

# THE GRYPHON

The Journal of the University of Leeds

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# THE GRYPHON

## *The Journal of the University of Leeds*

*"The Gryffon never spreadeth her wings in the sunne when she hath any sicke feathers; yet have wee ventured to present our exercises before your judgement when wee know them full well of weak matter; yielding ourselves to the curtesie which wee have ever found than to the preciseness which wee ought to feare."*—

LYLY.

### Editorial

THIS month has witnessed the accomplishment of the first great task of the United Nations—the military defeat of Nazi Germany. It now remains to root out its still-existing vestiges.

Students all over the world can feel proud of the part they have played in this war, especially when one recalls that Nazism is the avowed enemy of cultural freedom and free scientific research. It is only fitting, therefore, that this year's N.U.S. Congress, in all its diversity, should reflect the resolute unity of students all over the world to play to the full their special part in building a lasting peace. The necessity for a democratic International Student Organisation to this end was fully realised.

The Congress, however, did not rest content with mere academic decisions, but realised that we must translate them into practical action by helping our fellow-students of Europe to rebuild their historic universities. But so great has been the devastation that we need not only to make provision for books, equipment and accommodation, but also such bare economic necessities as food and clothing, of which there is dire need. The sterling work carried on by the I.S.S. calls for our wholehearted support. Nor must we allow ourselves to forget our fellow-students of China and India, who are carrying on their work against heavy odds. Such help as we can send must flow to them as well.

On the home front, too, reconstruction goes on apace; already in Leeds the machinery is beginning to move to put our own Post War Development Plans into effect. Estimates are being submitted to claim our share of the £2,000,000 Government grant for University reconstruction and reorganisation, and of the extra grants for building purposes. An immediate step in this direction is the reopening of Lyddon Hall, now derequisitioned by the Army, as a hostel next session.

The Universities will play no small part in coping with the great problem of demobilisation. Men and women in the Forces—not only past students—as they are demobilised, will be given the option of being considered for higher education, and, if they qualify, will be given grants for fees and maintenance if necessary. This influx of ex-Service men and women will lead to considerable changes in the organisation of the Universities, and already plans to cater for this are afoot.

Somewhat removed from the academic plane, but none the less vital, is the badly needed help we can give in harvesting during the Summer Vacation. This will not only ease the food situation at home, but also will provide relief for the students of Europe.

Though we now turn our main energies to peace and reconstruction at home, we cannot forget that the war against Japan has yet to be won in such a way as to ensure that people the world over, not excluding the Asiatic peoples, are not cheated out of the fruits of victory.



Now the tremendous excitement of victory is over, it may be worth while to look back upon the last six eventful years, and to ask ourselves what it was all about, what led to it, and how can we prevent the world from being turned into an arena of human sacrifice once again. As we reflect on this, it becomes clear that it is more than necessary to deepen mutual understanding and respect among nations, and for their achievements. It may seem a far cry from Leeds University to the Opera House at San Francisco, but surely the full development of university life in the last analysis depends on the degree of success we achieve in putting into effect the decisions there made for the maintenance of collective security.

On the nature of the Government we elect in the coming General Election will depend Britain's ability to rise to the tasks which the winning of the peace will require of us.

25|5|45.

JOAN BLEASDALE.

## Union Notes

**VE** DAY has been well and truly celebrated and I think nowhere better than in the Union. The Victory Dance held in the Riley Smith Hall was a great success and, although many had to walk home because of the late finish, a good time was had by one and all. The S.T.C. Dance on Friday, May 4th, gave a pre-view of Victory celebrations and the extension until 1-0 a.m. was very much appreciated. In general, one can say that the social life of the Union has been very full this year and promises to maintain its high level until the end of the Session. The Good-bye Dance on June 15th is to be Fancy Dress, a long-delayed semblance of peace-time.

The election of the President for 1945-46 caused considerable excitement and commotion last term and resulted in a very lively A.G.M., at which almost a thousand students were present. Mr. T. Eastwood was selected, but unfortunately had to resign because of Ministry of Labour Regulations. The new elections have resulted in Mr. G. Macleavy being elected for a second term, and I should like to take the opportunity of wishing him every success in his year of office.

At the time of writing the new Paging System in the Union Building is almost complete and this improvement will be greatly appreciated by the Hall porters. The disappearance of the black-out paint and material from the windows and doors of the building has made a great difference and a return to normal in every sphere of Union life is eagerly awaited. This year the Rag will be nearer to the pre-war standard than ever before and, with the co-operation of all students, we should easily pass the target of £5,000. Rag Week is from Monday, June 25th, to Sunday, July 1st. Individual dates as follows:—

Tyke Day	..	Tuesday, June 26th.
Rag Play:	"You Never Can Tell," by G. B. Shaw.	
		Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday,
Flag Day	..	Saturday, June 30th. [26th—29th June.
Dances	..	Wednesday, June 27th. Capitol.
		Saturday, June 30th. Town Hall.
Concert	..	Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.
		Conductor: Sir Adrian Boult.
		Solo pianist: Clifford Curzon.
		Sunday, July 1st. Odeon Cinema, 3-0 p.m.

Don't forget these dates.

J. S. PARRY, *Hon. Secretary, L.U.U.*

## INTERVIEWS

*Arts, Economy and Science answer the question :—  
Now that the war in Europe is ended, what changes  
do you envisage in your particular sphere?*

### Professor DOBREE.

There can be no great immediate change in the situation of the Arts. As the restrictions on transport relax, there should be more evening shows. I would like to see Union societies running their activities on a bigger scale in the evening. Particularly, I should like to see the development of Drama in the University.

In the sphere of University Art Courses, literature should be treated less as an isolated "subject" as it is at present, and the relation of literature to life should be stressed. The study of English Literature could be greatly enriched by a greater knowledge of other literatures.

Most important of all, however, is that we should regain our sense of leisure and no longer have to scurry through a "course" with no time to appreciate what we read, but rather be able to read at our leisure and follow up the lines of thought thus opened out before us.

### Mr. DICKINSON.

It is very important that people should realise the serious difficulty that Britain will have in adjusting herself to the economic conditions of the world after the war. In the past we have relied on international division of labour and have imported between a quarter and a fifth of the goods we consume. Now the rest of the world produces for itself more and more of the goods we used to make for it and it will be more difficult for us to export enough to buy our accustomed imports. Furthermore, we relied on the income from foreign investments to purchase about 20% of our imports: now we have sold most of the foreign investments to pay for the war, and so our import position will be worse than ever.

How are we going to get our petrol, rubber, cotton, oranges, chocolate, tea and so on? If we are to import as much as we did before the war we shall have to increase our pre-war exports by at least 50%. Some say 100%. In view of the tendency towards self-sufficiency in the rest of the world, this is impracticable. Either we must face a serious drop in the National Income or else we must try to produce by our own efforts and resources many of the goods formerly imported. The latter is worth trying; but it will mean a big change in our economic life—something like a new Industrial Revolution of the Five Year Plans of the U.S.S.R. It will call for the same sort of effort and sacrifice as the war has done.

If we find it difficult to buy necessary imports, it will be all the harder to lend abroad, since this means making exports without any immediate return. Britain's day as a foreign lender is over: hence the major share in the restoration of the devastated countries and in the development of colonies will have to be taken by the U.S.A.—the only country in the world now that can make big loans to others.

Thus Britain will inevitably take a secondary place in world affairs. Unless we recognise this we shall get into difficulties similar to those experienced by France after the last war, when she tried to play the rôle of a first-class power without having the resources to back up that position.

Britain now has neither the exportable capital, nor the population nor the land remote from aerial attack to play the rôle of a first-class world

power. If Britain alone cannot do this, can the British Empire? Yes, if the Dominions take a bigger share of the cost of maintaining this position. But in that case, the Dominions would have every right to demand and, indeed, would have to play a commensurate part in determining our common policy. But even Britain and the Dominions together will not form a unit commensurate in economic strength with the U.S.A. or the U.S.S.R. We must co-operate with both these great Powers, or perish.

### Dr. ASTBURY.

The crying need in this country is that science should cease to be regarded as "stinks" and scientists as cranks, but that science should be respected for what it is, an aspect of culture and a great intellectual adventure. The search for truth which is science is as inspiring as, and complementary to, the search for truth through religion and the arts. An exposition of a scientific point, as in Newton's "Principia," may be as beautiful as a poem.

In the sphere of public life it is no good having only one type of people, who, having studied Classics at some large public school, enter the Civil Service with no appreciation of the wonder and beauty of science. Science is part of knowledge and of government. These things cannot be approached without the scientific method.

As for science in the University, what is wanted is that the barriers between depts. of science should be broken down, to get rid of the idea of hide-bound physicists, inorganic chemists, organic chemists and biologists, knowing more and more about less and less. Science is nothing less than a single whole. The aim of the University courses should be to develop scientists with a comprehensive view, who know where to find details when necessary, not as at present to turn out engineers or chemists who knew a lot of facts, but nothing about science.

In the sphere of industry there is as yet little true mental contact between the scientist and the manufacturer, because the latter so rarely appreciates the scientific method. He may still engage a scientist because research is "fashionable," then give him no scope for work, and finally dismiss him in disgust.

The crux of the matter is that our present education is fundamentally wrong, in that it does not recognise the relation of science to life. Before science can rise to its full stature in this country it must be realised that science, and the scientific method of thought, is a natural and ever-to-be-respected part of culture—a demonstration of the greatness of the human mind.

## Notes and Comments

### "The Gryphon."

*The Gryphon*, like everything else, is forging ahead with its plans for post-war development. A tentative joint scheme, of which all past and present members of the University should have been notified by now, has already been worked out by representatives of Staff, O.S.A. and Students. It is hoped that by wide discussions, a really good scheme, catering for all interests, will be evolved. To this end, a meeting will soon be held in the Union to discuss the question on the basis of the circulars already issued.

### The Union Constitution.

Perhaps, now that students have a little more time, we shall be able to investigate the intricacies of our Union Constitution, and, in spirit with the times, overhaul it if necessary, to remove any anomalies which may have appeared, to ensure that it is thoroughly democratic.



### International Students' Service.

Anyone reading the News Letters of the I.S.S. cannot fail to be impressed with the magnitude and scope of the work to be tackled, or to realise more and more fully how important it is that we should make our contribution to help it carry out this work as substantial as possible.

Up to date, we have collected in Leeds a very creditable £800 towards our target of £1,500. Now, signs of slackening may be due to a feeling that the target is a little too utopian. With the inspiration of what I.S.S. has achieved, and can achieve, in co-operation with Student and United Nations organisation such as U.N.R.R.A., however, we should be able to go forward with new energy to hit a new height.

### Club and Society Notes.

So much material has been received for *The Gryphon* this term that we had regretfully to decide at the last minute to omit the Club and Society Notes. These were received from the Men and Women's Boat Clubs, the Communist Party Branch, the Dramatic Society, the International Society, the Rhythm Club, the Socialist Society and the Wall Newspaper, all reporting vigorous and interesting activities. This does not mean that that we wish for any curtailment in worthy contributions, since we should soon be able to enlarge our pages to embrace them all.

### Apology.

*The Gryphon* Staff apologises for the mistakes made in the printing of the crossword in the last issue. The prize was awarded to the person who arrived at the nearest possible solution.

### Leeds University Boat Club.

The Boat Club has, by dint of hard work, carried off this term both the Christie Cup and the Northern Universities' Racing Championship. Good going, Leeds!

## N.U.S.

### CONGRESS, 1945.

Congress this year was held at Birmingham from April 4th to the 8th. Although of necessity on a smaller scale than in pre-war years, students were well represented, and there was ample opportunity to contact students not only from our own country, but also those from other lands. French students were ably represented by M. Roger Manuel-Bridier, whom we had the pleasure of hearing in our own Union only a short time ago. Representatives were present from the Anti-Fascist Spanish Students, from the Brazilian N.U.S., from the All-India Student Federation, and there was also present the President of the Irish Students' Association.

Much time and attention was devoted to the main theme—The Students' Contribution to Peace—and such distinguished men as Dr. Sam. Lilley, Mr. Schumacher and Sir Geoffrey Mander addressed Congress, dealing with scientific, economic and international problems.

Special Commissions were held to enlarge upon the various aspects of the main theme, and it was during these rather more informal talks that the students themselves had an opportunity to take part in the general discussion and to bring forward their ideas.

Mention must also be made of the Faculty Commissions, which were equally important. Competent speakers briefly outlined to the students the problems likely to confront the Faculties in the post-war period and heated discussions were held on various points of interest.

The programme was a full one, yet there was time for leisure and amusement. Every type of entertainment was provided, including a film show, a performance of "King Lear" by the B.U.D.S., and, finally, the Congress Dance.

This indeed seems a fitting place at which to express admiration to the organisers of Congress for the work they did. The proof of their toil was evident in the efficient way in which Congress was run. Adequate food, accommodation and even, on occasions, transport, was provided for the 700 students.

The object of Congress was to place before students some of the problems confronting not only them, but the whole of mankind, in the years after the war. There was not a single speaker who did not stress the importance of the task of the student community. Of the resolutions passed during the final session, the outstanding fact is that only by acting as a united body, and in co-operation with all other Youth organisations, can we, as students take our part with any success in the difficult years ahead.

Victory has been won in Europe—it is up to every student to realise his or her responsibility and to put into practice, with that intense enthusiasm so common to the youth of a nation, those plans and schemes which have for so long been discussed in theory.

AUDREY M. HENDERSON,  
*N.U.S. Secretary.*

## HARVEST CAMPS.

May I take this opportunity of stressing the importance of vacation work on farms. As in previous years the N.U.S. are organising camps to be held in various parts of the country and a student may state a preference for the type of work, whether harvesting, fruit picking or general farming. The need is equally great in every branch—your help is urgently required and will be fully appreciated.

The war in Europe is over, but that in no way lessens the burden of the farmers. Volunteers must be found to gather in the crops—every individual student should regard it as a personal responsibility to work on the land during part of the Summer Vacation, if possible, during the months of June and September.

Registration forms for this N.U.S. Agricultural Camp scheme may be obtained from the Union Office and I shall be only too pleased to give any information which I can.

AUDREY M. HENDERSON,  
*N.U.S. Secretary.*

## ARTS AND THE FUTURE.

In a spirit which reflected the whole atmosphere of the N.U.S. Congress the Arts Faculty discussed and considered how best it could find a way to help in "Students' Contribution to Peace," which was the central theme of the whole Conference.

There were three Arts Faculty Commissions held to discuss this vital question with specific reference to the Arts Student. The three sessions were entitled: "The Arts—are they necessary?" "A Philosophic Approach to Politics" and "Student Organisation in Peace." No accusation of vague theorising, of discussion *in vacuo*, could have been made by any observer. The speakers at the sessions were: a sculptor, who was reading for a Ph.D. at Oxford before the war, but who has since experienced the hard practicalities of life in the aircraft industry in wartime and who has been able to bring a mind tempered in the heat of the two worlds of Arts and Industry. The second speaker is an economist and lecturer; the third, a student who has had actual experience of the problems of student organisation.

From these facts it is obvious that students were determined to get information from the people "on the job" straight from a world which needs a constructive student contribution to peace.

The discussion, however, was the most stimulating aspect of the whole proceedings. Alert, eager, yet with mature contributions, students jumped up one after another to question, suggest and attack. Ideas were eagerly seized upon, examined carefully and, if progressive, likely to make a useful contribution to peace, they were considered and adopted. If products of the barren days of pre-1939, likely to result in leading our steps back to the negative and sterile pre-war years, they were rejected.

It was realised that students, as Arts students, must strive to express their medium in the forms of a scientific age, must strive to imbue it with the fundamental good from which the humanities of the Arts springs. This was no task to be discussed glibly. Only elementary aspects could be discussed, but each student was able on these discussions to look with new eyes into his subject. He will be able to probe down deep into its potentialities and relevance for service in the present-day world.

This determination and readiness to discover best forms for their contributions to peace was not only visible among Arts students, but in the plenary sessions the same attitude was revealed in the study of wider problems of reconstruction; other Faculties also showed the same enthusiasm.

Only if this spirit, pioneering, yet trained and skilled for a special task, is brought to bear on the problems of peace and reconstruction, can a better world be created, a world where science is not perverted, but applied to the alleviation of man's sufferings and the improvement of his material conditions, where culture and humanitarianism can flourish and permeate the whole of society. This spirit was shown to exist amongst a cross section of the students of this country. It is up to those who did not attend the Congress to study all reports of its activities and to create in themselves the same capacity and determination to contribute to a real and lasting peace.

JOAN SHAW.

Editor. N.U.S. Arts Bulletin.

## Beethoven—the Revolutionary

**B**EETHOVEN'S whole life was a perpetual struggle against the tyranny of man and the tyranny of "fate." He was born at a time when the ideas of freedom of Voltaire, Rousseau and others had already laid the intellectual foundation of the great struggle which was shortly to culminate in the capture and destruction of the Bastille, the hated symbol of despotism and enslavement. In Central Europe, petty monarchic dictators still flourished. Each little principality or kingdom had its own monarch, and court, with the usual corruption, intrigues and unchecked powers. It was the fashion for each ruler to have his own private orchestra and a tame composer, who was generally the conductor of the orchestra. The musicians were treated like domestic servants, and it is well known that even Mozart had to take his meals in the kitchen with the domestic staff of his "patron." Just before Beethoven appeared on the scene, composers still tolerated this state of servitude; Haydn lived fairly happily in submission, but Mozart made a premature attempt to free himself. He won his freedom, but like a caged bird freed from its prison, he was unable to live in the stormy world, and he died in extreme poverty.

Beethoven received his first training in rebellion as a child, when he had to fight his tyrannical father, who wanted to exploit him as an infant prodigy. He secured his independence from this irresponsible drunkard when he became Neefe's pupil and assistant at the Court of the Elector of Cologne. After his mother's death, when he was about 17 years old, he had to struggle in order to obtain part of his father's salary, so that he could look after his younger brothers.

While at Bonn, Beethoven attended at the university the lectures of Schneider, who wrote the following when news of the French Revolution reached Bonn: "To despise fanaticism, to break the sceptre of stupidity, to fight for the rights of humanity, ah! no valet of princes can do that! It needs free souls that prefer death to flattery, poverty to servitude." Beethoven lived according to these words.

He took vengeance on the autocracy of Vienna for their neglect of Mozart, but often his vengeance struck the innocent, as when the mother of Princess Lichnowsky begged him on her knees to play the piano, and he refused without even rising from the sofa.

When Prince Lichnowsky once said a word which seemed to him to be directed against his independence, Beethoven banged the door and vowed never to see him again. He wrote to him: "What you are, you are by the accident of birth; what I am, I am of myself. There are and there will be thousands of princes. There is only one Beethoven." We cannot call this conceit; Beethoven knew his own greatness, and we all know now that there have been thousands of princes, but only one Beethoven! .

In the fight for his artistic independence, Beethoven made many enemies, both among nobles and among other musicians, by showing them how little he thought of them. He refused to employ polite hypocrisy, but he was often carried away by his impatient temper, and was deeply sorry after offending people whom he truly esteemed. His real friends stood by him in spite of these outbursts, and many of his quarrels were followed by reconciliations.



In some of Beethoven's works his revolutionary spirit and love for mankind are more obvious because of their non-musical associations. Thus he composed incidental music to "Egmont," Goethe's drama about the liberation of the Netherlands from the Spanish yoke. Like many other great minds of the same period (*e.g.*, Shelley), Beethoven was inspired by the story of Prometheus, the benefactor of mankind, who was punished by the Gods with eternal sufferings, even as Beethoven was punished by the greatest catastrophe which could befall a musician—deafness—and he wrote the "Prometheus" ballet music. The "Eroica" Symphony represents the victory of his own will over the depression which had followed his realisation that his deafness would not be curable; Beethoven dedicated this work to Bonaparte, then First Consul of the French Republic, but when he heard that Bonaparte had betrayed Freedom and proclaimed himself Emperor, he tore up the dedication and replaced it by the significant words: "To the memory of a great man." The Bonaparte of Beethoven's ideal was dead! In the Choral Symphony, Beethoven introduced three stanzas of Schiller's "Ode to Joy," expressing his faith in the Brotherhood of Man.

Beethoven wrote his works, as he said himself, because "what was in him had to come out," but they speak for all mankind, for they express emotions and aspirations common to all mankind. Many modern artists would do well to remember this, instead of producing works without content and of a form which can be understood only by a few initiated members of the "artistic" brotherhood, who think that to be an artist means to wear corduroy trousers, grow long hair and, possibly a beard, live a "Bohemian" life (but only on the surface—a metamorphosis to the "man of the world" in evening dress comes very easy to them!) and have no scruples, principles or "inhibitions." A true artist does not speak for a few specialists, he speaks for all, as Beethoven did more than any other composer.

"Seid umschlungen, Millionen,  
Diesen Kuss der ganzen Welt!"

F. KIEFFER.

## Of Shoes and Ships and Sealing Wax

THIS modern youth  
Thinks it can dispense  
With all that is not  
Mechanic or logic.  
I love you, etc.

Abolish sentiment,  
Flaunt tradition.  
That for our fathers  
(They weren't really happy like us).  
I love you, etc.

Say, let's talk of sex.  
Why not? Just think,  
That's damn all there is.  
(No light little pastime).  
I love you, etc.

Janie had a baby,  
But nobody minded.  
(God's truth, after all).  
It was only a small one!)  
I love you, etc.

We'll roll in the abstract,  
Great lashings of Joyce.  
Simply too wizard!  
(We don't understand it).  
I love you, etc.

This world cannot hold us,  
Life's too, too banal.  
Let's turn out the light now.  
I love you, etc.  
(That's just how they say it!).

NEVIL H. SILVERTON.

## Democracy

**D**EMOCRACY is on everybody's lips. Everyone agrees that we have been fighting for democracy, but does everyone understand it in the same way? Is it, as some people believe, a matter of being able to record a vote once every five years, or is it something more? Does not "rule by the people" imply that the people shall have equal opportunity and a fuller share in the shaping of their own affairs?

In ancient Greece, democracy was the prerogative of the few.

The Athenian land and slave-owner debated with his social equals in the legislative chamber for the regulation of the state in his own interests. But the vast slave population, who produced the necessities of life, was excluded from these deliberations.

Coming to more recent times, it is generally recognised that our Western democratic ideas originate from the time of the English Revolution, the American War of Independence and the French Revolution.

In England, for instance, the feudal interests clashed with those of the rising industrialists. Consequently the seventeenth century sees a tremendous and victorious struggle for political and religious freedom.

While not underestimating the great advance this democracy constituted, these gains in essence represented only the freedom of the wealthy merchants and landowners to elect themselves into Parliament. The majority of the people in this country had to struggle for another two centuries before being able to record a vote. Even so, the social complexion of the House of Commons has not altered to any appreciable extent. For instance, 350 M.P.s. hold some 512 directorships among them. There is another factor which is often overlooked, and that is that the above undoubtedly great advances in democracy are somewhat offset by the limitation of this to

one-fifth of the Empire. Arrogating to ourselves the right to rule the disenfranchised millions of the other four-fifths may be justified by many convenient theories, but whether it can claim legitimacy in terms of any democratic principle is open to question.

Although necessarily linked to Great Britain, the great democracies of U.S.A. and France have developed each along their own individual paths. In all of them, political democracy has been won by heavy sacrifices of wide sections of the people. But we have to ask ourselves whether this kind of democracy is really the final phase of developing democratic ideals? We have to ask ourselves whether the Lincolnian ideal of government "of the people, by the people, for the people," has been reached, if it merely rests on a formal right to vote, while accepting glaring social inequalities and unemployment. Is not the formal assumption of equal right to vote contradicted by iniquities inherent in a society consisting of, in the words of Disraeli, "two nations" where the reality of power resides in one?

Since 1917, a new type of government has emerged in Russia. It has been called by those great social investigators, Sidney and Beatrice Webb, "the most inclusive and equalised democracy in the world." These are admittedly challenging words. But here we need only note that the Soviet socialist system—where the conflict between labour and capital, characteristic of the rest of the world, does not exist—works from below. Every citizen has the right, indeed, duty, in his organisation (T.U., co-op., cultural and sports societies, and so on) to take decisions on problems as they constantly arise in the course of his daily life. The network of freely-elected Soviets (local district, regional and so on) is the institutional form of this new type of democracy. Further, the national inequalities and domination of one people by another, associated with the Czarist Empire, and with many existing empires, have been eliminated. Jews and Gentiles, black, white and yellow, Asiatic Turkmen and European Ukrainians, all enjoy equal status in the Soviet family of nations. Thus the Soviet system would appear to be considerably nearer to a people's government than anything we have known before in the long struggle through the ages for democratic rights.

The European nations, especially the Slavonic, in their fight for their national independence, have evolved yet another form of democracy. Broadly speaking, the people's democracies in Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Poland and Czechoslovakia and, in many respects, in France, stand midway between the capitalist and socialist types of democracy. The most remarkable feature about them is that they rest on the National Front of all sections of the people, who, without distinction of class, race and religion, organised the National Liberation Movements against the German imperialist invader. The main problem in many of these countries has been the acute land-hunger among the peasantry. This necessitates democratic measures of land reform, by which the peasants finally will own the land they can till.

Therefore we can see that though the people have always aspired towards the ideals of democracy, the extent of realisation of these ideals has varied according to the social group which is in power. It is clear that the concept of democracy does not conform to a hard and fast pattern, nor can our particular conception claim finality and perfection. Note must therefore be taken of the new trends of democracy which are developing in other parts of the world. It may help us, perhaps, to re-examine the ethical foundation on which our democracy rests. The development of new Europe constitutes a challenge which cannot be ignored.

J.B.

## Europe Unbound

*"To defy Power, which seems omnipotent;  
To love, and bear; to hope till Hope creates  
From its own wreck the thing it contemplates."*

(SHELLEY: *Prometheus Unbound*).

THE end of the war in Europe has been received in this country with a profound sense of satisfaction and joy.

What it means for the peoples of Europe can be well understood when one recalls the news-reels taken at the murder-camps of Belsen and Buchenwald.

When the final balance of losses incurred by mankind during this tragically real nightmare comes to be drawn, the extent of destruction of culture may well prove inestimable. Perhaps nobody has expressed this thought more nobly than that great French poet and Resistance leader, Aragon, when he says:—

"How many who would have drawn from the play of numbers and of thought not only poems that will never be written, but also bold calculations that would have spared men years of hardship in the depths of the mines, among the perils of the sea and in the floods of spring? How many builders who will never build, musicians silenced, brave rescuers who will never advance into the flames, champions of the snows or of the mountains; how many modest or brilliant contributors to that immense history in which we proudly merge humanity and France? How many of our men will never fulfil the destiny for which they were born?"

Indeed, Mother Europe herself might say: "How many of my Dutch, Polish or Yugoslav sons and daughters will never fulfil the destiny for which they were born?"

If we want to understand what the tasks of European students will be, we have to look at it against this background. It will be their responsibility in the first place to help with the cultural reconstruction of their countries; a responsibility the gravity of which, in view of the terrible ravages of the war, cannot be overestimated.

This cultural reconstruction, of course, cannot take place on sound foundations if every vestige of Nazi poison which penetrated into the fields of culture is not uprooted.

The problem of re-introducing democratic cultural values into the lives of millions of ordinary Europeans, however, is not merely a spiritual one. It is equally important that the Dutch students should speedily overcome the effects of starvation by having access to a reasonable supply of wholesome food. The spiritual revival of Europe will depend on the rate of rebuilding of the devastated schools and universities of Poland and Yugoslavia. It will depend on whether the looted Czech or French libraries and art galleries are replenished by books and paintings. There are very many "it will depends . . . ."

However, to those who may be staggered by the magnitude of the job (and is there anybody who can doubt it?), we can say it can be achieved by mutual help and collaboration. It is an old truth that like understands like. A Devon sailor has no difficulty in getting along with a Black Sea marine. A French peasant experiences the same doubts about the success of his crops as a peasant from Bulgaria. A Leeds medical student understands the difficulty of a Belgrade student who lacks a microscope and is therefore hampered in his further advance.



The time is not far off when the students of all countries will get together to thrash out their common problems, to see where the needs are greatest and to suggest remedies for the old mistakes.

Indeed preliminary arrangements are already being made for an International Students' Conference—sponsored by the N.U.S. and other Allied Student Organisations. This is to be held in Autumn of this year in Prague.

To-day, we do not yet know, of course, what the representatives of the students will decide upon finally. We can, however, be sure the young people who played such a glorious role in the defence of their countries and of their national cultures, will not disappoint us.

“ This, like thy glory, Titan, is to be  
Good, great and joyous beautiful and free;  
This is alone Life, Joy, Empire, and Victory.”

M. TEICH.

## India and the War against Japan

“ The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time :  
the hand of force may destroy but cannot disjoin them. This, Sire,  
is our last, our determined, resolution.”—

*Thomas Jefferson to King George III.*

NOW that the war in Europe is over, the focus shifts to the East. Plans for the concentration of our entire strength against Japan are in full swing. That Japan will be defeated no one doubts. The problem is one of achieving the speediest possible victory. In this context India holds the key position. She is not only the main strategic base against Japan, but also a base of supply and industrial production and a vast source of man-power. Without under-rating her war effort, it can hardly be denied that her contribution has not been commensurate with her enormous potentialities. Therefore the task of fully developing and utilising her great untapped resources acquires ever-increasing urgency. The present background of alienation of the major political parties and consequent bitterness and frustration, however, can hardly be said to create ideal conditions for such a mobilisation.

Economically the situation is disquieting. Many official statements have been issued about the increasing economic development in India. In examining the economic field it is difficult to see, however, where these great expansions have taken place. The striking fact is that production has remained practically static. Indeed, the production of such vital commodities as jute, coal, iron and steel has actually declined. Not one of the essential armaments or means of transport required for the modern army can be produced in India. She produces only small arms. Even to-day she cannot produce a locomotive or a complete motor-car. The growth of heavy chemicals is thwarted by the strangle-hold of the I.C.I. The majority of plants are engaged in repair and assembly work. There are no plants to manufacture engines. Such “ expansion ” in production as has taken place has been brought about by the diversion of industrial production from one field to another—in most cases the diversion is from civilian needs—and hence productive capacity as a whole remains unchanged. *The policy of retarding*

*industrial development in the interest of metropolitan monopoly still continues.* This static state of production is true not only of industry, but also of agriculture. Coupled with the lack of adequate control of production and distribution over the whole economic field, this situation has led up to the economic chaos, of which the most pronounced expression is the famine.

This state of affairs is eloquent evidence that the present Government in India is incapable of enthusing the people and of organising the resources of the country for war. The following impression of President Roosevelt's Special Representative to India, Mr. Philips, is noteworthy: "Indians feel that they have no voice in the Government and therefore no responsibility in the conduct of the war. They feel that they have nothing to fight for. . . . The present Indian Army is mercenary. General Stilwell has expressed his concern over the situation and in particular in regard to the poor morale of the Indian officers. The attitude of the general public towards the war is even worse. Lassitude, indifference and bitterness have increased as a result of famine conditions, the growing cost of living. . . . All have one object in common—eventual freedom and independence."

That there is a widespread and growing desire to see this anxious problem solved is becoming more and more evident.

Chiang-Kai-Shek's appeal to the British Government to "give them (the Indian people) real political power so that they may be in a position further to develop their spiritual and material strength and thus realise that their participation in the war is not merely an aid to the anti-aggression nations for securing victory, but also a turning-point in their struggle for India's freedom," his subsequent letter to President Roosevelt on the subject, Molotov's speech at San Francisco expressing his desire to see a delegation of Free India rather than the present puppet delegation, and the offer of the Acting Secretary of State of the U.S.A. at a recent press conference to mediate between Britain and India are only a few indications of the uneasiness felt in Allied quarters.

The resolution of the Labour Party Conference calling for the release of Congress leaders and negotiations for a National Government is a significant expression of the development of public opinion in Britain. Many other organisations have gone on record in similar terms. Note may also be taken of *The Times* editorial on March 20th, which sums up a general consensus of opinion that "Britain's present reliance upon Cripps' offer in a 'take it or leave it' spirit no longer suffices, and is fraught with peril to Indo-British co-operation both during and after the war.

"There is a general conviction that it is for this country to resume the political initiative."

\* \* \* \*

Lord Wavell's visit to London for consultation has led to a spate of speculations. People are asking: "Is the Government likely to make a new approach to solve the deadlock?"

It may not therefore be out of place to examine what prospects exist in India itself for a new step forward.

It should be noted at the outset that, whatever the disagreement between the political parties themselves, *there is a far greater volume of unanimity on the basic question between Britain and India (i.e., national liberation) than the authorities would have us believe.* Further, such differences as exist among the Indians as to the formulation of post-war constitution of *their country* do not detract from the wide degree of agreement as to the steps that must be taken in the immediate future.

True, the Gandhi-Jinnah talks produced no immediate results. Nevertheless, they revealed certain common ground. As Jinnah has put it : " We (Muslim League) are not enemies of the Congress, only we do not agree on certain points. We are united with the Congress against the common enemy." Although Gandhi did not accept the absolute right of Muslims to form separate states, his recognition of the principle of Muslim right of self-determination marks an advance and provides the starting-point for fresh negotiations. In order to carry forward the positive results of the talks, it is necessary at this stage for the leaders of the National Congress and the Muslim League to meet in a joint session to explore the further possibilities of a settlement. With the Congress Working Committee in prison, Gandhi had to approach Jinnah in his individual capacity. He was therefore unable to put forward a representative point of view on questions as they arose. This constituted a great difficulty. A final settlement can only be reached in consultation with the Congress Working Committee.

■ While granting that the Congress cannot claim to represent the entire nation and that there is substance in the Muslim League's demand, it cannot be disputed that the Congress is the premier national organisation in the country. That the Government grudgingly recognised this is implied in the statement of Sir Stafford Cripps when he accused the Congress of demanding "a dictatorship of the majority," whatever this phrase may connote. Therefore, any attempt to by-pass the Congress would be like attempting to construct an arch without a keystone.

Both within the Congress and the League there are signs of a growing desire for unity and a positive approach. An indication of this new trend can be seen from the fact that a solid front is being presented in practice by both the Congress and the League against the present bureaucracy. The Government has suffered defeat after defeat in the Central Assembly by a united vote of both parties, although no formal unity has yet been achieved. The formation of provincial governments on the basis of Congress in the North West Frontier Province and on the basis of a Congress-League coalition in Assam is a pointer to this.

It is no less significant that Lord Wavell should admit in a recent speech in Calcutta that "*A new National Government based on the support of the main political parties, might be more serviceable to India's needs than the present Government of India.*"

\* \* \* \*

The opportunity for a fresh approach exists. The prison-gates must be opened so that greater strength can be brought to bear on renewed negotiations as a preliminary to the formation of a composite popular government.

There can be no plausible argument for the detention of the political leaders. The excuse that they hinder the war effort is a mere "bogey" designed to confuse the real issue for imperialist considerations. No distortions can conceal from the Indian people that the leaders were imprisoned *not for opposing the war, but for demanding fuller participation of the Indian people as an equal ally in the war effort.* Nor is there any opposition to the British Army remaining in India as part of the *Allied Army* (rather than as the army of a *Herrenvolk*), in the same capacity as the Americans in Britain. Even Gandhi, while maintaining his personal pacifist standpoint, is supporting this nation-wide demand. His recent statement that "the

obstruction of the war effort is a mere bogey. When the principal Congressmen are free, there will be a real national war effort, *if they are allowed to have an effective say*," clarifies the position.

It may be worth recalling that leaders like Nehru and Azad were denouncing Fascism and organising help for countries which fell victims to aggression at a time when the Anglo-German Fellowship was flourishing in Mayfair; when not a few distinguished personages from Britain were found among the honoured guests of Hitler at Nuremberg. Branded in the memory of the Indian people also is the oration delivered by that epitome of democracy, L. S. Amery, who is piously engaged in the uphill task of educating the Indians in the ways of self-government, when he stated "Japan has got a very powerful case based upon fundamental realities. . . . who is there among us to say that Japan ought not to have acted with the object of creating peace and order in Manchuria and defending herself against the continual aggression of Chinese nationalism?" "Our whole policy in India stands condemned if we condemn Japan."

The impending full-scale offensive against Japan will make even greater demands on India. At present her life-blood is being drained away to such an extent that she is increasingly becoming incapable of meeting this demand. She cries aloud for a government which has the confidence of her people and which can restore economic stability, vitalise production, control prices and stocks and save the unhappy people from starvation. This need cannot be tackled except by a government which is responsible to and amenable to the control of the people.

M.R.

## The Banjo Song

**L**A chanson du banjo,  
Fine comme un grolot,  
Perce ma solitude.

Mon rêve voyageur  
Vers les lointains tropiques,  
Gémit dans la torpeur  
De ces sons nostalgiques.

La chanson du banjo,  
Douce comme un sanglot,  
Berce ma solitude.

Mon désir migrateur  
Ondoyant l'Atlantique,  
Soupire dans les pleurs  
De cet air d'Amérique.

La chanson du banjo,  
Traine dans son écho  
L'appel des latitudes.

Paradis enchanteurs  
Des terres inconnues !  
Volupté des ardeurs  
Que je n'ai pas vécues !

JULIETTE DECREUS.



## Twilight in an English Village

SMOKE from a chimney curls up to the sky—  
Daintily, dreamily, gossamer cloud—  
Ribbons of lace that are kissed by a breeze  
Waving farewell to the slow-setting sun.  
Down in the village an audible hush  
Slowly descends on a slumbering world.  
Warmly the breeze from the neighbouring sea  
Plays with a bush in the village churchyard,  
Whispering secrets amongst the cold tombs,  
Whispering secrets that no-one can hear.  
Close by, the fire at the village blacksmith's  
Crackles, then glows, and subsides into ash.  
Suddenly, shattering silence supreme,  
The clock in the church chimes the hour of ten.  
No-one to hear it, the villagers sleep.  
They must be ready to rise with the dawn,  
Darkness is here and the daylight is gone.  
Creatures nocturnal take charge of the land,  
They only are waking and nothing else stirs  
Save smoke curling dreamily up to the sky.

ANTHONY S. METCALFE.

## The Islander

NINA sat on the grassy bank and looked down at the surf breaking over the sandy beach.

The Trade Winds blowing out of the horizon tossed the freshness of the ocean through her long black hair. The murmur of the waves was punctuated only by the intermittent piping of a cicada\* in the coconut trees behind her.

She welcomed these few minutes alone.

A quarter-mile down the beach she could see her mother and father packing the picnic paraphernalia into the car, while her little brother built his final castles on the sand. Minutes like these at Balandra Bay were more than an escape. They were a tonic for her soul.

Life could be beautiful, Nina thought. How peaceful and serene everything was. How different from the jostling and clanging of busy Frederick Street—the swearing and shouting of the grimy wharf—tractors and bulldozers tearing down the trees for some American landing field—the rattle of cutlasses and carts in a sweating sugar-cane plantation, or gleaming oil refineries throwing noxious vapours into the air. And mobs, riots, dissatisfaction, poverty, starvation. She had seen a lot in the short 18 years of her life, in a strange, detached sort of way, for to the schoolgirl, Plato and Pythagoras are easily more immediate and vital than a study of the cost of living.

Nina's two months at the Government Office helped to make her see it Jaik's way. She could sit and listen to him for hours on end, while he

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\* The Cicada is a large transparent insect with beautiful transparent wings.

explained about the terrible economic conditions of the country, and how much there was for the younger generation to do about it. She enjoyed listening to him, not because she was interested in what he was saying, but because she liked to see his dark eyes sparkle as he spoke, or his eyebrows rise to meet the creases on his forehead as he asked her if she understood.

Yet, she always thought he was too serious when he was serious and much preferred to go dancing, or sit with him listening to the waves rushing over the sands.

It was two years since they did these things—it would be four years more before they could do them again. Jaik would be a doctor then, but would things be the same as before?

Jaik was always a little impatient. She remembered the time they quarrelled—about some trivial affair. He had lost his temper. "When are you going to grow up," he had shouted at her, and she had shouted back something about when was he going to stop being an old man. And then they had both stood silently staring at each other, both afraid for what they had said, before he turned and walked away.

She hoped he hadn't held it against her. He should see her now, collecting statistics about unemployment, the extent of illiteracy in the Island, the incidence of Malaria and Tuberculosis. He would know she had grown up if he only saw her and talked with her.

She wondered what he was doing over there. Had life at University made him forget his little island? Were newer interests flooding past hopes and desires out of his mind? Does he think of home and the things which were once so dear to him? Will he remember?.....

Nina stood up and raised her eyes across the ocean to the sky, where the clouds were catching the last rays of the sun and throwing them back at her in a thousand colours. She brushed the hair from her face and started slowly towards the car. The Trade Winds kept on blowing.

In Trinidad, as in most of the Tropics, night falls quickly.

The cicada in the coconut tree had not piped in vain—from a tree nearby came a low, excited chirp replying to his own. There would be other cicadas next year.

The sun nestled softly among the hills, and twilight, hovering awhile like an impatient humming-bird, darted swiftly into the night.

M.S.S.

## The Press

IT is a far cry from the simple news sheet of the Nineteenth century to our modern newspaper. The candle whose limited radiance lighted its immediate locality has now become the most powerful of searchlights, whose beams expose the entire world to our knowledge. The Twentieth century might fittingly be called the "Newspaper Age."

The technical advances and social repercussions consequent upon the industrial expansion of the last century made universal education an economic necessity. The rise of the new literate public which followed provided the newspaper with its great opportunity. Hitherto, the existing

daily journals, "The Times," "Morning Post," and "Daily News" had given a straight presentation of current events, but a wider public now demanded an explanation and interpretation of these events, and brought into being a new type of journalism.

Most newspapers generally distinguish between straight news and comment, but those which omit news for the sake of furthering some personal or political end, violate one of the highest tenets of the journalistic world. The importance of the distinction between such fact and comment is intrinsic in the words of a famous critic: "A paper not based upon an attempt to disseminate truth is a cup of poison sent round every morning to debilitate the life of the people." The poison lies in the omission which may result in distortion. Such omissions may be accidental because of the tremendous speed with which decisions have to be taken in the selection of material. Whilst the fundamental importance of truth in the reporting of events is evident, a considerable amount of bias is possible in the presentation of straight news; yet if a paper has a consistent policy and philosophy, its interpretations will confuse none, and its millions of readers can base their judgments upon its content with impunity.

It is quite possible, however, that a paper may be biased in its selection of news by its unwitting subservience to the advertisers. Advertising revenue provides more than 50 per cent. of the income of the majority of newspapers, and this dependence represents an influence which the critic might seriously deprecate.

From the journalist's viewpoint, it is the proprietors of the newspapers who tend to make encroachments upon their freedom, and the extent to which this is so depends upon the conditions of ownership. Of the great national papers some are privately owned; some are family concerns; others are held by trusts; by the Co-operative Movement; or by the Trades Union Congress; but most have been joined together into companies and combines, controlling chains of newspapers throughout the country. One Press Lord alone owns, or holds the controlling shares, in one national daily newspaper, four national Sunday papers, two less famous Sunday papers, six provincial dailies, seven provincial evening and six provincial weekly papers. Whether the motives of such gentlemen are public service, private profit or the propagation of personal views, one may question their credentials and their claims to the all-powerful office of guardians of public opinion. It is apparent, then, that more and more newspapers are being dominated by fewer and fewer people, which, in the interests of democracy, and that proud freedom which is the core of our national heritage, is not a healthy development and is to be deplored.

With the approaching end of this second world war, and the return of millions of serving men and women to civilian life, new demands will be made upon the press by an experienced, stimulated public. It will be required to present facts faithfully, safeguarding the true interests of its millions of readers.

With the knowledge of the power of the Press for good or for evil, we look forward to the time when it will be responsible to, and guided by its readers, when it will become a powerful agent for peace, security, freedom, progress and mutual prosperity.

DYLYS BIRKBY.

## REVIEWS

## The Alchemist

IT is difficult indeed to understand why plays of the lesser Elizabethans are so often read and so infrequently performed. Particularly does this neglect seem unwarranted when by some happy chance an Elizabethan play, other than Shakespeare's, makes its appearance. In presenting Ben Jonson's "The Alchemist," the Union Dramatic Society was truly fulfilling its function as a centre of local culture. Here was a rare opportunity for the provincial playgoer, his horizon limited by the seemingly endless pantomime season, to see Jonson at his best, in a play whose relation of material to form is well-nigh perfect.

Here then was Jonson, a completely unknown quantity to the vast majority of the audience; here was a play which, more than many others, could be made or marred by the quality of its acting and production; and here the Dramatic Society must be given almost unreserved praise. As always, the production by Kenneth Severs had a professional sureness of touch, the rapid transition from one scene to another and the grouping of characters being especially noteworthy. The speed of the play was well maintained and seemed to drag only at rare intervals in the first act, but the final working out of all the complexities of the plot was done with great speed and lightness. For the most part, the acting lived up to and surpassed the very high standards of production, particularly so in the case of Dol. Common, played by Eileen Hewson, and Face, the Alchemist's assistant, played by Martin Ambery-Smith. The disreputable and richly comic Dol is perhaps the most outstanding character of the play, to whom Eileen Hewson brought a broad and sure sense of humour, although Martin Smith's interpretation of a less slapstick character was full of life and humour and showed a fine sense of stage movement. Subtle the Alchemist is certainly not so broadly comic as his two assistants, and James Hyett seemed less alive, less completely at home in his disreputable surroundings, and seemed to gabble unintelligibly in the first act, although his fault was largely corrected later. Without exception, the minor characters, many of them only lightly sketched in the play, were given a solid and three-dimensional quality, particularly Keith Semple's glorious Abel Dragger, Gordon Barrett's Ananias, hesitating between unseemly cupidity and pious resignation, and Kenneth Severs' Sir Epicure Mammon, with his dream of voluptuousness and wealth. The love scene between Sir Epicure and Dol was indeed one of the highlights of the play.

Altogether this production was very successful. Faults there were, but these were small, and in no way marred the general high level.

K. E. THURMAN.

OXFORD.      APRIL, 1945

The casual visitor to Oxford in the early days of April this year might have been surprised by the many young men and women who were to be seen engaged in earnest conversation in the coffee shops of the city or boating on the Isis in the Spring sunshine, and whose blazers and accents betrayed the fact that they were students from universities in many different parts



of the British Isles. Had he investigated the position further, he would have found the solution to the problem in the Hall of Regents' Park College, where, four times a day, 350 students were meeting as "The Twenty-sixth Annual Inter-'Varsity Conference." He would have discovered, too, that these students (nine of whom, by the way, were from Leeds) were representatives from Christian Unions like the "L.U.C.U." which exist in nearly all the Universities of Great Britain and Eire.

Listening to speakers recently returned from such places as Central Africa, India and China, he would have heard them show how important was the general title of the Conference, "The God with whom we have to do," at a time when purely material attempts to solve the pressing problems of war and peace seemed to be failing in the face of apparently unchanging human perversity.

At the afternoon discussions, students placed their own points of view before the Conference, and our "casual visitor" might well have been impressed by the sane and level-headed ideas on Christian faith and experience put forward by them. For, clearly, like St. Paul, they were "not ashamed of the gospel of Christ," and felt that a brave new world needed "new men" as well as new methods.....

G.C.T.

### DEBATING SOCIETY

We began the term in serious vein with a debate on Proportional Representation being the best method of electing the House of Commons. Many had qualms as to the practicability of such a measure, but it was generally agreed that it is the most democratic method. Then followed a light lunch-time debate on the motion that politeness is a waste of time. Many men rose nobly in defence of their chivalry and they carried the day with flying colours. Devonshire Hall held a hilarious balloon debate and Weetwood voted in favour of domesticity as against glamour.

The chief event of the term was the Inter-'Varsity debate on the motion that modern youth is unintelligent and irresponsible in its use of free time. We had delegates from St. Andrews, Sheffield, Manchester, Birmingham and Nottingham. In spite of the importance of the occasion and the controversial nature of the motion, the attendance was very poor and the motion was easily defeated. The term ended with a debate on the public control of all Medical Services. We were very pleased to welcome Mr. Black, President of Leeds Medical Association, who presented such a strong case for the motion, that the debate resulted in favour of State Medicine in the proportion of 2:1.

During the vacation we sent delegates to St. Andrews and Aberdeen to speak on the subject of Nationalisation. We therefore decided to begin our term with a debate for the public control of basic industries. The attendance was unfortunately poor and no final vote could be taken since a section of the audience left early, so that there was no quorum. Unofficial figures, however, showed a large majority in favour of public control.

We hope to have further debates this term on the wearing of academic dress and on polygamy. We try to suggest a variety of subjects for debate and yet the audience is low on the average, and speakers are hard to find. This society could be a forum of student opinion, but it needs far more co-operation from the community.

DYLYS BIRKBY, *Secretary of Debates.*

## Hostel Notes

### WEETWOOD HALL

Social events in the Lent term opened with a Hall Dance—the first that we have been able to hold for several years. This was voted such a success that it has been decided to arrange a "Summer Formal," to take place in June.

As is customary during this term, the Freshers provided an evening's entertainment for the rest of Hall, and they are to be complimented on their programme.

This year we have had the unique experience of two visits by candidates for the Union Presidency. Judging by the number of questions asked at both meetings, Weetwood is certainly not lacking in interest in Union affairs.

Equal interest was again shown when some of the speakers in the Leeds "Christian Commando" Campaign organised a discussion in Hall one evening.

Apart from the Dance, plans for this term include a Weetwood Tennis Tournament—in preparation for the Inter-Hostel matches. At the moment, however, it might be suggested that Weetwood's leisure time is spent in digging up dandelions in the grounds—quite a lucrative employment in view of the Warden's piece-rate offers!

### OXLEY HALL

Writing these notes as our studies are halted for two days in celebration of the cessation of hostilities in Europe, we can review the extra burdens of the past years and feel that the sacrifice has been worth while. Soon we resume normal sessions and perhaps in the not too far distant future a true life of peace.

We have welcomed two new members within our walls this session and expect two French girls soon.

Our weekly entertainments die a natural death during the Summer whilst we enjoy an outdoor life—when weather permits! But we are arranging a Musical Garden Party on May 26th, when we hope many of our friends will be present to hear Rosemary Rappaport perform.

March 14th was one of our more important "dates" last term, for then we held our "Goodbye Dinner" for those just completing Edu., and also presented a wedding gift to our head-maid, who was married on Easter Saturday. We wish her every happiness.

At the Women's Social, "The Watched Pot" was performed, with accustomed enthusiasm and talent. The Brains Trust proved extremely versatile and provided answers to a wide selection of questions. As always, the Tea Dance was very popular, and the evening went with a swing. We were pleased to have Prof. and Mrs. Brodetsky to dinner and receive some first-hand information of New York in wartime—incidentally, we'd still like to go there.

In the Hockey Match against H.O.R. we surprised both them and ourselves by emerging from the mud victorious. Unfortunately we did not repeat the performance in a return match. Within Hall a Tennis Singles Championship has been started.

We extend a warm welcome to Miss Blackburn, whom we are very happy to have with us in Hall this week.

Like everyone else, Oxley Students now look forward to putting into operation their post-war plans.

## Retirement

### Professor WHYTLAW-GRAY

Prof. Whytlaw-Gray, F.R.S., is one of the leading experimental physical chemists of this country. He belonged to a group of young research workers who were fortunate to be able to collaborate with the late Prof. Sir William Ramsay. This group was sometimes referred to by Ramsay as being "his real discoveries."

With Ramsay, Prof. Whytlaw-Gray carried out what is generally recognised to be one of the most beautiful and elegant pieces of research ever performed. It was the famous determination of the density of radon (niton), the emanation of radium.

Prof. Whytlaw-Gray's high precision investigations on gases brought him international recognition. This was perhaps most strikingly demonstrated shortly before the outbreak of this war. At an international conference in Switzerland the participants recommended that on account of the important work done by Prof. Whytlaw-Gray in Leeds, his laboratories should be regarded as international ones.

It needs hardly to be stressed that on retiring from his post, Prof. Whytlaw-Gray will not interrupt his work. We are sure that all who had the good luck to come into contact with him will join us in wishing him many more hours of fruitful and happy work and, above all, many more years of good health. M.T.

## Obituaries

### Professor A. S. TURBERVILLE

It was with the deepest regret and with a profound sense of loss that the students of Leeds University learnt of the death of Professor A. S. Turberville on Wednesday, May 9th, 1945.

While his death deprives this city of an active and distinguished citizen, and this University of a keen and efficient administrator, it is in his own department that Professor Turberville's death will be most sorely felt. Not only was he respected as a scholar whose research had added much to our knowledge of history, and especially of that Eighteenth century to the best spirit of which he was so nearly akin, but also he was regarded by all as a friend ever ready to listen to one's difficulties, and to offer the best advice and help within his power. In his death the department of History has suffered a blow from which it will not soon nor easily recover.

To Mrs. Turberville, in her loss, the heartfelt sympathy of all the students is extended. She will, I know, not need our assurance that she will always be honoured and welcome among us.

D. JEAN DAWSON.

### R.S.M JAMES TELFORD. (The Green Howards)

Those who remember R.S.M. Telford will have been deeply distressed by the circumstances of his death. What struck one most about James Telford was his indomitable spirit, his exhaustless energy, by and his capacity for devotion—to his family, the Corps, to the country.

What struck one most about James Telford was his indomitable spirit, his exhaustless energy, and his capacity for devotion—to his family, his Corps, and his country.

He enlisted in 1919 in the Green Howards and after seeing service abroad, came to Leeds University O.T.C. in 1936, when the Corps was only 126 volunteers, under the command of Captain Spence, later Lieut.-Colonel.

After the outbreak of war, the Home Guard (L.D.V.) was formed and to this cause he rendered valuable assistance. In 1940 the Corps strength rose to over 800, and many old students will remember the enormous amount of work he put in during that period. He left the S.T.C. in May, 1943, and returned to his Depot, but after a short stay there, was posted to the 10th Paratroop Regt., where he completed all his "jumps"—a no mean task for a man of his age. He was eventually discharged from the Service on medical grounds in June, 1944, and went to reside with his family at Longtown (Carlisle), where he was employed up to the time, of his death, in the War Constabulary Police.

R.M.

## University of Leeds

### RE-ORGANISATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

The impending retirement of Professor Whytlaw-Gray from the Chair of Chemistry in the University of Leeds, which he has occupied with distinction for nearly 22 years, has brought under consideration the organisation of the Departments of Chemistry.

The Council has decided to unite the separate Departments of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry into a new single Department. This decision is in keeping with the modern trends in Chemistry. Chemistry is becoming a study based on fundamental physical conceptions, and using the new physical methods of investigation, such as spectroscopy and X-ray crystal analysis. These developments in Chemistry should be reflected in the teaching of the subject. For some time now the Departments of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry have been moving nearer together and their union will enable a fundamental and systematic presentation of Chemistry to be given.

Within the combined Department there will be two Professors of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, of whom Professor M. G. Evans, who has hitherto occupied the Chair of Physical Chemistry, will be the senior.

The Council has appointed to the second Chair in the Department of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, Dr. E. G. Cox, D.Sc. (Bristol), F.Inst.P. His research work has been concerned mainly with the structure of carbohydrates and of inorganic co-ordination compounds.

The appointment of Dr. Cox is a recognition of the important part which crystal chemistry and the chemistry of the solid state is beginning to play in the whole structure of chemical thought and work.

The Department of Organic Chemistry will continue to be under the direction of Professor Challenger.

### CHAIR OF GEOLOGY

The University of Leeds has appointed Mr. W. Q. Kennedy, D.Sc. (Glasgow), to the Chair of Geology, which has been vacant since 1940.

His field of research has been a wide one, including mineralogy, petrology and structural geology.

It is expected that Dr. Kennedy will take up his duties at the beginning of August.

### APPOINTMENT OF BURSAR

Changes in the administrative organisation of the University have been approved by the University Council.

The offices of Accountant, Clerk to the Senate and the title of Secretary of the University have been abolished. In the new scheme of organisation



there will be two independent officers of comparable status, namely, a Registrar and a Bursar, under the immediate direction of the Vice-Chancellor.

Mr. E. J. Brown, B.Com. (Lond.), who has held the post of Accountant since 1924, has been appointed to the new office of Bursar and will be responsible for all financial and business administration, including Estates and Buildings, and the Committees relating thereto.

The Registrarship will be filled in due course.

Meeting of the Council, Wednesday, 21st February, 1945.

The Pro-Chancellor (Colonel C. H. Tetley) in the Chair.

The Council recorded with regret the loss by death since the last meeting of:—

Emeritus Professor Harold Collinson, a member of the staff from 1905 until his retirement in 1941, during the last five years of which he was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

Emeritus Professor F. W. Eurich, Professor of Forensic Medicine from 1908 to 1937.

The Council accepted with grateful thanks from Dr. H. M. Birkett, of Bradford, a former student of the School of Medicine, a donation for the institution of a Prize in the Faculty of Medicine.

Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 21st March, 1945.

The Pro-Chancellor (Colonel C. H. Tetley) in the Chair.

Mr. John Le Patourel, M.A., D.Phil. (Oxford), was appointed to succeed Professor Douglas in the Chair of Medieval History as from the beginning of next session. His publications include a number of works on the history of the Channel Islands.

Dr. J. McDougall, Lecturer in the Physics Department, was appointed part-time Warden of non-resident men students.

At a recent meeting the Council of the University gratefully accepted a further generous gift from Mr. Charles Brotherton of £1,000 for the purchase of equipment for research in the Department of Textile Industries, and the offer by Messrs. Brotherton & Co. Ltd., of the sum of £1,000 a year, for a period of not less than seven years, for the establishment of a Brotherton Research Lectureship in Physical Chemistry in the same Department.

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## Leeds University Old Students' Association

### Notes from Headquarters

When these Notes appear in print the Prime Minister's historic announcement of Victory in Europe will already be old news, but we cannot let it pass without comment. What does it mean to us? Our first thought is for our gallant Forces, which, by their combined efforts, have assured themselves of a well-earned respite from hard fighting and freed us from anxiety for them as well as for ourselves. The feeling is one of thankfulness rather than of exultation, for we remember that there is still the war in the East to be won. In the meantime we are faced with another immediate problem, a problem even greater than winning the war in Europe. That depended on numbers, munitions, supplies, leadership and individual initiative. There was one grand objective, in which all the Allies were united—to defeat utterly the common enemy. Now that we have achieved that end there remains an even more formidable one—to establish and guarantee a state of affairs in which every nation shall be able to live happily without fear of interference from its neighbours. That will be the task of our government and the governments of our Allies. Our immediate task, as old students, is to think long and deeply before recording our votes in the forthcoming General Election, in order to make sure that men of vision and tact are elected to represent us in the planning of the world of the future.

#### Social Activities.

Early in the Easter term we issued invitations to all students taking finals during 1945, to be our guests at a Dance in the Social Room on Tuesday, 13th March. The object of this was to get in touch with students before they went down and to let them know what the O.S.A. exists for, in the hope that they would join our ranks when the time came. A goodly number of guests arrived—we noticed a few First Year Students amongst them and wondered if they were apprehensive that this would also be their last year. A number of members appeared to support the Officers and Committee. The President welcomed the guests before they dispersed for supper and the Secretaries invited those who thought of joining when they went down to leave their names and addresses on sheets provided. An enjoyable programme of dances was controlled by Mr. Gordon MacLeavy Dr. J. T. Stoker as M.Cs., and the Union Porter as Director of (Panatrophe) Music. An adequate supper was dispensed by Miss Nicholson and Miss Miller, after which the ice cream department was speedily reduced to an empty shell. The end, controlled largely by the last tram, came all too soon and we hope that our guests enjoyed an evening "off the ration" as much as we did.

Owing to the still restricted travel facilities we shall not attempt to organise a Summer Function this year, but members are recommended to watch the next issue of *The Gryphon* for particulars of the Annual Christmas Function.

**Appeals.**

The attention of members is drawn to the appeals for the Priestley Memorial Fund and for the work of the I.S.S., both of which, in their separate ways, will commend themselves to large numbers of Old Students. No contribution will be too small, none too big.

**Old Students and National Service.**

Large numbers of Old Students have hitherto been too busy or too modest to send in details of their National Service. Please address a note to the Hon. Secretaries at Headquarters, giving us full particulars. Details of Old Students who are not members of the O.S.A. are also required for the University's records. Do help us if you can.

A.E.F.

**NEWS OF INTEREST TO OLD STUDENTS**

**CARRUTHERS.**—Dr. J. N. Carruthers (1914–15 and 1918–20, M.Sc.), who was recently appointed Head of the Oceanographical Branch of the Hydrographic Department of the Admiralty, has been commissioned Cdr. (Sp.), R.N.V.R., for specialist duties in Germany. Dr. Carruthers took his degree of D.Sc. at the University of London.

**PEACOCK.**—Dr. Ronald Peacock, Professor of German since 1939, has been appointed to the Henry Simon Chair of German at the University of Manchester.

Among the Fellows of the Royal Society elected in March of this year were Dr. F. M. ROWE, Professor of Colour Chemistry and Dyeing, and Mr. A. E. INGHAM, of Cambridge University, formerly Lecturer in Mathematics.

**BIRTHS**

**ADAMS.**—To Dr. D. A. W. and Mrs. Patricia Adams, on January 30th, a son.

**AUSTIN.**—To Dr. Philip and Mrs. Austin (formerly Mary Cooper), on April 11th, at Yakusu, Belgian Congo, a son, David Hartley.

**HALL.**—To Lieut.-Colonel G. K. (O.B.E.) and Mrs. Hall (formerly Frona Brayshaw, Arts, 1935–39), on April 5th, 1945, a son. Address: 32, Granville Road, Frizinghall, Bradford.

**REEVE.**—To W. H. (Geology, 1925–29), geologist, Colonial Service, Kenya Colony, and Mrs. Reeve, on March 30th, 1945, at Nairobi, a daughter. Address: c/o Public Works Department, Head Office, P.O. Box 662, Nairobi, Kenya Colony.

**SANCTUARY.**—To Mr. John R. and Mrs. Sanctuary (formerly Patty Maltby), on April 28th, at Grappenhall Maternity Home, Warrington, a son, Christopher John.

**ENGAGEMENT**

The engagement is announced between Flight Lieut. W. M. HODSMAN R.A.F., B.L.A. (Gen. Hons.), and Margaret Blainey (Gen. Hons.).

**MARRIAGES**

**ASTLEY-SYKES.**—Squadron Leader Clifford Edric Astley, of Bradford, to Dr. Joan Shirley Sykes, of Alwoodley Gates, Leeds, on February 17th, at St. John's Church, Moor Allerton, Leeds.

**ELLIS-LEAH.**—Richard Thomas Ellis, of Runcorn, to Amy Smeeton Leah (Ph.D.), of Beeston, Leeds, on April 3rd, at Leeds Parish Church.

HAIGH-HEMMING.—Frederick R. Haigh (Engineering, 1934-37), Senior Lecturer in Electrical Engineering at Wigan and District Mining and Technical College, to Dr. Mabel L. Hemming (Chemistry, 1935-40), Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry at Sheffield University, at Nether Congregational Church, Sheffield, on April 17th, 1943. [Our apologies are due to Mr. and Mrs. Haigh for the delay in inserting this announcement].

HAMMOND-KNIVETT.—A. R. B. Hammond (Geography, 1935-38) to Brenda J. Knivett, on February 8th, at St. Martin's Church, Dover.

MACLEAVY-BLACK.—Rev. Basil La Trobe MacLeavy (B.A., B.D., Manchester) to Vera A. Black (Arts, 1938-43), on January 9th, 1945, at Fulneck. Mrs. MacLeavy writes from the Fulneck Boys' School, Pudsey, Leeds.

McMILLAN-SANDFORD.—Derek Haigh McMillan (M.B., Ch.B.), of Paddock, Huddersfield, to Mary Sandford (Ph.D.), of Ash House, Holmfirth, on April 18th, at Holmfirth Parish Church.

### DEATHS

BURRELL.—Mr. William Holmes Burrell, formerly keeper of the University herbarium, died on March 30th, at the age of 80.

EURICH.—Dr. Frederick William Eurich, of Bradford, former Professor of Forensic Medicine at the University, died in February.

ROBINSON.—Dr. H. Wheeler Robinson, the distinguished theologian, died on May 12th at the age of 73; he was for some time Principal of the affiliated College (Baptist) at Rawdon.

THOMPSON.—Dr. Herbert Thompson (Hon. D.Litt.), a generous donor to the University Library and a learned critic of the arts, died on May 6th.

TURBERVILLE.—A tribute to Professor Arthur Stanley Turberville, who died early in May, will be found elsewhere.

YEWDALL.—As *The Gryphon* goes to press, news has been received of the death, on May 19th, at the age of 72, of Alexander Yewdall, formerly Lecturer in Textile Industries.

### WAR SERVICE

CUTHBERTSON.—Flying Officer W. R. Cuthbertson, a member of the staff of Torridon, lost his life in air operations in July of last year. He was the nephew of Professor Jones and the son-in-law of Mr. B. H. Wilsden, Director of Torridon. He graduated at the University of Western Australia, but took higher degrees at Leeds.

DAVIES.—Rev. T. J. Davies, Baptist minister, lost his life in a flying accident in Italy earlier this year. He studied at Rawdon College and took a degree in Arts at the University in 1938.

### J. H. PRIESTLEY MEMORIAL FUND

A representative committee has been formed to establish a J. H. Priestley Memorial Fund for providing a suitable and lasting recognition to the long and distinguished service of Professor Priestley to the University. He occupied the Chair of Botany from 1911 to 1944 and by his inspired teaching and encouragement gained a special place in the affection and esteem of the staff and students. He was a gifted administrator and the University owes much to his balanced judgment, impartiality and long experience. His advice and help were constantly sought and freely given and he had the high regard and great respect of all his colleagues.



It has been suggested that the Memorial Fund might be used for grants to students to foster and to further their studies and knowledge of Botany, an object to which Professor Priestley's own endeavours were especially directed, but details of any scheme will be settled when the size of the fund to be administered is known.

Individual notices have been sent to old students of the Botany Department, but it is hoped that many other old students will wish to be associated with this tribute to the memory of Professor Priestley.

Will you please send your contribution, if possible,

by June 30th, 1945, to:—

The Hon. Treasurers, J. H. Priestley Memorial Fund,

The University, Leeds, 2,

or to Lloyds Bank Limited, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, 2.

(Cheques should be made payable to the

J. H. Priestley Memorial Fund).

Signed, on behalf of the Committee,

E. A. SPAUL

(Chairman of Committee).

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