



The Gryphon

THE JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



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Bryan Clarke

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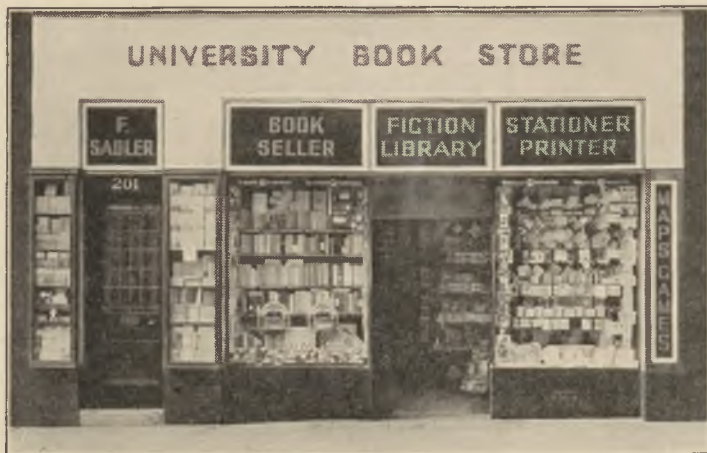
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EASTER NUMBER

MARCH 1947

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Editorial

THOUGH MANY AN EDITORIAL
Is wisdom's fair memorial,
 With sorrow be it said
That fear of dull verbosity
Lays low our curiosity,
 And wisdom stays unread.

But if a little levity
Present itself with brevity,
 Perhaps a few will choose
To test the worth and quality
Of Nature's prime frivolity,
 An editorial muse.

* * *

We have in universities
Some very strange perversities.
 We think them really grand,
Though you, a mere outsider, may,
Whilst gaping wide—or wider—say
 You cannot understand.

We're wondrous intellectual,
Quite twice as ineffectual,
 And if our length of hair
Is a threat to sanitation,
It breeds mutual admiration,
 Of which we're fond—so there!

We like our 'isms and 'ologies,
In fact each single college is
 Quite sure to take a pride
In a pet peculiarity,
Which, minus learned charity,
 Could never live outside.

Ability syntactical
Cannot be very practical,
 The laity may think:
Conjecture metaphysical
May raise expressions quizzical,
 Or else a knowing wink,

But don't think what a curse it is
To maintain universities,
 They have their saving grace:
If cranks are quite incurable,
They're not so unendurable,
 Restricted to one place.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

Congratulations.

To Mr. John Daggett, on his election as next year's President. Speaking for ourselves, we find him, as a member of *The Gryphon* Committee, as well-nigh perfect as a human ever was.

The Morning After.

The Gryphon has received letters protesting against the antics of the audience at the A.G.M. They do not appear in print. This is not at all because they are thought to be unjustified or irrelevant, but because..... well, what's the use? The righteous need no saving, and how many of the sinners would be in the least affected?

When the elected President is ridiculed, when the voice of the Secretary reading minutes is drowned by the catcalls of the very assembly who adopt or reject reports they do not choose to hear, when only a person with a loud voice and a prepared case can hope to make any impression, more than a printed expression of disgust is needed to remedy things.

Stricken Lutes.

In our Christmas issue, Hall Notes sounded full and clear; in the Valentine *Gryphon*, their sound was fainter; in this number they do not even break silence. One can only conclude that the Halls have recently become so dull that nothing worth reporting to the outside world happens in them.

A Reminder.

it woult hel p; if contributor rem mbered that tyPescrypt = is ASked f%r in order to facacilitate copyreading)(.

Useful Knowledge.

A correspondent suggests a glossary of useful terms should be appended to the Union Handbook. Research has indicated—

Critic.—One who abuses without being libellous.

Debating.—Being wise after the event.

Ex-Service.—Given to wearing cast-off Forces' clothing.

Hall of Residence.—Establishment for displaced intellectuals.

Interest in Union Affairs.—Sounding brass or tinkling cymbals at the A.G.M's.

Medical Student.—One who carries about large text-books.

Queue.—Mortification of the flesh before eating.

Reactionary.—A person with views different from one's own.

Socialist.—Anyone who raises his voice in argument.

ROYAL MALE or MURDER IN THE BALLROOM

by CRYSTAL

MOST OF YOU ARE AWARE THAT THERE ARE FOUR STANDARD MODERN dances: the Quickstep, Waltz, Slow Foxtrot and Tango. There are probably many men in the University who can do all the dances in their own fashion, but I have met only one who tried to do all the four dances simultaneously.

It was a sloppy youth with a working knowledge of the better parts of Freud, who took great pleasure in telling me that I was a pervert whose soul had died two days after birth.

Came a flash of brilliant yellow teeth, a languid voice said, "Hiya Snake; let's crawl." A lanky hand fastened in the general area of my waist, and my nostrils were filled with the scent of new-mown hay.

Presently, and with no previous warning, the feet began to move in Quickstep timing, whilst the legs performed Slow Foxtrot variations—something of a "feat" in itself: a larynx gurgitated to produce sounds exceedingly like "Jealousy," which can only be a Tango; and the band played "Let the Rest of the World go by," which is a Waltz.

There was a good deal of excuse for the complete neglect of the Waltz, as the world was certainly not going by. A large proportion of the world's population was assembled in that ballroom and was taking turns at colliding violently with me at all points south of the hips. But I never found out where Jealousy came in—on his part at any rate. This particular lad told me that, a month ago, he couldn't dance a single step. "And now you can't count above one?" I replied.

That is the first point I am making in this, the opening shots of my "Equal pay means Equal Rights" campaign for women in the Ballroom. Never trust a man who is by himself.

My second point is similar, *viz.*: Never trust any men who come in pairs. Failure to observe this rule will result in your immediate fall into one of the biggest death traps to be found in a ballroom. For should your partner, whilst dancing, see his pal also on the floor, his face lights up with the lust for blood; he forgets what little he had ever known about dancing; and he races along the floor completely ignoring all obstructions which a careless Providence may have put in his way. When he is strategically placed, he waits for the crucial moment when, to the accompaniment of a crashing of cymbals, he picks up his hapless partner and hurls her bodily at his pal's partner. Both men then grin inanely at each other whilst their hacked, battered and exhausted partners pray for the discord that means Finis. This point is even further emphasised when an entire Hostel turns up in force. Then chaos ensues. None of the men makes any effort to dance correctly, but instead has a competition to see if he can bump his partner into someone else the greatest number of times possible. The idea is that, on no account must either of the

men be involved in the bumping process, else both are disqualified.

Now let us turn to the quieter part of the dance, the Sitting Out period. Men need read no further, for it is with the solo or uno-sexual type of sitting out to which I am now referring, as distinct from the double or J.C.R. type, about which variation no more need be said here.

This part of a dance is one of the most amusing to any girl who watches the proceedings around her. There are few funnier sights in this cock-eyed world of ours than watching a man try to give the impression that the only thing that interests him at the moment is his cigarette lighter, whilst any fool with half an eye can see him oscillating round the floor so as to get a better look at the smashing blonde job in the corner. I wonder what the reactions of the long suffering "Gentle Sex" would be if the chance to pick and choose partners were theirs? How about it, girls? I am told that at the various Holiday Camps scattered around our coasts, a Ladies' Night is held weekly, when ladies ask for all dances and pick where they like. It is high time that this system was extended. As I write, I can hear generation upon generation of ravaged female leg and bruised ankle applauding from on high.

At the moment the odds are heavily against any girl coming out of the average ballroom without at least two bruises on her legs. Why is this? First, it is by virtue of ourselves. Women just are not built for close combat work. Perhaps in a couple of centuries or so, Nature will equip us with a pair of pliable legs and shock absorbers. In the meantime, there is a lot to be said for Grandma's corsets.

Secondly, by virtue of our clothing, which was designed by men, apparently for their further entertainment. They must take great pleasure from seeing our unshielded and defenceless calves crushed to a pulp against their padded and be-trousered limbs. No wonder men never dance together.

Thirdly, by virtue of—well just virtue, and perhaps just a teeny spot of Hostel regulations, which two things, in conjunction, cut out a lot of good partners.

Finally, by virtue of ballroom etiquette, which gives any spotted, two legged, monstrosity the privilege of asking us to dance. And what can we do about it? Perhaps we can say: "I'm sorry, but my underwear has worn loose and is liable to collapse as soon as I stand up." The only trouble is that the ham usually produces a pin, some string, a piece of chewing gum, and a smirk and says: "O.K., I'll wait."

We could say: "Certainly. I'm so glad that I have at last found a man who is not afraid of catching measles." This is sometimes good, if you don't like either the place or its contents, but is otherwise not recommended.

Or, "I'd love to"—which is the inevitable reply.

There is only one good current way of ridding yourself of any unwanted male. That is to let slip, quite by accident, the exciting fact that you are a widow. Then watch him run. The trouble with this gag is that it is now very widely known and consequently overworked. I met a rather miserable looking lad at home once who, on receiving the above information, said: "Heck. That's four in a row!" and passed away, looking rather staggered.

So there you are lasses. My advice to you is to get the boy friend to take you to the theatre instead, and if a dance is absolutely essential, then Be Prepared.

Finally, may I report that the best dance that I ever attended was a fancy dress affair, where I had a wonderful time. But then I was dressed as a man—James Mason, to be exact.

THE EXPORT OF EDUCATION

by Martin Sampath

BRITAIN MUST EXPORT OR DIE. THE LOGIC OF THIS SLOGAN ENJOYS universal acclamation. If this country is to feed, clothe, and shelter her 45 million people, these people must eat fewer chocolates, while British manufactured chocolates are abundant in Nigeria, they must wear fewer clothes, while high grade British tweeds are holding the Canadian market, and must sacrifice their cars, radios and toys so that Cingalese and Tobagonians shall be amused.

These inevitable sacrifices, which some of us are making more cheerfully than others, are demanded in most spheres of our activity; not least have they extended into the realms of Education. University facilities are one of the most heavily taxed of British public services, yet, year after year, thousands of British men and women, qualified and eager for higher education, are denied immediate entry in order that these facilities may be offered to overseas students. In a few cases, even Hostel accommodation has been diverted from the local to the foreign market.

Education is a commodity which Britain is well qualified to barter. The early and rapid development of her industry and culture has contrived to make her one of the richest treasure houses of human endeavour. For this reason, Education has always been one of Britain's important invisible exports. At this stage, one may ask: "In view of the urgent local need for Education, and in view of the great demand by industry for University trained technicians, is this 'expropriation' of British Education justified?"

In order to answer this satisfactorily, we must consider what advantages and disadvantages are derived by the British public from the reservation of part of their University facilities for export.

The disadvantage to the actual students whose training must be postponed for several years is a real and, perhaps, lasting one. The number of students affected in this way is, however, small since on the average, only one in every ten local students must make way for a foreign student.

The advantages to Britain are almost entirely economic: fees and living expenses are paid directly or indirectly, in almost every instance, by the country from which the student has come. In the cases of students here on Colonial Welfare and Development scholarships, the expenses are deducted from loans made to the Colony concerned, and the loans are repayed indirectly in the form of raw materials such as sugar, cocoa, cotton, jute, tin, manganese and rubber; without these, the wheels of

many British industries would turn in vain.

But this immediate economic advantage is a mere trifle compared with those which accrue less obtrusively: the Indian textile technician who has learnt in this country to understand and appreciate high class and efficient British machinery is not likely to stock his Bombay factory with Japanese or German equipment; he might have done so had he been educated in Tokyo or Berlin.

The Jamaican M.B., Ch.B. (Leeds) is an unconscious ambassador for British drugs and medical equipment; he will support to the last his "Eumydrin," while his brother from Chicago pins his faith on "Donnatal." During his University career, British names become second nature to the foreign student. "Austin," "Bovril," "Dunlop," "Marconi," "Raleigh" . . . they roll off his tongue as easily as "Haig" or "Younger's No. 2," whilst "Studebaker," "General Electric," "Heinz," "Aylmer," may present as foreign a flavour as Pilsner or Vodka. And when in due course his children are ready for a University education, need one ask to which country they will be directed?

During the last war, when Britain stood in the front line, her resources sadly strained as she reinforced the last bulwark against Fascism, America and Canada were efficiently accommodating a great influx of students diverted from the war zones. The first students were given such a wholehearted reception that, within three years, the North American continent became a focus of student interest, particularly in regions within a 4,000 mile radius. Besides this, American manufactured goods followed the Stars and Stripes into every corner of the Globe: "Frigidaire" and "Coca-Cola" became household words.

It has long been the policy of imperialist nations to secure for themselves their own colonial markets by imposing prohibitive tariffs on goods manufactured by competitor nations. That these measures did not always benefit the colonies concerned was demonstrated by the results of high pressure American enterprise.

As colonies become more enlightened, they demand increasingly freedom of choice as to where they shall do their shopping.

The establishment of the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund served the useful purpose of reassuring the people of the Colonies that in spite of her grim and exhausting struggle, Britain still offered the goods they wanted.

The beneficial effects resulting from the return of students who have been at British Universities are tremendous and far-reaching in foreign countries. For a few years, the students have had the opportunity of observing the results of centuries of application to the Arts and the Sciences, of evolution in a complex society. As foreigners, they have been able to condemn or to admire without suffering the pangs of conflicting loyalties, and, in so doing, they have fitted themselves to diagnose more accurately the maladies of their own country which, as a result, they can now guide with more confidence along the path of progress.

From the viewpoints of both producer and consumer, the export of Education is a sound economic proposition and, on this basis, it must contribute in no little measure to world peace and goodwill.



"FAUSTIAN MAN"

D. P. HENRY.

"Ducunt Fata volentem, nolentem trahunt."

SOJO

by PIP

IN COMMON WITH MANY OTHER HARD-WORKING STUDENTS, I HAVE GREAT difficulty in getting to sleep at night. I manage it quite well during lectures, but one can hardly expect lecturers to attend one's bedroom, at 11-0 p.m. for the sole purpose of sending one to sleep. It would involve too much administration, and in any case, it would cause an even further increase in Hostel fees. So, I count sheep.

Now when I was young, I could lie in bed, and count sheep as they jumped over a low fence in an elegant and orderly fashion. Many people, I understand, prefer to count the sheep as they (the sheep, of course) go through an open gate. I could not censure this arrangement too strongly, for on the one occasion upon which I put it into operation, several head of cattle from a neighbouring field went through too, and I had a most difficult and lengthy task in coaxing them back—and I lost count of the sheep—and I had a nightmare.

Years, however, must have lessened my peace of mind, for recently the sheep have gone over the fence in a most disorganised manner. Sometimes they crossed in batches of four or five, making counting most difficult, and on occasions they have actually been known to *refuse* to jump. This would not have mattered particularly in the ordinary way, but with the advent of the present Government, I felt bound to prepare returns (in triplicate) on the number of sheep passing my fence. As so many people count sheep, it is obvious that without returns of this sort, the country would get into a hopeless muddle. However, my returns were becoming so inaccurate, that although they were probably treated in the same way as all the returns (that is, as a table-cloth to prevent the tea-cups marking the desk-top), I felt I had to do something about it.

Consequently, I evolved SOJO—Sheep, Organisation of Jumping Of—which I intend to outline here.

A large field is provided with fences which move towards the centre, and drive the sheep into a funnel-shaped exit. The neck of this exit is closed by a vertically sliding door (rather like a guillotine), which is opened for sufficient time for only one sheep to pass through. The foremost sheep *has* to go through, owing to the jostling of its companions, and the fact that the fences are converging. Through the door, it is whisked away in an escalator which terminates at the top of a stationary fence, so throwing the sheep over. The sheep is picked up on a moving belt, which carries it away to the central depot. Its landing on this belt actuates the vertically sliding door, which opens to allow the next sheep to pass. In this way the sheep go over the fence regularly, ensuring easy, rapid, and accurate counting.

I would like to say a word or two about the central depôt which I mentioned, as I had hopes of being allowed to count sheep as they entered it, one night. There, sheep from all sheep-counters were received. They presented a most interesting spectacle, as the mental pictures which people have of sheep are extremely varied. The head man at the depôt told me that several sheep had facial expressions bearing remarkable

resemblances to those of Sergeant-Majors and irate Mothers-in-Law, whilst many more arrived in a tipsy condition with fleeces coloured pink.

Of course, SOJO had its difficulties. The vertical door, for example, once ran out of phase, and executed several sheep. This caused some panic—a few unavoidably lost their heads—but was subsequently corrected, only to result in the next few losing their tails. This was rectified when I realised that sheep have no tails (at any rate, not of any length), and gave me the idea of putting oxen through this de-tailing process. A soup factory was to be built in an adjacent field.

The latest and unsurmountable difficulties, however, were due to lack of sheep power, and electricity cuts. I was informed by a government official from the M. of S.C., that even in my position as an experienced counter, I could be allowed no sheep in future, whilst the electrical apparatus operating the escalator and so on, was to be the first installation in the district to be affected by power cuts. The official told me though, that as a result of the improved man-power situation, I was entitled to employ more labour, and he drafted me several hundred clerks from the Ministry of Health (Housing Department), where their services are no longer needed, and promised me further consignments from the Ministry of Fuel and Power, where many clerks are unable to work owing to the cold comfort, for which that Ministry is noted.

Consequently, I have taken the only possible course. The common or garden fence is re-introduced (a foot or so lower though), and the civil servants jump this whilst I count them. Although they never behave in an unruly manner—and counting is easy—I am always in some doubt as to whether each clerk passes me only once.

The sheep were to some extent distinguishable.



"Why - Cecil - Hallo!!"

A LECTURE FOR THE LECTURERS

RETURNING FROM SERVICE LIFE AND BEING USED TO THE PERSONAL association and intimacy in the lecture room, I was appalled at the low spirit of this high seat of learning. Let it be understood I am referring to the lecture room only and to the relationship between lecturer and student. The low standard of lecture technique seemed to me to be particularly lamentable. I rather fancy that I shall be accused of trying to compare two totally different things; namely, lecturing in the service (teaching, if you prefer it) and lecturing at a University. I myself was convinced of this very fact, and I was rather surprised to find that others also subscribed to my original criticisms.

I should like, therefore, to have an opportunity of expressing these criticisms in the hope that eventually some slight amelioration may result.

My first surprise was to find the prevalence of what is known in the service as "couldn't care less" attitude. I was under the impression (previous to my arrival here) that it was an expression of post-war depression among those civilians in uniform who could find no further object in service life. But it was not so: on the one hand, lecturers made it reasonably clear that it mattered little to them whether one attended to their lectures or finished a letter to the boy friend or had forty winks. Students, on the other hand, were inclined to go to lectures largely from habit, and when there, either vainly attempted to take down a more or less comprehensive account of the pearls of wisdom (being emitted from the oracle like so many quanta and with as little personal flavour), or finish the penny points entry.

Now it seems to me that the attitude of a lecturer is one of the most important factors in arousing (or failing to arouse) any interest in the lethargic (?) student. Try as we will, we unconsciously imitate others, and it appears desirable that we should be shown a spirit of keenness and enthusiasm.

Secondly, some of our "learned gentlemen" seem to consider it quite proper to pace up and down the room like the proverbial caged lion, to tug at a beard, to draw triangles on the desk with a well-saliva'd finger or to bury the head into a sheaf of notes and read in low, depressing monotonous.

On the other hand, it appears quite in order to lapse into verbosity—in common parlance, to confound by science. This can be quite distressing to one as unlearned as myself.

Thirdly, the immediate aim of each lecture is often difficult or even impossible to discover, even after considerable research afterwards. Admittedly, topics may be abstruse, intricate and debatable, but some idea can surely be given of the main thought behind each of these vague wanderings. Again, recapitulation may seem unnecessary to an expert, but what of the inexpert? Closely allied to this is the lack of a few moments at the end of the discourse to ask stupid questions which befog the minds of the unfortunate listener and which in practice may be lost

before an opportunity does arise. How easy to say at seven minutes to the hour, "Any questions?" In some instances even tutorials—when an energetic inquest can be conducted—are denied us.

In fine, this is a short address for the indignation meeting. Perhaps it is not clearly understood that academic ability is no excuse for lack of clarity, coherence and real desire to assist students in their search for a better understanding of this complex science and society with which we are faced. It is *still* true that our learned gentlemen are employed (partly at least) for the benefit of the students and not *vice versa*. And in all fairness, it is their duty to make this benefit as complete and comprehensive as possible in recognition of allowances received.

In conclusion, I find it hard to understand why a graduate who wishes to pass on his knowledge to youngsters of five to eighteen should require a special course lasting for a whole year, and yet this is unnecessary if the graduate merits an appointment as lecturer at a high seat of learning where the "youngsters" are generally over eighteen.

S.D.J.

**Last Day for Copy for the Next Issue
APRIL 29th.**

**This gives the whole vac. to those who would write
but never have the time during term.**

UNION NEWS

**"Union News" is anxious to
receive News and Articles
from all Students.**

**THE LAST DAY FOR COPY IS THE THURSDAY
ONE WEEK PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.**

Donec gratus eram tibi....

Ce tango morne qui verse dans mon cœur
Les sanglots échevelés de l'accordéon,
Au rythme sinueux,
Au chant mystérieux
De la guitare pleurant sa douleur....
Je le sens, à pas lents qui me caresse
Fondant corps et coeur et âme de son ivresse.

Tes longs cheveux bouclés viennent mourir,
Tremblants tels un air de mandoline
Soyeux et drus, et noirs d'une moire féline,
En repentirs alanguis sur ta jeune poitrine....

Tu es partie si joyeuse vers le bal,
Et je suis resté seul....avec mes pleurs.
Ton cavalier est beau aussi,
Et c'est à toi, lorsqu'il sourit,
Ce rire mutin qui tout le passé dans mon coeur réveille ?

Doucement au loin s'égrènent les heures
Chante, chante, ô carillon rêveur !
Enterre, enterre à jamais mon bonheur....

Bientôt l'aurore blafarde viendra
Et de loin me parvient, assourdi par la porte,
Un petit air de mélancolie suranné.
Une bûche éclate sur le feu mi-consumé,
Saupoudré comme mes rêves de cendres feuille morte.

Demain, demain, je te verrai encore une fois ;
Entre hier et demain, entre courage et faiblesse
Entends-tu glisser, furtivement, la voix
Des " te souviens-tu " qui reviennent sans cesse ?

S. J. COLLIER.

Miadan.

A dim incandescence
betrayed a half-moon's presence
lurking behind weary clouds.
Thin lightning streaks
and flickering flashes
illuminated for seconds
in silvery splashes
the still Miadan.
An ungentle breeze's wooing
stirred slumbering palms
with cool caresses
and softly set a-sighing,
each sigh a psalm,
their whispering leaves.

T. N. S. LENNAM, Burma, 1942.

Tenebrae.

See no visions you men of our time,
Dream no dreams for easing of the heart,
Linger not a look behind you
As beauty's feet depart.

Seek no more for Spring in Winter.
Your fingers have no skill to plumb the snow
And feel the cold earth's heart-warmness,
The green flame below.

Dazed not now by strangeness apprehended
At sudden corners of life—let not your eye
Wonder at starlight, nor hear silence
To all your questionings reply.

Better for walking in are caves than sunlight :
Sphere yourself in a candle's light and stand
In the yellow bubble of light which darkness
Nestles in his hand—

Unaware of the imminent moment when curving
Downward of fingers on the palsied rim
Of your little circle of clear seeing
Sets all you had of light to dim.

Thus you may ripple your life with laughter,
Spend your time cheerfully with little things,
Careful on the roadway how you put one foot before you,
Forgetting the hills—and wings.

P.C.

The Enchantress.

I dropped my hope,
And broken found it ;
But she with love
Lifted it up,
And with a rainbow bound it.

I tore my life,
Where rough ways scratched it ;
But she with love
Laughed over it,
And with a sunbeam patched it.

I lost my heart—
(Wherefore rebelled it ?)—
Nor could it take
For all my craft,
Where fast she held it.

HAZEL M. TOWNSON.

Humanitas ?

“Eve and the Gryphon,” by Gerald Vann,
O.P. (Blackfriars Publications, Oxford—6/-).

This is a book everyone can read with profit, especially Christians. It deals with the age old problem, the vocation of Woman and her relationship with Man. It is refreshing these days to read of “vocation” and not “career,” as it implies a purpose in life apart from transitory occupations such as the acquisition of wealth or a job with plenty of holidays. Too often we read of men and women choosing “careers,” or being forced into jobs, as ends in themselves or as means of living this life with the minimum trouble for maximum pleasure. The ideal of following a vocation, of living a life of love and self sacrifice, of giving without counting, the cost is too often dismissed as “utterly feudal” and unworthy of the “modern scientific age.” Yet it is only by obeying calls to our deeper nature that we can live life to the full and see something in it.

Without vocation, suicide and spiritual blindness are the two alternatives available to mankind: we have to die sometime—let us, therefore, die now if we are having a raw deal or else let us eat, drink and be merry while we can.

Or perhaps we don't see these alternatives so vividly? Perhaps we think life need not be painted so black, perhaps we are not so completely selfish, or do we think that in the service of the community, in philanthropy, in patriotism or in bringing up a family we shall find an answer to our inmost desires? Few can deny that unselfishness is common in people to-day, whether it be in the Communist dream of a united community, or the utilitarian ideal of maximum pleasure for the greatest number of people. Very few men and women are wholly selfish or materialist and it is notorious that an ideal, however crude, attracts people of all ages and both sexes and especially the young and adolescent.

Yet comparatively few people take the trouble to reason out for themselves this curious ideal of love. Just why should one bother about others? How or why do we cross the barrier between utilitarianism and true love? Because surely in our heart we do not all really believe we love others merely because in the long

run it is to our own advantage. Yet how can we avoid so doing?

One answer, and to the Christian a satisfying answer, is given by Fr. Vann in his book “Eve and the Gryphon,” where he examines the problem primarily from the woman's point of view and where he restates in very readable language the traditional answers of Catholic Christendom to the question—how can women, married and unmarried, live the good life? He treats of four great models for women living in the world and trying to work for Christ in the world. “Every Christian woman,” he says, “has a vocation, not necessarily in the specialised sense of a religious vocation; but in its basic meaning of a call from God, a call to live for Christ wherever she may find herself.”

His book deals primarily with women, but men do come into it, as the following quotation may show:—

“You hear a great deal nowadays about the equality of the sexes: there is a great danger here. If you are trying to defend woman from the degradation of being treated as a chattel, from the horrors of child-marriage and so on, then of course you are wholly right: these things are a crime against human nature and against the laws of God. But, if by equality you mean an obliteration of the difference between sexes you will end by destroying the integrity of both. For the whole idea and purpose of the difference is that the two together are complementary: they complete one another.”

One word of warning. The book is written by a Roman Catholic and naturally the religion of its author can be seen in every page. But behind what to some people is bound to seem irritating sectarianism lie the fundamental truths of the whole Catholic Church, of the whole company of Christians who are baptised into the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. And—be careful—don't let pride or mere prejudice hinder your learning something which may influence for the good your whole life.

The Agamemnon of Aeschylus

by L. Ross.

The vivid production of *The Agamemnon* was a positive success.

Louis MacNeice's powerful translation was very clearly spoken by the cast, in particular by the Chorus of Women. The Producer is to be commended on his grouping of the Chorus, which maintained a high standard of co-ordination throughout; the voices of the women were particularly well chosen. Each voice was of individual colour, yet, in chorus, part of a harmonious whole. The Men of the Chorus, as Elders of the City, convinced by posture and effective use of voice.

The interjection of modern idiom by the translator was very effective, indeed startling, though never jarring. When, for example, Cassandra, in the last moments before her death, speaks: "They call me crazy, like a fortune teller," the effect of the simple words is more moving than several lines of effusive blank verse.

It would be unfair to criticise individual members of the cast. They displayed a high standard of acting. One striking feature, however, deserves particular note, the brilliantly effected contrast between the queen and the soothsayer Cassandra. The vivid, concentrated passion of Clytemnestra seen together with the utterly different abandoned grief and alternate pathetic dignity of the fortune teller, gave cause enough to remember this production.

Behind the scenes, a hardworking team designed and made all the costumes, which were both colourful and appropriate. The scenery and stage lighting were worthy of a professional performance.

The performance of *The Agamemnon* left such a sense of satisfaction in achieved effort, that minor criticisms can be ignored.

Finally, *The Agamemnon* achieved a deserved success at the recent Drama Festival at Birmingham University. The Theatre Group have achieved by this production not only success, but a high standard and should make every effort to maintain it.

To the Editor of *The Gryphon*,

Sir,

The Gryphon has twice quoted Mr. Baines to this effect: "It is quite impossible to be moved to pity for a man who dies...and who is only to reside in the Halls of Death for three days before becoming divine." There are two cardinal errors in this confused thought. The Christian religion is rooted in the will, not the emotions, and one is not asked to "feel pity." "Pity," in itself, implies some sense of superiority on the part of the person feeling that emotion. Obviously, this is incompatible with the Christian view of God and is a contradiction in terms. Secondly, Christ did not "become divine" at the Resurrection. The Incarnation involves Christ's having two natures at one and the same time, divine and human. Mr. Baines can easily read up the theology of the Incarnation if he is interested in correcting his somewhat confused logic regarding the Christian faith. Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS J. WEST,
Dept. of History.

MR. BAINES replies:

It is unfortunate that my meaning should be construed on a partial quotation out of its context. First, regarding Christ's "becoming divine," I admit my loose choice of words, nevertheless, the Gospels convey the impression that after the Resurrection, only the divine in Christ persisted—the atmosphere being far more esoteric.

Secondly, in the place of the three dots after "dies," read: "...knowingly and almost deliberately because he knows that such is his destiny." Now I maintain that it is impossible to be moved by someone who chooses, and is not afraid of, death. I am not in the least concerned whether we *ought* to feel pity: I can only say that if one experiences no emotions whatever, then it is neither Comedy nor Tragedy—the "Twin Muses" of my article—nor any form of Drama at all. May I add that it is my firm belief that any event which cannot be presented in terms of dramatic action can have little influence on the Spiritual in Man; which belief, of course, is borne out in any Church service, whose whole approach is emotional in the extreme, albeit the "pity" is generally turned inwards. (v. *Catharsis* in Tragedy Analysis).

SOCIETY NEWS

Photographic Society.

The first term of the new Session was a notable one for the Society, in that (despite the fact that two people gave half of the lectures, in the form of a serial on the "Theory of Photography") the average attendance was higher than for a number of years, being above 30, excepting for the last lecture held during the Exams. Even this number represents less than *half* the total membership, which stands at 73.

During the Xmas Vac. we prepared for the first "Open" Lecture on Colour Photography by Mr Gloyns of Kodak Ltd., which was to begin the new term.

Mr. Manby, the University Photographer, and President of the Society, had looked forward to this lecture too, and it came as a great shock to all, to hear of his untimely and sudden death, two days before the term commenced.

The Open Lecture was held, and though 40 were present, less than half of them were our own members, the rest being from the Leeds Photographic Society.

Despite many more good lectures the attendance has remained low, between 15 and 20, throughout the term, but we hope to put up a good exhibition from the faithful few, which will be held in the Committee Room on March 11th, 12th and 13th.

N. K. HOWARTH,
Hon. Secretary.

The Spanish Society.

This term the Spanish Society is holding its first Social, on Saturday, 15th March, in the Social Room, and we are hoping that many members of the Department will be able to come, so that we can achieve some sort of a Spanish atmosphere.

It has been felt for some time that there should be more co-operation between the various modern languages departments, and with this end in view, we have arranged a joint meeting of the French, German and Spanish Societies on Tuesday, 18th March; more details will be posted up on the notice boards. We do hope that students of other modern languages will come too, and if they would care to contribute anything to the programme will they please get in touch with me beforehand.

We have had an interesting programme this term, which included, for the first time, a talk from a University student, Sr. J. Rottman, who gave us a very amusing and characteristic talk on Peru, his native country, "El Mendigo del Trono de Oro."

We always feel that we would like as many Spaniards as possible to come and talk to us and, in fact, we have had only one English lecturer this term—Mr. F. Pierce, of Sheffield University, who spoke on "Villanueva, poeta Español en Irlanda." Other lecturers have been Dr. F. G. Casado, who spoke on Santiago de Compostela; Sr. Marín, of Birmingham University, who described "La vida estudiantil de Madrid," and on March 10th Sr. Lora, lecturer at Liverpool University, will talk on "Cosas de España"; this will be at 5-30 p.m., following the A.G.M. at 5-0 p.m., in the Men's Common Room.

M. L. HOBDEY.

Church of England Society.

This term has been a very active one for the Society, which now has a flourishing membership.

On Monday, February 3rd, we were visited by the Bishop of Ripon, who gave a much appreciated address on "The Growth of the New Testament." This was his first visit to the Union, and the meeting was followed next day by a special Corporate Communion, at which he celebrated. In spite of an unfortunately heavy fall of snow during the night, this service was well attended.

Two other Corporate Communions have been held since the New Year, one to open the term on January 17th, and the other in observation of the week of prayer for Christian Unity, on Wednesday, January 22nd.

Speakers this term have included Fr. W. Passmore, Vicar of Withernsea, whose address on "The Church of Ireland" was notable for its touch of humour, and Mr. G. Wilson Knight, who gave a stirring address on "Shakespeare and Christianity."

Members spent an enjoyable evening at the party, held in the Social Room, on January 21st, when clerical members showed a marked proficiency in the art of playing indoor hockey.

A.B.J.

Cricket Club.

From the fact that only two members of last year's 1st XI have left the University and that many men who played with the University in previous years have now returned from the Forces, it seems that the prospect of the Club turning out a very strong side next season seems to be quite bright.

Last year, although very successful in club matches, the University was unfortunate in losing the Christie Cup to Liverpool. This was partially due to general bad luck and also to the failure of individual players in these important matches. Surprisingly it was the batsmen who failed, although the team was apparently not too well off for bowlers and on paper was a batting side almost down to the last man. However, the Club (which of course combines with the Medics' and Dentals' C.C. in the important matches) hopes to regain the Christie Cup and also win the U.A.U. Championship. The Club is unlucky to lose last year's captain, E. Wright, who has left the University. He was undoubtedly the mainstay of the 1st XI, and headed both the batting and bowling averages for the season. This year's captain is G. A. Thompson, who, although a Dental, has always played with the University Club. He is an opening batsman and comes, appropriately enough, from Pudsey.

Largely due to the activity of J. W. Daggett, this year's G.A.S., it is hoped to achieve greater co-operation between the University Club and the Medics' and Dentals' and to obtain a continuity of policy from year to year by the formation of a Joint Cricket Club Committee, consisting of representatives of both Clubs and a permanent nucleus of outside persons. In this respect the Club is very fortunate in having obtained for the coming season the services of Mr. Herbert Sutcliffe and Mr. J. H. Nash, the Yorkshire County Secretary, in advisory capacity. Messrs. Arthur Mitchell and Maurice Leyland will also be available for coaching, and selected members of the Club will have the chance of attending net practices at Headingley Cricket Ground.

To all cricketers at the University we extend an invitation to play with the University this season, and to all cricket enthusiasts to support our home matches, especially the match with the Yorkshire

C.C.C., to be played on Tuesday, April 29th.

D. G. COWLING,

Hon. Sec., L.U.C.C.

L.U. Union Mining Society.

The newly formed Union Mining Society held a meeting on the 3rd Feb., at which a paper on Metal Mining in Cornwall was read. The three speakers—Messrs. Vokes, Wilson and Jeffrey—based it on actual experience gained during practical work at South Crafty Mine last summer.

The paper was divided in three parts: in the first, Mr. Vokes dealt with the history of the establishment and the geology of the country. The second part was devoted by Mr. Wilson to the surface and underground layout of South Crafty Mine, with special emphasis on the methods of working. Mr. Jeffrey concentrated his attention on the organisation and conditions of work.

Both the substance and delivery of this paper held the attention of the meeting and a good indication of the interest aroused and the appreciation of the members was the lively discussion which followed. The value of such discussions among students on student's papers cannot be overestimated and it is gratifying to know that the efforts of the Union Mining Society are being crowned with success.

At the next general meeting of the Society, Professor Kennedy will lecture on Oil Mining. This should be particularly instructive for the members and of general interest to all students, who are always welcome to attend.

Membership of the Society is open to everyone in the University, and information may be obtained from the Secretary—Mr. E. R. Wastell.

A. S. DAUCHER.

Riding Club.

The Riding Club was reformed at the beginning of last term after two years of inactivity during the war. Its membership is still below 30. Its function is to arrange the booking of horses for its members, and wherever possible to negotiate reduced fees. During last term we were able to arrange riding at Garforth and Collingham Bridge, and interest in the sport was

stimulated by a beginners' course, organised by the Director of Physical Education.

Our difficulties are twofold. In the first place, normal fees for riding in Yorkshire are on an average seven and sixpence for an hour, and most owners can make their stables pay only on this basis. If we ask for reduced fees for students, the co-operation of the owners rests purely on a charitable basis, because we have nothing substantial to offer in return. So far we have been promised a maximum reduction of 25%.

Secondly, riding in the latter part of the Autumn Term and practically all the Spring Term is subject to the caprice of the West Riding weather. And in the Summer Term people are reluctant to go out because of the proximity of exams.

But we want more students to join the Club. We want to be able to arrange for riding in parties, and this can only be done if we can increase our membership.

DONALD AUSTIN.

Maths. Club.

The Maths. Club has held several successful meetings in the last few months. Worthy of special mention were talks by two members of the Maths. Department; Professor H. G. Ruse spoke on "Recollections," and Dr. N. B. Slater on "Rockets." During the course of his talk Dr. Slater caused some amusement when he made the rather ambiguous statement that rockets suffered from "wind"!

On March 4th we are hoping for a visit by Professor W. P. Milne, who will speak on "Threads of Gold in Mathematics," and at a later meeting the President will conduct a Quiz. After the Easter vacation we shall start with a Social to be held on the first Saturday of next term.

J.G.W.

Debating Society.

Although subjects of particular interest to students have been discussed this term, attendance has not been overwhelming.

On the 17th January, a motion approving the action of Manchester students in the recent Transport strike was defeated; 31 voted for, and 33 voted against. It was rather surprising that only a small number of students attended, as only recently, Leeds students were driving buses and trams along our own highways. Nevertheless, a lively discussion took place, and the standard of speaking was fairly high.

The motion was proposed by Mr. J. S. Parry and Miss M. Hetherington, and opposed by Mr. J. Rummelsburg and Mr. N. Roseman.

February 6th saw the gathering of about one hundred students to convince themselves "That this University is decadent." The motion, proposed by Mr. K. Salinsky, supported by Mr. W. G. Baines, was carried by 48 votes against 34. Miss L. Gladstone and Mr. J. Hyett strongly opposed the motion, but feelings ran high, and much criticism was levelled at the Union, the University in general, and lecturers in particular. It was generally agreed that the majority of students live in a state of apathy. The case for the proposition was greatly strengthened when it was discovered that the "tellers" were unable to count!

On February 13th, Mr. Gadsby Peet travelled to Birmingham to represent Leeds at an Inter-Varsity Debate. The motion ("That this House has no confidence in the Government") was defeated by 40 votes against 30. In the same week, Mr. Pollard went to Sheffield to meet delegates from all the Universities (including Oxford and Cambridge) in a debate on the motion "That scientific and technical achievements of Man so far outstripped his moral and political development that he will destroy his civilisation before he can utilise his discoveries for its advancement." The motion was defeated by 100 votes against 37.

The N.U.S. Congress is taking place during the Easter Vacation, and one of the topics to be discussed is "Military Conscription." This is obviously of great interest to all students, especially those liable for "call-up" when their studies terminate. Primarily to hear the views of students on this question, a mid-day debate will take place on Friday, 14th March.

It is hoped that a number of lunch-hour debates will be organised next term. An experiment will also be made by the introduction of a Union Parliament, to which all legal Party Societies will be asked to send candidates. Negotiations are still under way for inviting two prominent M.P.'s to lead a discussion on a topical question.

The Debates Committee is attempting to stimulate interest in the Society, but the Society cannot be a success without

the co-operation of its members. Please send us your complaints and suggestions about times, subjects and frequency of debates.

JON ROMMELSBURG

(Hon. Sec. Debates, 1947).

Socialist Society.

This term we started having our weekly meetings on Monday evenings, and find these are more satisfactory than meetings rushed into dinner hours. The participation of members is not yet 100%—but as the meetings get under way we do hope that more people with the "progressive" outlook will come along.

Interest has been focussed on South Africa by the Royal visit, and we are therefore studying and discussing the

conditions of administration out there affecting and differentiating between natives and Europeans.

The importance of housing, and the difficulties confronting local authorities and builders, were put before us very clearly by Councillor Adamson and Mr. Braham, a Trade Union organiser. They were very pleasantly surprised by the fact that students take an active interest in the problems of Society. That "Society" is very much our responsibility was also shown by the film on "Town and Country Planning," which was shown at our Members' Tea. At the Tea we also discussed the kind of programme which we would like to have for our Society. We hope to put some of these ideas to the test next term, and also to resume our afternoon visits to various industries.

B.L.

News of Interest to Old Students

COOMBES.—Rev. Idwal J. Coombes (Arts, 1931-34) has been appointed Minister of the Normanton Baptist Church.

EDWARDS.—L. J. Edwards (Econ., 1925-8) is the new Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health; he is M.P. for Blackburn. He was for some time a staff tutor, member of the Leeds City Council, and Labour candidate for the North Leeds constituency in 1931 and 1935.

HARDY.—Rev. J. F. Wrangham Hardy (Geog., 1929-32) has been appointed rector of Addingham, near Skipton. He had many hazardous experiences with the Reconnaissance Corps during the war.

HEPPENSTALL.—"Poems, 1933-1945," by Rayner Heppenstall (Mods., 1929-32) were published by Secker and Warburg in February.

JESSOP.—Professor T. E. Jessop (Philosophy, 1919-22) is the general editor of a new "British Philosophers series," to be published by Nelsons. He is the sole editor of Hume's complete philosophical works (in about eight volumes) and joint editor with Professor A. A. Luce of the complete works of Bishop Berkeley (probably in six volumes).

TURNER.—James Turner (Science, 1925-8) has been appointed the first paid President of the National Farmers' Union.

WEBSTER.—Fred Webster (B.A., 1914; LL.B., 1920) has replaced Sir George Etherton as a member of the Local Government Boundary Commission.

BIRTHS.

MOLL.—To Dr. H. H. and Mrs. Moll, at Denison Hall Nursing Home, on February 9th, a son.

SHERWOOD.—To Dr. Leslie M. and Mrs. Sherwood (formerly Sybil Lewis), on February 11th, at 81, Alwoodley Lane, Léeds, a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

RILEY-GARDINER.—Captain John Douglas Riley (M.B., 1942) to Mrs. Pamela M. J. Gardiner (née Cotterrell), on February 8th, at Derby.

DEATH.

GHOSH.—Dr. Edith Ghosh was killed by stabbing in Calcutta on January 16th.

Leeds University Old Students' Association

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS

LEEDS AND WEST RIDING BRANCH.

On January 27th the second meeting of the term was held and was considered a great success by all members who were present to hear of Miss Benten's experiences in Czechoslovakia last summer.

Mr. Grist's talk, on February 10th, was postponed until February 24th, owing to bad weather conditions. At the time of writing we are looking forward to seeing Mr. Grist's films and hearing about his trip to Denmark.

The remainder of the term's programme will be :—

Mar. 10—"Fibres." Mr. Crummett
(Textiles Department).

Mar. 23—Spring Excursion to Wharfedale by car. Lunch and tea to be arranged. (Will members who are interested please inform the Secretary).

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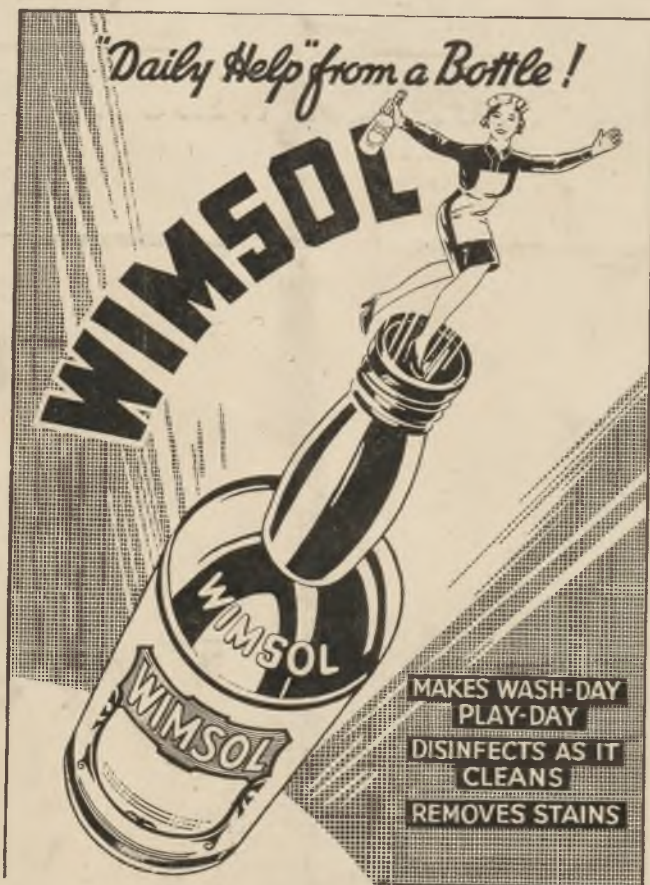
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