REDBRICK
Birmingham University

No. 760 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12th, 1969 Price 3d.

TECHNICIANS TO STRIKE

UNIVERSITY technicians are planning a one-day strike on April 22nd, followed by further action in the form of one-day guerilla strikes at various universities. The decision was made by the executive of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs in London at the weekend, and will involve the 10,000 university technicians throughout the country.

The strike is in support of the Union's pay claim, which was originally made in 1967. Universities have just offered increases ranging from £15 to £50 per year, but these have been rejected by the Union.

Mr. G. Darkes, the West Midlands representative of the Association and Birmingham University branch secretary, told "Redbrick" yesterday that it was hoped that the strike would severely hamper the day-to-day running of the universities.

However, he added that nothing would be prejudiced in the way of important apparatus and research experiments, and essential services in the medical departments would be maintained. He pointed to a previous strike in October 1966 as an example of this. No expressions of support had yet been received from any student bodies, but Mr. Darkes emphasised that the whole thing was "still in its early stages," as the first decisions, at local level, were only taken last Friday.

In Redbrick TODAY

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Socialist Union plan assembly to rival teach-in and. . .

DANNY THE RED IS COMING!

By a Redbrick Reporter

Daniel Cohn-Bendit is to speak at an unofficial General Assembly planned to coincide with the official teach-in. This was announced by the Socialist Union yesterday when they revealed their interim list of speakers who had agreed to take part.

Other speakers include Robin Blackburn and Lawrence Harris, two of the lecturers facing dismissal at the L.S.E.; Tony Barnett, of the "New Left Review"; David Adelstein, ex-President of the L.S.E. Union; Tom Fawthrop, of R.S.S.F., and Dave Triesman, who has recently been reinstated after his dismissal for political activities from the University of Essex.

Gerald Hitman said yesterday that the Socialist Union intends to intervene in the Teach-In to make it more constructive.

He said : "I don't see how we can expect any stimulating discussion to come from the official teach-in. The majority of speakers are professors who have shown by their actions on Senate that they are completely incapable of examining critically the system which gives them their power and prestige."

The Socialist Union intends to participate fully in the first morning of the Teach-In and will try to move the initiative from the platform speakers to the floor. Several of their invited guests will make speeches from the floor and will attend the discussion groups in the afternoon.

At 7.00 they will be holding a general assembly which will be addressed by Cohn-Bendit. It will be an open-ended meeting and may last into the night.

Socialist Union is preparing several papers in reply to those in the Bulletin and is arranging a completely different programme for the Sunday of the Teach-In. Several members of the Ad Hoc staff group who are discussion group leaders have agreed to participate in the unofficial arrangements as well, and it is expected that the vast majority of these attending the Teach-In will be present at the general asembly which Cohn-Bendit will address.

Ray Phillips said on Monday that the reason why no controversial outside speakers were taking part in the official Teach-In was that none had accepted invitations from the working party. He said that "although the official programme may appear rigid there is plenty of room for groups to invite their own speakers."

Prof. J. G. Davies, Chairman of the Teach-In Committee, said yesterday, "I am not against freedom of speech," and added that if the committee had not arranged a sufficiently interesting Teach-In it was their own fault.

He said that he did not know whether there would be tickets available for Cohn-Bendit as most of them had already been given to official invitees.

Some doubts have been raised as to whether Daniel Cohn-Bendit will be able to attend the Teach-In. He is in England on a 14-day visa and faces a prison sentence if he returns to Germany. In the past, however, he has crossed several frontiers without the knowledge of the authorities. At the height of the May uprising in France he crossed the Franco-German border to rejoin the revolutionaries at the Sorbonne.

FESTIVAL RIFT: ASTON DIVORCED

THE procession of last Saturday has realised only around £400, which is less than half of last year's figure.

It was a disappointment in financial terms and in its standard. Many spectators were inclined to feel that although some floats were well-decorated and original the important factors of noise and gusto implicit in street processions were missing.

"It looks like they're in a bloody funeral march to me," said one old and disgruntled vendor of the "Evening Mail."

The most impressive floats were indeed those with noise: the Penguin Club Flotilla was by far the most impressive. A Rolls-Royce led in which sat two vast gentlemen in dinner jackets, either wrestlers or bouncers, who struck fear into the hearts of many; this was followed, however, by a trailer loaded with assorted Penguin Club girls, rounded off with a lorry upon which a crew of five banged out night-club jazz, and flanked by a band of chefs vigorously handing out publicity leaflets.

Now that all but the bills are settled, John Butcher has a chance of dusting himself down and reviewing the whole issue. "I would never advise anyone to stand for this job," he said yesterday; "It has taken up just about every minute of my time.

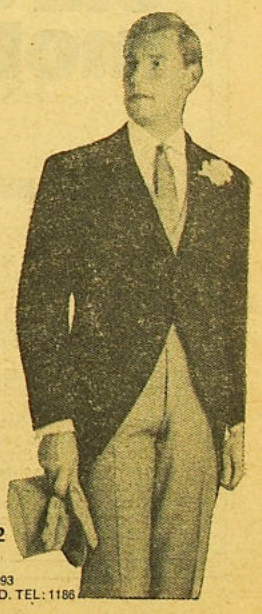
It now seems apparent that his retrospective attitude and criticisms will lead to Festival being completely replanned. It seems certain, however that the next Festival will be completely divorced from Aston. In the light of their bad organisation and the allegations of Anne Foden's incompetence this will come as a welcome break.



The winning float in last Saturday's Carnival Procession, from Commerce & Social Science

37/6

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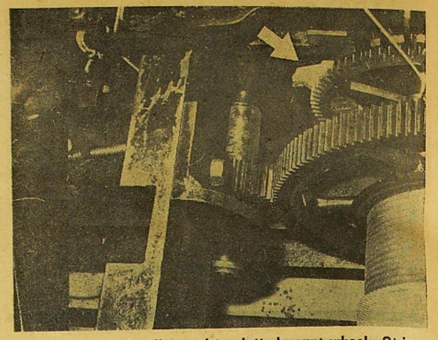
Polls-up for President

THE detailed and undoubtedly objective self-analyses and manifestos of the candidates for the Presidency of the Guild are printed elsewhere, and various other media are producing their own commentaries on this annual, exciting Guild event. So we'll just make a few scattered observations, kicking off with the general one that none of the candidates mooted a week or more ago are obvious men for the job, and this has resulted in late proposals for candidates who realise they might be in with a chance of securing that elusive and coveted position of power plus a sabbatical year after all. The one who falls into this category does not really need to be named.

But one man who must be mentioned as emphatically not belonging to this class of candidate is Elvin McDavid. Elvin's achievements, influences, contacts and popularity in the Guild are boundless, as is his enthusiasm and undoubted ability to win people's hearts. And he has a great deal of potential support already, judging by this extract from a circular signed by the Secretary of the International Club announcing its A.G.M.

"Do not forget to vote at the Elections for Guild President, when a fellow overseas student, Elvin McDavid, is standing." So, fellow overseas students, you know who to vote for! Incidentally, rumours, which have been put about lately concerning Elvin's drinking habits, his consuming urge for power which amounts almost to a mania, his virtual control of "Wall" through his hard working and totally unrewarded underling Mike Simmons, his attempts to take over "Redbrick" and many other nasty fabrications are patently untrue, although a lot of misguided people seem to believe them.

A final word; slogans for most of the more likely candidates, such as Mike Terry and Chas. Critcher were already appearing last Friday, thinly disguised as graffiti in the Union lavatories. But don't be fooled; these men too, are serious candidates, and need your vote, despite the depths to which their immediate supporters have descended. See you at the Polls!



Shoe (arrowed) sellotaped to slotted count wheel. String unwinding from flywheel spindle can be seen on the right hand side of the photograph.

Birmingham Rep. a clinical image

THOSE of us who are fortunate enough to be numbered among the chosen few who receive the authoritative underground newssheet (sic) "Pariah," have discovered that the Birmingham Rep. theatre is ceasing to "extend to 'Redbrick' the facility of complimentary tickets."

The letter announcing this arrived here over a week ago, and we were surprised to hear that the Rep. is intending to concentrate on national publicity, rather than encourage the support of local students who might be supposed to represent a large proportion of those Birmingham residents who are interested in this branch of the Arts.

However, we don't think it fair of "Pariah" to suggest that the Rep. is looking beyond its usual bread and butter because Dr. Kildare is coming to play Hamlet, and so we break our intended humble silence on the subject.

And it's also irrelevant to mention that Sir Robert Aitken is Chairman of the Rep's Board of Directors, as the letter was sent by the Public Relations (!) Officer. It has been suggested that we ask all "Redbrick" readers who see Kildare's "Hamlet" to participate in a little competition for the best review of the production, to be printed in "Redbrick." On second thoughts, however, we realise we wouldn't be able to cope with the absolute deluge of appreciative articles which we'd undoubtedly receive from the hundreds of you who'd bought tickets before the Rep. sold out.

back to front

Joe's orgasmic revolution

LAST Thursday the campus was disrupted, for the second time this term, by a malfunction on the part of Joe, the great organ of chronology which dominates the city for miles around. After the first attempt, when no apparent reason for the clock's misbehaviour was discovered, it was thought that the fault was entirely accidental; now, however, "Redbrick" is proud to reveal an exclusive account of how the clock was made to strike for nearly twenty minutes in a relentless, funereal tone. The account was written by a nameless engineer; like the picture which accompanies it, it fell into our hands by the merest twist of fortune.

"The lever can be seen in the second slot from the large one (anti-clockwise rotation); this shows that the photograph was taken between three and four a.m. By 11 o'clock the shoe had turned on the countwheel until it came up to the lever. When 11 struck the lever was lifted on to the leading knife-edge of the shoe; as the countwheel turned the shoe was forced under the lever until it could go no further.

"The sellotape then broke and the shoe remained in position, preventing the lever falling into the next slot to stop the striking. Thus the countwheel continued to turn and the clock to strike on the great six ton one hundredweight bell.

A completely independent system, timed to go off at 12 in the event of the shoe failing, consisted of a weight unwound by a string on the flywheel spindle until another string came tight, the weight then acting on the lever to hold it up."

And thus ends the account of the disruption of the greatest symbol of authority that Birmingham University has.

Twinkle Jones

ARIES: Don't fall off buses today; your head may suffer. If pent-up tomorrow don't risk detonation by irritating your soul mate. Friends loom large on Sunday and Tuesday. Possible clandestine love affair on Monday.

TAURUS: Possible secrecy in your love-life—careful with it tomorrow. Saturday great for love and work but don't stay high on Sunday — you'll fall down thump. Operate in the dark on Tuesday.

GEMINI: Sunday is superb for study, so get down to it, butterfly, you can't often concentrate enough. Love a bit rough on Monday, and you may find yourself falling up or down steps on Tuesday.

CANCER: A possibility of very weird happenings tomorrow. Friday's lucky—your financial straits may have a twist for the better. Mind your temper on Sunday, and write an essay. Men find Tuesday an erotic day.

LEO: Tomorrow will find you bursting with health and probably in the mood for love, which will be to hand. Don't worry when it recedes on Friday, for it'll be back on Saturday, as well as a bankruptcy charge.

VIRGO: Pursue pleasure today and tomorrow, and retire to bed to rest at the weekends; matters may mass up your health on Monday. Tuesday is great for love (what a week) but don't quarrel. You're a pussy cat.

LIBRA: Domestic matters may obstruct your love-life tomorrow — watch it! Saturday is a day for self-recreation—take that as you will. Beware of sun-stroke on Monday when the sun is semi-sextile to your water, Venus.

SCORPIO: Tomorrow is a great day to visit neighbours. Stranger! Take it easy in the pursuit of pleasure on Monday, when your nerves will be a bit stringy. Mind your head on Tuesday.

SAGGITARIUS: You have a new admirer, if not, get moving with the quiver! You may go bail for a friend or lose money through a society today. You may hit the jackpot in a phone booth on Tuesday.

CAPRICORN: Strange changes affect you today (this column, for a start). Tomorrow's good for your ego but love's a bit dodgy. Travel may be dark on Friday. Keep off the road from Sunday—you'll get hit.

AQUARIUS: Guard secrets today. Money matters good tomorrow but staying home saves! Publish something on Sunday. Don't gamble, or take chances on Tuesday.

PISCES: Mind no pets or children this week—you'll lose them. Finish things off on Monday. You're a flying fish this month, healthy. Friends inimical today. Blow your mind tomorrow. No secret marriage on Sunday, please. You'll be apple-pie (in the sky) on Tuesday.

French lessons in the Guild?

WE were rather amused to find several copies of the University "Build-in" around the Union masquerading as back copies of "Red Base." The most startling difference, however, is the quality of the printing: £350 is a lot of money, and it seems that it could not have been better spent. Photolitho is so much nicer than duplication, and it really does give the teach-in that respectability that the Socialist Union are going to take away by inviting Danny the Red along.

There's this very intelligent professor who writes about communications and says that nobody ought to believe anything that anyone says unless the University Information Officer tells him it's true. This would be all right if we thought that he would tell us about everything that is happening.

Even if he didn't tell us, we do not know how he could possibly do his job when even the Vice-Chancellor can't remember what he tells Ray Phillips in the morning and has to 'phone him in the afternoon to say he didn't mean it, even if he did say it.

Well, they're not all as interesting as that, but the book's so pretty and Danny's so interesting that we suppose most people will not care the slightest about the teach-in arranged by the University. Will he be speaking in French?

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We now need graduates – engineers, scientists, economists, arts men – to work in a wide variety of activities. Above all, we want talented young men and women to underpin our present successful management team. We will use their abilities to the full: we don't pretend they will be joining a perfect Company, but they will find top management anxious to make full use of people with real ability and the potential to move quickly in our rapidly developing organisation.

We are visiting your University this term. Please ask your Appointments Board to arrange an interview with us, or write quoting reference 69/GR/1 to:

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Central Personnel and Executive Placement Manager,
Rootes Motors Limited,
Devonshire House,
Piccadilly, London, W.1.

PERSONAL

DENTISTRY. I wish to congratulate Brenda and Richard on their recent engagement.

YOU can't use my half of the room. —M.J.S.

SCHITTERBRIQUE again at the Factory, Thursday, March 20th.

GOODNIGHT Mike . . . Don't forget to read your "Redbrick."

KNACK.
KNACK.
KNACK.
THE art of getting women.
THE Knack.
THE Knack next week.

THE Knack: Monday 17th, Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th. Deb. Hall.

THE Knack and how to get it.

TWO males wanted to share Edgbaston flat end of March. J. S. Roberts. Tel. 021-236 1532.

WANTED. Two/three people to share elegant Victorian house in Edgbaston with three women, four men. Single rooms, £3 per week rent. Apply Maxine Linnell via Union Pigeon-holes or "Redbrick" Office.

LOST. A black fur hat, either in the Med. School or on Campus. Contact B. Dryer, Dental III.

ADVENTURE—Sahara. Mixed party of sun-seekers leaving June 27th, three weeks' expedition. Interested? 200 Harbourne Road, Oldbury, Warley, Worcester (021-429-4184).

WILD Victorian Advertisement Posters. "The Corset of the Future." "Perry and Co. Tailers." "1 Lent £10 to Gallag Han," etc., 5/6 each, four for 17/6, P. & P. 1/6. Paul Delaney, 27 Heath Gardens, Solihull, Warwickshire.

NOT to be missed—Tonight's Debate, The Old Hands Are Missing.

CHESS Club A.G.M. Monday, March 17th at 7.30 p.m. in Lesser Hall.

MARCH Hair is coming to Manor on Friday. Two Groups and Disco. Bar. Only 5/-.

TWO single passages to the South of France by rail, £7 each; including boat fare. Mid-April. Contact "Redbrick" Office.

REMEMBER March Hair on Friday.

BLOOD Wedding in University House, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 8 p.m.

MOTOR Club A.G.M. and Free Film Show on Tuesday, March 18th at 8 p.m. All members are asked to attend.

HAPPINESS was Klug-shaped.

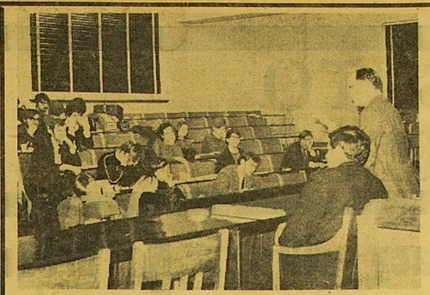
BALLS.

12-PIECE Band at Guild Ball.

JAKE Thackeray at Guild Ball.

GUILD Ball, Friday, the Refectory.

B.U.N.A.C.—Important — Wine and Cheese A.G.M. on Wednesday, March 19th. Mixed Lounge, 7.30 p.m. Also, would members on flights please look at the B.U.N.A.C. notice-board.



Mr. D. R. Milner addressing the Sunday session at the N.U.S. Conference.

Double cut hits Friday broadcast

TWO major setbacks last week prevented G.T.V. presenting their programme as planned. Last Tuesday, at a meeting with officials and solicitors of Cannon Hill Arts Centre, they were threatened with court injunctions if they went ahead with plans to screen a film taken at the Cologne Students' performance on Friday, and on Friday morning it was decided that they could not show the projected interview with prospective presidential candidates.

This last obstacle was raised by Chris Tyrrell, who said that the interviews would constitute advertising, which was not allowed by the constitution until the nominations closed at midnight on Sunday.

This was discussed at a meeting of Alan Munton, Mr. R. T. Jones and Pete Ullathorne, who was due to interview the candidates at 11.45 on Friday morning. Apart from the legalistic aspect of the interview, Mr. Jones felt that since nominations had not closed it was possible that further candidates would be proposed after the broadcast, and more exposure would be given to some candidates.

The decision to axe the interviews left a fifteen-minute gap in the programme, which was filled by interviews with John Butcher about Festival, and Pete Ullathorne about his editorship of "Redbrick." It was decided that the interviews would be screened on Monday, after nominations had closed.

Alan Munton said after the broadcast that Chris Tyrrell's attitude was significant in that it was "in line with his bureaucratic outlook and narrow interpretation of any rules he can get his hands on." He added that "it isn't really for any Guild Secretary to decide when we should put programmes out."

FISK CONDEMNS 'ISOLATIONISTS'

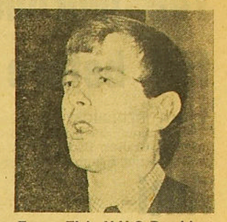
LAST weekend Midland Region of N.U.S. held its first annual conference in the Union, just a year after N.U.S. was divided into nine regions.

After a formal opening session by which many people seemed rather bored, the conference diverged into a series of discussion groups, hoped by the Birmingham organisers to be a prelude to the University's own teach-in next weekend. However, the participants in these discussions, though lively, were too diversified to achieve this; frequent communication failures between polytechnics, training colleges and universities had to be repaired before the groups proceeded to their more productive discussions.

On Sunday morning a plenary session of the conference was addressed by Mr. D. R. Milner, a lecturer from the Department of Industrial Metallurgy, who has recently produced a fascinating, perceptive discussion document entitled "Towards a Sense of Direction."

Out of 94 colleges in Midland N.U.S. Region about 33 were represented; Trevor Fisk, N.U.S. president, said in an interview that more colleges would have come had there been a greater sense of purpose. He thought that the regions would never be strong until N.U.S. had only one conference annually, the motions for which would be submitted after they had been discussed regionally.

On the question of disaffiliation from the N.U.S. Fisk said that the justification for remaining in it was that of unity to change causes of dissatisfaction, and that withdrawal was "the last resort of isolationists." He dismissed the charge that N.U.S. was riddled with corruption, made recently by Hull University who are currently effecting disaffiliation.



Trevor Fisk, N.U.S President

He said that although N.U.S. had taken a moderate line in student disputes, it was anxious that students should be more taken into account in the running of their universities, and that they should be representatives, not delegates, on any committees on which they felt they had a part to play.

BLACK POWER DILEMMA

MR. ROY SAWH, a former member of the Black People's Alliance and of Speaker's Corner repute, who spoke at a Debsoc speaker meeting last Friday, is not a good orator. It is sad that, when Black Power is a definition of the black man's dilemma and frustration, that there was not a greater sense of urgency created.

The speaker presented a somewhat confused picture; however, he made from the start a valuable plea that there be a negation of the concept of "granting" a gracious equality in the political sense. Black Power does not accept the negative process of "catching up" with the rest of civilisation, but rather the creation of a new progressive power, the "Third World".

An initial precipitating action on the part of the British Government would motivate a united black force; Mr. Sawh has a strange idea of the nature of institutional racialism, and spoke of "the shillings in the meters—the tyranny of landladies" which implied discrimination against whites as well.

Mike Hartley-Brewer pointed out that, with reference to the possibility of a Tory government in 1971 implementing full-scale deportation, it was most likely that all "liberal-minded" whites would be "fighting in the streets" at such blatant racism—in which case there ought to be the burning of the cities ("Burn, baby, burn") which Mr. Sawh wished for.

The point to be taken from the meeting is that it should be the moral duty of every "liberal" to satisfy himself that the non-racial attitude he would profess in his personal life is not being insidiously insulted in the institutional and political sense by the government which purports to represent his aims.

BRITISH Universities' North American Club—For information on Summer Vacation Travel to and around Canada and U.S.A., come and talk with students who have been there. Come to discussion, Room II, in the Union any Thursday, 12.30-2 p.m., or contact Dave Vodden or John Haddock via Pigeon-holes. Prospective members must join by the end of this term.

"FUNNY GIRL" arrives in BIRMINGHAM March 16th

'SMASH-HIT' — Sunday Mirror

'FUNNY GIRL IS WONDERFUL' — The Observer

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SATURDAYS: 1.30, 4.30, 7.45 pm. SUNDAYS: 3.30, 7.0 pm
SEATS: 15/-, 12/6, 10/-

BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN

YOUNG BUMLEY

Ready for disaffiliation?

THIS Easter's N.U.S. Conference is likely to be crucial for Birmingham's continuing membership of the Union. It is remarkable that we have not had a noisy campaign for disaffiliation considering that the three Executive officers who have most to do N.U.S. have no confidence in it.

Martin Lowe, who is very much involved in the Midland Region of N.U.S. and attends many N.U.S. functions up and down the country, strongly proposed disaffiliation after last November's Conference.

Rod Playford, Welfare Chairman, has investigated the possibility of the Guild carrying out the Vac-work and Travel services of N.U.S. and found it to be perfectly feasible and definitely desirable. After last weekend's regional conference he said to me, "I'm ready to disaffiliate now!"

Clare Dutton, Guild Education Chairman, is becoming increasingly disillusioned with the unconcern the National Union shows to educational matters which should be its main interest. They are unanimous in condemning the last Conference, and are questioning the usefulness of giving £2,000 a year to N.U.S. for such minimal effectiveness.

With the news this week that Hull University is to disaffiliate, and the recent publication in "Student Power" (see review, page nine) of an acid attack on corruption and elitism within the Union hierarchy the Easter Conference seems set to be quite lively. However, it doesn't seem likely that Birmingham will be leaving yet; it might cause embarrassment to one ex-Birmingham President who is already half way up the N.U.S. ladder, and to the present incumbent who despite his own considerable doubts as to the usefulness of the present Union, has aspirations of his own. Ray is standing for Executive next month.

Maintaining the V-C.

Further to my comments last week on the activities of the Maintenance Department, it has come to my notice that more than twenty expired fluorescent light tubes in Mason Hall cannot be replaced because according to the Administration, the Maintenance Department is understaffed. O.K. But on Friday evening there were four Maintenance men in the Vice-Chancellor's garden, along with the great man himself. You can't tell me one of them couldn't have spent half an hour putting those new light tubes in.

Bumley

SEPTEMBER IN THE SUN

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The leprous bureaucracy will fall before the 'pseudo-left'

DEAR "REDBRICK,"—We read with childish glee the various comments in last week's issue advocating the massacre of the infants. So "No-one takes any notice of children until they grow up" (ref. Graham Barker). Yet every article and letter stressed the impact of the kindergarten, while ignoring Hamm and his speech.

In fact, we are not the only children around here. It seems very immature to imagine that (a) half-a-dozen individuals represent or are even representative of, the "Left" (considering the majority of us are not even members of the Socialist Union) or (b) anyone with sincere ideals would be disillusioned by one isolated incident (ref Dick Holt).

Who were the people who stayed for the debate after the talk anyway? The "pseudo Left", that's who. It was we who debated with Hamm for over an hour and showed him for what he is—or did you not stay for that?

We refuse to act like "adults" when confronted with a system which gives to its faceless members the responsibilities of children. So we say **"F—— the system"**, and we are perfectly willing to make tits of ourselves in the process. Our actions only embarrass those who seek personal prestige and respectability in the cesspool of University politics. So we will continue to f—— up the pseudo-intellectuals in debates, to f—— up the leprous bureaucracy of the Guild and University, to f—— up the power-crazy dictators who run it, and f—— up you if you stand in our way.

PATRICK CURRAN
SHAMUS O'BOURKE SMITH.

Anti-intellectual teach-in

MADAM,—It has been suggested that the Teach-In next weekend was designed as a public relations exercise on behalf of the University authorities. From the standard of the preliminary papers, however, it seems that the level of discussion will be so low as to (a) eliminate any interest which still exists for the Teach-In and (b) convince even more students that one cannot expect the authorities to engage in any serious discussion of their own positions.

The attitude towards a fundamental questioning of the present system and the totally anti-intellectual arguments presented in the majority of the papers is best summed up with the closing remarks of Prof. Neville-Brown's article on the Law Faculty; "The lawyer is of course innately conservative and our few student revolutionaries either come to accept this fact of life or seek transfer to a more congenial Faculty." One can but expect that the Establishment speakers at the Teach-In will stick to this low level.

It is as a reaction to this wanton substitution of bland generalisation and unquestioning acceptance of the status-quo for rational discussion that some people have decided to liven up the proceedings. Who would want to hear a man who cannot even report the facts of the sit-in correctly talking on "The relationship of Universities and other bodies" when they could hear Comrade Cohn-Bendit on the same subject?

With comradely greetings,
GERALD S. HITMAN

Mis-representation from Young Bumley

MADAM,—It is often convenient for the Editor of a newspaper to delegate the unsavoury task of subtle political libel (popularly euphemised to read "smear") away from the Editorial Column, and into the hands of a regular columnist, protected by pseudonym. "Redbrick" apparently uses its "Young Bumley" column for this purpose.

Last week's Bumley (known to the cognescenti to have been incarnated in the person of just-ex-Editor Ullathorne) attempted a particularly UNsubtle "smear" of a potential Presidential Candidate, Colin Glithero; I should like to make some attempt to redress the balance, by using your columns to correct Bumley's two most glaring inaccuracies.

Mr. Glithero considered standing for the Presidency only after he had been asked to do so by persons unknown to me; he could therefore, have been the only Presidential Candidate ever to stand in genuine response to active demand, rather than in response to a demand for self-glorification.

Secondly, Mr. Glithero would have been neither a "right wing" nor a "left wing" candidate . . . but then, one can hardly expect Union-based "Revolutionaries" to recognise a balanced view, even if it were to stand on its hind legs and clout them where it hurts.

This letter is simply a response to the habit, typical of too many Union "personalities," of misrepresenting the truth (or just downright lying) in furtherance of incoherent political un-ideas which the Guild could well do without during the coming year.

I beg to remain, Madam,
Your consistently vigilant reader, obedient servant, and willing correspondent,
ROGER W. MATHEW

[ED.: The Editor regrets that she is unable to confirm or deny the above allegation as to the identity of Young Bumley; it is, however, true that Young Bumley II was recently superseded by a successor.]

No dreamclouds for Executive

DEAR MADAM,—The stalwarts of the Union bureaucracy have devoted much time and effort this year to accusing the members of the Guild of apathy and lack of involvement. That these tendencies exist is undeniable; but where does the blame lie? Is it attributable to the mass of students, or to the few hundred who make the second floor of the Union their home-from-home?

Last term Guild Council announced to the student body that the aims of the Guild were no longer merely the running of the Union and the representation of student opinion, but education and welfare.

It must find regrettable the fact that the majority of students were of a different opinion. To them, the function of the Guild is to supply these facilities that, by its very nature, the academic system is unable to provide; that is, facilities for leisure and recreation.

The general attitude is that Guild Council should be mainly concerned with the Union, because it is the only place where the student body can meet communally, the only source of entertainment and relaxation. Their welfare is best served by these things, and after being educated all day they do not want to come to the Union only to find the bureaucrats educating them still further.

The regrettable predominance of idealists on Executive is responsible for this situation. It is these impractical visionaries who decreed the new function of Guild Council; it is these same impractical visionaries who have decided to make Guild Council more representative. If it becomes truly representative, their ideals will be discarded for practical efficiency. Executive is no place for idealists; we need men of drive and efficiency. We need people who will do their job well instead of playing with dreams.

If Executive and Guild Council had been less idealistic, they could have devoted proper attention to Festival and made it a real success. Instead, they ignored the most worthwhile and realistic event of this year and wasted time which could have been better spent in surveillance of some of Festival Committee's inefficiency.

The administration of the Guild requires an efficient bureaucracy, not a school of dreamers. The only thing that will restore the prestige of Guild Council is an Executive which regards its function as mainly administrative, and which will relate all decisions on matters of policy to these criteria. Their truly democratic aim should be to convert the student body to their own way of thinking, and in the meantime to allow Guild Council to carry out, with uninterrupted efficiency, the tasks which the majority of the campus regard as its major function.

Yours etc.,
M. O'S. JENKINS

The Black Panthers: co-operative society

DEAR MADAM,—In an otherwise interesting article on Chicago in the edition of February 26th, I feel a certain clarification is called for. Martin Kenig refers to the "Panthers" as being an extreme right-wing party. If he is writing about the "black Panther Party," based in Oakland, California, then I must quote Eldridge Cleaver, their minister of information.

In a recent interview he stated: ". . . it's clear that in order for black people to have the best that society and technology are capable of providing, we need a new kind of society and a new kind of economic system. The goal must be to make possible a more equitable distribution of goods and services—but also to have a different set of values, so that things themselves don't become a substitute for life itself.

"In order to achieve that dual goal, we're going to have to move towards a new form of socialism. As long as there is so much stress on private property, we're going to have a society of competition rather than co-operation, we're going to have the exploited and the exploiters."

If these are right-wing beliefs then I guess I'll have to re-think my entire political philosophy and vote Tory at the next general election.

DAVE HUNT,
Physics III

Proposal for Basil Bulgar-Slayer

"BRAWNY, brusque and subtle — that's Basil the Bulgar-Slayer!" This testimonial was found gouged in the leg of a Bulgar, and still holds good today. No-one knows the identity of the ardent admirers, as the warhorse to which the limb was attached is still unclaimed). Be that as it may, tests with rats have proved that the fabric of Basil the Bulgar-Slayer is good for at least another year, and to this end we are proposing him as your next President.

Basil has a long and distinguished career as an administrator behind him. Below him is the floor. He is the sort of man you instinctively look up to; he is ten feet tall. While his record on pillage is perhaps a little shaky, his books on rape and looting quickly became standard works.

It is a mature Basil who now begs your vote. He is honest, direct, unassuming. deplores dogma; dynamic, practical, pragmatic, quick-witted, slow to take offence, virile, capable, imaginative, analytical, discreet, with a fine sense of occasion.

Unfortunately, he can neither read nor write; his nomination tablet had to be carried, by mouth of words and written in Bulgarblood (pat. pending) across the campus, and suffered somewhat in the translation. Consequently, his name does not appear on the ballot sheet, but this does not matter.

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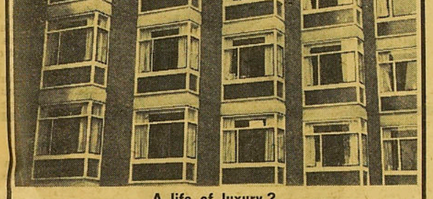
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comment

FOR the three years since the Halls were opened their Administration has been running on increasingly shaky foundations. The Administration of the Vale Site and the service offered by Halls should have by now reached a happy optimum, yet one which is not so rigid as to be unable to move forward without upheaval in these years of changing circumstances. Such a progressive optimum can be attained when students are receiving maximum feasible benefit for minimum possible fees.

Yet it is becoming potently obvious that both these are running in the wrong direction. Although the £13 rise in fees last session was intended to offset post-devaluation price rises and increasing costs, some consequent degree of improvement in standards of Hall life was clearly anticipated by students — yet such improvements have not been manifest. Now comes the impending threat of another rise in Hall fees and this, together with increasing complaints from students and apparent increasing unawareness by the administration of student requirements, impresses clearly on the immediate situation the need for a drastic rethink on policy.

The situation seems to be developing that if the Authorities continue in their apparent unawareness and incommunicability the complaints will grow stronger and the problems will grow sharper in the students' minds); perhaps then the methods of solving them will become less orthodox.



A life of luxury?

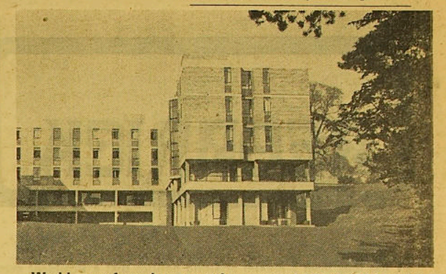
THE major criticism of the Halls Administration in its failure to bring about drastic changes in Halls and their policy is its apparent lack of awareness of the problems and disinterest in student opinions.

One wonders how often Dr. Alty, Deputy Principal of the University, and his Senate Halls of Residence Committee ever walk along the Edgbaston Park Road to sample a typical hall meal and express an honest opinion on the experience, and talk with the students on just where improvements should first be made.

Invitations sent out by several Halls to members of the powerful Senate Halls Committees, requesting them to functions and working buffet suppers have not yet met with anything like overall success. Lake have so far managed only one such informal meeting when only a handful of the invited could attend.

In one instance it is said that Dr. Alty wrote letters to members of his Committee asking them not to go because he felt it was undermining the authority and power of the Committee. This reflects on the status of the Committee. Should it, in fact, have power over Halls to the present degree? Will it yield this authority when the "memoranda" from Halls, such as Lake, passed by S.C.R.s and J.C.R.s call for more internal control and autonomy, rather than the present situation whereby University Administrators and selected people from the city sit with Academics to decide issues such as the length of visiting hours and Hall fees.

One student leader on the Vale Site sees the publication of Halls Accounts as the most important measure at this time, both on the principle of overcoming unnecessary secrecy and also on the basis that such publication will enable more interested and informed students and staff, as well as outside experts such as Mr. Humbert (University Catering Officer), to put forward criticisms and possible budgetary improvements.



Wydd—a referendum recently approved joint facilities plan

Because of the continued refusal to publish Accounts, the most unpleasant rumours are rife on the Vale Site. Presumably (and no one has yet officially heard contrary) there is no legal reason why these should not be made available for University publication. Yet they are not.

In this article a "Redbrick" news team adds its views to the mounting Halls controversy.

The obvious conclusion to be drawn is that there is something in the Hall Accounts which the Administration does not wish to be seen. What it is, has been, in fact, the subject of such flourishing rumours.

"I feel that by paying over £6 a week to live in a Hall that I have a share and a stake in their running and administration and just as in any public company, the Administration should be made to open their accounts for our inspection and suggestions," said one student.

Even their argument that publishing would damage the Vacation Conference Trade would not prevent them from showing the full accounts to Education and Welfare Committee, although this would be a very poor compromise.

It has been Mr. Marshall, who, as Halls Administrator, has been suffering the heaviest fire from students. "Marshall Out" is the slogan some student has foolishly daubed on a Mason wall in white paint. Yet his attitude to students and Hall does seem to justify adverse criticism.

His attitude that he would do everything in his power to improve the situation will get nowhere until he wins back the good will of students.

The fact is, however, that he steadfastly refuses to comment on questions put to him on crucial matters of Hall rationalisation.

When, as a result, he receives a poor write-up in "Redbrick" he turns round to say that he has "lost faith in students" and is "sick of 'Redbrick's' misrepresentation of facts" and will not again be interviewed.

Mr. Marshall's vague and "none" answers to perfectly valid questions put to him by concerned students will obviously result in his being criticised, which in turn perpetuates the situation and rotates again the vicious circle to infuriate him yet more and entrench him yet deeper in his refusal to further dialogue.

Hackneyed as it may seem, it is dialogue that the Vale needs; dialoge and ideas to run freely between such people as Mr. Marshall on the Administration and students of Halls, and dialogue which above all is sound, constructive and far-reaching.

THE subject of Hall autonomy has periodically been dealt with in "Redbrick" because we feel that support must be given to those residents who are attempting to begin serious negotiations on a question which directly affects them.

Over the last few months new ideas have been formulated on the old principle which states that those living in Hall (both S.C.R. and J.C.R.) should be responsible for deciding their own internal policy.

The Vale Site has become more active in its discussions of the problems involved and its suggestions for their solutions.

At present the Lake Hall "Memorandum" is making progress, albeit slowly, but until all the Halls join together and produce a common aim, the future for reform continues to look black.

This summer the Latey Report will almost certainly become law, and will necessitate a revision of Hall regulations. The lowering of the age of majority to 18 might well be the spur the Administration needs to accept that day-to-day life in Hall can be supervised by those people who actually live there.

Adult status for practically every Hall resident SHOULD bring change. But will it? Will the Administration speedily rectify the present situation to bring it up to date or will negotiations take up more precious terms?

In the months to come much of the burden will lie on the shoulders of S.C.R. Presidents as well as the student leaders. their diplomacy and integrity will be vital.

Perseverence and persuasion on an informal basis might be the orders of the day when this acute problem is somewhat nearer to being solved. However, the unfortunate lack of confidence in the Administration affords little optimism—the hope for fair treatment will always be there but most of the time, students feel that they are somehow considered "second-class" from the beginning.

Certainly, this is a moral question rather than a purely political struggle, but not moral in the sense that Miss Rigby, President of Ridge S.C.R., might have been applying it, when she stated, in October, 1967, that rules in Halls "are not strictly enough enforced."

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REDBRICK

IT has long been a maxim of Guild politics that a President gets the Guild Council that he deserves, and vice-versa. It is therefore significant that there is a very limited amount of talent and initiative both among the Presidential Candidates and among the people so far elected to next year's Guild Council. Unlike other years, there is no one outstanding Presidential Candidate; there are some people who should obviously not get elected, but no-one who obviously should. Failing an outstanding candidate, we must simply vote for the one who seems to be most likely to carry out his manifesto decisively and constructively, above all for the one who will best complete the movement towards the recognition of students as responsible adults with the right to participate fully in the affairs of this University, begun so successfully during the current sesion.

A President who is going to do this will have a hard job; if the Guild does withdraw from the measure of representation already granted, he will have to re-open negotiations with the University on a completely re-thought basis, with a very firm aim and the tenacity to reach it. In any case, the next President is likely to have a more difficult job than the present one, as it is often more difficult to continue action than to begin it.

This week "REDBRICK" is running a news feature on halls and their administration, which was intended as a constructive suggestion as to how improvements might be made. Unfortunately we encountered considerable difficulty during our investigations, in that it was impossible to obtain the answers to many important questions from the University authorities. Many of the key people in the halls administration were not prepared to talk to us; we were accused by one administrator of misrepresentation and unfair reporting in a previous article. It is true that we have on occasions not paid sufficient care to the problems of accuracy and bias; on the other hand, it is very hard to write accurate, unbiased material when facts and opinions are withheld from us by certain factions in the University. Obviously, the University administrators are under no obligation to give information and opinions to us or anyone else; however, there would be much greater trust on both sides if information which was not being kept confidential for a specific reason was made available. And without trust the University community will never achieve anything worthwhile.

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Charles Critcher



Manifesto

THE Guild is not a buildi community of students. I believe the programme outlined old move us towards a community meaningful to all its membe their interests may be.

STUDENT REPRESENTATI

I would make out prop ented cases for representation on Senate and the opening of More emphasis needs to be placed on "local" representation in Departments, and Halls. I would see it as a Presidential duty that student representatives fully publicise important discussio Refectory, Library, and student flats.

EDUCATION

I would try to maintain's impetus of discussion but would like to shift away from m ings making broad generalisations towards detailed research in departments.

UNIVERSITY COMMISSIO

I see the work of the C as providing a factual background for the instigation of Unive This vital discussion of education and decision-making m the whole University community and not just a few represe various interest groups.

UNION IMPROVEMENTS

I would like to see ma techniques used in the Union to assess student demands definitely strive to instigate a new Union self-service shop, wi oods, and a secondhand bookshop in the present library.

REFECTORY

I believe the student case for control is a strong one, but I would not like to see the Refectory as a Union annexe. Refectory users should be consulted about major innovations, possibly by referenda. I would place emphasis on greater efficiency and exploitation of new sources of income which would yield a better and cheaper service.

ACCOMMODATION

I would give Welfare Committee all possible support in its research into new forms of students housing and its efforts to compile lists of flats. I would like to see the new Manor flats free of any form of supervision, and the Halls given the opportunity to decide upon their own forms of internal government.

ENTERTAINMENTS

I would support the present policy of giving societies greater financial support, and would try to introduce long-neglected minority entertainments, e.g., jazz and folk concerts

GUILD COUNCIL

As a solution to Guild Council's problems I would move power into Departments and Faculties, tighten attendance regulations for Guild councillors and instigate regular Executive visits to Halls and the Medical and Dental schools.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE CITY

One of my highest priorities would be to encourage community work as an integral part of student life, by encouraging Departmental and Guild societies to take on projects. I would also improve publicity for events in Birmingham, which has slackened off badly this year.

The responsibility for the Guild's contribution to the social, cultural and academic life of the University lies in our hands. I am asking you to let me share that responsibility with you.

Proposal

WE are proposing Charles Critcher because he is the only candidate who has clearly demonstrated that he has the experience, ability, pragmatism and vision necessary for next year's President.

Chas alone of the candidates has experience of negotiation at all levels in the University; as inaugurator and chairman of the Combined Honours students' committee, as negotiator with Faculty Board and as a Guild Council representative at University and the recent Senate Ad-hoc Committee.

Chas was Guild Education chairman until January when he resigned to work for his degree. He built up an entirely new committee researching into all educational issues and which organised the teach-in in the Great Hall last term. He began the student-run coffee bar in the Arts Faculty and expanded the sale of cost-price academic stationery in the Union.

Chas is widely respected for his carefully thought-out ideas on education. In addition to speaking at N.U.S. national and regional conferences and being a member of the N.U.S. Universities Advisory Panel he has been invited to participate in several conferences, notably those of the University Teachers Group of the Student Christian Movement.

This experience and proven ability together with a deep personal commitment to the future of this University make Chas Critcher your only choice for a successful Guild President.

CHRIS TYRRELL
RAY ORSBORNE

Elvin McDavid



Manifesto

"All authority belongs ople. It is my principle that the will of the majority shall alw"—Thomas Jefferson, letter, 1787).

THE student movement in sity is participating in an exercise of reform by seeking reps at all levels within the University structure. Reform and prog cessary but the tempo must be in keeping with the mood of th body as a whole. For the moment it seems that we are looking ions of conflict which the majority don't want, to test our newer. This to me is leading us along a dangerous path which co foreseen consequences. If elected President I would spend mo lved in the departments to ensure that we are all working to mmon aim.

THE STUDENTS

To achieve unity of pur resident cannot afford to ignore the views of any section of the . His first priority would be to ensure that all views are eard and considered, because some people feel the practice of comba and social life is as important as theoretical politics, this make their contribution any less important. If students feel Union catered for all and not for a clique they might use I would examine whether Guild committees are adequately e needs of all and I would undertake to investigate changing the physical appearance of the place by engaging an interior decorating consultant.

THE UNIVERSITY

The last few months have proved the necessity for a long-term policy vis-a-vis the rôle of the student within the University. A follow-up to the teach-in, which will introduce discussion of some of the ideals, is essential. Consequently, I would propose the establishment of an academic forum —representative of various staff and student interests—charged with the consideration of the aims of the University and the means by which these could be achieved.

Urgent consideration, I feel, should be given to excessive wastage and the commissioning of an appeals procedure to reconsider failure, re-sits and student wastage.

THE COMMUNITY

Students have for too long been isolated from the community at large. This isolation in communication is undesirable and I feel avoidable. Community Action, initiated by Festival, must be persevered with, functions arranged with outside organisations and an effective means of communication—A Press officer—devised.

THE PRESIDENCY

The President should be an effective link between departments, societies, halls—stimulating discussion, inviting criticism and ensuring that all views are heard and considered. The President should be *primus inter pares*—first among equals.

Proposal

A PRESIDENT must attain a fine balance between administrative skill and continuous contact with fluctuating opinion and conditions on the campus. Too many times in the past, contact has been sacrificed pursuing bureaucratic skill through Guild politics.

We believe that Elvin has the necessary qualifications to avoid this danger for the folowing reasons:—

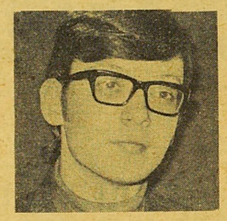
He has acquired considerable administrative experience, not only through membership on Guild Council, Guild committees and Executive, but also in dealings with the University.

He has also, through one year in Civil Engineering and two years in Social Sciences, plus energetic work on Events Committee, Entertainments Committee and Festival, obtained vast numbers of personal contacts throughout the campus.

We therefore feel that as President, Elvin would increase Guild relevance to students and hence student participation in the Guild.

NELSON C. BATEHURST
ROBERT W. MEIKLE

Mike Simmons



Manifesto

NO-ONE would deny th has just struggled through one of the most troubled pe seventy-year history, and few would argue that the next twel could prove crucial in moulding the shape of future relations selves and others concerned in the running of our University. ut firm approach must be made in negotiations with the Un orities to avoid a repetition of last term's deadlock.

It must be appreci e men, perhaps not "honourable", are nevertheless intelli and can appreciate reasonable and rational arguments. Th my primary aim if I were elected next Thursday—to secure future prosperity within the University structure without ature demonstrations and needless destruction, but without the trap of taking on an inferior rôle in an effort to para iversity authorities' every whim. I am convinced that if a se is pursued, the next academic year will be of mutual benefit to all concerned at Birmingham University.

Throughout this year I have participated in the organisation of many internal and external events, and have actively served on two Guild committees. This sort of experience I regard as a desirable, even necessary, qualification which every Presidential candidate should possess, as it is certainly beneficial if the President is aware of the internal organisation and day-to-day running of the Guild, especially as the coming year will see many changes in its governing structure. I hope that the adoption of many of Constitution Committee's recommendations will be sufficient to revive a Guild Council lacking in support, but would strongly resist any attempts to abolish this later and substitute General Meetings—clumsy, uncontrollable and easily swayed, with the problem of a large quorum and difficulty in accommodating the hoped-for thousands within the Union building—to decide Guild policy.

Next year will be a challenge, but it is one that I am willing to accept, with your backing.

Proposal

IN proposing Mike Simmons as the next President of the Guild, we do so for two main reasons—his experience in Guild matters and his sincerity, hard work and dedication in dealing with them.

Mike is an undergraduate Commerce student, with a record of experience in Guild affairs which equals that of any of this year's aspiring Presidents: Secretary of Events Committee, Festival Secretary until December, Editor of "Hot Air" until January, Editor of "Wall". Of all the candidates for President, Mike is the man who can best lead the Guild next year, and improve the tarnished student image. A vote for him is worthwhile.

PETER M. JACKSON.
BRIAN CALLOW

Mike Terry



Manifesto

DURING this session a great advance in awareness among students of our environment, the most noticeable point being during the mass of the sit-in. We must now build on this awareness at a evel, particularly where students are most affected. I envisa unctions of the Guild President are to negotiate, communica isten. He must be capable of co-ordinating student opinion sults are obtained. I would endeavour to achieve this in the f of reform.

EDUCATIONAL REFORM

gained much valuable exp ealing with people of all attitudes. departments and to achi ould encourage students to become more involved with their committees so that plans for reform can be introduced. Th ould create more awareness and questioning so that stu to out into society and continue constructively to question hat exist there.

SOCIAL REFORM

In a University conte social reform should be seen, not only as improving the con dents, but also in establishing the rôle of students with oth society. An example of this is Community Action where e awaken students of this University to some of the condition in Birmingham.

POLITICAL REFORM

It has become realise roblems facing students are not simply educational or s also political. In staff-student committees attitudes of the heads of department often dominate the committees and this is something we must work to change. Similarly students involved in Community Action met problems that they thought did not exist and were therefore forced to question the existing socio-political structure.

ACTION

Ideas are not sufficient and action is essential. The rôle of the Guild in such changes is difficult to define. Unless Guild Council and the attitudes of Guild councillors can be changed so that they work with the departments, then the antagonisms that exist across the campus will remain. I am convinced that real educational reform will not come until the structure of courses is more flexible and that of departments more democratic, so that they can cater for a greater variety of needs.

Social reform in the University is essential in provision of student accommodation. The Halls should be given the autonomy that they are asking for so that they can develop as communities of staff and students, and the planned University flats should be given every priority. One service that the University provides which I believe must come under review is the Appointments Board, which seems totally inadequate in meeting the requirements of many students and the wishes of many departments.

I believe that as Guild President I could encourage student involvement in the areas of reform outlined, and with positive leadership the present opportunities will not be lost.

Proposal

IN proposing Mike Terry we are offering you a candidate with the essential attributes of reliability, awareness, and forward-looking policies.

Before coming to Birmingham Mike spent a year teaching at an African secondary school in Rhodesia, a difficult environment where he gained much valuable experience in dealing with people of all attitudes.

In the second term of his first year Mike was elected President of Lake Hall J.C.R. As Hall President he proved his ability to work with the rest of his committee and Hall members whilst maintaining an excellent relationship with the S.C.R. During the year he was able to help liberalise Hall regulations and at the same time greatly improve the facilities and entertainments.

As a Guild councillor of the Physics Department he has shown his political ability by being a prime mover for their teach-in and in strengthening their Staff-Student Committee.

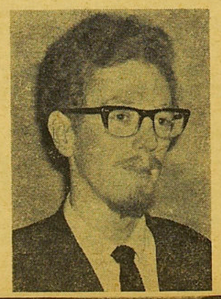
At Faculty level he was a member of the negotiating panel which has successfully obtained student membership on the Faculty Board for next session.

It is at the grass-roots level that Mike has been extremely active. He therefore has a very good understanding of the feelings of the majority of students.

It is for these reasons that I have no hesitation in proposing Mike Terry for Guild President.

ALAN BARR
ROGER EVANS

John Warre



Manifesto

THE PRESIDENT'S ROL

THE President must re nd serve 5,000 undergraduates and 1,800 postgraduates e Representation demands knowledge and understandin nt opinions. At present this is almost impossible: a wor for the rapid spread of ideas and facts is needed.

Leadership implies p orities coupled with the ability to assimilate new informa for individuals, coupled with the competence to conduct egotiation, is also needed.

Service involves a p sten followed by immediate action to remedy.

Good representation, nd service are vital in times of major reform.

MY POLICIES INCLUDE

(1) Education

(a) To create more s University education and structure, for example sympo and Free University experiments

(free from Guild

(b) A study of staff ionships and departmental reports on courses and

(2) University reform tow

(a) To ensure adequate undergraduate and postgraduate representation on the "Commission";
(b) To obtain better representation on relevant University and Faculty committees as interim measures before major reform;
(c) To collect the Guild's reform proposals into one document.

(3) Communications within the University

(a) Links between the Guild, the research and non-professorial staff and the administrative and technical staff. Postgraduate's experience will be essential here;
(b) To review ALL University publications, Press relations and television;
(c) To overcome non-essential confidentiality.

(4) University's relationship to the city

(a) To create more social awareness by—
(i) Enlarging Carnival's Community Action,
(ii) Arranging a second week of similar work,
(iii) Reviewing the practicability of join Festival, Art, Drama and Community Action;
(b) To present a more radical approach to social and racial problems in Birmingham.

(5) Improvements in Facilities

(a) A new kitchen for Union Catering;
(b) More study facilities in the Union, by use of Saint Francis Hall Library;
(c) Better management of an enlarged Union shop;
(d) Democratic management of the proposed student flats;
(e) Better participation in the government of Halls by the residents, if they wish;
(f) Review of facilities for postgraduates and their relation to the Union.

Proposal

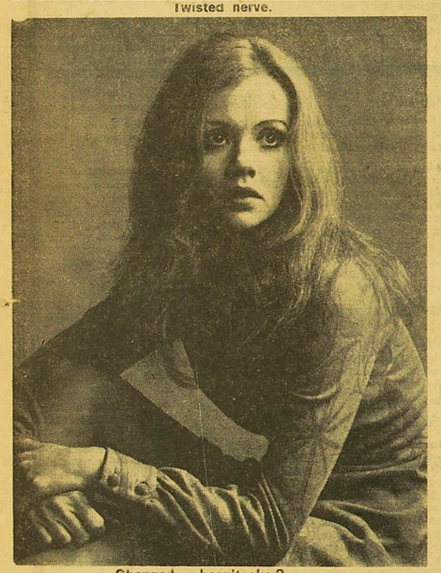
I COULD use the space allotted to me to discuss the three years John Warre has represented his constituency (Medicine) at Guild Council and the many local and national student organisations in which he has played an active rôle. But, in the final analysis, John's main strengths are his beliefs and aptitude in negotiation, and his policies. The policies which he espouses are all highly relevant to the needs of the University Society; many of them can be implemented readily. During the past years the Guild had discussed its policies in detail. It is time to effect that policy, through negotiation, and I believe that John Warre is eminently suited to this function.

PAUL V. GRIEW.
TONY PAGE

REVIEWS



Twisted nerve.



Changed — hasn't she ?



'The Knack' in rehearsal.

FILMS

AT the Cinephone this week is a double-bill consisting of "The Empty Canvas," a ho-hum film with Bette Davis and Horst Buchholz, and Anthony Harvey's "Dutchman," a powerful and moving film version of Le Roi Jones' award-winning play.

Set entirely in a New York Underground train (the New York subway system is truly the bowels of the earth; an incredibly filthy, ugly, stinking sewer), "Dutchman" explores the relationship between a psychotic white tramp (Shirley Knight) and the middle-class black (Al Freeman, Jr.) she seduces and, ultimately destroys.

The entire action is a frightening metaphor for the general state of race relations in contemporary America, especially the love-hate ambivalence with its clearly-erotic overtones.

Particularly haunting for me was Jones' image of the nature of black art. Jones implies (through the **persona** of his black actor) that he writes because writing is a more socially acceptable way of expressing his contempt and hatred of whites than a directly physical act like murder.

If Charlie Parker had been able to walk down the street killing off every white person he saw, he wouldn't have needed to play his tortured jazz. Black art is thus the transmutation of violence on to an aesthetic plane—a chilling, disturbing image.

Miss Knight, one of the screen's ablest young actresses, is simply superb and Freeman, if possible, even better. The film has been beautifully directed by Anthony Harvey, currently nominated for an Oscar for his direction of "The Lion in Winter."

"Twisted Nerve" (A.B.C.'s New Street and Coleshill) is a generally well-done thriller that, unfortunately, allows the tension to slacken long before the end. Hywel Bennett plays a young psychopath who murders anyone who threatens the precarious security of his fantasy existence.

However, there is a central ambiguity in Bennett's motivation that is highly disturbing. The film implies that Bennett is predisposed to psychosis because of a chromosomal imbalance—but then why deal with his deprived emotional environment (a doting mother who insists on keeping him a child) if his illness is **biologically** caused? And to what extent can his psychosis be explained by the fact that he has a mongoloid brother? It is this latter point that had stirred up such a controversy in the press. In point of fact, the entire mongolism angle should have been eliminated, since it is clearly confusing and, ultimately, irrelevant.

Roy Boulting has directed a fine cast, including Hayley Mills, Barry Foster, Frank Finlay and the incomparable Billie Whitelaw, who deserves international stardom immediately.

HERSH ZEIFMAN

NEXT week the A.B.C., New Street, will be showing the latest Martin Ritt film, "The Brotherhood," a tale of the modern Mafia in America. I really wish I could like this film more—it's very well done—but somehow it does not quite work.

After one of the most uninspiring opening sequences I have ever seen, the film settled down to its story of the relations between the two Genetto brothers; their relations and contacts with the old-style Mafia, and the influence of the twentieth-century pressures. Kirk Douglas is a convincing elder brother; very much embroiled in the traditional Sicilian family feuds, and Alex Ford plays his sibling; newly married and with the potential to get out of the old organisation for good.

That the implied conflicts and violence implicit in the situation never materialise, is, I think, the fault of the low-key treatment which the screen-play receives. Some of the scenes are remarkably good, and linger on in the mind long after the film is over. But as a whole, it is so quiet, one hardly notices most of the film.

Occasionally Hollywood decides that it wants to pay homage to what it considers to be some of the folk heroes of American society—racing drivers, pilots fighting heroic wars to save the American flag—and now in the "Hellfighters" (Odeon this week) the men who put out oil fires.

The screenplay claims that all oil fires are different. However, not being an expert on the subject, I failed to appreciate the subtle differences between putting one out, failing to put one out at the first attempt, and succeeding on the second, and putting out three at once.

In between putting out oil fires the team all lead traumatic personal lives, the principle traumas appearing in the shapes of their wives—terrifying American matriarchs, who stand on the oil-fire touchlines, shouting "Come out of there darling, it's too dangerous." In the face of such formidable opposition, I'm surprised the whole lot of them didn't go out of business long ago.

No doubt those who fight oil fires are doing a great job it's just that I find it extremely difficult to become interested in the personal traumas associated with the business, and that once you've seen how Hollywood puts out an oil fire once, there is nothing new to be gained from watching it happen again and again and again.

The second feature at the Odeon, "The King's Pirate," with Doug. McClure and Jill St. John—is much more lively than the "Hellfighters" for all the big budget and special effects of the latter. A swashbuckling tale of buckleswashing swashbucklers—quite funny, totally unpretentious—great fodder for a "B" picture in fact.

PHIL IRVING

POETRY

THE latest in the "Penguin Modern Poets" series—volume 13—brings together the work of Charles Bukowski, Philip Lamantia and Harold Norse; all little-known this side of the Atlantic, only Norse having lived in England.

The aim of each selection is "to illustrate the poet's characteristics in style and form"; and here the editors have certainly scored. Each group of poems emerges as clearly belonging to one person and the contrasts between the work of the three poets make for a well-balanced selection.

Lamantia's poetry has a great spaciousness, with its oceans, plains and gardens under the sea; but his is at the same time a dry, echoing world of tombs, bones and ashes. It is an unnatural world, where children might murder, monuments crumble, mothers kill their sons, fathers rape their daughters. Images of ancient civilisation and legendary characters are included in this haunting, strangely-beautiful existence.

Bukowski's work lends itself less easily to general impressions. Perhaps his work is not as striking as Lamantia's—certainly there is often the sense that one has read it all before. However, that is not to say that it is not good of its kind. One of his characteristics seem to be his use of an almost inventorial form—vaguely reminiscent of Rabelais—in some of his poems.

The fact that Harold Norse has lived at one time or another in most Western countries as well as the States shows. His poems range from "Now France" and "Chez Popoff" to poems of Italy, Marakech and Switzerland—but the point is that they do come off and each has something of the countries in its effect.



PETER DONOVAN

THEATRE

"THE KNACK" is a play which explores the tension between four individuals though the addition of a chorus in G.T.G.'s new production seemed more likely to diffuse rather work. However, the director, Barry Kyle, has rejected preconceived ideas and has attempted a completely new interpretation.

Taking as his basis the distinction between "childish" and "childlike," he relates the characters to a struggle between the child present in all of us and the desire for power, in this case sexual power.

Tom (who he sees as the most important character in the play), is content to be a child, he withdraws from the struggle and paints. He sees Colin as intellectual, but childlike, not stupid. Tolen is someone in whom the child is dead, who dominates the others by his display of brilliant sexuality.

The theme is interwoven with the view of the play as a myth, which is underlined by the ritualistic chorus sequences. Nancy becomes a virgin sacrifice who releases the suppressed sexual drive in Colin. Eventually, power passes to her, as she is so naive that she can avoid Tolen.

The chorus and the rituals such as the flagellation sequence express the underlying tensions. The production is a strange but curiously effective combination of the realistic and the symbolic—this is shown in the set in which the bed (the only piece of furniture), at times becomes an altar. Complex interrelation of individual personalities and themes by use of colour are achieved by the body paint, lights and costumes.

The additions develop themes that have until now been hidden under the veneer of the witty dialogue and gives the play a disturbing significance. With nearly a week of rehearsals left the production is still in a state of flux, the intensity of action is already much in evidence. This should be an extremely interesting event.

University House are presenting a play by Frederico Garcia Lorca entitled "Blood Wedding," from March 12th-15th. Nicky Wood, the director, seems to have created something very worthwhile.

PAUL SOMMERS

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(Next to Oak Cinema)

REVIEWS

POP



THE late lamented three-headed giant, Cream, has left us a posthumous issue, aptly called 'Goodbye." Cream was schizophrenic, one psyche inhabited the studio and created a calculated sound, carefully balancing the vocals and instrumentals. The lyrics of these songs were complicated, poetic and sometimes obscure.

And tiny purple fishes run laughing through your fingers and you want to take her with you to the hard land of the winter.

Pete Brown, who now displays his Battered Ornaments wrote many of them. Instrumental solos were restricted by the song form, the effect in public was beautiful, distinctive and finished.

The other psyche haunted the concert halls. The songs were mainly blues chants, simple and repetitive lyrics in themselves; "I'm so glad/I'm so glad/I'm so glad, I'm glad I'm glad," but they served as points of departure for their incredible odysses into sound.

Their concerts were living experiences, Eric Clapton stood nonchalantly in the blast of the light making his guitar sing and weep, Jack Bruce wove fantasies of pattern on the bass while Ginger Baker huddled like a warlock over his cauldrons, thundered, whispered or whimpered the rhythms of joy and pain.

The interweaving of ideas and emotions of these three musical talents is engraved on this monument. Three of the tracks are recordings of concerts given in America, "I'm so glad," "Politician," "Sitting on top of the World." They are probably the best examples of their work "live" that have been released, with the exception of "Spoonful."

Improvisation is a tag you can't fit on to something like this; given the space to breathe the music flings you into infinity. It's a spiritual experience.

Three echoes also linger in the studio—a sadly menacing soft song by George Harrison and Clapton called "Badge" on which the guitars move like a lover to the lyrics. "Doing that scrapyard thing" joyfully by Jack Bruce/Pete Brown with gloriously idiotic phrases like "Calling your name in the zoo—blowing my favourite mind." The last is a loud blow from Ginger Baker, "What a bringdown." Sipping Cream.

"Don't Look Back," the Dylan film, was the other side. Uncompromising would you believe? And well directed.

"Love Chronicles" — This is Al's second L.P. His first, "Bedsitter Images," left him scarred: the "Bedsit Boy" is a limiting tag which has adhered to him since, and the breadth, scope and imagination of his song-writing has not been widely appreciated.

With "Love Chronicles" however, Al Stewart has shaken off the impression of a limited trendy-London horizon and recorded some fresh compositions which should establish his right to be considered as a poet-musician capable of wide-ranging social comment and qualified to demonstrate his vision with self revelation of universal significance.

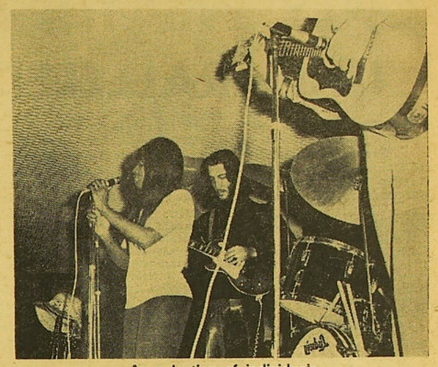
On all the six songs which make up this collection Al is backed by session musicians, including three renowned guitarists, Marvyn Prestwick, Jimmy Page and Simon Breckenridge. Those who have seen Al in person, solo, may feel the bass, drums, and guitar lines to be distracting, despite the quality of the musicianship, and certainly some of the intimate, personal charm of "Love Chronicles" itself seems to have been stifled, but I felt after a couple of replays that it was possible to consider the music separately and still to feel considerably moved by the words.

Of the four songs on side one, "In Brooklyn" and "Old Compton Street Blues" are live performance favourites. It seems a pity that Al's usually outstanding guitar playing is reduced to strumming by the exigencies of strict-tempo group backing, but again, the lyrics are the most important thing. The tone of the other two songs is sometimes reminiscent of Paul Simon:—

"David Foster lives in Gloucester
with his family
Work'd till pay time, through the
daytime, then comes home for
tea."

The second side opens with a short piece: "You should have listened to Al," which is fast, light-hearted and contains some fine double-tracked harmony. "Love Chronicles" follows; a twenty-minute autobiographical song which must be one of the highlights of recent song-writing. Expressed in simple phrases, sometimes corny, sometimes exquisite, always apt, the picture emerges of man's journey through the periphery of sensual experience impinging on the emotions involved in love and sex. Al Stewart has extended the vision from the Bedsitter days in London to twenty years of life, and as we look at ourselves in the light of his self-revelation, our understanding must be deepened.

ROLAND P. CLARK
JOHN KEETLEY
PAUL B. SOMMERS



An eclection of individuals.



Black and Waite—Dutchman.

BOOKS

"STUDENT POWER," edited by Robin Blackburn and Alexander Cockburn (Penguin / New Left Review, 7/6).

IT is a measure of the interest in this subject in the University that Hudson's sold out their first batch of 250 in three days. And this is certainly a book that repays reading, even if you don't agree with some of the conclusions.

Basically this is a collection of essays rather tenuously linked by the slogan of Student Power. The most interesting articles are those which deal with specifics rather than generalisations; too many essays begin on premises which the average non-Marxist student finds unacceptable.

So the essay on N.U.S. is perhaps the most immediately relevant. It is a scathing indictment of the way the Executive controls the Union and how "anyone left of Rotary Club" is branded Communist and effectively kept off Exec. by the alleged corruption of the "ticket system" by which 51 per cent can keep any radical out of power.

Trevor Fisk is criticised as "the product of the right-wing elitist Union dynasty that is one of the worst bureaucratic cliques in the country."

Two of the most important and informative articles are those on Art Colleges and Colleges of Education, where conditions seem almost unbelievable to University students. The Colleges of Education are merely a continuation of all that is bad in school life, forcing nine-till-five lectures and excessive "homework" on to students with abysmal facilities and an oppressive environment; University regulations are nothing in comparison.

In the Art Colleges the whole nature and basis of art education are in turmoil; Tom Nairn and Jim Singh-Sandhu's account clearly analyses this "chaotic corner in the chaotic scene of higher education." Well worth reading.

The book also links British student revolt with International movements; David Triesman's essay on the I.S.C./C.I.A./N.U.S. issue shows the way in which student leaders in N.U.S. and other national unions have been led into perpetuating Cold War attitudes and policies, and Fred Halliday's essay chronicles the student revolts all over the world, and shows that students are questioning their societies and acting against them, but fails to show any common aim. They oppose their governments but the writer fails to prove that they are all essentially Marxist.

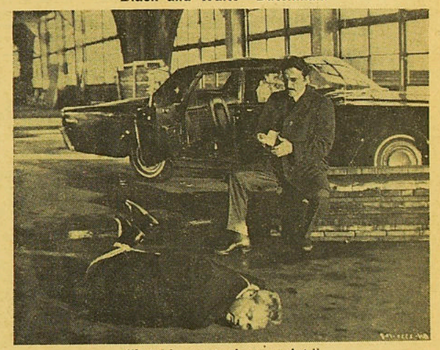
Indeed this is where the whole book falls down; it is unconvincing to a non-Marxist, and Gareth Stedman-Jones' essay, "The meaning of student revolt" fails in its attempt to prove that student revolt is the vanguard of future socialist proletarian revolution, and that students are ipso facto allies of the workers.

"The student radical," says Alexander Cockburn, "perhaps fresh to any kind of militant action becomes suspicious of any declamations that seem to shove him precipitately into a confrontation with the whole weight of the established order—the Capitalist system. Is he really battling against capitalism—or against the vice-chancellor? Are the two synonymous? Where is the link?" This book tries to establish a link and show the way in which the students can be mobilised against the system.

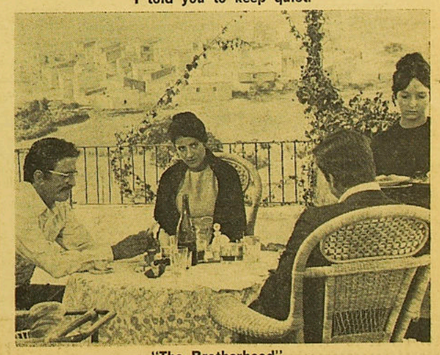
"There is a spectre haunting Europe," says David Widgery, "and its banners read, in Berlin and Warsaw and Paris and London; 'Today the Students, Tomorrow the Workers'."

If one does not accept the basic premises on which the essays are written it is easy to make fun of their conclusions; nevertheless this book contains some very important material, especially Perry Anderson's critique of British culture, and should be read by anyone who is concerned with the future of higher education and indeed of society.

PETER ULLATHORNE



"I told you to keep quiet."



"The Brotherhood"

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sport 1

SOCCER

ONLY WEATHER MARS AN UNPARALLELED SEASON

By IAN FINCH

THE Soccer Club this year enjoyed a season's football unparalleled in at least the last decade. Only the adverse weather in the latter half of the season marred a spectacular run of success.

For the first time, Birmingham entered the Birmingham County Junior Cup—a competition involving most of the best amateur teams in the Midlands. From a pool of over 300 teams, Birmingham won their way through to the last 16, where, on an atrocious day, they lost to Blackheath Town 1-0. Until then many had tipped Birmingham to be the surprise winners of this most coveted cup in the Midlands.

THIS YEAR'S TEAM

Ian Finch (G.K.). Hails from the north. Nicknamed "Tiny." Has revolutionised goalkeeping by his idea of awarding opposing forwards with free shots.

J. Payne (R.B.). Newcomer to the side this year. Two-footed player—both right. Midland U.A.U. honours.

B. Eastman (L.B.). Unsubtle but effective player. Some say "dirty." Nicest thighs in the side.

R. Hawkins (R.H.). Local boy—personally tutored by Stan Cullis. Dedicated enthusiast. Midfield link—often missing.

D. Rosbrook (C.H.). Captain of the side—he claims. Small for his size but is very good on the ground (from a reliable source). Outstanding player at Epsom earlier in the season.

S. Hart (L.H.). Nuff said!

H. Brown (R.W.). Tremendous physique. Known as "Gyrating hips" Brown. Dynamic foot in each boot. Scorer of five magnificent goals this year.

D. Wortley (R.W.). Newest member of the side. Began the trend of moustached footballers. Known as "Wortles" to his friends.

A. Maile (I.R.). Name speaks for itself! Top goal-scorer with 18 to date. Possesses an antelope-like stride which has been the downfall of many defenders this season.

M. Birkinshaw (C.F.). Captain of vice and "buzz" champion extraordinaire. Cannon-ball shot in either foot and fine header of the ball. Cause of many enquiries from clubs (Dolls, Dolce Vita, Rumrunner etc.).

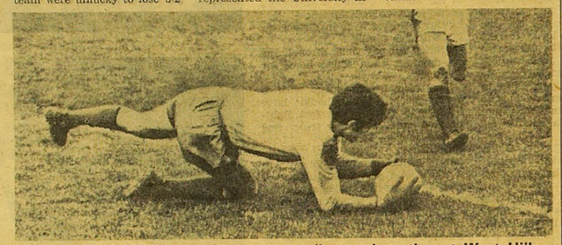
L. Fraine (I.L.). Has been likened to Jimmy Greenhoff by Rog. Hawkins. Powerhouse of the team. Immense ability in midfield, obviously the best player in the side but has been known to bribe the press.

R. Dobson (I.L.). Wiry player with great ball control. Earned his place in the team with some grand displays much to the distress of many opposing full-backs.

Team Record:—
P26, W16, D6, L4, F59, A31.

In U.A.U., Birmingham sailed through the division with admirable ease. Victories against Nottingham, Keele, Warwick and Leicester, gave them a plum quarter-final tie against last year's winners. After a long journey down to Swansea the team were unlucky to lose 3-2 by a goal scored in injury time.

The successful run didn't go unnoticed by U.A.U. selectors and in the Midland U.A.U. match against the Birmingham A.F.A. John Lyle, John Payne, Mel Birkinshaw and Andy Maile represented the University in the U.A.U. team. The result —a 3-0 win for U.A.U.—was something of a Birmingham affair with Birkinshaw scoring two and Maile getting the other. Birkinshaw followed his Midland U.A.U. selection by being picked as travelling reserve for the full U.A.U. team.



Ian Finch, U.A.U. and 1st team goalkeeper in action at Wast Hills.

Soccer results—
Wanderers 5, Erdington Wednesday 3
1st XI 1, Saltley 1
2nd XI 7, Saltley 2
Queen's College 1, Bunbury 1

I.D.S. 6-A-SIDE SOCCER

	P.	W.	F.	A.	P.
Spanish	9	7	13	3	15
Commerce	9	7	15	6	14
Biology	7	6	10	4	13
Law	8	6	10	6	12
Social Science	6	5	9	3	11
Palæography	8	4	8	4	11
Univ. House	10	4	8	8	11
Mason	9	4	13	9	10
Eng. Prod.	5	4	8	3	8
Biochemistry	6	3	7	9	7
Physics	9	2	5	14	6
High Hall	9	1	9	13	5
Geology	8	1	3	7	4
German	5	1	7	7	3
Mech. Eng.	7	1	2	8	2
Metallurgy	5	0	4	10	1
Mining Eng.	6	0	4	12	1
Civil Eng.	8	0	0	8	0

LADIES' LACROSSE

FIONA CLINCHES WIN

OXFORD UNIV. 5, BIRMINGHAM 7

AT University Park, Oxford, on Saturday, in superb conditions, Birmingham Ladies' Lacrosse team took advantage of all opportunities to beat a strong Oxford team.

A quick, decisive goal by P. Cook for Birmingham was the start of an exciting closely-fought match. From the start both teams' defences were hard pressed, warding off continued attacks. Oxford's forwards succeeded in scoring three good goals but from then on the Birmingham defence tightened considerably, marking more closely and with K. Lloyd in goal making some really excellent saves, Oxford could not add to their score. A rally from the Birmingham attack brought them level at 3-3 at half-time.

The second half brought more good play and a more determined effort on both sides to break through. Enthusiasm sometimes resulted in crowding round the goal and hence confusion and slack stick-work. Generally improved passing and spacing closed the gap, which had often tended to appear between attack and defence in the first half, and this brought a series of good goals which proved decisive for Birmingham.

With the score 6-4 tension mounted as Oxford pressed hard. Determined marking, especially by J. Sainsbury, who was playing against the elusive Oxford captain, stopped many moves from reaching goal. Oxford did narrow the gap to one goal but then two minutes from time captain Fiona Strang clinched the game for Birmingham when she scored following a series of fast accurate passes down the field straight from the centre draw.

GOLF

SCRAMBLED HALF STOPS WHITEWASH

SOUTH STAFFS. 3½, BIRMINGHAM ½

MIKE PATERSON and Nick Krafft, playing in the second pair, were down all the way to the 14th but went two up with three to play. Finally they scrambled a half on the 18th to halve their match and prevent a complete whitewash.

Andy Dathan played well for nine holes including birdies on three and four but then lost his touch and the game 3 and 2. Andrew Wawn, hooking more vigorously than ever before, hit nine fairways off the tee, but seven of them not the fairway he was aiming at.

Meanwhile whilst Andrew was tacking from side to side his partner Bob McCowan on his first appearance this term was hitting the ball straight down the middle—but only 150 yards a time. This proved inadequate and they lost 4 and 3.

Paul Birtwhistle and Ian Coldicott were four down after five holes when their opponents threw five pars at them and they never recovered losing 4 and 3.

Team: Dathan and Bowdler; Paterson and Krafft; Wawn and McCowan; Birtwhistle and Coldicott.

BASKETBALL

I.D.S. League: 1st Div.

	P.	W.	F.	A.	P.
Civil Eng.	5	4	177	153	13
Chem. Eng.	5	3	192	171	11
German	5	3	177	162	11
Staff	5	3	167	159	11
Chemistry	5	3	157	150	11
Mech. Eng.	5	2	168	155	9
High Hall	6	1	135	190	8
Phys. Ed.	3	2	92	72	7
Bio. Chem.	5	1	147	186	7

SPORTSVIEW

. . . a weekly column of news and views in the University Sporting world.

☆ **THE glut of applications by new sports clubs to join Athletic Union started on Friday when Athletic Union discussed the application of the Karate Club. Expected shortly are applications from the Horse-riding Club, the Orienteering Club and the Ikado Club (a form of judo I'm told). As far as these clubs are concerned there are two major problems. First what is A.U. for? There is absolutely nothing written down in any Guild or A.U. publication as to the aims and objects of A.U. It seems that all its actions must therefore be decided on precedent and common sense. Based on this it is clear that all A.U. sponsored sports, must be competitive and must be physical as opposed to mental sports such as chess.**

By all accounts it seems that the Karate Club is unlikely to be competitive in the near future and in my view does not qualify for an A.U. grant. This brings me on to the next problem which is one of money. Horse riding is all very well but it is expensive. Without further money from the Guild it is unlikely that A.U.'s present grant will run to horses. Even if it can there is no justification whatever for subsidising joy rides for all. Orienteering on the other hand is cheap, competitive, likely to be widely supported. The club is making a big effort to get established before applying for an A.U. grant. Such an application can only be looked on favourably.

As to the other new clubs, I can only suggest that they look to the Guild Finance Committee for support.

☆ **TO all those who take even a passing interest in the University Athletics Club it is clear that Ian Thompson is developing into a first rate captain. A little known facet of his character however emerged during the week—Thompson, the visionary. What started as a practical suggestion for an indoor track at the University developed into a full scale multi-storey sports construction on the site of the present running track. This would include an indoor track, under cover redgra-area, swimming pool, even a horse riding arena capped by an outdoor area on the roof for the throwing events. Perhaps this is an idea for the future but certainly the idea of an indoor track at the University is not beyond the bounds of possibility.**

Such a track would attract the world's best athletes on occasion and Britain's best regularly. A well planned programme run with the help of the Midlands A.A.A. would consequently draw thousands of pounds in TV rights not to mention spectator receipts if viewing galleries were made adequate. Certainly it has been proved before that a little forward planning can pay immense dividends, let us hope it can be done again and so make Birmingham the centre of athletics outside London.

☆ **IN the field of sports in higher education the Universities have long been well organised because of the existence of such bodies as U.A.U. and W.I.V.A.B. Unfortunately the other institutions of learning have lagged way behind. Two attempts to set up bodies to organise College sport have failed. In a recent press conference Trevor Fisk, President of N.U.S., said that he thought that N.U.S. could well step into the void, in an attempt to harness this vast wealth of sporting talent. Apparently if a body did prove itself capable of efficiently organising College sport then Government money would be readily available to help out.**

If N.U.S. take control of College sport then there is little doubt that the Universities would look favourably on the gradual integration of Colleges into one overall student sporting organisation. Such a body would certainly have wide ranging benefits for British sport as a whole and would be welcomed by all but the most reactionary student sportsmen.

WEIGHTLIFTING

B.U.S.F. lift weight off U.A.U.

THE year 1969 will be the last one in which university weightlifting is controlled by the U.A.U., responsibility going to B.U.S.F. next year. The reason for this is evident in the entry list for the U.A.U. Championships: 15 of the 27 entries come from non-affiliated Scottish Universities.

However, this comprehensive entry will provide plenty of exciting and impressive lifting in the championships next Saturday, to be held in the Sports Centre, commencing at 1.0. Five universities have entered for the team championship, the placings being decided by the aggregate total of three lifters who constitute a team. On present known form Birmingham head Edinburgh, last year's winners, by 50 lbs.

There are also individual championships in each bodyweight class. Birmingham attention will be mainly on the lightweights. Alan Gardener, last year's winner, should retain his title comfortably, especially with Louis Kohestani, a British International, lifting as a guest to give him a close contest. Paul Davis is expected to break the U.A.U. press record by some 200 lbs., but will have to exceed his previous efforts on the other lifts to take second place from the 1968 runner Williams of Aberystwyth.

The middleweights should prove another cliff-hanger. Alec Vymeris from Manchester is favourite, but rumour has it that pressure of work has affected his training. Coupled with his poor competitive nerves, this may well cause him to fail to total as last year. Pat Squire, the Birmingham captain, would then be pitted against Thomson of Glasgow for the honours. They both have the same best total, but pressures of organisation seem to have hardly affected Pat, and he could well add 30 lbs. to his personal best.

The remaining classes are unlikely to provide close contests, but the lifting of top light-heavyweight Colin Mellis and of 20-stone superheavyweight Doug Edmands should be outstanding.

Colin Mellis is again expected to win the Champion of Champions award, but Gardener and Vymeris will not be far behind if he falls below his usual high standard.

sport 2

BLUE AWARD FOR MEL-ON APPEAL!

A.U. COLOURS COMMITTEE SORTS 'EM OUT!

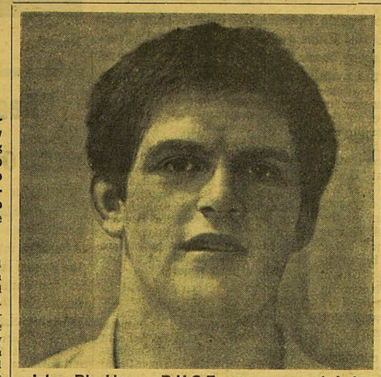
THIS year's Blues awards were ratified by A.U. General Committee with much less fuss than for many years. The reason for this general consensus among members was without doubt the very thorough job done by A.U. colours committee in deciding just who deserved awards and who did not! There was little discussion needed on many of the Blues and only two appeals against the decisions of the colours committee were made, one of which was successful.

The successful appeal came from the Soccer club, and the recipient of the award was Mel Birkinshaw. He has been the First's front runner and striker this year and scored ten goals. His goal tally would no doubt have been higher if he had not been injured and prevented from playing in eight of the matches. He played for Birmingham A.F.A. this year and represented the Southern U.A.U. in a B.U.S.F. tournament last year. The future is looking bright for Mel, who has also a reserve for the full U.A.U. and is in with a great chance of full B.U.S.F. selection later this year.

The highly successful Cross-Country Club which won the U.A.U. title and came third in the B.U.S.F. behind Oxford and Cambridge, also scooped a large haul in this year's University awards. Three new blues in Andy Holden, Gavin Russell and Pete Griffiths reflects the very high standard that they have reached. With the rest of the scoring six getting half blues in the shape of Steve Gibbons, John Eley and Roger Brown, the very heavy training throughout the winter in all weather conditions has been justly rewarded.

The Judo Club won another blue through their heavyweight John Blackburn. He has only been in the sport 18 months, but has been in the improved beyond measure this season. He won the British Universities' Judo Association Championship for blue belts and has now been upgraded to brown belt. It seems inevitable that he will be upgraded in status again soon to black belt as he has been defeating black belts quite regularly in competitions throughout the season. He finished second in the B.U.S.F. championships and seems a good bet for the world Student Games to be held in Turin next year (we hope).

Richard Prince, a G.B. international for some years, at last received his blue, when this year the Kayak club finally got round to recommending him. He won the last B.U.S.F. and U.A.U. Slalom Championships in June 1968 and finished second in the B.U.S.F. White Water Championships.



John Blackburn, B.U.S.F. runner-up and Judo Brown belt in just 18 months in the sport! Bound for Italy and the World Student Games next year?

BLUES AWARDS

Basketball	John Lord, Uli Bergmann.
Cross-Country	Andy Holden, Gavin Russell, Pete Griffiths.
Men's Fencing	Ralph Evans.
Women's Hockey	Helen Disney, Pauline Clay.
Judo	John Blackburn.
Kayak	Richard Prince.
Rugby	Terry Monnington.
Table Tennis	Brian Mitchell.
Ten-Pin Bowling	Colin Sumner.

RUGBY

Watkin's boot saves University

OXFORD CITY R.U.F.C. 14 pts., BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 14 pts.

ALTHOUGH it was a sinking sun which lit the ground at Oxford it did not dim the gold-coated boot of Mr. Watkins. As deftly as any craftsman he serenely cut the air between the Oxford posts to account for no fewer than 11 of the 14 points and force a draw. But the success of his recent fabled foot, when clad in leather, was not a lone success. The result was a success for the whole team since it is no mean feat to draw at Oxford.

Being eight lucky points down, the University drew level with a penalty and a converted try, scored by Knight, who swooped with the eagerness and delight of any bird of prey on a smothered clearance.

Turning round 11 points all, the University were faced with the slope and the fiery red, almost set, sun. But although a penalty was conceded early on, the team never acquiesced to any Oxford supremacy and a travesty of justice was avoided by that lethal weapon of Watkins—his boot.

Camp Hill O.E. 9 pts., Birmingham Univ. 17 pts.

Several changes, a hot sun, an international match on TV and girl friends and/or wives on the touchlines are not conducive, so it seems, to consistent rugby. The manner of the University's play at times left something to be desired. Good play and inspiration were somewhat sparingly observed, but nevertheless intrinsic in the game were glimpses of them, especially in the last quarter.

Down 6-3 at the interval, John Hanlon having scored a try, the University staged something akin to a comeback. The Welsh starry-eyed Thomas surged over amid admiring touchline observation, Knight notched try no. two in the same week and Cook, making the extra man, beat the cover in the race for the line. Culminating the scoring was Plank, who in the unfamiliar role of place kicker, thundered over a penalty and a conversion.

VOLLEYBALL

B'HAM THRASH LOUGHBOROUGH

IN a tremendous triangular match with Loughborough Colleges and Cambridge University last Wednesday evening, Birmingham University thrashed Loughborough (last year's U.A.U. runners-up), 15-5, 15-3. They then continued their success by beating Cambridge University easily, 15-2, 15-7.

The team played as a real unit for the first time, with all the individual players giving sound performances. John Lyle, fresh from Scotland international honours, was outstanding, with captain Gisi Tiegel and Roj Bennett setting up an excellent mid-court understanding and big Tom Markvart in ferocious spiking form the team hit top form. Suave Jon Newton and first-years Bob Lee and Kevin Blyth all fitted into their separate roles well and gave excellent support to the rest of the squad.

Now the team can look forward with a good deal of confidence to their first-round match against Loughborough next Wednesday, March 19th. The match is at 3.30 p.m. at Loughborough, the coach leaving North Car Park at 1.0 p.m., all spectators being most welcome.

TABLE-TENNIS

Doubles for Brian & Rich

AT the U.A.U. table tennis tournament on Saturday at Loughborough the Birmingham pairing of Brian Mitchell and Rich Henderson carried off the men's doubles title in convincing fashion. In none of their matches did their opponents manage more than 15 points in a game. This was the first U.A.U. table tennis title ever for Birmingham.

In the men's singles Alan Heap added the U.A.U. title to his previously - gained B.U.S.F. singles title. Heap, who is coming to Birmingham next year, repeated his B.U.S.F. defeat of Brian Mitchell in the semi-final. In the B.U.S.F. championship, Mitchell took Heap to three close games, but this time it was a more one-sided affair, with Heap winning in brilliant style in two games.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Mellor arrived in dribs and drabs to slaughter!

BIRMINGHAM UNIV. 15, MELLOR B. 3.

THE men's lacrosse team also had a carnival on Saturday, registering their best win of the season in beating the "B" team of the English champions Mellor by 15 goals to three. The task was made rather too easy for the Birmingham team by the arrival of only nine of the Mellor players for the first three-quarters of the match. Birmingham were content to stroll through the first half of the match, and while the 6-1 half-time score was satisfying, the tempo of the match was not. Only in the third quarter did Birmingham put effort into their play to build up a commanding 11-1 lead before the arrival of the missing Mellor players.

With both teams now at full strength, Birmingham's defenders withstood pressure from Mellor's fresh attack men, and increased their lead still further, compensating for the disappointing first half.

Big Jim Jarvis released his pent-up passions by opening the scoring in the first minute of the match. Crowhurst and McCraight were both in fine shooting form, claiming five goals apiece, and Farrar (two goals) and Bolland completed the scoring.

Team: Bullough (capt.), Jarvis, Crichton, Buckley, Bolland, Reid, Norris, McCraight, Blair, Farrar, Wilde, Crowhurst.

MOTORING

Bristol lose so Birming'm lead

BIRMINGHAM are still undisputed leaders in Inter-varsity Driving Tests after beating a very strong team from Bristol University. In particular the Bristol team's sports car driver Dave Essen, in his Sprite, was very quick—obtaining the fastest time of the day by a convincing margin.

Birmingham's "A" team's fortunes were salvaged by having both the fastest Mini, Neil Millin, and the fastest rear-wheel drive saloon, Dave Rapoport, in his 850 Fiat.

The most competitive driving of the afternoon occurred in the rear-wheel-drive saloon class where the first three places were decided only by the final test. Andy Dawson in his A35 estate car tried a little too hard, only to end up motoring on his roof—luckily without too much damage.

The spectators who braved the cold were rewarded with some spectacular driving by John Hamilton in his Lotus Elan S4 and Alan Ross-Jones in his Sprite. John Buck's A40 Somerset was consistently good in spite of its vintage. Impeccable driving in a large Ford Corsair produce some surprisingly good times.

Provisional results: 1st Birmingham 'A', 2nd Birmingham 'B', 3rd Bristol, 4th Southampton 'A,' 5th Birmingham 'C,' 6th Southampton 'B.'

Best Sports Car: Dave Essen, 339.32 secs.

Best Front Wheel Drive Saloon: Neil Millins, 356.36 secs.

Best Rear Wheel Drive Saloon: Dave Rapoport, 410.31 secs.



Neil Millin, driving the fastest Mini, helped to salvage the Birmingham 'A' team's fortunes against a strong Bristol University team.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Welsh vests for Thomas

THE conditions for last Satuday's junior inter-counties championships were considerably better than those for the National the previous weekend. Once again Andy Holden proved his domination in this division by moving away in the last two miles from last year's International junior champion John Bednarski of Wiltshire. Steve Gibbons was in excellent form to take 14th place in conditions which were not expected to suit him, whilst John Eley was a little disappointed in duplicating his 25th placing in the National. Phil Smith ran steadily to finish 37th.

On the same day Malcolm Thomas was contesting the Welsh senior championships. After a race-long tussle he was just beaten over the last few hundred yards by Tony Simmons of Luton. However, the second place was good enough to gain him a place in the Welsh team for the international championships two weeks hence. Not so lucky in this respect was Pete Griffiths, who ran much better than last week but had to be content with 15th place.

ORIENTEERING

Practice on Lickey Hills

THIS newly-formed club is holding its first practical session today at the Lickey Hills. A course of sorts has been arranged and beginners should take about an hour to complete it. The organisers suggest that old clothes or a track-suit should be worn.

Essentials are a biro, a plastic bag or mapcase and, if possible, a compass. Anyone interested should meet on the Athletic Union balcony at 2.15 p.m. ready changed.

CANDIDATES FLOUT RULES

REDBRICK
Birmingham University

No. 760 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12th, 1969 Price 3d.

THE publicity for some of the candidates for this week's Presidential election has been causing concern both with in the Union and outside. Rules governing candidates' advertising have been laid down by Guild Council, but in many cases these have not been adhered to, though no action has been taken against the candidates concerned by Election Committee.

One of the rules states that for the period of the election the Guild regulations governing the placing of posters in the Union is to be suspended, except for a clause which states that "Under no circumstances may any notice or decoration of any sort be fixed to Union walls." At the beginning of this week it was clear that this was not being observed, as posters began to appear throughout the Union. However, all those contravening the rule were soon removed by the Committee, and candidates were asked to restrain such misuse of publicity.

Last week it appeared that Elvin McDavid had infringed the regulations when a duplicated handout from the International Club appeared with a footnote urging members to vote for McDavid, "the overseas students' candidate."

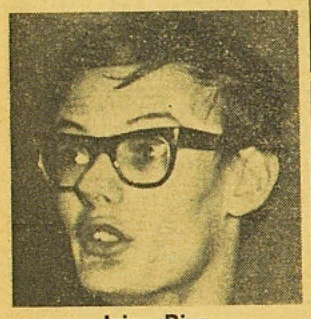
Officially, no publicity was allowed before midnight on Sunday, and duplicated handbills are prohibited. However, an inquiry by Election Committee found that McDavid did not know of this action, and consequently he was not held responsible for it. International Club were subsequently made aware of the regulations. As a result of this, the committee has since ruled that a candidate is responsible for the actions of his supporters.

An assurance has been given to the supervisor of works and maintenance of the University that all posters on the campus will be removed by midnight on Sunday next, and candidates are required to "obtain permission from the relevant authority" before advertising outside the Union. If the posters are not removed, the candidates will pay the cost of their removal.

Concern has been expressed by some student residents on the Northfield Estate on the appearance of posters in the area advertising Charles Critcher. One student said that she objected to the Union matters being advertised in non-Union areas. Chris Tyrrell said that no official complaint had yet been lodged with the committee over this and therefore, at this stage, "it is a matter between Charles Critcher and the landlords concerned."

Old hands back again

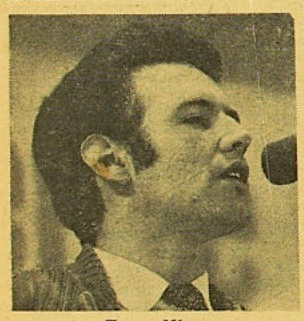
TONIGHT at 7.30 in the Council Chamber, Debsoc have assembled the biggest collection of has-been debaters the Union has seen for some time. Tony Klug (President 1966-67), Roy Shutz (Chairman of G.T.G. 1965, Guild Treasurer 1965-66, Open Tournament Winner 1966), Inigo Bing (a former chairman of Debsoc and part of the Bing-Brewer debating team which represented British Universities in America) and last



Inigo Bing

but by no means least Don (Fireball) Bradbury, Guild personality and first among filth purveyors in the Council Chamber.

All the speakers will undoubtedly tell of days of past glory in the Council Chamber, when men were anything but gentlemen as far as debating tactics were concerned. A chamber full of laughs for all interested in attending.



Tony Klug

Today is also the Debsoc A.G.M., when next year's chairman will be elected. Pete Jackson will not be running for another year of office, having decided to make way for new blood. The candidates for chairman are Graham Bolitho, Martin Jenkins and Gerald Hitman.

McLaren's ukase

PROFESSOR HUGH McLAREN, professor of obstetrics and gynæcology at the University, has come under strong attack from "Time" magazine in an article on abortion headed "A painful lesson for Britain". It was said that he was "a strong-willed Scottish Presbyterian who simply refused to perform abortions except in case of "dire peril" to the woman's life.

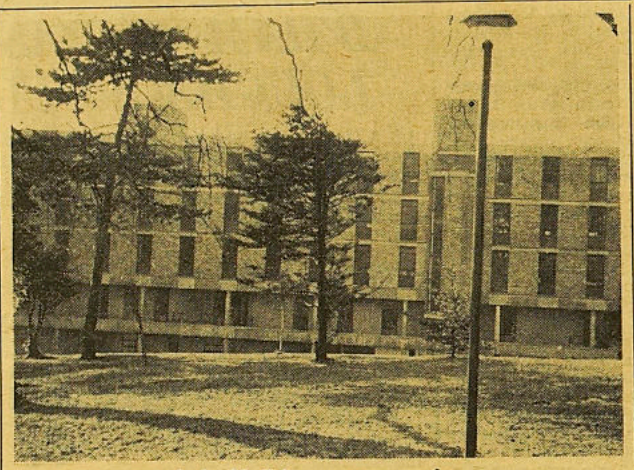
"Since he is head of the N.H.S.'s maternity hospital he can decree what subordinates may or may not do—and they may not perform abortions."

It goes on to allege that this "McLaren's ukase" is sending women to London for abortions or failing this to back-street abortionists.

"Mclaren's ukase" is sending women strongly denied these "no abortion" allegations.

"I observe the law closely," he said, and "I will not join the abortion rat-race." He agreed that many other doctors adopted a very liberal interpretation of the law.

It has been openly apparent since the passing of the Abortion Act two years ago that the Professor has taken a strongly individual and conservative line in his interpretation of the law, and this has led to much criticism being levied at him from many angles.



Lake Hall from a new angle.

HOARE GETS IN AT LAKE

Yesterday Lake Hall J.C.R. elected Bob Hoare (French I) as the successor to Roger Evans, the present President, who retires from office next week. At the hustings on Monday evening, Nick Bradish (Medicine I) presented a strong challenge, with Dave Porter, the third candidate, never really commanding the confidence of the assembled J.C.R. in his replies to the many questions all three were asked.

Bob Hoare maintains a firm commitment to Hall autonomy and hopes that during his term of office the job of determining internal Hall policy will fall into new hands.

(Voting: Hoare 101, Bradish 52, Porter 6.)

THE NEW MERMAID

DESPITE several major and unexpected setbacks it looks as if the new edition of "Mermaid" will, after all, be on sale tomorrow as expected.

The censorship difficulty over certain Wormsi cartoons has now been largely overcome, although the printers still refuse to print one of the captions. Also featuring in this "Mermaid" is an analysis of Barry McKenzie, the "Private Eye" cartoon character, some reflections on the Sit-in, two remarkable short stories, details of the GTV set-up, its problems and successes, a presentation of recent poetry by Chris Calvert, and an amazing five-page photo feature on Baghdad, taken by "Mermaid" photographer Graham Sharples.

This will be the first "Mermaid" at the new price of one shilling and sixpence.

"Reasonable Confidentiality" of University Council

THERE is a strong possibility that the action of Ray Phillips following the last University Council meeting will occasion considerable discussion at the next Council meeting, on March 26th. After the meeting he revealed certain facts, including details of the Senate sub-committee, to the Press. These had not been agreed as confidential; however, the University authorities were not pleased at the revelation, as they felt that it was the Secretary's job to publish the proceedings if a Press conference was not given.

The University was also displeased that Ray Phillips made a statement on the Council meeting at last week's Guild Council, prior to the publication in last week's "Redbrick" of his article on it. However, Professor Davies, one of the academic representatives on University Council, could make no comment on this, as there has not yet been another Council meeting.

The whole question of how far the "reasonable confidentiality," specified in Council's statement on "Student Role" last term, goes is also likely to be discussed by Council; it is obvious from Ray Phillips' actions that there is some disagreement between the President of the Guild and the University on what it actually means. If the University specifies a measure of confidentiality unacceptable to the Guild it is possible that another motion calling for withdrawal from University committees may be brought before Guild Council.

Black revolution

Sam Greenlee, the controversial American writer billed to speak in the Union last week, is finally to speak in the Council Chamber tomorrow at 1.15. His subject will be the Black Revolution; this ties in with his book, published this week, entitled "The Spook Who Sat By The Door."

The book deals with the violence and horror of an America gone beyond the stage of demonstrations and riots, where the only answer to the race problem is efficient, deadly guerilla warfare. Its hero is a negro working for the all-white C.I.A. — a provocatively tense situation.

Bumley

Some Bumley readers may be disappointed to see that Bumley's column has been temporarily moved and shortened. The Editor wishes to apologise to her readers for this; Bumley himself has already voiced a bitter complaint on the subject.

Wednesday
UNIVERSITY HOUSE PLAY
"BLOOD WEDDING"
By Lorca
8 p.m.

Thursday
FILM SOC.
"THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE"
Frankenheimer.
HAWORTH - 7.30 p.m.
Univ. House Play

Friday
GUILD BALL
REFECTORY
★
Double Tickets 70/-
9 p.m. - 3 a.m.

Saturday
TEACH-IN
(Symposium)
CHEM. ENG. SOC. DANCE
DEB. HALL
8 p.m. - 11.30 p.m.
Tickets 2/6 in advance.
4/- at Door.

Sunday
TEACH-IN
SUNDAY FLIC
"TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD"
plus CARTOON
FOUNDERS
2/6

Designed and produced by the Editor for the Guild of Undergraduates, Birmingham University. Printed by Ripley Printers Ltd., Nottingham Road, Ripley, Derby.