

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. VI. No. 6.

Thursday, January 17th, 1952

Twopence

WATCH YOUR ETIQUETTE—



A happy group of children from the Headingley Orphans Home enjoy a Christmas Party given by Leeds University Students in the Riley-Smith Hall.

Courtesy Y.E. News.

NEW YEAR BLUES GO GAY

The Powers That Be, having forbidden several Union Members to organise a Union Christmas Party, the New Year was let into our alma mater by the Moor Allerton Young Conservatives. Perhaps it would be truer to say that the Old Year was forced out amid fun and frolics such as have not been seen in the Union for many a long day.

Decorations showed imagination with beautiful girls, blue rosettes and prospective M.P.'s prominent among wall adornments. The band hiding behind empty—and not so empty—beer bottles was a Jeff Locke Special, which might have been training for a week on gin so spirited was its playing.

Up above swung a huge net (knitted by Brian Booth) full of balloons, and the tension grew as the dancers waited for them to fall. Downstairs an outside caterer was charging 1/3 per half pint, and tension grew as trips to the Off Licence became more frequent. All around were dozens of beautiful girls, out of their Saturday night Hop season's hibernation. And tension grew. And the dance went even more gaily. And still the balloons did not fall.

Came midnight, the Chimes, the handshakes, the kisses...

the balloons? But no! Outside on the roof in a foot of snow and a dinner jacket Mike Cook was hauling up the string. And the balloons went up and up. No comments about the rest of the year, but that man always let New Year in with a prize floater.

Generally speaking, however, it was an exceptionally successful evening, with many ideas which could be well applied to our Saturday evening's "entertainment."

of the Union. The President informed him that the disciplinary committee would deal with anyone found on Union premises without justification.

It cannot be emphasised enough that the students of Leeds University, who have not been niggardly in their hospitality, will be determined that this privilege shall not be abused. They are not prepared to bear a stigma caused by the anti-social activities of a minority of the non-student guests.

OTHER BUSINESS.

The House Secretary reported that the use of soap substitutes in the cloakrooms had been a successful economy. Mr. Hollings was thanked for the suggestion. Mr. Jones reported that $\frac{3}{4}$ of a bottle per day was used in the men's cloakroom, but very much less in the women's cloakroom. He drew no conclusions.

RAG COMMITTEE 1952

Nominations are invited for the position of Rag Secretary (six to be elected). Nomination forms should be handed in to the Union Office not later than midday on Saturday, January 19th. Nominations should include a note on the particular phase of Rag

in which the nominee is interested, e.g., Publicity, Rag Revue, etc. The nominations will be considered at the Union Committee meeting on Monday, Jan. 21st. According to the appropriate Union by-law the Committee shall not be bound to accept nominations submitted.

UNION COMMITTEE WORRIES

The downward trend in manners, etiquette and behaviour which has been apparent at Saturday Night Hops since the number of tickets was increased with the provision of a third band, was deplored by members of Union Committee at their December meeting. Wardens of certain Women's Halls have received complaints of unseemly behaviour apparent among a minority of those attending dances.

Complaints have also been received from nurses attending the dances, and it was suggested that if the nurses, who are not narrow-minded, think it necessary to complain, then something really must be wrong.

Mr. Heylings thought that there should be a closer observance of customary etiquette at a University dance.

Mr. Jones, the House Secretary, whilst agreeing with what had been said, pointed out that the Union Committee is the proper channel through which complaints should be made. If matters do not receive the attention that they should from Union Committee then by all means complaints should be taken to an outside body. Union Committee exists to deal with just such internal matters as these and he requests that in future students should bear this in mind.

It was thought that the regulation which had just come into force, forbidding the sale of double tickets after midday on a Saturday, would discourage men students from bringing in to the hops girls whom they found waiting outside the door.

Mr. Khusro suggested that a closer check be made on infiltration into the Union by non-members, through unofficial entrances. Mr. Awad suggested that Union Committee members attending socials be empowered to ask for Union cards or to ask girls to indicate who had introduced them. This was thought to be impracticable but the Union Secretary pointed out that occasional checks on Union cards had been instituted and would be continued at short intervals. This, he thought, would discourage non-members from abusing the privileges of students, not only at dances, but in the refectories and elsewhere in the Union. Mr. Morley asked if the disciplinary committee had power to deal with non-members

Union News

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 17th, 1952

Vol. VI. No. 6

Staff and Committee :

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Last day for copy Wed., Jan. 23rd.

EDITORIAL

Readers may be glad to know that one of our New Year Resolutions includes reading the other articles in this paper besides the Editorial. We had hoped to discuss something serious this issue, instead let's talk about N.U.S.

This Union pays out £400 a year for the joy of being affiliated to N.U.S. and with the balance sheet already showing a deficit, that's just £400 a year that could be saved. What has N.U.S. done for this University? Precisely nothing. N.U.S. has a Vacational Works Department, you pay 7/6 to register and that is the last you will see of your money this side of the law. Our own Vacational Works Department is twenty times more efficient, and quite capable of meeting all our requirements. They have a Travel Department, too, but to many it is only a name and nothing more.

Usually unreliable sources state that there has been an N.U.S. Congress at Nottingham. We didn't go, you see we went to the last one. For £5 you can spend your days in useless discussion, and your nights in useful merry-making. In fact the only redeeming feature of Congress is the opportunities it gives for meeting other students. You know no more about N.U.S., its aims, purposes, and methods of organisation, at the end of the week, than at the beginning. For the majority of students, the letters N.U.S. may stand for a make of sauce or brand of soap.

N.U.S. is not now awake to student needs, it needs revitalising. Their officials, housed in London, never come out of their shells; the north, with its many Universities and Colleges, is for them just another undiscovered area on the map of England.

By disaffiliating ourselves from N.U.S. we should not only save money but make N.U.S. authorities aware of the widespread dissatisfaction with their methods, policies and aims. However, we recognise that our criticism is a criticism also of the whole student body, but surely the duty of leadership is to inform, to inspire, and to convert.

Without Prejudice

An old, old theme is revived once more. I hear that a determined group of social scientists have endeavoured, with the assistance of the House Secretary, to improve the standard of cafeteria coffee brewing. However much we may doubt their motives, their methods are most practical; for these social scientists were seen not long ago in that minor sanctuary, the kitchen, enjoying the contents of an inexhaustible supply of coffee cups. Later they swept down on the bewildered, bothered and occasionally belligerent toppers then in the cafeteria, demanding opinions on a specially concocted brew. Results of their experiment are to date not apparent, but it is significant that some sort of soup is now on sale for those who can't stand the coffee. One wonders whether a Diploma in Coffee Tasting might relieve the already overcrowded Social Studies Department of some of their superfluous members.

The vice-presidential election was unnoticed or without interest for some seventy per cent. of the members of this Union. It seems a pity that there should be a multitude of students here who are content to leave the management of their Union affairs to an interested minority. I realise that this is not the first time that this grumble concerning student apathy has been voiced here and elsewhere, but I can see no reason for letting the matter rest because some people have heard all this before. This Union is not a perpetual institution which will provide cups of coffee and Saturday night hops for everybody who pays his Union fee, nor is it the University authorities who undertake to administer the funds and buildings of this Union for us. The students' Union is run for the benefit of students and it is run by students, not by clock-work. Its continued success depends on what the students who are here now, and the freshers coming up each year are prepared to do for it.

Many students, it seems, fondly imagine that their chances of a successful career depend simply and solely on obtaining the letters B.A. or B.Sc. after their name. Without in any way wishing to under emphasise the duty of every student here, no matter whose money is spent on his education, to obtain the best degree of which he is capable, we must realise that to a prospective employer, interests and experience outside one's degree course are vital. We should not forget that one day some things will not be handed to us on a plate—it will be our turn to do the serving . . . Ahmm. Amen.

I gather from this year's Rag Chairman, Clive Semple, that preparations for Rag Week—June 14th-21st—are already being made. The Leeds Empire Theatre has been provisionally booked for Rag Revue and the drag net for contributions to Tyke is in use. Following the success of their production of "The Mikado" last June, I hear that the Music Society are anxious to produce another comic opera this year. Future developments of Rag will be awaited with interest.

The Student Treasurer's report to Union Committee has revealed a substantial budget deficit. With the Union's reserve fund already eaten into in no small way and large scale economies proving inadequate to "bridge the gap," we wonder whether the only too obvious solution to the problem—raising the Union fee—will have to be considered.

The mouse holes nibbled in various walls with a pneumatic drill have yielded their secret. We now have a fire alarm system—the little mallets, dangling at the end of dainty chains, provided presumably to prevent harm to the lily-white hands of the intellectual who is bold enough to break the glass, look very fetching. As yet I have not ascertained the penalty for improper use.

Coiffures in Caf

There are two types of hair styles in the Union.

1.—The Conventional (short back and sides of the male and the turned over at the ends and pinned back of the female) and 2.—The Unconventional

(various ad nauseam). It is most pleasing to note that every member of the Executive has the former type. This is very significant and means one of two things.

1.—The six male members have free hair-dos at the Union Barber which make more frequent visits possible.

2.—They have a more expansive view of University life (for explanation see below).

If we study the outlandish hairstyles in the cafeteria we notice :

1.—The Unstable minds produce most fungus—i.e., increased hoeing increased crop. Freshers always try this dodge, their logic is as follows: "I am a student, students (traditionally) have long hair. I must grow my hair long to prove to my landlady (girl friend, godmother, hosier, etc.) that I am a student." In some cases this attitude persists throughout University life, and is often adopted by Arts students who find a need for this type of self assertion.

2.—Very short "convict crops" adopted by technologists, their attitude being "University life is a 9-5 job. Ordinary people have short hair and a 9-5 job. I shall have short hair in order to prove that I am normal." The reason for the extra shortness is not only economic necessity, but the typical earnest attitude of technologists.

3.—The settled students. Outward and visible signs of being a student are not essential to affirm the inward and spiritual grace. Conventionality is not a bad thing but infinitely preferable to puerile exhibitionism.

Finally, a word about the women, their hair-dos fit into three classes :

1.—"Darling, I haven't time to think about my hair, I'm so busy with electronics (Aristophanes, Goethe, etc.)."

2.—"But I must keep smart and tidy, just to preserve my self respect among other women (i.e., the normal woman's view)."

3.—"It must be attractive, or else I'll never get invited to the Engineer's Ball."

A word of advice to all who sport a queer coiffure—beware, the birds will be nesting again soon!

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HOPS—
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ENGINEERS' BALL—
January 25th.

UNIVERSITY LECTURES :
Professor S. Zuckerman will speak on "Science, Scientists and History," on Monday, January 21st, at 1-45 p.m., in the Great Hall.

Dr. B. Ifor Evans will speak on "The State and the Arts," on Tuesday, January 29th, at 1-45 p.m., in the Great Hall.

AMADEUS STRING
QUARTET—

Concert on Wednesday, January 23rd, at 7-30 p.m., in the Great Hall. Also on Thursday, January 24th, at 1-20 p.m., in the Great Hall.

OTHER LECTURES—
Tuesday, January 22nd, at 8 p.m., in the Women's Common Room, Sir Charles Renold

will take for his subject "The Structure of Industry."

Friday, January 25th, at 1-20 p.m., in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre, Dr. D. R. MacCalman will speak on "The Task of Psychiatry."

Monday, January 28th, at 5-30 p.m., in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre, Mr. Oliver Simon will speak on "The Printer and His Public."

FILM SHOWS—
Sunday, January 20th,
"Fallen Idol,"
"Sudan Dispute,"
and a Pete Smith.

Sunday, January 27th,
"M,"
"On Chien Andalon,"
and a cartoon.

DEBATE—
Tuesday, January 22nd, at 7 p.m., Motion undecided at time of going to press.

MIDNIGHT OIL

In the lives of not a few famous men, midnight work has been advanced as the reason for success. The burning of midnight oil—and the candle at both ends is, however, an expensive process, and the pockets of to-day's students are notoriously short. Happy the student who can treat himself to an occasional box of matches, much less a quart of oil (midnight or otherwise).

The student is expected to burn no end of midnight oil, not to mention that other and even more expensive brand which has the strength to flicker even at two or three ach emma. (This comes in a large family size at 3/6, handy for your swill bucket from—Oh, sorry, no advertising).

Where were we? ah, yes, at 3 o'clock, when suddenly the consoling thought of a 9 o'clock lecture comes as gently as a stuffed sock under the ear, and

the student retires to bed. To dream of what? Midnight—not with a book in the hand in a warm and quiet and noticeably unstudious room which will be his, when as a graduate, there will no longer be essays due, experiments unwritten and the unlovely bottle (handy size 3/6—oops, sorry!) lies in the deepest drawer in the deepest kitchen.

Shakespeare had a few words on the subject—"Will" rarely if ever wrote at midnight, note the concentrated loathing in, "secret, black and midnight Hags!"

which shows that he'd had some and didn't like it. And "Will" at 11-30 quoted Lady Macbeth—I have no doubt,

"Put out the light and then put out the light."

Wise words, wise words.

You don't believe me? Ask your landlady.

K. G. STONEY.

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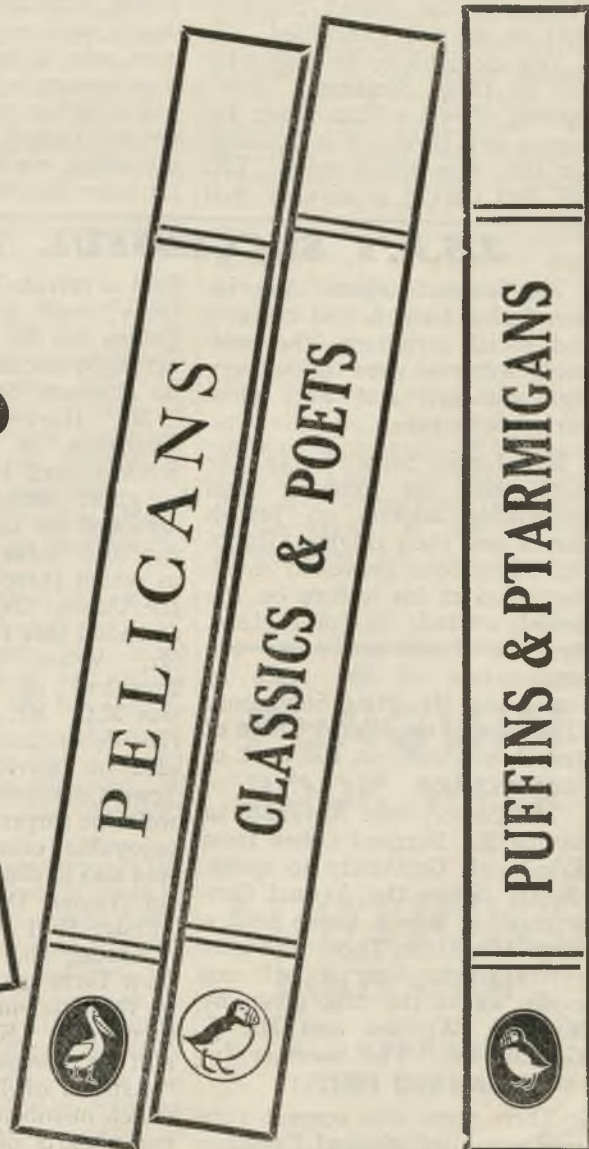
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Some Reflections on Our Ladies

The Union News personal problems department has received the following letter, typical of many such received:

"The Editor,

Dear Sir,

When I look at the girl, third from the left on the front row of the Intro Economics lectures, I feel queer. What should I do?

Yours in anticipation,

I. M. LONELY."

I have therefore been commissioned by the Editor to write an article strictly for the consumption of the male freshers, who are not yet initiated in the wiles of women. (I have no doubt therefore that the ladies will find it unduly interesting). You may have noticed that there are adorning the Union a number of members of the female species. We are not sure how they wormed their way into this institution of learning, but, for your information, our statistical department reveal that they are outnumbered by the males here by 5 to 1, and are mainly in the Arts faculties.

There are various categories and sizes, but by and large they can be divided into those who come to obtain a degree, those who came to obtain a husband, and those who are far from certain why they are here at all. It is with the second category that we are now concerned.

You are liable to be caught by one of these creatures. Now, running after a woman never did a man any harm—it is catching her that does the damage. You will find that it is all very well

falling into a woman's arms, but it will not be very long before you have fallen into her hands—this is fatal.

The ladies have worked this technique of trapping the male to a fine art. She will usually choose the man who will "choose" her. Indeed, it has struck me that if our men knew one half of what our women were thinking, they would be ten times more daring. Before long you will be liable to think you are "in love." How will you know? When your caf. coffee costs 4d., Union film shows 1/6, and "hops" cost 3/6, you've both got it and had it! Then there will ensue an unholy battle between your reflexes and your reflections. You will soon find that the whisper of a pretty student can be heard farther than the loudest call of academic duty. You are going down the slippery slope and the sooner you clear out the better!

Some ladies do not succeed in winning a man so quickly—even though there is a surplus of 400—! These specimens are often to be seen at "hops," wearing far too much rouge and far too few clothes. They epitomise female despair at its worst. One young lady always wears very high heels—it is rumoured that she was once kissed—on her forehead! Others often creep back after leaving the University, still hoping for a bite. And those poor blokes who are caught and do marry, soon respect the highwayman, who at least lets you have your money or your life.

The ladies will doubtless say we are biased old cynics. But my dears, we love you all—it is far safer that way!

J.S.A.'s SUCCESSFUL TERM

The Jewish Students' Association had a term full of cultural and social activities. The mid-week lectures were of a very high standard and were most varied in nature.

Mr. Lewis Saipe began the term with an amusing and fascinating address on Jewish names and their origins. Rabbi Dr. Silverstone provoked much discussion in his lecture on the Jewish attitude to Spiritualism. Mr. Zoi Padel spoke on the organisation of the state of Israel, and Mr. Brian Sandelson, Chairman of the World Union of Jewish Students, on the work of his association.

The Society was fortunate in having Mr. Bernard Cohen from Edinburgh University to speak, shortly before the Annual Conference, to which Leeds sent a large delegation. Those who were privileged to hear it will not easily forget the talk given by Miss M. Wigoder and Mr. J. Graham on "The Summer Institute in Israel 1951."

There were also several very well organised Musical Evenings on Sunday nights which were

held in private houses. Credit for these must go to Mr. Leon Collins and Mr. Alec Taylor, who arranged discussions and debates on alternate Sundays.

Mr. Harvey Baker, Social Chairman of the Association, worked hard to make the term a great social success. We arranged on the 3rd November the first Saturday night social, in which three bands played in the Union. Over 1,000 students attended this function, at which Mr. Victor Zenyancky, the President of the Association, was M.C. Mr. Baker's imaginative decorations, and the novel idea of providing well known Jewish delicacies, added a much welcome surprise in a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Mr. Baker was also in charge of the successful Annual Dance, held at the Jubilee Hall on January 5th.

Among the highlights of the New Term are the Joint Meeting of the Student Christian Movement and J.S.A. on Feb. 4th, and a weekend school on "Aspects of Jewish Prophecy," which members of I.U.J.F. from many parts of the country will attend.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

It is doubtful when the idea of starting the New Year with a resolution began, but there is a school of thought that looks to Henry VIII as the originator, when he decided never to let the New Year in without at least one new wife. Now let me tell you of my resolutions and also how I intend to get round them without actually breaking them.

1952 came to me at the door of the Riley-Smith Hall in the shape of Mr. Brian Lund. He pumped my hand for a few moments and then invited me to kiss his partner. This incident over, I there and then decided never to kiss strange girls again. This was my first resolution, I shall get round it by always shaking hands with them first, thus abolishing the strangeness.

Being a non-smoker in 1951, my second resolution was to take a cigarette each time that the Editor of the Union News offers one to me. For those of you who do not know the Editor (You lucky people!) this means that I shall be a non-smoker throughout 1952. (I have given up—sorry! Editor).

Amidst all the happiness of the festive Season, I suddenly came down to earth with a very hard bump—I looked into the future! By the future I mean next June, for the simple reason that I daren't look any further. My third resolution was to get my degree. I have spent a good deal of time wondering how I could get round this, but having decided that it was hopeless I took the vital step and brought a season ticket for the Brotherton Library. This ticket, a new innovation set up specially for finalists, not only entitles one to a free seat, but also to bed and breakfast at very moderate charges.

My last resolution was to be tolerant of other people (Amen—Editor), people like Messrs. Forster and Rhodes, who like criticising us. I cannot help feeling that the person who composed "Green grow the Rushes Oh!" had these two in mind when he wrote "The two two lily white boys," except that Mr. Forster is blue and Mr. Rhodes is red.

Until 1953 then . . .

RAILWAY DAYS

During the Vacation I have been working. But belonging to that type of man who sees the last boat leave just as he is paying off his taxi I left my choice of work to the last moment. Thus all that was left to me was to accept a post under that Company whose activities are a source of interest to readers of the correspondence column in the Guardian. None other than British Railways. I didn't regret it.

The disturbing feature of the job was rising at 5-30 a.m., at that time not even the burglars are in bed. Breakfast at quarter to six; Dickens with all his wealth of description would have been hard put to it to describe my feelings as I ate my meal on a certain Monday morning in December.

The work to which my superiors thought that I was best suited was that of conveying mail bags from a waiting train and stacking them on a barrow. I have a feeling that when W. H. Davies wrote the lines,

"What is this life if full of care,
We have not time to stop and stare."

he hadn't a porter in mind. Still the work had its interesting phases; there was the Porter's Room—the second House of Commons. The Porters discussed everything, from the winner of the 2-30 to the reasons why Stalin never dropped the Atomic Bomb this Christmas with a surprising alacrity. Such choice bits as "The only thing I have against Churchill is that he breathes," illustrate their witty approach to life.

Irishmen with sullen tempers and Irishmen with happy tempers, Scotsmen and Welshmen are all to be found mixing happily together. There were many keen battles in which no quarter was given and none asked between Railwaymen and Students. One of the points that did arise was the reason for the huge deficit in the Railway balance sheet. The Railways suffer at the hands of the Post Office. In a bag of mail there may be as much as 10/- worth of postage, but irrespective of that, the Railway only charge 9d. for carrying it.

The job is now finished, the money has been safely spent, but sometimes in bed at night I wake with a start and hear against the hissing of the engines the voice of the foreman shouting "Parcel train down 6" . . .

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FILM CRITICISM

"The Fallen Idol."

A sensitive and well-acted love affair on the screen is as rare as a duck-billed Platypus at Pontefract. Of the myriad impressions of screen love affairs that float across the mind, two which seem to have been more clearly defined than the others, and to have had a shape and actuality which has been believed in, are those of Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard in "Brief Encounter," and Michele Morgan and Sir Ralph Richardson in "The Fallen Idol."

In two ways at least the films are similar. Both were adapted for the cinema by their authors—in the case of Noel Coward's, from the play, and from Graham Greene's short story—and both films are concerned with older people who are having illicit love affairs.

We are poles apart from the morbidly introspective Catholic of "The Heart of the Matter," and rather nearer the stimulating and exciting Greene of "The Third Man."

"M."

A German film directed by Fritz Lang. This is considered one of the best thrillers of all times, and is the attempt on the part of the director to try and probe the psychology of a contemporary child murderer. The part of the murderer is taken by Peter Lorre. Those of you who saw "Hangmen also die" will know of Lang's masterly technique. One of the most terrible moments in Cinema is provided when we follow sadly through the murderer's eye a small child bouncing a ball along a street.

Don't deride
Infanticide
When the gore's
Peter Lorre's.

P. A. CONNELL.

PROFILE — FRANK JONES



THE HOUSE SECRETARY

To those who believe that academic and social life must remain unyoked, if high honours are to be gained in one of its spheres, the achievements of Mr. Frank Jones must be inexplicable. A Research Scholar and a member of the Executive, he has sailed through University life without being trapped by the Scylla of its social attractions or the Charybdis of its academic pitfalls.

Born in the great city of Liverpool, where he was schooled, he came up to University with a slight Liverpoolian accent and a profound interest in aviation which had found expression in flying, membership of No. 611 Royal Auxiliary Air Force Squadron, and acting as instructor in Flight Navigation to his local A.T.C. Squadron. During the Session 1948-9 his academic appetite was satisfied by reading for an Honours Degree in French. His Union activities began with membership of the French and Music Societies and participation in Rag.

It was during his second year that shades of the Union began to close further upon him. The French Society, of which he was Secretary, did not, however, monopolise the whole of his time; indeed, he actively participated in the wider field of the Arts—Music and Drama. Here his close connection with Theatre Group was struck, and its competent productions and Bohemian tendencies fostered two sides of his character. An exotically-coloured scarf and a neat blazer exemplify the conventional and the unconventional traits in him. In music he was not just a theorist with a connoisseur's interest in gramophone records, but a practising member of the University Orchestra. If never more than a competent amateur, it was yet his clarinet on the Devon Lorry in a pre-Rag Day celebration that gave the conductor's baton its more lively swing! This easy change from classical to popular, from the highbrow, cultural life

of the University study to the good old sing-song in the Bar, is an important aspect of his character. But Frank Jones is not "hail-fellow-well-met"; he takes his appointment as House Secretary too seriously for that. Even his best friends come in for severe criticism when they stray too far from the paths of propriety. I have a feeling that if Mr. Gray contemplated lighting a cigarette in the Riley-Smith Hall, the figure of Mr. Jones would suddenly loom up like an uncharted iceberg! He has an integrity of mind foreign to some people in high Union positions, and an irresistible drive and enthusiasm, qualities all too rare in Union affairs. His appointment as this year's Rag Day Manager comes as no surprise to those who know his capacity for administration.

Even now, he maintains those contacts which first fired his enthusiasm as a Fresher. This year, for instance, he combines the Presidency of the Italian Society with a part in the French Society's production of "Le Mariage de Figaro." Still he finds energy for new interests, and a latent activity in Debates was awakened some time ago when he made his maiden speech, characterised by his own special brand of humour.

His room at Devon bears comparison to a United Nations' Committee Room; beer mats and flags of strange and varied design point to his interest in travel. During the time he is not travelling through the plains of Europe, his eye is sweeping the vistas of agricultural England from a glider.

Frank Jones is sensitive of the respect which he feels is owed to members of the Executive Committee, and yet he is not one who with aloofness keeps far from the madding crowd. His aim is to cultivate a healthy responsibility amongst Union Officials for their positions, and to create an awareness amongst the Student Body of their opportunities to serve the Union. J.S.D.

MUSIC IN LEEDS

by TAPIO

First of all, and possibly a little belatedly, Tapio must wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Preposterous New Year. Now, when all the groans have subsided, let me hark back to December's performance of "Judas Maccabeus" by the Music Society.

In a similar choral and orchestral concert the year before, the orchestra employed was that of the Society augmented from outside sources. This year a complete outside organisation—the competent Lemare Orchestra—was brought in and proceeded to prove the wisdom of such a policy.

When even the best of choruses performs with an orchestra, the sounding effect of the performance must depend a good deal on the quality of accompaniment provided. Now, it only needs one uncertain fiddle to wreck the tone of its department, and no one is going to compare the Music Society's Chorus with the Huddersfield Choral Society! A sound orchestra is essential.

Let it not be thought that I have no respect for our own chorus. It has to cope with yearly variations in department-strengths: this year the sopranos and basses, particularly the latter, are tending to drown the inner parts. Then again, there is the ever-present problem for members as to which should claim their attention more, rehearsals or preparation for academic trials of strength. December's performance shows that, with a goodish orchestra, and with the expert, energetic training and direction of Professor Denny, this chorus is capable of performances well above the average.

In conclusion, I must tell you that I have been asked by several people to explain the ultimate significance of the pseudonym "Tapio." In this connection, and taking everything into consideration, it has to be remembered that.

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HENRY IV., PART 1.

Brisk Pace.

In any of Shakespeare's historical plays, the audience is expected to know the story beforehand and therefore the minimum of necessary explanation is given in the dialogue. It is all the more a pity, then, that the King's opening speech, which contains some of this explanation, should in this production have had the audience's attention distracted from it by clouds of smoke drifting down on to the stage from above, where the pistol whose sound was the signal for the rise of the curtain had been fired. One was immediately reminded of the starter's pistol in a race—one which was, though long-distance, well and steadily run. The pace was brisk all the way through, and it was maintained by immediate taking-up of cues and the

garity was, one felt, too strongly stressed in the production—broad humour is plentiful enough in the original dialogue, without the addition of non-Shakespearean bawdy songs and unmistakable gestures. In general, however, the production was workmanlike and efficient. The change of scene from Bangor to the Palace, by simply reversing a tablecloth and adding a back to a throne, was particularly deft, and the red glow during the battle-scenes was most effective. Mr. Derrick Metcalfe is to be congratulated on his good handling of so large a cast—some of the grouping was excellent.

Welsh Singing.

In the main, the other actors were up to the level of Hotspur. Richard Courtney's Falstaff was the right compound of dignity, bravado, cowardice, charm,

RICHARD COURTNEY AS "FALSTAFF"



Courtesy "Yorkshire Observer"

minimum expenditure of time on scene-changing, not, as has been sometimes the case previously, by gabbling speeches. Sir Walter Blunt was the only exception to this rule, some of his early remarks being swallowed and regurgitated rather than allowed to emerge as recognisable speech.

Workmanlike Production.

Certain aspects of the production were rather disturbing. For instance, the making of Hotspur into a comic figure contrasts rather with the play's description of him as "the theme of honour's tongue . . . sweet fortune's minion and her pride." It is true that ungovernable temper is very often funny, but it seemed wrong that this side of Hotspur's nature should be stressed at the expense of his nobility. Malcolm Rogers struggled manfully against this handicap, and that of a Border accent which, strangely enough, neither his father nor his uncle possessed, and achieved a very creditable performance, being especially convincing in the scenes immediately before the battle. Again, Falstaff's vul-

familiarity and occasional pathos; Frederick May was a high-sounding and destiny-conscious King. As Prince Henry, John Linstrum played a difficult part well throughout, though he might have been a little less plaintive in the reconciliation scene, Raymond Gentle's Poins was peculiarly un-sinister, but Neil Morley was a gorgeously moon-struck Glendower, and Brian Lees a politic Worcester. All the comic characters were good, especially the two richly earthy Carriers (John Boyd and John Feather); and Douglas (Robert Neilson) had the true Douglas *panache*. Mistress Quickly's voice was not strong enough to make her railings always audible, but Joan Oldfield as Lady Percy was most appealingly feminine—the perfect foil to Hotspur. Mavis Mellor's Lady Mortimer was completely charming, and her singing, fresh and unspoilt, of a tender Welsh song was the highlight of a satisfying production.

This production cannot have done other than add to Theatre Group's long list of successes.

CHARLES KINGHAM.

Concerning Debates

by GORDON C. F. FORSTER, B.A.

It is now rather more than a year since the Debates Committee made extensive revisions in the arrangements for Union debates, revisions which, many thought, were long overdue, and the time has now come to endeavour an appraisal of the consequences of their actions.

No one will deny that, in times past, debates have suffered from ramshackle organisation, for it was easy to sense their haphazard nature as soon as one entered the House, although that is not to say that there were not accomplished, and occasionally brilliant, speakers to be heard, but silences between (and sometimes in the middle of!) speeches, showed that few people were so interested as to prepare their remarks properly. An improved debating atmosphere had, therefore, to be created, and the Debates Committee, realising that they were quite unable to turn members into orators in the twinkling of an eye, in their wisdom concentrated on the organisation of debates. The old House resembled a public meeting (should I say, a lecture?) in its seating layout and, often, in its atmosphere, but the arranging of the seats on opposite sides of the House, facing each other in the manner of Parliament, serves to emphasise that the conflict of opposing views is of the essence of debate, whilst bringing the principal speakers and the "floor" into a proximity likely to stimulate both. For do not members "on the floor" feel now, as was never possible before, that they are truly participants in the proceedings and not simply listeners?

Other new features, such as the reading of minutes, the wearing of gowns, the rising of the House to the Speaker as well as the unwavering insistence by the Chair on the complete observance of the standing orders for the conduct of debates, all enhance the dignity of the proceedings, whilst the abolition of

the previous slipshod manner of taking divisions has pleased everyone, not least the oft-befuddled tellers. Nevertheless, members not always noted for their conservatism have deplored the new system, charging the Debates Committee and principal speakers alike with a slavish imitation of other Unions, notably that of Oxford. It is certainly true that in some matters other Unions have been followed, but we may seriously question the belief held by opponents of the innovations, that we at Leeds cannot now build up our own tradition of debating. Do they believe that what was developing before was a tradition rather than a bad habit?

In the last analysis, however, the success or otherwise of debates depends upon the speeches from all parts of the House. And there is no doubt that the standard of speaking, generally, has risen immeasurably of recent months; more members are speaking more frequently, making it possible to vary principal speakers to a greater extent. Certain criticisms, we may add, at once spring to mind: there are still too many irrelevances, polished or otherwise, there is a tendency, remarked upon by visiting speakers, to make highly personal remarks, and many speakers find wit elusive. No one can assess how far this improvement is the result of the new arrangements, but those with speaking experience are aware of how much their speeches are helped by that intangible thing, "atmosphere," and it is towards the creation of a better debating atmosphere that the innovations, now largely accepted, have been directed.

All members of the Union are members of the House, and debates can only flourish when a sufficiency of them show interest; that proposition, at least, is not debatable.

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The English Society

Throughout the evening the accent was on farce with, thanks to Mr. Eliot, a hint of literary flavour. Various light-hearted poems and essays were read, from selections of the ever-popular Thurber to Frank Sullivan's penetrating dialogue on the art of using clichés of love. One felt that Miss Melling was indeed adept in this art. The highlight of the evening came with the free dramatic adaptation of the second section of T. S. Eliot's "Wasteland." The members were quick to realise (perhaps Mr. Eliot hadn't) the inherent dramatic possibilities of the conversation in the pub! The audience, too, were moved to shouts of laughter at the sight of two toothless "horridous" ladies who had seen better days enjoying a gossip over their pint. Alternatively there was the great drama of the neurotic young lady of the 'twenties, listening to the wind, with her imbecile husband, who, one felt, had the makings of a first-class scherzophrenic with his lapses into the Charleston of the "Shakespearean Rag."

Those who attended the meeting hoping for a serious form of entertainment, if there were such people, were disappointed, but the majority must surely admire this section of the society for keeping the standard of amusement so consistently high.

INCIDENTALLY

The Scottish and English Dance Societies are to combine once more for a Wednesday evening social in the Riley Smith on Jan. 30th. If this is to be such good fun as the last one (see this page), the tickets will go in treble quick time.

* * *

The promoters of the Railway Society have acquired their requisite 50 signatures and Union Committee has therefore officially recognised The Leeds University Union Railway Society.

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Student Politics and Politicians

Caught as we were between the hectic hustings of October and Xmas exams, it was not surprising that we did not see a great deal of political activity in the Union last term. It appears that our amateur politicians were having a breather, whilst plans were laid for the session's activities. There are some notable changes in the leaderships of the various political societies.

The Conservative Association, having held its A.G.M. and having been addressed on "Public Speaking," will no doubt soon be presenting the new Government's case for our consumption and edification. They got off to a good start last term, when Anthony Barber, M.P. for Doncaster, visited us. New Chairman is Michael J. Cooke, who, burdened though he is by his duties as Clerk to the House, will doubtless be in the forefront of his Association's activities.

Liberal Revival?

An attempt to re-form the Liberal Society is in the offing, in defiance of those who say Liberalism is in the coffin. I think we can all look forward to a revival of the Berwinite tradition—there should be plenty of support if more people are informed of this venture. In Cambridge the 1,000 strong Liberal Association is the largest party!

Labour's "Post-Mortem."

Labour Society has held an election "post-mortem," led by its President, Mr. H. V. Wiseman, unsuccessful candidate at Barkston Ash—and they are full of confidence about a quick return to Labour power. They meet every Wednesday lunch-time to probe into various aspects of current affairs. Chairman Zili Dabas went overseas last term and is succeeded by Tim Raphael, who hails from New Zealand and knows quite a lot about the recently departed Labour Administration out there.

HISTORIANS

Last term's activities began auspiciously with talks by the Rev. Dr. J. S. Purvis, of York, and Prof. G. P. Chapman.

On the 6th of Nov. Mr. A. H. Dainton spoke appropriately on "a penny for the guy." With the aid of documents, sketch maps and a newspaper cartoon, Mr. Dainton had little difficulty in picking out the fallacies of Mr. H. R. Williamson's recent theory that the Gunpowder Plot was a "frame-up" designed to discredit the Catholics.

Diversion was later provided in the term by a Brains Trust, in which the brains were members of staff, with the ubiquitous and omniscient Gordon C. F. Forster thrown in for good measure.

Where is Socialist Society?

The Socialist Society is difficult to find these days—they appear to meet at the same time and place as Labour Society! I think the idea is to attend one another's meetings alternate weeks. Possibly Tories and Communists would benefit from this idea! New Socialist Society secretary is Harry Taylor, who has no party ties and takes finals this year.

Another of our politicians apparently untrammelled by any party ties at the moment is Geoff. Rhodes, who in 1950 was in the midst of 'Varsity party strife. Whither he goes no one knows, but perhaps there is significance in his recent infiltration into Cambridge circles!

The Peace Society seems anxious to obtain a Tory speaker on "Peace"—any offers will be gratefully received by the new secretary, Charles Kingham. Their meeting at which Mrs. Felton gave an account of her visit to Korea was the best attended political meeting last term.

Communist Society in Action.

The Communist Society is still an active band, meeting every Tuesday evening; its programme has included the inevitable address by Mr. Ramelson (about which enough has already been said in these columns) and a film show on the Warsaw Rising. New secretary is James J. Walsh, English post-graduate research student.

It seems that student political life will soon be making itself felt in the Union this term. Party guns are being primed for the grand political debate this term, at which there will be at least one M.P. speaking (R. Crossman, Labour, Coventry E.).

For those new to this political society game, let me remind you of the words of Prof. Edwards at the 1949 Freshers' Conference: "Join a political society by all means—join them all!"

"BACKBENCHER."

Continued from Col. 4.

Music for the English Folk Dancing was provided by a fiddler and a pianist, and for the old time and Scottish dances accompaniment came from the panatroupe and, when appropriate, from the bagpipes.

MAC.

LAWYERS

At a recent meeting of the Law Society, Mr. Nugent—the lawyer's policeman—put forward the case for the codification of Criminal and Civil Law. We were pleased to hear that Mr. Nugent was supported by a good proportion of the potential lawyers in this University. May this continue in the New Year.

Scottish Dance Soc.

— a Resumé

A mixed contingent, 20 or so strong, spent a week-end towards the end of last term hiking the moors to the north of Skipton.

Leaving Cookridge Street at 9-15 one Saturday morning, we went by 'bus to Settle. After lunch we climbed the steep hills to the east and after calling at Victoria Cross, crossing open moorland and climbing stone walls, mostly with barbed wire on top, we reached Stainforth in the late afternoon. The pipes were assembled and we marched up to the Youth Hostel in fine style, to be greeted at the front door by an apprehensive but soon re-assured warden.

The Missing Milkmen.

After dinner, reels and flings, in which other hostellers joined, were danced with great gusto to the skirl o' the pipes. This lasted until midnight, for although "lights-out" was officially at 10-30, the zealous hosteller who went for the milk for cocoa got lost on the way to the farm—there was a public house on the way.

The following day, after heavy rain which had fallen throughout the night, we hiked to Malham, visiting Malham Tarn and Gardale Scar en route. After crossing fields of grikes, we arrived at the Scar, only to be faced with a 400 foot precipitous descent. This was accomplished with as few injuries as could be expected, after which the much swollen stream had to be tackled. With characteristic resourcefulness we crossed this successfully in various ways—running through it, almost jumping across it, etc. Although we reached Malham after closing time this did not mar what had gone before and we felt much better for an outing which every man-jack of us enjoyed.

Social in R.S.H.

The following week we had a social evening of Scottish, English and Old Tyme Dancing in the Riley Smith. This event, the first of its kind, was attended by more than 200—all the tickets were sold in double-quick time. The evening was punctuated with exhibitions of Highland and Morris Dancing by the appropriate experts.

Continued in Col. 3.

HEADINGLEY PICTURE HOUSE

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Thursday, Jan. 17th—

"The Great Caruso,"

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Monday, Jan. 21st—

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Bell" (U) Clifton Webb

For 6 Days

Monday, Jan. 28th—

For 3 Days

"As Young as You Feel"

(U) Monty Wooley

Thelma Rytta

RUGGER RESULTS

Saturday, November 17th.

University v. West Hartlepool
(Away).

In this first fixture with West Hartlepool the University won by 21 points to 8.

The backs were dominant in this game, which was played on a surprisingly hard and dry ground and it was difficult to pick out any outstanding player.

The University "A" XV beat Old Roundhegians "A" XV 5-3; both sides were previously unbeaten and played hard to retain their records, Leeds being more fortunate with the kick.

The First XV has now scored 294 points for 54 against.

Leading try scorers were:—

Bolton ..	13
Jackson ..	11
Bradley ..	8
Care ..	8

while Parsons has scored 4 tries, 1 drop goal, 1 penalty goal and 21 conversions.

Saturday, November 24th.

University v. Skipton,
at Weetwood.

Leeds 8 points.

Skipton 3 points.

The University did well to beat Skipton as the visiting pack are renowned throughout Yorkshire for their wet-day tactics. The Leeds forwards were able to give the backs a good share of the greasy ball and Parsons opened the scoring with a try round the blind side, Atkinson converting. Duckering receiving an inside pass from Bolton added a further try before half-time.

The second half was mainly a repetition of the first, the University playing against the wind were able to maintain a slight territorial advantage. Swainson scored the three remaining points for Skipton after a breakaway down the left wing, but the visitors failed to convert.

Wednesday, November 28th.

U.A.U. and Christie.

Leeds 5. Liverpool 0.

From the opening the Leeds

pack were able to control the game to a great extent. The muddy conditions produced little back play, but the Leeds halves always attempted to make the best of the conditions, in contrast to Liverpool backs, who were sound in defence but completely negative in attack.

The score came in the first half, Parsons giving a short, high pass to Bradley, who broke completely through the Liverpool defence to score by the posts. Atkinson converted.

In the second half Leeds were unfortunate in having four attempts to ground the ball disallowed for minor infringements and due to the rain and oncoming darkness, which made it difficult to distinguish the players, and the final whistle sounded with Leeds well on top.

The "A" XV defeated Liverpool "A" XV, 12-3, in the second game of the Wilson Hey Shield.

Saturday, December 1st.

University v. Keighlians,
at Weetwood.

Drew, 11-11.

In the first half of the game the University were outplayed by a much more vigorous side. The defence was particularly weak and the visitors scored within five minutes of the kick-off, primarily as a result of poor tackling by Leeds.

At half-time the score was 8-0 and shortly after play had recommenced a penalty goal was added to make it 11-0 in favour of the Keighlians. Immediately afterwards the whole Leeds XV appeared to settle down to a much faster and higher standard of rugby, and Atkinson, Jackson and Bolton scored tries, Atkinson converting one. During the last 10 minutes Keighlians defended desperately and were fortunate to keep their line intact.

The result was a fair one under the circumstances and a valuable lesson may have been learnt in view of the fact that the next fixture is *versus* Durham University—U.A.U. champions 1950-51.

UNIVERSITY v. DURHAM

U.A.U. Northern Area Decider

The game was played in very muddy conditions which Leeds mastered better than Durham. At the beginning Durham were on the attack and when Shother was carried off injured it seemed as if they would gain the upper hand. However, the Leeds forwards attacked furiously and immediately Higgins seized on a loose ball to score. The muddier the conditions became the greater became the Leeds ascendancy, although the only other first half score was by Atkinson, who kicked a good penalty goal.

In the second half the few Durham attempts at back play

were well thwarted by the tackling of the Leeds backs. The issue was made secure when Parsons burst through a gap to score beneath the posts. Atkinson converted, and although Leigh kicked a penalty for Durham, Leeds were again on top at the end.

This victory made Leeds Northern U.A.U. Champions, and it was especially meritorious in that 14 men should become the holders of the U.A.U., who included 9 county players.

In the semi-final it is virtually certain that Leeds will meet Loughborough.

Basketball Club

The Christie basketball tournament at Manchester on Dec. 1st was won by Leeds, who beat Liverpool by 14 points and Manchester by 30.

Leeds gymnasium being very small, the basketball court here is scarcely half of the normal. Playing at Manchester on a full size court, it took some time for Leeds to find the "touch" and there was no score for quite a long period.

During the first half, however, the "first five" managed to build up a lead of 10 points (19-9) and then left it to the substitutes to keep the difference. A note of excitement was introduced in the second half, when Liverpool in a successive spell nearly drew level at 23-21. Towards the end the "first five" had to step on again to make sure of the win.

Final score was 40-26 for Leeds. Czarnecki (12), Gregoriou (11) and Damaskiadis (10) shared the honours in scoring for Leeds.

Second game.

Against Manchester in the second game of the day, Leeds soon got off the mark. Their fast-breaks caught Manchester defence off balance and, even when they managed to take on defensive formation, the accurate passing of Leeds usually found the flaws. Leeds shooting was somewhat patchy at times, but on the whole even the missed "dead certs" were seldom lost completely because of the strong follow-in, in which also the guards participated. In fact the tap-in shots, executed with a perfectly timed flick with fingertips, were one of the most delightful features of the match. Leeds won the half-time by 29 points to 14. Never relaxing the pressure during the second half, they brought the total to 60 against 30 for Manchester. Damaskiadis (16) was the top scorer for Leeds, followed by Czarnecki (13), Gregoriou (10), Ligema (10) and Grundy (8). Of the guards, Oreloqui, McGregor and Ligema worked with their usual confidence and efficiency.

Liverpool Second.

In the match for the second place Liverpool beat Manchester by 40-39, half-time 13-11. It may well be that Manchester were somewhat shaken after the bad defeat against Leeds, but at the same time it must be acknowledged that Liverpool have improved greatly since their last visit to Leeds.

With all their first term matches played the Leeds basketball club can look back at a satisfactory record of played seven and won seven.

EDITORIAL

After the last issue of *Union News* I received some black looks from members of the Rugger and Soccer Clubs, who later politely informed me that they thought it an insult that no reports from their Clubs appeared in that issue.

One week earlier I had received a letter from a member of the Cycling Club asking why I had not published his report. It is true that the greatest interest in the Union is centred on Soccer and Rugger, the two largest Clubs, and therefore they have been given considerable space on this page. But do not let them forget the smaller Clubs, who are just as important.

The smaller Clubs ought also to remember that if they do not get as much space as other sports then it is not because I have any personal grudge against them, but that they do not command the large following of other Clubs.

M.J.W.P.

Snooker Championship

The final of the *Union News* Snooker Championships was a match of three frames played by Mr. Godlove and Mr. Barnard. Mr. Godlove was the winner by two frames to one. The final provided considerable excitement when Barnard was two points up with only two balls remaining on the table. He needed the pink ball to win the championship; however luck was against him, and he went in-off that ball to give Godlove a four point lead. From there he went on to win.

CYCLE ROAD RACING

It is hoped to form a University Road Racing Club affiliated to the British League of Racing Cyclists.

Would any Union Members interested, please contact:— "Leaguers" via pigeon-hole "L"

BEER !

TETLEY LEADS

THE BREWERY
LEEDS