

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. 1, No. 8.

Thursday, March 6th 1947.

Twopence.

MOTHBALL JAMBOREE

A.G.M. CONTAINED SURPRISES

UNION NEWS REPORTER

"An A.G.M. is like only unto an A.G.M." There is no doubt that most people attending last Thursday's fracas for the first time will agree. But although there was the usual adornment of mothballs, paper aeroplanes, and paper for which more fitting uses have been discovered, the meeting soon found itself treating something seriously, *mirabile dictu*. Here is a full report by a "Union News" reporter.

After the riotous reception of the Executive Committee, and the customary threat from the Chair to close the meeting, the Minutes of the last A.G.M. were read (if not heard) and adopted, followed by the Minutes of the S.G.M., held on February 4th this year. Throughout this period came persistent cries of "What about a bar?"

(Further notes on this point in the meeting were lost, as our reporter was under a shower of soap bubbles.—ED.)

When the House was asked to adopt the Secretary's Report for the Session 1945-46, Mr. Belshaw, braving the apparent desire of the meeting to hurry through the Agenda, asked for the Report to be rejected, on the grounds that a Union Porter had been summarily dismissed; explaining, when told he was out of order, this was his only chance to discuss the matter. The Chairman asked the approval of the Meeting for this matter to be taken.

Stressing the Porter's incapacity through war injuries, and his popularity in the Union, Mr. Belshaw said that the Porter had been dismissed for malingering—adding that there was no proof of this. The Union Committee's explanation was that Mr. Magee (the Porter in question) had been dismissed in order to employ a new able-bodied third Porter, no question of malingering having arisen. It had been suggested that Mr. Magee should be later re-

engaged as a cloakroom attendant, a job for which he was better fitted. The feeling of the Meeting was that he should not be dismissed at all, and for this reason the report was rejected. It was later adopted with Mr. Parry's amendment that the offending paragraph be deleted, and that the U.B. Advisory Committee, in whose hands the matter lay, should be re-approached, and the business referred back to an S.G.M.

From then on the Meeting returned to normal, and further Reports were asked to be taken as read. Speeches were cut to a minimum and the following items passed: Treasurer's Report adopted unanimously, and several constitutional changes approved.

The Meeting took further interest in the subject of a proposed bar (cheers). It was stated that the "installation of permanent facilities for the sale of alcoholic liquor" had been approved by the U.B. Advisory Committee, but that its recommendation had yet to be brought before the University Senate and the Council. The suggested site was the Men's Common Room.

Thenceforward, the meeting seemed too intent on completing the business, but despite this Miss Taylor obtained an adoption of her proposition that the Union become affiliated to U.N.S.A. (whose workings were set out in a previous issue of *Union News*). The Meeting was then closed.

CHEMI-TEXTILE BALL

"And Emmanuel said: 'Let there be no light,' and there was no light." That was almost the situation in which the organisers of the Chemi-Textile Ball found themselves on Friday, Feb. 14th. However, due to the fact that it was St. Valentine's Day the semi-darkness seemed to be a help rather than a hindrance. In spite of the weather this dance can take its place with the other major Dances of this Session, falling in no way behind the best of them. The Band was excellent, the Drink was excellent (even though the Bar closed at 10 p.m.), the Supper was excellent—in short it was a "good do."

Grants

Speaking at the S.G.M. of ex-Service students, held Monday, 10th February, Mr. Mohun announced the welcome news that grants had arrived for 300 of the 745 F.E.T.S. students in the University. He then went on to review the work done by the Grants and Welfare Committee. Cases of individual hardship had been brought to the attention of the Ministry, and N.U.S. had carried out a successful "Lobbying Day" at Westminster and, as a result many of the problems of F.E.T.S. students had been well ventilated in an Open Debate in the House. Encouraged by this, N.U.S. had decided to press for their "Four Point University Reform Plan," in which the F.E.T.S. would be incorporated.

A.G.

Postscript:

Announced at A.G.M. that 4,000 cheques sent out from the Ministry.

"... one great beast"

It is sometimes difficult to draw the line between a display of high spirits and mere hooliganism, and perhaps the distinction is too subtle for some students to grasp. Yet there can be little doubt that the line was crossed at the recent A.G.M.

The meeting was conducted in what is termed "an uproar," and against such a background rational discussion was impossible. Speakers, knowing this and braving the showers of abuse and missiles, were content to depend upon crude appeals to emotion rather than upon facts and argument. Indeed, the meeting became a sort of emotional jam session. Appeals for sanity and for freedom of speech were howled down and the meeting degenerated into a mob—"that numerous piece of monstrosity which, taken asunder, seem men, and reasonable creatures—but, confused together, make but one great beast."

The tradition which regards the A.G.M. as an opportunity for an outburst of stupid horseplay is, we gather, of recent growth. Surely the Union Committee could rouse itself from its mood of helpless acquiescence and devise some method of keeping the ragging within decent limits. If it cannot, if the hooligan element is too strong, then we must regard ourselves as being on the level of that other University where the student is described as "intellectually, politically and morally irresponsible—immature, unthinking and stupid."

MOMUS.



Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.
THURSDAY, MARCH 6th,
1947.

Vol. 1, No. 8.

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The Union Executive Committee
and the Editor of *The Gryphon*.

Reporters :

Keith Semple, Michael Sunderland
Margaret Allen, Renee Worrell,
"Momus," Pamela Semple.

CONSCRIPTION

Probably the most vexed question of the moment among the Engineers and Scientists who are to graduate this Summer is the prospect of two years in the Forces.

At the recent J.R.B. more than one student was surprised, to say the least of it, at the uncompromising attitude of the Board. The stated number of men to be allocated to the Forces was 75% of Graduates—the others to be directed into Industry as required—nevertheless the number who are not to be conscripted seems infinitesimal. Naturally there were many complaints that cases for not entering the Forces were never heard and that "choice" was merely limited to a particular branch of the Forces (and no guarantee that the choice would be effective), but it must be realised that the Board was merely carrying out its instructions and that their business was to "get people in," not help them to keep out.

Lives of men are, however, not decided by Boards in the long run, and out of the momentary frustration derived from rather bleak prospects may well arise greater opportunities than are at first apparent.

The Editors wish to express their regrets to all readers for this delayed issue.

Correspondents are reminded that all letters and articles must be signed, although names will only be disclosed if the contributor so wishes.

Extracts from *Union News* may not be quoted in other publications without permission.

Subscription rates: 5/- per annum, post free.

The next issue of *Union News* will appear on Tuesday, March 18th.

This and That

MANLY FEMININITY.

Amid the solid atmosphere of tobacco fumes (how these pères smoke) H.O.R. presented their play "Hay Fever" last Saturday and Monday. The "girls" were the high spots of the whole show, in fact if it wasn't for the somewhat deep and sonorous tones one would have thought that a contingent from Oxley had descended on these revered foundations. Doubtless the costume manager had a ripping time trying to borrow these articles of feminine dress.

RED STAR.

There have been several students criticising the voting system in use for the Presidential Election, chiefly because they had mislaid their Union Cards. In previous years the University has prepared an alphabetical list of students which we have been able to use for the elections. This year, however, there is no such list available so we have had to resort to "asterisking" the cards, in order to keep a check on the electors. By the time all the elections are finished you won't see the card for red ink.

LOOK YOU.

A new mirror has been ordered for the Men's Cloakroom to replace the one which walked out of the building on its own one night last session.

Lyddon papers please do not copy!

PHONEY PHILATELY!

Some over-enthusiastic philatelist has been removing stamps, particularly South African, from letters in the stamped letter rack. One student who found one letter torn in half and another completely missing is getting a trifle annoyed.

Looking On

Grand.

The New Season opens with "Pick-up Girl," straight from the West End, where its presentation has aroused much discussion. The story, although set in America, presents problems which are equally applicable to our own juvenile population. Elsie Shelley, the author, shows a clear insight into the situation of juvenile delinquency, and her deep seeing and relentless analysis so dramatically placed before us, cannot fail to leave an indelible mark on the imagination.

Royal.

"Jack and the Beanstalk," *ad infinitum*.

IT'S NO JOKE.

The House Secretary has received a request for a juke box to be installed in the J.C.R. What do you think about it?

HOUSING THE PLAYERS.

At last there is going to be some suitable accommodation at Bardon Hill for women playing games at Weetwood. The first floor is to be turned over to the women, whilst the ground floor and the adjacent amenities will remain for men who play tennis. Further facilities for players to obtain grub and to discuss the merits and failings of opposing teams have been provided by equipping a room at the back of the pavilion.

FATHER SHERLOCK.

Life at H.O.R. seems to be figuring in this week's news. They had a couple of nocturnal visitors over the last week, ostensibly looking for a night's lodgings, but chiefly interested in the overcoat trade. Thanks to some subtle action on the part of one of the Fathers, who asked one of the gentlemen into his office while he went out to dial 999, the bod was turned over to the Boys in Blue.

Parry and Gabb, following a hobnailed spoor, unsuccessfully trailed the other bod for miles round Leeds streets in the hope of meeting a copper on the way.

OVERHEARD.

"If we had more to eat it would be just like war-time."

Lord Halifax at Leeds

The Montague Burton lecture was very well attended. Lord Halifax spoke on "Anglo-American Relations" and stressed the importance of mutual understanding rather than of an alliance. He thought that the future of the world largely depended upon a satisfactory relationship between the two countries, for it would strengthen the United Nations Organisation and set an example to other nations. He recognised that it would need much effort on both sides, in spite of the fact that we have a common language and literature, and suggested that we could learn, and the Americans rewrite, history, and that both might seek a better understanding of each other's political institutions.

M.B.A.

Diary

Friday, March 7th.

Chamber Music for Strings
XXV String Orchestra.
Great Hall, 1-20—2-0 p.m.

Saturday, March 8th.

Rhythm Club Social.
7-0—11-0 p.m., Social Room.

Monday, March 10th.

Forum Film Show.
1-15 p.m., R.S.H.

Friday, March 14th.

Natural History Social.
Social Room, 7-30—11-0 p.m.

Saturday, March 15th.

Spanish Society Social.
Social Room, 7-0—11-0 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18th.

Play Reading.
Social Room, 5-30—8-30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 19th.

Film Show.
R.S.H., 7-0—9-30 p.m.

Union Muse

I rather think morale
Is very low;
We tend to snap and snarl,
Is that not so?
But shortages of fuel
Of which perhaps you knew, 'll
Tend to make morale
Completely go.

So this week's good advice is
To endeavour to be gay,
And see the present crisis
In a philosophic way.

We realise that power
May be cut,
That "mains" at any hour
May go phut.

I tend to turn most vi'lent
When I find the wireless silent,
And yet I'm still as sour
In a glut.

So cheers to Mr. Shinwell
If you don't like B.B.C.
He silences their din well,
Most especially programme three.

This alternating metre
Must be due to
A freezing brain. (My feet 're
Almost blue, too).

But it's not an idle rumour
That tragedies have humour
That is what this crazy metre
Has a view to.

You still don't think it funny
However hard you try?
You don't think the outlook's
sunny?
Quite frankly—nor do I!

PIP.

LIVE LETTERS in a DEAD WORLD

Dear Sir,

In recent issues of the **Union News** there has been considerable comment and correspondence about Spencer's picture now displayed in the cafeteria.

It seems to me remarkable that there has been so little controversy over the work exhibited outside the Union Committee Rooms.

This picture has a dynamic balance of colour, especially in the pastoral section, that is typical of the artist's sub-real approach and reveals the complementary qualities of plastic achromatism and latent tone value. Visual sensations are virtually supplemented by aural impressions evoked by a very individualistic treatment of the medium.

Most important is the subtle effect of multiphase length (not in the dimensional sense), which is perhaps the culminating expression of the modern artist's neo-morphic attitude to the inherent uniformity of fundamental conceptualism in conflict with the realistic idealism of the Pre-Raphaelites.

Opposition to the exhibition of new works reflects upon the hedonistic tendencies of the last decade and is "deplorable" — whatever that may mean.

Yours, etc.,

R. D. CARTER.

Dear Sir,

The following cutting is from the *Daily Worker* of the 17th Feb. It should be of interest to students concerned.

STUDENTS.

I am wondering why the students of Leeds, who "came to the rescue of the citizens" when Leeds tram and bus workers were striking for their rights, are not now turning out in their hundreds and with "their shovels," to shift the snow from the bus and tram routes.

The Corporation have 144 of their out-workers on the sick-list. Don't tell me all the students are sick also.

MAN FROM DUBLIN.

Dear Sir,

I should be grateful if you would insert the following notice in the next issue of your paper.

Recently representatives of various L.U.U. Societies met to exchange their views on the possibilities of co-ordinating the activities of their Societies. It was generally felt that it was

highly desirable to find ways and means by which the overlapping of activities could be avoided and a greater measure of co-operation achieved. It was decided that a co-ordinating body (consisting of one representative from each interested Society) should be formed to meet at regular intervals. It is suggested that at these meetings every Society submits its future programme, and it is hoped that it will thus be possible to avoid clashes in dates and times on the one hand, and to enable Societies to co-operate on specific activities on the other hand. The next meeting of this body will be held on Thursday, March 13th, 1-10 p.m., in the small Committee Room, for the purpose of discussing next term's programmes. Other interested Societies are invited to send their representatives to this meeting.

(Sgd.) ALFRED DRESSLER.

Acting Chairman.

Billy Bunter Plays Hamlet

As if things were not bad enough lately, "Sweeney Agonistes" aimed at reminding us that life is pretty foul. It was a glorious failure: glorious because it was obvious that most of the actors are young and blooming and have no conception of depravity. A flicker of unhappiness was probably occasioned by the morning's news that the sweet ration had been halved.

Hazel Townson, as Doris, appeared to be relaxing after a brisk game of hockey. Edward Marsden (Klipstein) and Keith Cottam (Krumpacker) were thoroughly decent English types, with praiseworthy efforts at American accents. Only David Vicars as Sweeney and Jacqueline Steinberg as Dusty conveyed that there may possibly be activities more vicious than queue-jumping in the cafeteria.

Everyone worked very, very hard. Mr. Baines, the producer, must have sweated blood with a group of young people who still think that life is something of a lark. And isn't it?

F.W.M.

Music

XVIIth Century Music

A short introductory talk by Mr. Carl Dolmetch preceded the Lunch Hour concert given in the Great Hall on Friday, Feb. 21st to a large audience.

The treble viol is capable of great beauty of tone, as was heard to advantage in the C major "Divisions" by Simpson (c. 1650).

The recital included a sonata by Handel, Giles, Farnaby and Couperin.

Gramophone Recital

Monday 24th Feb.

The chief work in this recital was the Sibelius Violin Concerto — that admirable recording made by Heifetz and the London Philharmonic Orchestra under Beecham. This concerto is not often heard and it requires great technical skill. Admittedly the atrocious state of the gramophone resulted in a poor reproduction.

The large number of excellent recordings in the Union Gramophone Library deserves nothing but the best possible reproduction if these works are to be appreciated by other than a few students.

M.H.S.

Our M.P.

Mr. Strauss, Cons. M.P. for the Combined Universities, speaking at the invitation of the Conservative Association on Friday, 21st February, made an extremely outspoken attack upon the present Government of "proven incompetents." He said that the people should be told the truth about the grave crisis which threatens the country. Only if this is done will the workers begin to make the great efforts necessary for recovery. In Foreign Affairs the speaker claimed that the Government were shirking the very grave issues of India and Palestine.

At home, the great mass of legislation brought before the House meant that much of it was passed without adequate examination. The Trade Unions must be told it is impossible to obtain a higher standard of living whilst at the same time decreasing hours and increasing wages. The Government, far from being able to plan, is hardly able to govern, and we have the interesting position where it has to defend itself against the attacks of its own Left Wing, whilst depending upon the opposition for government at all.

A.G.

Personalities (No. 2).



Miss HELEN TAYLOR.

Agriculture.

Senior Vice-President, 1946-47.

Born in Cheshire, educated Altrincham High School, came up in '44 to study agricultural botany, despite this you will not find corn growing out of her ears. The farming instincts are well established however, a fact which becomes evident in the deliberate way she answers a question. Her colour schemes, too, reflect her profession — green and brown. Says she would not change careers with anyone.

Claims to have lots of bad habits but has never proved it. Hobbies?: "I haven't time nowadays. Life consists of running between the department, the main buildings, and the Union." That doesn't stop her dancing or playing badminton.

Very interested in psychology: likes walking and cycling: and (strange girl!)—"I love Yorkshire." Goes to the Theatre, particularly for Ballet. Not very interested in films unless they are good. Likes doing things on the spur of the moment.

Favourite Book: "The Wind in the Willows." Favourite Sports: Badminton and Rowing. Favourite composer: Mozart.

Future plans? A career first, then....

Ambition: To own a farm.

Rythm Club SOCIAL

Non-Stop Dancing
to Two Bands ::

THE JAY SWINGTETTE
and

George Allen & His Clubmen

Social Room March 8th

TICKETS - - - 2/6

SPORT

In the forthcoming Sports Events of the Combined Universities, several Leeds people have been selected to play for the English Universities. Norma Pearshouse, the captain of the Women's Hockey Club, has been chosen to play against the Scottish Universities at Glasgow on March 1st. D. M. W. Haw has been made captain of the Cross-Country team to run against the Scottish Universities at Leeds on March 8th, and P. L. Day has been chosen as reserve. Miss V. d'Andria, our W.I.V.A.B. representative, is captaining the Netball team in the match against the Scottish Universities at St. Andrew's on March 1st, and Miss Hardwick is to travel as reserve. Lastly, Louis Schofield is to play at left back for the U.A.U. Soccer team against a combined Oxford and Cambridge XI, either at Woking or at Oxford on March 1st.

We look to these people to acquit themselves well, and raise the prestige of Leeds athletics; we believe that they will do everything that is required of them, and to each of them we offer the congratulations they deserve.

The Fives Club.

On Saturday, February 15th, the Fives Club first team defeated Dalton Hall 10 games to 2 in a match played at Devonshire Hall.

The first pair won all their six games, scoring 15-5, 15-7 and 15-5 against the Dalton Hall first pair, and scoring 15-13, 15-1 and 15-1 against the Dalton second pair. The second Leeds pair, although playing creditably, was not so successful as the first, and won four games and lost two. Against the Dalton second pair, the score was 15-2, 15-7 and 15-5; and against the first pair the score was 10-15, 15-4 and 14-16. M. Ward played exceptionally well, and had a great deal to do with the second pair's victory.

Field Sports.

The pious hope we expressed in the last issue that the weather clerk might consider improving the weather must have been heard, for like most hopes it was decidedly squashed. As there have been no reports of any outdoor games it was thought that this would be an admirable time for a general looking back and summing up, and for the assessment of our chances in the games still to be played this term, if any. This time, however, we shall refrain from expressing a wish for the betterment of the weather as earnestly as we previously did wish.

Men's Hockey Club.

The team began with a good nucleus of experienced players,

FORTHCOMING HOME FIXTURES.

March 8th—England (U.A.U. Cross Country)	v. Scotland.
Soccer 1A	v. Yorkshire Amateurs.
Soccer B	v. Normanton G.S.
Medics. 1st	v. Selby.
Rugby A	v. Halifax Vandals.
Men's Hockey 1st	v. Scarborough.
Women's Hockey 3rd	v. Tadcaster G.S.
Staff Hockey	v. Y.T.C.H.
Boats 1st, 2nd and 3rd	v. Nottingham U.C.

and three of the freshmen soon proved themselves to be well up to First XI standards. All went well for the first few matches, as our captain was in fine goal-scoring mood, and scored 12 goals in the first eight matches. However, we soon found that we lacked a regular forward line which could hold the ball for long, and our opponents consequently did most of the attacking.

The forward line was rejuvenated at the end of last term when Cosby, who had previously played at centre half, was moved into the forwards. Since then, the return of an old veteran has further improved the position, and we have never looked back. Our only regret is that we have no regular right winger.

P'l'd Won	Dr'n Lost	For A'st	P'ts
1st XI	15	8	2
2	5	40	32
18			

Goalscorers:— Peniston, 15
Scholey 7, Cosby 5, Brewer 4.

Soccer.

In the last fortnight two key matches have been postponed, that against Manchester on February 12th, which, if we had won, would have given us the Christie Cup; and that against Sheffield University on February 22nd, for which we could not find a suitable venue, and which was the Semi-final of the U.A.U. Championship. We shall dislocate our regular fixture list as soon as the present weather improves, and play these vital matches as soon as possible.

	Played	Home	Away	Goals	Pts.
		WDL	WDL	F A	
1A	21	8 1 3	9 0 0	105 40	35
1B	25	10 1 2	6 3 3	97 44	36
2	18	4 0 5	3 0 6	61 69	14
3	13	6 1 4	1 0 1	48 35	15
4	1	1 0 0	0 0 0	2 1	2

Goalscorers:— Mills 38, Ingham 24, Hepworth 19, Vickers 16, Bishop 14, Glasman 13, Conry 12, and Fordham 12.

Rugby.

	P'l'd	W.	L.	D.	For	Ag'st
Comb'd XV	6	2	4	0	34	34
Univ. 1st..	14	6	7	1	130	171
Univ. A ..	17	4	13	0	126	254
Univ. B ..	8	5	3	0	49	115

Regatta.

Bad luck coupled with bad weather was, to a large extent, responsible for the defeat of the Leeds Women's Boat Club in all their races at the Regatta at Swillington on Saturday. How-

ever, the winners of the Stewart Cup, Reading, certainly deserved their success, for seldom has Swillington seen such fine oarsmanship and sitting as that of the first Reading crew. Edinburgh were not up to their standard, although some expert coxing prevented their first crew from removing the centre pier of Swillington Bridge after their boat had swung off course.

Leeds first crew lost their race to Reading due both to the latter's superior weight and oarsmanship and to the fact that three's seat became jammed shortly after the start. This meant three had to complete the race on a fixed seat, which is inclined to stretch things a bit too far! However, the rest of the crew backed up well and, "abiding by their accident" in the true rowing tradition, they went on to lose by only three lengths.

Leeds second crew were even more unfortunate. Almost up to the last minute they expected to row in "strakes" (broader in the beam than the "juniors" which the first crew were using) but, because Leeds have broken a strake and the bad roads prevented Durham from bringing a substitute, they were obliged to row in "juniors." These boats need far more skill to keep them on an even keel. However, they made a plucky race over a longer course, although the "punch" was lacking most of the way.

CROSSWORD No. 8 by D.A.P.

1		2		3		4		5
6			7	8				
9		10				11		
12		13		14		15		
16								

2. "With eager thought warbling through his — lay." Milton. (5).
3. Odd and even drink. (3).
4. No man for Woody. (3).
5. Macbeth and Dr. Faustus were rather on the great side. (9).
8. Animal in gassy lemonade! (3).
10. Two-thirds of a fact. (3).
11. Pass me the deck. (5).
13. Sends money away. Some is left, however. (3).
14. Moderns would have a bounce party. (3).

CLUES ACROSS.

1. We hear the tree's been bumped off. (9).
6. Incurable animal. (3).
7. First class arm of the law. (5).
9. Clue to sex and 4. (9).
12. X is the answer. (5).
15. He was carried on a blue litter. (3).
16. Used to stop several tries. (9).

CLUES DOWN.

1. Ben's Ace L. Smith. (9).

SOLUTION TO LAST ISSUE'S CROSSWORD :

ACROSS : 1, Arduous; 6, Tea; 7, Sub; 9, Table; 12, Error; 13, On; 14, IEC; 15, On; 16, Talks; 18, Inlet; 19, Ham; 21, Amy; 23, Message.

DOWN : 1, A. E.; 2, Rate; 3, Umbrellas; 4, User; 5, Su; 6, Through; 8, Blindly; 10, Arian; 11, Locke; 16, Time; 17, Stag; 20, Am; 22, Me.

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