GUILD NEWS

3D

THURSDAY, MARCH 9th, 1961 No. 591

Recount at tense Special General Meeting

ONLY 12 VOTES IN IT

SIGNS OF FREEDOM?



Which way to "the Gent's"? A few of the signs on the West perimeter of the University.

(Photo: Arthur Burgess).

Close fight on concessions

BY 108 votes to 96—a majority of 12—last week's special General Meeting approved a motion demanding a ban on the issue of cut-price tickets to members of the Executive and Entertainments Committee to all functions, except the Guild Dinner and Ball.

In the past some officers have been subsidised up to 50% of the cost of tickets.

On the first vote, by a show of hands, 106 were for the motion and 101-3 against. Then came a shouted demand for a division. This, the chairman authorised and the final figures were as stated with 13 abstentions. Members of the Executive did not speak at the meeting and were among those who abstained.

Proposing the motion, **Mr. T. A. Staples** (Dept. of English) said that he was proposing the motion as a Councillor because he felt that the previous discussion on Guild Council, where the practice of reduced tickets was upheld, had avoided the real issues. The proposition rested, he said, on the principle that no elected officers should be in or out of pocket by virtue of the office to which they had been elected.

The only exception to this principle was when there was a large amount of duty involved in attending a function. "I do not deny that these officers work hard, but so do many others in the Guild and no one else either asks for or gets any "Perks."

Mr. Staples emphasised that the motion was not a vote of censure or no confidence and cast no aspersions on the people involved. But the Guild must assert the principle that 'perks' are pernicious, unfair and wrong.

Notice had not been given of any opposition to the motion, but **Mr. J. H. Gunn** (Mathematical-Physics) said that he welcomed the S.G.M. but that the proposer had overlooked certain important facts.

Quoting from the minutes of the last meeting of Guild Council at which the Chairman of Entertainments Committee, Mr. R. Taylor, had said that members of his Committee had a definite responsibility to attend the functions they organised—this was to ensure constructive criticism afterwards and en sure efficiency. Concessions therefore prevented financial hardship in carrying out their duty.

Mr. Gunn also quoted the President, Mr. E. A. Goss, who had told Council that every member of Executive incurred small out-of-pocket expenses which he never reclaimed and it was therefore not unreasonable to make certain concessions in the matter of tickets.

Speak! speak!

Mr. Gunn said that this might sound wrong in principle but was the House not confusing principle and practice? Exec., he said, get away with very little, and this motion did not befit the Guild.

Finally, Mr. Gunn criticised the decision of Executive not to speak at the meeting and called upon them to outline themselves the reasons why they ought to have concessions.

Seconding the motion, **Mr. P. L. Deitch** (English) said that he too was surprised that no members of Executive would speak and took this as proof of their "aloofness and Olympian detachment." Mr. Deitch supported the motion of two counts. He first asked whether 34 people were necessary at every Ball to supervise the permanent staff. He said there is a strong case for one person to be there in a supervisory capacity, but this person should have a free ticket.

In reply to the argument that concessions were a reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses, Mr. Deitch maintained that all officers should claim their expenses as they legitimately can, and as officers of other committees and societies do.

In reply, **Mr. Kamruddin** (Law), drew an analogy between the work of Entertainments Committee and that of stage-hands behind the scenes of a production. All we see of the work of these people is the smooth running and the decorations at the functions, and therefore to offer them concessionary tickets is a "fair, just and humane way of showing gratitude."

Moral duty

In reply to a question from **Mr. A. Osborne** (Chem. Eng.), asking how many members of Ents. Comm. attend formal functions and how many have specific jobs to do there, Mr. R. Taylor said that there had been a 95 per cent. attendance so far and he estimated the cost of this to be about £33. They all had a specific task and a moral duty to attend all the functions to see that they are organised properly and to be able to offer constructive criticism afterwards.

Later in the meeting, **Mr. B. Faulkner** (Genetics) said that the underlying principle in taking up any position or responsibility must be one of service: but that people should not be deprived by their service. There is adequate machinery for anyone to reclaim legitimate expenses and these are therefore irrelevant to the motion.

Mr. E. Ash (Philosophy), agreed that members of the Committees might have no specific duties, but suggested that no committee can intelligently discuss any function unless they have attended it.

After more floor speeches, and a brief summing up by Messrs. Staples and Gunn, the vote was taken in an atmosphere of great tension and excitement.

The decision of the S.G.M. is in no way binding upon Guild Council, and the matter can be brought up again for reconsideration only if it is placed on the agenda by a Councillor. Mr. Staples has expressed his intention of taking the matter before Council again.

NOT BY BREAD ALONE

PERHAPS it was the masculine majority in the house on Saturday which doomed the motion: "That this house prefers Mrs. Beeton to Miss Loren." Surely it could not have been the logic which only occasionally burst through the barrage of wit.

Proposing the motion, Mr. David Stroud felt it was a choice between sex appeal and potato peel. He preferred to think of the two personalities as representative of a certain way of life. Decrying the superficial sense of values which we use today, he went on to eulogise the deeper qualities of the Mrs. Beeton type.

However, his experience was more with the Miss Loren type. A life with her would be one of nervous tension, always watching other men. So saying, he moved aside for Mr. Staples to oppose the motion.

Film star

Miss Loren reminded Mr. Staples of the film star who insured her figure for a large sum but fell down on her premium. To him the proposer's speech was rather like an after-dinner speech, 10 seconds of sense diluted with some 10 minutes of words. Fortunately the proposer had argued on the lines he expected, and this was the only argument he could answer. He saw the motion as a choice between the mother of English cookery and the daughter of Italian nookery, gastronomic bubble and squeak and any other bubble and squeak, Roly-poly pudding and other forms of roly-poly. Here, Mr. Staples diverged or left the beaten track, to speak of the army medical corps.

Returning to the motion, he explained that it was considering individuals and was in no way symbolic. Taking Mrs. Beeton's work in his right hand and opening it with his left, he proceeded to treat the house to a number of carefully chosen extracts which he happened to come across. He thought her strategy was invidicus and perfidious.

He would rather marry the best looker than the best cooker, and after concluding a number of times, he closed his case.

Quite lost

Miss Pendlebury had to confess she was quite lost when she first saw the motion, almost beaten in fact. After another string of witticisms regarding chips and hips, crusts and . . . lusts, she pointed out that Miss Loren satisfied only one appetite. This woman needed support, coaxing and putting on the road to true enlightenment.

Mrs. Beeton, however, was a devoted lady, not just an authoress. She quoted examples to show how the lady was explicit without being tedious, to show her cool classical detachment, and her Miltonic fondness. "More than a poet, a prophet," Miss Pendlebury hummed.

Miss Petter, speaking second for the opposition, promised to divulge her innermost secrets to the house, but then to everyone's disappointment, spoke to the motion. Food was all right in the right place, but how much better was that perfection of modern grace, Miss Loren.

A lesson in psychology followed and she explained that baking a cake gave much the same feeling as having a baby, or so the psychologists would have us believe.

The motion was seduced by 40 votes to 35, with 16 abstentions.

Crankshaw slammed

"MANY Western observers took the failure of output to keep pace with production as evidence that the communisation of agriculture was completely impossible because of the individual element involved," said Mr. Soffranchuk, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy in London.

Addressing the Russian Club on "The U.S.S.R. Today," he denied that the social structure of the agricultural industry was at fault . . . the problem was insufficient organisation and management. For this reason the whole system of control over agriculture had recently been decentralised.

Currency offences?

To a questioner who quoted Edward Crankshaw's report on the fate of some of Pasternak's friends, Mr. Soffranchuk remarked that Crankshaw was probably the worst misinformer on Soviet affairs in Britain, who, he alleged, had never visited the Soviet Union, and whose information was entirely unreliable.

The people in question had been charged with currency offences, and their imprisonment had nothing to do with their friendship for Pasternak.



GUILD NEWS
THE UNIVERSITY NEWSPAPER
THE UNION, EDGBASTON
Tel. Selly Oak 1841

EDITOR ..... Maureen Jones
ASSISTANT EDITOR ..... Bob Bootle
BUSINESS MANAGER ..... Steve Goddard

More humour

DEAR MADAM,—I feel that a regular feature which the casual reader can readily identify is lacking in your newspaper.

The daily newspapers all contain cartoons. As I appreciate your difficulty in obtaining a regular supply of good cartoons, I would suggest something on the lines of a humorous quotation, possibly of topical interest.

This would be framed and placed in a conspicuous position. For example, an extract from the University library suggestions book would no doubt make good and witty reading.

Hoping this suggestion bears fruit,

George P. Chapman
(Civil Eng. III).

Correspondents are reminded that copy date for letters intended for publication is Sunday, not later than 3.30 p.m. Letters should be placed in "C.N." pigeon hole or handed to the Stewards. —Ed.

APPALLED

MADAM,—I was appalled that you soiled your paper with Messrs. Debenham and Parkinson's plea for poker. We are all well aware of the consequences of such a "game" being condoned in our midst.

Was it not to protect innocent students losing large sums of money to unscrupulous card sharpers that the game was justifiably banned? Indeed, the complaint from a member of the Union that he had suffered grave financial losses began the last controversy.

The ban on poker is to protect ourselves and in the interests of us all.

Yours,
AMBROSE R. JENKINS.

FUN IN FLIGHT?

No fox loves the chase

MADAM,—It was with great surprise that I read Mr. Plant's "Talking Point" on Hunting. He should be congratulated on trying to protect himself from criticism by stating that nobody is in a position to criticise him unless they have hunted.

However, whilst I admit I have never ridden with the Hounds, I feel qualified to oppose him, having been to many meets and having a great many friends who are keen stag, as well as fox hunters. Also I am not a town, but a country-dweller.

Mr. Plant fails to realise that people could not care less about the snobbery that exists in hunting circles. Who worries about the snobs? They do not do any harm, but merely bore the community at large.

Cruelty

My attack on hunting, as is most people's, is the cruelty of the sport. It is the terror that the stag or fox experiences in being chased. Do not try and throw this argument aside by stating that the animal enjoys it. No living creature enjoys having to flee for its life with a pack of hounds on its heels.

And the kill! Does Mr. Plant take us for idiots when he says that the hounds go instantaneously for the fox's throat? Obviously he could never have been in at a kill. They go for the nearest part of the animal's body available to them, usually by the hind legs.

Sadism

The Huntsman should call off the hounds and have the fox shot, but how often does this happen? If he does call them, he mostly pulls out a knife and slits the animal's throat, often showing immense pleasure in so doing. Is this not sadism? And if Mr. Plant disbelieves me I can show him a picture of a stag with its throat cut, a most gory picture!

One final point; what does Mr. Plant mean by stating that hunting keeps foxes under control? Nothing could be further from the truth. It is an acknowledged fact that if it were not for the hunts of this country foxes would probably be extinct in England and Wales by now.

RICHARD WESTON.

C.N.D. EXPLAIN

MADAM,—"Why should we put up with their civil disobedience?" This question was posed in your last issue by A. N. Lane. I should like to answer it by explaining the nature and purpose of our actions.

Civil disobedience is a method of publicity that has only been resorted to because the more conventional means of presenting our aims to the public have been denied us. Both the press and television have sadly ignored the growth of public feeling against the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

Thus civil disobedience is a spectacular form of advertising that has been forced upon us by a desire to express our opinions despite the unwillingness of the press to give us the space we deserve.

Yours etc.,
K. J. BLOOMFIELD.

THE UNKNOWN ARMY

MADAM,—It is interesting to note that Mr. Lane, while deploring the "abuse" of a letter from a C.N.D. supporter, goes on to make the entirely unfair implication that the Direct Action supporters outside Whitehall were a mob who habitually make nuisances of themselves.

As for his question — why should he put up with Civil Disobedience?

If he had read the "New Statesman" of February 17th, he would have found a lucid explanation by Bertrand Russell, of the necessity for Civil Disobedience. One of his most potent arguments was that he had been unable to express his views or disclose certain facts which had come into his possession, in any national daily.

Hard core

In case this should appear vague, the example he gave was the existence in this country at certain American bases here of a "hard core" of specially-trained men, who are cut off from the normal life of the base in order to be ready at any time to begin a nuclear attack. I am sure that Mr. Lane will agree that such a fact which has such obvious reference to their safety, should be made known to the general public.

I wonder if Mr. Lane also condemns such movements as the Suffragette Movement which history has justified?

Yours, etc.,
J. V. TOWNSHEND.

CHIVALRY IS DEAD

DEAR MADAM,—Your chivalrous correspondent appears to be suffering some delusion concerning the "fair" sex of Birmingham. Not only are we constantly reminded that women are our physical equals but the very concept of chivalry is quite out of fashion and out of date. In 1961, it is quite fatuous to suggest that the "fair" sex should be treated with some degree of gallantry on the part of the male, while EQUALITY is being bawled from the rooftops by female voices.

I should also like to correct the widespread belief that the Department of Geology is a den of misogynism. This is a pathetic fallacy which I categorically deny on behalf of all members. The truth is that we are more discerning and selective in our company than other departments which are only too ready to throw down the gauntlet, to joust before their favourite ladies, and to offer them their seats on a Rednal bus.

Chivalry, in modern language, is a synonym for plebeian, flirtatious behaviour, inconsistent with present-day trends. All that remains to be said is a sincere hope that the "mixed departments of the cultured faculties" may climb down from their lofty pinnacles of superciliousness, row out of their backwaters of traditionalism and pay chivalry to bed once and for all.

Yours faithfully,
P. LOVELOCK
(Geology).

FOR THE DEFENCE

DEAR Madam,—Several complaints have been lodged against my use of "black African" in the first International Broadsheet of this term. Although these complaints have already been answered in the broadsheet, I feel it expedient to make these complaints more widely known, bearing in mind the front page story of the last "Guild News."

The essence of the complaints was that it appeared I was using black in a derogatory sense. This I have denied most strongly.

The term "black" was used to differentiate between the various racial groups which are to be found in Africa today, and to avoid the use of a very cumbersome expression. The very fact that these complaints have been made shows that the old idea of black being dirty, and generally derogatory, still exists.

I agree that the use of the word black, under present circumstances, was unfortunate, but yet, not to use black would be running away from the issue at stake, i.e., colour prejudice. If the society in which we live, i.e., the University, is to be truly multi-racial, then racial prejudices of **all** kinds must cease.

A necessity

The work of S.C.A.R.S. cannot be praised too highly, and the letter to Mike Thickett proves that such work is a necessity. This is further emphasised by the fact that two coloured students were refused accommodation at two Birmingham hotels and an investigation is under consideration by S.C.A.R.S.

So far as the University is concerned, whether we like it or not, we are all members of a multi-racial society, and must at some time learn to live with one another. We must at the same time acknowledge the necessary individual contributions by each and every person.

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY B. WATTS.
International Student Relations Secretary.

PRESS POST

AUTHORITIES DIFFER

Abortion argument goes on

MADAM,—I feel once more that I must crave your indulgence, and that of your readers, to answer Mr. Hugill's recent reply to my letter published on February 25.

I would like briefly to make two points. Firstly, my primary object in writing was to clarify the meaning of "abortion" for, in spite of his recent protestations to the contrary, "The Best for Both" gave no indication that Mr. Hugill was aware of the distinctions I drew in my last letter.

Secondly, it was not my intention to enter into an argument about different authorities on the subject, but since Mr. Hugill seems to set great store by his "American Survey" let me make it quite clear, I have **not** quoted this, for reasons which will become apparent later.

Well informed

My facts and figures are to be found in "A Textbook of Obstetrics and Gynæcology," edited by Sir Dugald Baird, 6th edition, chaps. 19, 40 and 53, which I would have thought more than sufficient to render me "well-informed medically."

I have, of course, read the survey referred to by Mr. Hugill in his article. After much searching in the "Index Medicus" going back as far as 1948, surely the limit of "recent," I found that the only contribution by Freedman, Whelpton and Campbell was a fertility survey in "Scientific American" April 1959, pp. 50-55.

In this article, which, I repeat, is the only one documented in the "Index" by these three gentlemen, I could find no reference at all to the figures produced in "The Best for Both."

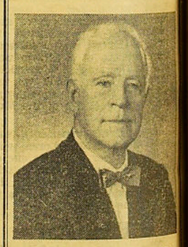
I can, therefore, only conclude that either Mr. Hugill has quoted an authority he has not read, or that he has made an error in transmitting this authority to paper.

I am, Madam,
Yours faithfully,
J. R. ALLIN,
Chairman, B.U.M.S.

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PAUL STARK SEELEY, C.S.

HOW to apply God's healing power to solve problems of everyday living will be the topic of an open lecture to be given in Committee Room 3, of the Union extension, at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, March 16.

Mr. Seeley, the lecturer, is an authorised teacher and practitioner of Christian Science, and has travelled throughout the world as a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship.

Christian Science Organisation invite you to learn at first hand the truth of this science of Christianity.

BORN IN ED. STREET

In the days before Edgbaston was built

THE name Miss Edith Barling may not be familiar to many students, but she is one of the few people who can claim to have been associated with this University for over 70 years. As Chairman of the House Committee and a member of the University Council—posts from which she recently retired, she has always shown a keen interest in University affairs. Talking to "Guild News" reporters in her Malvern home, Miss Barling drew on a wealth of anecdotes about University and Guild life in Birmingham from its very beginning.

The daughter of Surgeon Professor Sir Gilbert Barling—one of our first Vice-Chancellors—from her childhood she was engrossed in the life of a growing provincial university.

Born in a house in Edmund Street close to the old university, she remembers the days when Medics, Arts and Science students mingled freely, and her father was Dean of the Medical Faculty and Professor of Surgery.

In contrast to the attitudes of his male students, Professor Barling in those early days was much in favour of the presence of women in his department.

The first woman president of the Royal College of Medicine, Emeritus Professor Dame Hilda Bate, was one of his most brilliant students. She had to assert her right to be present at bedside consultations by kicking and elbowing her way through the circle of hefty male students.

At Ed. St. she attended lectures given by Elgar when he held the Chair of Music, and as a girl was taken to see the Aston Webb building under construction on the Edgbaston site. In 1909 she was present when King Edward VII opened the building. Today at 70 she still looks forward to one day being able to drive round the completed University. In 1913 she was smuggled into the Medical Theatre at Ed. St. to see her father made Vice-Chancellor.

Among the people she knew was Sir Oliver Lodge, the University's first principal. Tall, with a striking head—described by Miss Barling as a cross between the dome of St. Paul's and a shaggy St. Bernard, with his distinguished presence and bearing, he made an impressive figurehead for the new university. She told of the occasion when Sir Oliver, a great physicist, while demonstrating the properties of radium at a public lecture, was horrified when Chamberlain, not realising the danger, pocketed a sample.

Chamberlain died in July, 1914, on the eve of the degree congregation where with a mace draped in black, her father continued the ceremony. A month later the crash came for Britain and the University and Sir Gilbert immediately handed over the new buildings as a military hospital. Within weeks the Great Hall, the pride of Chamberlain's civic university, was torn apart and turned into a casualty ward. Miss Barling found herself as commandant of a hospital set up in Chamberlain's old home, with her commanding headquarters in the University Hospital.

Hostess

For her work during the war years, Miss Barling was awarded the M.B.E. Shortly afterwards, on her mother's death, she took her place as hostess at the arduous social functions her father's position demanded. Shaking the hands of over 400 guests was one of the least pleasant parts of entertaining.



MISS EDITH BARLING

It was then that she met such interesting personalities as Lord Robert Cecil, Grant Robertson, the historian—later Vice-Chancellor, and Miss Margery Fry, the social reformer. She attended Guild Balls and functions, and remembers Humphrey Humphries the Warden of the Guild when he was President.

Gifts

She recalls the evening her father came home with a cheque for £100,000 from the owner of the "Birmingham Mail," Sir Charles Hyde, for the building of the Students' Union. During his term of office her father also secured the gift of the Barber Institute from the widow of Sir Henry Barber, a Birmingham property owner.

When her father retired, Miss Barling continued to work for the University as the only woman member of the University Finance Committee. In their leisure moments she found the stories of the men on the Committee excrutiatingly funny but of "the smoking room variety."

Over the years she finds that students have not changed a great deal, except in the length of skirts worn by women students. She notes that women students take themselves far less seriously and are more lively than those of 50 years ago.

She spoke of rowdyism at degree congregations in the '30s where her feelings ranged from acute embarrassment to barely suppressed amusement at student stunts.

Essentially modern

As a neighbour of Sir Barry Jackson, she has always been interested in the activities of the Rep., of which she is a trustee. She speaks highly of G.T.G. and thinks they deserve their own theatre.

Her criticism of the University today is that there is too little contact between staff and students and members of different faculties, but hopes that building new halls of residence will improve the situation.

Moira Sutherland
Valerie Jennings

FILM IN FOCUS

The movies move on

LAST Tuesday's Open Lecture on "The Film as an Art Form," was given by Mr. J. Quinn, the Director of the National Film Institute. In a concise and interesting talk, illustrated by film excerpts at strategic points, he managed to give a good general survey of this relatively new medium.

He first attempted to discover the reason for British slowness in adopting the conception of the film as a branch of the Arts, drawing attention to the widespread distrust of the cultural in the country as a whole, the lack of interest, until recently, in this subject in universities, the sparsity of informed literature, and the absence of training facilities for future film-makers. Another important factor was the very commercial attitude of the British film industry towards their trade and the suspicion attached to anything which might not be good box-office.

Reluctance

He then went on to discuss the reluctance, which is even shared by some directors, to regard film-making as an art. According to British director David Lean, an excerpt from whose film, "Bridge on the River Kwai" was shown, the Director was very little more than a technician, although a valuable head of the large team of men and machines which is needed to make a film.

Whether the result of this combined effort could be a work of art was a debatable point, but Mr. Quinn, although urbanely objective, pointed out that if one derived the same sort of satisfaction from seeing a film as from hearing a piece of music or reading a work of literature then its value was surely proved.

Present trends

After giving a swift general history of film-making to date illustrated by an excerpt from a documentary of the war years, Mr. Quinn noted the present trends, an almost literary regard for shape and structure in films like "Hiroshima," "Mon Amour" and Bresson's "Pickpocket" and a widespread fundamentally pessimistic attitude in the West.

He did not commit himself by taking sides in the current controversy as to whether the film-maker should be committed or uncommitted but his quotations from the uncommitted Truffaut and the delightful short abstract film "Glass," undoubtedly containing more style than matter with which he chose to end his lecture left little doubt of his convictions on this point. **M.A.B.**

★ FILMS ★

TAYLOR MADE

FOLLOWING in a long line of Suzie Wongs and "Never on Sunday" girls comes Gloria in "Butterfield 8" (Forum).

Most film themes are familiar by now and no one minds as long as the treatment is stimulating. Perhaps the tale of the prodigal prostitute is a little overplayed, but this one has a charm all her own. She doesn't take money. She tells us that she was assaulted at the tender age of 13 and has loved it ever since — a case for Probation Officer if ever there was one. But there comes a time in a girl's life when she comes to the crossroads. Love it is, but we learn as the film progresses, that the way is hard and respectability almost unapproachable.

Distinctive

Elizabeth Taylor, whose appeal is as distinctive and changeless as her style of acting, was sufficiently compelling to bring home her tragedy but Laurence Harvey (as Weston Liggat) whose attempt at the American accent I have had occasion to criticise before, somewhat lessens the sympathy their situation might otherwise have commanded. He keeps one so aware that he is consciously acting.

To be fair, some of the dialogue didn't help. Plumbing the depths of corn, it came up with such gems as "I'm going out to get some pride." The slicker lines went well, making it hard to believe they were written by the same person.

I liked the mother and daughter relationship, their mutual silence about nights spent away from home but Gloria's wish, when her mother slaps her for breaking the silence to explain the redemption her love has brought her, that she had slapped her years ago when she started her career of debauchery, was a little hard to swallow.

Despite the familiar theme, there was sufficient interest on which to base a good story. Unfortunately, the producer chose to ignore its potentialities.

HARVEY JERVIS.

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NO-GOOD BOYOS

That large official letter

THOSE clinical students who don't read notice boards were no doubt surprised when a large official envelope was dropped through their letter-boxes this morning. Was it another tea-party ? Was Sir Muddled Thinker coming again ?

It was of course none of these things. Nestling coyly inside were fulsome pages of questionaire: "What are you . . . what do you think (do you think?) . . . have you . . . when you . . . why you . . .?" The puzzled medic reels back . . . the b—— thing may bite! It's asking him to question himself—to think about himself! Such things are dangerous!

Agonising re-appraisal

However, a few drops of Wondermac's "cool calm deliberation" later tranquil objectivity is reached. The survey can be re-examined.

When the results of the "Medical Students Survey" are finally collected much hitherto unpublished information will be revealed. The opinion of the average medic on his teachers and his teaching; his ambitions; how much he works; what sort of fellow he thinks he ought to be.

But more important is that—again for the first time—an accurate picture will be obtained of the average medic's social background. One feels that the type of student entering medical school is probably changing and this survey may well prove it—with a resultant change in "professional outlook."

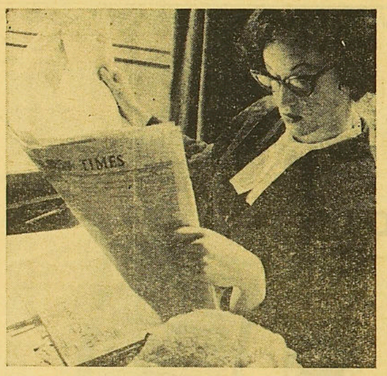
Happy families ?

What is the family background of the average medic? What sort of education did he and his parents get? Where does he live? How many medics are doctors' sons? The answers to such questions will be interesting and may in themselves alter medical teaching.

Footnote: A loud "thank you" must go to the Board of Clinical Studies for granting the 4th year a month's summer holiday. This unexpected and sweet surprise has set the year into a mad whirl of activity and all of us —now planning our holidays abroad—are sincerely grateful.

TABES.

MED. SCHOOL COLUMN



Not all who read The Times are gentlemen

THE NOTION that The Times is an article of gentlemen's furnishings, like a hat or umbrella, is not quite apt, as our picture shows. For this young woman, in any case, The Times is a professional necessity as well as a personal pleasure.

On the law, as on other subjects, The Times speaks with authority. This is very different from speaking *for* authority. The Times serves no cause except that of keeping its readers informed. It labours no argument, favours no group or region. It could not keep its readers if it did, for Times readers are alike only in that they are all different, and too critical to accept opinions clothed as news. Their quickness to spot humbug and their willingness to think for themselves are among the qualities which, so often, take Times readers to the top of the tree.

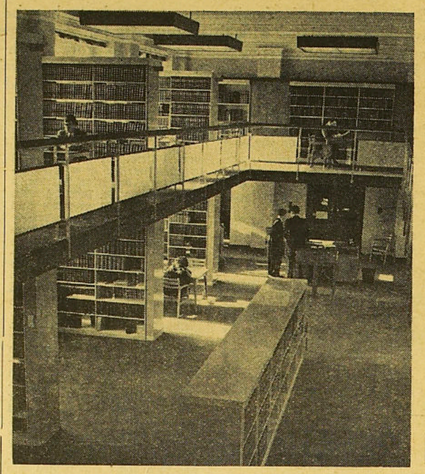
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THE ACADEMIC SUSAGE MACHINE

A "Guild News" Survey on Libraries



THE LAW LIBRARY.

"THE library girls are ... been swearing at th... I want !"

This seemed to be... University Library. The... out books, since now an... This has been noticed i... of whose books have dis...

Hours of opening are... problem. Lots of keen ... would like to see the Li... main open all day on ... Many students make the ... into the city then to use ...

The Catalogue Room may ... ing, although its use is ... many. Perhaps a course ... Practice is called for? Also ... of recalling books is "inefficient and wasteful" as one young lady ...

A Geographer envisaged ... as a huge sausage-machine ... schoolboys (and girls!) into ... He complained that the at... too impersonal and not con... work.

Smoke Room

A Smoke Room would be w... many addicts, who now ... weathers to assuage their ... Coffee facilities might also be ... Large scale pilfering takes p... the cloakrooms, and many ... the Nether Regions should ... guarded, if the rule concerning ... and bags is to be enforced.

Mecca of English Students—the ... Rd.—was praised loud and long. ...fficiency of its cataloguing system; ...llection of books itself; and the ...liness of the staff—all were ...ed. So if you despair—Away to ...ell!

"REFORM OR BUST"

New movement in Cambridge

A GROUP of **Cambridge** undergraduates who intend to be ordained as Church of England priests, have started a church reform movement with the motto, "Reform or bust."

The idea first sprang from a sermon by the Rev. Nick Stacey, rector of Woolwich. They are going to study such problems as the Parsons' freehold, bad organisation in the rural deaneries and the position of the Church of England as the Established Church.

At **Sheffield University** too is an agitation about students' religious beliefs. An investigation into these beliefs and practices was planned some 18 months ago and is now nearing completion with the final questionaires being sent out last week. From a preliminary sample of the 170 students who answered the set questions, 58 per cent said they had some religious beliefs, 33 per cent said they were agnostic and 9 per cent described themselves as atheists.

Plenty to do

The arrival of the USS Proteus depot ship of the Fourteenth Polaris Submarine Squadron has given the **Glasgow University** C.N.D. plenty to do, certainly as much to talk about as the new C.N.D. at Sheffield University, where a 60-strong attendance for their first meeting satisfied the organisers.

At **London University** prospects of "week-end groups," to give opportunities for formal and informal discussions and meetings between undergraduates and senior members, have been proposed and now are being arranged for the future. Participation from all years is being hoped for.

Through the medium of the official organ of the Students' Union, "Shell," the students of **Reading** were informed of the plans of the new site for the buildings to which the entire University will be transferred—the symphonies of road drills reach Reading.

The mixture as before

THE latest volume of "The Queen's Medical Magazine" has just been published. Although primarily for the medical world, it has much in it to interest the University layman.

Perhaps the most important article from this respect is Mr. William Gissane's article on road traffic accidents. Mr. Gissane is a director of the newly-formed Road Injuries Research Group and also Clinical Director of the Birmingham Accident Hospital (the only accident hospital in the British Isles), so that one reads with alarm the gloomy statements of someone probably better qualified than most to make them.

Did you know that road accidents are the **commonest** cause of death in males before the age of 45; that you are **23 times** more likely to be killed on a motor-cycle than in a car? An article to make one think.

Reprint

Also interesting is the reprint of the inaugural address by Professor Hubble called "Medicine in its Setting" which should be read by anyone interested in the state of Medicine today. And those students who heard Sir Arthur Thomson's lecture, "The Supreme Human Achievement," to the Science Faculty last year, will be pleased to see it in print.

But the rest probably has only a parochial interest; and one cannot help feeling that the magazine presents much the same appearance as last time—which prompted the headline!

T.A.B.

A NEW ...EMISTRY

Research in ...uorocarbons

PURE fluorine gas is the ... other elements, often ex... compound, hydrogen fluorid... windows of the laboratories ... originally clear glass but ... opaque. Obviously, glass ap... must be made and used in c...

A practical application of ... violent reactivity is the ... fluorine torch. A flame hot ... weld copper, or to cut concre... water, is produced. Fluorine ... poison, but it can be made to ... reaction with calcium ions ... present in milk. Therefore all ... of the fluorine research team ... a daily milk issue.

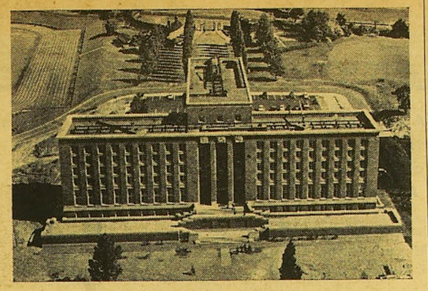
Largest

The fluorocarbon research ... the Chemistry Dept. is one of ... research units in the Univers... bering over 30 staff, research fe... students. They are engaged ... research to make entirely n... pounds containing fluorine ... place of some, or all, the hydro... of benzene and related compou...

It may seem that such a v... active compound as fluorine ca... useful purpose, and that the ... of working with it would yield ... ful result. This is not so. Du... war the exploitation of fluor... pounds began, and growth has ... rapid since then, so that now ... stances are commonly encoun... everyday life.

While fluorine and its inorga... pounds are such active substance... of these organic compounds ... from them are at the opposite ... type, when liquified, are used ... lacquers, paint sprays, and ... ditioning systems to give the ... force out a fine mist of liquid. ... of their stability to heat and li... lar fluorine-substituted compo... used in the making of a vast ... non-inflammable materials.

At present the price of these ... high and their application is ... jet aircraft, for which mate... sistant to many hundreds of ... centigrade may soon be requ... gine parts and outer sheathi... carbon oils, rubbers and ... uniquely satisfy such demands



THE HARDING LIBRARY.

(Photo: "Post & Mail")

Origins in Africa

LAST Friday's audience at the Huxley Lecture was the first in this country to hear the details of Dr. L. S. B. Leakey's recent finds in East Africa.

Speaking on the subject, "Africa's Contribution to Human Evolution," Dr. Leakey outlined the importance of previous discoveries in the Upper Tertiary and Pleistocene deposits of Egypt, Kenya and other parts of East Africa prior to his own contribution.

Man, he maintained, was not evolved from tree-swinging apes, as is commonly believed, for proconsul man, who lived in open grass-land, was far more likely to have been our ancestor.

To illustrate the point that Man's origin need not have been necessarily arboreal, he cited the behaviour of baboons, which stand on two legs to see over the long grass. It was a relatively short evolutionary step from the stance of this quadruped to that of Proconsul man.

Darwin's prophecy

Defining man as "that being who makes tools to a set and regular pattern," Dr. Leakey showed how ordinary pebbles could be made into useful instruments within a bare 25 seconds. There were slides of himself skinning a Thompson gazelle with one of these faceted pebbles to prove to the sceptical the advantage it gave to its owner.

He then described his own discoveries with slides that had not been seen before in this country. He concluded that though much still remained to be done, Darwin's prophecy of 1871 that Africa would prove to be the home of apes and men, had indeed already been verified.

ENGINEERS' DINNER

WEDNESDAY of last week was the day of the annual Chemical Engineering Society dinner. Guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Collingwood, of Unilever, deputising at the last moment for Dr. E. G. Woodroofe.

The after-dinner speeches began with the toast, "the Chemical Engineer in Research" proposed by J. T. D. Davies, and Dr. Collingwood replied with a witty speech emphasising the points made by the previous speaker and mentioning the importance of the Engineer in Management.

Other speakers were Mr. D. C. Hunter, Mr. C. S. Rees and Professor Frazer MacKenzie, who proposed the toast of the Society in which he exalted the virtues of the students of the French Department.

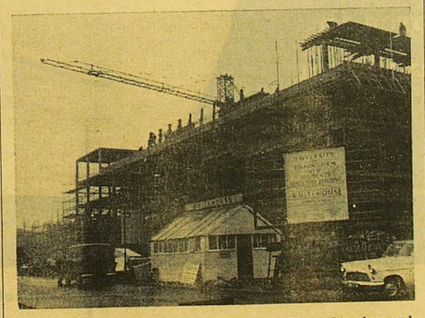
Dr. Brown for Belgium

DR. John Russell Brown, lecturer in English, will leave on March 15 for a speaking tour of Belgium, at the invitation of the British Council.

He will lecture on Shakespeare at the Universities in Brussels, Liege, Ghent and Bruges.

He has also been invited to meet with actors, producers and writers of the Belgian theatre who are engaged in the production of Shakespearean plays.

PROGRESS ON NEW REFEC.



The new University Refectory block which will include a bar—and which is intended to provide the main catering facilities for the whole University.

ECONOMIC DECISION

Cut-throat competition abroad

"IN considering the relationship between Europe and the Commonwealth the decision which Britain must take is political and not economic," said Mr. J. G. Ackers, the Conservative speaker opening the Political Forum last Friday.

Mr. Ackers outlined the problem which would face Britain if we were to join the Common Market countries. He emphasised the danger to our agricultural industry which is at present heavily subsidised by the Government, but which would have to compete with cut-throat competition from the farmers of the unsubsidised Common Market countries.

Britain would also be likely to receive opposition from some Commonwealth countries, such as New Zealand, if agricultural tariffs were made reciprocal and from Canada if the machinery trade were also placed on a basis of reciprocity with Common Market countries.

Essential

Mr. Roy Greentham, a trade unionist and committee member of the regional executive of the Labour Party, said that it was essential for Britain to join with Europe in a trading combination if it were to survive the competition it suffered at present from the United States and the Common Market.

After quoting some figures on Britain's trade and investment expenditure he went on to say that if we did not go into the Common Market in the near future we would be in danger of losing our Commonwealth ties, which were already weakened through these countries trading elsewhere.

Outclassed

The Liberal representative, Mr. Brian King, was somewhat outclassed by his more experienced adversaries. He urged moral approach to the problem and said that, although it was idealistic, Britain should join with the rest of Europe as a first step towards political unity and world government.

Mr. King considered economic questions to be mercenary. He also raised the old Liberal chestnut of Free Trade and (amidst laughter) insisted on the election of a Liberal government to arrest Britain's backwardness and carry us forthwith into the Common Market.

The Liberals' policy on the subject was to join the C.M. and also to keep the same relations with the Commonwealth.

Questions and points for discussion from the floor added little to the broad outline of their policies by the three platform speakers.

SMALL ADS.

"CHRISTIAN SCIENCE Reveals Spiritual Forces in Action." Lecture by Paul Stark Seeley, C.S. NEXT THURSDAY at 5.30 p.m. in Committee Room 3.

"WHO ARE THE LAMBETH BOYS?" Come and see it in Mech. Eng. tonight at 7.30 p.m. (For that matter who's Bergman?).

"WEST SIDE STORY" — MARCH 18th, at Her Majesty's Theatre, London. 10 tickets spare. 15/- tickets, 15/- bus.—Apply T. Butterfield (Geog. Soc.) via pigeon holes.

FOR SALE — Remington Electric Razor. Good condition. £2 o.n.o.—Apply R. A. Vaughan, via pigeon holes.

WANTED: Young Lady to make up foursome on trip to Dubrovnic, September. Interest in photography an advantage. — Contact: Arthur Burgess, via internal post.

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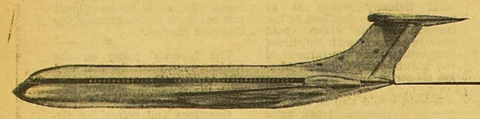
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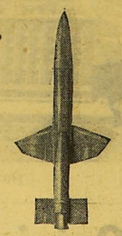
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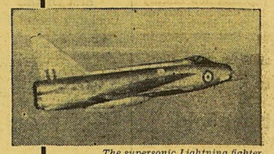
Bristol Aircraft Limited
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Hunting Aircraft Limited

These are the member companies of the Corporation. Each one in its own right is a major unit of British Industry; together their resources are enormous.

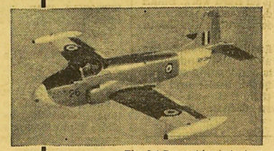




British Aircraft Corporation is a world leader in civil aircraft with the Viscount, the Vanguard, the VC10 and the Super VC10.
Design and development of future jet transports is now in progress, and British Aircraft Corporation has been awarded the project study for a British Supersonic Airliner. It is also building the T-188 all-steel 1,500 m.p.h. research plane.
The Corporation's Military aircraft include the Mach 2 Lightning, the Jet Provost, and the TSR-2 which has been chosen as a key aircraft for the Royal Air Force in the later 1960's.
British Aircraft Corporation has the most experienced Guided Weapons Team in Europe. It has already produced Thunderbird, Bloodhound and Vigilant and is developing the British Army's new artillery weapon—Blue Water.
Work is also in hand on many projects, both for aircraft and weapons.



The supersonic Lightning fighter



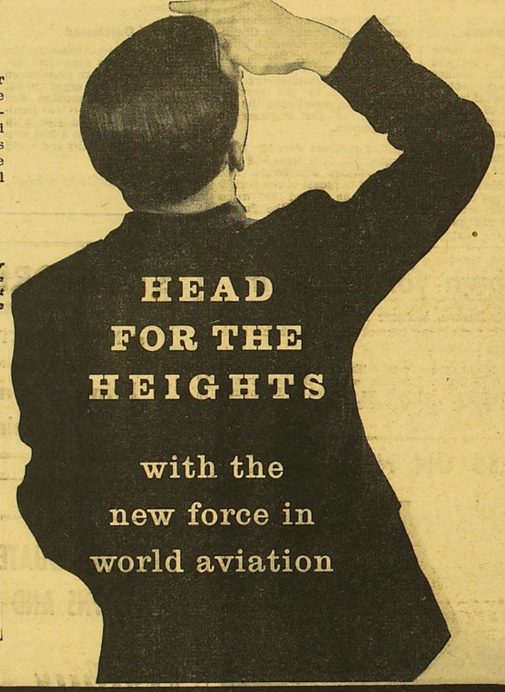
The Jet Provost basic trainer

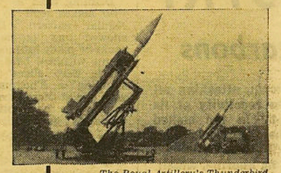
Opportunities for Graduates

For suitable graduates in Engineering, Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry and Metallurgy, there are opportunities to gain experience in design, development and production work, working amongst facilities which are unrivalled in Europe. There are vacancies available in all four companies in the Corporation—Bristol Aircraft Ltd., English Electric Aviation Ltd., Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd. and Hunting Aircraft Ltd.

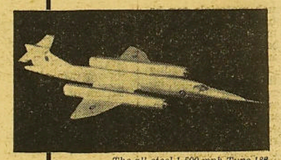
Industrial Training for Graduates

Graduate apprenticeship and shorter courses of specialised training are available at most centres. The training offered to any graduate is planned in accordance with his special interests and qualifications; it may include workshop, laboratory and technical office training for up to two years.

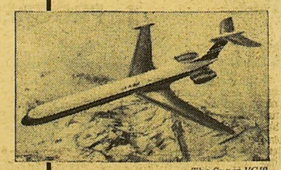




The Royal Artillery's Thunderbird

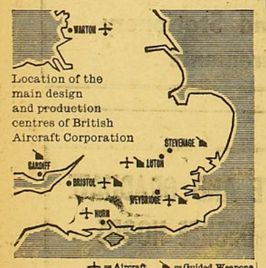


The all-steel 1,500 mph Type 188



The Super VC10

For further details please contact your Appointments Officer who will arrange for you to meet the British Aircraft Corporation representatives who will be visiting your University shortly.



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SPORT

Editorial

U.A.U. PLANS:

IN reply to Mr. Tildesley's letter which appeared in this column last week, I apologise for any wrong impressions I may have caused. I did not intend to suggest that any decisions were actually formulated. Indeed, my article ended: "The quicker these proposals are acted on the better for the sportsman involved and the U.A.U. itself."

I thank our correspondent for information regarding U.A.U. team selection. I feel I was somewhat harsh in attempting to put my point. However, I still maintain that this supposed policy has not always been adhered to in the past.

Though I have not the space here, I could give several examples of suspect selection.

I am fully aware of the work done by the U.A.U. and the continual difficulties which have to be surmounted, particularly those of a financial nature. I agree, too, that much of the criticism levelled at the U.A.U. is often the responsibility of the individual Universities themselves.

Nevertheless, our correspondent must agree that the present system of administering University sport is out-dated. It is because of this that many of the difficulties and consequent criticism, arise. The proposed setting-up of a British Universities Sports Federation, mentioned recently in this paper should do much to improve things in this respect.

★

A WOMAN'S WORLD

OUR women's successes in the past few weeks deserve special congratulations. The W.I.V.A.B. Badminton and Squash Team Championships have been won convincingly, whilst the Hockey Club, though losing their final narrowly to Bristol, proved their real merit by crushing their rivals this week by seven goals to one. In addition, Susan Harrison has won the Individual Squash Championship, and Margaret Sadler reached the semi-finals.

Barbara Parish, who won the Individual Badminton Championship last term, and Mary James recently represented the English Universities against the Scottish Universities. Nor are the representative honours confined to Badminton, for Kath Cunningham (Hockey), Sue Andrews (Lacrosse), and Gill Ogburn and Dilys Johnson (Netball) have all played for the Combined Universities.

Quite a catalogue of achievements. Who says it isn't a woman's world?

★

GOOD LUCK

YESTERDAY evening the composite Basketball, Judo, Swimming, Volleyball and Water Polo teams left for Belgium to represent Birmingham in the Sports Festival, organised by the University of Brussels. None of the players has any idea of the standard that will be expected of them. One thing is certain—their task will not be easy and I feel they will be far from disgraced if victory in only one of the five sports is gained.

Excitement, incident and tension

FINAL BURST WINS

Birmingham 82pts., Leeds 67pts.

IN a final that had everything in the way of excitement, incident and tension, the Basketball Club must be congratulated on the way in which they fought back three times after being 10 points down, and for their final burst in the last ten minutes which swept them to victory.

The match began quietly, with both sides showing signs of "final" nerves. The score rose slowly, the lead swinging first one way and then the other.

After 10 minutes, Leeds surged ahead and at one stage established a 13 point lead, which had been whittled down to 3 points by the interval, as a result of Kandy's fine shooting, when the rest of the team, with the exception of Cooper, seemed strangely off form.

Things looked black for Birmingham. Cooper chalked up four fouls against himself in marking the Leeds star player, who by the end of the game had scored half his team's points. Soon after half-time things looked even worse when Kandy, who had been by far the best Birmingham player up to this point, was sent off. After playing a splendid defensive game, Winslow, who had been substituted for Kandy, was also sent off.

In attack Smith, Imre and Kempson were at last finding form and, as the game progressed, their shooting improved. Until about six minutes from the end scores were practically level but, striking a purple patch, the Birmingham forwards surged upon the Leeds basket to run away with the game and win the U.A.U. final for the first time in the club's history.

All-American
Birmingham 59pts., London 64

As a warm-up for the final, the Basketball Club entertained the brilliant all-American London University side, who are already in the semi-finals of the National Championships. Birmingham quickly hit form with Imre and Komely conspicuous. As the game progressed, it became clear what a fine side London were. However, Birmingham's fluid man-to-man defence held the London side well and the attack was sharp and the shooting first-rate, with the tall Smith rebounding effectively, often being able to convert rearmisses into baskets. Half-time found London 34-31 in the lead.

The game continued on a high note with Birmingham's set offensive player proving successful against the London zone. With four minutes to go there were only five points in it, but for the first time Birmingham cracked, allowing London to score three easy baskets.

One felt that if only Imre had only been used more during the second period. Birmingham might just have clinched the victory.

When he did receive the ball during the last few seconds of the game, he showed the tactical mistake that had been made by lobbing two shots clean through the ring, but it was too late. Even so it would be wrong to detract from the superlative skill of a really first-class London side.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

ROWING

AT Nottingham on Saturday the Rowing Club entered four crews for the three-mile race down stream on the Trent. The first crew rowing in the shell IV's division, rowed extremely well in spite of an early collision, which lost them half-a-minute, and finished third in a time of fourteen minutes, twenty seconds, only two seconds behind Bangor 1 and sixteen seconds slower than the winners. The second crew also rowed well, finishing fourth in the clinker IV's division.

WEIGHT-LIFTING

LAST Saturday three members of the Weight-lifting Club travelled to Sheffield to represent Birmingham at the first British Universities' Strength Championships.

Keith Wylie added the ten-stone class to his Olympic Set Championship with a 615 lb. total—110 curl, 205 bench-press 340 squat (all new University records), while Tony Miller won the 14-stone class (no totals available). Bill Forshaw, a close second with 670 lbs.—135 curl, 195 bench-press, 340 squat—also shone in his class.

CROSS-COUNTRY

THE University entered two 6-man teams in the Loughborough College's Road Relay on Saturday. The first team, without Davies and Feast, did well to finish third, losing second place by only a few seconds. Spence clocked the best time for the University in 8 minutes 34 seconds for the 1.8 mile course.

BADMINTON

THE Badminton Club failed in their attempt to retain the U.A.U. Team title on Saturday, losing to Manchester by 7 matches to 2. Unfortunately, few of our players could find their true form against an accomplished Manchester side.

VOLLEYBALL

A REPRESENTATIVE University side won the first ever University Volleyball match against Manchester last week.

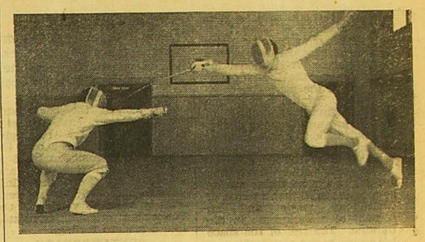
FIVE IN 20 MINS

FIVE goals in the first 20 minutes, Boddy and McIntosh flitting from wing to wing, and a steady determined defence brought the home team their most convincing victory at Bournbrook this season.

From the start Birmingham were faster on the ball and showed more spirit than their opponents. The forwards interchanged continuously, but always someone was thrusting for goal. Fleming drove a cross from the left wing inside the upright; Roper, linking defence and attack, scored twice and saw a fine header bounce back from the woodwork with the goalkeeper flat-footed. Boddy and Brett (penalty) added further goals.

The score at the interval was 5-0 and Birmingham resumed in quieter fashion. Bristol challenged strongly and were awarded a penalty following a late tackle when their inside-forward was through and about to shoot. This was converted but Birmingham were content to "freeze" the game until McIntosh headed home a lob from Westwood, making the final score 6-1.

WARNER TRIUMPHANT



A flèche attack by Warner on D. C. Martin (Scottish Senior Foil Champion) who attempts a stop-hit in vain.

AT the National Universities individual Fencing Tournament at Sheffield, Martin Warner capped the Foil Title which he won last year, by winning the Sabre Title this year. The standard of the final pools in all weapons was extremely high and in general the places were filled by competitors from London, Oxford and Cambridge.

In the Foil competition Martin fought his way through to the final and was placed third, losing to Atkinson of London and Rigginson of Oxford, but beating Leckie, the Cambridge international and D. Martin of St. Andrews the Scottish Senior Foil Champion. The disappointment at losing his foil title must have acted as a spur to greater things. In the Sabre final the line up was every bit as difficult as in the Foil, and Martin had only come fourth last year without the participation of Oxbridge, who were there in full force this year. However he ran out a clear winner with some of the best he has ever produced.

His victory is an immense personal achievement. Unlike the competitors from London, Oxford and Cambridge who have first class matches and opportunities for practice, Martin is fencing against opposition which for most of the year is very low by comparison.

The success of the Fencing Club over the last few years has been due to the sound lead shown by Warner and we congratulate him on his well-deserved success and hope that next year he can win both titles.

Shooting by post

THE University Rifle Club has had six shoulder-to-shoulder matches this term. There has been some difficulty this term in fielding the strongest team, but nevertheless three of the matches have been won. South Birmingham R.C. were beaten at home 773-767 (D. M. M. Bruce 100 and I. G. Moore 99) and the 3rd V. B. Warwick R.C. were narrowly beaten 669-667 (C. Astley 100). A very weak Leicester University team lost to a weak Birmingham team 664-749.

Earlier in the term Manchester University, at present one of the strongest University teams, beat Birmingham rather easily 769-757 (Bruce 99), and in an unfortunate trip to Leeds a Birmingham team mainly composed of "B" team members lost 751-776. On Founder's Weekend the "A" team were beaten by Imperial College 664-662. T. Foster being top scorer for Birmingham with 99.

Sweet revenge

LAST week the Women's Hockey Club gained sweet revenge for their defeat in the W.I.V.A.B. final the previous Saturday by overwhelming Bristol 7-1. This performance showed what Birmingham might have done on a dry pitch, as, in this game, they were able to bring into play their superior stickwork.

It was evident from the start that this would be Birmingham's game. A goal in the first few minutes set the pattern. A fast forward line outpaced the Bristol defence, and three goals were scored in the first half by E. Jaundrill, C. Thomas and L. Jenkinson. The occasional Bristol attack was soon broken up, and never looked really dangerous. In fact, the only time they scored was when one of the home defenders put the ball past her own goalkeeper.

In the second half, Birmingham were again on top, and notched four further goals; E. Jaundrill followed up her fine first-half shot with another two goals and V. Catliff also scored twice.

M&B
It's
Marvellous Beer

NO MAGIC MOMENT

"THE magazine for balanced people." This is the statement upon which "MOMENT" bases its claim for attention and even its existence. It seems a pity that more of the "balanced people" who read it cannot be induced to write for the magazine: of 44 pages in the curent issue, "Moment 4," 18 were written by the editor himself.

There is nothing to oppose the somewhat smug Christianity which pervades the whole magazine, but whether this is because non-believers haven't heard of "Moment," consider it to be a waste of time to write for it or are too apathetic to care, it is difficult to say.

Of the four articles by Brian Piper, the best is definitely a well-reasoned and interesting discussion on the form of government in the newly-independent states. He has also written a platitudinous appraisal of M.R.A., a comment upon Christian publications and a plea for silence.

PATHETIC

The only other interesting articles in the magazine are an assessment in layman's terms, of twelve-tone music and an account of a work-camp in the Ukraine. The rest of the space is devoted to out-of-date film reviews and two other rather uninspiring articles.

"Moment" is certainly not all it claims to be, and does not deserve the amount of attention it attempts to draw to itself. Quite apart from the poor material content it contains a vast number of serious typographical errors which could easily be avoided with a little care. And are those pathetic attempts at cartoons **really** necessary?

ON TOP FORM

BEETHOVEN'S "Emperor concerto" is the most forceful and noble of all his piano concertos. Mindru Katz, the Rumanian pianist and the C.B.S.O., under Hugo Rignold, brought out this verve and nobility with quite a considerable amount of success. Mr. Katz is the possessor of an admirable technique (although there were several wrong notes), and displayed himself as a sensitive musician.

I thought the first and second movements were the best; the last movement was taken a little too quickly for everyone's comfort. The soloist drew from the Adagio all its poetry. This truly was great playing. Apart from an unfortunate lapse in the woodwind during the rondo, the orchestra were on top form throughout the concerto.

Debussy's "Prélude a l'après-midi d'un faune," received a heartfelt interpretation, and quite rightly so—this is sensuous music (based on a poem by Mallarme). Mr. Rignold maintained a warm, but lucid, texture. All the subtle, elusive beauty of this gem of tone poems was brought out, and the woodwind again gave exquisite performances of their solos.

Good performances of Brahms' "Tragic Overture" and Dvorak's "Symphonic Variations" failed to make either of these boring works at all interesting.

MARTIN BINKS.

UNUSUAL DOUBLE

ANOUILH and Pinter are an unusual combination of dramatists for a double-bill, and this alone should make next week's G.T.G. production an interesting one, quite apart from the plays themselves.

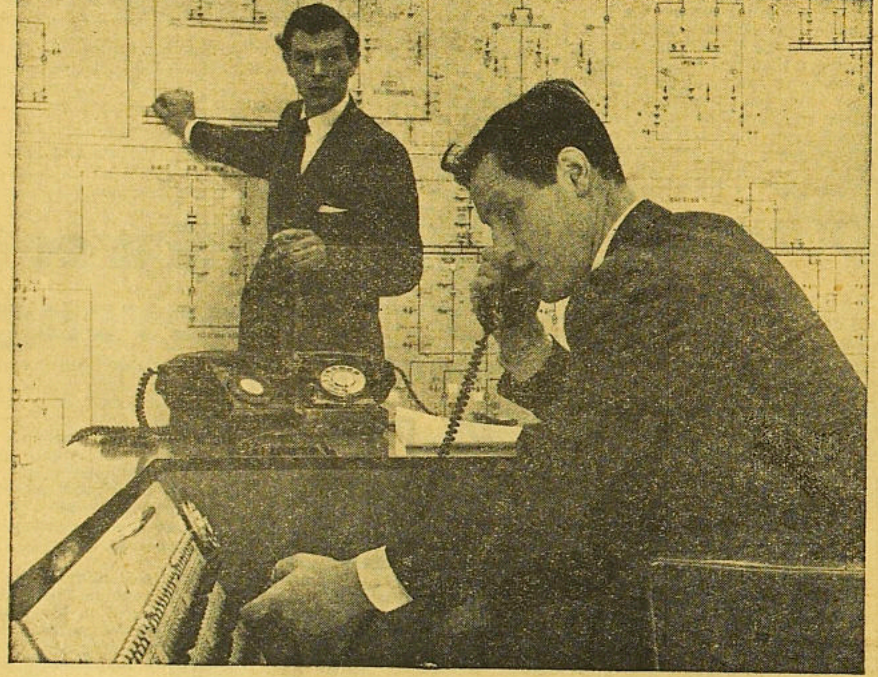
Set against the background of a war-torn city, **Antigone** tells the story of a young girl, who in refusing to accept the ideas of compromise, tainted as they are with corruption and embodied by Creon the King, goes to her death for an ideal. This is Anouilh's version of the Sophoclian original, translated into a modern setting.

CONTEMPORARY

First produced in Paris in 1942, the play was so contemporary that it was easy to recognise in Creon, the Nazi occupation and in Antigone's stubborn defiance, the refusal of the Free French to co-operate.

Balanced with the timeless quality of this play is Pinter's "Dumb Waiter," and like "Antigone" it is concerned with conflict of characters, the action this time taking place in a Birmingham basement. As a follow up to the N.U.S. drama festival success, the performances are a must.

Performances take place on March 13th-16th, and the 18th at 7.30 p.m. (6.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 14th).



Cloudburst crisis

Place: London. Time: Two-thirty p.m. Weather: Cloudburst. Result: Sky dark as night, every light and drainage pump turned on—and a suddenly soaring demand for electricity.

More power is needed fast, but this need has been foreseen. At Thames North Control an Assistant Control Engineer, aged 28, makes a decision, gets on to Norwich Generating Station. Within minutes extra power is being transferred to London. This is the kind of responsibility he likes, the reason for which he joined the Electricity Supply Industry, as a Graduate Trainee, five years ago.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

The demand for electricity doubles every ten years, so opportunities for promotion are outstandingly good. Careers are really secure, too, and the work is varied and interesting.

You can join as a student apprentice from the science sixth form of your school, or you can join as a graduate with an engineering degree. For full details, please write to the address below; tell us your age and what exams you've passed—that will help us to give you advice that's really personal.

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

Young men get on, in Electricity

5601/10

Talking Point—8



THE ONLY ANSWER

by Keith Thrower

Continuing our series presenting controversial views on moral, political and social problems.

INCREASING crime! Lowering of morals! Nuclear disarmament! The list of problems now confronting the world on a national and international basis is frightening.

The number could be added to almost continuously. "Where are we to look for the answer?" is the question uppermost in many people's and especially students' minds. The object of this column is to try to supply answers.

Yet the number of solutions being put forward is even more bewildering than the problems themselves.

Communism claims that it has the answer . . . yet only the other week we heard that Kruschev was trying to stop fiddling of accounts and drunkenness amongst managers, which have, according to reports, become common practice.

A high standard of living and a Welfare State are not preventing this country and others in the West from becoming morally decadent. Moral Re-armament sets out to reform nations on a completely unattainable basis, and that which is unattainable is useless.

All these movements do not treat individuals as such, and hence they have no real or lasting effect on society. Any solution must be able to answer the individual problems of immorality, self - centredness and greed which confront each one of us. The only one which claims to do this is Christianity — but this seems to be ineffective in its modern form.

Vague, blunted

This is because the official Christianity taught today is vague and blunted. The distinction between Christian and non-Christian is not clearly made — anybody who tries to live a good life is regarded as a "Christian" irrespective of what he believes—if he believes anything at all.

People regard Christianity as merely a code of ethics which were instituted by a Man Jesus Christ, who did more than most men of his type — He lived up to the standards He taught. Most of the Church is unwilling to distinguish between itself and the world. This relates to the previous point in that the Church no longer even really tries to follow or live up to Christ's standard, but is ever ready to conform or compromise with the world.

The result of this is that modern "official" Christianity has no real power to oppose or defeat evil. This result also applies to the individual who follows that teaching. He is unable to change his life although he is willing to do so. And we know that no change in individuals means no lasting change in society as a whole.

Reformation

But we also know that Christianity has dealt with many problems in the past and has radically altered individuals who society thought beyond reformation. Wilberforce, Shaftesbury and Elizabeth Fry are outstanding examples of reformers in the last two centuries.

Christianity can have the power today when we see that Christianity is a personal relationship with God in a way which must be fully experienced to be fully comprehended and believed. We can have that relationship with Jesus Christ, on whom this faith of Christianity is built.

Jesus Christ was a man! He walked this earth, He knew hunger, thirst, tiredness and temptation . . in short, He was exactly the same, physically, as you or me. But He was God also and as such was a Perfect Man. Yet this does not explain how we can know God.

We are striving towards self, rather than striving towards God. Even when we realise this we are still unable to approach God. We wish to keep God's standards as shown in Jesus Christ.

But we find that we continually slide back into old habits . . . in short we wish to do right, but we neither have the knowledge nor the power to do so. But when Christ was on earth He said that not only had He come to show men the perfect life, but primarily He had come to save man from the consequences of evil, and even more important, to conquer evil that it should not have power over those who believed in Christ.

He accomplished this through His death, resurrection and ascension.

Power through trust

After the Ascension, Christ sent down the Holy Spirit to men. Those who acknowledge their own sins and failure, and their own inability to overcome it, and who identify themselves in faith with Christ's life, death, resurrection and ascension as the only way to share the life of God can experience this life and know its power.

Before God we are now freed from the consequences of our miserable failures, and His spirit can begin to work. This is the power the true Church of Christ knows and it is a free gift to all who want it. It was especially manifest in the early Church and at intervals throughout history.

It is the same God, the same spirit and the same need now, and if we only come to God and ask for it we can know the same power and transformation in Christ. This is what can change individuals and ultimately society. It applies not only to those around you, but to YOU also. God offers this—why not take it?

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