest becomes trapped in a

cul-de-sac rather than proceeding along a thoroughfare.

It is easy to put questions to life and, at the same time, to dodge the questions which life puts to us. He urged everyone, whether "inside" or "outside" to do three things during Mission Week: firstly to face the facts, even if they shatter our security—something which the Church has not always done—discussion is a case in point. Secondly we should obey the signs—just as traffic signals are a "shorthand way to act" so the Ten Commandments are not yet a negative code or a set of inconvenient rules. Thirdly, we should consider the symbols—"a shorthand way to make us think"; thus Christians use the symbol of the Cross.

THE MISSION AND "WALL"

"Wall" newspaper is this week devoting a considerable amount of space to the activities of the Mission. One very interesting feature is a section devoted to answering people's questions about Christian beliefs. In a University the size of ours, we may hope to see a wide and interesting range of questions put. It is intended to change the questions and answers on display several times during the course of the week, and questions should be sent to "Wall" via the "Guild News" pigeon hole. Pen names will be permitted if questioners so desire.

A DRY MEETING

As an experiment, Council threw open its doors to the Guild at large, having removed to the Women's Common Room, and a small body of visitors took their seats at the back of the room. As might be expected, few members availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing what really goes on in the ruling body of the Guild; while ever ready to criticise the work of Exec. and Council, the carpers are still prepared to remain uninformed about what they erroneously label "dictatorship."

The doubts arising in the mind of many whether visitors enjoyed their visit or not were due to the arid nature of the agenda. The minutes of the last meeting also proved to be exceedingly long, and for a room of that size, Mr. Jones undoubtedly needs a microphone to make himself heard.

The matters arising from the minutes largely concerned Ed. Streeters. It had been stated that the University could not send certain grants over to Ed. Street because the list containing all students' names had to be in one place, and, as Mr. Jones implied, the ed. Streeters had to suffer the thin end of the wedge. Mr. Heseltine in reply, said that the list had been circulated at both ends in the past, and Mr. Stanley offered to press for the spitting of the list. With regard to the Ed. Street library, Mr. Humphreys, the Librarian, was doing his best to solve the problems which were at present preventing its opening as late as the Harding.

CHRISTMAS PARTY SUBSCRIPTIONS

Miss Sellers, the Vice-President, presented a report of the annual Christmas party for children which she had run this year in the Union. £61 9s. 6d. had been donated, and this had meant that 7s. 6d. per head (wholesale), had been spent on gifts. The Pre-Clinical Society had kindly lent their decorations; indeed, many dances had also availed themselves of them. Members of Executive had come forward with the organising and Mr. Snowdon had made an admirable Father Christmas. Thanks were extended to all students who had helped.

Mr. Symonds, however, raised the matter of the appeal which had financed this party. While Guild societies personally wished to give money, it was wrong for it to be taken from their funds, which are kept for the benefit of the society itself. As alternatives, several people suggested that a collection would perhaps produce even better results, and raffles too might be organised. Miss Sellers accepted these suggestions for consideration, reminding Council that it was a Guild party. She added that next year an old people's party might be more worthwhile, as the children seem to be quite well off already. Mr. Revell voiced the feeling of us all when he proposed a vote of



'YOU'RE NEVER SATISFIED'

thanks to Miss Sellers for her hard work.

FINANCE

Several matters were discussed in connection with the Interim Finance Report. It was stated that G.T.G. had been given a grant of £75 in respect of their participation in the N.U.S. Drama Festival. Several members expressed the hope that N.U.S. might in future charge an entry fee to the Festival, so that the finalists' expenses may be met without such a large liability falling on their own Guilds.

Mr. Luby was very critical of the now defunct Film Society, whose affairs had been badly mismanaged, even allowing for the unavoidable losses caused by the Founders' Room fire. Mr. C. Collins expressed his interest in reforming the society, though Mr. Luby suggested that if he succeeded it would be as well to have a member of Executive on the committee as, in the words of Mr. Stanley, Executive hold the Guild interests in trust. Mr. Wreford threw out the interesting suggestion that Film Society might be accepted as one of the mam Guild societies, like G.T.G., the Debating Society, and the Athletic Union.

Under this same heading, Mr. Rastall made a plea for the re-design of the Guild Diary, as the present one was too bulky. This, too, might bring down the cost to students. It is noteworthy that the Senior Common Room came to this decision last year, and now have their own University diaries.

FURTHER COMMUNICATIONS

In connection with the Non-Residential Halls of Residence, a residential mid-week was to be held on March 10-11. Discussions between staff and students will take place, and Freshers' representatives were particularly asked to come so that there may be some continuity to the scheme in future years.

Mr. Snowdon asked for more motions for the N.U.S. Council Meeting, as the only one so far received was that concerning the finances of the Drama Festival.

Finally, the meeting agreed that the principle of having open Council meetings was a good one, and worth pursuing. **THUS, ALL MEMBERS OF THE GUILD ARE INVITED TO THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, at 5.15 p.m.**

DEMOCRITAS.

ADDENDUM: Members are reminded that they are able to purchase tickets for Guild Dinner and Ball.

PRINTING

We specialise in Magazine and Newspaper printing but have complete facilities for all your printing requirements. Enquiries welcomed.

NUNEATON NEWSPAPERS LTD.
BOND GATE, NUNEATON
PHONE 3636



Burning your fingers

It's more easily done than you'd think, but there's no reason why it should happen to you. When you're faced with some matter of finance or business that takes you out of your depth, come and talk it over with us. You'll find us very knowledgeable (very willing to share our knowledge, too); and among our many services* there is sure to be something that will stand between you and digital conflagration.

*Described in the booklet "Midland Bank Services for You", on request at all branches.

MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

2,170 branches in England and Wales

HEAD OFFICE: POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.2

EDITORIAL

Guild News



Number
546

Selly Oak
1841

THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER,
THE UNION,
EDGBASTON

Editor Cyril Hershorn
Assistant Editor Brian Wood
Business Manager Guy Rastall
Sports Editor Peter Coultas
Advertising Manager Enid Burrows
Circulation Manager Mark Seaward
Subscription Manager Caroline Wilson
Editorial Staff Megan Jones, Doreen Hall, Barry Cooper,
Myra Barrs, Pat Doughty, Rosemary Broome
Business Staff Chris Collins, Danny Bragg
Sales Staff Margaret Pountney, Anne Coupland, Jim Hart,
G. Lomax, Bob Walker, Marilyn Rowlands,
Derek Freeman

"Guild News" arises out of the ashes of the criticism heaped upon it to offer views of its own. Our ire has been aroused by the receipt of a circular from N.U.S. concerning material for their own "Student News." Opinions on this paper differ, but one wonders whether it is in competition with "Reveille" or not. While we ourselves are not averse to some aspects of the tabloid-style, we must consider ourselves positively highbrow in comparison with "S.N."

We shall never know what the student is interested in, except wine, women and song, but it is surely not such inanities as "Is to-day's woman undergraduate more interested in brains than Hollywood-style brawn and muscle." Moreover, we are asked to provide "suitable" quotes and photographs. Other contributions are photographs of college beauties... if they exist inside the lecture room. This, we are told, will help our photographers to match their artistic talent "as well as giving students the opportunity of comparing talent." We leave the last comment unqualified.

This, it appears, is not enough, and Gillian Shadbolt, the Publicity Officer, would have us believe that the topic of grants comes under "On the lighter side." Obviously Miss Shadbolt has no cares about her own bread and butter, and regards the workings of the Anderson Committee as a further attempt to entertain us. No Miss Shadbolt we suggest that you keep to editing the N.U.S. Songbook, where your talents will find ample outlet.

MISSION DEFENDED

Dear Sir,

The words of Mr. Wakeling cannot remain unanswered. I challenge them as a Christian opposed to his materialistic creed on moral grounds. In claiming that Communism upholds Christian MORALITY, Mr. Wakeling has sunk to the depths of hypocrisy. Either he is missing words, which means he is a liar, or he is misunderstanding them.

My argument takes the form of quoting the words of Communist leaders, and it is hoped that every student will thus correct the false image created by Mr. Wakeling. Consider this one sentence of Lenin, when he was ordering the workers to seize control of the trade unions. "It is necessary to resort to all sorts of devices, manoeuvres, and illegal methods of evasion and subterfuge."

—Again the words of the well known Hungarian Communist theorist, Dr. Georg Lukacs. "Communist ethics make it the highest duty to accept the necessity of acting wickedly."

And finally the following words of Lenin—"Communist morality is what serves the destruction of the old society of exploiters and the uniting of all toilers around the proletariat which is creating the new society of Communists"—that is, Leninist ethics are based on political expediency. Whatever helps promote the revolution is considered good, anything against the revolution is evil.

No mention here of absolute moral standards—these are rejected by Communists. An action is judged by its results: the end justifies the means. Deceit, falsehood, forgery, electoral fraud, slander, false witness, forced confessions, torture, judicial murder and assassination, are not merely permissible but obligatory whenever the service of the Party requires them, whenever these methods would benefit International Communism.

I hope it is now clear to your readers Mr. Editor, that the Communist claim to Christian morality is completely false. If Mr. Wakeling personally claims an absolute set of moral principles, then he is no Communist and should leave their company before he loses his principles.

Yours, etc.

J. STEER-WOOD.

* Left Wing Communism—Lenin. Undated edition by Lawrence and Wishart. P. 38.

† The Communist International 1938. P. 172.

‡ Lenin-Sochinieniya. 3rd edit. P. 411.

PRESS POST

LIVELY TORY MEETING

Lord Balneil, M.P., Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, addressed the Conservative Association a week last Friday on future Conservative policy. He emphasised that under the present circumstances, election campaigns were likely to be of short duration, with increasing use made of television appearances. The electorate was likely to be influenced more by personalities and short-term promises than by the basic philosophies of the various parties.

He went on to discuss the Conservative philosophy, the theme naturally being the relative importance of the individual and the State. He pointed out that, during its term of office, the Conservative Government had abolished the wartime emergency regulations which had been used in peacetime by the Socialist administration.

However, Lord Balneil showed that he did not oppose controls merely on doctrinal grounds by quoting as an example from his own field of housing. He said that it was the Government's view that everyone should have a house with proper sanitation, and that they therefore proposed to make available to landlords a grant of up to £150 to pay for modifications where necessary. His own view was that tenants should be able to obtain a certificate of "lack of amenities," and that until such amenities were installed the rent of the dwelling should be fixed, but he reiterated that in general he was opposed to any extension of State powers.

In the lively discussion which followed, topics varying from abolition of the family to unilateral nuclear disarmament were raised. Lord Balneil stressed that the H-bomb was a deterrent to war, and that he believed that the individual should receive a fair price when his land was compulsorily purchased. He then concluded that it was altogether a most stimulating and enjoyable meeting.

SOLOMON REBUKED

Dear Sir,

As always, we are pleased to see a new name, if not a contributor to "Guild News." It was in vain, however, that I searched for some vestige of proverbial wisdom in the article masquerading under the name of Solomon. Perhaps this may be excused as an expression of a decaying kingly genius.

I do not suggest that "Ex" is above criticism or is a model of democratic government, but if there is to be any criticism let it be constructive—not regaled to insidious personal attacks on individual members.

Such an article might at least be placed in the correspondence column, where one hopes the writer would have the courage to sign his name, why was it given a place on the front page? Surely, if lacking the merit of a serious, well-written, contribution to undergraduate opinion; and if the number of exclamation marks taken into consideration, one can only conclude that it was the work of an hysterical monarch in his dotage.

Yours, etc.,
DAVID H. FUSSELL
English

DRAMA COURSE

The Student Drama Association, organising a practical course in drama, acting and producing, association with the British Drama League, in London, from March 3 to April 3 this year.

In arranging the course, the association was conscious of valuable assistance it would be able to give to students who are contemplating taking part in the 1959 National Student Drama Festival.

Tuition will be given by Frances Mackenzie, Mr. Donald John and Miss Lyn Oxenford, of the British Drama League Training Department.

The £5 2s. 6d. registration fee includes accommodation, breakfast, dinner and a visit to the theatre. Despite the fact that this is a dental course, a limited number of places will be available to students wishing to take part only in tuition and visit to the theatre. Of this type of registration will be 12s. Enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Student Drama Association, 3, Endsleigh Square, London, W.C.1.

The Triple Tragedy of S. Africa

By R. Wendover

I WAS moved to take up my pen by an article in "Guild News" by your correspondent M. W. Jones, last term following the showing of the film "Cry the Beloved Country."

● South Africa is a triple tragedy: Firstly, the tragedy of two civilisations—one white, the other black, and the African naturally progresses from one to the other, from the primitive African to the less primitive European. Yet in this progression he casts off his "tribal system" ... "and cannot at once assimilate the different European system." Thus he falls into the morass of humanity with no social code to sustain it, and that is tragedy. This is no-one's fault; the establishment of a European civilisation amongst the primitive Africans must ultimately raise the standard of living and benefit the African. The better and higher European civilisation could replace the tribal system.

● The second tragedy is the Apartheid policy of the Afrikaans' Nationalist Party. They have in their sincerity decided upon a solution of separation which, taken fundamentally, merely seeks to restore the status quo of a century or so, when the Bantu was North of the Vaal and the White Man in the South.

As the white settler moved north, he met the Bantu, not in his own country, but moving south. Therefore, this policy is not aggression but based upon a misguided religious and moral outlook. "East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet." The hold which the Dutch Reformed Church has on the Afrikaaner population must not be underestimated. It dictates education, strictly censors cinema and Press, confirms the Prime Minister in power, and supports completely the Apartheid policy. I personally condemn Apartheid, as do thousands of South Africans, for it is quite impracticable and morally indefensible to deny primitive peoples the opportunities of acquiring European civilisation through contact with it.

● The third tragedy, and the bitterest, is the uninformed, malicious criticism of South Africa in this country at the moment. Your correspondent speaks of "Cry the Beloved Country" as "dealing with the oppression of the coloured peoples and the terrible social evils arising therefrom." No, it deals with the tragedy of the African casting off his tribal system and failing to reach the European civilisation of Johannesburg. "They are compelled to lead a miserable existence in shanty towns," she says. How would she change the point of view of the African who would rather live in a shanty town and have £5 a week to spend on beer, than live in a goldmine compound and be excellently housed for £5 a month?

Other sources of this malicious criticism must be Trevor Huddleston and Canon Collins. I would charge these men, especially Huddleston, with failing to stem the tide of uninformed criticism which they must recognise in this country. This charge, too, comes from some of those most strongly opposing Apartheid.

To many English-speaking South Africans, who look upon England as their "Alma Mater," this criticism is a bitter pill. To them it is their fellows who indulge in this criticism. They express their feelings to us over such statements as, "The tiny minority who are exploiting the lives of millions of coloured people," and the "oppressive Apartheid policy enforced by the white government," especially when they themselves were fighting by every means they knew to overthrow the Nationalist Government and to return a United Party with a progressive policy.

However, in South Africa some degree of colour bar is inevitable, inevitable since, where differences of culture, civilisation, education, and social responsibility exist between two races, there is a gulf fixed which can only be filled by years of patient leading. No amount of pious sentiments on all men being equal in the sight of God are going to melt away these differences overnight. Undoubtedly all men are equal in the sight of God; we must be careful not to assume that we have the same point of view in considering equality.

We should not beat our heads against the brick wall in trying to remove the colour bar where it is naturally occurring, where colour indicates only a different race. We must consider this natural barrier disappearing as the races grow closer to each other, so that we must look towards an integrated society of black and white, and through intermarriage, which is inevitable, a final grey race. By then, the black and white situation will be insignificant.

STUDENT SEGREGATION IN S. AFRICA

In a month's time the Government of South Africa is likely to pass an Act which will have grave effects on the student communities there. It will take from the so-called coloured student the possibility of higher education, and will deny the university the right to free selection of its students, and the students the opportunity of exchanging ideas with students of other races.

The whole effect will be to stab at the very heart of university life as we know it. It is often stated that we have no right to judge the policy of Apartheid without having a first-hand experience of the difficulties involved. The argument does not hold water, however, with specific regard to the separate universities bill and the principles involved. We have only to turn to the opinions of those engaged in the "open" universities to discover that the principles governing education in the South African Universities do not differ from those in any free country. From Witwatersrand University comes the following:

"The doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place in higher education. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." ... Perhaps the greatest service that the open universities have rendered to our caste-ridden country is to throw together whites, blacks, and browns, and to provide an opportunity, not to be found easily or at all elsewhere in South Africa, for whites, blacks, and browns to learn to trust each other as individual human beings."

This is the opinion of nearly all those at the open universities and follows closely the aims of all student communities throughout the world. From other reports we learn that there have been no racial clashes or riots to warrant separation. Furthermore, the policy of integration being pursued, but not pushed, at the open universities has been beneficial to the student communities.

The coloured students' standard of education will fall as a result of the segregation of the universities. It will be impossible to train coloured teachers to as high a standard as our whites if the facilities of the open

universities are not available to them. The difficulty already exists even before the closing of Witwatersrand and Capetown, the two remaining open universities, to coloured students.

In short, no student can, on any count, uphold the separate universities bill which is being put forward. However, it is one thing to disagree in principle and another to act positively and constructively towards helping the students of South Africa, and especially the open universities. Positive action has been taken in some universities, Oxford and Cambridge, both with about 8,000 students, have collected £2,000 each, and Reading and Southampton, with student population less than Birmingham, have collected £1,000 each.

We have collected less than £200

The above universities support committees actively engaged against student segregation. ONLY ONE POSITION ON OUR COMMITTEE WAS FILLED.

We are no more apathetic than any other university. There is much to be done to support the N.U.S. campaign and to raise money to keep these coloured students in the open universities who have already entered.

We cannot just watch our fellow students in South Africa fight for their rights. We must actively support them in every way possible along with many other universities.

The road to full membership of the world student community is not for the idle. We at Birmingham must be willing to work for our membership.

F. B. BLADER.

M. W. JONES REPLIES

NO one would deny that the establishment of another type of civilisation to replace that one lost by the African peoples is a most difficult task. But surely, one must agree that to enforce an unequal and unjust status on the African peoples by Police State methods is hardly the most intelligent way of going about it. If South Africa finds criticism a bitter pill to swallow, perhaps she should refrain from provoking it by indulging in censorship and treason trials which are an outrage to the ideals of justice. If to deplore these is to indulge in "malicious criticism," then I, for one, intend to go on being as malicious as I can be.

Such widely respected figures as Father Huddleston and Canon Collins hardly need to be defended by me, but surely Mr. Wendover cannot dismiss as "uninformed criticism" the reasoned conclusions of men who have lived and worked among the South African peoples for years. If these men are "uninformed," then who can know the true state of affairs?

I reject

I reject very strongly the suggestion that all men are equal in the sight of God is merely a "pious sentiment." On the contrary, it is a vital truth. If he accepts it only for a moment, Mr. Wendover must agree that Apartheid is a flagrant denial of this truth.



Cloudburst crisis

Place: London. Time: Two-thirty p.m. Weather: Cloudburst. Result: Sky dark as night, every light and drainage pump turned on—and a suddenly soaring demand for electricity. More power is needed fast, but this need has been foreseen. At Thames North Control an Assistant Control Engineer, aged 28, makes a decision, gets on to Norwich Generating Station. Within minutes extra power is being transferred to London. This is the kind of responsibility he likes, the reason for which he joined the Electricity Supply Industry, as a Graduate Trainee, five years ago.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The demand for electricity doubles every ten years, so opportunities for promotion are outstandingly good. Careers are really secure, too, and the work is varied and interesting. You can join as a student apprentice from the science sixth form of your school, or you can join as a graduate with an engineering degree. For full details, please write to the address below; tell us your age and what exams you've passed—that will help us to give you advice that's really personal.

The Education and Training Officer,
The Electricity Council,
Winsley Street, London W.1.

Young men get on, in Electricity

5601/10

What
do you
want from
a career?

Challenge? Excitement? Responsibility? Travel?
A flying career in the Royal Air Force
offers you all these and more...

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE is fully aware of the need to attract its fair share of graduates. With history in the making, as new air weapons and tactics evolve, there are even greater opportunities in the R.A.F. today for men who are prepared to match their brains and individuality against the impressive challenge of the future.

Here is a worthwhile career which gives opportunities comparable with any in industry or commerce for advancement to a position of great interest and responsibility.

Special University entry on a Permanent Commission. There are opportunities for graduates to obtain a permanent commission with prospects of a full career. Graduates are commissioned on entry as pilot officers and are given seniority in recognition of the time spent on full-time study. Additional seniority is given to

graduates with first- or second-class honours degrees, and to any who have previous full-time commissioned service in one of the Armed Forces of the Crown, e.g. on short service or national service commissions. Candidates for the General Duties (Flying) branch should be under 26.

Other forms of entry. Graduates who do not wish to enter on permanent commissions can apply for other forms of commission. Those who want to fly as pilots, navigators or air electronics officers can be con-

sidered, under the Direct Commission Scheme, for an appointment of twelve years, with an option of retiring to civil life after eight years. Alternatively, they may have opportunities of entering on short-service commissions for four or five years. In either case they receive tax-free gratuities, up to £4,000 after twelve years, when they transfer to the Reserve. It is well worth your while to find out more about a career in the Royal Air Force.

Complete details are given in Air Ministry publications. Write for them now to the Air Ministry (FF 156), Admiralty House, London, W.C.1. In your letter give your date of birth, the degree for which you are working and type of commission in which you are interested.

The Royal Air Force Flying ... and a career



Hitler's place in History

MY friend John and I, last Tuesday, happened to call in at the Great Hall to hear the Open Lecture on "Hitler's Place in History," by Hugh Trevor-Roper, Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Oxford. Comments on the lecture afterwards "good but nothing more" and "it had its purple patches" summed up fairly accurately the general impression we gained.

Professor Trevor-Roper is a robust lecturer, brimming over with an enthusiasm to put forward his special brand of provocative ideas, and it was clear throughout that he was well on top of his subject. But at the end one was still left wondering "What is Hitler's place in history?" Except for passing allusions to Napoleon, Hitler was scarcely considered in relation to other European strong-arm rulers. Neither was there any attempt to relate the career of Hitler to post-war events. It is true that many historians would consider the task of lecturing on contemporary history impossible, but Trevor-Roper himself is one of the main progenitors of the school of thought which considers that only contemporary history is history.

The main point where Trevor-Roper scored was in his understanding of Hitler's character and in his analysis of the dramatic impact of this character on the European political stage after 1920. Hitler saw history as a succession of ages and he saw the 20th Century as a new age when the main political problem would be the control of Asia. He considered he had a mission to act with speed and power against Russia, and to achieve this, like his hero Charlemagne, he had to knock the Germans together and weld them into an instrument of his own will. In fact he conceived of himself as both a political philosopher and a practical politician.

The important thing about Nazism was that Hitler invented it, created its philosophy, controlled it and stayed with it to the end. He fabricated Nazism, he fitted together an unco-ordinated series of ideas throughout Germany into an intoxicating system; he was Nazism. Yet in the early 1930s nobody considered him seriously; his ideas seemed so absurdly remote from human possibility.

● Hitler came closest to victory in June, 1941, when, but for the technical errors of others, he could have gone straight into Russia. If this had happened, if Hitler had won in the end, asked Trevor-Roper, what would be our opinion of Hitler to-day? We would have lost all the documents which were the booty of the conquest. Perhaps historians would only have regarded his triumph and views would be very different. Yet underneath there would be the same man; the mean and squalid of human stature; the demonic pleasure at the thought of shedding blood would still be there; so would the contempt of human values which made him refuse peace in the end even when the survival of German people was at stake.

Probably this was the most valuable general point of the lecture. Trevor-Roper certainly demonstrated how political judgment is so dependent on and thus limited by the evidence available.

There followed a large number of questions from an overcrowded Great Hall, but were they inspired by the lecturer or by the subject. My friend John and I have since wondered.

DENTAL EXTRACTIONS

Thursday, January 29, saw members of the Dental Profession wending their way to the Grand Hotel, for the annual ball, held traditionally in Ye Olde Grosvenor Rooms.

On arriving, one was welcomed by the President, Mr. J. Kirby, F.D.S.R.C.S., and his wife, together with Mr. R. J. Frost, Chairman of the Dental Students' Society, and Miss M. A. Warburton.

The dancing—to Ronnie Hancock and his band, who made a brave effort at demonstrating the Cha-Cha—was very enjoyable, but a greater spectacle was yet to follow. The staff/students race (this year's honours being awarded to the staff for the first time for many years) was ably hindered by Prof. Osborne, Mr. Shovelton, Dr. Hardwick, Mr. Ellum, Mr. Highway, and Mr. Whitehead. The noble opponents were Mr. R. J. Frost, Mr. H. Edmondson, Mr. B. Jones, Mr. T. Dodge, Mr. Barclay and Mr. C. Walker.

The staff/student relationship in the dental faculty—always of a high standard—was shown in the way the staff joined in to spur on the "Scooter Racers."

K.E.N.

stayed with it to the end. He fabricated Nazism, he fitted together an unco-ordinated series of ideas throughout Germany into an intoxicating system; he was Nazism. Yet in the early 1930s nobody considered him seriously; his ideas seemed so absurdly remote from human possibility.

● Hitler came closest to victory in June, 1941, when, but for the technical errors of others, he could have gone straight into Russia. If this had happened, if Hitler had won in the end, asked Trevor-Roper, what would be our opinion of Hitler to-day? We would have lost all the documents which were the booty of the conquest. Perhaps historians would only have regarded his triumph and views would be very different. Yet underneath there would be the same man; the mean and squalid of human stature; the demonic pleasure at the thought of shedding blood would still be there; so would the contempt of human values which made him refuse peace in the end even when the survival of German people was at stake.

Probably this was the most valuable general point of the lecture. Trevor-Roper certainly demonstrated how political judgment is so dependent on and thus limited by the evidence available.

There followed a large number of questions from an overcrowded Great Hall, but were they inspired by the lecturer or by the subject. My friend John and I have since wondered.

M. J. HESELTINE.

L'AVARE

WITH a personal reputation to enhance, as well as the honour of G.T.G. to maintain, the French Circle next week is performing its annual play. This year they have chosen Moliere's ever popular, "L'Avare" ("The Miser"), which is proving a great attraction, and the seats are selling fast.

The comedy, one of the cleverest ever written, shows Harpagon, the miser, in relation to all around him—his family, servants, friends, and how near to tragedy it all is. This part will be played by John Beardsmore. His son and daughter are being played by Fresher, Mike Freeman (of the Physics Dept.), and the chairman himself, Wendy Thompson. The miser has one weakness—he wishes to marry, as he thinks, a poor young girl, Mariane, played by Jennifer Carter, another newcomer. In this he has Frosine as his go-between, and here Gillian Armstrong will be showing in the intriguing side of society. The cast is fifteen strong, and includes Richard Buttiner, yet another Fresher, as Valere, Elise's lover, who

The play is being produced by Cyril Hershon, who informs us that he is having it played as traditionally as modern taste will allow. It can be seen at the Union on February 10, 11 and 12, and the cast will also be performing at Atherstone on Monday, and at Hanley on Friday, where they have accepted an invitation from the Staffordshire Education Committee.

—W.J.P.

LUNCH AT THE 'Plough & Harrow'

The newly formed final year Lunch Club, designed to promote the appreciation of good food and foster good relations between students and persons in an official capacity, held its third meeting in the Plough & Harrow, Hagley Road, on Friday, January 26.

The first two meetings on January 12 and 19 had been held at the White Horse Hotel and the Royal Hotel, the respective being Mr. H. W. Coultas, of the Engineering Department and Mr. G. Thomas, lecturer in Mining, its third meeting the club, together with Professor Stacey G. Ward, fessor of Mining, were the guests of Mr. R. S. Odd, the General Manager, Wilmot Breeden.

Persons who have accepted invitations for further meetings this year are Mr. J. Hudson, lecturer in Engineering, the president and president of the Guild, Mr. W. Hardie, lecturer in Geology, and Rev. J. E. Newport.

RADIO-ELECTRONICS-RESEARCH

TELEPHONY-TELEGRAPHY

POSTAL MECHANISATION

A first-class career for you, in

Telecommunications!

AT GRADUATE AND G.C.E. LEVEL

Engineering and Science graduates are offered responsible, well-paid professional careers in a Service that is making full use of, and developing, new techniques. At the same time, young men with Advanced-level G.C.E. can enter in capacities that offer real opportunity for promotion to similar senior appointments through special training and educational facilities. These facilities include University Bursaries, Sandwich Courses and Paid Day-Release.

Vital, Modern Work. Today the Post Office is unmistakably moving with the times. Major engineering and scientific

developments are afoot which enable the Post Office to offer the most interesting opportunities in its history.

Professional staff are currently working on such projects as: National subscriber dialling of all trunk traffic • Dialed telephone calls over international routes • A Commonwealth telephone cable encircling the globe • Wide-band telephone transmission over radio links (telephone transmission through micro-wave links) • Electronic computer advisory and installation service • Mechanisation of Postal Services.



You are invited to write for full information to:

T. J. REES • POST OFFICE ENGINEERING ORGANISATION (G.N/2) 2-12 GRESHAM STREET • LONDON, E.C.2.

cm/aoal

LADIES ENTER WIVAB FINALS EN MASSE

ON Saturday three of the University women's teams reached W.I.V.A.B. finals when they beat Western and Northern divisional champions in close matches. This is an achievement for which the members of the Hockey, Lacrosse and Netball must be congratulated. All teams had to fight hard, and the Lacrosse were four goals down at one stage; this ability to play well under pressure is a very valuable asset, and it is to be hoped that it will stand our teams in good stead when they play their respective finals later in the term.

HOCKEY CLUB'S FIRST MATCH

For their opening fixture this term the ladies visited Manchester for the W.I.V.A.B. semi-final. The pitch was in much better condition than when they had been expected after the recent weather, but all the players found difficulty in remaining on the slippery surface. Birmingham did most of the attacking from the start, but all too often passes went astray or were intercepted by the Manchester defence. As a result, it was not until just before half-time that Anne Edgington was able to push the ball home from a pass across the goalmouth.

Rarely did Manchester look dangerous, but poor covering by the defence led to some narrow escapes when only the calmness and resource of Doreen Hall in goal saved the day for Birmingham. However, Manchester were also fortunate not to concede several goals before Valerie Catliff, a much improved player, scored to give Birmingham a 2-0 lead which was maintained to the end.

LACROSSE BEAT OLD RIVALS

For the first time in about six years Birmingham beat Bristol in a full-length match, to win through to the W.I.V.A.B. final. This is the second year the team has reached the final in the last two years, and this time they are determined to emerge victorious.

Birmingham won the toss and elected to play uphill in the first half on our opponents sloping pitch. This proved even harder than anticipated, due to the poor condition of the pitch, and by half-time we were losing 6-2. However, it was obvious that we were at least as good as the Bristol side, and, in addition there was the advantage of playing downhill in the second half. By a determined effort in the first ten minutes, Birmingham kept the ball in their opponents' half and drew level at 6-6. Bristol became frantic and managed to score once more, but by now we were really on top and were able to level the scores again and then go on to win by 11-7. A truly fine recovery!

It is difficult to single out any particular member of the team, but mention must be made of Chris Pollard, for the way she dealt with her opponent, who was the captain of the English Universities team. Goals were scored by S. Andrews (5), P. Sampson (3), R. Hillier (2), and R. Allpress (1).

UNFORTUNATE CONDITIONS

At Swansea on Saturday, after travelling for five hours, the team was rather disappointed to find an insufficiently marked court, and also what we suspected to be a non-regulation weight ball. The sea breeze made shooting from a distance almost impossible, with the result that scores were somewhat smaller than they might have been. However, all's well that ends well, and the Birmingham team won 13-12.

Let us hope that the final against Manchester or Reading will prove a better game.

IN an exceedingly hard-fought match at Birmingham on Saturday the home side emerged as winners of their semi-final of the U.A.U. Team Championships by beating Bristol 8-7. It was not until the very last game of the last set, when Forsythe beat King 21-13, 15-21, 21-11, that the match was decided.

BACKHOUSE as expected, won all his games but only just managed to beat Eneas, the Bristol captain 21-19 in the third game. The Birmingham captain and Forsythe, both playing extremely well, provided the backbone for the Birmingham win, by winning four of their six games. Saeed, completely out of luck, lost two sets both on deuce, but did well to beat the Bristol number two in two straight games. Cleat, out of form, lost all three of his sets.

ALTHOUGH there is still room for improvement, this was a most encouraging win, and probably the best match played this season. Our opponents in the final, Durham, have been unbeaten in the U.A.U. Championships for the past three years, but our team spirit is high, and if Saturday's performance is any indication of future form, we can win.

STRONG OPPOSITION FOR ATHLETICS CLUB

First indoor match

On Wednesday last, at Cosford R.A.F. station, the University Athletics team took part in its first ever indoor match, and although without a large proportion of its star performers, did well against the might of the Midland Counties, Loughborough College and the R.A.F.

The best performance for the University was probably the mile win by Fresher Dai Davies. He led the field for all the eleven laps to win easily in his personal best time of 4 mins, 35.4 secs. Another Fresher, Zimmerman, won the long jump with a leap of 20ft. 3in., and was unlucky to have one of over 21ft. disallowed.

The final of the 60 yards provided the closest finish to the evening. P. Radford (Midlands), after his recent tour of European indoor stadiums,

won easily in 6.3 secs., but A. Playle (R.A.F.), J. Raiton (Loughborough) and J. Jarvis (Birmingham), all finished together in 6.6 secs., and were placed in that order. In the shot Joe Medhurst was unlucky to have only one good "putt" and the cancellation of the hurdles event probably cost Birmingham some valuable points.

The final result was an encouraging one for us as all the other teams had a core of international athletes, and to finish behind Loughborough and the Midland A.A.A. was most creditable.

Three wins in one day

For the first time this season, all three hockey teams won their matches, making a grand start to the programme this term.

The first XI beat Harborne first XI by 2-1. Muckow, substituting for Boustridge, played very well indeed at left-back. The forwards too, played with more method than in previous games. On a wet soggy ground they used short passes very effectively and were, in general, faster than the opposing defence.

Eltringham, on the left wing, was neglected for a large part of the game. Sood was his usual forceful self at centre-forward, and was responsible for both the University goals. The first came from a scrimmage in front of the goal. Green and Sood tackled the goalkeeper and Sood managed to get the ball in. The second goal was off a short corner and the ball went surprisingly between the goalkeeper's pads and put Birmingham 2-1 up in the last minute of the game.

The second XI beat Harborne second XI by 1-0. The defence was very steady. Flood, in goal, played very well. Coleman, who had to play on the left wing, put across some very good centres.

The third XI beat Harborne third XI by 2-1. Spencer scoring both the goals for the University.

BASKETBALL'S SURPRISING LEEDS DEFEAT

Leeds 62pts., Birmingham 33pts.

On Saturday, the Basketball team visited Leeds. The team was not at full strength, only eleven players being available for the two teams, a fact which did not help players who had only just finished a five-hour coach journey.

Leeds attacked first, but it was Birmingham who got the first basket, quickly followed by a second. However, a very strict referee awarded several penalties and Leeds drew level. The awarding of several somewhat doubtful penalties was a feature of the game, and was the partial cause of a compulsory substitution for Dave Geldard just after half-time, a considerable blow to an already depleted side.

At the end of the first quarter, Leeds had established a lead of 20pts. to 4, due to quick raids and accurate shooting. The Birmingham team, although they probably had an equal amount of the play, were obviously handicapped by the small court and seemed unable to find the basket with their shots. The lead that Leeds managed to establish at this period of the game was probably decisive, for in the second quarter their rate of scoring slowed down appreciably and, in the second half Birmingham began to score much more freely.

Outstanding for Birmingham were Bob Kempson (12pts.) and Umit Imre, who foxed the Leeds defence on many occasions and scored 19pts. with his jump shots. A general impression of the game was that the much taller Leeds side would have had a harder task on a larger court.

FINAL SCORE: LEEDS 62PTS.; BIRMINGHAM 33PTS.

SPORTS ED.

BRISTOL AND LONDON U.C. BEATEN

LAST Saturday the Cross-Country Club travelled down to Bristol, to beat both Bristol and U.C., London, decisively for the second time this year.

The race was over six and a quarter miles of very hilly woodland, park and little road. The start was slow and after only half a mile almost all the first team runners were up at the front. Dave Shaw soon took the lead, followed by Dave Spence, who forced a good lead over two Bristol men. Glyn Jones showed a welcome return to form by coming through brilliantly and running into second place. Although Bristol had four in the first eight, we placed six in the first 11 with Dave Spence fifth, Brian Spiby ninth, Mike Down tenth, and Dai Davies eleventh. Dave Royle and Peter Roy filled the next two places.

RESULTS

Birmingham 1st: 1, 2, 5, 9, 10, 11; 33pts.

Bristol 1st: 3, 4, 7, 8, 15, 16; 53pts.

University College: 6, 14, 23, 26, 28, 31; 123pts.

Bristol 2nd: 17, 20, 21, 22, 27, 29; 136pts.

The eight Birmingham team positions showed good packing which is an essential for success in big races. We have now competed against 20 first teams, and have been beaten only once, when several team members were far below form.

Association Football

North Staffs. U.C. 2, Birmingham Univ. 5.

On a hard, treacherous pitch which had thawed a little on top, fast end to end play was inevitable and real football skill was at a premium. Birmingham were on top from the start and after little more than half an hour had established a 4-0 lead with goals from Westwood, Evans, Openshaw and Jones.

North Staffs. reduced the arrears before half-time, and University eased up for a spell, allowing the home team to score a second goal following the University were well on top in the closing stages, they could not take advantage of several chances to score.

Bromsgrove Corinthians 0,

Birmingham Univ. 3.

Conditions were again bad, but this time it was thick mud making the middle of the pitch like a ploughed field, which made it very difficult to move the ball quickly. Consequently it was the movements down the wing which brought most danger to the defences. Birmingham were much the better and fitter team throughout and the fact only three goals were scored could be put down as much to the conditions as to the missed chances. University scorers were Westwood, Openshaw and Jones. The defence was hardly tested near goal and the nearest Bromsgrove went to scoring was from a well-placed shot by the University centre-half.

SWIMMING CLUB

The club travelled to Leeds on Saturday with the Basketball team, and suffered a similar fate. The Ladies lost narrowly, 30½-27½pts., in a match where the result depended on the relays, of which Birmingham only managed to win the freestyle quadron, the home side taking the medley event due mainly to their excellent backstroke swimmer.

The Men lost by a wider margin, though they did better than was expected when they nearly managed to win the medley relay. The final points score was Birmingham 23, Leeds 35 points.

University Students

will find all the recommended

TEXTBOOKS

at

HUDSON'S Bookshops

NEW STREET and BURLINGTON PLACE

Tel. MID 7701-2-3

OPEN ALL DAY ON SATURDAYS

CORNISH BROS. LTD.
By appointment,
Publishers and Booksellers
to the University

ALL the recommended Textbooks, on sale at our BOOKSTALL, in the Lower Corridor near the Refectory at the University, Edgbaston, and at

39, NEW ST., B'HAM, 2
Tel.: MID 0569

You'd be better off

with an

M&B

M&B EXPORT

BURLINGTON SECRETARIAL COLLEGE

Secretarial Training at its best for the daughters of gentlemen

118, NEW STREET,

BIRMINGHAM, 2

Telephone: MIDLAND 5151

THE DEMOCRATIC UNION

THE first meeting of the Democratic Union, held in the Union on January 26, proved to be lively, eighty members being present. Dr. C. A. Smith, M.A., B.Sc. (Econ.), lecturer at Cambridge and London in History and Political Philosophy, has been active politically since an undergraduate.

He was a Labour Parliamentary candidate and National Chairman of the Independent Labour Party for two years, resigning from that organisation because of their policy against war with Hitler. He frequently lectures to university societies and has successfully debated with Communists and Fascists. Considerable knowledge of the subject rendered him most suitable to address the inaugural meeting of the Democratic Union.

The subject was "Soviet Communism and Marxist Theory." Time permitted but brief mention of the fundamental concepts of Marxism, viz.: the mass struggle, the theory of the State, dialectical and historical materialism and Marxist-Leninist ethics. In speaking of Soviet Communism he referred to the "unsocialist" nature of the Communist regime and to ethics, the only aspect of Marxist theory which it has followed faithfully (Communist justification that their regime of terror and suppression is in the interests of the working class and the "glorious revolution.")

Dr. Smith's challenge

Any Communist in this or any other University is challenged to debate any one of the four following motions:

1. That Soviet Russia, claimed by its government to be Socialist, is far behind capitalist Britain in

three essentials of Socialism, viz.: equality, democracy and freedom.

2. That Soviet Communism is the chief practical demonstration of the fallacy of Marxist ethics.

3. That the Bolsheviks in Russia gained power and retain power by a combination of fraud and force.

4. That between the years 1919 and 1947 the Soviet Government violated more major international treaties and other solemn engagements than any three Western Powers combined.

This will be a fine opportunity for a member of the Communist Party to address a large undergraduate audience. Should there be no reply to the challenge within this University a Communist from any other University in this country could be invited.

Mr. Colin Yardley accepted the challenge on behalf of the Communist cell in this University. We are quite sure, in view of the existence of several active Communists in this University, that there is at least one who feels that there is enough truth in his beliefs to come forward and defend his cause.

B. G. ACE, Secretary.

MEMBERS BEWARE

Dear Sir,

Democracy—that form of government in which the sovereign power resides in the people, and is exercised either directly by them or by officers elected by them. A Guild society, recently formed to propagate democratic principles, has just flagrantly violated this classic definition of democracy. The committee "managing" this society's affairs, was elected at a meeting organised by word of mouth—no advertising of this meet-

ing was displayed, and hence it was in no sense "open." This particular committee and the constitution of its society must hence be regarded as the product of a closed meeting.

Usage of such cover names as "Democratic Union" should not be allowed unless we redefine democracy. "Democratic" Union should thus be recognised as being democratic in the redefined sense of being undemocratic (*sensu stricto*) in its very modus vivendi.

If such lesser societies as the Change Ringers can go to the trouble of organising a well-publicised inaugural meeting to elect a committee, surely a society pretending to the name of "Democratic Union" should also. If it has any integrity at all, the Society will convene an open meeting to elect a new committee.

We expect no reply from "Democratic Union"—there can be none.

Yours, etc.,

ANTI-"DEMOCRATIC UNION".
TYPE-DEMOCRACY-DEMOCRATS.

RECORD REVIEW

Stereo is here! This new medium promises to change the recorded music world as much as the introduction of long-playing discs did in the late 'forties.

Q.—Is Stereo expensive? A.—No—at least it need not be. Anyone who is contemplating buying any good gramophone can afford a stereophonic system. The best of the lower priced sets I have heard is the Decca at 45 guineas. It is compact, attractive, and has admirable manoeuvrability. The Decca system with five speakers at 73 guineas (the equipment I am using), is a delight both as a musical re-producer and as a piece of furniture. Of course, then, there are magnificent systems and custom-made outfits at higher prices.

Q.—Is Stereo here to stay or is it just a fad? A.—No-one who has heard it can think it just a passing fancy—it is just too good for that. While demonstration records have such effects as trains, ping-pong, and te like, this is pure novelty and the catalogue of serious music is sizeable already and expanding rapidly. A "doubting Thomas" friend of mine last week listened to Reiner's R.C.A. stereo disc of Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," exclaimed, "I feel I've heard the work for the first time!" and has now become a stereophonic fan. This is no fad.

Q.—Shall I buy the equipment now or later? A.—I see no reason to delay. There seem to be no "bugs" in the present products put on the market by reliable companies. Buy now—and begin to enjoy an entirely new and wonderful sound experience.

Next week, we begin reviews of the stereophonic discs. Any questions about stereo may be addressed to Roger Jones, c/o Guild News at Edmund Street.

R.R.J.

Concert Diary

HOW do you like your Brandenbergs? Last Thursday, Andrzej Panufnik chose to give us the third in his series of Bach—Beethoven—Brahms, and the orchestra duly took it under its wing. Was it this fact which resulted in the failure of the work to take flight? No. Rather was it the inability, or unwillingness, of the conductor to fluff his plumage and dance through the work, as all true lovers of Baroque would have it.

The "Eroica" was a different work, and was well interpreted. There was an inexorable tread in the March funebre which was pleasing, and, mirabile dictu, the trio of French horns did not disgrace themselves in the penultimate movement. With bells aloft they poured forth chord after triumphant chord as Panufnik guided the symphony towards its heroic conclusion.

Of the performance of Brahms' "St. Anthony Variations" there is another tale to tell. The beautiful orchestral colours of this work resolved themselves into an undefined "mish-mash" of tones. It was as though the conductor had mixed his palette with but little care for the values. Some tubes had evidently been squeezed harder than others. "The Tragic Overture" was similar.

Designed and produced by Industrial News Service, 192, Corporation Street, Birmingham 4, Central 5154, for the Guild of Undergraduates, Birmingham University. Printed by Nuneaton Newspapers Ltd., Bond Gate, Nuneaton.

PROFILE

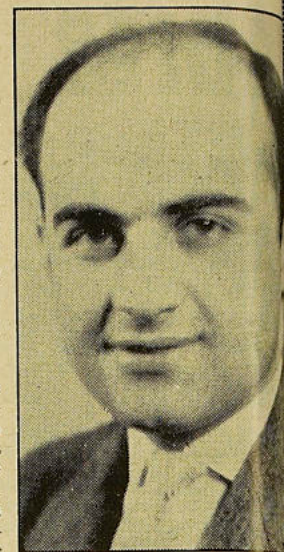
Hamid Noshirvani, of Mech. Eng., is chairman of the Iranian Students' Society. With only a comparatively small membership, this group of Persian students is very active. They take a lively interest in sport, and for several years have produced a carnival float. Noshirvani runs this group with enthusiasm and efficiency.

Calm in temperament, he is both generous and reliable and disarmingly modest. He is reported to vanish every lunch-time without fail to some sequestered nook in the Union where he has a quiet nap. Not even lectures can make him forgo this ritual. All this he categorically denies, but no-one ever seems able to find him between the hours of one and two.

Hamid has been in England now for nine years. Educated at a public school, he is in some sense a typical product of this system, enthusiastic about the values of corporate training and discipline and keen on sport. His long stay in England makes his position as a foreign student at University interesting because he can appreciate more fully the difficulties of adjustment facing the foreign student coming to this country for the first time.

He maintains that most of these difficulties arise from the different conceptions of education held in Persia and Middle East countries generally. While in England emphasis is laid on the value of sport and non-academic activities in character training, in the Middle East these things are disregarded, the emphasis being entirely on the academic side. Hamid believes this is the loss of the Middle East student who thus lacks the solid, comprehensive education of the average English student.

A result of this is that the foreign student does not always make the best use of facilities offered to him by university societies, although the Middle East societies do their best to introduce their Freshers to these extra-mural activities. The foreign students at university have a tendency to form isolated groups made up of members of their own nationality. This is in many respects only natural because of their



common background of language and culture, and also because of innate reserve and conservatism the English towards foreigners which is often misunderstood by uninitiated as plain unfriendliness and lack of interest. It is because of this that Hamid thinks it essential that foreign students should join in the corporate life of University more fully, in order to get to know their colleagues better to the mutual benefit of all students.

The relations between the foreign student and his own country are full of problems. The graduate often prefers to remain in England and America rather than to work in his own country. This is generally due to the unstable political situation in the Middle East. Hamid has been imbued with Western democratic ideas, the skilled technician is unwilling to return to his own country, where, without the protection of trade unions and similar organisations, he can be the victim of arbitrary dismissal. The political situation in present-day Iran particularly offers little security. But in Middle East countries of advanced ideas, technicians and teachers are becoming the corner stone for the development of wealthy but backward states. The problem for the graduate involves the conflict between natural loyalty to his own country and a sense of frustration and of security arising from a disturbed political situation.

Noshirvani believes that he, as a foreign student, should decide his future, his period of an English university ensures one thing, namely, that he always the friend of the English and well-disposed towards Western ideas, which in these days of confusion and unrest is a small advantage to the West.

ALL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS and ACCESSORIES, TUTORIAL STUDIES, etc.

Kay Westworths
MELODY HOUSE, 29, SNOW HILL, BIRMINGHAM, 4
Central 2112

K.T.

COUNTY of BROAD ST.

For all types of New and Used
MOTOR CYCLES, SCOOTERS,
MINICARS

One Fifth Deposit : Exchange

COUNTY of BROAD ST.

266, BROAD STREET,
BIRMINGHAM 1

MID 2671



This week in The Listener

(ISSUE DATED FEBRUARY 5)

KHRUSCHEV AND THE YOUNG

Hugh Lunghi

REFLECTIONS ON MR. KHRUSCHEV

T. Barman (B.B.C. Correspondent)

A PANORAMA OF MODERN CHINA

(Sound-Track of B.B.C.-TV broadcast)

Richard Dimbleby, Richard Harris and
Gerald Clarke

THE NATURE OF AUTHORITY

(The first of two talks)

Richard Peters

REVOLUTIONARIES AND THEIR

PRINCIPLES: THE MORAL
GREATNESS OF LENIN

Isaac Deutscher

THE CHURCH AND THE RIVER—

A PORTRAIT OF
CAUDEBEC-EN-CAUX

William Townsend

RESEARCH ON SEASICKNESS

F. H. Todd

and other features

A BBC PUBLICATION

EVERY THURSDAY

FROM NEWSAGENTS & BOOKSELLERS

6"