

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. III, No. 4.

Thursday, November 18th, 1948.

Twopence.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WEEK

Bazaar Day Scenes.

This week's exhibition in celebration of Students' Day is far removed from the dressing-room below the stage, which for some weeks has been the scene of such tremendous activity. Mr. Rottmann, the Peruvian student who is secretary of the International Students' Week Committee, no longer sits in the midst of shelves, floors and tables piled high with neat pamphlets, strange books, striking paintings, posters and photographs and other entrancing literature, for they are now on show in the Social Room in a colourful array that would make any year's Bazaar Day as dull as Grimsby fish-quays with the herring-fleet out.

As early as the long vacation the committee sent out letters beginning "*Your Excellency*..." to all legations and embassies in Britain. Answers were received from forty-one countries together with films, books, posters, maps, albums and other publications to illustrate student activity all over the world. All seemed anxious to contribute to this day which has been set aside to commemorate the principles of the students who were so ruthlessly massacred in Prague in 1939. Moreover, Mr. Rottman assures me that our Leeds commemoration is more ambitious than that of any other body affiliated to the N.U.S., as is evidenced by the fact that it has been extended from one day to a week.

Bed-Lecture Rooms.

I wonder what will be most noticed in this week's exhibition. Perhaps the intriguing examples of Siamese art at that country's table—surely a more wide study in England of this art would be amply repaid? Or perhaps the album of photographs at the Polish table, illustrating how the struggle to re-establish university life is being pressed forward in Poland. Will the photo of a lecture-room be noticed, a lecture-room piled high on both sides with luggage and personal effects, and converted in the next photograph into sleeping quarters with beds occupying every inch of floor-space as they did in England in fire-watching days?

There is much proof here of the work of the voluntary brigades in re-building their universities and other buildings of civic dignity.

Two of Yugoslavia's contributions will no doubt receive their due quota of admiration, two perfect little dolls in national costume, beautiful in both workmanship and design. Yugoslavia also sent samples of embroidery and leatherwork. Amongst the most interesting books are Bolivia's sole contribution and a book from the Rumanian Embassy on the Peasant Revolution of 1888. But there is no end to the delightful list of things that have been sent from countries ranging alphabetically from Argentine to Venezuela.

Are Smoking-Jackets really necessary

There is still time to add to the collections by supporting the Social on Saturday night in the R.S.H., organised jointly by the Arab Society and the International Students' Week Committee (admission 1/-, supper 9d.) and also by contributing as generously as possible to the collections of clothing, magazines and other articles which will be so much appreciated by students elsewhere.

Our thanks for the Leeds Exhibition must go to the committee, who were drawn from I.S.S., N.U.S., the International Society, Union Committee and the University Staff, to the foreign students who so willingly offered to run the tables exhibiting evidence of student activity in their own countries and to the embassies concerned; and also to those who have given generously to the various collections which, when initial expenses have been paid, will all go to the International Students' Relief Fund, which is run jointly by I.S.S. and N.U.S.

To-day, Thursday, in co-operation with the Music Society, there will be a lecture on Sibelius and his symphonies by Mr. Charles Groves, conductor of the B.B.C. Northern Orchestra, and to-morrow a gramophone Recital in the R.S.H., at 1 p.m. designed to include a few of the more international compositions of the great composers. There are also still two film-shows on subjects relevant to international student life, one to-day from 1-0 to 2-0, and the other on Saturday from 12-0 to 1-0.

The Press Pirouettes!

Not only was the Press Ball the first of its kind; it was also probably the first time that the staffs of "The Gryphon" and the "Union News" have been on speaking terms. But the influence of evening dress proved stronger than the effects of journalistic rivalry, and the intellectual authors and the writers of gossip mingled on terms of temporary amity.

Apart from the normal activities of dancing, drinking, etc. (especially etc.) those who desired some other form of amusement could spend their time reading **Gryphons** dating back to 1910 and **Union News's** dating back to the first issue of this term, all of which were stuck up in prominent positions. They could also gain a somewhat imaginative idea of how **The Gryphon** had appeared and been read from the very earliest times up to the present day, presented in a series of illustrations in the main corridor of the Union.

Fireworks and Flowers.

The fact that the Ball was held on November 5th was not allowed to pass without notice. By removing the band from its accustomed position on the stage, and depositing it, surrounded by flowers, on the floor of the Riley-Smith, the organising committee was able to keep the curtains drawn, and fix symbolic representations of rather ferocious-looking fireworks on them. These were generally admired, the only criticism being that it would have been better if they had been real ones that went off. There was also a Guy Fawkes in the entrance to the Union, together with a large barrel labelled both "Gunpowder" and "X X X."

Carnival.

At midnight, the well-ordered routine of dancing was broken for a carnival hour. Mr. O'Hara organised it to begin with, but half-way through the job proved too much for him, and he retired, handing over to Mr. Scott-Milligan. Papar hats appeared, and streamers were let down from the balcony, so that evening dress was glamourised by paper sashes, and elusive partners could be lassoed. Formality was forgotten, and dancing reduced to a minimum. Finally, Mr. Scott-Milligan also gave up, pleaded that the band wanted a rest, and requested that the gathering should amuse itself for a while. This is possibly the only time that an M.C. has actually asked people to go to the sitting-out room.

The end . . . and later.

As usual, two o'clock and taxis came roughly at the same time. Mr. Large made his tour of the darker spots of the Union, the mournful cry of the taxi driver calling to his fare resounded through the building, and the quadrangle, as usual, took on the aspect of Brooklands.

On Saturday morning the organising committee crept into the cafeteria and received opinions. We are glad to report that the vast majority were highly favourable.

S.G.M.

The peace of future N.U.S. council meetings is threatened now by the possibility of full political argument and discussion as the result of a motion introduced by Stan Jenkins, the Welsh Vice-President at the last council meeting.

The motion, which has full Executive support, recommends that as the British Student Movement is nationally represented by N.U.S. within the I.U.S. it recognises—

- (i) that this will involve its delegates abroad in discussions of international political issues whose relation to students is less direct than the domestic issues which N.U.S. is in the habit of discussing.
- (ii) that the N.U.S. council will have to discuss these issues in order to mandate its delegates;
- (iii) that the delegates will have the responsibility of placing the results of these international discussions and their implications for N.U.S. before the Council on their return.

A special General Meeting of the Union is being called to discuss these matters on Thursday, November 25th. Ralph Blumenau (Waldham College, Oxford), who went to the I.U.S. Council in Paris as an N.U.S. delegate, is coming up to Leeds to address the meeting on these problems.

Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH,
1948.

Vol. III. No. 4.

Staff and Committee:

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

Reporters:

Stan. Berwin, Una Jackson, H. Townson
R. L. Gordon, Shirley Levin,
J. G. Lawrence, Megan Roberts.

EDITORIAL.

International Students' Week is now nearly at an end. We hope that during this week many students will have visited the exhibition and attended some of the wide variety of lectures and meetings. The I.S.W. organising committee have done a great deal to make this International Student Week a major event, and to give us an opportunity of getting some slight idea of student life in other countries.

Students can do a great deal to promote international understanding and tolerance and in this British students must play their part. But at the moment the vast majority of us have no real idea of the problems facing many students in other countries nor the reasons for their widely different outlooks.

We have only to consider students from China and Indonesia, who may be students by day but are fighting at night; Polish students, whose faculties are such that they must work and sleep in the same lecture rooms, or American students with their campus traditions and Universities of 25,000 and we begin to realise that it is not unnatural that we do not always hold the same opinions. But if we can make an attempt to know and appreciate our differences then we shall be a long way towards mutual understanding and friendship.

While we are at the University we have every opportunity of gaining this knowledge; from overseas students who are working and living with us, by vacation work abroad, by correspondence and by these special events like International Student Week. We have these opportunities, and the more knowledge and understanding we can gain from them the more responsible and effective part we shall be able to play in international student affairs.

The Editors welcome 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.

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There may still be a ticket left to admit you to the Ball of Balls—

The

Agricultural Ball

on FRIDAY OF THIS WEEK

A Champion Band, a Wonderland
Will keep you all enraptured!

This and That

STOP PRESS.

We have just been informed that there is no truth in the rumour that the newsboys in Leeds will go on strike if Peter Chappell does not join their Union.

PROGRESS REPORT.

The philosopher whose beard crept into the last edition of *Union News* has been observed fumbling with the said beard in caf. to make sure that it is still there.

MISCHIEF NIGHT.

Mischief Night, once the occasion of daring deeds such as scaling drainpipes at the women's halls, has lost something of its glamour by reason of the disapproval of the authorities. However, the night of Nov. 4 was not altogether quiet this year. From various sources we learn that two gentlemen had a brush with the police at Weetwood, and that Winfield rang up Devon to ask where the men of Devon had got to. The activities at Oxley are shrouded in mystery. Perhaps it is as well.

CAFETERIA GAMES.

Despite the atmosphere in caf. the sportive instincts of some Union members are not completely repressed. One day last week, a small group were observed indulging in that time-honoured and energetic game, shove-ha'penny. The result is not known, but a future competition is to take place when some really big-time play is expected, with the currency taking the form of cigarettes.

HOODOO.

A resounding crash in caf. one day last week announced that a picture had fallen from the wall. By itself, this is nothing unusual; but, strangely enough, another picture fell down from the same

position a short time ago. Is caf. haunted? Have we a poltergeist in the Union? If so, it is at least a good art critic.

RAG.

The citizens of Leeds may now begin to shudder in their shoes in anticipation, for arrangements are going forward for this year's Rag. Nominations to fill the various posts have been approved and the Rag Committee is meeting on Nov. 18th to decide when the Rag is to be held, and where the proceeds are to go.

RECORDS FOR SALE.

If strains of classical music are heard coming from the Porter's Office, it merely shows that Mr. Large is making the most of his opportunities while he has in his possession over 60 records, once the property of the Union Music Library. These are all in good condition, and may be purchased by Union members at 2/6 for records originally costing 6/- plus purchase tax, and 2/- for those which used to cost 4/- plus purchase tax. Any student who has any classical records for sale may bring them along too.

AMAMI IN THE LAUNDRY.

It is reported that two Freshers from Weetwood washed their hair in the laundry. We are not sure whether they took their hair off to do this, or sent themselves all in a piece. We also wonder what the Board of Trade increase amounted to.

PEN FRIENDS WANTED.

Correspondents are urgently required to reduce the long waiting list which exists in many countries. All the "gen." and application forms can be obtained from the N.U.S. notice board.

FAIRE.

Arts Festival Nuse.

Our reporter looked behind the scenes and found that plans are going ahead for the N.U.S. Arts Festival, to be held in Leeds during the Xmas Vacation week of Friday, 31st December, to Saturday, 8th January, 1949.

Rudolf "Gramophone Recitals" Librowicz tells me that the highlights of the Musical events will be two concerts in the Great Hall. The Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra will be giving one of these—the selection committee is undecided which to choose for the other, though I understand that Manchester stands a good chance.

Drama is being well covered—the list of lectures includes Prof. Dobree, Miss Esmé Church (Bradford Civic Playhouse), Mr. G. Wilson Knight, James R. Gregson (B.B.C.), Mr. Kenneth Muir and others.

The Selection Committee for the Visual Arts Section is dealing with entries which, so far, have been received chiefly from Art Colleges. An exhibition is being arranged in the Leeds City Art Galleries. The Curator of the Museum, Dr. Owen, has given his support to an exhibition of musical instruments, fabrics, costumes and early Playbills.

Films have not been forgotten and two complete well balanced programmes are planned by Philip Gibson. Social functions are to be "bigger and better." Hugh O'Hara and Andrew Davies assure me that the New Year's Eve Ball will strike a new note in Formal Functions.

It looks as if we are due for a first-class festival. Registration is now open and forms are available from Miss White in Mr. Bourn's office. Help is still required—anyone who would like to act as hosts or hostesses please communicate with Pamela Semple, Dorothy Elliot or Una Jackson, via Pigeon Holes.

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MUSIC

Savoir ou pas Savoir?

That is the question. Tympanum feels that he must join battle with his colleague who runs the 'This And That' column on page two. The indictment against him is that, in the last issue of UNION NEWS, he did in a four-word paragraph-heading commit two solecisms abhorrent not only to all musicians but also to George Allen and His Boys.

George Allen, in fact, is the cause of all the pother. Savoir headed a paragraph announcing that George is to ride his horn in 'Creation' with the words 'FROM BOOGY TO BACH.'

Now we always thought it was spelt BOOGIE. And old Hotlips Haydn would have been most hurt had he known how Bix Bach was stealing his thunder. Savoir must have been thinking of last year. . . Anyway, after the performance of 'Creation' we wish George a pleasant return BACH AGAIN TO BOOGY.

(Sudden and horrible thought: could it have been The Editor Who Did That Para. Head? Mental note to resign before sacked outright. . .).

More Creation.

The Soloists' Auditions were held a fortnight ago, as anyone within half a mile of the Music Room at the time knew very well. Several likely voices emerged, and the final choice was three of the Soloists who sang in the B Minor Mass last year.

And now, as well as the Chorus announcing (Union, Tuesdays) in a stentorian roar that The Heavens Are Telling The Glory Of God! (and nearly beating them at it) and the Orchestra (all over the place, Thursdays) giving a Representation of Chaos infinitely more vivid than anything Bach—sorry, Haydn, imagined, we must needs bear with willowy sopranos screeching about mighty Pens (advert for Biro's?) and large bass gentlemen intimating that God Created Great Wails and demonstrating the fact.

Tympanum wishes they'd go on to 'King Arthur' and have done with it. Or at least, if they must do a 'Creation,' get it over in seven days as per invoice.

Uncle Laurance Turner And All . .

Were not good. Tympanum endured the first item of the second University Chamber Concert (Four Fantasies by Purcell) with sharp intakes of breath at the more flagrant faults of intonation and ensemble (Wot a word!) but couldn't take the Elgar and Walton String Quartets which were to follow and disappeared gracefully down a mousehole, leaving the Princess Royal (who honoured the University with her presence on this occasion) and her party, with some seventy other ascetics, to endure the Imperfect Pitch as best they might. 'He hears from one of these fakirs that the Elgar was trivial, the Walton better than expected. He still likes that particular mousehole. . .

we accuse....

University or Technical College?

Is this university nothing but a glorified technical college? Is it merely a place for the acquiring of facts and for the obtaining of bare academic qualifications? Is it only a factory for the turning out of narrow-minded specialists? Has the Union no part to play in the formation of an educated person? If the answer to these questions is "Yes," the university has failed to fulfill its functions. And to judge by the majority of students, the answer is "Yes."

Silence is Golden.....

Consider the attendance at debates—always a good yardstick by which to measure the keenness of students as Union members. Last year there were never more than a hundred people present at any debate. At the Inter-Varsity Debate there were only sixty; and yet at similar debates at Manchester and Newcastle, over five hundred students attended. True, attendance so far this term has been better. But the Debates Committee still finds it very difficult to get speakers; and many who do attend never open their mouths.

Society meetings tell the same story. However many people join a society at the beginning of the session, the average number at meetings is never more than fifty per cent.; usually it is nearer thirty per cent. People cannot be bothered to attend meetings—they prefer to sit and gossip in the cafeteria, or go back to their hostels and digs, and take no part in the corporate life of the Union.

The same inertia is to be found in Union affairs in general. In last year's Union Committee elections, only 1382 people voted for the presidency. The largest number of votes polled by any one member of the Ten Open Seats was 104, and the total votes cast was 793. This out of a Union membership of over 2,000.

Again, support for last year's Rag was nothing like it should have been. Only two contributions were received for "Tyke," and it was even difficult to find enough people to sell flags.

the wider life . . .

Of course, Union members are primarily students, and must spend most of their time on academic studies. But this is no excuse. To quote the Vice-Chancellor: "private studies without the wider life are blind." University education means giving as well as taking in all aspects of University life. But the idea of giving is alien to the main body of students. They will take, and take, and take, leaving the giving to be done by a small nucleus of people who do everything.

One of the main causes of the appalling condition of the world to-day is apathy. The universities should be the spear-head in the attack on this apathy. But at this university, such is not the case. We accuse the majority of Leeds students of mental laziness, lack of initiative, and inability and unwillingness to shoulder their responsibilities. They are a dead weight on society and do not deserve the opportunities afforded by a university education.

The Quads.

(The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the Editor).

Art

At the City Art Gallery.

The annual exhibition of the Leeds Fine Arts Club will cause no flurry of indignant protest, for here is Art As The Normal Man Likes It. There are many water-colour landscapes, some very watery indeed. But I admire Miss Sheldon's technique and mastery of the elusive medium; her "Vase of Flowers" stands out as an example of what a good water-colour should be. Miss Mallinson's "Hedin" caught my eye, but I felt Mr. Anderson's paintings would look better as a theatre attempt the ingenuous in a very she is to be congratulated on.

Mr. Pullée has produced three excellent oil paintings in his own very personal style, two of them exhibiting that tense, lowering effect associated with summer thunder, and which is noticeable in some of his previous works. I like Miss Spilment's "Joyce" very much indeed, the head and shoulders are perfectly placed and the subject is beautifully and satisfyingly stated. This picture it. Mrs. Pullée continues to and Mr. Whitehead's fishes steal the show. I feel that Mr. Whitehead could do a great deal for this club; he has no inhibitions.

MIFF.

Freshers' Weekend

Devonshire Hall on a Sunday is usually a somnolent place. But last week, prompt at 9.30, the quadrangle resounded to military commands, as over thirty Freshers marched and counter-marched to the orders of Drill Instructor Caulfield (himself a Fresher) and Freshers Weekend had begun.

Chamber Maids.

During the remainder of Sunday, Freshers waited on seniors, performing all the domestic duties. *One attired in a top hat and carrying an umbrella was despatched to meet his lord and master's lady friend, and then waited at the table during tea. Three were sent up to Weetwood to serenade the President.*

At 6.10 on Monday morning, Devonshire Hall was wakened by a bugle, blowing a mixture of "Come to the cook-house door" and "Actions Stations." Twenty minutes later, the Freshers, dressed in P.T. kit, trilbies decorated with feathers, and one gym shoe and one boot, were contorting themselves to the commands of Temporary P.T. Instructor S. J. Collier. At breakfast they also appeared wearing their clothes back to front, and waited on seniors, who were entertained in many novel ways.

During the day Freshers walked the streets carrying raised umbrellas, and at 5.30 ran a race which started at City Square, went through the station where each Fresher had to buy a platform ticket, then to the Post Office where a half-penny stamp had to be stuck on the ticket and date-stamped, and finishing at Devon.

Shoes and Ships and Sealing Wax.

In addition to all these activities, Freshers had to obtain twelve articles, including a signed photograph of one of the chorus girls at the City Varieties, a live fresh-water snail in a meat-paste jar, and a hat band of a recognised girls' school in Leeds and an original object.

Finale.

The week-end closed with a Freshers' concert, at which huge quantities of beer and fish and chips were consumed, and masculine voices were raised in harmony until the early hours of the morning. And now Freshers are waiting for next year when they will be able to enjoy Freshers' week-end.

To Althea

O That I were where Althea sits
On cushioned seats in J.C.R.;
Away from student tones that jar,
and cudgel my resisting wits.
A Textile Man's a loaded plate,
It seems unjust that blinded Fate
Should choose to play the sadist's part
And lead Althea to read for Art.

O ye who spin and weave our fates,
If you must choose our loves and hates,
Then pity one who plies your trade
And choose for me some busier maid.
Althea has left me in a huff.
To sit and swear at bits of fluff.

Animated Committee Meeting !

The Second Ordinary Meeting of the Union Committee on Thursday 4th November, was marked by relatively animated discussion, mainly with regard to the N.U.S. Council Mandate to Delegates.

This was concerned with the I.U.S. Paris conference in September and a list of 'Ideals which were formulated at that conference. The actual composition of such a list is in itself a laudable undertaking and most of these ideals expressed views with which few people would quarrel. For example "The Democratising of Higher Education" "Intellectual Freedom" and others in similar vein. One of these however was "to campaign for the National Independence of all Peoples." This considered in relation to the political context in the Report, was expressing a sentiment which was beyond the scope of N.U.S.

Mandates.

Mr. Parker proposed a Motion in which the Leeds University Union would send our Delegates to the N.U.S. Council with a mandate, saying that we could not therefore, approve the report as it stood.

Mr. Crowther said that in his opinion it was not the business of student organisations to meddle in Governmental affairs of such gravity, and our Delegates should be mandated to this effect.

Mr. Jennings speaking against the motion, said that if we are to democratise Higher Education, and accept the clause to that effect, then these peoples must be free, and therefore the Clause should be accepted.

The Motion was carried by a large majority, and delegates despatched Londonwards armed *cap à pied* to meet the N.U.S. Council.

Various other matters were then considered, and a motion to prohibit both the sale of Papers on the Union Premises, and the holding of lunch time meetings on the Union Steps, was proposed and carried.

Mr. Berwin Chairman of the Debating Society gave an encouraging report which showed that an average of over 200

people had attended each Debate this Session. In matters arising out of Debating Society business the latent fire of controversy was again fanned into a blaze.

Politics again.

A certain Conservative gentleman rose in his place, and rather pompously made an attack on the proposal of parties of the opposition to form a coalition. "On behalf of the Conservative Party" said this gentleman. At this juncture however he was reminded that he represented not the Conservative Party, but the first year Men students. Mr. Foster who provided this check, immediately proposed a motion to the effect that members of the Union Committee should remember that they represented a certain body of students and try to put forward their "constituent's" opinions.

Due to the increasing numbers at the Saturday Naps it was decided that the Union will close at 7-0 p.m. on Saturday, except for the Social, and that Members of the Union may only bring one visitor, who must be *bona fide*. It is hoped that this practice will ease the situation and allow more Union Members to derive benefit from their £4.

N.U.S. COUNCIL

N.U.S. Council was held at Manchester, November 5th to 8th. It is impossible here to give a complete survey of all the ground covered at the six official sessions and the hours of unofficial discussion. If students are interested in details of any points the N.U.S. Secretary will be glad to help them.

The most controversial issue raised was whether or not N.U.S. must now include politics in its discussions or whether they shall be confined solely to student domestic problems. The Executive report included the motion that as N.U.S. represented the British students internationally *i.e.* on I.U.S., delegates were inevitably involved in international politics, less directly related to student problems than usual. As the delegates are mandated from council certain political controversies would have to be discussed. Some delegates felt that students should be concerned only with purely cultural and academic side of student affairs. The opinion of all Leeds students on this matter is sought at an S.G.M. to be held on November 25th.

The N.U.S. report on the I.U.S. council held in Paris was accepted by council but a vote of censure was passed on the members of the delegation who voted in favour of the last resolution. The resolutions put forward by I.U.S. could not be entirely acceptable to British Students but they represent the highest common

HIGHER EDUCATION

The Need and Difficulties.

The first regional conference on the Expansion of Higher Education was held in the Union on Saturday, October 30th. Being a first meeting there were few concrete proposals, but as an introduction it was interesting and informative and formed a firm and friendly basis for future meetings.

Among the bodies represented at the meeting were the Leeds and Bradford Trades Council, Institute of Civil Engineers, A.U.T., I.C.I., and various University Departments.

The meeting was opened by a short introductory from the V.C. who was in the chair, pointing out *the absolute need for more graduates and the present inability of the Universities to deal with the increasing number of potential students.*

Aims.

Mr. Parker who organised the conference, apologised for the absence of a speaker from the National Committee and in lieu of this speech gave an outline of the aims of the campaign with special emphasis on the three main resolutions. "That in view of the nation's critical need. . . . the best minds should secure the best education." "High priority must be given to increasing university and technological facilities and this can only be achieved by generous Government aid." "Full maintenance grants should be paid to all students, based on merit alone."

The Customer. . .

Mr. Mayne—I.C.I. Billingham, gave the conference "The custo-

mers' point of view." He pointed out that while boys and girls straight from school had opportunities for promotion to higher executive positions, the graduate was essential to industry.

Trades Council Views.

Mr. Kavanagh of the Leeds Traders Council gave the workers' ideas on further education. He was sorry that the University was so divorced from the life of the community and felt that this tended to make a graduate unsuitable for administration; also that there should be more practical application of theory in education and that employers should arrange for their workers to receive further education during working hours.

In the discussion which followed, the difficulties of selection for further education were considered. It was felt that technical colleges should be brought more into line with Universities and their work should be better recognised. There was a general feeling that the worker should be educated in world economics to appreciate his position in industry as a whole. On the management side it was very definitely felt that personal make-up was more important than exact academic qualifications.

Technology v Culture.

Mr. Evans of the Institute of Education spoke on culture and higher education. He pointed out that whatever happened in the future, industry would be of increasing importance. He was afraid that at the moment cultural education was being sacrificed to technology and warned that *in expanding education we must be careful not to ignore the cultural side*

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Dear Madam,

I have always been of the opinion that a correspondent of such an eminent newspaper as the **Union News** must, of necessity be well informed. I am distressed to find that "The Quads" fall so far short of this standard.

As far as can be judged, the Ten Open Seat Members are elected to represent as wide a cross-section of students as possible. Perhaps I may be allowed to mention but a few of their duties.

The duties performed by the Hon. Secretary, the House Secretary and the Student Treasurer, all Ten Open Seaters, need not be enumerated at length. A large bouquet to the enlightened student reported as so ably assessing their values to the Union. Furthermore, is it not ludicrous to suggest that an active member of the Debates Committee, with a First in Public Speaking, is incapable of putting forward the student viewpoint?

It is regrettable that the correspondents' information as to the duties of other members, not so often in the limelight, should have been so haphazardly gleaned. EVERY MEMBER ELECTED TO THE TEN OPEN SEATS IS ALSO A MEMBER OF A SUB-COMMITTEE, as reference to that little-read publication, The Union Handbook, will reveal. These Sub-Committees deal regularly with every aspect of student affairs giving the lie direct to the accusation of inactivity.

Photographs have been displayed which, however indifferent as to likeness, cannot fail to be of use when identifying members.

A Student may at any time bring up a matter before Union Committee, firstly, by direct

.....ABOUT IT, AND ABOUT."

approach through a member; secondly, through the suggestions Book in Union Office, which gives an opportunity for a PERSONAL ANSWER from the Executive. Should such an answer be unsatisfactory, the Clerk to the Union will supply the name of a member who can be approached to bring the matter up at the next Meeting, or will endeavour to sell to the enquirer the copy of the Union Handbook which he so obviously needs.

Thirdly, ANY STUDENT MAY ATTEND UNION COMMITTEE MEETINGS AS AN OBSERVER, but few of them do so. Even at an Open Meeting called by the Grants and Welfare Committee at which two open Seaters were speaking, few students took the opportunity to approach them with personal problems.

The conclusion one must reach is that the Student Body is GUILTY of APATHY, INDIFFERENCE and LACK OF INTEREST in Union affairs. Lack of space prevents the citation of more than the few examples given above.

However, if the present channels are insufficient, "The Quads" have only to propose, through such members as can be recognised without undue exertion and research on their part, that regular meetings be held, when members can be put in touch with those student problems, of which they are accused of being so ignorant.

I am, Madam,
Your obedient servant,
A TEN OPEN SEATER.

- - - and a non member

reply.

Dear Madam,

The article "Ten Open Seats" which appeared in the last issue of the **Union News** caused me to ask myself and several friends one or two leading questions and because my own answers seemed so completely inadequate I should like to pass the questions on to you and the readers of the **Union News**.

They are these. Having done the necessary at the election of the Union Committee has the administration of the Union passed entirely out of my hands? Why is it that I can find so little information about the Union Committee apart from the fact that I can read the minutes (not verbatim) and attend as an observer at the meetings, notice of which is tucked away in some obscure corner? And is it true that on the Union Committee, members put forward their personal and sectional interests rather than those of the students they represent? And what do committee members do to ascertain the feelings of members of the Union on questions concerning the Union...or have "I" missed the attempts of committee members to find out what "I" think?

No doubt these questions boil down to a matter of "Democratic Responsibility" on both sides or am I mistaken? Is "democratic" the wrong word, and "responsibility" an anachronism?

Yours, etc.,
P. H. TAYLOR.

IMBECILES ?

Dear Madam,

In the last issue of **Union News** a considerable amount of space was devoted to the proceedings of the S.G.M. held on October 19th. That the **Union News** considers this of no small importance can be judged by the perusal of an article reporting proceedings, and the Editorial.

I do not doubt that the people concerned in the writing of these articles were motivated by sincere convictions, but the irresponsible and unfortunate terms in which they were couched I cannot too strongly condemn. If one construes the writer's views literally, then one is to understand that the Halls of Residence are populated by Imbeciles, possessing no coherent views of their own.

The issue of Halls Representation cannot itself be discussed in such a short letter, but I can assure you that far from criticism being purely Negative, constructive proposals have been put forward.

The whole proposed modification of representation, as put forward by the Union Committee, was based upon a false proposition, and any further discussion based on such a proposition is *reductio ad absurdum*.

If we are to discuss the systematic representation of the Student Body on the Union Committee, then let us do so intelligently and logically, and not sink to the level of mere invective.

Yours, etc.,
J. GORDON LAWRENCE
Devonshire Hall.

[Several other letters have been received but we regret that owing to lack of space we are unable to print them.—ED.]

Society Round-Up

English Society.

We are still continuing to receive good support for our meetings this year, which are all planned for student-participation, and there is a keen spirit of interest in the Society. Though the meeting "Opinion on **The Gryphon**," on October 25th, did not bring forth any epoch-making suggestions, it did prove that people are not entirely unaware of the existence of the University Mag.; and further, that they are

interested in its progress.

On November 1st, we held the first of our meetings in the series given over to members of a particular year. This was "Third Year High," and we all enjoyed the seldom-heard records of Chaucer and Shakespeare in original pronunciation, poems of C. Day Lewis, as well as readings by members themselves.

"Second Year Night" occurs on December 6th, and it will be interesting to compare the tastes of the two years. The Society held a debate "The Poet is a Useless Member of Society," on November 1st, the motion being proposed in a lively, though slightly irrelevant manner by Bill Moody, and opposed in a no less strong, but much more serious fashion, by W. A. Hodges. The best speeches, undoubtedly were those made "for" the motion; but at the vote it was beaten hands down—no doubt because members of the English Society felt morally bound to support the poor poet at all costs. This is a pity and we wish that the opinion of our "Philistine" scientist-friends could have been heard.

Hallowe'en Social.

Query: "What is the difference between a Social and a Hop?" The English Society supplied the answer on Friday, October 29th, in presenting the social-plus, which their imaginations had been formulating since the beginning of the term. For weeks they had displayed posters, grisly, spooky, macabre—and interesting—and all those who bought tickets did so in anticipation of something out of the ordinary. Their hopes were not disappointed.

There was a unity of effect about this social, first felt at sight of the turnip lantern swinging and spluttering forth smoke in the Union grounds; continued by the gloomy apparitions hanging around the entrance hall doing their best to look macabre; and sustained by various novel effects during the course of the evening. The "invocation to the spirits" was a good idea—pity that the record player was frightened by a ghost at the crucial moment! Of course, George Allen's Band gave an even more spirited performance than usual (tho' some-

how "beat me daddy eight to a bar" didn't seem to be quite the correct rhythm for the occasion!) The bob-apple elimination was funny in the extreme—I have never seen a man have such difficulty with his food before—and altogether "a good time was had by all" seems to sum up the situation thoroughly.

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The Rugby Club.

The main items are our disappointing encounters with Manchester University in the opening Christies matches. The 1st XV were so well and truly beaten that some explanation is necessary in view of previous optimism.

Leeds lacked cohesion, and never played as a team—a fact which raises the problem: "How can a real 'Combined XV' be achieved by merely mixing together players from the University and Medics. XVs. for the occasional Christie match?" This matter must be remedied before our fixture with Liverpool on December 1st.

A more serious criticism was that the team lacked staying-power and fell away considerably in the second half. It is not the first time that this has happened this season, and it is to be hoped that it is caused by lack of fitness (which each man must remedy himself), rather than a lack of spirit.

The "A" XV suffered its first defeat in eight games. The inability of the forwards to obtain the ball from the tight scrums was the main factor in the defeat and there is no reason to doubt that the result can be reversed at the return meeting.

Swimming Club.

In their first fixture of the year the University Club was entertained by Leeds Training College at Beckett's Park. The University was supreme in the male swimming events, gaining first place in all races; our female representatives were not as successful but they must be commended on the keenness they showed. We recommend the Women's Swimming Club to all the girls in the University as an admirable mode of combining exercise and fun. The combined score for the evening was—**University 30 pts., Training College 24 pts.**

The polo match was an easy task for the University team, who romped home to a 9-0 victory. Many useful points were, however, learnt and the team has yet to prove itself against sterner metal.

F.B.A.

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INTRA-MURAL GAMES.

A new feature is emerging in the athletic life of the University. Under the influence of several different forces those responsible for the organisation of games are coming to the conclusion that the needs of a large proportion of students can best be served by regular competition between departments, hostels and societies within the University itself.

The increase in the size of the University has made it possible to field considerable numbers of teams at all games, but if the athletic clubs attempted to increase the number of teams engaged in outside competition, they would soon run into difficulties. The grounds at Weetwood, large as they are, cannot accommodate many more teams and it would be unwise to contemplate any extension of a system which entails a fifty per cent. use of our grounds by outside clubs. The cost of travelling and accommodation for away matches is enormous, and even if grounds cannot be found and funds provided for an adequate number of teams, it is questionable whether club secretaries could find suitable opponents for them. In any case the work entailed would be more than any student secretary should be asked to do. This has already been found true by the soccer club.

Of course the best of our teams must measure their strength against other universities and clubs, but this need is not felt with the same urgency by teams of the "B" and "Extra B" category.

It was at Basket Ball that we first proved how the interest of large numbers of players could be maintained by means of intra-mural competition. There are now two leagues, providing regular games for sixteen teams, and those who have played know that the rivalry is as keen and the sportsmanship as good as in the very best fixtures against outside teams.

This season new competitions have been started for Rugby Football, Mixed Hockey and Women's Basket Ball. The Soccer Club is at present organising its resources, and it is expected that a league of six or eight teams will be formed within a week or two.

A prominent member of the University has promised me that he will give a trophy for intra-mural games. I hope to be able to give further particulars of this shortly.

The membership of the various competitions this term is as follows:—

Men's Basket Ball.

DIVISION 1.	DIVISION 2.
Colour Chemistry.	Devonshire Hall.
Medicals "A."	H.O.R.
Dentals "A."	Medicals "B."
Chemistry.	Dentals "B."
Textiles.	Lyddon Hall "B."
Lyddon Hall "A."	Agriculture.
Woodsley Hall.	Engineering.
Physical Education.	Nomads
	(departments not included).

Women's Basket Ball.

Social Studies.	Weetwood Hall.
English.	Whinfield.
Oxley Hall.	

Rugby Football.

Mining.	Medicals "B."
Chemistry.	Dentals.
Agriculture.	H.O.R.
Lyddon Hall.	

Mixed Hockey.

German.	Dentals.
Geography.	Natural History Society.
Staff.	Medicals "B."
Medicals "A."	

Association Football (enrolments to date).

Arts.	Agriculture.
Chemistry.	Medicals.
Devonshire Hall.	Science (excl. Chem.).
Dentals.	Mining.
Law.	Economics.

These competitions can be expanded to include more teams next term. Departments, hostels, societies or other groups of students who wish to join should get in touch with me as soon as possible.

R. E. MORGAN,

Director of Physical Education.

Mr. Morgan will appreciate any comments on the scheme outlined above, and any reasonable suggestions will be published in the next issue of the **Union News**.

Men's Hockey.

An unbeaten record for both 1st and 2nd XI's during the past fortnight, including a victory against Durham in the first U.A.U. game, bodes well for the future. November 3rd, when both 1st and 2nd XI's won their games at Sheffield, was quite a successful outing.

The next U.A.U. test is on Wednesday 17th, when both teams travel to Manchester. A win there will put us in a very strong position for the Northern U.A.U. Championships.

The 1st XI is playing very good hockey at the moment, but perhaps a more open game in the forwards would bring a better harvest of goals. Scores in the past few games have not been indicative of the run of play. An extra goal in the first half would do much to ensure more decisive victories and obviate second half worries of a break-away goal by the opponents.

Soccer.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY v.
MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY,
at Weetwood, 3rd November.

Defensive errors in the University XI allowed Manchester to score two of their three goals, but the visitors' defence, by its robust and resolute tackling, gave the Leeds forwards very few opportunities to score. In spite of this, Mills, the Leeds centre-forward, scored the best goal of the game, and for a time the play was very even. However, the fitness and the determination of the opposing team proved to be too much for the University XI, particularly after they had lost one of their players, through injury.

As a result of this defeat, the Club appears to have little hope of winning the Christie competition; but the 1st XI is making very good progress in the County Amateur League, being undefeated in the last seven games.

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