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UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. IV. No. 10.

Thursday, May 4th, 1950.

Twopence.

COMMENT ON CONGRESS

YOUR GRANT AND THE TREASURY.

Considerable interest will no doubt have been aroused by the articles in the *Yorkshire Post* on the educational cuts in Government awards. The following information was given by the Union Grants and Welfare Sub-Committee.

F.E.T.S. and L.E.A.

Because of the gradual decline in the number of ex-service students in Universities and training colleges, £4 million less will be spent by the Ministry of Education in grants to students for the Session 1950-51 under the F.E.T.S. Scheme. The estimated increase in L.E.A. awards for the same period will probably be £1½ million, and in State Awards about £426,000. This will mean a saving of about £2 million in student grants, and 5,000 fewer students will be grant aided, provided the student population remains the same.

The Result.

This would be a highly commendable act of economic virtue if it did not destroy the hope, at any rate for the time being, of a decent standard of living for all students and if it did not present the danger of some potential students being unable to take advantage of Higher Education through lack of financial means. It is objected that the ex-service students' financial needs have been greater than those of students coming straight from school, due to allowances being made for wives and families. The number of married students in this University in 1949 only accounted for 13% of the total population, or about one third of the number of ex-service students. Since the first article in the *Yorkshire Post*, however, information has come to hand that there will be more State Awards than was estimated. Probably the life of the R.S.T. Scheme will be extended, too. Yet neither the majority of L.E.A. awards, nor grants made under the R.S.T. Scheme allow fully for the maintenance of a student at University; nor does the increase in the amount of money spent on awards by local authorities mean an increase in the number of awards. If the

"Education for what?" was the imposing theme of the 1950 N.U.S. Congress at Brighton, and even now I am still asking myself the same question.

My lasting impressions of this, my first congress, were of days of sober nonsense and nights (not to mention early mornings) of madness.

DOWN TO THE SEA.

Being a conscientious type I attended as much as I could, except an organised pub crawl, which was beyond my finances. One of the highlights of madness occurred at midnight with the launching of an apprehensive Union official in a borrowed fishing boat: A few stalwarts waded into the briny and duly launched - him after many soakings, minus oars and trousers, whilst gently wafting from the shore came the sound of dubious student songs from a populace ringed by red danger lamps. Their identification was completed by the banners of ladies' underwear which proudly floated in the early morning air. The Brighton natives received our mental aberrations with good grace, and the sudden passage of about two hundred students dancing a Conga through the local pub occasioned the merest raising of eyebrows. The reactions of the law were equally impassive and above reproach when the same group danced an abandoned "Ring o' Roses" round two gentlemen in blue.

A cryptic observer summed up these affairs by saying that the congress seemed to be mostly concerned with the removal of trousers for the entertainment of the ladies and that the congress-women spend half their time getting tight and the other half getting loose.

THE REAL BUSINESS.

Nevertheless, there was a serious side to the week's events, and the speakers in the morning plenary sessions were well worth hearing. In particular I think a review of the educational system as a whole, under the title of "The Education Ladder," given by Mr. R. K. D. Hickman, was extremely illuminating and helped to clarify the state of the educational system of to-day.

ARTS v. SCIENCE.

In the afternoon discussions, there arose the inevitable Arts v.

latter were true, many students would be trying to live on hopelessly low grants.

It must be stressed, however, that the F.E.T. Scheme has not terminated for aspiring students

Science question, and indeed I was surprised to find it popping up during many sessions on such questions as, the problem of University entrance, the function of the Universities, and Graduate employment. On the question of specialisation, Arts v. Science really came out into the open, and as my own commission was largely composed of Arts students I gathered that the general impression that vocational training as a specialist was a very bad thing. Not only this, but it was deplorable that under present conditions, when an Arts course gave a manifestly better "education," that there should be so few acceptable posts available to the graduates in this faculty.

M.A's and MARX.

The high tone of these discussions may be gauged from the fact that a philosopher from Swansea wanted all able miners to possess M.A's, working on the assumption that one has no right to assume that a special type of job is reserved for a University student, whilst a Communist taking a different approach suggested that all University students should be miners, or rather manual workers also, and thus all have a common denominator, and toil honestly for a living.

The highlights of the days were undoubtedly the political meetings, and if one held definite opinions it was customary to show partisanship at one and heckle at the next. The meetings were highly coloured, not only with political fervour, but by a backstage electrician with a sense of humour.

Thus the Communist speaker was bathed in a delicate shade of blue, whilst the Conservative harangued the audience with a background as red as Mr. Pollitt's tie. A summary of these political uproars would be impossible, so why not find out for yourself and try the 1951 Congress.

eligible to receive a grant from it. Lastly, it has been intimated from official quarters that any student who finds himself in a financial difficulty should write to his M.P.

RAG IS COMING!

In these days of stress and turmoil, it is well to have something to think about other than the perils that lie ahead. This, quite a large number of people by now are providing. For a week after the last weary sufferer crawls out of the last examination, Rag bursts on the citizens of Leeds with all force and fury. And preparations are going on now—in fact they have been ever since last October.

The target this year is £15,000—we say again, £15,000—more than any other University in England has ever raised. And to reach that target needs the co-operation of every student in the University.

Regular Features.

The regular features are, of course, being continued—the procession, Tyke, collections, House-to-House, Silver Mile, and Rag Revue. This year, House-to-House is being made the subject of a special effort. Every student in the University and the Colleges is to be contacted by letter and asked to state if they will help, and where and when. If we can make sure that every house in Leeds is visited, then we will be a long way towards reaching the target.

New Stunts.

Apart from the old faithfuls, several new stunts are to be tried. We hope to hold a Gymkhana if we can get a field from somewhere; we are negotiating for the loan of an elephant; we hope to send raiding parties out to Otley, Ilkley, Harrogate, and anywhere else we can think of with Tykes and collecting boxes—and there are several more ideas which are to be kept a dark and deadly secret until later. Incidentally, an idea which is dark and which could easily prove deadly is for a boot-black day, on which the citizens of Leeds will have the opportunity of getting the shoes cleaned by the students of Leeds—at exorbitant prices.

Wanted — Effort.

So there will be plenty for everybody to do. The activities mentioned above are only those organised by the Rag Committee. But we hope that individual

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F.P.P.F.

Univ. of Leeds
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Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.

THURSDAY, MAY 4th, 1950.

Vol. IV. No. X.

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

EDITORIAL.

The burning topic of conversation at the moment is, of course, examinations. I.U.S. and N.U.S. may grapple in a struggle to the death or to disaffiliation; the President of the Union may be held up in Belgrade by visa trouble (which he was); millions of people may put up for the Fifteen Open Seats (which they have done); a new picture may appear on the walls of the J.C.R.; but none of these otherwise soul-stirring events have the power at the moment of withdrawing a single person from his attention to all the work he should have done in the last couple of years and which he is now trying to do in the next couple of weeks.

But there is one thing that goes on all the time. That is Rag. Six weeks on Saturday we try to raise £15,000, more than any other University in England or Wales has ever collected. And to do this a little work is necessary. Some details are given on page one; but it may spur on a few more people to know that about 120 people are working very hard indeed in Rag Revue, rehearsing two or three times a week already. If they can do it, then we are sure that many other people can also spare a little time.

As Rag Week gets nearer, more help will be needed. Not for very thrilling activities. For instance, addressing envelopes does not exactly leave one with a feeling that one is covered in glory. But such work is important—in fact it is vital. And there are many other jobs just as humdrum and just as important.

Notices will be going up from time to time asking for volunteers for various jobs. Please keep a look out for them, and please do your best to help. Even one hour can be very useful.

Date of next issue June 15th.
 Last day for copy June 8th.

This and That

CULTURE : I—Art.

One of the favourite topics of conversation in the Union last term was the picture hung up in the J.C.R. Most of the remarks made about it were rude, and an opinion was slowly formed that the thing was upside down. This term, if one can struggle through the crowds of bridge players which litter the place up so, one can see that a new picture has been imported. This is entitled "Jazz," and at least looks vaguely as though the title has some connection with the picture. Certainly one can see that it is not upside down, although some of the figures in it appear to the lay eye to be a little odd. Ah well, maybe, someday, we will have a picture of an ordinary green field with an ordinary cow and an ordinary tree. Maybe.

CULTURE : II—Dance.

Last year, the lunch-hour break was filled in very nicely for many people by the contortions of the Rag Revue men's chorus. This year, the same entertainment is available, starting last Wednesday. At one o'clock, a dozen or so muscled beauties could be seen pretending to be swans, cygnets, and ducks, and this will go on for the rest of the term, to the accompaniment, if last Wednesday is any criterion, of a selection of encouraging quacks. So the Scottish Dancing Society had better look out. They have now got fierce competition.

VISITORS.

Leeds University Union is becoming quite a haven for various people connected with I.U.S. and kindred bodies. Last term we had Russians and South Americans and various other nationalities. This term, according to the last U.C. meeting, we are to have a visit from Bonney Rust, ex-president of N.U.S., who is to address the Union on the subject of the present crisis in N.U.S.—I.U.S. relations. The date is not yet

fixed, but we have been dying to get something really important in this column for ages, and we couldn't resist this opportunity.

WANTED—A CONSUL.

This Union has always been glad to welcome a large number of foreign students, and the number seems to have been increased recently by a contingent from France. Most of them speak English by now and have soon fallen into our somewhat curious ways. One in particular has a wonderful ability for getting to the front of the queue in the caf. without even knowing anybody to whom he can attach himself in the traditional way. Perhaps this is what is known as Gallic dash. But we fear that continued exhibition of the virtue may result in a little bit of British damn.

CLOCKING IN.

After positive eons of time, the scaffolding is being removed from the New Block (which everybody seems to refer to now as the Parkinson Building). The removal of the skeleton of wood and timber reveals not only the classic form of the building, but also an immense clock, which, so far, seems to keep good time. It has been rumoured, however, that the University authorities are thinking of keeping it five minutes fast, so that people will arrive at lectures on time. But this doesn't really matter—one can only see the thing from about two places.

GLUT.

The present glut of eggs seems to have penetrated even the cafeteria. For the small sum of fourpence, one can now purchase this succulent dish (hard boiled), plus bread and butter at a ha'penny a slice. That this is a Good Thing is obvious from the number of people seen eating eggs for their breakfast at about 11 a.m. But if the innovation had been made before the Union A.G.M., it would perhaps not have been a good thing at all.

PETE.

What to do in the Vac.

Most students who are interested will now have seen the N.U.S. Summer Tours Handbook, which contains details of organised trips to 15 countries of Western Europe and Scandinavia. The routine for these is quite straightforward—just read the Handbook and ask the N.U.S. Secretary for a form. For those who are interested in Work Camps the following is a brief summary of the information to date:

Finland—July 4th to Aug. 5th.

July 29th—Sept. 4th. Camp near Helsinki, working on a "Student Town." Suitable for men and women. Piece work rates. Cost (Air Travel) £24/10/-.

July 4th—Aug. 5th.

Aug. 2nd—Sept 4th. Forestry Camp (men only) in N.E. Finland. Wages, costs and conditions similar to above.

Holland—July 6th—29th and July 29th—Aug. 20th. Men only

—Reconstruction work on Wlacheren Island. Women only —Fruitpicking in Zuid Beveland. Cost £13. Free accommodation and pocket money.

Arnhem and Backeven—Reconstruction work for men, fruit-picking and domestic work for women. Cost £15/15/- and £14/10/- respectively. Time—July 6th to 29th.

Norway—Voss and Vik Road.

Men only. July 1st—Aug. 12th. Free board and lodging and free holiday. Cost from Newcastle, £10/19/6.

Svartor Camp (near Oslo)—July 5th—28th and Aug. 14th—Sept. 3rd. Free board and lodging plus pocket money. Cost £24.

Sweden.—Many harvest Camps at different times during the summer.

Switzerland.—Reconstruction work (suitable for men and women). Accommodation with Swiss families. Cost £13/15/-.

U.S.A.—Study tours for 2 or 3 months. Cost about £190 to £200.

For information about Camps in Denmark, Israel and Yugoslavia, write direct to N.U.S., 3, Endsleigh St., London, W.C.1.

For information about study tours, work camps or holidays arranged by organisations other than N.U.S., see table in the Union Library, or N.U.S. Sec.

Prague International Union of Students' Congress.

There will be a Congress of the I.U.S. in Prague during the last two weeks of August. N.U.S. is sending 25 official delegates, of whom the President of the Union is one. In addition, an unlimited number of observers can attend. Several students from Leeds will be travelling to Prague by lorry, spending a holiday *en route*. N.U.S. is also making arrangements for "normal" travel. This cost will be about £30. Students

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RITUAL and ROMANCE.

There were two elements common to both the plays performed in the Riley-Smith Hall at the end of last term. Both Oscar Wilde's *Salome* and Michael Wilde's *The Mermaid* were poetically conceived, and relied for much of their effect upon a ritualistic atmosphere.

"Salome."

The ritual of Wilde, with its formal movement, repetition of key phrases, and element of sexual sacrifice, was not always apparent in David Coomb's production. The incompetent clumsiness of the dancing relaxed the tension at just those points at which it was essential for it to achieve a new nervous emphasis. The Dance of the Seven Veils was badly contrived and ineffectual. The subtlety and power of Patricia Doxey's interpretation of Salomé was not reflected in the gyrations of her attendants. A sensibly restrained décor, however, made up for the ineptitude of the dancers and enabled the rhythmic prose to have its full effect. Richard Hinton's Herod, alternating between senile lechery and petty authority, vitalised the over-jewelled speeches with which he was provided, and made intelligible the extravagant caprice which led to the death of Jokaanan.

Jokaanan, played by Frank Granville Barker, lacked the resonance one had expected, but made up for it by a quality of harsh, almost asexual asceticism, his jerky movements rather over than under emphasising the extent of his fanaticism. Herodias's hatred was less intelligible than Herod's lust, but Margot de Graeve invested it with an unreasoning venom, which accorded well with the atmosphere of decadence which imbues the whole of the play. The other actors seemed as puzzled by their parts as the play demanded that they should be by

the perverted desire of Salomé Robert N. Ayling was an ineffectual and drugged Young Syrian. The Page of Herodias overacted in a hysterical fashion. The assorted Jews and Guards had their moments, but were really rather a motley crew. But these failures were overshadowed by the brilliant success of Salomé and the superb portrait of Herod. On the whole, the Tudor Players must be congratulated on an enjoyable production of a play that deserves more attention than it has received in the past.

"The Mermaid."

Although the Lilliput Marionette Theatre's performance of *The Mermaid* was aided by magnificent scenery and exquisitely made puppets, the script itself irritated by a pseudo-sentimentalism which ill compared with the simple directness of much of the action. The narrator's frequent interruptions of the action, with his inevitable hornpipe and Zomerzett accent ruined any unity the play might have possessed. The final appearance of the dead Coral and Siegfried, perched in marital bliss upon a cruising cloud, was bathetic in the extreme. One would not apply such harsh criticisms to many marionette plays, but *The Mermaid* had moments of great beauty and poetic appeal. The characters had some degree of personality. The ritualistic story of love's inevitable sacrifice, and the sympathetic magic of the truly fearsome Sea Witch were made impressive by an attention to lighting and scenery which producers of other and human plays would do well to emulate. It was, therefore, disappointing to find such flaws of construction and taste in a play which, otherwise, was superbly produced and which entertained an audience of all ages.

R.S.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2.

from all over the world will attend, including some from non-members states of I.U.S., and in addition to the formal Congress proceedings there will be a very full programme of visits and cultural activities. It is a unique

opportunity for a large number of British students of all shades of opinion to go to Eastern Europe, and it is to be hoped that a **representative** British contingent can be organised.

U.C. GETS HET UP!

The main topic at the last U.C. Meeting was temporary suspension of N.U.S. membership of I.U.S. The Leeds delegates to the N.U.S. Council Meeting in February had voted against the suspension, except for the President of the Union. The N.U.S. Sub-Committee recommended to U.C. that the majority report be adopted, and that it should instruct its delegates to the July Council to express strong disapproval of the manner in which the N.U.S. Exec. introduced the motion for temporary suspension.

Mr. Singleton claimed that all that should have been done was for N.U.S. to disassociate itself from the action I.U.S. had taken in regard to the People's Youth of Yugo-slavia, and that the matter should have been left on the table until the next N.U.S. Council. He considered that the steps taken by N.U.S. jeopardised the unity of the N.U.S.

The President, who had left the chair at the beginning of the discussion, stated that it would not have been possible for N.U.S. Exec. to notify Union members of the motion any earlier. The temporary suspension is a definite protest to I.U.S.—a vote of censure passed on I.U.S. previously has had no effect.

Mr. Grace thought that the decision should have been placed before the member Unions before it was brought to Council. Miss Thomas considered that N.U.S. action might be a check on the reaffiliation of disaffiliated countries. Mr. P. McMenemy thought that I.U.S., Exec. in cutting off group of students on

political grounds have acted unconstitutionally, and that they should either resign or N.U.S. should disaffiliate. Miss Baker stated that it was a tactical error to suspend at this time, as if there is no redress N.U.S. would have to disaffiliate. The argument went on for a long time, but eventually the N.U.S. Sub-Committee's motion was passed, significantly, with only one abstention.

The Rest of the Meeting.

Much enquiry was made into the aims of the new Democratic Society which wanted to be recognised. Many members of the U.C. didn't seem to be able to recognise what the said Society's aims were, but after being more or less enlightened by two of the members, recognition was granted by nine votes to four, with seven abstentions. Mr. G. Rhodes made one of his now familiar attempts to do something about peace and ginger up U.N.S.A. Sub-Committee. U.C. decided that the best thing to do was to put Mr. Rhodes on the Sub-Committee itself so that he could do a bit of personal propaganda, and bring peace to at least U.C. meetings. Finally, the house went into secret session to discuss porters' wages; it was stated that the position of the cracked cups in the caf. would be looked into (about which we could make so many comments that we will refrain altogether); and it was promised that a request for dice in the bar would be investigated—which sounds ominous.

Union Elections.

Particular attention is called to the new method of voting for the Fifteen Open Seats in the Union elections taking place to-day and tomorrow. Against your first choice - we say again - first choice, put the figure "15"; against the second choice, put "14", and so on, down to the fifteenth choice, denoted by the figure "1". This is the opposite way to that used in the proportional representation system which was previously in force. It is hoped that not too many mistakes will be made, because if they are it will result in a Union Committee which is the exact opposite of the one which the Union members wished to see in office.

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“... about it, and about”

Dear Sir,

May I, through the columns of your journal, draw to the attention of the students of this University a dangerous and unprecedented practice which is growing in Union elections. I refer to the entry of politics into these previously sacred occasions.

This interference originated by one of the leading political societies requesting their members to only vote for a candidate with similar political beliefs to their own. The other main party I understand, are being forced to reply by issuing a similar directive to members of their society.

As an active member of one of the societies in question and as a prospective candidate for the Union Committee I do earnestly implore all students voting at the approaching election to cast aside all thoughts of political affiliation and vote for the individuals who are best fitted to represent them during the following year.

Yours, etc.,

MICHAEL J. COOK.

The Editor, **Union News**,

Dear Sir,

With examinations so close at hand, may I appeal through your columns for as little noise as possible in the Brotherton Library during the next few weeks? During the last few years the standard of conduct in the Library appears to me to have deteriorated greatly, and at times I wonder if it will become a rival to Union caf. as a natter-shop. Surely people who use the Brotherton must realise that as a library it caters for individual readers and not for couples who wish to discuss their work together. Such people must realise that a constant buzz of conversation is a distraction to nearby readers and I sincerely hope that in these last few weeks before we meet our judgments they will have a little more consideration for others.

Yours faithfully,

INSOMNOLENT.

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SUCCESS STORY.

Theatre Group's production of "Six Characters in search of An Author," impressed me more than any other play I have seen in the Rily-Smith Theatre. The characters occasionally fluffed their lines and were slow on their cues, but never succeeded in marring the dramatic impact of the whole. Superb acting by John West, Wendy Rayner, and Jaqueline Heywood, kept the audience tensely interested in the problem of the nature of reality which is the play's central theme. A sense of an almost Greek fate brooded over the whole play. The Father, an almost Aeschylean figure, possessed by the Eumenides of an ever present moment of horror by his tortured examination of his own nature, and emphasis upon the inevitably incommunicable solitude of the individual, impressed us as much with his hysterical agony as with his pitiful and puzzled humanity. The harsh and bitter stridency of the Daughter's laughter, combined with her pity and terror for the two dead children, silent effigies of the past for ever before our eyes, startled us into a new realisation of the pains in human relationships. Her sensitivity to the atmospheric instant, and her quick grasp of the essential element in her scene of degradation made poetry of pain. The poetry was in the pity—not felt by the Characters, nor by the commonsensical producer, but by the Author, in his treatment of this episode from the epic of suffering humanity.

Moving Translation.

I do not know the Italian version, but if it is as moving as the English translation of Frederick May, it seems almost worth while learning another

language to see and understand this play in the original tongue. The metaphysical dialectic of the gradual revelation of the characters' dilemma, the beauty of the poetic passages, and the moments of terrible and always emotive realism were at one with the language used. Only when the curtain came down "accidentally" did the Producer's sentence of explanation seem irrelevant and bathetic. This is a play which everyone should see. It is a play of pity and love, containing a lesson for all mankind.

Bouquets All-round.

The minor characters were as well played as the major. The silence and movement of Arnold Saxby's interpretation of the Son were at one with his perpetual death. Raymond Whiteley, masking the Son's neurotic defensive attitude with a cynical and detached assurance convinced us of the truth he exemplified. The puppet-like Actors, stagey and feather-brained, over-acted their personalities to a slightly greater degree than was necessary. Madam Parce was competently played by Kamla Malhotra. Alan Fairfoot did not act, but was the foreman of a stage crew.

W. A. Hodges, Frederick May, and all connected with this production deserve our gratitude for bringing to Leeds this most moving of plays, and for breaking with the tradition of period productions to such good effect. May one hope that, in the future, Theatre Group will give us other masterpieces of our own time? Toller? Or O'Neill? Or dare we hope and pray for yet another production of Pirandello?

DEBATES A.G.M.

At the Debates Society A.G.M., held at the end of last term, the following were elected:—

Chairman: Mr. A. Khusro.

Secretary: Mr. L. Small.

Committee Members: Miss

D. Thomas; Messrs. G.

Rhodes, C. Gifford, and

F. Singleton.

The meeting, probably the shortest A.G.M. of anything anywhere, lasted fifteen minutes.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

students, faculties, halls, and societies will think up something themselves—singing to cinema queues, for instance—and let Rag Committee know about it. The only proviso is that the idea is profitable and not too illegal. We don't want to spend all the proceeds on getting out of jail.

CLIMAX

The Theatre Group Carnival, held on the last night of last term, was definitely a climax to the term. From the moment when the first-comers had been directed from the cloak-rooms in the Union to the dressing rooms back-stage, where to adopt their various disguises, to the unknown hour when the last stragglers tottered away in the early light of dawn, it was a Very Good Do.

The fancy dress disclosed a mixture of ingenuity and desperation. A friar dressed in Tate and Lyle sacking spent most of the evening sitting in a corner; the Union Secretary, dressed in a spruce selection of gent.'s natty suiting, spent most of the evening on the stage (that's where the bar was); and a varied collection of pirates, sheiks, glamour girls and what-have-you's spent most of the evening dancing to the strains (a particularly suitable word) of the Art School Band.

Cabaret.

Theoretically, attendance was limited to the members of five or six Societies, each of which put on a floor show. The Spanish Society performed a bull fight, and gave a demonstration of Spanish dancing, which was only equalled in energy by the Ballet Clubs exhibition of what was probably very modern ballet. Mr. Freddy May, who was obviously born two centuries too late, gave his celebrated rendering of "Carlotta." The other Societies also put on acts which were not so clear—except, of course, for the Scottish Dancing Society, who performed as usual.

Refreshment.

Supper was in the J.C.R., reached through a secret door direct from the R.S.H. It was enormous and chaotic. Liquid refreshment was available on the stage, and the prospect of red wine at sixpence a glass was viewed with much approval. The fact that a slight error was made in estimating costs was not discovered till afterwards. Anyway, nobody cared at the time, and the general consensus of opinion was that an extremely good time was had by all.

International Conference

The fourth International Conference at Endcliffe University Hall will take place this year from August 12th—26th. The first week will be devoted to "British Culture," at which there will be distinguished composers, artists, and writers to discuss developments in the Arts in Great Britain since the war. The second week's conference will be on "World Food Supplies," the focus being on the problem of how can world food supplies be increased to meet the demands of a rapidly expanding population.

Social Activities.

As well as the more intellectual side of the Conference, there are various other activities organised. Motor expeditions will be made in the Peak District, there will be a Theatre Party, and socials, dancing, and tennis will be arranged. The cost of the Conference is four guineas for one week, eight pounds for the fortnight. Bookings and enquiries should be addressed to Miss Edith Freeman,

14, St. James Row, Sheffield 1.

SOCIETY NEWS.

Readers Please Note.

Although the charming letter which appeared in this paper last term would have it otherwise, Soccrites and Soccritess are not V.I.P's. They have not the least influence in any quarter and Soc. Secs. are quite at liberty to debar them from meetings if they wish—though they are not advised to tackle Soccritess. In fact Soccritess, who thinks that the difference between a motorcycle and a corgie is in the number of legs, would be very pleased if some influential person would find her a seat in the Brotherton. And so to beer . . .

One Fine Dray We'll Notice.

One afternoon at the end of last term Soccritess went to meet the Economic Soc. for The Visit to the Brewery. At least, such was her hope, but when she arrived at the palatial entrance of Economics House she was rather pleasantly surprised to find only four men students seated around the window. At first she politely ignored them as not possibly having anything to do with her mission, but, as time went on, she painfully came to the conclusion, that, for the present at least, this was the Economics Society, and that no one else was going to grace it with their presence.

She was right. Lured by the hope of samples, the four stalwarts and Soccritess decided to go, even though so few. The

guide took the shock very well, and starting at the top of the brewery, they gradually descended as the beer went through its various processes.

Beer was everywhere. It boiled, bubbled, went through pipes, reeked, fumed, fermented, and smelled. Finally it was poured into thousands and thousands of bottles and barrels. Soccritess thought it all looked absolutely revolting, but the ecstatic expressions on the faces of the four seemed to imply that she did not know what she was talking about. Joy was complete when the invitation came to imbibe in the canteen, and even Soccritess, who had none of the connoisseur's appreciation, enjoyed it. The four seemed to be settled for the night, and Soccritess, anxiously preserving her own decorum, watched them work their way through an enormous number of bottles, but everyone was able to make their way home safely.

Summing up, Soccritess says that it was a very interesting outing and that she personally had a good time. However, from the point of view of the Economics Soc. it was a fiasco, and showed an amazing lack of interest and consideration. Anyway, they can say goodbye to free beer and breweries for a while. They have just elected a new secretary, and he is a teetotaler.

CIGARISTOCRACY.

It has been very noticeable during the last two or three weeks that there has been an abundance of cigars offered for sale on the counter of our most hallowed cafeteria, but no cigarettes, not even the previously everpresent Clifton. I believe I saw, though I can hardly credit it even now, one of these things offered for the fantastic price of three shillings and six pence sterling. My reaction was the same as that of a certain Mr. Francis Howard, during many of his more profound dissertations.

On reflection of the above, I can only conceive two feasible reasons for the appearance of the aforementioned cigars:—

1. A crafty campaign to bolster up Conservative morale by that method so beloved of the Teaching Profession, visual aid. May it be that we will henceforth greet one another with the phrase: "Long . . . ermay it be . . . erpreserved," pronounced with a varying intonation? Or may our greeting take the form of a sign involving the bifurcation of two digits??

2. Is it that our Allseeing Fathers (the Government) have decreed that we shall put on a

bold front in face of our economic difficulties? If so, what better method than to smoke that rather dirty-looking specimen of the Weed which is the epitome of that state of not having to "count to the last perishing halfpennyworth."

Owing to this outbreak, too, we may in future observe disastrous trends. Will it be that those fine gentlemen who permanently have one foot in the gutter and the other on the pavement, and who are always doubled up as though searching for something, will disappear? Will it be that the proud British nation will degenerate into a cigar-smoking, Drambuie-drinking, Financial Times-reading and Mediterranean-cruising lot of clots? What, I ask, is wrong with the good old gasper, the odd noggin, the *Daily Mirror*, and a bash on the Bumpum Cars?

I can only view this development in Union life with great mistrust and apprehension. I call for the abolition of the cigar; let us stand united, and fight to the finish for the future of the fag-end. Let us again quote Mr. Churchill: "Long may it be preserved."

THOUGHTS

Some men are born philanthropists, others render service to their fellows for the benefits which they themselves will reap. Now, whether he is a Class I or a Class II philanthropist the Boy recently decided to try and improve the lot of the sardines who inhabit the Union Building.

It happened as follows. The Boy was bored. Now that at first sight may not seem in the least unusual. Quite so, but the extraordinary feature was that he began to think. What is required to keep up the spirit of the masses dying of ennui like flies? What is necessary to relax the fevered brains of our overworked scientists? What is vital to give sustenance to the near-demented imaginations of philosophers? What is essential? Why, a wireless set, of course!

News at Last.

To the student, such a comfort would have unlimited advantages. It would enable him to hear the clear, unbiased views of that great institution, the B.B.C., on all topics of world interest or importance. Apart from the few bloated capitalists who invest in the *Times*, or those who succumb to the merciless cries of "Daily Wukker," a large part of the student body is, perforce, ignorant of the whimsical doings of the outside world.

For those with "the beat in their feet," the B.B.C. can offer at least seven dance tunes, which are played regularly each lunch-hour, while "Listen with Mother," would we feel, prove an attraction. What a vast wealth of information would be eagerly lapped up by breathless crowds as they hearkened attentively to the "Programmes for Schools."

Turning a New Page.

But surely the most powerful attraction would be the competition which a radio could provide for the porters' "Instrument of Torture" from which continually emanate cries of "Paging Mr. Blub-Rumble."

Were such a contraption installed in the balcony of R.S.H., many more sitters-out would be attracted, and those not wishing to listen would be undisturbed.

Pipped.

But from afar we see The Boy's brow become clouded. How, he wonders, can a mass riot be prevented when one syndicate wishes to partake of the joys of the "Light" while others have a quieter taste for the "Home." Obvious! Install a "Light" set on one side of the balcony and a "Home" on the other. The problem, however, arises of how to support the centre of the balcony groaning under the weight of avaricious humanity which would congregate there to hear two programmes for the price of one licence.

Doubts may be cast as whether the ether could exist in the Union due to fumes slipping unobtrusively through the swing-doors of the bar. But a radio has worked here before. Indeed, we find that a relay set, U.S. students for the use of, does exist in the Union.

PROGRAMME PARADE

Therefore, if The Boy has strength remaining he will Have a Go at Taking it From Here, and, unless the Exec. is Up the Pole, you may soon be thrilling to such epics as Richard Barton, or B.B.C. Gale Warnings. Now, Exec., do you Beg to Differ?

WANTED *

Slogan for Rag!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANY MEMBER OF RAG COMMITTEE

NO PRIZES APART FROM THE HONOUR

CROSS-COUNTRY CLUB.

Successes to the Club during the past season have been many and varied. D. W. M. Haw won the U.A.U. and Christie individual titles, and, this being his third win in the U.A.U. championships, he has retained the title, which has been held since 1939.

Both Christie and Junior Christie were won by Leeds teams—the Junior event being the most exciting, Leeds winning by two points from Manchester.

The U.A.U. event was disappointing, as Leeds could only make fourth place, due to a crop of injuries, but this was the only match that the first team did not win. The second team started and ended the season badly, but achieved brilliance in the middle. In one race, all eight men returned home before the opponents were sighted, and in another our six scoring men beat the first men of both Sheffield and York.

CRICKET CLUB.

University Combined XI v. Yorkshire C.C.

Any cherished hopes of repeating last year's performance against Yorkshire were soon put aside. The University, winning the toss and electing to bat were no match for the wiles of Wardle and Smales, although the opening batsmen had shaped well against the "speed merchants" Aspinall and Coxon. At the tea interval, University were all out for 39 runs, and it is notable that no University player was heard to express the customary time-honoured remark that "Yorkshire had them to get." Yorkshire passed the University "total" without the loss of a wicket, but went on to bat for a while, presumably to have a little batting practice and to give University bowlers some much-needed bowling practice. Who derived the greatest benefit from it is difficult to say.

However, once again we must congratulate J. K. Foster, the University bowler, who repeated his success of last year and took 4 wickets for only 21 runs. With Foster maintaining this form we expect to win the Christie Cup and the U.A.U. Championship once again.

*SPORTS NOTES

EDITORIAL.

"Summer is icumen in." So said one of our national figures in literature many years ago. We haven't noticed it yet! The Inter-Faculty Sports at Weetwood last Saturday were held in the worst possible weather, Cricket and Tennis matches have been cancelled, and the Winter sports still rule.

Returning to the Inter-Faculty Sports—we must congratulate the Competitors on the high standards they set up. In the Three Mile race, David Haw completed the course in 15 mins. 14 secs., only 7 secs. outside the record. Medics came first, 49 points; Arts, 45 points; Technology, 42 points; and Science, 23 points. In the Sprints, Fox won the 100 yards in 10.7 secs., and G. Grace took both the 220 and the 440. There seem to be no fears for the U.A.U. and Christie in Athletics this year.

Mention must be made of the fine performance of the Men's Hockey Club at the Bridlington Hockey Festival. Playing six matches, under bad weather conditions, they won four and drew two. A successful termination to the season. The Cricket Club did not show up in too good a light in their annual match with the County, but valid excuse can be put forward with regard to lack of practice. We wish them every success in the forthcoming Christies.

MEN'S HOCKEY CLUB.

By winning the 1949-50 Bridlington Men's Hockey Festival over the Easter week-end, the Club rounded off a very successful season. Fifteen members of the Club travelled to Bridlington along with several members of the "fair" sex, and netted four wins and two draws out of six games.

The first game v. Norton H.C. was an extra match, but never have the University team played with such enthusiasm and skill. The half-time score of 3-0 to us was an under-estimate of the run of the game, and with more luck the score would have been considerably more. Although the final result was a four-three win to Leeds, Norton were very lucky to have scored their third goal.

In the afternoon the University proceeded to pile up five goals against Players, who were, to say the least of it, definitely middle aged! An injury to our centre forward, Johnston, occurred in the first ten minutes, but Players very sportingly allowed a substitute to play.

The Saturday match v. Doncaster was a blatant display of bad manners on the part of our opponents, which does not become either Festival Hockey or a Club. The score of 1-1 was a fair reflection on a very poor game.

The Sunday game v. Saltburn was probably the best matched game we played. Our opponents were quick and showed very good ball control, but their stamina and inexperience let them down in the last minutes, allowing Leeds to win with the only goal of the match.

The fifth game on Monday, v. Durham University, resulted in a draw, 1-1. Played in a very cold downpour of rain, it produced a very mediocre game. Leeds forwards tried very hard throughout the game, and on the whole the defence played as steadily as usual. Just one mistake cost us the game.

The last game on the Tuesday morning was the all-important game, as we had to win. After the first half, with the score 0-0, Leeds decided to wake up and forget the beer from the night before, and lashed in five goals before the final whistle.

We were able to supply three members to other teams every day, and Lloyd and Whitworth put in magnificent work for Cheetham Hill, and Maynard for Rawdon.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Gls. For	Gls. Agst.
6	4	2	0	17	6

ATHLETICS CLUB.

For the first time in many years, the officials of the L.U.A.C. can take off their hats to the enthusiasm of the athletes of Leeds University. We hope that the excellent turn-out for the Club trials, and the large number of entries for the Inter-Faculty Sports, is the indication of the re-birth of enthusiasm and vitality of Leeds University Students. We are beginning to wonder where the successors to the spirited students of pre-war days were. It is very pleasing to be able to say that if the new and old members of the Club maintain their keenness and training schedules we may have a chance of winning the Christie Cup this year. This is being held at Weetwood this year, but in the past Leeds students have not taken advantage of the fact that they are the Northern equivalent of the Oxford and Cambridge meeting. Dr. Best, an Olympic coach and judge, together with other Olympic judges will be in charge of the meeting, and Lady Holdsworth is to present the trophies. A marquee will be available for teas, and the Scottish Dancing Society have kindly consented to start the meeting off in the true atmosphere.

BOAT CLUB.

At the end of last term we had work-outs with Liverpool Univ. B.C., Kings Coll., Newcastle, and Durham Univ. B.C.—being beaten in each case through a variety of reasons. Nevertheless at testing time, the North of England Head of the River race at Chester, on March 25th, the first Eight improved its position from sixteenth to seventh. Had it not been for a loose rigger which put stroke semi-hors de combat, we might have done even better. The second Eight, in the clinker division, put up a very satisfactory performance, although by starting last, they had no-one to push them, and consequently lacked the necessary goad for high endeavour.

The third Crew began the Summer term by a two-mile row at Trent Head of the River race at Nottingham. Starting off second they finished eighth, rather unexpectedly, since we were hoping that by now their form and cohesion had begun to settle down. However, training, training, and distance, distance, distance, will make the world of difference throughout the Club.

Arrangements are in hand for our stay at Henley (the fund is STILL open), and we are to be the guests of Maidenhead R.C., whose premises we are to occupy during the training period prior to the racing. Our performance at Chester was singled out as very promising by the Editor of Rowing, and with encouragement and Minor Freebairn's driving, who knows, we may do it yet.

MEN'S LACROSSE CLUB.

Arrangements have been in hand for the re-forming of the L.U.U. Men's Lacrosse Club. Practices are being held on Wednesday afternoons during the Summer term, and it is hoped that next year the Club will be able to challenge other Universities at this increasingly popular game.

Many more members are, however, required to bring the Club up to a suitable complement, and those interested, with or without experience, are invited to communicate with B. R. Banton (Chemical Engineering), through the appropriate Union pigeon-hole.

BEER!

TETLEY LEADS

THE BREWERY LEEDS

SPORTS & GAMES

- FOOTBALL
- HOCKEY
- BADMINTON
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- and
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