

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. II, No. 5.

Friday, December 12th, 1947.

Twopence.

OVERSEAS STUDENT RECEPTION

Nearly a hundred of the two hundred and seventeen Overseas Students now in the University attended the Reception held in the Social Room on Tuesday, December 2nd. After being warmly welcomed by the Vice-Chancellor and the President of the Union, they mixed freely with each other and with members of the Staff, the Union Committee and other guests of the Union.

Breaking Barriers.

The origins of the Overseas Students' Reception are to be found far back in the history of the University. From the early meetings of the East and West Society the Reception has grown until it is now a well established custom, although it was unaccountably allowed to lapse last year. There is undoubtedly a demand for such a Reception, for although the International Society does valuable work in breaking down any barriers between students of whatever nationality, there is need for the touch of formality and ceremony which is found in the welcome which opens the Reception.

Hospitality.

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Mouat Jones, and the President of the Union, Mr. J. W. Daggett, welcomed the guests as they were announced into the Social Room. There was a slight uncertainty at first, which the rapid circulation of tea and sandwiches quickly dispelled, and soon the room was buzzing with conversation in many diverse tongues. The ice was well broken, and soon your reporter found himself chasing, in the name of hospitality, an elusive plate of cream cakes for a charming Palestinian girl, whilst later he listened in to a conversation in which a Committee member tried to explain frost, snow and the English Christmas weather to an African, who remained politely unimpressed and preferred sunshine.

Meanwhile, in other parts of the room, representatives of the British Council and the Rotary Club were busy making contacts with students. In this way many offers of hospitality over the Vacations are proffered and accepted, and many friendships are formed and cemented.

British Legion A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the University Legion Branch was held on Tuesday, Nov. 18th. A fair number of members attended. The Chairman introduced the President, the Vice-Chancellor, who, in the course of a short address welcomed the formation of the Branch, but attributed the poor membership (182 out of a possible 1,200) to the many other activities offered to students and mentioned that the social side, a feature of other branches, was adequately taken care of by Union functions.

The Chairman reported that the Dance held during the year had resulted in a profit of £30, which was to be distributed between the Poppy Fund and Branch Funds. The Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet were presented and adopted.

Housing Progress.

Under the headings of Committee reports the Service and Housing representatives detailed the progress during the year. Up to the 30th Sept., 1947, the end of the financial year, no grants had been made out of Branch funds. Several amounts had been received through Area Office and had been allotted. A certain amount of progress had been made in Housing, mainly through the Bursar's arranging that a house converted into flats be placed at the Legion's disposal. The most urgent cases were accommodated. The Bursar, who was present at the Meeting, said that other purchases were under consideration and he hoped to be able to report further progress in due course.

The following Officers were elected for the coming year:— Chairman, Mr. J. R. M. MacLeod; Treasurer, Mr. D. Wright; Secretary, Miss Z. Heseltine; Committee: Miss Rowe, Professor Orton and Messrs. Atkin, Bourn, Chaedle, Harris, Jones, Jull, Rowland, Sugden, Whitaker, Mr. Williamson, Assistant Bursar was elected Hon. Auditor.

"Athalie"

The presentation of Racine's "Athalie" by the Theatre Group (December 9th—13th) will have a very wide appeal. It is a unique venture by an amateur group: a French classical tragedy, rarely seen in England, in a new translation by Mr. Kenneth Muir, with incidental music by Dr. Edward Allam, played by the University Orchestra under his direction. Production is by Mr. G. Wilson Knight, who set such a high standard with "Agamemnon" last year. There is every reason to expect that "Athalie" will be equally successful.

The story of the play is a Biblical one, and can be found in II Kings, II. The usurper Athaliah, who helped by Mathan (Priest of Baal) has ruled in Jerusalem for eight years, is overthrown and killed by Joad (Priest of God), who reveals the existence of a true heir to the throne. The action covers the last day of Athaliah's reign, in which she begins to suspect Joad's plans but is unable to prevent his success. This determination to restore a rightful God-fearing king to the throne is Joad's unaltering ambition, and it dominates the whole of the play.

The "Three Unities" are faithfully observed, but this does not mean that the play is cold, formal and actionless. On the contrary, it is a vigorous drama which moves without hesitation to a fine and stirring climax. Everyone should see it at least once; those who do will be better for it, and those who miss it will assuredly find a quiet corner and weep bitter tears of disappointment!

W.E.J.

ANNUAL MEDICAL DINNER

The 57th Annual Medical Dinner was held in the Queens' Hotel, Leeds, on Friday, November 28th. Owing to Ministry of Food restrictions, limiting dinners to 99 only, graduates and final year students attended. The President was Mr. H. W. Symons.

Mr. W. G. C. Forrester, President of the S.R.C., in his toast to the Staff departed from the traditional student line and actually praised the Members of the Staff, and Mr. Michael Oldfield responded.

The Lord Mayor, in moving the toast to the "Past and Present Students," paid great tribute to the work done by the School of Medicine and on behalf of the City expressed sincere thanks and gratitude to its Graduates. Professor Hemingway, deputising for Dr. Hugh Garland (who was urgently called away) replied to this toast in an excellent speech illustrated with some appropriate anecdotes.

The President then proposed the toast to the Guests—the Lord Mayor, the Vicar of Leeds, the Pro-Chancellor of the University, Dr. Veale, and the *Yorkshire Post*. He had hoped that Sir Alfred Webb-Johnson, Professor Jamieson (formerly of Leeds and Dublin) and Professor Roper of Manchester would be present, but various factors had prevented them from attending. The Vicar of Leeds responded.

Mr. L. N. Pyrah, in a witty speech, proposed the toast to the President, who replied that he was indeed honoured to be asked by the Committee to be their President. He apologised for the absence of Professor Stewart and Mr. George Armitage, who were both in London.

It was hoped that the Annual Dinner would be held again next year under less stringent conditions when more students could attend, and it was pointed out that although this was the last dinner under the "Old System," it was hoped that the spirit of the medical men would not alter significantly under the new Health Service.

We know its early, but...

Merry Christmas

Joyeux Noël
Buon Natale
Vesieloe Razhdestvo

Fröhliche Weihnachten
Christmas Mubarak
Veselé Vánoce

Wesolych Swiat



Slack

Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th,
1947.

Vol. II. No. 5.

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EDITORIAL.

This week sees the most ambitious of Theatre Group's productions safely launched. This column is not primarily concerned with literary or dramatic criticism, but we cannot fail to comment upon such a large scale, *co-operative* Union activity, for it is just this aspect which we find so fascinating and important.

Many Union Societies are necessarily partisan and their activities have little to interest the outsiders. It is by cutting across the narrow boundaries of sectarian interests and specialised groups that a Society such as Theatre Group plays so important a role.

Men and women from all faculties and departments have collaborated with members of the Staff and with each other in the long, arduous task of production. All found within this "combined operation" a common ground which is so often lacking in other activities within these walls, and some may have realised the truth of the old tag which says that a University is a place where students and staff collaborate to educate each other.

Would it, one wonders, be too optimistic to see in the vitality and imagination which lie behind such an ambitious project another sign of that mental and cultural renaissance which has already found expression in the general intensification of religious and political argument within the Union?

This is the final issue for 1947.

The Editor welcomes letters and articles. 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: 3/- per annum, post free.

This and That

MILD AND BITTER.

That very essential service, the Blood Bank, is running low. Without its life-giving aid hundreds of people will die weekly. Students will have an opportunity to raise the stocks by giving an odd pint sometime next February, when the unit sets up shop in the J.C.R. Further details (including a film show) will be announced later. We sincerely hope that students will seize this chance of doing something for the hospitals, far more important than any Rag Day.

FILMS AND BUTTERFLIES

The popular weekly film show arranged by U.N.S.A. is continuing throughout next term with films such as "Factory in the Urals" (mass production in Russia—Of what?) and "The North West Frontier" (Social services for Afridis. Are they also plagued with those butterflies known to us as Soc. Dips?).

We hear with regret that Audrey Stringer is resigning the Secretaryship of the U.N.S.A. sub-committee owing to pressure of work. She has done much to put this rather vaguely defined organisation into a clearer perspective in the Union.

The Union Building will close from December 22nd to December 28th, both dates inclusive. The Union Cafeteria will be closed for the same period.

MINUTES & MINUETS.

Union Committee has on several occasions resembled "Rag Revue"! With the election of Stan. Binner to that august body we can now expect some of the Exec. to bring on the Dancing Girls --- complete with hairy legs!

REGRETS.

We learn with regret, which we feel sure will be shared by other students, of the resignation of the New Refec. Manageress, Mrs. Duncan. The standard of lunches served in the New Refec. has always been a source of amazement to students in these difficult days. We only hope her successor will keep up the excellent work.

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BAKED OR MASHED ?

We have heard of several complaints to the Catering Committee on the quantity of potatoes served in the Refecs. We understand, however, that the situation is as follows. Based on the M.O.F. regulations, one pound of dirty spuds must, after cleaning, de-eyeing, peeling, boiling and mashing, make five portions of potatoes. That is the amount you get served up. If you don't believe it, take a pound of potatoes and find out for yourself.

PUBLICITY PRANGED.

The Exec. have decided that in order that the Paging system remain effective for the purpose for which it was installed (*i.e.*, of summoning students to the telephone), it shall not be used in future by Societies for publicity purposes.

THE BOILERMAN REGRETS....

Last year students will have doubtless noticed a difference in the temperature of the Union this winter compared to last. Feeling particularly cold one day the H.S.T. wandered down into the bowels of the earth where the boilers live to find out why. He returned (in time to be received as an Overseas student), with the information that only one boiler is being used this year instead of two and that the coke supplied would be better employed as make-up powder for the Athalie slaves than fuel for the Union boilers.

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

That much maligned piece of writing, the Union Constitution, is likely to undergo further modifications, this time in the chapters on elections. The whole question of Union representation is to be reviewed with the idea of instituting elections on a Faculty basis. To us this would appear an excellent idea, for it would mean the setting up of Faculty committees which, as well as dealing with a proportion of the Union work, would provide a means to settle problems arising between staff and students and to bring about further staff student co-operation.

SNOOP.

THE HARASSED PENGUIN.

The humorous debate held on Tuesday, November 25th, proved good entertainment for the 40-odd people who attended. Mr. C. E. West proposed and Miss M. Hethington seconded the motion that "Formal Dances be abolished." Mr. West, in his usual droll manner, spoke of the impecuniness of students, and suggested that they should put on a bold front, not a white starched front, against formal dances. He himself didn't like being paraded like a harassed penguin. Here the debate was interrupted while the chairman investigated a weapon brought into the meeting by one of the ladies. Mr. Stan. Berwin spoke with spirit and devastating wit in opposing the motion. Having consulted Cassell's Classified Quotations just before he spoke he was able to cove us into submission with his learning. Miss Joyce Berridge, unlike the other speakers, spoke very much to the point and ensured the rejection of the motion by 39 votes to 11, with 4 abstentions. Noteworthy speakers from the floor were Mr. Mahabir, Mr. Over and Mr. Hepworth. Thanks must be voted to the Chairman, Mr. J. E. Williams, for keeping such an hilarious debate under control.

M.B.A.

Union Muse

Since buying a percolator
I'm a better wercolator ;
Had I invested in tea-pots
I should sleep lots.

Pardon this trash—
I've been reading Nash.

P.



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The World's Press.

There was a full house in attendance to listen to Barbara Niven, member of the editorial board of the *Daily Worker*, lead a discussion on the World's Press. She argued that the World's Press is free in the sense that any individual who possesses £2 million, the sum required to start a newspaper, is free to influence the opinion of his readers. One of the many examples she quoted of how this works in practice was that of the former editor of the *Daily Herald*, who was dismissed for writing an article which met with the disapproval of the owner, Lord Southwood.

The question then arose why many of these newspapers were so popular and enjoyed such a large circulation. This was answered by pointing out that although the large body of readers did not buy these papers for their political viewpoints they did enjoy their light, entertaining style, their smart, appealing type of journalism and their presentation of the sensational. Nevertheless, their day to day political influence was very strong.

The speaker pointed out that, in contrast to this commercial Press, there existed a People's Press all over the world, run, owned and financially supported by its readers. In Britain this was the position occupied by the *Daily Worker*, which was therefore free to print the facts without reference to a millionaire owner.

After the meeting several students swaggered out feeling very prosperous, Barbara having told them that they could become newspaper proprietors by buying a £1 share in The People's Press Ltd., the new co-operation venture of the Labour movement. Lively discussion followed.

Lunch Time Interludes.

Theatre Group, in collaboration with the Spanish Dept., presented two interludes by Cervantes, to celebrate his quarter-centenary. "La Cueva de Salamanca" (produced by Miss Wilson) was generally considered to be the better production of the two, although the performances of Donald Green (Chanfalla) and Jean Whitehead (Chirinos) in the "Marvellous Peepshow" (produced by Dr. R. Brown) were spirited. In spite of the lack of finish Theatre Group provided us with a very pleasant lunch hour break, as usual very well publicised.

M.B.A.

Special Announcement

At a meeting of the Union Executive Committee it was decided that, in view of the damage sustained by the covers of chairs, which are very difficult to replace, the use of the University Cry *Kumati* shall be limited to the major dances, and that the practice of standing on chairs shall be discontinued.

Weak Matter . . .

Before anyone beats me to it I am going to admit that "Weak Matter" is very weak this week, in fact it is almost septic. Gone is that sparkling wit, that acid comment, and in its place is the gloom produced by examination, for I have been sentenced to seven days in darkest Brotherton, or how to get an all-round picture of the subject.

In the absence of a letter on the subject of queueing in the cafeteria, I shall write one myself, I shall proceed to answer it myself, which, stupid as it may seem serves a purpose and is better than say—bidding against oneself at an auction. I shall probably write several letters representing different moods, such as—

Sir,

I—I—I am just too furious! Certainly not yours, no etc., even,

See what I mean? That's the cryptic type;

Another—

My dear, dear, Sir,

Having so much time on my hands, I feel it is only just that I should wait in the Caf. queue for at least an hour whilst people with far more work to do than I (you know, those Arts Students) go to the front and obtain their needs in a couple of minutes.

Yours really truly, faithfully, sincerely, and etc.,

"Couldn't care less."

RELIGION AND THE COMMUNITY

At a meeting of the Social Studies Society on Thursday, November 20th, an interesting address on "The Relationship between Religion and Community Life," was given by the Provost of Bradford.

He considered religion and community so inter-related and inter-dependent that, with the loss of a real community, partly due to the machine age and its lost impetus of religious belief, religion had become too much of a personal matter.

He outlined the main elements of a community, which have been destroyed in all the large cities and now only obtain in village-life in England, and stressed the importance of making an effort to resist the drift of events, by planning.

He stated that community life belongs to man, who holds responsibility in the community under the authority of God, and the great failure of the Church is its division, which has reduced religion to small groups.

There were many varied and interesting questions from the floor, and the Provost left us with the conviction that we must endeavour to regain the position of the Church by sheer quality of religious living.

U.J.

See what I mean again? The ascetic type. Gee! I feel awful, but I have an idea—go and buy that book "How to win friends and Influence People," then you too can be a heel!

Clothes! My dear readers, have you noticed the clothes worn around the University lately? Never have I seen Army blankets used more ingeniously or with greater effect. The rumour that Textile students' ties are knitted from rug wool is untrue, however, they're not, they're crocheted. One sees coats with hoods, scarves with people, girls with horrible knitted stockings. I even saw a fellow, who, as a precaution against winter chills, had grown his hair so long, that when next he goes to his barber, it won't be for a hair-cut, it'll be for an estimate.

Just a little fairy tale to finish with. Once upon a time there is a student who wants to attend a meeting, honestly he does! So he looks round (all Egyptians do) and sees lots of meetings advertised in all sorts of places. He is in rather a dilemma; this is increased when he finds that he has to choose not between societies, but between initials—the S.S.S., N.H.S., L.U.U.T.G., R.I.P., P.U.B., and N.O.K. When he sees that the meetings are all at the same times, he is, to use that phrase Aristotle so aptly coined "in a fair sweat." He finally chose the N.O.K. (twice and ask for Charlie).

That's the end and somewhere there's a moral! MATCHETE.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Woodsley Hall, our youngest Hostel, celebrated its first birthday on November 15th, at a Social held in the Hall.

Some 50 guests were warmly received by the President, G. Over, in the brightly festooned entrance hall. There was dancing throughout the evening in what we were informed was normally the lounge, but which had been converted for the occasion into a gaily-decorated ball-room. The dance was ably M.C'd by Ted Wigglesworth, well-known in Union social circles, and was livened by the introduction of several novelty dances.

Seven of the inmates entertained us with a song, accompanied on the piano by a very worried-looking Maestro (his name was unspellable) alias Over. The main themes of this song seemed to be—apart from the fact that Woodsley Hall is "a grand old hall," "Kettle" calls and "Basket Ball" and the inadequacy of the food. This latter allegation, however, was not borne out by the excellent supper served later in the evening and which made one wonder whether there were such things as rations; it had, we learned,

Medical society

Mr. A. J. C. Latchmore, F.R.C.S., gave the inaugural Presidential Address on October 17th, speaking on "The Changing Face of Surgery."

The second meeting of the term, on October 31st, took the form of a debate on the motion "Vivisection should be abolished," proposed by Mr. B. C. Elsmere, of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, and opposed by Mr. R. J. Mahabir. Mr. Elsmere spoke with evident sincerity, condemning vivisection as being useless and unethical. Surprisingly, he concentrated on the utility aspect—a very rash undertaking for a layman with only a confused smattering of physiological and medical knowledge. His suggestion that "colonic lavage" ought to replace insulin in the treatment of diabetes was bound to provoke hearty laughter! Mr. Mahabir, opposing the motion, pointed out most of the fallacies in Mr. Elsmere's arguments with considerable eloquence and gusto. After refuting the assertion that vivisection is useless and misleading, he indicated that animal experimentation is strictly controlled by law, and that the possibility of cruelty being inflicted is remote. He quoted extensively from the report of the 1906 Royal Commission which investigated the anti-vivisectionists' charges. There were a number of excellent contributions to the discussion from the floor, and finally the motion was defeated by 48 votes to none, with five abstentions.

The Honoraries' Brains Trust on November 14th was a very popular occasion. The distinguished Brains present dealt expertly with questions ranging from the nature of common-sense to the advantages of female House Physicians.

DENTAL BALL

On the evening of Nov. 21st, the L.U.D.U. held their Annual Ball in the Union. Our congratulations must go to the organisers who arranged a most enjoyable evening.

The number present was just right; there was a festive air and the bar, which remained open until after 11 p.m., was never too crowded nor too smoky for pleasure.

The atmosphere was undoubtedly one of enjoyment, despite the lack of imagination in the supper and decorations. May-be there was magic in the air: I for one, have revised my opinion of dentists!

been prepared entirely by the Matron herself.

Dancing continued until just before 12, when the birthday cake—resplendent with one candle—was cut, and at midnight the guests, with a feeling of well-being (not entirely due to visits to the bar) departed for home.

"About it... and about"

The Editor does not necessarily share the views expressed by correspondents. Will correspondents PLEASE keep letters SHORT.]

Complaint.

Dear Sir,

I know that I shall be well supported by other women students when I voice the complaint that the Women's Common Room is increasingly being used for social activities, the women students being told to remove themselves without notice.

This University, in comparison with another university I have attended, is well supplied with delightful rooms and halls for these social activities, but not nearly so well provided with libraries and quiet rooms. It seems a pity that the quiet rooms should be usurped for other purposes. I might mention that the women students were asked to remove themselves yesterday afternoon (26th November), from 2 to 4, in favour of a rehearsal by medical students, which seemed to me to be a particularly flagrant disregard of the women students' comfort and convenience.

Yours faithfully,

P.W.

Reply.

Sir,

Your last issue contained a letter from Mr. D. W. Edwards objecting to a short talk given before the showing by the Socialist Society of the film "Les Bas Fonds." The film-show took place in International Students' Week and, therefore, Soc. Soc. considered that the occasion should not pass without a few words from a French student. The talk was political—but how can one discuss France at the present time without being political? However, despite what Mr. Edwards says, M. Lindwall did discuss the position of students and of the cinema in France. I can only think that Mr. Edwards objected to the progressive sentiments expressed rather than to the fact that a talk was given.

B. SCOTT.

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Indifference.

Sir,

The recent bye-election in the 10 open seats reveals an amazing indifference in the student body concerning the function of the Union Committee. To be a student in a particular faculty and to indulge in a variety of indoor and outdoor sports seems in itself to be an adequate recommendation for election to the Committee. This indifference does show that the Union is generally contented with the activities of the Union Committee, but surely much could be done to make this Union more than a well-run club, more even than a body simply defending students' interests?

The status of the University and of the Union is not so high nationally, or even locally, that we can be content to maintain our present standing; there are many advances to be made, firstly perhaps in making the Union a Union in fact and not merely in name. On such matters as these a candidate's opinions should be sounded by the electorate, and he should at least be expected to convince us not only that he has done something for the Union in the past, but that he intends to do more in his capacity of Committee Member in the future.

Yours, etc.,

D. A. WIGNEY.

Toleration?

Sir,

I was interested to note in a recent issue your reference to increased political activity within the Union.

I would suggest that this is, in part, due to the realisation by members of the three political parties believing in the British form of government with toleration, that the danger of domination by an active proselytising minority is as pregnant in the form of Communism as in the Fascist which we felt it proper to exclude from this University last year.

Freedom of speech and opinion must be maintained, but let us remember, when we have this Communist propaganda thrust out to us to digest with our mid-day meals, that its ultimate object is to create a schism in this country, such as is to-day rending France and Italy, from the misery of which ambitious men, believing in a foreign ideology, would hope to climb to power.

Yours faithfully,

W.Y.

Wanted.—Some handyman to clean the N.U.S. typewriter. Apply Union Office.

DIALECT ATLAS.

Professor H. Orton gave a mid-day lecture on "A New Survey of English Dialect" on Friday, November 21st.

After giving a brief outline of dialect study in England, he went on to show how words and differing pronunciations of words are distributed throughout quite localised regions. In view of the imminent extinction of our traditional dialects through the influence of the cinema and radio, Professor Orton has undertaken the preparation of a Dialect Atlas similar to those drawn up in many countries (unfortunately not yet our own). A Dutch Atlas was shown as an example together with the questionnaires which have been prepared for use in the actual collection of word variations.

Professor Orton gave some fascinating examples of local expressions, many of them words capable of enriching the English language as a whole.

MENACE.

Students trying to slip by "Daily Workers" outside the main entrance know all about one form of the Communist menace. Brigadier A. M. Ramsden, prospective candidate for Central Leeds, spoke on the "Communist Menace" on a larger scale on November 18th. He spoke simply and with great feeling, saying that although individual Communists may be very sincere they are not living in a real world. He realised how platitudinous much of what he was saying sounded, but asked his audience not to become complacent about the failure of Communists in the recent elections; for their methods are admittedly not democratic. He pointed out how difficult it was to get information about conditions in Russia, we have to rely upon accounts from people like Kravchenko, an apostate Communist and admittedly prejudiced, but what we did learn was not very encouraging.

He ended with this thought: "Why doesn't Russia, the only country in which Communism has been given a fair trial, open its frontier to foreign observation?" M.B.A.

IT'S COMING!

The...

Engineers' Ball

Friday, January 23rd

8 p.m.—2 a.m.

The Ambassadors
Dance Orchestra

Refreshments - Bar - Ices

Tickets 12/6 Formal

Buses will run to all parts of
Leeds at 2 a.m.

BRIEF CHRONICLES

Small, fair and Puckish, with expressive hands, Heather Mill off-stage looks far more like an intellectual "Fresher" than the Biblically wicked Athalie. Yet she took a B.A. at Sheffield (yes, she's post-graduate!) and found time to act in "Tobias and The Angel" (which was also presented at the Birmingham Drama Festival) and to produce "Twelfth Night." She is taking a Diploma in Social Studies here, but that doesn't deter her from reading De Quincey and James Joyce in between rehearsals and lectures.

Our Contemporary.

Once I thought that the sprightly little magazine *Freedom* published by the Liberal Society, was written entirely by its Editors. This ignoble thought perished recently when I spoke to Ray Cheetham and Geraint Williams, who between them produce the magazine and who both assured me that the Liberal Society is the most flourishing of the political societies. The sales and response to *Freedom* are good. Geraint is a fervid Welshman who looks like an Englishman, whilst Ray gangles his way around like a man from the prairies.

Conversation Piece.

The English Society, encouraged by the success of its readings of member's work, is to draw further upon its members next year. I notice that Lewis Thomas is to speak on "Welsh Poetry," whilst Mollie Herbert is to speak on "Irish Poetry." This promises to be good, for both the speakers (as their friends well know) are brilliant and witty talkers... one by race, the other by temperament.

Visitor from Hamburg.

Recently visiting the Union was Carl-Ludwig Schneider, Editor of the Magazine of Hamburg University. Schneider fought on three fronts with the German Army, was invalided out and became a student at Hamburg. Helping in the incredibly hazardous task of distributing an anti-Nazi underground magazine he was arrested by the Gestapo, and thrown into the inevitable concentration camp. Three days before his trial, which would have meant the usual sentence of death, he was rescued by the American Forces. Now studying Philosophy, German and English literature, he says that he finds Kant's transcendentalism more to his liking than Rosenberg's phoney philosophy.

Cri de coeur?

Complaining of the shortage of books, and the heavy curriculum at French House a friend quotes:

"The novels of the French
Make the honest English blench
When they're clean they're unreadable,
When they're not, they're not procurable."
"INCA."

LEEDS MUSIC

From a musical point of view, the Informal Evening held by the Musical Society on the 27th November was extremely successful. Items were selected with taste and discrimination and performed, on the whole, with competence. The gathering lacked spontaneity, as is so often usual in long pre-arranged programmes.

The programme was particularly interesting because it featured three items composed by members of the Society. Outstanding was Mr. Robert Gordan's "Hymn to Diana," a setting for double quartet and piano of Ben Jonson's verse. The work is dedicated to the madrigal group, which first treated it rather scantily, but which gave a better account during a hiatus when we were waiting for the kettle to boil. Mr. F. Tomlinson's pretty canzonetta was summarily dismissed by three giggling madrigalists. Miss P. Mellor's trio settings of some Irish melodies was better performed.

Mr. F. Tomlinson and Mr. Robert Gordan are to be commended for their pianoforte duets. Miss Ariadne Rothstein, who intends to study the violin in London, interpreted the first movement of Vivaldi's A minor concerto with skill and determination.

Rudely boisterous was Mr. Austin Brooks' "Song of the Flea."

It is impossible to mention all the items, but I should be doing Miss Elaine Jackson an injustice if I refrained from commenting upon her sensitive and thoroughly enjoyable interpretation of Kennedy's Hebridean settings.

Miss Margaret Hetherington officiated.

P.T.B.

LUNCH HOUR MUSIC.

How much more enjoyable are the weekly gramophone recitals now that they are given in the Riley-Smith Hall.

The new 'panatropé' is proving most satisfactory—it is stimulating to think that Mahler's "Das Lied von der Erde" need no longer wage a vigorous and highly technical battle with the gramophone! A recent performance of Rubli's violin sonata No. 2 was merited by the excellence of the work.

Why are we still so reluctant to hear the works of our younger English composers?

M.H.S.

FOOTNOTE.

The music for "Athalie" has been specially composed by Dr. Edward Allam for this production. It is scored for strings, and only about twelve players will be employed. The idiom is modern, has a distinct flavour of traditional Hebrew music, and should provide a fitting background for this production.

LIBRA.

SOCIETY NOTES

University Air Squadron.

Authority has now been received from the Air Ministry to accept a further 18 members in the University Air Squadron.

Students who are in the first year at the University and have two years to complete before going down are eligible.

The scheme is designed for all students who have national service liabilities and does not include medical or dental students.

The advantages are numerous and the disadvantages negligible.

For further particulars apply to the Squadron Headquarters, or better still, ask a student member.

There is no closing date for membership at the moment, but it is expected to be the end of term.

L.U.U. Geological Society.

The Society has so far this term enjoyed a varied programme, dealing with several aspects of the Science. The first meeting was in the form of a debate, and succeeding lectures on "Popularising Geology" by Dr. Owen, Director of Leeds City Museum; "The Ore Deposits of Caldbeck Fells" — illustrated with many fine exhibits, by two members of the Society; and "The Geology of the Cheviot Hills," by Mr. Anderson (of the Geological Survey).

The next meeting will be held on Friday, December 5th, in the Dept. of Geology (Hillary Place), when Mr. Jackson (Bradford City Museum) will give an illustrated lecture on "Archæology and the Geologist." All those interested in geology and its many applications to other branches of Science are cordially invited to attend.

English Society.

After a term of weekly meetings with talks by various members of the staff, and outside speakers, the English Society plans to include more work by the members themselves next term. Auden and Isherwood's "The Dog Beneath the Skin" is being produced as a play reading, and several members are to read papers to the Society.

On December 10th, a joint meeting with the English Societies of Sheffield and Manchester is being held, followed by a visit to "Athalie."

M.B.A.

Scout and Guide Club Christmas Party.

Students spending a quiet evening in the J.C.R. on Dec. 4th, were surprised at the activities in the Cafeteria Extension. A Pantomime was going on, and then men and women seemed to be fighting round a chalk circle in the middle of the floor! But when they heard it was a Scout and Guide Party they understood! Everyone agreed that it was a great success and the Presidents deserve our thanks for a very happy and "Christ-massy" evening.

Conservative Association.

On November 18th, Brigadier A. A. Ramsden addressed the Association on "The Communist Menace." Brigadier Ramsden gave instances of Communist methods, laying stress on the threats they contain to the British way of life. In view of the supreme importance of the topic, the attendance, which was only moderate, should have been larger.

At the Annual General Meeting held on November 11th, the following were elected to serve as Officers for the ensuing year: Chairman, H. O'Hara (Arts); Vice-Chairmen, Arthur Pollard (English) and G. Straschnov (Medicine). Other committee members were also elected.

Those members interested in taking part in political discussion groups should contact the Secretary, stating the subject in which they are interested. It is hoped that members will give their full support to the Association's meeting next term, for only by thus showing our virility can we form an effective opposition and alternative to Socialism.

Liberal Society.

With the end of term the new Liberal Society can look back on its first few weeks of participation in Union life with pride. Activities commenced with the

defeat of the Conservative Society in a debate, and two discussion groups have been held.

The Society's venture into journalism has proved very satisfactory, as readers of *Freedom* are aware. Members have also assisted in Municipal and Bye-elections.

An even fuller programme has been arranged for next term, including debates and talks on Liberalism. Our membership has been increasing all term and anyone wishing for information should contact Stan. Berwin in the Union.

Leeds University Union Photographic Society.

Our last talk this term will be on "Cave Photography," and anyone interested in caving will be warmly welcomed.

On the 12th January we shall continue our programme, holding one meeting every other Monday. The subjects to be dealt with include Photo-copying and the Carbro and Tri-colour Carbro processes for making prints in monotone and full colour. The high spot of the year, the annual exhibition, will be held on May 4th, 5th and 6th. We have a record membership this year and there is no reason why we should not have a record exhibition. It is up to you!

A copy of *The Amateur Photographer* will be available in the Union Library in the near future.

Music Society.

The Music Society gave its first recital this term in the Great Hall on Thursday, Nov. 20th. The first work, Mozart's Clarinet Trio (K 498) received a thoughtful and at times beautiful interpretation. The clarinet was replaced by violin with detriment, most noticeable in the wistful Minuet.

Byrd's 3-part Mass was an ambitious choice for the remainder of the recital. At times some uncertainty was evident, but an interesting if reserved performance was given. The ensemble would benefit by a strengthening of the basses.

M.H.S.

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★ SPORT ★

Comment.

At the end of the first term, we are publishing, in the centre columns of this page, a summary of the matches which have been played so far this year. The results are, we think, on the whole eminently satisfactory. Of the matches played, exactly 50% have ended in victory for the University team and nearly 14% more have been drawn. To the remaining 36% we offer our condolences and our wishes for better luck (and possibly better play) next time.

Next term's prospects? At the moment, we fear a repetition of last year's "winter sports only" issues. But the now-useless Union car park would make an admirable ski-jump.

Cross Country.

Not only has the Cross Country team yet to be beaten, it has so far actually won all three matches which it has played. The match against Leeds T.C. was won comfortably, 25-56; in the triangular match at Durham, Edinburgh were unable to participate and the home team were easily beaten 28-50; and in last Wednesday's Junior Christie at Weetwood, Leeds beat Liverpool and Manchester, the scores being Leeds 40, Liverpool 50, Manchester 94.

Keep it up.

Men's Hockey.

The match played against Thirsk H.C. resulted in a decisive victory for Leeds, the score being 6-0; and in the following match against Hull University College, the game was a complete walkover, the final score being 11-0 in our favour. Although the teams played were not the strongest in the fixture list, the standard of play was considerably higher than has previously been the case, and such victories will provide all the necessary confidence.

Carried *nem. con.*

The Gentle (?) Sex.

The Netball Club started the season well with two victories, but later results were not so encouraging, due undoubtedly to lack of practice. One notable victory, however, was the W.I.V.A.B. match against Manchester which Leeds won, although by the very narrow margin of 15-14.

The Hockey Club have had a very successful season. Of the ten matches played, only one has been lost. It was rather unfortunate that this was a W.I.V.A.B. match which was only lost after a hard, arduous and fast-moving game. The mixed team has continued to turn out fairly regularly, and it is hoped to hold an inter-hostel rally at the end of this term.

Talking of mixed teams brings us to the Badminton Club. The mixed team in this Club has played four matches, of which it has won three and lost only one. The men's team has done even better than this, winning all three of the matches that it has played.

Basket-Ball.

The Club has, so far, had a very varied season. Two games have been played against the Northern Command School of P.T., the first of which was lost 19-18 away and the second played at home was won 38-9.

In the Northern Area Championships, for the Olympic selections, the University team represented the West Riding of Yorkshire. They beat both the N.E. and the N.W. Areas, but lost in a close game to a Scottish Composite Team.

In the evening of Nov. 15th, the team played the Latter Day Saints of America, who played a typical slow American-style game whilst the University used the faster continental style. This showed its results in the second half of the game when the Americans tired, and Leeds siezed the opportunity to score most of their points. Result 63-48. And this defeat, Mr. Molotov, did not cause the Americans to cancel all their other fixtures.

Medics. Rugger.

Both the "A" XV and the 1st XV have won five games and both have lost three. The 1st XV, in addition, has drawn a further two. Several players have proved worthy of note, in particular, J. P. Falkingham, who has played for the County and acted as reserve on several occasions: and in company with R. T. Heyling, W. G. C. Forrester and J. H. de Graeve has been chosen to play for the U.A.U. team on its Welsh tour.

Special mention must be made of M. H. Carr, who has acquitted himself with distinction in every part of the team, and also of E. R. Mitchell, who has been out of action since early in the season from damaged ribs. To him we extend our sympathy and hope to see him back very soon.

Unbeaten (Swimming).

Of the three matches which the water-polo team have played this term, two have been drawn and one has been won. The victory was, to say the least decisive, as the score was 9-1.

In view of this record, two representatives of the Club are attending a meeting of the Leeds and District A.S.A. to arrange entry into the Leeds and District Senior Water-polo League next summer. Good luck.

CHRISTMAS PROGRESS

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
Badminton	7	6	—	1
Basket-Ball (Men) ..	8	5	—	3
Basket-Ball (Women) ..	1	—	—	1
Boxing	1	1	—	—
Cross Country	3	3	—	—
Fives	4	2	—	2
Hockey (Men)	2	2	—	—
Hockey (Women)	10	5	4	1
Lacrosse	4	2	1	1
Netball	7	3	—	4
Rugger (Union)	33	16	—	17
Rugger (Medics)	18	10	2	6
Soccer	51	20	12	19
Swimming	3	1	2	—
TOTAL ..	152	76	21	55

Soccer.

The Soccer Club is probably the most ambitious and enterprising club which we possess. Four elevens are fielded regularly twice a week and when necessary, a fifth eleven also appears. Although there has been in each team an occasional "Off Day," the results are in the main, good.

This was very much the case last Saturday in the third round of the W.R. County Challenge Cup, when Thornhill Lees, the present leaders of the Woollen League, suffered their second defeat of the season. Harding opened the Leeds account in the first half and Mills went on to get a hat-trick. Result, victory 4-0. And a thoroughly well-deserved victory too. Good luck, Leeds, for future rounds.

Unsung.

For years, a group of girls have been visiting the gym regularly, performing remarkable acrobatic feats between the baskets. They have now at last finally received recognition as the Women's Basket-Ball Club.

Their first attack was launched against a Midlands club at Birmingham, and although they unfortunately lost 40-25, they put up a good show and showed some skill in tactics. They now look forward to more matches when, after more practice on a larger court and a far fuller team, they hope to win victories for Leeds.

We hope so too.

Greetings.

To those of you who have managed to stay the distance, and have read the whole page, we send our best wishes for a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

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Team	Played	W.	D.	L.	Points	Position	No. of teams
					L. F. A.		
1st XI	12	6	3	3	28 20	3	(14)
2nd XI	11	1	1	9	11 65	13	(14)
3rd XI	11	5	0	6	36 50	9	(18)
4th XI	10	2	2	6	21 55	10	(14)
"A" XI	7	6	0	1	23 10	1	(8)

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