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The Gryphon

The Journal of the University of Leeds



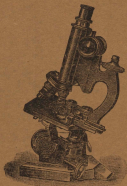
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Third number will be ready 18th March. Last date for copy, 4th March; which
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Every contribution must be signed, and address or Department given. *Nom de plume* may be
added, but the Editor reserves the right to publish names. Use one side of paper only—and
use quarto size for all purposes. Send in articles or news as early as possible. The *Gryphon*
will not be held up by late comers. Whatever else happens, the *Gryphon* will appear on the
dates announced.

Secretaries of Societies are reminded that our readers want NEWS. Every Society or Club
should have a notice at least once a term.

All Contributions should be addressed to the Editor, and either posted or placed in the
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Business communications should be addressed to the Manager. Cheques payable to the
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THE GRYPHON. THE JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS.

"The Gryphon never stretcheth her wings; in the winter when she hath any nice feathers; yet have we ventured to present our exercises before your judgements when we know these full well of most matter; yielding ourselves to the carrels which now have ever found them to the professors which were ought to fear."—I.I.V.V.

Editorial

AFTER the stirring celebrations which marked for us the end of 1924, to many students no doubt life seems at present a little stale and unprofitable. To return to the same routine of lectures and labs., French essays and Latin pruses, to hear the unwelcome results of terminals by this time well-nigh forgotten, when one's last memory of college life was a week packed full of rags, dances, great ceremonies and impressive speeches, is no doubt something of an anti-climax. It is difficult to remember that though the celebrations are over for another fifty years, the spirit of Jubilee should still be with us.

It must be apparent to anyone who looks back upon the University's history, as it was unfolded to us in many of the speeches at the end of last term, that we have now reached a crisis in our development. The adolescence of the University ended with her twenty-first birthday, and now she is entering upon the first period of her maturity. To provide for this swift growth great plans are in the making—plans of which we all heard with the most eager interest—for new buildings more befitting her increased dignity and power, and we shall just as eagerly await the beginning of their execution. Most of us will have moved out from the kindly shelter of this "place of many friendships" when they actually materialize, but we shall be proud, if we can feel that we have done well our part in helping them to come into being.

There is another way in which we can all render service to our Alma Mater and help her forward towards that great destiny which we cannot but feel awaits her somewhere in the sun-pierced mist that is the future. For this crisis we have reached is a crisis also of tradition: as the importance of our University increases, as her relative position among the other universities becomes more exalted and more secure, her traditions too must be firmly established, and we must make sure that they are worthy of her dignity and growing power.

It is no light task, this bearing on of a great tradition; so much has been done by those who have gone before us, that, though we may pause a moment to rejoice over their achievement, we dare not stay too long, lest something of the duty which we owe both to them and to those who are to come after us, be neglected, and one link in the long chain be weaker than the rest.

Notes and Comments

A POST-JUBILEE Gryphon is a somewhat difficult bird to hatch; for perhaps our readers will differ as to which of her feathers are "sicke" ones this time. Old Students, we know, like to hear news, but we don't want to bore present ones by rehearsing again all the events of Celebrations Week. So will Old Students who want to know exactly what happened at every ceremony or function please look up back numbers of the *Yorkshire Post*, where they will find it all most faithfully recorded!

On the other hand, we cannot pass our Jubilee by entirely unnoticed, and so we have collected the symposium which appears on a later page. Unfortunately, many of those who were asked to contribute were unable, for various reasons, to do so, but we hope that the collection of opinions we have secured will be deemed by our readers to be a fairly representative one. We have made a special effort to get the extra-academic point of view, and for this reason are especially glad to be able to include contributions by the Lord Mayor of Leeds and Mr. Bruce, Chairman of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce. We should like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who have been kind enough to help us with the symposium, either by contribution or advice. We feel that the very fact that we have been able to collect it is yet another proof of the kindly interest taken by so many outside people in our University.

The article on Open Day by "Civis Liverpuliensis" we publish as an entirely unsolicited testimonial to the success of that function; and it may interest members of our "show departments" to hear a visitor's impression of them.

We are glad to be able to publish something by Mrs. Major-Stevenson; she has long promised an article to the *Gryphon*.

We are indebted to Mr. Wray-Milnes for securing us permission to print the extracts from Mr. and Mrs. Sewell's letter. We shall always be glad to receive articles from old students who have gone abroad.

"Shoes and Ships" seems to have taken out a new lease of life. Several kindly humorists have presented us with material for it this time; we mention this to signify our gratitude and also to encourage similar generosity amongst the general public.

At this point may we tender an apology for an error in the last number of the *Gryphon*? By an oversight, Miss G. Ford's name was given on the G.A.C. photograph as Miss G. Watson. This was our fault, not the printer's, and we are most sincerely sorry.

There are still, by the way, a few copies of the last *Gryphon*, which can be had on application to the manager, by anyone who did not get their copy when it was on sale.

Our next issue will appear on March 17th; all copy to be in by March 4th.

Sleep

Softly walk in silver cloisters
To the silent gates of Sleep,
When the stones have hushed their echo
And the moon has climbed her tower:
There you'll find soft-grassy meadows,
Shining fairy-ringed pool,
Tall spring trees intricate woven
Dancing to the odorous breezes . . .

Sleep within the magic shadows
Of the velvet dome of Night,
Lying quiet as a moonbeam
Till the crystal-carven morning.
Sleep . . .

P.

"Moods"

There is serenity at close of day,

A penetrating sweetness all untold.

The sunset has a warm and ruddy tone,

The richness and the majesty of gold.

In sadder moods the sunset-meanings fade;

The heavy dark vapours like a tomb;

The fading glory only spells "The End;"

Dusk is but weariness, its silence—gloom.

M. I. BAUMANN.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE



THE most important news is the Jubilee. It began with a special service at the Parish Church, at which the Archbishop of York's sermon made one remember the dignity of learning, a thing which, lounging under the clock or drowsing in lectures, one sometimes forgets. The Church, brightened by scarlet gowns, looked quite tolerable. The Opening Ceremony on Monday morning was, as the Chancellor said, a domestic affair, a meeting of staff and students past and

present and the speeches were largely reminiscent.

Some relaxation was necessary after these serious affairs, and it was given by the Rag Honorary Degree Ceremony. There have been better rags, but this one excelled in its band, whose practices made the Union uninhabitable for a week before. The Ceremony was held in City Square, and some very fine speeches were delivered.

In the evening there was the *Al Fresco* in the Great Hall. The Sherlock Holmes play performed by Hostel of the Resurrection, and the opera by the Devonshire Hall men were both good, but the Rugger Ballet Dance was simply magnificent. After that there was dancing, which was just possible, in spite of the dust and the crush.

On Tuesday there were the big ceremonies in the Town Hall, the Presentation of Addresses in the morning and the Conferment of Honorary Degrees in the afternoon. These were not at all dull, thanks to the good speeches and splendid processions. The Earl of Balfour gave us a charming example of his famous scepticism by describing what the Jubilee would look like a hundred years hence.

On Thursday evening came Professor Garstang's *Student's Opera*, which was enthusiastically received on account of its many topical allusions and the excellent *Beggar's Opera* tunes. On the Open Day one hoped other people were enjoying themselves, and dodged under the barriers that encumbered all the corridors.

On December 2nd, Miss Edith Robinson and Mr. Charles Risegari played Bach's Violin and Piano Sonata in G minor. Their playing was refined, as playing of Bach should be, but the refinement tended towards softness than clarity and hardness. Miss Robinson also played a Sonata by Sónallie, an old composer who, like many others, deserves to be revived for occasional performance. On 20th January, Mr. John Ireland and Mr. Carl Fuchs gave a piano and cello recital. Mr. John Ireland is one of the composers who, with loud applause from critics and public, are restoring

English Music to something like its former supremacy. This is best seen in *Chelcea Beach*, which is thoroughly English without being at all obvious. The more widely known *Island Spell*, though certainly good, sounds more French than English. Mr. Ireland's playing of these pieces excelled in clearness and polish. Mr. Fuchs' playing has been enjoyed at least twice before in the Great Hall, but Tricklin's *Adagio and Rondo* does not give a performer many opportunities. On February 3rd, Miss Ethel Snape sang an interesting series of songs from Henry Lawes to Roger Quilter. Perhaps the best was Purcell's *From Rosy Bow'ers*, which besides being excellent in itself, is interesting because it helps to explain Handel's popularity in England.

On February 17th Miss Mary Abbott is to give a piano recital of which programme—Bach, Schumann, Debussy, Chevillard—is unusually good, and on March 10th Mr. Sumner Austin will sing the *Dichterliebe* with which he delighted us so much last year.

The public lectures this term are as interesting as usual. The course started last term on the Natural History of Yorkshire is being continued by lectures on geology, botany and zoology. On January 26th Sir Richard Paget gave a very fascinating lecture on the Nature and Synthetic Production of Human Speech, in which he made an artificial mouth talk American and showed us how to talk with the hands while in the dental chair. The most notable literary lecture this term is Mr. J. C. Squire's on the Practice of Criticism.

Drama

THE Dramatic Society began its independent career on December 1st by a performance of six of Maurice Baring's *Diminutive Dramas*. The production was one of the best the society has given for some time and suggests that the recent separation from the Choral half of the old Choral and Dramatic has given it a new lease of life.

One or two of the plays are perhaps rather trivial, but most of them, though short and slight, are neatly constructed and exceedingly witty. The scenery used was very simple, blue curtains serving as a background for all the dramas. The first one, *The Fatal Rubber*, showed how human nature is the same in all ages. *King Alfred and the Cakes*, which is not so amusing, was chiefly notable for Mr. Howlett's distinguished acting as the King. *Calpurnia's Dinner Party* and *Lucullus' Dinner Party* are perhaps the most amusing of the six dramas that were chosen, though they may have been too allusive for some of the less classically inclined members of the audience. Mrs. Hamilton Thompson was a charmingly blasé Calpurnia. Mrs. Thompson also produced the plays, and we believe the resurrection of the Society owes a great deal to her energy and experience. Mr. Howlett again distinguished himself as Lucullus, and Miss Alexander was a delightful Cleopatra. *Catherine Parr or Alexander's Horse* is perhaps the most polished of the dramas, and was very ably acted by Miss Street and Mr. Hiley. In spite of the unheroic atmosphere of *The Aulis Difficulty* the character of Odysseus quite comes up to one's standard of tact. Mr. Kahn acted the part very persuasively, and Miss Sanderson was a delightfully girlish Iphigenia.

The Society's next production, which will take place some time in March, will be of Galsworthy's *The Foundations*, and if the same level is maintained the Society will have done much towards re-establishing its reputation.

The Significance of Celebrations Week

DURING the last few weeks, we have asked many people known to be interested in the University, to give us their opinion on this subject, and we are glad to be able to print so many of them on the pages that follow. They represent a very large variety of opinion, albeit not nearly a complete one; for that would exceed the limits of even an enlarged *Gryphon*.

Without further comment, we refer our readers direct to the opinions below.

FROM SIR DUGALD CLERK, K.B.E., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.

The Celebrations Week of Leeds University is of special significance as a most impressive indication of the rise of powerful new educational forces in England and Wales; forces which through the eight new Universities of Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Sheffield and Wales supply knowledge of science, art and literature in all their divisions to the young people of our great cities, men and women alike.

It has been my privilege to live through the significant half century which has seen the development in all those cities from small Colleges to great Universities. Those Universities not only teach—they also advance the boundaries of our knowledge by continuous investigation of physical, chemical and biological laws of the world in which we live. Leeds University has been distinguished for many years in its contributions to the great new atomic and molecular laws characteristic of the twentieth century. It contributed alike to new abstract knowledge and to the practical application of all knowledge to the needs of everyday life.

I speak from my own experience as a very junior member of the staff of the Yorkshire College fifty years ago, and I am grateful for the training in science and discovery which I obtained in the year 1874-75 in Cookridge Street under those distinguished teachers and investigators, the late Sir Arthur Rücker, and Prof. Sir Edward Thorpe, still happily with us.

The increasing desire for University knowledge in Leeds and in our other great cities is the significant fact shown by the world wide recognition of the great University of Leeds during the Celebrations Week.

FROM THE LORD MAYOR OF LEEDS.

The Celebrations Week of the University of Leeds awakened great interest in areas far beyond the confines of our city and amongst other features of significance, probably there is nothing more marked than the testimony paid to the evolution of Education in all its aspects during the fifty years that were under review.

The occasion marked emphatically the growing strength of the development of the path from the elementary schools to our Universities and it is only necessary to compare the position to-day with that of fifty years ago to realize how great has been the change effected in that period of time.

The occasion was historical and that in a wider sense than local. The fact that the various gatherings were attended by representatives of Universities and other Educational Institutions from various parts of the world is a striking piece of evidence in showing that the occasion was considered to be historical from a National point of view.

The success of the University of Leeds is due largely to the public service of those who are responsible directly and indirectly, for its successful development. It is hardly necessary to point out that service is the key note of the University and

in that respect the Celebrations Week is an excellent illustration of the achievements of public service. The credit of the occasion is shared necessarily by all those who have helped in any way to promote such a great success.

The high ideal that has been attained by the University is one that will not be easy to maintain, but given the maintenance of the present spirit and wide outlook of those responsible, there is no reason to think that the University will do otherwise than advance and develop as the years pass.

To those who have at heart the building of the national character through the improvement of the individual, the Celebrations Week must have a particular significance and it will be agreed that this important factor is by no means the least in the great work that has been done and is being done by our University.

FROM MR. JAMES BRUCE, PRESIDENT OF THE LEEDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

In reply to your question as to what I think was the Significance of Leeds University Celebrations Week, the outstanding features to me, were, the overwhelming testimony to the value of science and higher education.

The absolute dependence of Trade and Commerce upon Science as developed by Lord Balfour in that wonderful speech of his "The Universality of Science and Education knowing no frontiers or language . . ."

To those of us who had no University Education it brought memories of what might have been and to the younger generation it was a trumpet call, a great inspiration to work for the love of that which is noblest, highest and purest in life.

FROM SIR ERNEST BAIN.

I think that all connected with the University recognise the outstanding success of our "Celebrations Week," a success due to:—

- (a) The underlying note of optimism in respect to the future of the University based upon the announcement that the Council were prepared to approve expenditure on a substantial scale for the development of the University.
- (b) The marked interest shown in the newer Universities by the older Universities.
- (c) The interest and affection shown by old students of the University to their Alma Mater, and the prospect of this being converted into a powerful motive force for the future welfare of the University.
- (d) The general excellence of all the arrangements made by the staff of the University.

FROM PROFESSOR J. B. COHEN.

If I wished to put into a few words what to my mind were the outstanding features (for there were several) of the Celebrations they would be the obvious sincerity of the good wishes offered by the teaching institutions of Great Britain and the British Dominions, the loyalty and affection expressed by the University alumni past and present and the goodwill shown by the civic authorities and citizens of Leeds. But this was, I take it, merely the expression of something of much deeper significance. It implied a feeling of admiration that from such small beginnings an institution had arisen commanding a high position among its older and younger sister Universities and a genuine civic pride on the part of Leeds in the possession of a University, the coming of age of which had aroused such a widespread interest.

Being, as it were, now outside the University picture, it is easier for me to realize the relation of its various parts as it stands four square framed in its dull grey

setting. One can follow as with an artist's eye the first rough outline depicting its scientific and technical foundations, their gradual elaboration in a strong foreground, the modelling of the middle distance when the Arts departments were drawn in and made to subserve the symmetry of the whole and finally one seemed to trace in the distance the faint outline of the departments of Art and Music. Something of this kind must, I imagine, have been in the minds of those who assisted at the various functions and listened to the speeches at the Court dinner, the Degree ceremony, the Reception of Delegates, &c., speeches which whilst praising the University on its past achievements expressed a happy confidence in its future good fortune.

FROM SIR CHARLES WILSON, M.P.

Although unable to take an active part in the Celebrations of the Leeds University just brought to a successful termination, nevertheless I have come to the conclusion that like the buildings looming large, the University itself now fills a large part in the scheme of things in Yorkshire and that both are destined to become very much larger in size and importance. There is scarcely any limit to the influence and possibilities of a completed University. The recent appointment of a Vice-Chancellor coinciding with the celebrations conveys the impression of a combination of favourable circumstances marching with great power in the right direction to its ultimate destiny.

In the ruder North I have always felt the necessity for the strongly corrective influence of the highest and finest teaching, and this acting on thousands of the best brains of our youth is bound to widen their vision, scope, and capabilities, thus having a tremendous effect on the future of our country.

With a solid staff of professors, an interested and receptive army of students, the proper atmosphere, a beautiful library, and the finest equipment that can be got together, who can measure either the work or its results?

The wisdom of the Ancients and the experiences of the moderns are alike available.

Given a sound mind in a sound body it must follow that a well trained brain or hand should never have to be described in the language of the Old Book:—"Weak and unstable as water thou shalt not excel."

Oh, that such golden opportunities had come my wry years ago!

FROM MR. C. E. BRITTAIN (OLD STUDENT), HEADMASTER, NORMANTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The resounding success of "Celebration Week" and the amazing growth of the University of Leeds seem to signify, firstly and most important of all, that appreciation of and zeal for education in England are now real, lasting and steadily strengthening. At the close of the war the sudden vast increase of interest in educational matters and of numbers in attendance at the Universities and Schools was a somewhat hectic growth. It was justly open to suspicion of arising from motives, such as the desire to "regain supremacy in commerce," and so forth, which though quite laudable in their way, were hardly calculated to keep alight the flame of educational zeal for very long. The University Celebrations have helped greatly to dispel those suspicions and indicate that there is in England a real and growing love of learning for its own sake, apart from all utilitarian motives. On this devotion the hopes of educationists can confidently rest.

During the Celebration Week the splendid understanding which exists between the Leeds University and the various civic authorities of the County was conspicuous. That those not familiar with University affairs should be made aware of this wonderful harmony was all to the good. The University of Leeds has proved that the retention

of its own complete autonomy—an absolute essential for any University—and close co-operation with civic authorities are in no sense incompatible, but indeed complementary.

Thirdly the support to the Jubilee given by Staff and present Students and the remarkable rally of Old Students, especially at the Dinner of the L.U.O.S.A., proved beyond cavil that the *esprit de corps* amongst past and present members of the University is a much more flourishing reality than in pessimistic moments one has been inclined to believe.

The celebrations were significant of many other things than the above—the acceptance of the University of Leeds as a sister of equal status by other Universities, some larger and older, for example—but the three points touched on struck the writer in an especially forcible manner.

FROM MR. E. W. MUNDY, PRESIDENT OF THE UNION, 1900-1901.

I am asked to say what is the significance of Celebrations Week. The significance to whom? To the University? To Leeds? To the Staff and Senate? To the Students' Union? Or to me? To the University: even institutions have life, something intangible but real, which waxes and wanes, culminates and falls, is marked by epochs and for which occasions must be used for stocktaking of the past and budgeting for the future. The stream of events must be scanned and estimates made as to rates of flow and direction. Have the waters of the past been crystal clear or has some sediment come also? If so this must be discarded and left on the bed of time. Only the best must be offered to the student of the future.

I think there was this significant note, that the University must believe in itself and its mission to offer absolutely the best.

Then for Leeds: Leeds which has struggled to find its soul and failed. It is something to have struggled, and failure can yet be but the "fall to rise" when we are "huffed to fight better." Is not the soul to be found in the University as the meeting ground of the spiritual forces of the Churches with intellectualism and industry: all seeking that Truth which though diverse in form in essence are one.

To the Staff and Senate comes this great call to the wider aspect of life: not only the teaching of subjects, the preparation of technicians, scientists, scholars and doctors, but the making of a city, the creation of a right spirit in a county, a share in the energising of a people for revolution to higher and nobler life.

To the Students collectively it brought the individual student's own message of "coming of age," that is of attaining manhood and womanhood, so that along with all the vigour and energy of youth stepping out boldly for an unknown future full of lofty ambition and captivating success, there is also the determination that each generation of students will jealously guard the heritage received, and to be handed on. Each must give more than he receives that so the incoming undergraduate may build with sure reliance on the foundation of the outgoing graduate.

For myself: it was good to be back again and see the new men and women making a new world in our places. To look back and see the students meeting in the Hall 23 years ago. "Who said Handbooks?" That was a great meeting and can be found pictorially in the *Gryphon* of that day. Its meaning to-day is that those who give receive. Some of us were enabled to give and we received, full measure, pressed down and running over. It is only by giving oneself that one receives. Those who to-day give something of themselves to the building of this intangible entity, a University, will rejoice later to feel its throbbing response in the heart of a great city and people.

A STUDENT'S VIEW, BY MR. P. P. MURPHY.

It is hardly possible for a student to appreciate the full significance of the celebrations. A child thinks its parents were born "grown up," and most undergraduates probably fail to realise the University as a living and growing institution. This is the explanation of the impression I got that the undergraduates felt they were "out of it," that they were mainly spectators at a series of events which were "just happening." They were certainly interested in the spectacular side of the celebrations, but they were overawed. Not a healthy sign, that!

I think Sir Michael Sadler expressed the real significance of the event in his speech at the University. When I heard him speaking I felt that he was trying to be generous in his estimate of the Yorkshire spirit, in spite of the facts. But now I believe he was right. His charity of mind enabled him to penetrate the "metallic" exterior of the Yorkshireman. The Yorkshireman really is simple, and he tries to hide his simplicity under a hard face. He likes to pretend that in everything he does he is actuated by "practical" motives. The founders of the Yorkshire College had to talk a great deal about trade and competition, but the growth of the University is a clear proof that it was born with a soul above mere commerce. And it symbolises to-day that yearning even in the heart of Yorkshire for beauty and the power to express the deeper forces of life and the ultimate ideals which draw all men in spite of themselves.

"The Victor."

CARE, even suffering, was stamped upon his brow; his unseeing eyes gazed far beyond the printed page, far beyond the table, the book-shelves, the whole untidy and somewhat shabby room; he was lost in the most intense concentration. The uncertain gaslight fell upon a rugged and noble face; upon eyes piercingly grey; his whole appearance was one of dignity, aloofness and gloom. He was a Science man.

There came the opening and the shutting of a door, and he started, coming back, it seemed reluctantly, to a world of realities and feeble gaslight. There was now a second person in the room—a pallid youth whose blazer bore a strange device, and on whom Science, as worshipped with midnight oil and many learned and dusty tomes, had firmly set her seal. He too was a Science man—for when did Science and Arts share digs in really cordial amity?

The volumes which he carried under his arm were flung impatiently on to a sofa already overlaid.

"Dash it all!"—there was vexation in his voice. "I couldn't make head or tail of a single word—two and a half precious hours wasted, and the exam. to-morrow. I'm done for. Why in thunder did you persuade me to go to the beastly lec.?"

Grab, whose meditations he had interrupted, tore frenziedly at his hair.

"Because I wanted to be quiet," he shouted wildly. "Why didn't you stay there? For Heaven's sake, shut up!"

The newcomer dropped wearily into a chair and glanced at the paper in the hand of his companion. His jaw dropped.

"Why I-I thought you were scotting!" he cried. "You don't mean to say..."

"Yes, I do," was the angry response, "and if you don't shut up I'll have to chuck you out. The wretched thing won't come right. I've done it nearly all except 12 Across: 'a venerable biped in a hair'—in two letters. The first is *H* but I'm dashed if I can get the second. It's driving me wild. Surely you can think of it?"

Phil surveyed his friend in genuine alarm and pity.

"I say," he reproved mildly, "who would ever dream of cross-word puzzles on the night before an exam.—before the exam,?" He bestowed another glance of pity, and urged, "Chuck it, man."

The "man" groaned and looked round the room with haggard eyes as if searching for a clue in the dingy furniture or the antediluvian portraits.

"Dash the exam., I'd forgotten it. Who ever heard of a biped in two letters? It can't be "he" . . . I've been through the alphabet a thousand times. Pass me the other dictionary. Ha, he, hi, hy . . ."

Morning already streaked the sky when the two resigned themselves to slumber: the one to wrestle with examination phantoms—with problems and formulae—in the lists of sleep, until he was awakened by a wild voice muttering incoherently: "Thirteen Down: a term of endearment. Thirteen Across: a kind of horse-radish . . . a kind of . . . a kind of . . ." The voice was silent again, and uneasy sleep continued his reign.

There was a "whisper down the field," the simultaneous fingering of a hundred question papers. Strong men turned pale and bit their lips to hold back an overwhelming emotion; or gnawed their moustaches (if any) in the blankness of desperation. Many a trembling maiden clutched at her desk for support, eyed the fatal questions with eyes that comprehended nothing, and let a difficult tear or two drip slowly and pathetically upon the quite useless sheets of white blank paper before her, with the thought: "Oh, how nice I would have looked in a gown."

One youth alone, whose grim, white face was set in marble lines of indifference and despair, stared straight in front of him—grim, expressionless, in a gloom of surpassing majesty.

It was already ten o'clock; despairing pens squeaked fitfully over the endless sheets. In the centre of the Hall, Phil, his eyes alight with the joy of battle, wrote like one possessed, or even as if he had a tennis match at eleven. He had found one question whose meaning could be perceived at sight.

The examination would drag on until one o'clock—no hope, no inspiration, no reprieve—but a sudden stir at the back of the Hall. Grob—the great Grob—the brilliant comet who was flashing across the University sky with a tail of unrivalled exam. successes—this very Grob had risen from his place, gathered up his pen, pencils and slide-rule, and fled.

Bewildered students in the Entrance Hall saw him dash down the stairs and make for the door. His way was blocked by a compact crowd. He was assailed on every side.

"What on earth is up? Are you ill? Do you know it is 10.5—you're done for! Are you absolutely cracked? For Heaven's sake . . ."

His eyes shone; the broad and noble brow expressed triumph, wonder, exultation.

"I've done it," he stammered, "what a fool I was not to think of it before!—" "venerable biped" in two letters, winning with *H*. Why, it's been a perfect nightmare. I must post the solution—it's the last day and I may be too late even now . . ."

He thrust them aside with his arm; the comet had passed.

When the examination lists appeared in due course, as they have a way of doing, the customary name of Grob was strangely absent. Nevertheless his tall, distinguished form lent to the Degree Ceremony an atmosphere of dignity and nobility. Seated among the spectators he watched and applauded his friends. The firm grave mouth wore the serene smile of one who has fought a good fight and now enjoys the just relaxation of victory; for his head was crowned with laurels greater than academic—with the winning of a world-shaking cross-word competition.

M. I. BAUMANN.

Modern Languages

SOME THOUGHTS PROVOKED BY A CONFERENCE ON THEIR EDUCATIONAL VALUE.

AN interesting and stimulating discussion took place on November 14th at the offices of the Central Employment Bureau for Women, under the auspices of the Students' Careers Association. The subject was "The Value of Modern Languages Educational and Vocational." The leaders of the discussion were Miss Ash, Headmistress, Godolphin School, Salisbury, Professor L. P. de Castellvecchio, Professor of Italian in the University of Birmingham, and Miss Beard, Headmistress, Putney High School.

Miss Ash opened the discussion with a general survey of the problem from the point of view of one who had spent all her professional life teaching modern languages in School. She owned that of late years she had come more and more to think that in the first few years the educational value of modern languages was very small, and that they only come to have real value to pupils of sixteen or over when they had gained enough knowledge of them to be able to read fairly easily. She pointed out that modern education is based more and more on an appeal to the reasoning powers, and less and less on the work of memory. She said, therefore, that the educational purpose is better served by scientific or mathematical subjects where the close and logical sequence of cause and effect could be plainly seen.

In view of what Miss Ash had said, Mme. Turquet's speech was particularly interesting to those who view the educational problem—school and University—as a whole. Vivaciously and ironically, with wit and pungency as indescribable as delightful, she turned and rent our present school methods of modern language teaching to shreds.

She drew the most dismal picture of the average student who comes up to a University having, presumably, matriculated in French among other subjects. Some know there are such things as verbs, a few have even heard of such things as irregular verbs, but one may consider oneself fortunate if they can be got to conjugate "avoir" with only five mistakes. Furthermore, she pointed out that it is by no means impossible to matriculate by being able to translate with some success, from the foreign language into English.

The reason for this deplorable state of things, she held, was the teaching. French, she said, was the most ill-used of all the languages, and why? Because it was the foreign language almost universally taught in the schools; there were not enough good teachers of it to go round, and so an alarmingly large part of the work fell into incompetent hands. "Very well then," she quoted the powers that be as having said, "we will devise a Method, which shall be fool-proof," and they brought forth Phonetics and the Direct Method.

Now the question arises, is there any relation between the substance of what these two speakers had to say, and if so, what is its import as regards educational theory and method.

Let us go back with the first speaker to the very beginnings of language work. The objection there is that you cannot make enough appeal to the child's reason; genders are different in different languages, an adjective may precede or follow its noun in French and you cannot always tell why and when. All very fine, but—dare one whisper the heresy!—Are we quite sure that we must base our educational practice solely on the appeal to reason? We are bringing up our children to live in a world of men and women, to a life where the complexities are more tiresome,

and where the exceptions to rules are even more frequent than in the case of the use of the French subjunctive. Somehow or other our little boys and girls, and our adolescents have to come gradually to dealing with this complex human material, with its apparent inconsistencies and illogicalities.

If we may begin to doubt then of our attitude to the God Reason, what shall we say to our present attitude to the use of the memory in educational work? In theory we profess to avoid it like the plague; in practice what teacher can help but make use of it at every step of the way? Let us be honest and hail it as one of the greatest of the gifts of the gods to man. What is it that gives us our consciousness of self, that differentiates between the higher and the lower orders of intelligence even among the beasts, that makes the very work of Reason possible—what is it but Memory? It is quite time we got over our childish fear of making use of children's extraordinary capacity for memorising things. No one is likely to want to return to the old way of learning everything by rote. But the learning of the four conjugations and of the irregular verbs are no more harmful at certain stages than the multiplication tables, and to some minds, much more fun. It ought honestly to be recognised that there is no royal road to a mastery of languages. A foreign language may be learnt by residence in the foreign country for a considerable period, with an intelligent study there of the forms of the language, and this is the only way to acquire a real mastery of its use in conversation. It may also be learnt by hard grinding under a good teacher in one's own country, but one must be willing to use one's head, and to do a lot of memory work. Only the few can hope to become fluent and rapid conversationalists, but then only a few ever need to be, for travel abroad is still not for everyone. On the other hand a capacity to read easily in a foreign language is an almost priceless possession, and to learn to express oneself in it, either in speech or writing is a mental discipline of very great educational value. But this can seldom be achieved by strict adherence to the "Direct Method" of which Mme. Turquet made such short work.

Here comes the opportunity for another plea by an educational heretic. May we not hope some day for the dream of a "Modern Language" Matriculation to be realised? By this, one means an examination in which an additional foreign language might be offered in lieu of the mathematics which are at present compulsory.

Ruskin said "No such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather." In much the same way we begin dimly to see that children's brains cannot be arbitrarily divided into good and bad, but that some are good in different ways than others. There is such a thing as the potentially brilliant linguistic brain in a child which cannot cope with quadratics or the third dimension. I have no posthumous vengeance of my own to exact; I too, have striven mightily with Polar Co-ordinate, and the Calculus, and the Lord delivered them into my hand, but looking back I do say that the victory was not worth the blood shed. Had I given only one half of the time spent on advanced mathematics to the acquirement of a third foreign language my equipment for my own particular way of life would have been immeasurably enriched. It is a continuing grief that I may never now have the time to acquire the graceful and beautiful language so gracefully and beautifully professed (if she will allow me to say so) by Miss de Castelvcrechio at Birmingham.

It is a permanent loss to the community that those constitutionally unable to cope with the mathematics should never be able to matriculate. I have known one President of the Oxford Union who would never in this world have surmounted the London Matriculation Mathematics paper. I have known a woman of brilliant linguistic gifts, who has made notable contributions to the cause of Scholarship and literature in a foreign language, and who for many years has taught in a University,

who yet could never graduate in the University of London because the Mathematics difficulty in the matriculation was insuperable." At least one fine teacher of language was thereby nearly lost to education, and it is the really good linguists, says Mme. Turquet, that we want as teachers to save Modern Languages from that slough into which they have fallen. Our present Matriculations regulation may often sacrifice the very good in the interests of the all round mediocre. It is a false and wasteful policy. At this suggestion, Educationists from every side will be ready with shrieks of "too early specialisation," but they leave me cold. Two or three languages pursued with enthusiasm can have a greater cultural value for some mentalities, than only one foreign language, and a smattering of Higher Mathematics pursued with reluctance and rejected at the earliest practicable moment. More and more as the limits of human knowledge widen we must be willing to acknowledge, even in the most highly educated, the fact of ignorance. There are many from whose eyes Einstein's theory must be for ever hidden, and to whom the talks of Sir William Bragg over the wireless must mean as much as if an inhabitant of Mars were expounding the secrets of his planet. If then, we can be so humane to the ignorance of grown-ups, may we not consider the wisdom of extending that humanity to young people of matriculation age? It would undoubtedly be good for the fate of modern languages in this country, it would be for the mental and material benefit of the individuals so emancipated, and ultimately therefore, for the common good of the society of which they will be the units.

IRENE C. MAJOR-STEVENS.

Letter from China

EXTRACTS from a letter from William G. and Hilda Sewell (Hilda Gey) formerly of Leeds University who left England 30th September, 1924, to take up work in China.

S.S. Luen Yi,

The Lower Yangtze.

October 29th, 1924.

Distances are so big in Shanghai and rickshaws so expensive that I do not know how we should have managed in the time had not a friend lent us his car. Our chauffeur was a delightful and obliging Chinese boy who looked about 17, but we hear that he had fought in Russia in the Red Army.

Shanghai must be the most wonderful city in the world—at the same time we should not like to live there. It has drawn fully on Europe and America for all manner of things and ways, both good and bad, and these together with the Chinese background go to make Shanghai. The streets are broad and crowded with motors, rickshaws and trams and the traffic is controlled by the latest system of electric lamps. . . . The waste of light and the scale of the illumination is truly Oriental. Nothing in London or Paris can in any way be compared with it. However Shanghai is not China and the foreign offices, banks and other buildings might be in any city of the world. The noises of the streets are interesting, the jingle of pieces of metal, the notes of some instrument as a seller tries to draw attention to his wares, and the songs of the coolies are always to be heard. Eating houses or shops which are booming some special thing have a band, the strange noise of which floats down from a balcony above.

It was interesting seeing some of my old students. One, Mr. Liu, had just been married the day we arrived. He invited us to tea. The bride, a most charming girl, educated at McTycke's (an English School for wealthy Chinese girls) and dressed in wonderful silks, presided. It was very nice to hear about his life since we saw him

and also to see the house, which he showed us with great pride. It will be interesting to compare it with those in Chengtu of people who have never come in contact with the west. Another old fellow student, Mr. Chang, was managing the finishing department of a large cotton mill. We were shown all round, the workpeople being very surprised to see two foreign people, as the mill is all Chinese owned. They first came to peep at us as we were sitting round a table in the office discussing old times and friends. The mill was very like any West Riding or Lancashire one. Most of the machinery was made by Mather and Platt, though the spinning machines were all Chinese made, being copies of a well known English firm, even the names of the firm being copied. The Chinese women looked just as wretched as some workpeople I have seen in Leeds. There were a number of wee children there, Chang saying that although it was forbidden for children under twelve to come into the factory, it was impossible to keep them out. Men working at hand looms there get 35 cents a day, about 10d.

THE JOURNEY UP RIVER.

... Judging from this boat the river steamers are most luxurious and are fitted with every convenience. The small handful of European passengers have roomy cabins and saloons with a deck running the whole length of the boat whilst down below are, nobody knows how many Chinese. We hear that the owners have no control over the Chinese passengers as they let out to the Chinese campadore the right to sell them tickets and allow them on as passengers. It is fascinating watching them get on and off at ports with their strange bundles and their stranger food.

... The first day out from Shanghai the country is very flat, with dense masses of canes growing on either side, and stretching as far as the eye can reach. They grow to about eighteen feet and everywhere people were very busy cutting them down for firewood. The junks with their very pretty sails were everywhere, some big, some little, but all with families on board, everyone doing their share of the work. Along the sides of the river, at frequent intervals, were fishing nets, shaped like umbrellas, which were raised and lowered into the water by a contrivance which would have done credit to Heath Robinson.

The second day we came to Nanking, passing some of the Chinese Navy just outside. Here we saw the first signs of war; Chinese soldiers were gathering for the trains to take them to the North. We also saw many trucks, which had been hastily converted into an armoured train, being towed across the river. We stopped here some time.

... To-day, which is the third from Shanghai, the views have become most magnificent. On either side are bare mountains like the back-bone of a dragon and between them and the river are plains which are well cultivated. The grass huts, little stone duellings and general business are interesting to watch; in nearly every field are coffins standing, some new, some old and covered with grass. China seems to be truly a country of the living and the dead; they are together in their daily life.

WILLIAM AND HILDA SEWELL.

Acknowledgments

G.U.M. (Glasgow: two issues); *Magazine of the University College of North Wales*; *The Student* (Edinburgh); *University College Magazine* (London); *The University Gazette* (Birmingham); *Fraser's* (Queen's); *King's College Review*; *The Northerner* (Armstrong College, Newcastle); *The Owl* (Leeds Training College); *The Tamaris* (Reading); *The Bore* (Exeter); *The Olympian* (Blackburn Aeroplane and Motor Co. Ltd.); *The Viscount* (London); *The New Student* (America); *The Crescent* (Sheffield); *The Undergrad.* (Swansea); *The Dragon* (Aberystwyth).



Five Rabbits for Brian

MORCEAU.

I met girl Spring in a green place;
The light dripped from her hair
In lucent dew. Her face (*i.e.*, not her nose)
Shone gravely there.

In the town, along Regent Street,
Didn't you see, old thing?
Powdered and cheeky and sweet
I met girl Spring.

COMPLETION.

I wish my body were my mind, I do!
For then I'd be,
With comfortable certainty,
A cat!

TO A HIGHBROW.

If I were twice as tall
And half as tall again,
I'd need to grow a bean-stalk
To climb into your brain.

A PENNYWORTH OF SORROW.

Old tramp Autumn
With blue toes,
Old thin hands,
Thin blue nose,
Whimpering, fiddling,
On the street,
Indecent, queer,
Old wreck to meet.

Yet I gave him a penny
To ease my woes
And stop the this tune—
"O Spring was sweet."

LOGIC.

I never see a coal truck
Going God knows where;
To little dirty mining tows
With foul breathed air,
Or smug, squat villages,
Where folk have ugly faces,
But I long to leave my comfort
And go to all those places.

R.B.

Joie-de-Vivre

Break uplands swept by stinging blasts;
Brown tree-clumps, desolate, blighted;
Mist-haunted clefts in slumbering peace;
Hear fields by dim moonshine lighted;
Snow, and its ethereal whiteness:

High thoughts of men who strove for truth;
Sheer joy of passionate, hewn words;
Dreaming mazes of poet's fancy;
Thrill of music like flight of birds;
And the wrestling of one's own thought:

Sparkle of dance and haunting jazz;
Blaze of colour, laughter and light;
Movement and rhythm and care-free talk;
Homage easier to charm of night,
And no thought of eternity:

Passionate bonds of fellowship
Felt in the depths of all mankind—
All these, the ecstasy of life,
Like wine god-given, inspire man's mind
With harmony ineluctable.

E.A.O.

Harmony

In silence she waits,
Her harp at her side,
In silence around her the multitudes throng;
Now closed are the gates
Of the hall deep and wide.
Now, hushed and expectant, we wait for her song.

She touches the strings,
Low ripples of sound
Float on in the stillness and quiver and die
Ah, listen! She sings,
For her theme she has found.
Now sweetly and softly and now clear and high.

She has changed her tone now,
And the strings gently thrush
To a song of the fairies, a strain weird and wild.
Now her voice has sunk low,
Now it falls to a sob,
The cry of a mother who mourns for her child.

She pauses awhile,
As with gesture of love
She tenderly lays her fair hands on the strings.
Sure, the angels must smile
And look down from above,
Surely, heaven is on earth, for ah, listen! She sings!

Once again she doth cease,
Shall those sounds no more rise?
Ah, she lifts up her voice, ere the vision is o'er,
In a sweet strain of peace,
Then she fades from our eyes.
The enchantment is broken, we see her no more.

ROKEMUND E. HERKLOTS.

Music

LEEDS is like the man who wore spats but had no socks; it has somehow got hold of a musical tradition, a much vaunted tradition that covers a cold, listless indifference. This was exposed in all its nakedness at the recent visits of the two finest string quartets in the country, the London String Quartet and the Catterall Quartet. The authorities of the British National Opera Company were driven to causing a most unseemly commotion, before they could attract decent sized audiences at the Grand Theatre. Excuses have been offered to account for this state of affairs. Some of them contained grains of truth, as most lies do. But such conditions will cease to exist only when Leeds is purged of its hypocrisy and stirred from its apathy.

The London String Quartet gave a Chamber Music Festival in the Great Hall of the University during the week November 24th to 29th. Their programmes, invariably well chosen, did justice to both old and modern masters. Their playing is always on a very high level and is frequently perfect. One of their greatest interpretations was of Beethoven's first Razsmorsky Quartet. It is a work of flawless beauty, in which the conceptions are not too great to be beyond Beethoven's technical powers, or to be incapable of expression by the instruments he chose. And there results an artistic masterpiece, full of those inherent qualities that make for Beethoven's supremacy. Schubert's "Quartet in D minor" was an opportunity for another great performance; rarely is the "Death and the Maiden" theme played with such a blend of minuscule precision and burning fervour.

On November 21st Miss K. Frise Smith began a series of concerts which she is giving with the Catterall Quartet. The most unusual item was Bach's 5th Brandenburg Concerto for a characteristically delightful combination of instruments, the printing of whose names would fill half a page. Bach, who was always a master of his energy made of it here a thing of exquisite contours. Schubert's "Trout" Quintet is another perfect example of the divine blend of genius and musicianship.

It shows no trace of the formlessness that often mars Schubert's music and is full of the lyrical spontaneity that is its very essence. It is astounding what Schubert, who was comparatively feeble when dealing with a solo-piano, could do when he wrote for it in concert. The second of these concerts was given on January 23rd, Tchaikovsky's piano trio—a concerto for piano and two strings—was played as cleverly as it is written, which is high praise, for Tchaikovsky could write the most glittering music. As has been cleverly remarked, "it glitters but it is not gold." Elgar's piano Quintet, on the other hand, does not glitter, but it is sincere and finely wrought music.

The British National Opera Company risked a fortnight during December and, unfortunately lost about £1,000 in the first week. But Opera apparently cannot pay its way even with full houses, which cannot yet be relied upon. Until the State does its duty with a subsidy, both the opera companies and the musical public are condemned to a thin time. The productions and performances of the British National Opera Company alternate most disconcertingly between good and bad. "Siegfried," for example, seems to be well done. "The Magic Flute" is very poorly produced; it need not be so ugly and crude. There are operas with plots that are far more fatuous (one has recently been given in Leeds that plumbs depths of inanity quite unknown to "The Magic Flute"). "Figaro" could be greatly improved with more care and rehearsal. It was noteworthy because of the singing of Miss Sylvia Nelis, who has a divine voice and sings with an art perfectly suited to the music.

Amongst other musical events that have recently taken place, mention should be made of Harold Samuel's joint recital with Miss Elty Ferguson when the famous Bach pianist coughed but two pieces by Bach (giving singularly dry performances of some nonsense music); and of Eduard Hande's String Orchestra Concert which was so delightfully ambitious and equally successful. G.A.D.

Correspondence

We are asked by the Secretary of the Union to print the following letter from the Vice-Chancellor.

22nd December, 1924.

DEAR PASKIN,

May I ask you to convey to the marshals and stewards, men and women, who officiated during the celebration week the most grateful appreciation of the whole University for their splendid services. The dignity, precision, regularity and efficiency with which they carried out the duties assigned to them by the Master of Ceremonies were the admiration of all concerned. Without their assistance it would have been impossible to carry through the complicated series of manoeuvres which were necessary for the proper execution of the plan of the arrangements. This was particularly the case on Tuesday morning and Tuesday afternoon, when the eyes of the whole city were upon the University and when any hitch might have had serious results on the prosperity of the proceedings. The conduct of the students who acted as marshals and stewards on these occasions has made a great impression on the public and has greatly added to the prestige of the University.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) J. B. BAILLIE.

The Secretary,
University Union.

THE BEER PROBLEM.

SIR,

On one vital point I am happy to support and agree with Mr. P. P. M. It is urgent that drunkenness with its attendant disease, vice and waste be eliminated.

Unfortunately apart from excess, the action of alcohol is such that resultant damage to their best qualities and some shortening of life are risked by all habitual, even very moderate, partakers.

But whatever our personal attitude in this matter, we are undoubtedly united in a desire for the betterment of general social conditions; and I am confident that such steps as are considered necessary will be taken in our University in the immediate future, to oppose the great national and social menace of insobriety; since, through our education department particularly, we are in a position to greatly influence the national thought of the future.

Here I refer largely to the necessity of the cultivation of a correct attitude of mind within the University.

Perhaps the greatest practical step we can take in this direction is prohibition within our own walls. Not necessarily because we support prohibition in the state with its attendant interference with the desires of so large a factor of our population, but because we as a body of thought recognise in the "drink trade" in its present form of private ownership—with consequent natural desire for large sales—a menace to our country and people which we cannot morally and financially support.

F. H. JOWETT.

[This Correspondence is now closed.—Ed.]

THE N.U.S.

DEAR EDITOR,

I have heard of students in this University, contemplating spending the Easter Vacation abroad, who do not seem clear on the subject of the N.U.S. This body, amongst its other activities, arranges holiday tours for students on very reasonable terms, and I urge any student who is hoping to travel in the Easter Vacation to join such a tour. I sing the praises of the tours because:—

1. They offer unrivalled opportunities for friendship with students of other Universities.
2. They are arranged so that students of the University towns of the country visited act as guides, thus giving English students an opportunity of seeing the points of view, and the interests of students of other nationalities.
3. They allow you to enjoy a rollicking time amongst people who have the same interests as yourself. Concerts, dances, excursions, meetings are the order of the day. English students are fêted right royally (he it whispered low—*as were treated in France, on no less than six occasions to large drinks of champagne*).

Technical tours are arranged, I believe, if sufficient people ask for them. While in France I met a party of Scotch students touring French hospitals and Dutch students touring glass factories.

I would urge anyone who is keen to have a jolly, friendly and amusing time to apply for particulars to Tours Hon. Sec., National Union of Students, Malet Street, London, W.C.

Yours sincerely,

ELSIE HODGSON.

January 28th, 1925.

The Editor of the "Gryphon."

MADAM,

After a period of four years during which the constitution as adopted during the session 1921-22 has held sway it seems that the present time is most fitting to examine the results; especially so with regard to the Election of Representatives on to the Union Committee.

At present 14 representatives are elected from the Men's Representative Council on to the Union Committee, the M.R.C. being elected by the various constituencies at University Road. It is felt that some alteration ought to be made here since the present mode of procedure may prevent the election of the best possible Union Committee for the following reasons.

A good many of the constituencies are only entitled to one representative to the M.R.C. Therefore should there be two equally capable and efficient members of that constituency equally eligible to go on to the M.R.C. and as to the U.C. one at least is definitely barred and can only be co-opted, a procedure which in my opinion is one which ought not to be encouraged.

To obviate this defect in our electoral system the following plan, whilst by no means perfect, seems to be the most easily accessible and more efficient.

It should be noted these proposals apply only to the Men at College Road.

1. That the maximum number of co-opted members of the Union shall be one.
2. The M.R.C. elections be held (as recommended by the M.R.C., 1923-24) at the end of the Spring Term.
3. That the M.R.C. send 10 representatives from its body to the Union Committee.
4. That the remaining four places which the M.R.C. formerly elected with the addition of another member caused by a reduction in the number of co-opted members, five in all, be filled by election by a mass ballot throughout the Men at College Road. Each candidate to be nominated, seconded, and supported by at least 20 electors. Here of course any Union member is eligible—except the 10 already elected—for election to the Union Committee.

Another proposal which I should like to make apart from those above is as follows:—

That the President of the Union be elected by mass ballot *throughout the University* from those representatives appointed to the Union Committee, except by arrangement with the Medical School, whose responsibility it should be at a certain period of years to be decided.

Such proposals enumerated above would, if incorporated into our constitution, do a great deal I believe towards keeping a healthy interest in the whole of the Union activities.

Yours faithfully,

N. VASS.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

Dying and Leather Dance, March 6th, Tickets, 6/6. Powell's Manhattan Band.

Impressions of Leeds University

BY A VISITOR TO "OPEN DAY."

JUST as the critical faculty of a poet or artist is awakened by the view of a beautiful landscape, so the enthusiasm of a student is aroused by contact with educational ideals and by viewing processes such as those visible on Saturday at the University of Leeds Open Day. With this excuse for presenting these impressions of a visiting student let us pass on.

The departments on view were of necessity those whose aims may be classed as practical for lack of a better word, but any notion that

"Their vision is

Machines for making more machines"

was quickly dispelled. The work on view contained that individuality and personality which the modern industrial system tends to crush. The delightful fabrics of the Textile Department were quite evidently the result of art as well as science. The Colour Chemists had a legitimate pride and a genuine interest in the "shot" effects produced in the dyeing of various materials, and everywhere the same spirit was noticeable.

For the lady visitors the Agricultural section had a special interest; they were very appreciative of the work carried on in fruit preserving. Improvements in the qualities of wheat—largely by cross-fertilising—were traced. At the present day agricultural research is a very important task indeed, at a time when every effort is being made to revive English farming.

The Physicists and Physical Chemists gave demonstrations of general interest to the layman; for example, an electric current was passed through hydrogen and the distribution of the atoms shown—but it is scarcely safe for an unscientific observer to enter any further into the intricacies of technical detail.

Professor Cohen's research into the problem of the impurities of the atmosphere gives another phase of the University's work, especially when connected with the demonstration in the Fuel Department upon the bye-products which are wasted when coal is used in its natural condition for the purpose of domestic or industrial heating. The change of method would involve initial cost to the individual manufacturers, but in return the community would be enriched by the bye-products obtained in the manufacture of gas and would live in a healthier, cleaner country.

The Geography and Geology schools were also open to the public. Both departments seem to have approached their studies from a regional point of view, making a close, first-hand study of Yorkshire. The excellent exhibition in the geological section is a tribute to the work of Professor Kendal and his successor. Especially fascinating was the reconstruction of eastern Yorkshire during the Great Ice Age, showing the formation of a lake in the present Vale of Pickering.

Such was the impression gathered by a somewhat hurried tour of the University. Afterwards it was the writer's good fortune to visit the "Union" rooms and the much discussed Refectory. The rooms in the Students' Union were rather small, but extremely comfortable, while in the Refectory the same spirit of good fellowship prevailed as elsewhere and the accommodation was remarkably good.

In conclusion, let us extend our un-official congratulations to the University of Leeds, with the hope that advancing years will leave her youthful vigour untouched.

CIVIS LIVERPULIENSIS UNIVERSITATIS.

In Defence of the Pessimist

FOR some time past I have experienced an urgent desire to be a prophet, one of those fellows who can tell you exactly what will happen next Tuesday fortnight, the winner of the F.A. Cup, a word of fifteen letters meaning vegetable soup, or any other old thing you may like to ask.

Anyway, I want to be a prophet—not one of those half-bred, quackish, ignorant imposters who induce you to gaze with cow-like intelligence into crystals; or in weekly columns of drivel weigh up football form—but an all-round, encyclopaedic prophet who is able to make all the world his oyster; and the only way I can see to attain this is to go as an apprentice to a prophet with a really good flourishing business. For several months I have been looking round with this idea, and I am now utterly disheartened and disgusted at the scarcity of prophets in our midst. The utter apathy of the British people towards this most important of the national arts is as amazing as it is disgraceful.

I fear I shall in consequence of this be compelled to practise as an amateur; and I have decided after much deliberation to throw in my lot with the most distinguished of amateur prophets—the Pessimists. I have come to the conclusion that as all amateur prophets are bound to err occasionally, it will be best for me to err with those whose errors lend to their own advantage.

I will explain what I mean by a simple illustration. The Pessimist wants a round on the links, he therefore remarks to his friends, "It's going to rain before lunch, you fellows," and takes his umbrella with him. One of two things happens. Either it does rain, in which case all the Pessimist's friends say "By jove, you know! That chap P. must be a brainy fellow, what!"; or it doesn't rain, in which case P. has a very pleasant tussle with bogey and comes home full of beans. The Optimist, on the other hand, says "Oh, it'll not rain," and goes off hatless in a new pull-over. Sometimes his prediction comes off, and he comes well out of it; but frequently it does not come off, in which case he gets a good soaking and a reputation as a light-headed careless sort of chap. The Optimist entirely fails to insure himself, so to speak; he puts all his eggs in one basket. The Pessimist, whatever happens, is tickled either in his inward vanity or in his outward sense of the enjoyable. For it is the utterest absurdity to say that the Pessimist revels in misfortunes and mishaps. Nobody except fanatics and film-heroes enjoys realising the darker side of life; but nobody except the Pessimist thinks of insuring against it in terms of reputation.

The more I think about the Pessimist as a natural philosopher, the more I appreciate him. In fact, I think I shall in the near future establish a School of Correspondence Courses in Pessimism—

"I was regarded as an incurable optimist till I took your course—Please send me a six-lesson course for my maternal grandfather—I shall recommend your course to all the Deans and Bishops of my acquaintance"

Yes, I think it will be a good scheme. A few more testimonials, from the Student who backed himself for half-a-crown to plough his Inter., and all those Undergrads, who know they are going to "pip" their Finals—and it ought to pay even better than prophecy.

T.L.A.

The Royal Naval Reserve

HOW ENGINEERS ARE TRAINED.

FEW people, probably, realise the amount of hard work, relieved by ever varying interest, put in by engineer officers of the Royal Naval Reserve in the course of their annual training. I offer my experiences this year as fairly typical.

On arrival at the Naval port to which I was ordered I found in the study a number of other officers in training—strangers to each other. Soon, however, we were all chatting together recalling past events in the Mediterranean, White Sea, East Africa, West Coast, Grand Fleet, Destroyers. Seven bells sounded—11.30 by the clock—so off we went to the Barracks for lunch and then back to the ship's study. The officer in charge soon appeared and drew up our programme. One day's run in a destroyer, one day to be spent at the submarine base, another at the coastal motor boat base formed part of it. The dockyard was to be inspected on one day and a visit to the ships in the harbour and dockyard to be made on another day. The rest of the time was to be taken up with lectures and the study of the methods of training engine room ratings from recruits to officer.

The run out in the destroyer was most interesting as well as instructive. The vessel itself was a rather ancient type, having Brown-Curtis Geared Turbines and Yarrow Boilers fired by oil fuel. Various experiments were being carried out, and they, together with all the ship's machinery, were examined by us. Time passed all too quickly and we retired to the Wardroom Mess for lunch—our appetites being but little impaired by the slightly choppy sea. Lunch over, our investigations were continued for a time, then we enjoyed the sea air and watched the yacht racing at the various seaside resorts as we passed.

The coastal motor boats appealed forcibly to us—1,500 horse power carried in a hull of three-eighths plywood. The two petrol engines drove the propellers direct and the only things rigid in the boats were the engine bed-plates. The exhaust and water connections were flexible metal hoses and when under way at 40 knots the sensation resembled that felt in a well known make of motor car over a rugged road—the boat seemed to bounce off the waves. One device admired very much by all was the stepping of the hull. By this means a pocket of air at reduced pressure was formed under the boat and any water which collected in the boat could be expelled immediately merely by opening a cock connecting this pocket to the boat's bilge. To our delight we saw one coastal motor boat stop, start and manoeuvre by wireless control from an aeroplane. Various experiments were being carried out, details of which must not be made public.

It was announced that the submarines were not going out that day and most of us were not sorry. Generally speaking, life on a submarine is not popular with engineers.

The day came for visiting the dockyard, but a day was not nearly enough for the task, so much was to be seen, and it would take long to describe, even in brief, the boiler shops, machine shops, torpedo shops, cable testing sheds, joiners' shops, power houses and stores of all kinds.

Practically every type of warship was to be seen in the harbour, mine-layers, aeroplane carriers, sloops, Q boats, cruisers, destroyers and the latest battleships. A few ships were in process of being built, and what drew our attention was quite a small thing, the fixing of gunmetal studs on to steel bulkheads by means of electric welding. The studs held quite firmly and it needed both hammer and chisel to cut them off. This method saved drilling and time, and ensured the bulkheads being watertight.

The methods of training engine room ratings, *i.e.*, mechanics, blacksmiths, coppersmiths, plumbers and other craftsmen, were studied. Their training lasts four-and-a-half years and then they are drafted to seagoing ships. Besides the professional side of the training there is also physical training including the handling of boats, drill, and sports, the athletic grounds being provided ashore. It should be remembered that all the engine room ratings are not trained in the Naval training establishments. A large percentage of them come from ashore as fully trained craftsmen. Before, however, they can gain much promotion they must qualify for the engine room watch and boiler room watch certificates.

Our lectures consisted chiefly of discussions and comparison of our varied engineering experiences, and the final word was found in the printed notes and sketches submitted for our guidance.

In conclusion, I must make mention of the barracks—known in accordance with naval custom as H.M.S. "X"—surrounded as they are by gardens so splendid and well ordered. Its silver, its wonderful wall paintings were a joy to behold. The various relics, heads of all kinds of animals from various parts of our empire, ancient armour, swords, guns and many war trophies, was an education to see. A visit here could only be remembered with wonder and joy.

T.M.N.



SOME YORKSHIRE POETS. AN ANTHOLOGY OF TO-DAY.

Edited by S. Fowler Wright (Merton Press).

THIS is an interesting, though by no means fully representative selection, from contemporary Yorkshire writers. A strong love of Nature and a note of idealism characterise much of the work—these characteristics are not confined, we think, merely to Yorkshire writers. The poems have much freshness and enthusiasm, and certainly point to a large amount of poetic energy in the county. Mr. Douglas Charlesworth's work in the Dearne Valley dialect is always very able, and "The Ruined Cot" is well up to his standard. Miss Covell's "The Organist," is a long poem of considerable charm. There is a touch of Blake in the fantasy of the organ music:

That turned the church to a fairy place,
Where fairies worshipped with fancy grace,
And priests and beggars, a motley band,
Uttered and danced with clapping of hand;
And little soldiers and roared with rage,
When a baby lion was shut in a cage.

Miss Vickridge is very interesting, though in an epigrammatic style not usual with her and other contributors of merit are Mr. Oliver Ellis, Miss Speight, Miss Renshaw and Mr. Matthewman. Miss Irene Petch's "September" is an extremely rich and beautiful picture poem. One or two of the writers have imitated Flecker not wisely, but too well.

W.R.C.



Things we want to know :—

How to dispose of an Aspidistra ?

If a more suitable decoration for dances could not be found than the above mentioned plant ?

If there is likely to be a Diploma of Dance Decorations ?

And if anybody knows any likely candidates ?

* * *

By the way, isn't it about time the Union decided to change the colours ?

* * *

In view of the popularity of the window-seat at the foot of the Engineers' stairs it has been decided to install a cosy-corner—without light.

* * *

We are asked to correct the rumour that a bag of nuts is to be awarded to any student—or member of the staff—who has not yet been bitten by the cross-word puzzle craze.

* * *

It has been suggested that there should be a constable on point duty under the Clock. And about time, too.

* * *

It is hoped that the Agricultural Department will be up just in time to be taken down and removed to the site for the new University buildings.

* * *

Overheard in University Road during Jubilee Week :—

"That flag's up to show they've all passed their exams."

We hope it will reappear in June!

* * *

Who is the enthusiast who keeps a graph of the infinitives split by a certain lecturer in the Education Department ?

Manchester, 1925

HOWEVER generous the *Gryphon* is in her space-allowance to the C.U., one could never within the limits of that allowance give an account of the Seventh Quadrennial Conference of the Student Christian Movement which would do it justice. Even those who went there critical, modified some of their criticisms and formed new ones to bring away, will admit this. We must take full advantage of the *Gryphon's* generosity and do our best, but at the same time we refer the interested reader to the February issue of the *Student Movement* for a really good account of the Conference. After that let him buy, beg, borrow, or—well, use any other (Christian) method of obtaining—a copy of the report of the addresses given at the Conference, a half-crown S.C.M. book entitled "The World Task of the Christian Church."

The Leeds delegation of thirty-odd people (note the hyphen please) was about as mixed as this very mixed University, so that a fully representative "impression" of the Conference is impossible. Our feelings were probably even more mixed, and one of the things we learnt was how mixed the world is. And it is still being mixed. Is the Christian shuffle going to be any more successful than the rest? Before gaily and optimistically answering yes, we were advised by the Conference to face the facts, to realize that however philosophical a turn of mind we may happen to possess, things are not as they should be, and some facts are very ugly. The ugliness is sometimes that of sheer inertia; at other times it is of a more dynamic nature and one was brought to realize the destructiveness of selfishness, prejudice, ill-will, and the so-called patriotism which says "my country right or wrong." The Conference insisted on seeing the world as it is, and not through rosy spectacles, and though it has been criticized for not facing enough facts, particularly those of a political and economic nature, we must remember that the terrestrial unit of time only contains 24 hours, and the whole Conference was only five days. We out-did the American who "does" Europe in a week—we "did" the whole world in five days! And it was no mere sketchiness. There was a solidity about it—merging in several places, doubtless, into fluidity and vaporization, but nevertheless there was a back-bone of some sort to the Conference. Scattered, as we all were, throughout Manchester and the outlying districts, 1,600 of us, and meeting daily in the Albert Hall, fulfilling in some measure, and temporarily, the petition hanging up against the gallery of the Hall: "Ut Omnes Unum Sint," most of us knew that the solidity was based on the simple—yet, to Christianity—fundamental reality of fellowship, friendship, love—call it what you like; it is something so readily verifiable that the name is of no importance. But it is the essence of Christianity. And it is something for the whole world. And the story we were told, by T. Z. Koo, and Garfield Williams, by J. H. Oldham and all the others, was one of need, the world's need for this spirit of self-giving love, with a stern refusal to be content with sentimental eye-wash. The Conference was a call to service in the world—in China, India, Africa, at home, in education, commerce, missions, civil service, politics, everything.

G. P. MEREDITH.

THE GRYPHON WAYSIDE PULPIT

Don't be too hard on your examiners.
They have their faults. So have you.

Choral Society

THE Annual Concert of the Choral Society will be held in the Great Hall on Friday, February 27th, when a rendering of Parry's "Prometheus Unbound" and Stanford's "Revenge" will be given.

Since this is the first performance in Leeds of "Prometheus Unbound," may we urge everybody to make the concert as widely known as possible.

The success of the Society in producing such works as these depends to a large extent on the co-operation of the whole of the University.

A full orchestra and four principals have been engaged and further particulars of the Concert may be obtained from the notices. Prices: 3/6 (reserved): 2/4, 1/6 (unreserved).

W. H. COCKBURN, Hon. Sec.

Cavendish Society

JUDGING by the tone of the Society, the first part of the programme for the session has been generally appreciated.

At the first meeting, Professor J. B. Cohen introduced Professor R. W. Whitham-Gray as our new president. The inaugural address took the form of a sketch of the development of radio activity treated especially from a chemical standpoint.

We were taken into the depths of the Quantum Theory in a most masterly manner at the second meeting by Dr. C. K. Ingold, the newly appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry. We were fortunate in having Professor H. S. Raper, now Professor of Biochemistry at Manchester, on November 18th. He gave an extremely interesting account of the metabolism of fats in living animals.

Mr. C. Wainwright, B.Sc., a student member of the Society, in his paper on "Waves" dealt with some of the topical problems in the transmission of wireless waves. The discussion which followed showed that the paper had been much appreciated.

Our special lecturer this year was Mr. Julian S. Huxley, M.A., of New College, Oxford, who delighted his audience with an account of the observations of naturalists on the "Courtship of Birds and its bearing on the Sexual Selection Problem."

In addition to the lectures noted in the syllabus, Prof. J. F. Thorpe, C.B.E., D.Sc., F.R.S., is to lecture on "A factor in Chemical Reactions," on February 27th at 5.30 p.m.

Photographic Society

THE Society has had one meeting this term which was characterised by a small attendance and a treat for those who went. Mr. H. G. Gralinger criticised members' prints and gave hints that will be of use in the preparation of work for the exhibition that we hope to be able to hold in March.

We are arranging three competitive classes with prizes for the best print in each. All entries will be shown in the Exhibition. The classes are:—

- (i.) Open; for non-members of the Society.
- (ii.) Advanced; for members only.
- (iii.) Beginners; for members only.

There is no limit to the size of prints except in the Beginners' Class, where it is 5×4" or postcard size; any number of prints may be sent in by one person. An entrance fee of 6d. will be charged for Classes I. and II. and 3d. for Class III.

It is to be hoped that there will be many entries, especially in the Open Class, as the success of the Exhibition will depend largely on the number of prints received.

Further details will be given later but the Committee will be glad to make any points clear to those who desire further information.

T. SPIKINS, *Hon. Sec.*

Natural History Society

UP to the present the N.H.S. has had a fairly successful session. The membership has increased slightly from last session and the papers have been quite up to previous standards.

On November 27th we had a "students' evening" when three short papers were read all converging on the idea of "Variation." On December 11th we were especially favoured in having with us Emeritus Professor P. F. Kendall who gave us a characteristically breezy talk on "The Re-peopling of the Isle of Man after the Ice Age." Everybody knows Professor Kendall as an eminent Glacial Geologist and several will have read his recent book on the Geology of Yorkshire.

On January 16th we had our Annual Social and in spite of the Devonshire Hall Dance which unfortunately was on the same evening, we had a good crowd and a very happy evening. It was especially encouraging to have a good representation from the Staff present. The past students were noticeable by their absence.

On February 12th we are to have a debate, and it may interest some people to know that the Inter-Varsity-Biological Society is to meet in Leeds during the Summer Term—probably for a weekend. This Society has recently been enlarged and now includes Armstrong College, Newcastle and the University Colleges of Aberystwyth and Bangor.

E.T.

Leeds University Old Students' Association

(Edited by P. P. MURPHY.)

Secretaries: Miss G. PICKLES, Mr. S. BISH.

Treasurer: Mr. W. R. GRIFF.

Annual Subscription, 5/-; Life Subscription, £3 3s.

THERE were over 350 old students present at the Second Annual Dinner on the 19th of December, a fact which speaks eloquently for the success of the Association. The catering ability of the Refectory was taxed to the utmost; in fact two sittings were required. Another point worth mentioning, since it shows the importance which the University attaches to the Association, is that the most important speech of the Jubilee Celebrations, that in which Sir Ernest Bain expounded the University's development policy, was reserved for this occasion.

Sir Ernest said that so pressing were the needs of the University that the Council had decided upon an immediate expenditure of £250,000. On the question of buildings, he said that the Council had placed the architectural development of the University in the hands of the President of the Royal Institute of British Architects who would obtain plans from twelve of the greatest architects in the country. These plans would be the plans for the University as it *ought* to be, even if it cost a million pounds. It was indicated that the immediate necessities were a great library and a Dental School.

Dealing with the need for students' accommodation, Sir Ernest said that it might be taken without any reservation whatever that there was no feature of University needs that was nearer to the hearts of the Council than the cordial co-operation and support of the Student Movement. The question of hostels and a Union Building was a matter for serious and immediate attention, and the Council desired that the Committee of the Association should associate themselves with the movement so that all the cards might be placed on the table and suitable methods be devised for co-operation in the obtaining of such buildings as they all knew to be necessary.

The Vice-Chancellor, in responding to the toast of the "University," proposed by Mr. C. E. Brittain, said that the University watched with tender regard every step taken by the students graduated there, for the reason that the body of students were the incarnation of the spirit of the University. In several ways this could be expressed. Convocation might be formed on a basis which would express complete incorporation with the University. Another way was that taken by an old student who had just contributed £100 to the "Necessitous Student Fund" which had been opened by Sir Michael Sadler. There were some 4,000 graduates, and he suggested the possibility of personal contributions, increasing as their prosperity increased.

The toast of the O.S.A. was proposed by Professor E. E. Prince, of Canada, who was a student of the Yorkshire College in 1874-5, and responded to by Mr. E. W. Mundy, who was Chairman of the Union in 1900-1901.

"The Union" was proposed by Fred Webster, President of the Union, 1914-15, and responded to by H. F. Akehurst, the present President.

* * * * *

During the last few weeks many letters have been received by Mr. Grist from old students abroad. On another page will be found extracts from a letter sent by Mr. W. G. Sewell from China. G. M. Miller, a former Secretary of the Union and Editor of the *Gryphon* (1921-2) writes from Umtali, Rhodesia. He says "Denis Whitney (who is at Salisbury) had breakfast with us only on Monday last (22nd December, 1924) and with him another Yorkshireman from Ilkley, a Rhodesian via Cambridge. We have hopes too of seeing Rouse in the not too distant future—he is at Johannesburg, and we write occasionally."

In the middle of December we received news of the death of an old student in Johannesburg, Mr. Harry Percival Jackson, Science Master of Jeppe High School. Mr. Percival took his B.Sc. in 1898, and was for a time an Assistant Master at his old school, the Leeds Central High School. He was appointed Vice-Principal of the County School, St. David's, S. Wales, in 1905, and went to S. Africa in 1911. He took a trip to England last summer, and died a few weeks after returning to Johannesburg. Mr. Percival leaves a widow and three sons, to whom we tender our deepest sympathy.

At Xmas we received cordial greetings from Mr. S. F. Vicejee, an old student of the Department of Dyeing and Tintorial Chemistry. Mr. Vicejee writes from 10, Rue St. Louis, Pondicherry, S. India.

We have also had news from Mr. I. H. S. Fraser who has reached Grenoble (France), where he expects to remain till April, when he proceeds to America on business connected with the production of Electrolytic Iron.

Congratulations to S. Hare, 1919-22, who was married to Miss D. Duggleby at Catton during December.

It is expected that the new O.S.A. Headquarters will be vacated by the Staff this month. There has been some delay in getting new staff rooms. We still require £40 for the furnishing of our new rooms, so let us have a real "whip round" in the next few weeks. A small sum from every member of the O.S.A. will do the trick.

The latest details of membership are 122 life members and 736 others. But of these, 210 have not yet sent their subscriptions. Hurry up please.

BIRTHS.

On February 4th, 1925, at Derwent, Temple Ewell, near Dover, to Mr. and Mrs. David Bradley, a son.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rowell, a daughter. Mr. Rowell was a demonstrator in engineering and Mrs. Rowell was President of the W.R.C., 1914-15.

LONDON LETTER.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION, LONDON.

President: Professor SMITHILLS, 68, Lissenden Mansions, Highgate Road, N.W.5.
Hon. Secretary: Mr. R. E. CHAPMAN, Toybee Hall, 28, Commercial Street, E.1.
Hon. Treasurer: Miss I. E. CROWTHER, Vales, 26, Coventry Street, W.1.

WHAT I really want to write about to-day is the Leeds week in December, but I have a lurking fear of being accused of poaching. However, I shall have to risk it.

You beat our last dinner numbers by a pleasing margin of three hundred, but we're not jealous. No doubt, it must have been rather overwhelming to you, and left a busy secretary no alternative but to break up half a day too soon.

A wonderful evening, but why didn't you have the speeches printed and handed round beforehand? They were speeches we shouldn't like to have missed, and we quite appreciate the compliment paid to the O.S.A. in reserving various announcements for that evening, but it is difficult to imagine anything more exasperating or tantalising than watching people in the distance you haven't seen for years, and then never getting a word with them as they have to rush off for last trains the minute two hours of speeches are over. That is one thing we do better in London. We pass round that serial picture of *Punch's* illustrating an Old Boys' Dinner that is one continuous round of toasts, and saying how pleasant it would be to chat with old friends if it wasn't for the speeches. After that, no one dare talk very long.

Fortunately a visit in the summer had prepared us for changes, so that we were quite condescendingly explanatory to old students who hadn't revisited Leeds so recently. Parking regulations for students' cars are a commonplace to us now, but one or two interesting discoveries were still to be made. Do you know the Refectory sells chewing gum? On a par with mistletoe in the porch! By the bye, when is Mrs. Beck's honorary degree coming off? What should we do without her on our visits? She never changes even though her growing family gives us such shocks.

Apart from the dinner the chief impression we have brought back of the celebrations is a kind of Wembley air everywhere. Glass cases and labelled exhibits and intelligent demonstrators who simply insisted on improving one's mind. As at Wembley, however, there was a dearth of free samples. One attractive exhibit of cloth used for lining coffins impressed us as very far-sighted, and we were inclined to leave an order until we reflected that in this case, at least, there was no reason why we should shoulder the survivors' burdens and pay the bills in advance. After all, as the Americans say, it would be their funeral, not ours. Besides, one ought to insist on meeting someone who had already used the stuff and could speak of its good qualities from first-hand experience. The Dying people must get a publicity expert who can put some pep into the testimonials.

But your dinner is now ancient history, arrangements being already made for our Spring Dinner here in March, when the Vice-Chancellor will be our guest (and Mrs. Baillie, too, we hope). Which reminds me! When the Manchester speaker announced at your December Dinner that the V.C. was coming to a Manchester Dinner, he allowed himself to add vaingloriously that what Manchester does to-day London does to-morrow, so that the V.C. might confidently expect an invitation from London in the near future. I have now much pleasure in asking Manchester to note that on October 16th, 1924, the London Association had already decided to ask the new Vice-Chancellor to be our guest at an early date.

We will even hope that the V.C. goes to Manchester first. Let him be ruined on in that dreariest of all dreary cities, where they have no main roads but only back streets, where they turn their theatres into picture houses and have no cafes ("et ego in Manchester vivi"); and then when Manchester has done its worst let him come and share our "feast of reason and flow of soul" in some gay Bohemian restaurant. ("Obscure haunt of Soho," forsooth).

To us the most extraordinary thing about the December dinner was feeling so much at home in spite of all the strange faces. One would not be surprised to find oneself still in that delightfully irresponsible second year. All the old professors seem the same. Professor Connal, we feel, should be handed round from table to table. He and Professor Grant are known to everybody, and the same with Professor Garstang and Professor Priestley, whose London call we are now returning. Professor Barbier still retains the martial air of the days when we sent him tobacco. Dr. Gough has gone, but we are glad to be introduced to Professor Gough (one refrains with difficulty from addressing him as Prof. Gof). The sight of Miss Robertson and Miss Blackburn and Dr. Gunnell carries us back to the old reunions of women only, when the new lounge was a study one dashed into to fill one's pen and to buy enticing little chocolates sold for Belgian funds by T. and D.L. Where were they! Where were G.A. and H.P., R.N. and F.C., K.S. and J.H. ! Many of the men in our lectures will always be missing, but we should not have to look in vain for the women. Going through the Handbook one wonders where all the others are. Admitted for the sake of argument that the men treated the women's associations in Leeds and Manchester rather cavalierly, surely it is now time to let bygones be bygones and support the new association wholeheartedly. Personally I shall never understand the attitude of any moderately recent old student who does not join an old students' association the moment it is formed. In spite of all the snubs received from patronising contemporaries who assure me that one feels differently about things when one has fresh interests and new work to do, I still persist in saying that only illness should keep one from attending a reunion in the same town, and not as a duty but as a pleasure.

But if I don't get back to our own dinner I shall be told I must at least re-name this letter. A notice is being sent with this *Gryphon* to all London members. Those elsewhere who are interested should apply to any of the Leeds or London officials. I will repeat here that the dinner is on Friday, March 20th, at Pinoli's, 17, Wardour Street (Coventry Street end, opposite Russell's), business meeting 6.30; reception, 7.0; dinner, 7.30; then an informal musical programme unless cross-word puzzles would be more up to date. Let the secretary know by the 18th if you're coming, but don't send any money, our terms of business being cash on delivery. We shall be delighted to welcome any Leeds or Manchester officials as guests—and a record number of other people as paying guests.

We also look forward to the Old Students' Dinner on Degree Day, if only to see where you'll put us all. We earnestly beseech the powers that be to see that some other earlier event is also fitted into the programme so that we can ask the railway company to let us have cheap tickets covering a week and not the bare week-end.

Our paid up members here now number fifty-four, and we also have eight life subscribers. This is all very satisfactory, for so many of the subscriptions cover two people that our active London membership is already over seventy, about twenty of whom were present at Leeds on December 19th. One was glad that Dr. and Mrs. Chapman and Miss Holgate were there to hear the tribute paid to them by Mr. Mundy for their spade work in organising such a flourishing association here. In fact, our more ambitious members are already talking of reviving the project of a residential club in London. I wonder

YMKO.



THE games of the University, with one or two exceptions, continue to have a fairly up and down career. The Association Football team, after the excellent performance of beating Manchester in the Christie Cup Competition quite failed to produce their proper form against Liverpool in the deciding match, and lost by the odd goal in 5, so losing a rosy chance for the Cup.

The most consistent part of the team is the half back line wherein lies the strength of the team.

All members of the Gym. Club are now training hard for the Christie contest with Manchester to be held here later this term. Considerable keenness is shown and good sport should be seen on the day.

The Inter-Departmental Races for the Sadler Cup were rowed last term at Rodley, the weather being wet as usual. In spite of this disadvantage there was quite a good gathering of spectators. Six departments entered crews, Agriculture gaining a well deserved win, after much hard training.

The winning crew was: Bow, P. M. Connor; 2, H. Wooton; 3, H. Dale; Stroke, D. Irons; Cox, Humphries. The rowing was of a higher standard than last year.

Trials having been held the crews are now in training for fixtures with York City, Bristol University, Glasgow University and St. John's College, York.

The fourth medal competition of the Golf Club was played on January 21st at Cobble Hall, H. Steel returning the winning score of 89-9-80. More members should enter for these contests to ensure the best team being picked for the match against Liverpool University on February 20th.

The Hockey Club is looking forward to better things this term. There was a decided improvement at the end of last term when the First XI. defeated Liverpool University and Huddersfield and the Second XI. broke the unbeaten record of Corinthians II. The club still has a chance in the I.V.A.B. championship and hopes for the best. Hornby and Breckons have represented Yorkshire in all the county matches this season.

Since the last issue of the *Gryphon* the Women's Hockey Team has only played two matches—versus Leeds Gymnasts and the North Riding Ladies, both of which were won 5-3 and 9-0 respectively. In the latter match, despite the bad condition of the ground, D. Durrant showed good form, shooting 5 out of the 9 goals.

The play of the first team has improved since the beginning of the season especially in the defence where valuable work has been done by M. Dymond, centre-half and B. Smithson, left-back. The forwards are still lacking in "dash" and should make much more use of their opportunities in the circle. Congratulations to E. Hodgson on being selected to play for the Yorkshire First XI versus Cheshire and Durham.

The Lacrosse Club continues to maintain excellent form, finishing last term by a splendid victory over Manchester, when the team made a great recovery in the second half, after being 3 goals down at the interval. The team goes down to Cambridge to play them on February 4th.

Congratulations to Elam, Sugden and Tomlinson on their good play in the County Match versus Lancashire.

The Women's Lacrosse Club has little to report at the time of going to press, having had their time fully occupied in removing the traces of their last term's game against the Soccer Club, from tunics, boots, etc. One hears rumours of special swimming lessons for the team before another game is undertaken on the men's ground.

The play of the Women's Netball Club is still steadily improving. Another University match has been played, when Leeds lost a hard game to Durham by one goal. The second team also shows improvement.

The Rugger Club has had its share of casualties, as may be seen from the up and down form shown. The team was seen at its best versus Harrogate Old Boys and put up a really creditable performance in beating them 17-10 on their own ground, Sledge running strongly to score 4 tries.

A very hard game at Manchester was lost 11-3, settling Leeds' chances for the Whitworth Shield.

The Harriers continue in their fine performances, avenging the defeat last term by the Airedale Harriers by beating them 38-40 in the only match of this term.

The Swimming Club is the only club that has not made a match this season. Two fixtures have been held, both against the Training College. The squadron race has been won by Leeds both times, the first polo match was drawn 2-2 and the match this term won 2-1, all-round improvement being shown. A second team fixture has been arranged with the training College for people who have not played a match before, so those members who have not yet had a game or tried to play water polo should turn out and get into training, at the Cookridge Street Baths; Tuesdays, at 12 and Fridays at 4 are the times the ball is allowed out.

TABLE OF RESULTS (up to and including Sat. Feb. 7th).

MEN.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	For.	Points.	
						Against.	
Association I.	16	10	6	0	51	28	
Association II.	17	11	4	2	50	24	
Fives	12	7	2	3	27	8	
Golf	1	0	1	0	2½	9½	
Harriers I.	8	7	1	0	234	381	
Harriers II.	5	3	2	0	193	190	
Hockey I.	15	5	10	0	37	45	
Hockey II.	11	5	5	1	31	24	
Lacrosse I.	15	10	5	0	172	113	
Lacrosse II.	4	2	2	0	26	18	
Rugger I.	21	8	11	2	159	216	
Rugger II.	21	9	11	1	226	212	
Rugger III.	9	2	7	0	35	150	
Swimming—Squadron	2	2	0	0	—	—	
" Polo	2	1	0	1	4	3	
Devonshire Hall	15	9	4	2	208	86	
WOMEN.							
Hockey I.	13	7	5	1	56	43	
Hockey II.	6	5	1	0	33	13	
Lacrosse	9	2	6	1	37	62	
Netball I.	8	5	3	0	150	87	
Netball II.	4	0	2	1	32	58	

The Union Committee

The Third Meeting of the Union Committee for the Session 1924-25 was held in the Refectory on Tuesday, December 2nd, 1924, at 2.30 p.m.

1. (a) The minutes of the last ordinary meeting were read and confirmed.
- (b) A letter was read from Colonel Bowes stating that the horse was suitable for the work required of it by the Union. A vote of thanks to Colonel Bowes was expressed.
2. It was proposed, seconded and carried that the report of the M.R.C. be adopted.
3. It was proposed, seconded and carried that the report of the Finance Sub-Committee be adopted.
4. (a) It was proposed, seconded and carried that the tuition fees of the Boxing Instructor be raised from £10 to £15 (for the three terms).
- (b) That the Balance Sheet of the Union Dance be adopted.
5. (a) It was proposed, seconded and carried "That the Union Committee view with favour the formation of the Mathematical Club."
6. It was proposed, seconded and carried that the Hospitality Committee be thanked for their offer to entertain delegates during Celebrations Week.

The Fourth Meeting of the Union Committee for the Session 1924-25, was held in the Refectory on Tuesday, January 20th, 1925.

1. The minutes of the third ordinary meeting were read and confirmed.
2. (a) It was proposed, seconded and carried that the Hon. Secretary should write to the Prime Minister and ask him to address the students on the occasion of his visit to Leeds on March 12th.
- (b) That the following Sub-Committee be elected to arrange for the Annual General Meeting of the Union:—

Mr. Shackleton.	Miss Willoughby.
Mr. Kenny.	Miss MacMillan.
Mr. Freshwater.	
- (c) It was reported that the new horse was working satisfactorily.
3. The Finance Sub-Committee submitted the following estimations for confirmation, and they were accepted:—

	£	s.	d.
Delegates to Nottingham University	1	18	0
Delegates to Liverpool University	1	16	8
Collar for Horse (G.A.C.)	2	10	0
Harriers Club	6	14	0
L.V.A.B.	3	4	0
4. (a) A letter was read from the Vice-Chancellor thanking the stewards for their assistance in Jubilee Week.
- (b) The Hyde Park Wesleyan Sunday School asked to be allowed to use the Lawnswood Athletic Grounds on Whit-Monday next, at a charge of £1 ls. This request was granted.
5. OTHER BUSINESS.

That a gratuity of £1 be made to the man who lent the Union his horse.

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