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# THE GRYPHON

The Journal of the University of Leeds



September 1941

THIRD SERIES  
Volume 7 Number 1

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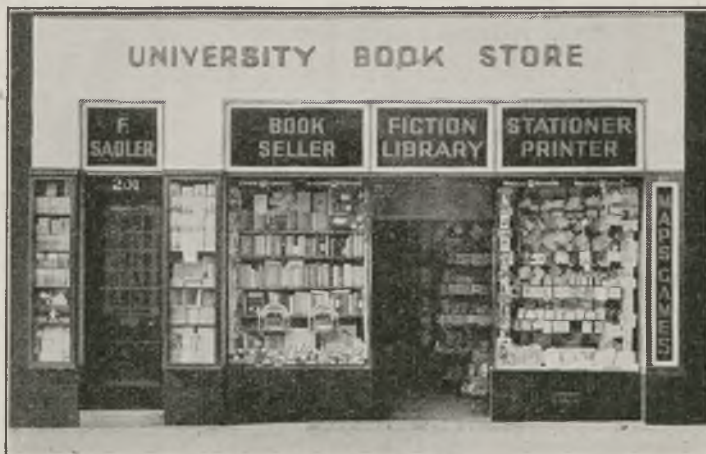
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# The Gryphon

THE JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

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*"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 judgements 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

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## Editorial

IT is usual to dedicate the first editorial of the session to the freshers, but this we dedicate to all. Having been in the University three years we have had ample time for observation, and we are going to begin by throwing a few much-needed bricks at certain types of students. Roughly, there are two types—those who think and those who do not. Let us examine the second type first. Some of these become so immersed in their work that they have no time either for the life of the University or of the world outside. They progress steadily in their narrow channel from school to the University and thence into a nice comfortable job. They are of some value to the community because they are usually hard workers, but they are really mere automats. Others, having certain pecuniary advantages, are even worse. These hit the high spots, frequenting "pubs" when they ought to be at lectures, drinking numerous cups of coffee in the Union, and generally attending all social functions because it is the "done thing". These are worse than the first type—they neither work nor think.

Let us now turn to our ideal student—the one who thinks. Working hard enough to pass his exams he nevertheless finds time to read widely and to get out of the student's groove and see what is going on around him. He often spends his vacs. working, and the experience he gains of works' committees will serve him later when he sits on the Union Committee—not, we hasten to add, as a mere social climber, but as one who works for the good of his Union. This is he who sooner or later will become a respected member of the community, and upon such people will rest the responsibility of reorganisation after the war, and consequently the happiness of future generations. The ideal, you will say, is impossible. So it may be, but it is something for which we can always strive.

If we face the facts we must realise that new blood in abundance will be needed after the war. The fight against Fascism grows more and more horrifying. Since the invasion of Russia more lives have been lost in a short period than ever before. The Russian people are making possibly even greater sacrifices than our own people have done in the past two years. They are our comrades in arms, and even if we, as students, feel to be far away from the scene of the struggle, let us make that struggle worth while by educating ourselves to play our part in the reconstruction of post-war Britain. Instead of wasting our magnificent opportunities at the University, let us use them even more avidly than we would in peace time. Reading—a magnificent library; observation—works' visits; discussion—philosophical, political, and literary clubs; Students' Congress. All these are available, and more—get out of the University, mix with people and talk to them; that is the way we shall beat Fascism in the long run, by stamping out snobbery at home and establishing a



united people's front. And above all let us preserve the rights our forefathers won for us, for the benefit not only of ourselves, but of those that come after us. Good luck to the freshers, all the same.

## Notes and Comments

"A chiel's amang you, taking notes,  
And faith, he'll prent it" BURNS

### The V.-C. Returns

We are glad to know that the Vice-Chancellor is returning to the University for the coming session. Nobody seems to know where he has been or what he has been doing, but we understand he has been "lent" to the Government for six months. At all events, although the students see little of the V.-C., University functions will seem more normal with the V.-C. officiating. Dare we suggest that the women students should make another appeal to attend lectures without stockings? Perhaps this time leave will be granted. In any case nobody seems to know the reason for the existence of this Victorian regulation. It may be just tradition. If, on the other hand, the authorities are afraid of inciting the male section of the University, any modern male will assure them that silk-stockinged legs are far more attractive to the "old Adam". Besides, how far **will** twenty-six coupons go? So go ahead, girls!

### Vacation Work

It is pleasing to hear that many students have spent their vacation earning their bread and butter. Apart from being of importance to the war effort, this is an excellent opportunity for getting out and seeing a different side of life and of making new friends and learning new ways. Some people have worked in various clerical jobs, and even if the work has been tedious they have had the satisfaction of earning some "dough". Others have done agricultural work, and although the pay is not so good the importance of fresh air to people compelled to spend a large part of their time in Leeds cannot be over-emphasised. An article by one of these student-gardeners is included in this *Gryphon* and treats the agricultural problem from an interesting angle.

### The "Gryphon" Office

has been moved during the vac. We are now in possession of what used to be the President's room—that is upstairs at the end of the small committee-rooms. It has been whispered that it is hoped that as the level of our position in the Union has risen so may the level of *The Gryphon* rise. We hope so too!

### Farewell

to Mr and Mrs Haddock, who have resigned from their positions as Caretaker of the Union and Manageress of the Cafeteria respectively. They were both well liked by the students and whereas some will miss Mrs Haddock for a confidential chat in the tea-room, others will notice the absence of Mr Haddock's kindly tuition in the billiards-room. Good luck to them both in the future!

The Caretaker of the Union is now to be our "Bert", who will undertake the strenuous job of porter-caretaker. We hope this time his wages, about which

there have been so many discussions, will at length have risen, especially as he is now the proud father of a baby girl. Congratulations, "Bert", and to your wife too!

The management of the Cafeteria is to be taken over by Miss Guerin (and if that's French there should be something good to eat), who will be under the direction of Miss Eileen Nicholson, who has recently become Manageress of the Refectory. May we hope that in spite of war-time difficulties quality as well as quantity will be taken into account? And whilst we are on this subject, let us hope that students will be as generous in lending their aid in both the Refectory and the Cafeteria as they were last session.

### **It has been suggested**

that *The Gryphon* should keep a list of all members of the Union who are on active service with, as far as possible, their latest addresses. We are quite willing to co-operate in this scheme if servicemen are ready to provide us with the necessary information. Please let us hear some opinions on this matter.

### **We feel very strongly**

about the Union Committee! On turning up the figures for the last Union election we find that only 33% of the electorate found enough energy to vote. The Union Committee is no more a representative body than the British Parliament. But whereas in the latter case this may be due to ignorance in certain sections of the community, it should not be so in the Union. Everybody knows or should know that the Union Committee represents the whole of the University and that major decisions are taken which affect the lives of the students in the University. Everybody, and particularly freshers, should do something about this state of affairs! Get to know what is happening in the Union, go to Union Committee meetings, and if the dates of these are not posted up write to the Secretary of the Union about it. It's his job to see they are. And then when voting time comes along next Easter you will be in a good position to vote. Remember it is more than ever important to preserve what freedom we have as individuals.

### **A few facts about the "Gryphon"**

We thank all contributors to this number, but we wish they could have been more numerous. Perhaps they will be when the term gets going properly! In the meantime, if you are going to contribute please write on one side of the paper only and add your own name even if you wish to use a "nom-de-plume". The Editor will never divulge such momentous secrets. Anything that is attractively readable and of a sufficiently high standard is acceptable. We still deplore the fact that the Right Wing of the University refuses to answer for itself. What we do not receive we cannot publish and we are certain the Left Wing would welcome the opportunity of a reasonable discussion via these columns.

Lastly, we apologise in advance for any mistakes that may occur in this number and we hope it will appear as usual on the first day of term. May we warn you that our printers are on Government work and our individual printer is on his holidays, so here's hoping!

### **Middlesex Medics**

are to be quartered upon us for another session, as though the beer shortage were not bad enough already! Seriously, though, we bid them a renewed welcome



and hope they will continue to co-operate with us in work and play (no cracks intended !). We look forward to seeing more of their original adverts and notices decorating our walls. They look good.

### A Word

to the last Editor of *The Gryphon*. We hope he reads this and we hope his conscience burns for not returning *The Gryphon* typewriter to *The Gryphon* office. We need it desperately, and as constant appeals have failed we make our wishes known through these columns, his address being unknown. Stricter measures will have to be taken if the said article is not produced by the beginning of term.

\* \* \*

## Union Notes

### Freshers

The Freshers' Social will be held on Thursday, 25th September. The President (Miss D. Wilde) and the Senior Vice-President (Mr P. Sugarman) will receive at 5-30 p.m. All freshers should make a point of attending this introductory function, where they will have an opportunity, quite informal, of meeting other freshers and Union officials. The reception will be followed by an informal dance. The Vice-Chancellor's Reception to freshers will be held later in the first term.

### The Rag, 1941

The total collections were £200 better than the previous year, a total of £1,613 6s. 4d. being the result. This sum is made up as follows—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rag Revue ...	220	9	1	Plays, etc. ...	23	8	2
"Tyke" Sales ...	685	3	9	Rag Dances ...	147	2	6
Rag Flag Day ...	440	9	6	Patron's Appeal ...	96	11	4

Expenses totalled £194 4s. 11d., leaving £1,419 1s. 5d. for distribution to various charities.

Incidentally, receipts for the sale of the "Tyke" are the second highest on record.

### Societies

It is regrettable that Societies are so little concerned with their continuity as Societies. In accordance with the Union Constitution, Societies will seek recognition annually, a condition being that a balance sheet shall be submitted; if this is accepted the Society submitting it is automatically recognised for the ensuing session. Only eleven such balance sheets have been received, which means that there are only, at the time of going to press, eleven recognised Union Societies, and only these Societies may avail themselves of rooms and other facilities in the Union for the holding of functions and meetings. War conditions may have something to do with these omissions, and the date on which applications may be submitted has therefore been extended to the 8th October. Will those Societies concerned please note?

### Post Air-Raid Work

Last session, students who were not already doing some form of National Service were asked to volunteer for some branch of post air-raid work such as Mechanical Vehicle Driving, Billeting Duties, Demolition Work, Messengers at Report Centres, etc. The response to this invitation was not great. The register is still open, and students not otherwise occupied are asked to give their names in to the Union office for the job they consider themselves most suited for.

### President of the Union

This session will see the first woman President in the history of the Union. Miss Wilde's intense interest in the Union and its many ramifications is well known, and we have no doubt that in her capable hands the Union can, the war notwithstanding, look forward to a successful year.

### Union Elections

May we urge that considerably more interest be shown in the elections—due to take place next March—than was the case on the last occasion. Of a total electorate of approximately 1,500, only 507 exercised their power to vote for candidates for the ten open seats on the Union Committee. It seems incredible that members should take so little interest in the Union's administrative body.

## University Intelligence

Meeting of the Council, Wednesday, 18th June 1941. The Pro-Chancellor (Colonel C. H. Tetley) in the chair.

The Council gratefully accepted from Mrs Chaston Chapman a further gift to the Library of 196 volumes—chiefly eighteenth and nineteenth century English literature.

The title of *Honorary Reader in Organic Chemistry* was conferred upon Dr. J. W. Baker, Lecturer in the Department of Organic Chemistry.

Mr T. G. Bridgwood, B.Sc., was appointed Lecturer in Electrical Engineering.

The Council agreed, on the recommendation of the Senate, that in general all men students of the University of 17 and over should be required to become (if not already) members of the Senior Training Corps or the Air Training Squadron, or alternatively to undertake some other form of national service approved for the purpose. Exemption from this requirement may, however, be given in certain individual cases on the ground of exceptional pressure of academic studies or other exceptional circumstances. The Council also, while recognising the splendid services given by members of the University under a voluntary system, agreed that the duty of taking part in the protection of the buildings against fire should in future be obligatory on all male members of the University, whether staff or students. Here, again, exemption may be granted in exceptional cases, e.g. where a member is already giving a full measure of his time to some Civil Defence Service. In referring to this new regulation, which is applicable to men only, it is only fitting to mention the invaluable services which have been rendered to the University by women staff and students in the provision of a First-Aid Party, and in the regular maintenance of telephonic communication throughout every night of the week. It is hoped that these voluntary services will be continued.

## Re-union

MR FAIRWEATHER did not look like a murderer—that is, he was quite unlike any popular conception of the species, for he was neither obviously sinister nor suspiciously weak in looks and bearing. The uninitiated saw him simply as a middle-aged gentleman, around whom clung an air of respectability and quiet refinement; others saw in him an esoteric something which branded him unmistakably for what he was—a schoolmaster. But it was only to these latter that the marks of his profession were obvious, for he had worn well. The iron which enters the souls of schoolmasters when they reach the age of thirty, which ravishes the schoolmistress even before her certificate has set the official seal on the horrible metamorphosis, had left Mr Fairweather almost unscathed. For which blessing he entirely omitted to thank a wide range of cultural interests in art, literature, and most other aspects of the dilettante's stock-in-trade which now enabled him, at the age of 45, to look as unlike a schoolmaster as most cultured, middle-aged men of your acquaintance and mine.

Not that, strictly speaking, Mr Fairweather was a murderer. His mild, clean-shaven face, to which horn-rimmed spectacles lent a slightly studious appearance, had none of the marks of the hunted malefactor, nor did it betray any evidence which an observer might construe as the visible signs of an uneasy conscience. As he gazed pensively through the window of his third-class compartment at a countryside looking still rather confused by the first fickle illuminance of spring sunshine, the schoolmaster's attitude, if expressive of anything, hinted at relief and calm happiness.

The measured progress of the train, together with the newborn air of fields and hedges, still gazing doubtfully at the sneer which is always present in the weather of early spring, had, in fact, turned the thoughts of Mr Fairweather to just such a day nearly twenty years before. On that occasion, he reflected, the windows of the compartment had exhibited a small yellow notice, bearing to the world the information that it was reserved; that, in fact, Mr Thomas Fairweather, B.A. Hons. (London), was in the act of carrying away his newly acquired lawful wife for a honeymoon in Brittany.

There had been something attractive about Ann at that time, he thought; indeed, he must have been attracted quite a lot, Mr Fairweather decided, or they would hardly have been together in such circumstances. To be quite honest about the matter, he had been deliriously in love with her. It was only after the passage of several years that he realised that the cooling of his affections had progressed considerably further than could be placed to the account of normal wear and tear of married life. It took him a long time to realise the truth—that Ann had been a gold-digging typist ignorant enough to interpret the "good-wages-holiday-with-pay" legend, which is popularly attached to the teaching profession, as *carte blanche* to a life whose inspiration was Hollywood; and that he had been blind and foolish enough to allow himself to be swayed by a certain childlike prettiness.

At first, of course, he had been amused. As a normal male, he had been sentimentally pleased to think of his pretty wife spending money without any apparent idea of its value, especially as a good deal of it went towards making herself more attractive in his eyes. Like most schoolmasters, he was excessively luxurious. But the inevitable financial difficulties which finally confronted them sobered him, whilst making Ann coldly furious. To his remonstrances she replied that he had cheated her. And thus, through a long passage of years, during which Ann developed into a nagging harridan, careless of her looks and dress, and he, to his horror, found



himself a henpecked husband, the strife had gone on. She made no secret of her contempt for the man who, according to her standards, had condemned her to a life of poverty; and he, perhaps because of the very intensity with which he had once loved, grew to hate her. It was more than the indifference of many marriages where love has died; rather a burning, mutual antagonism which was all the stronger because he rarely copied her example by voicing his feelings openly. Instead, he hated silently with an intensity which steadily grew.

Mr Fairweather had always typified the conventional idea of a moral man and never had it occurred to him that his burden might be eliminated by any sort of foul play on his part. He would have been righteously horrified had the suggestion been made. But he had experienced no feeling of regret or alarm when, just a week ago, his wife had been rushed off to hospital with acute appendicitis. So great was the relief, indeed, that he quite unashamedly hoped that she would not recover.

And there, Mr Fairweather told himself, had occurred his first stroke of good luck in connection with Ann. She died under the anæsthetic, and it seemed to the widower like a sudden silence after some lengthy and violent cacophony. He wore a black tie and attended the funeral with the solemnity expected of him; but inwardly he rejoiced and felt neither shame nor remorse.

As the countryside slipped by under his gaze, the schoolmaster told himself he was glad she was dead—yes, glad. He had probed his own feelings minutely and could discover no hint of sorrow or guilt. Ann had died through no agency of his, direct or indirect. True, he had wished her dead on many occasions, had hated her influence in his life to such an extent that he would not have been sorry to see her die before his eyes. But his hands were clean. He had been lucky. Without having involved himself in any way, he had rid himself of her and could look forward to a future in which he would be free to do all the things which Ann's extravagance and malice had so far denied him. Free from that hard voice, that flashy, suspicious face . . . sitting there pensively in his third-class compartment, he did not feel like a murderer.

Mr Fairweather did not look like a murderer.

The compartment seemed momentarily colder as a small cloud cut off the sunshine. Roused from his reverie, Mr Smith noted that the train was travelling at quite high speed, and that the draught through the half-open window was becoming too strong for comfort. He stood up to close it, then, on an impulse, leaned out to gaze down the line.

Triumphantly the sun swam clear of its cloud, and in one petrified moment of utter horror, Mr Fairweather glimpsed in the golden light the black mass of another train rushing at his own. Then the world dissolved in a roar of rending wood and metal.

But Mr Fairweather hardly noticed the sound. Even as the opposite side of the compartment hurtled at him with all the force of an express train behind it, he knew only one fact which blazed at him with the sickening clarity of intuition . . . they were going to meet.

S. SHARP

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## Acknowledgments

The Editor wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications, and apologises for any omissions—

*The Journal of Education. The Lister Journal. The Morleian. "Decision", by Lionel Curtis.*

These may be read in the Union Library.

# President's Appeal

## THE THIRD WAR-SESSION

THE continuance of the Universities has been officially recognised by the Government as being in the service of the best interests of the country. This official acknowledgment of the function of University education in our society as expressed in the most recent regulations, is particularly outstanding because it has come during the war, at a time when it was least expected by some persons of less foresight than the Ministry of Labour and National Service. "Retention of certain classes of students over 19 years of age at Universities and other places of higher education is necessary in order to maintain the supply of medical and dental practitioners, to train scientists either for research or immediate technical work, and to provide training for the services of the State."

This statement can never be a complete justification of the continuance of the Universities during the present session, unless those students whose work has been thus safeguarded, realise their responsibility both to make full use of their opportunity within the University, and to be prepared later to fulfil their obligation of service. To utilise the opportunity afforded within the University means not merely to obtain technical training in the narrow sense, but rather to gain as complete a University education as possible. It was pointed out on Degree Day last session that, if the University were required by the Government simply to turn out technicians in various spheres of knowledge, courses could be further curtailed. Rather has it been recognised as essential to the common interest that every student should make the most of the widest possible University education in all its different aspects—of contact with fellow-students in the Union as well as in academic work, students of different nationalities, qualifications, and opinions; of the corporate life of the Union with its many societies, athletic clubs, and social activities; of friendly contact with the staff. Above all has it become necessary for every student to collect all possible information and opinion of the conditions and problems of the community which the University serves.

There can no longer be room for the individual who may regard a University education either as a juvenile escape from social responsibility, or even as a means of personal advancement. War-time students would do well to welcome the tightening up of academic standards. Their return for an honest acceptance of their responsibilities will be perhaps a more sympathetic attitude in some of those who supervise their studies. The student to-day enjoys true freedom in the sense of being free to accept the responsibility of privilege and the duty of social service.

Students of the past two sessions have added their share to the decisive weight of opinion which has for the time being culminated in the present call-up regulations. They did this, not to secure personal privilege, but rather to ensure that higher education should continue to play its invaluable part in the life of the country. For those whose work continues, there are still problems concerning the future of the Universities and their function in society, as, for example, the position of the Faculty of Arts, the power of the Recruiting Board, the length of courses, the curricula and the Treasury grant.

\* \* \*

If, therefore, students during the new war-session are to make full use of their own organisation—the Union, there must be no confusion between the Union and the Union Building. Given certain conditions, it is within the bounds of reasonable hypothesis that the Building could stand whether there were students or not. The Union, however, could not possibly at any time exist as a separate

entity. Without the corporate life, the activities and the views of each generation of students, the Union could have no separate life or power of its own. Its machinery of government, controlled by elected representatives, exists for the benefit of its members. It was created by them, and must be controlled and modified by them. The Union can be an ideal democratic community on an intellectual basis, where Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity can be realised by every member. The existing framework of its system of government, its traditional ceremonies, its societies and clubs, is the legacy of past students. This framework is a plastic material which should never be allowed to harden, but must be moulded by the cumulative effort of the ever-changing body of students. The Union can be no more and no less than what the majority of its active members intends and works to make it.

It is not forgotten that the Union is in its turn a part of the larger body—the University. Active membership of the Union is an indispensable part of University education, yet the larger aims can only be gained through an increased co-operation between the staff and the students. The Union Building is an impressive monument to the united efforts of past students and staff to develop the Union to its full capacity as a centre of non-academic life in the University. In the past session the Union was privileged to receive the Degree Ceremony and the Music Recitals on its own ground. Those events in the life of the Union which are most widely enjoyed have been such functions as the annual production of the Union Dramatic Society, where staff and students worked together. On the administrative side, the Catering and Advisory Committees have demonstrated the advantages of a division of responsibility. The most active Union societies have prospered on a common ground between staff and students. A move towards the development of this happy relationship can surely result in a mutual stimulus for the young and the wise on both sides.

DAPHNE WILDE

*President Leeds University Union*

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## Item of News

### DEPUTATION TO UNIVERSITY M.P.

On Friday, August 29th, six Leeds University students, representing forty-nine others, visited Mr E. Harvey, M.P., to request him to use his efforts to lift the ban from the *Daily Worker*.

He agreed that the newspaper, through its influence in the factories and its pledged policy of striving for increased production, could play a valuable part in the war effort. He also deplored the manner of the suppression and considered that to some extent personal antagonisms were responsible for its continuation. He advised all students to write to their M.P.'s about this matter.

Mr Harvey was also kind enough to advise the deputation on problems facing the Universities. N.U.S., he said, was taking the right attitude in maintaining that non-technical faculties were of value. It was a very short-sighted policy to restrict the development of those faculties not immediately of value to the war effort. There were many members of the staff who agreed with the students about this and they should be asked to co-operate.

Mr Harvey agreed that U.T.C. and Air Corps training should not unduly interfere with academic work—that is, that the main job of students is to master their subject, and all other activities should be subservient to this.

All who took part in this deputation will, I am sure, wish to thank Mr Harvey for his support and useful suggestions.

JACK TIPLADY (*Member of Delegation*)

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***Last date for copy for next "Gryphon"—10th October 1941  
And that's final!***



## Mobilised for Victory?

THE Battle of the Atlantic is the Battle of Britain, and its victory does not lie solely with the Merchant and Royal Navies. The battle will be won or lost in the English countryside, and our farms are a front line against Fascism and all that it stands for—tyranny and aggression.

Only the agricultural expert can say whether the productivity of the land is as high as it might be, but as a worker on the land during the vacation, certain grave weaknesses in the effort of the food front could be seen.

There are faults on both sides, but it appeared that the first consideration of the farmer was not the good of the country, but rather his own profit. We have seen cases in the newspapers which bear this out; for example, during the temporary shortage of potatoes earlier in the year it was stated that the farmers were not willing to lift the crop because if they waited they would get a higher price. This attitude is not putting the welfare of the consumer and the country first, and I obtained evidence which seems to suggest that it is general.

The War Agricultural Committee not having fulfilled their advertised function of obtaining positions for students during the vacation, I worked on a large nursery farm which grows tomatoes, cucumbers, and, doubtless to help the war effort, flowers. Because of the war the firm had unwillingly turned a few acres of their land over to hay and wheat; they continued to grow no less than 150,000 chrysanthemum plants. Besides taking up some of the richest land in the district, five hundred working hours a week were spent on these plants alone from the end of June to the second week in September. In addition, the plants have to be looked after when they are taken into the greenhouses to flower, and then cuttings must be taken and potted out for the next year's crop. England is fighting for her life. This year there has been an acute shortage of tomatoes. Two greenhouses capable of housing three thousand tomatoes were used to grow carnations. These two houses would have produced twelve tons of tomatoes. A greenhouse was used to grow an expensive type of fern to adorn bunches of flowers. Needless to say, it is more profitable to grow carnations, and chrysanthemums at ninepence a head than wheat, vegetables, and tomatoes. There is a shortage of land, there is a shortage of labour—I saw both being wasted.

Working conditions were scandalous. Some fifty men were employed, many could not get home to lunch; a corner of a potting shed was provided where lunch could be eaten. There were no washing facilities, and there was one earth closet, emptied weekly. If a man worked from seven-thirty in the morning until nine at night from Monday to Friday he could get what might be called a living wage of three pounds per week. This animal existence of sleep, eat, and work must surely shock those with a social conscience, but in the midst of a war we are practising false economy.

From lunch-time onwards only half as much work was done as in the morning. There were two reasons—the lunches were inadequate, partly because the food was too expensive, partly because it was unobtainable; secondly, it was realised that if a job was not finished in the normal working hours, overtime, with overtime pay, was inevitable.

If the battle of the food front is to be won in as short a time as possible, it seems that immediate action is necessary. In order that the workers shall be able to do their best an immediate rise in agricultural wages is essential. Despite the war, young men leave the land in order to be able to live. The war cannot be won when the farmer has as his first concern not the supply of food to the people, but his own profit.

Students have played their part in helping to relieve the labour shortage; they need to do more. Proverbially, the student is amongst the enlightened of the community, but the need is more than social; it is a question of shortening the war and saving innumerable lives. If all those who went farming in the vacation found the conditions that I encountered, then the situation is such that we, as students, must surely try to do something and bring the situation to the notice of those who control our destinies.

If the workers had a living wage and human conditions, they would work the harder and the better. If farmers were assured that they would not be neglected in peace-time they might make their first war-time job the production of food, not the obtaining of greater profits.

D. H. M.

\* \* \*

## Sonnet

*(Written while Fire-watching)*

As I sit here my eyes start open wide  
 Every few seconds with a mental jerk,  
 And everything is blurred on every side,  
 And the red, glowing fire does its work  
 In making me more drowsy than before.  
 My eyelids burn and pain, my lashes meet,  
 As close as tangled grasses on the moor.  
 They long to close; the words before me fleet  
 Backwards and forwards, in and out like elves,  
 Looming up sudden giants on the page  
 Or quick retreating they confuse themselves  
 In a grey mist. A constant war I wage  
 With voices urging me to slumber deep,  
 And shocks of half-awakenings from half-sleep.

D. A. R.

## The Social Whirl

FRESHERS' SOCIAL—Thursday, September 25th, at 5.15 p.m.

UNION BALL—Friday, October 31st. Times not yet fixed.

### University Intelligence—continued from page 5

Meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 16th July 1941. The Pro-Chancellor (Colonel C. H. Tetley) in the chair.

The Council recorded its deep regret at the death of Mrs Frank Gott, an Honorary Graduate of the University, a Life Member of the Court, and a member (and one-time Chairman) of the Women's Halls Committee.

Warm appreciation was expressed of the decision of the Hull Education Committee to renew their grant of £200 to the University for the financial year 1941-42.

The Council acknowledged with gratitude a gift from Miss L. Wormald of 21 volumes, mainly of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth century Biblical literature, including a Greek Bible published at Frankfurt in 1597, a Coptic New Testament of 1716, and two volumes published on rice-paper at Manila in the Philippines in 1738-44. The two latter volumes, which deal with the history of Catholic Missions in the East, passed into the possession of Robert Southey and bear his autograph and an inscription by him.

## The National Union of Students

**W**E are sitting on an ivory tower. We live in a world of our own, isolated from those lesser beings who are just—not students.

But all that we learn, the experience we gain, isn't this something that students should contribute to the society of which they actually form a part? This latter conception of the function of Universities is held by the National Union of Students.

We are often asked, what is this National Students' Union? It is a federation of all Students' Unions, Guilds, and Representative Councils, with a few exceptions. Thirteen training colleges are affiliated, as well as a number of technical colleges, while all students through membership of their own Union are automatically members of N.U.S. The officials of N.U.S. are students elected by Students' Unions and Guilds to act on their behalf.

Founded in 1922 as a student travel organisation, N.U.S. has since developed wider functions. Representing students' interests as a whole, it organises faculty discussions, publishes its own organ, *Student News*, and runs annual congresses, which, while passing resolutions not binding on N.U.S. policy, show the ideas and wishes of students. The attendance at the Congress last year of 1,500 was a big increase from the 200 in 1939. In addition N.U.S. raises matters affecting students in Parliament and the Press.

Now N.U.S. can only help us, if all of us, by our activities, support, and helpful criticism maintain it as our own real spokesman.

N.U.S. believes that Universities have a job to do in training qualified people as a "framework" round which the cultural and material aspects of the lives of the British people can be maintained and improved. That means students have a responsibility to society and by no means a light one, as they have been entrusted with a heritage of knowledge built up through centuries.

It is for us to see also that the benefits which we enjoy become the lot of wide sections of the community. People of all classes should be allowed to attend our colleges on the basis of merit alone. And to-day, in this time of war, we have an especially important part to play. Thus, N.U.S. believes that the Universities must be kept going so that a continual flow of administrators, teachers, scientists, and doctors can be maintained. Moreover, in N.U.S. publications we find a hundred examples of what students have done and can do at the present time, while still at college. The rest centre for "blitz" victims, organised by Liverpool students, is a sign of what is possible. During the heavy bombing of London, students from all over the country worked in N.U.S. canteens to help the sufferers. This summer not only has N.U.S. placed large numbers of students on farms, but has set up holiday camps for children from the cities. It has approached the Army for permission for students to lecture to the troops on their particular subject, and for dramatic societies to give performances for them.

The students who took part in these activities found that there was much they could contribute while they learned perhaps even more.

We may ask, what can we do here in Leeds? There is a scheme to convert the Union into a rest centre in case of need. You can help!

Discussions will be started in each faculty on how the course can be improved. You can take part!

*Student News* will give information of what is being done in other colleges. You can take a copy regularly and tell your friends about it.



Leeds is packed with soldiers. Isn't it time the Dramatic Society did something to lighten their long evenings, especially now that those evenings are so dreary owing to the beer shortage!

The last Congress was a great success, but this can be a bigger if we start now with discussions and debates in our faculties and societies.

Lastly, don't forget to look at the N.U.S. notice board in the Union, and remember, if you have any ideas or criticisms or interesting cuttings, stick them up on the board. N.U.S. is your organisation and it is your interest that will maintain it.

DAVE LEWIS *Leeds N.U.S. Secretary*

\* \* \*

## Dirge

Sing all ye pines and willows, oak and aspen,  
Sing a sad song, O trees,  
For Love lies dying—  
He that was beautiful as beechen sapling  
Or shaft of sunlight in the forest gloom  
Pointing the light between primeval giants,  
He that was beautiful  
As dreaming Easter lilies, or the rose.

Sing a sad song, for Love is dying, dying,  
Dying the light we searched for through the days  
Of wandering, solitary  
In the maze  
Of this dark wondrous forest which is life.

Love called from far, and cried, "Come, lost ones, find me.  
I am the Light in Darkness".  
And we roamed,  
Lonely and longing, in the sunless gloom.

Sing a sad song, O trees, who saw him dying.  
We came together in an ugly place,  
And found him dying, bleeding there and torn.  
They came before and killed him, those of old,  
The enemies of light.

There lies his body for us,  
Husk alone,  
The wood of life is silent, empty, cold;  
Sing a sad song, O cypress tree and yew,  
The wood of life is dark for ever. We  
Have only night, night for a thousand years.

IDES

\* \* \*

## "The Gryphon" Staff 1941-1942

*Editor*—Mrs Dorothy S. Fletcher, B.A.

*Sub-Editors*—Miss M. Gaskill, B.A.

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*Business Manager*—Miss E. Lowes

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An S.R.C. representative



It is because men are prone to be partial toward those they love, unjust toward those they hate, servile toward those above them, arrogant to those below them, and either harsh or over-indulgent to those in poverty and distress, that it is so difficult to find anyone capable of exercising a sound judgment with respect to the qualities of others."—*Confucius*.

\* \* \*

### Dr Goebbels

"Dissimulation is but a faint kind of policy or wisdom: for it asketh a strong wit and a strong heart to know when to tell truth and to do it: therefore it is the weaker sort of politicians that are the great dissemblers."—*Francis Bacon*.

\* \* \*

### "The Silent Man in the Kremlin"

"Wells also found Stalin a simple, brave, modest and intelligent man.' It may be that in the abstract, supposing for a moment it were possible to look at human beings in the abstract, he is no greater a man than Franklin Roosevelt. He also has the confidence and love of the people he leads to a greater extent than Roosevelt even. But for Stalin this confidence is no embarrassment. On the contrary, it is the first necessity of his work."—*Ralph Fox*.

\* \* \*

### Epitaph to Some Ex-Presidents

The fly sat upon the axle-tree of the chariot-wheel, and said, "What a dust do I raise".—*Æsop*.

\* \* \*

### Freshers, Beware !

To spend too much time in studies is sloth; to use them too much for ornament is affection; to make judgment wholly by their rules is the humour of a scholar; they perfect nature and are perfected by experience.—*Francis Bacon*.

\* \* \*

### To the Medic. in his Ninth Year

"Patience is sorrow's salve !"

or

"Let us not waste heart and life thinking what might have been, and forgetting the 'may be' that lies before."—*J. K. Jerome*.

### The Real Patriots

This pamphlet is dedicated to all those who devote their lives to the true interests of the COMMON people. These include such men as the Right Hon. Montague Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, Sir Ernest Benn, and Captain Bernard Ackworth, D.S.O., R.N., the greatest individualists of our day, and all those who realise the importance to England of a sound currency and the honest and free conduct by private enterprise of all business.—*From "The Kingdom of Bevin" by Hannibal.*

\* \* \*

### An Impertinence

Short hair,  
Short skirt;  
Arms bare,  
Born flirt;  
Quick, pert;  
Eyes that dare,  
Lips that hurt,  
Devil-may-care!  
—*The New Northman*

\* \* \*

### T' Owd Armada Spirit

#### An R.A.F. Attack

The Blenheims leave their hangars,  
And climb into the sky;  
They set their course for Calais,  
To see what they can spy.  
They dive towards the targets,  
Which are already found;  
The gunner, pressing trigger,  
Wrecks Heinkels on the ground.  
When task has been completed,  
Homeward again they fly;  
They've shown the Nazis how once more  
Britannia rules the sky.  
—*From a School Mag!*

\* \* \*

### "Howlers" by Army Wives

I am forwarding my marriage certificate and nine children, one of which was baptised on half a sheet of notepaper by the Rev. Thomas.

I am glad to say that my husband, who was previously reported missing, is now dead.

My husband has been promoted Sergt. and is now in charge of a spittoon. Do I get more money?—*From "The Morleian".*



## Pincers on the Panzers

THE shock sustained by the Nazi High Command at the dynamic resistance of the Soviet Army has set the whole foundations of enslaved Europe reverberating. But the Fascist Frankenstein has been somewhat able to recover, and the immediate and future defence of this island requires new measures implementing the British-Soviet Pact of July 12th, and the Anglo-American Declaration of August 14th. The latter recognised that on the historic agenda lay many urgent strategic and practical questions—"the very maximum supplies that you—the Russians—need". "The war goes on upon many fronts and before it is over there may be yet further fighting on fronts that will be developed."

Standing out with crystal clearness, however, is the task of setting up a second front in the West, which will bring about the realisation of Hitler's life-long nightmare—a war on two fronts. The form and location of this front will, of course, depend on the military strategists and not myself, but it must be set up quickly. The Atlantic Charter speaking of "a long term policy" and the suggested meeting in Moscow show a realisation by Churchill and Roosevelt that on the outcome of the titanic struggle on the Eastern front hang the lives of millions in Britain and America. Litvinov said that every blow now was worth ten later on; illusions that the present phase of the war is a "respite" mean that ten British Tommies will be sacrificed later on for every one lost now in the creation of a new front. For the aggressors have reserves not to be under-estimated—the Fascist Vichy oligarchy in France, preparations in Spain and North Africa, plans for the extension of the war in the Middle East, partially offset by the entrance of the Allies into Iran, the threats of Japan to Singapore, and finally the considerable industrial reserves of the conquered countries.

Yet within the subjugated nations, parallel to the scorched earth policy of the Red Army, a fire of hatred is sweeping Europe, bringing with it the ultimate guarantee of the collapse of the Nazi super-structure. The A, B, C, D front of America, Britain, China, and the Dutch against Japan is but one combination of this vast "alpha-beta" front, the alliance of the peoples everywhere. Guerilla fighting in Jugo-Slavia has already forced the Germans to increase the number of their divisions from 10 to 15; the tapping of the "V" in France; mysterious train crashes and deaths of S.S. men in Poland, and violent arguments in Soviet prison camps about the war with Russia complete a picture of the fifth column which knows no frontiers—the final answer to Vansittart. For our part we should supplement this uprising of the people against Fascism by releasing the political prisoners in India and negotiating direct with Congress.

To create a second front, which holds out the possibility of shortening the war appreciably, the new spirit in field and factory, mill and mine, needs to be supplemented by concrete measures. The production of war essentials still needs to be planned and co-ordinated; factories should be made to give precedence to war orders rather than those of their private customers. Much of the idle time arising from profiteering and the 10% plus cost system (the longer the time on the job, the greater the profit) can only be avoided by increased representation of the trade unions, and effective collaboration between works' committees and managements. It is also clear that narrow trade union prejudices will have to go, particularly with the ever-growing number of women in industry. Freedom of initiative requires freedom of opinion, and of the Press. We do not think the continuation of the ban on the *Daily Worker* will do anything to improve the temper or the tempo of our factories.

The Universities, too, have a contribution to make to the anti-Fascist front. When the students of Britain and Russia helped the farmers to gather in the harvest they must have sown the seeds of a new unity. Already many leading Cambridge students have sent a letter to the students of Moscow, and an imposing list of Cambridge Professors, headed by the Vice-Chancellor, have cabled greetings to Moscow University, whence a message to this country has been received from the Medicals. Perhaps our own University could exchange a compendium of activities with, say, a Soviet Textile University. Certainly, the "International Youth Rally for Victory", on October 18th, should see a bumper delegation from Leeds to London.

If the Universities are to be placed at the service of the people as a source of strength in the anti-Fascist fight, the campaign for the defence of the Universities takes on a new light. We still do not want them turned into technical training schools—only free Universities providing training of use now as well as after the war can be most beneficial to the community, whether in peace or war. Members of the Universities through their educational, dramatic, and scientific societies could help evacuees and troops in their own areas, and they would at the same time create bonds of friendship between students and townspeople. The S.C.M. and the Socialist Society have already planned joint A.R.P. activity, and with such a perspective we sincerely believe that students can play an effective rôle in the building of a New World Order.

LIONEL COHEN

\* \* \*

## On the Emperor Wu-Ti

She is dead, the lovely lady Li Fu-Jen;  
And death has called away her mourners too.

Whose is the voice I hear in the wind-bell  
Of the temple on the Leaping-Horse Hill?  
Whose is the smile in the dying sunlight  
Through the silken curtains, like a summer dream?  
Whose sad spirit, pure as a lotus-leaf,  
Droops beneath the holy hermit's ivory shrine?

Do you live yet, beautiful Li Fu-Jen?

Young man, the flash of your sword and helmet  
Does not make the water-willows tremble,  
Who dream of Pan-Ku's forgotten garden,  
For Wu-Ti's sword was a dragon of fire,  
And his trappings shone like the winter stars;  
But his smile was like the end of the day,  
When the flowers close up, and the clouds are still.

\* \* \*

My hand passed over the dust on your tombs  
As the wind from the hills once touched your brows,  
You who have loved through the years of the years.

E. G. HAUGER

\* \* \*

The views expressed in this periodical are those of individual members of the University and do not necessarily coincide with those held by "The Gryphon" Staff. If you disagree with what is said, let us hear your voice in these columns. It may be pleasant to grumble about this "rag" in the tea-room, but it gets nobody anywhere.

## Release India!

**T**HE unprovoked attack on the U.S.S.R. has brought into effective combat against Nazi Imperialism the great might of a powerful state and the resolute will of a free people.

The Soviet people have consistently recognised the common interests of the world's peoples. Their determined pursuit of world peace and their record of endeavour in aid of national independence is an integral part of their remarkable history. These alone make the fight of the U.S.S.R. for the preservation of her territory and her great social achievements from destruction the common concern of all those who value freedom and wage their struggles to achieve or preserve it.

To the colonial people the victory of the Soviet Union is not merely the hope of freedom, but the guarantee of its achievements. They realise that the Soviet people have unfailingly recognised the common interests of the peoples of the world. The subject people know that the U.S.S.R. has no imperialist interests, she wages no war on any people, and covets no territories. Where rulers and exploiters have led people into war against the Soviet Union, she has brought the conflict to a victorious conclusion not only for herself, but for the people of other countries. whom she has often liberated.

The rise of Fascism in Europe and Asia, its depredations and its allies, its increasing threats, actual and potential, to the peoples of the world, aroused deep concern in India. Its hostility to Fascism and Nazism has been enduring and intense. The support of the peoples' struggle in China and Spain, and the mass solidarity with those peoples, is one of the major chapters of recent Indian history.

There is no section of Indian opinion that is not anti-Nazi, and none more passionately so than the popular movements. Even the benevolent British Government and other detractors have repeatedly admitted that the Indian people are passionately anti-Fascist.

In the twelve months which followed the declaration of India's belligerency, the Indian National movement tried patiently and tenaciously to obtain the release of the forces of freedom in India. Yet the Government ignored the vital claim of the Indian people that they were entitled to play their part as a free people in world affairs.

In October 1940, Congress embarked on civil disobedience, severely restricted at first, and later extended, but only by selected individuals. Nehru was arrested and sentenced to four years' imprisonment for speeches made to the peasantry at Gorakhpur. In a few months the number swelled, though resistance was still strictly controlled by Gandhiji, and at the end of May there were twenty thousand men and women in prison for their advocacy of the Congress Cause. In addition, there are over 800 in concentration camps, among them well-known Socialists and Communists, Hindus, Moslems, men and women, students, peasants, workers, leaders, followers, and every one of them a convinced anti-Fascist. The penalisation of opinion, of pro-Soviet views, of agitation for improvement of standards of life and wages of workers, restrictions on the Press, and an insistently directed hostility to working class, Communist, student and peasant leaders is a feature of the nationwide repression that now obtains. Such is the disastrous spectacle that is the consequence of British policy in India to-day.

Men who should be leading the fight against Nazism are in Viceroy's prisons; those who could mobilise the vital forces of freedom in India for world freedom are languishing in jails and concentration camps, subject to humiliation and inhuman torture.



The suppression of India is one of the major factors in the present situation. It diverts the energies and the resources of Britain from the field of the real battle of the British people. It confuses British purposes and makes it less capable of that wide acceptance which is imperative at this juncture. It hampers the Indian people from playing their significant part in the world struggle for people's freedom.

The Indian people are aware of the basic purposes of the U.S.S.R. and her contribution to world peace and national freedom. They are conscious of their common interest with the Soviet people in this struggle. Their enslavement alone hampers the fulfilment of the task which the world situation now demands from them.

RELEASE INDIA FOR FREEDOM'S BATTLE !

S. K. CHATTERJEE

## **Public Lectures and Mid-day Musical Recitals**

AUTUMN TERM 1941

A series of four lectures has been arranged, two of which will be given during the autumn term. These deal with various aspects of the Dominions and Colonies. Mr John Coatman, M.A., North Regional Director of the B.B.C., will speak on "India" on October 13th, and Low Hailey, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., will lecture on "The Colonies" during the latter part of October. The actual date will be announced later.

One lecture on a scientific subject will be given during October, but details are not yet available.

All public lectures during the session will be held at 5.15 p.m.

**Mid-day Musical Recitals** will again be held in the Riley Smith Hall at 1.20 p.m.

Tuesday, October 14th. Pianoforte Recital—Moura Lympny.

Tuesday, November 4th. Song Recital—Sophie Wyss.

Tuesday, November 18th. University Music Society.

Freshers please note that all the above are free of charge. Please make the most of them.

**University Sermon**—The autumn term University Sermon will be delivered in Emmanuel Church, at 11.0 a.m., on Sunday, October 19th, by the Reverend Canon F. A. Cockin, of St. Paul's Cathedral.

A list of Lectures and Recitals will be available in the Union Office on application.

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**SUBSCRIBE TO "THE GRYPHON"**—You may not get your copies any cheaper, but you will be served first if our stocks are cut because of war emergencies; 3/- for six issues and that's not much when you are in the money on the first day of term. You'll be glad in your hard-up moments later on in the session. Besides, 3/- spare cash might lead you into all sorts of temptations in naughty Leeds.

## The Service of Youth

ONE too soon the Government are showing keen interest in the welfare of boys and girls who have left school. In the Education Act of 1921 (as well as that of 1918), a hesitant step was taken in this direction by permitting local education authorities to make supplementary out-of-school provision for those who were still in attendance at educational institutions. Comparatively little use was made of this permission, while post-school guidance was left altogether to the voluntary agencies until the advent of the somewhat ineffective and quaintly administered Physical Fitness Campaign. It has needed a second great war to bring to the forefront the vital importance of averting the lamentable wastage of human material which results from the neglect of young people who leave school prematurely after a necessarily inadequate education. Now it is realised that the nation cannot afford such waste. The Government, in the name of the "Service of Youth", have urged local education authorities to stimulate and assist the provision of facilities for youth training, and the authorities have responded in varying degrees and by diverse methods.

In a number of places new organisations have been set up for the purpose of taking advantage of the desire of boys and girls to share in the work of national service. In some places such organisations have been initiated by the young people themselves. They have received the blessing of the Board of Education, who have given definition to their purpose and have christened them "Youth Service Corps".

The variety of activities which can be and are being undertaken by members of these Corps is almost unlimited. For the time being most of them arise out of war conditions, such as fire-fighting, first-aid, messenger work, salvage, collection of pig food, etc., filling sand bags (a job which pretty obviously wants redoing in Leeds), knitting and mending and collecting books for the Forces (not forgetting the Home Guard) and for the hospitals, gardening, helping with evacuees, and in canteen and rest centres, etc. etc. These are only a few of a long list of tasks that are now being performed. But we have to think not only in terms of wartime requirements. We have to plan now for the future. The spirit of service is alive amongst our young people. Give it a chance to express itself and we may hope that it will remain alive when peace returns and when the jobs to be done will be equally numerous though fortunately for a different purpose.

A movement in the direction of a Youth Service Corps was under consideration in Leeds before the Board gave publicity to their opinion. Its origin was the belief that in order to secure under a voluntary system the desired great expansion of youth service work it was necessary to offer young people an opportunity of training for and undertaking national service. The existence of a demand for such an opportunity has been proved abundantly and, moreover, the things that have been done by youngsters in the midst of air raids have alone proved how fine is the youth material which is available for training, and have also underlined the tragedy of leaving that material to run to waste.

In constituting such a Corps in Leeds, primary importance was attached to the desirability of achieving the desired results by the development of existing organisations. These bodies have therefore been invited to form units of the Corps within their own clubs and groups. By so doing they may be assured of many new recruits as a result of the attractive power of national service training, the Youth Service Corps being both magnet and shaping machine. In addition, however, independent units of the Corps are being formed throughout the city.

At Leeds University we have a special opportunity for helping this movement through our Working Men's Institute (in Berking Avenue, off York Road), which has recently inaugurated a Junior Section. Could we not expect that, with the help of members of the University, this section might be made a model boys' club and a premier unit of the Youth Service Corps? We have no similar organisation for girls in direct association with the University; but the need is equally great and women members of the University will find that their help is warmly welcomed in the Youth Service Corps and in the various other girls' organisations.

A. E. WHEELER

*Chairman of the Council of the Leeds Youth Service Corps*

## Book Reviews

These are not necessarily of new books but of topical ones which may be of interest to the book-loving section of "Gryphon" readers.

### THE GRAPES OF WRATH—John Steinbeck

This book is indeed a revelation after the film. The film was monotonous, uneventful, and dreary, and some of the best ideas and the finest speeches were omitted, but the novel is as moving as any of the best. It is the story of an Oklahoma family who are driven from their land by the introduction of farming by machinery. Hand-labour is no longer wanted and in desperation they buy an old motor lorry and move with all their possessions to the fruit-growing country of California. Here they hope to eke out an existence by fruit picking. They find to their dismay that thousands of others are there as well, labour is cheap, and the big fruit-growing concerns bargain with the men's very existences. Tom Joad, son of the family, is the one who asks himself the most questions and finds his own answers. He and Casey, an Irish parson, figure out their own view of the wretched situation, and both stand firmly by what they consider to be right, the latter sacrificing his life for the people he loves.

Like all human tragedies, the book has its touches of humour and, if these are at times crude, they are entirely in keeping with the setting and are mere honest-to-goodness statements made by simple folk. It is indeed a great novel because it is true to life and the people in it are real flesh and blood and not just mouthpieces for the author's own views.

D. S. F.

### BALLET—Arnold L. Haskell

This is an excellent book for those whose knowledge of ballet is restricted to seeing two or three performances. The art of ballet is becoming more popular, and within recent years it has been within the reach of everybody's pocket. "Ballet" gives an interesting and rapid survey of all well-known ballets, a history of the founding of ballet in various countries, and an introduction to present-day personalities. After reading it one feels better equipped, both to understand and appreciate the ever-increasing number of presentations which are given to-day.

D. O.

### BRITAIN WITHOUT CAPITALISTS—Lawrence and Wishart

Written by a team of experts, this is a book particularly important now in wartime. For it enlarges the vista and propounds the possibilities of British industry under a Socialist order. Exposing the policies of monopoly capitalism it shows how industry can be reorganised and developed in the service of the people; coal, iron and steel, transport, building, chemical industry, agriculture, distribution, and education, all come within its scope. A rationalised industry is to-day vital for war—its maximum output is essential for victory—but industry is also essential for victory in the peace to come—here are the keys!!

J. F.

### THE NOVEL AND THE PEOPLE—Ralph Fox

Fox was killed fighting for the Republican Government in Spain in 1937, and thereby was lost to England one of her most promising writers. In this Marxist analysis of the origins and purpose of the novel, Fox shows how the novel has reflected the social conditions of its period and the reactions of the authors to them. The novel has a great past and to-day is the most widely read form of literature, but how pale a shadow is the novel of to-day to that of yesterday. To understand this decline we must understand the objective social conditions of our age and "the crisis of ideas which has destroyed the foundation on which the novel seemed to rest so securely". Fox's essay shows a wide knowledge of literature and a sure understanding of his subject.

J. W.



## Correspondence

### LAURELS FOR THE ENGINEERS!

154-50 THIRTEENTH AVENUE

BEECHHURST, LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

To the Editor of *The Gryphon*

6th July 1941

Dear Sir

It is indeed a pleasure to receive the May issue and, as a former engineering student, it is very gratifying to note that "engineers" are taking the lead and showing the other fellows *how* to do it. I quote from page 119—

"It is a good sign to see that, in one department at least, it has been realised that this break is both wasteful and unnecessary, and that by working throughout the last summer vacation, a number of men were able to take their B.Sc. in Engineering three months earlier than would have been possible. What has been done in one department should not be impossible in other departments. . . . The success of the Engineers shows that these difficulties are not incapable of solution."

It is most gratifying to us to read in our papers here that your new Director of Aircraft Production has had much experience in aircraft design—production and flying—having also served an apprenticeship with a firm of aircraft makers. What with lawyers in your air-flying squadrons cross-examining fellows after a war flight, and Max Beaverbrook, a newspaper man, running and retarding your aircraft production, it is a wonder anything has been accomplished. Motto—"Let the Engineers do it", and carry on the organisation. War is at least 75% an engineering task.

J. C. STAVELEY LAWSON

*Consulting Professional Engineer*

"BRYNONEN"

PANT, DOWLAIS, GLAMORGAN

To the Editor of *The Gryphon*

5th August 1941

Dear Sir

I wrote a letter for the last issue of *The Gryphon* which the Editor either very conveniently lost or never received. I, therefore, propose to state my case in this issue in order to clear up any doubts or suspicions in the minds of the students.

In the "Notes and Comments" of the May *Gryphon* certain remarks were voiced by Mr P. A. H. Rivett in connection with the refugees. He accused the Refugee Relief Committee of being a "sponging" concern, with its eyes fixed on the financial reserves of the Union Committee. Nothing could be further from the truth, and only one who was completely ignorant of the aims and functions of the Refugee Committee would dare to make such an absurd statement. The Committee was grateful for a gift of £5 from the Union Committee, but as this had been promised at the beginning of the session from the proceeds of the mid-day hops, the Refugee Committee did not feel that it was leading the Union Committee into the bankruptcy court.

Mr Rivett also stated that the voluntary scheme whereby students pay 3d a week towards the maintenance of the refugees was not publicised enough. As this was posted in the University and the Union we do not see that it could pass

entirely unnoticed. May we state now that our contributors were numerous and may we take this opportunity of thanking them for their generous support.

Anyone interested in refugees and refugee relief should get in touch with the Secretary, Miss Sheila Allen. And next time, we hope that Mr Rivett will verify his facts before making such ignominious statements.

DOROTHY S. FLETCHER

*Former Secretary, Leeds University Refugee Relief Committee*

## Obituary

3RD COMMAND SIGNALS

WEST HARNHAM

SALISBURY

To the Editor of *The Gryphon*

30th July 1941

DEAR SIR—As a fairly recent graduate with intimate connections with *The Gryphon*—it was flooded with some quite unspeakable stuff of mine in October 1938—I wonder if you would be good enough to print the enclosed verses? Your last issue contained an obituary of Tom Hodgson from Major Dobrée. I was his best friend at Leeds, and feel I should like to make some kind of expression of what I felt about one of the most brilliant of my generation.

C. K. YOUNG

### IN MEMORIAM

T. R. H

From boyhood, he looked back alone,

Over the fields green and lush with rain,

Finding images of doom in the rugg'd sea's moan,

His ship of death feeling in human pain.

Steadfastly looking towards that ship,

Borne always on death's inductable stream,

He yet could parry with the jest, the quip;

Must you never now emerge, golden hazed, from that pre-war dream?

Wind in your hair in shimmering country evenings

Equable decision, cutting kindly my unstable fantasies;

Incomparably still were you, Tom, integrity's oasis,

Listening, cocoon of silence, to beauty's glancing phases.

Was this then all our talk made,

All the canting ikons that we broke?

And the clayey-footed ikons that we raised—

For this, how soon we paid!

Seeking each our own destruction,

Brilliant, eager, but lamèd with Achilles' heel:

They made the bed, we saw its construction,

On it now we lie; hark, the bell's peal.

But he alone, crisis of earth, was spirit and flesh

Crisis in him. From the mesh

He chose the incisive way out,

Took to heart our crisis without doubt.

True and pure, he immersed joyfully,

As native to the element, in the stream of death:

Others skulk the squalid heath;

Deadly, seed long-nourished, flowered cold in the Irish Sea.

So he left the Devon bay and Porlock, Cambridge and its walks,

Serene Delius and the Swan of Tuonela,

Poets to a poet, truth when lightning forks.

The waste, and O world, 'tis all your failure

C. K. Y.

## Athletic Notes

### MEN'S ATHLETIC CLUB

Another athletic season has just terminated, and, as there is no Handbook nowadays to which both freshers and others can refer, it would appear that some "hints to freshers" and a brief survey of the past season's activities is called for.

Results were not as favourable as we had hoped they might be, chiefly due to lack of proper training and to a certain amount of ill luck experienced by individual members of the team. The matter of a coach is a serious one and must be rectified. No University should be without a person who can advise and help promising young athletes on things which are only discovered by long experience and correct guidance. An effort was made at the beginning of the season to get a coach, but due to war difficulties the A.A.A. were a long time in finding someone suitable for us, and as it was well into the season by this time it was decided not to press the Athletics Sub-Committee of the Union on this matter. Next season, however, this problem will be tackled in good time. Notwithstanding our lack of success as a team, certain members have won honours for themselves—I. Butler, W. L. M. Garcia, and D. Appleyard were selected for a Midland Universities' team which opposed the Midland Counties and Western Command. A team from the University won the two-mile team race at the Brodsworth August Bank Holiday meeting. F. E. Aaron also met with individual success at this meeting.

Even if the results were not all that we had hoped for, many enjoyable fixtures were held, and the social life of the club ended with a dinner and A.G.M. at Sherwin's Restaurant. At this function the following officers were elected for the 1942 season—

<i>Captain</i> ... ..	I. Butler
<i>Vice-Captain</i> ... ..	A. B. Wade
<i>General Secretary</i> ... ..	J. Wigglesworth
<i>Fixture Secretary</i> ... ..	A. B. Wade
<i>Treasurer</i> ... ..	M. B. Peace
<i>Publicity Manager</i> ... ..	(To be elected later)
<i>General Committee</i> —the above plus two Middlesex members (to be elected* later)	
<i>Selection Committee</i> —Captain, Vice-Captain, and General Secretary	

Anyone desiring any information regarding the club is advised to get in touch with any of the above officials (Butler is to be found at the Medical School, the others at the Dental School).

The following awards were made at the end of the season. *Full Colours*—M. B. Peace, R. T. Heylings, I. Butler, W. L. M. Garcia, B. W. Coleman. *Club Colours*—M. Tordoff, J. Wigglesworth, D. Appleyard, R. A. Mills, B. O. J. Greenish, J. Kirk.

The club photograph was taken shortly before the end of term and might be said to have been satisfactory, apart from the lack of uniformity in costume and the strange positions adopted by certain members (where did Ray Mills think he was?). The costume next season is to be standardised, we hope, a new club badge having received the approval of the Union authorities.

One final word to all members, both old and new—"Keep fit during the winter months".

A. B. WADE *Retiring Publicity Manager*

### CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB

In wartime it is the duty of everyone to be physically fit, and to ensure this under the added stress of present conditions a certain amount of healthy exercise is essential. Cross-country running is the most suitable sport for keeping a man in a state of general fitness. It has one big advantage over all other sports in that it is not dependent on the weather, and twice a week, in sunshine, rain, or in snow, the club turns out regularly to canter over the countryside. (In view of this, we shall be very pleased to see men of other clubs turning out with us when their games are rained off.)

Last season was one of our most successful and we won back from Liverpool the Christie Cup, which we had previously held for three consecutive years. Many of last year's stalwarts have now left us, however, and we are looking to the freshers to fill in the gaps in our ranks, so that as many as possible are urged to run in the trials which will be held early in the season.

It has always been our policy to give everyone a fair chance of earning his place in the team, and for all our home races those interested are invited to run with us as declared men. Should one of them beat a team member, he will automatically displace him from the team.

For those people who do not wish to race, we shall, if U.T.C. duties permit, organise slow pack runs from Weetwood twice a week.

M. B. PEACE *Honorary Secretary*



## MEN'S HOCKEY CLUB

Despite last season's snow and the enforced cancellation of many of its matches, the club enjoyed a good year's hockey and was more successful than it has been for some seasons, winning ten out of fifteen matches played.

The club welcomes heartily all freshers who play hockey and those who do not, but would like to learn. There will be plenty of vacancies in the teams this year and, despite war conditions, plenty of fixtures, so watch the notice board and sign up for the trials.

Lastly, congratulations to R. E. B. Noble and W. B. Knox, who represented the Northern Universities hockey team last season.

### OFFICERS FOR 1941-42

<i>Captain</i>	...	...	...	R. E. B. Noble
<i>Vice-Captain</i>	...	...	...	W. B. Knox
<i>Secretary</i>	...	...	...	W. Middlemass
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	...	...	...	K. Hammond
<i>Treasurer</i>	...	...	...	G. H. Briggs

W. M.

## Society Notes

### LEEDS UNIVERSITY DRAMATIC SOCIETY

In spite of the Fifth Columnist activities of *The Gryphon's* would-be critic, the Rag production of "Coriolanus" was a great success. The Society's next annual production is planned for the Christmas term, and we hope that it will be even more successful.

More frequent and more varied play-readings are being arranged this session, so that there will be plenty of scope for everybody. Freshers are particularly urged to join and support the Dramatic Society. A freshers' play-reading is planned early in the term, which means that new members are not required to wait long for an opportunity to display their talents.

The Secretaries, Betty Thacker and E. G. Hauger, are anxious to receive original efforts or play-readings, suggestions, criticisms, not to mention subscriptions, at any time.

### ECONOMICS SOCIETY

A break with former practice was made last year when the A.G.M. was held after Easter. Critics were amazed at the normal "turn out" and were disappointed at not being able to point an accusing finger and say, "I told you so!"

Congratulations to Professor J. H. Jones, who was again elected President, and to Professor J. H. Richardson, Mr Shimmin, Mr Dickenson, and Miss Brown, who were elected Vice-Presidents of the Society. This year the Society hopes for, and looks forward to, more support from its Vice-Presidents. Strong criticism was levelled against them at the A.G.M. for their lack of support.

The Presidential Address is to be given on Tuesday, October 7th, by Professor J. H. Jones, M.A., in the Women's Common Room, at 5 p.m.

During the term it is hoped to arrange a joint meeting with English, French, and Socialist Societies, at which Phyllis Bentley, the well-known novelist, will speak on "America To-day". Miss Bentley has just returned from her recent visit to the U.S.A.

E. H.

### JEWISH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

The aims of the Association are to foster a spirit of unity amongst Jewish students, to encourage co-operation between Jewish and non-Jewish students, and to support the Zionist endeavour. The Association is affiliated to the Inter-University Jewish Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, and for the past two years Leeds has been the chosen venue of the I.U.J.F. Annual Conference.

Towards the end of the last session, a new venture was embarked upon, namely, the *Jewish Student*, a newspaper, produced bi-monthly, in which students are given the opportunity of putting into print their views upon any subject. The literary standard attained by this journal is very high.

A hearty invitation is issued to all freshers to join the Association and partake in the interesting programme arranged for the new session.

E. L.

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# LEEDS UNIVERSITY

## Old Students Association

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### Notes from Headquarters

*To new members* we extend a cordial welcome. We hope to meet you all at the Annual Christmas Re-union.

*To those Old Students who intend to swell our ranks but have not yet sent in their enrolment forms.* "Don't put it off another day. Send it along at once. Try to be with us in December."

*To those members who have not yet paid their current subscription.* "Please send us your cheque or postal order as soon as possible. We have already paid the printers for your *Gryphon*."

*To those who engage in any form of National Service.* "Let us know what you are doing and keep us posted with news of any promotion or transfer."

*To all our members.* "Good luck in the days that lie ahead!"

MARJORIE SLEDGE } *Joint*  
A. E. FERGUSON } *Honorary Secretaries*

### HULL AND EAST RIDING

c/o 227 PARK AVENUE, HULL

Despite the interruptions of air-raids, and the inconsistencies of rationing, queuing, etc., the Branch has been able to carry on. The paucity of numbers would not allow of as full a meeting as we would like, nevertheless contact was made with a number of individual members whom I had the pleasure of meeting in Hull, Grimsby, Goole, and even at Leeds. May I express the hope that such contacts will be renewed and strengthened as time goes on, so that some day we may arrange a full meeting of the clan.

I shall be pleased to hear from any old student in the district, and would guarantee a sincere reply and, incidentally, this invitation equally applies to any new members coming to reside within our boundary.

E. C. FROW  
*Honorary Secretary*

## News of Interest to Old Students

FROW—Mr E. C. Frow, B.Com., A.F.T.Com., Edu. Dip. (1939), has been appointed Lecturer in Commercial Subjects, at the Technical College, Grimsby, Lincs. He was formerly on the staff of the S.W. Essex Technical College, Walthamstow, E.17.

GOUGH—An edition of *Meier Helmbrecht*, by Professor C. E. Gough, is promised for early publication in a new series of modern language texts promoted by Blackwell's.

KILLICK—The appointment is announced of Miss Esther M. Killick to succeed Dr Winifred Cullis as Professor of Physiology at the London School of Medicine for Women. Since 1939 Miss Killick has been Lecturer in Industrial Physiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

TURBERVILLE—Professor A. S. Turberville is the author of a little book entitled *To Perish Never*, recently published by Messrs Faber.

### BIRTHS

HEY—To Dr L. and Mrs Hey, of 123 Kedleston Road, Leeds 8, on 9th August 1941, a son.

JONES—To Mr W. A. and Mrs Jones (formerly Jessie Macmillan, Arts 1926-29), on 10th June 1941, at Bishop's Stortford, Herts., a daughter, Jane Alison. Address—118 Hadham Road, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

SHAW—To Lieutenant A. E. and Mrs Shaw (formerly Rachel Ashcroft, Latin-French 1932-35), at Southport, on 25th May 1940, a son.

### ENGAGEMENTS

STEDDY-BARKER—The engagement is announced between C. A. Steddy, M.A.M., of Romford, Essex, and B. Myrtle Barker (Geog., 1935-39).

FRASER-WAINES—The engagement is announced between John H. Fraser, of Leeds, and Rachel A. Waines (Maths., 1937-41).

### MARRIAGES

PENNEY-FORD—John W. Penney, of Peyton, Stockport, to Ursula O. Ford (Commerce 1937-40), of Leeds, on 31st July, at Leeds.

RHODES-KENDREW—Second Lieutenant Kenneth Rhodes (Engineering 1936-9), K.O.R.R., of Leeds, to Mary Isobel Kendrew, on 28th May 1941, at St. Mark's, Woodhouse, Leeds.

SCOTT-NICHOLSON—Second Lieutenant Dan Scott to Mary S. Nicholson, on 28th June 1941, at Brampton Parish Church.

STEVENSON-PARKER—Lieutenant-Colonel John Stevenson to Beryl Foster Parker, on 11th August 1941, at Adel Church, Leeds.

### DEATHS

ANDREWS—On 7th June, suddenly, at 9 Kingscroft Gardens, Leeds 7, William Andrews, at the age of 63. Mr Andrews, who graduated M.Sc. in 1905, was one of the more likeable masters at the old Central High School, where he endeavoured to teach successive generations of boys the mysteries of physics. Perhaps it is no small tribute to say of "Billy" Andrews, to use for a moment our former diminutive of endearment, that the man was never swamped by the master. But what a shock to learn that he was already sixty-three.

ARNOLD—Mrs E. G. Arnold, widow of Mr E. G. Arnold who was Pro-Chancellor of the University in the 'twenties, died on 5th August, at the age of 79.

PROCTER—On 20th August, suddenly, at the "Peacocks", Outgate, John C. Procter, of 40 Clarendon Road, Leeds. Mr Procter, who was 60, had built up a considerable reputation as an architect, and his loss will be severely felt, not merely locally, but in wider spheres. He had very close personal and professional connections with the University. He was a son of the late Henry R. Procter, formerly Professor of Leather Industries, and was one of a very gifted family. When the new University building scheme had arrived at the stage of planning, he narrowly missed being the architect of the whole lay-out, and was awarded in open competition the second premium for his designs. However, later, when the idea of a new Union building became a reality, it was Mr Procter who was commissioned with the construction of it.

### WAR SERVICE

BRIGGS—Pilot Officer Paul Briggs, of Horsforth, is reported prisoner of war. He was first reported missing on 16th June, but later it was learned that he had been rescued and taken prisoner. Before coming to the University he was at Woodhouse Grove School.

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