

UNION NEWS

Leeds University Union

No. 197

Friday, November 10th, 1961

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Battle at Boddors

HIGH pressure fire hoses were the chief weapons in an inter-House raid at Bodington Hall on Mischief Night.

Fears (or rather hopes) of a raid from Devon Hall had produced strict security measures by all Houses. This did not materialise, and at 1 a.m. Woodsley House, which has been criticised for "exclusiveness," was attacked by a gang from Clapham House.

The invaders were driven off by members of Woodsley who were manning fire hoses from the roof. For some hours an uneasy calm prevailed as Claphamites tried to dodge the hoses. Several members of Woodsley, returning late, were mistaken for "the enemy" and hosed by their own men; one member was forced to spend the night at Clapham! The whole episode ended in the early hours of the morning with a mud battle between the two Houses.

Little damage was done besides a couple of broken tiles and a broken window, although both the inside and outside of Woodsley were covered with mud and water. Commenting on this the president of Woodsley said he was glad that so little serious damage had been done, since in the case of a new building this would have been a great pity.

The next day, rumour had it that the Dean, Mr. Mackey, intended to fine the whole hall, yet when asked he said "I thought the whole business was extremely reasonable. As far as I am concerned the matter is closed."

Accusations had been levelled at the Warden of Wardsley for his part in defending his own house. These stemmed from the fact that he was on the scene as an observer, occasionally giving moral support. Denying any part in the affair he commented "It is my job to know what goes on," and described the whole thing as "quite amusing."

EDUCATION SYSTEM IMMORAL — SPEAKER

STUART HALL, the editor of the Socialist magazine "New Left Review," spoke to a packed meeting of Labour Soc. on Tuesday in the Committee Rooms. His topic was the "Grammar Schools must go."

He introduced his talk by general survey of the English educational system and then went on to show the particular role the grammar school was playing inside the whole. The talk, based very much on a wealth of statistics accumulated by many people over the years, showed that the concepts of the "leaders," "controllers," "cream," "those who can and those who cannot," are firmly entrenched in the English system.

It was these ideas that Mr. Hall calmly but passionately attacked. The Tory philosophy of inequality must finally be squashed. This involves the removal of the ideas of grammar schools which merely perpetuate class distinctions. That 80% of youngsters should be relegated to secondary modern schools to provide the manual workers of capitalism without any real education at all Mr. Hall condemned as being absolutely "immoral."

MORE DEMONSTRATIONS

A REPRESENTATIVE for a firm that manufactures post office stamp machines, told Union News Editor Gordon Walsh on Wednesday that his firm were looking for student demonstrators. It appears that these machines, which supply savings stamps, are not too successful in certain shops in Leeds. The firm would like students to demonstrate these machines to the public on a Saturday for a small fee of about 30/- Anyone interested should contact Irene Trotter in the Union News office.

M.J. ENDURANCE TEST



5000 into 2000 equals overcrowding. It is a pity Mr. Mackey intended the Union's situation. Many students do not come here at all because of the lack of space. Unfortunately the next few years are unlikely to see much improvement.

Academics Call For Guidance

A LETTER calling on the Christian Churches to make a definite statement about the morality of Nuclear War has been sent by a group of senior academics at the University to leaders of the major Christian communities in Leeds.

The Letter says "We are asking you whether or not Remembrance Sunday (November 12th) this year would be an appropriate time at which to give help and advice to the many members of the Christian bodies who are troubled in conscience over the moral issues of Nuclear Warfare."

The letter continues "We would simply urge that it is a stumbling block to many that while the Christian leaders pronounce freely upon many of the moral issues of the day they seem unwilling to discuss the moral issues involved in Nuclear Warfare."

It is signed by Prof. J. M. Cameron, Prof. J. W. Carter, Dr. G. B. Cook, Dr. John H. Robertson, Prof. H. S. Ruse, Walter Stein, Dr. Ronald J. Still, and John R. Wilkie.

DANCE-HALL RACE BAN: Pickets Plan Protest

BRADFORD DEMONSTRATION TOMORROW

by Manuel Carballo

TOMORROW night the Locarno Ballroom in Bradford will be the scene of one of the largest demonstrations in the town for many years. It has been organised by the anti-racialist committee here at the Union.

The demonstration is a result of a series of letters and articles published in the Bradford newspaper "Telegraph and Argus" which brought to light the presence of a colour discrimination policy at various Bradford establishments, particu-

larly the Locarno. The original article was by a Rev. Barnett, a Bradford clergyman, who openly condemned the present situation.

The Anti-Racialist Committee which was subsequently set up here consists of representatives of almost all the societies in the Union, political and religious. Last Saturday a party of observers was sent by the Committee to the Locarno in order to find out just how serious the problem really was. As a result of that investigation it has been decided to go ahead with a "peaceful demonstration" outside the ballroom tomorrow evening at 7.30 p.m.

In an interview with the manager of the dance hall, representatives of the committee were told that the policy was one of "colour control, not colour bar." Coloured people, the manager said were only allowed in if they were accompanied by a partner and he later said that people preferred "to stay with their own kinsfolk didn't they?" At one point in the conversation he said that although the rule was a rigid one it was left to his discretion as to who was admitted. The rules have been drawn up by the directors of the Locarno company in London, but the manager admitted that the Bradford branch is the only one to which the policy applies. "I can see the reasons for this and believe in them," he declared.

Bradford Support

The aim of the demonstration is to manifest that there are large numbers of people who are prepared to take action when and where there is any evidence of racialism. It is estimated that over three hundred people will be participating in the protest, representing both Union and public organisations. Many Bradford students have also declared their support for this move.

All those members of Leeds Union wishing to go are asked to meet at the Central Station, Leeds, at 6.15 p.m. on Saturday evening. It is emphasised that the demonstration organisers wish in no way to violate the law and Bradford police have already been informed of the committee's plans.

Scoop by "Stand"

A PREVIOUSLY unpublished poem by Shelley is one of the items in the forthcoming edition of "Stand." This quarterly magazine draws contributions from many sources on poetry, reviews, art, theatre, fiction and politics. Almost all the staff of "Stand" are students or lecturers at Leeds, but it has a wide circulation both in this country and in the United States.

Another item of interest in the next issue will be a previously untranslated play by Pirandello "A Dream (but perhaps it isn't)," now translated by Frederick May.

THE Houldsworth Society commenced its first H-Week on Wednesday.

This is a concentrated programme of technical, non-technical, and purely social events. The Smoker and Annual Dinner are the main social activities, whilst the technically-minded are catered for by two works visits and a lecture. A feature film, open to the Union, is also being shown, and a "general" lecture was given on Thursday.

A CONFERENCE on openings for graduates in Journalism and Newspaper Production is to be held given by the Yorkshire Post Editor on November 23rd. The talks will be Mr. Kenneth Young and members of his staff. The meeting will be at 11.15 a.m. in the Geology Lecture Theatre, Cavendish Road.

ON Thursday night recommendations for a student loan scheme will be submitted to the Union Committee for ratification. It is recommended that a sum of £300 be set aside for the first year of the scheme, and that the maximum grant to any one student be restricted to £30.

A sub-committee has been set up to administer the scheme; it has three students and a member of staff. All applications will be treated as confidential and decisions on particular cases will not be subject to amendment or approval by other union committees.

Stop Press

On Thursday morning the police informed the Anti-Racial Committee who are planning the Bradford demonstration that only twenty will be allowed to go. This was done under the Public Order Act 1936. The act was originally passed to control the Fascist demonstrations in the thirties. It was also invoked for the Committee at 100 Trafalgar Square protest.

The Leeds Committee "Reluctantly agree to comply with Police orders" and the 500 who were going are being informed.

Lecturer Assaulted

LATE on Friday night the C.N.D. vigil was visited by fascists. "Have you heard of the Nordic race?" they asked Dr. Rex who was there. Before he could answer one of the thugs said "I know you are a Jew spreading your filthy filth around Leeds" and then hit him.

After he had been struck three more times Dr. Rex went to find the police. Unable to find a constable on the beat he went to a police station. The duty officer here misunderstood, 'C.N.D. are hitting people' he said to his superiors.

When Dr. Rex went to the charge room to prefer charges he was told. "We can't give you police protection. There are enough of you to take care of them." Earlier, after having listened to the Fascists, deriding the Jews, to twenty or so people, one officer asked Dr. Rex "Are they part of your lot?"

Later, however, the police did ask the two remaining Fascists to leave.

SOCIETIES NEW DEAL

NO more queuing for room bookings, no more of those mad scrambles by the societies for a place to hold their meetings; this is what new arrangements in House Management are hoped to bring to the Union.

Plans are now being put into operation whereby block booking forms will be sent out to the various societies, on which they will be able to submit their proposed room bookings for the rest of the academic year. There is still to be a dead line date for the submissions, but no more of the queuing outside Exec. Office. The day to day booking will continue.

Priorities

The selection of who will have rooms is based in part on a priority scale, with Exec. Committee having first choice, followed by the societies which entertain the Union, that is to say the Light Opera Society, Theatre Group and Rag Review.

The other societies are to be encouraged to use some discretion in booking rooms; those that are able will be asked to hold meetings in their own departments, the sports clubs are going to be encouraged to hold their post mortems on the matches in this new room (as yet unnamed) at the top of the building, rather than use a large room that might be filled by some other society. The regular failure of societies to take up their room bookings may still result in the cancellation of a terms bookings.

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UNION NEWS



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EDITORIAL

WE feel sure that the great majority of students share with us feelings of disgust on learning of the practice of racial discrimination at the Locarno Ballroom in Bradford.

A discriminatory attitude towards people of different race rings familiar. It was prevalent in Germany during the 1930s. Then the Jews were made scapegoats for the economic crisis. Now in Britain it is inferred that coloured immigrants are responsible for the housing shortage and unemployment. From small beginnings such as colour discrimination in a dance-hall prejudice can mushroom out to the proportions of Notting Hill, Middlesbrough, and worse. This

latent fascism must be crushed instantly, wherever and whenever it arises. It has been suggested that the demonstration may lead to violence. But it is race hatred that breeds such violence and we must demonstrate against it now, when we are in a position to win. Are the lessons of the Second World War so difficult to learn?

We urge all students to demonstrate on Saturday. On this issue there can be no neutrality.

EXCITING LITERATURE

"AMERICAN literature offers the exceptional and exciting spectacle of a national literature in the making," said Prof. Douglas Grant, M.A., D.Phil., F.R.S.L. when he gave his inaugural lecture on Monday.

The greatest difficulty it had to face was that because it was largely written in the English language, it was merely an inferior branch of English literature. But "the British and American approaches will not be contradictory, but complementary" and they should be considered together.

He discussed Walt Whitman's boundless energy, optimism and self-confidence and the bracing effect he had on English readers. He examined the relationship between D. H. Lawrence and Whitman, saying they were both prophet-poets who advocated comradeship as a solution for social ills with the same urgency.

TATLER

BOAR LANE
YORKSHIRE'S LEADING
CONTINENTAL CINEMA

Today

Scilla Gabel **THE FRUIT IS RIPE** ©
Annie Girarot, Daniel Gelin
SHADOW OF ADULTERY ©
Commencing Late Show 11 p.m.

Saturday and All Next Week

The Sunshine and Beauty Film

NUDES OF THE WORLD ©

Colour

also

DAWN ADDAMS, JEAN SERVAIS
HOUSE OF SIN ©
(French dialogue — subtitles)

It Happened Elsewhere

THE energetic jiving of the students at Durham University has almost caused the collapse of the Union refectory. Engineers and contractors are unable to guarantee the safety of the Union if dancing continues. It appears that the effect of vibrations set up by large numbers of people at the same time had not been anticipated when alterations to the building were planned.

Cherwell, the Oxford student paper, reports that a young, keen and newly elected Dean was astounded to learn of the number of undergraduates who were climbing into college at night. He was determined to stop this "naughty habit" and waited near the part of the wall in question. At about 12.30 p.m. he was approached by a policeman. He stopped near the dean and having cautiously surveyed the area, said "I don't think there's anyone around, sir, I'll give you a lift up."

Tear gas was used to disperse 700 rioting students of Mandalay University. The students were staging a 3 day token strike in protest against a new examination system. At the end of the strike, they marched to the Vice Chancellor's residence. When he failed to appear, some people began to stone the house.

The National Student Union of the Republic of China was recently inaugurated in ceremonies at the National Taiwan University. A spokesman said that there was great need for such a group "in view of the ever-increasing necessity of a co-ordinated centre of student bodies throughout the country."

Christian Survey Reveals

ONE IN FOUR CLAIM NO RELIGION

LAST week a Christian survey was held in the University.

Of those students who were asked one in every four claimed no religion and 20 per cent of these were antagonistic towards the Christian faith. The report was limited in its results since it was mainly concerned with opinion in the Union about Christianity, and not particularly with information on other faiths.

For six per cent of the students of the university, religious beliefs have affected the decisions they have made regarding the use of their spare time, their choice of career and course, and their attitude towards the opposite sex. For the other 94%, if any decisions were made they concerned sex and spare time—their choice of university course was rarely affected.

Of those people who claimed Christian faith, just under half believed they had experienced conversion. The majority of these had a Christian home background and upbringing. However this is not necessarily of any significance (since of the agnostics in the university, many have parents who claim to be Christians).

According to the census, science students are more atheistic than those in the Faculty of Arts.

Luthuli Replies

ON the occasion of the Award of the Nobel Peace Prize to Chief Luthuli, Brian MacArthur sent him a letter of congratulations on behalf of the Union members.

This week the following reply was received:—

"I deeply appreciate the message from your Union. I trust that this great honour to myself and the liberation movement in South Africa will inspire our friends as well, to continue their moral and material support for our efforts."

Yours sincerely,

A. J. Luthuli.

OVERSEAS PARTY



TEN per cent of students at this university came from overseas. So said Prof. Evans, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, at a party for Overseas Students held in Refec. on Tuesday of last week.

We have students from 72 countries here at Leeds, half of them from the Commonwealth.

A magnificent selection of light refreshments was laid on by the catering staff.

Our picture shows four coloured students in traditional dress.

Write for the
TYKE

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(original, please!)
into Union News
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AUSTICK'S

BOOKSHOPS (FOR YOUR STATIONERY) LEEDS

This week in The Listener

and
BBC TELEVISION REVIEW

"AN APPRECIATION OF AUGUSTUS JOHN"

A short article by ALAN CLUTTON-BRECK, formerly Art Critic of THE TIMES and recently Professor of Fine Arts Cambridge University.

"HAS THE EARTH THREE MOONS?"

Do other moons exist besides our old familiar one? PATRICK MOORE, Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, discusses the report of a Polish astronomer who claims to have photographed two more.

"TOTALITARIAN APPROACHES TO DIPLOMACY"

This essay by SIR WILLIAM HAYTER, Warden of New College, Oxford, is chiefly concerned with Soviet diplomacy today. It was prompted by a chapter in Professor Gordon Craig's book of studies recently published in honour of the Cambridge historian G. P. Gooch.

"RICHARD OASTLER — THE FACTORY KING"

ASA BRIGGS, Professor of History at Sussex University writes about the first of the "Tory Radicals". This year marks the centenary of the death of Richard Oastler, one of the social reformers who agitated for factory reforms.

and other features

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BODINGTON'S HOP

The Night the Door was Slammed

ON Saturday last Bodington Hall held a hop. By all accounts it wasn't the most successful occasion of the year — that is from the outsider's point of view. Several people have grumbled to me about the reception they received.

Phil Cooper, third year Houldsworth member, said "I think if we were able to produce a Union card we should have been made welcome. The distance from town would limit numbers so the organisers shouldn't be worried about that."

Malcolm Totten, third years Theology Student, who was refused admission although invited to the hop by a member of Bodington, expressed disappointment "I was annoyed when a grinning idiot told me my girl friend could go in but I couldn't. I suppose they had every right to stop who they liked, but it is very impolite and no other hall has adopted such a policy. Fortunately I met some other people who made us very welcome at a party so the bad impression was balanced to some extent."

Mike Templeman arrived with four female friends and again the prohibitive hand was raised. Three of the girls entered but Mike was turned

away on the pretext that the "licence" did not permit male guests. He said afterwards "I was absolutely disgusted. It just about ruined my evening. The Hall is a fabulous place but it will ruin the Union if such a large section cuts itself off."

It would seem from the members with whom I have spoken that it is a case of Woodsley against the others. This House, which is the continuation of Woodsley Hall, is proving very unpopular with the rest of the Hall and will really have to swallow some humility to prevent spoiling the whole system.

They must remember particularly that they are still a part of Leeds University and its Union.

ONE MAN'S MEAT...

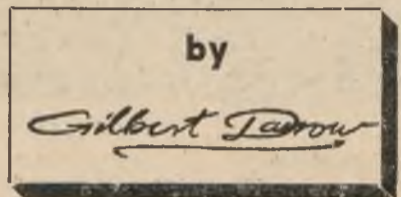
THERE must be an enormous pile of mouldy chips somewhere. They are the ones that are left every lunchtime and teatime in Refectory. At a rough guess I should say that about

50% of the chips served can be eaten only at considerable risk.

Mike Parker, who has family connections in the fish and chip profession besides being a prominent member of Rhythm Club puts it down to the fact that they just don't know how to fry.

And this inability to produce good food consistently seems to be spreading to all other sections of a normal meal. I saw someone leave 80% of her lunch the other day. When questioned as to why this was being left (she forgave the rudeness), the answer was "It's horrible".

The low quality is spreading to the other departments of service, viz. Caf and Soup Kitchen, but stops at the



bar where excellent sandwiches and sausage rolls show up the other places. It's only a pity that they are usually sold out by about ten past one.

Back to Refectory where I was informed by a server that the students themselves wanted this ridiculous 1/9d minimum. I have yet to find even one supporter for it. Personally I dislike being forced to pay for a whole course whether I want all of it or not.

I believe some rethinking on the matter could be profitably indulged in, and a return to the old system engineered.

Finally I leave you with the feeling epitomised in a remark made by Sheila Crabtree, third year General Science student. In reply to "Do you eat in Refectory?" she retorted, "No, I don't like the food." How many others ?

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

LAST week the Union lost the tannoy for two days. According to the porters it deserved a rest, having worn itself out calling students whose friends were too lazy to look for them!

As was to be expected, the effects were felt generally, but ironically it was the porters who suffered most. Since telephone calls could not be tannoyed they had to be written up on the 'Urgent Messages' Board. It was also difficult to find owners of parcels which had been left in the office.

On the other hand, students were inconvenienced only by having to stretch their legs a little further — and regulars in the radio room must have found it refreshing that their favourite programmes were no longer interrupted.

When the tannoy returned again, in complete health, I think the porters, despite their protests were perhaps secretly as pleased as the students.

Film Review

SPARTACUS at the Majestic

'SPARTACUS' is the latest in a long line of American epic pictures embracing a cast of thousands, half a dozen star names, stereophonic sound, wide screen and vivid colour. Unfortunately the embrace is lingering—the film lasts for more than three hours—and comes near to being the kiss of death. The plot is by now familiar to most people and one might expect that a slave uprising with such stars as Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier and Peter Ustinov would provide exciting entertainment if not 'meaning' and profound social comment. Alas we are sadly disappointed. There are odd moments of excitement, the battle sequence stands out, but this seems rather short return for such star content and such financial outlay.

Comparison with 'Intolerance,' D. W. Griffith's masterpiece shown by film soc. last week shows the extent of Stanley Kubrick's failure with Spartacus. The Babylon story in 'Intolerance' paved the way for the epic feature but in spite of the time it was made it achieved far more than many more recent films of this type. Kubrick is an extremely talented director as was shown by 'Paths of Glory' but in 'Spartacus' precious little of this talent reveals itself. The actors for the most part seem stifled by the ponderous bulk of the material through which they have to wade, and the few promising moments are crushed as this Juggernaut of a film rolls over them. Undoubtedly it will be a great financial success, and will provoke bigger and worse pictures. Already we have the 'colossal King of Kings,' and I hear rumours of a ten-hour monstrosity covering the whole of the Bible. It is a pity that so much talent and so much celluloid could be wasted on such productions.

Euthanasia Debate

by our Debates Correspondent
JOHN MOWAT

JUST how should the inmates of a debates' chamber make up their minds? Should they vote according to the merits of the arguments presented? Or should they vote according to deep-seated emotional reactions that the speeches have not altered? Students at the debate on November 1st followed the second and easier course.

David Eastwood proposed that "this house would advocate euthanasia for incurables". After a weak start, he made a very creditable case for the motion. "Why", he asked, "does darkness and empty space frighten us? Because we have an unnatural fear of death. This acts as a barrier against common sense. Is it self-evident that life should not be taken under any circumstances? It was once self-evident that the world was flat". Eastwood preferred to let everyone set his own value on his life. "The present situation is not tolerable. Men must not be regarded as cogs in some kind of theological machine."

He was seconded by Ian Morrison! "In sorrow shalt thou bring forth", speaks the Bible — yet today the use

of chloroform is recognised. "In the same way" he said, "we must not let 'thou shalt not kill' extend suffering. Life is sacred only if it can be used", he went on. Anyway, when drugs cause nausea and hallucinations, can the patient be called "living"? Morrison countered the opposition by saying where he would draw the line i.e. a fatal drug would be administered only with a doctor's approval, and if the patient wanted it.

The opposition speeches were not so memorable. Martin Forrest based his arguments on the idea of man as the custodian of a God-given life. "Pain may have a purpose in God's great design". M. Forrest was on safer ground later on. He reminded the audience of the misuse of euthanasia in Hitler's Germany, the Juvenals Rome.

Exhibitionists

He was seconded by Michael Murphy, whose plea was, "I am asking you to use your intellects in this matter". He used his emotion in making the speech; it was rather like a drunk advocating sobriety.

The differences between the proposition and opposition were of quality as well as opinion, yet the audience was not swayed from their old convictions. Only 16 supported the motion, 117 opposed, and there were 27 abstentions. What made the debate more depressing was the jack-ass parade. This seems to be an unavoidable feature of Union debates. As soon as the main speeches are over, the exhibitionists move in. Very rarely do these people make any contribution towards a judgement. They simply repeat the arguments made in the main speeches. The Union has a Theatre Group — a good many of these grandiloquent bores would be happier there. At the annual Political Debate, Mr Laycock spied a stranger, lecturer John Rex. Fr. Laycock was hissed. It was obvious that the House wanted Mr. Rex to stay. Now a general invitation has been made to the staff, they are certainly welcome at debates. Their presence may curb some of the more obtuse floor speakers. I hope so, anyway.

● To verify opinions expressed in this article we suggest as an experiment that a vote be taken before and after the speeches at some future debate. We should be surprised to note any significant difference.

Turning Points to Tomorrow



Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) investigated atomic structure by bombarding a thin sheet of gold leaf with a stream of alpha particles and tracing their subsequent paths. He concluded that the gold atom consisted mainly of empty space through which the alpha particles passed without being deflected and that they were deflected or thrown back only when they struck the central nucleus of the gold atom.

For the modern student of science, Rutherford's early assault on the atom is but a starting point from which it is difficult to judge the important creative contribution it represented when the science of atomic energy was in its early stages.

The solutions to the problems confronting the U.K.A.E.A. today may well provide the foundations for future scientific development. They call for qualities parallel to those of the pioneers and offer every opportunity for creative work of enduring scientific significance.

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VILLAGE JESTERS

From "The Snow Maiden" — an unusual ballet that has much classical dancing subtly blended with Russian folk dances.



Top Left: Scene from "Scheherazade"

Left: Alicia Markova in "The Dying Swan"



THE SNOW MAIDEN
(Marilyn Burr)

THE Ballet's interesting programme includes four performances (Thursday to Saturday) of the new ballet "The Snow Maiden". Set to recently - discovered music by Tchaikowsky (never before heard in this country) by his great-nephew Soviet choreographer Vladimir Bourmeister, it is the first Russian ballet ever created for a British company.

Monday's Gala performance, which includes the only appearance of prima ballerina Alicia Markova and the only performance of "Scheherazade", is unfortunately already sold out, but tickets are still available for the new Bourmeister one-act production of "Swan Lake" (Tuesday) and for "Romeo and Juliet" and "Prince Igor" excerpts on Wednesday.

The Festival Ballet, who have just celebrated their twelfth anniversary, are unique in being the only unsubsidised company in the world. From small beginnings, they have grown until they now number over 100, with a repertoire of more than 30 ballets. Eight different ballets are scheduled for the first two days of their Leeds visit.



VASILIE TRUNOFF
as the Gold Slave
in "Scheherazade"

Union News
Photo Feature
presents the
**FESTIVAL
BALLET**

of London, who will be performing at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, during the week commencing November 20th

Pictures by courtesy of Festival Ballet

Below: Corps de Ballet in "Bourée Fantasque"



FREEDOM IN THE EAST

by MARGARET MADEN

OUR nearest large centre was Dresden which we visited in our last week in the German Democratic Republic. Having been shockingly bombed during the war, Dresden still shows its scars and ruins. The East Germans have taken great pains to restore and renovate historically valuable and beautiful buildings, and to design new buildings blending with the traditional style.

Hence, we were fortunate enough to see the famous Zwinger art gallery with its post-war renovations almost completed and looking as it must have in the high period of Rococo design of the 18th Century. Near the old centre, the rebuilt Market Place had excellent shops, prices being comparable to those in this country.

An obvious question to be asked in the G.D.R. was: "Why have you lost almost two million of your people to the West since 1953?" There is no easy answer, but one thing that did strike us was the absence of surface glamour in life, which the Federal Republic in particular boasts. Young people especially hear about this sort of thing and see pictures of all the cars and abundance of luxury consumer goods in the Federal Republic, and believe that it is all there waiting for them. On our part, we missed such things as the well-packed cigarettes, or even pop tunes (though we did get through to David Jacob's Pick of the Pops one Saturday night). Generally the distracting entertainment of the West is missing.

Liberty

More fundamentally, the problems of existence in the G.D.R. which were of concern to us were those connected with our notion of personal liberties. Socially one is expected to join the

THIS article is the second and final part of the story of some Leeds students who spent part of this year's summer vacation at a Work Camp in East Germany.

We should like to point out that the views expressed are not necessarily those of Union News.

Young Pioneers and similar organisations as a part of one's progression to maturity. The senior master at the school we visited said that only a Young Pioneer could be elected Captain of his class, but that inevitably Young Pioneers were the best people in any case and that over 90 per cent. of those aged 12 to 16 were Young Pioneers.

Similarly one does not go to the camps or resort centres unless one is in one of these youth organisations. This sort of thing is either seen in the traditional Western way of thinking as a serious infringement on personal "individualism", or can be regarded



TIME OFF

Roy Bull, ex-J.V.P., now studying in Moscow, is in the middle of the back row.

as a valid approach to real Socialism—changing control of means of production isn't the end of Socialism, but only the beginning. The Young Pioneers might appear to us to be merely an attempt to impose a new conformism in place of the old on to society. In fact, what we saw did not suggest this, but instead there was a good spirit of each person being able to enjoy and understand his or her role in society. The sense in which we regard individualism will often seem to have engendered character traits of suspicion, pessimism and useless mistrust between people.

Naivete

To us there was a noticeable naivete among young people. From the older age-groups however we were left with an impression, not of naivete but of shrewd good sense. Most of the "officials" of the Trade Unions or industrial plants were in the 35-45 age group and were clear-headed, unaffected men.

The idea often held about there being no political opposition what-

soever in Communist countries was removed to some extent when we saw the two cabarets of sharp political satire debunking, in no uncertain terms, bureaucrats and fussy officials of local government.

Distrust

Suddenly, our three weeks in the Democratic Republic left us with a terrible distrust of English quality newspapers, but it also gave us a lasting good feeling towards the people we met there. Gone was the impression of East Germany being a drab, colourless country with its people enchained by material suffering and a stifling moral conformism. The basic material standards were high, if without the distractive frills of the U.S. variety, and even more exciting was the good spirit found amongst the people, the vast majority of whom seemed genuinely glad to be working for wider social aims compared to the "I'm-all-right-Jack" spirit. Similarly there was a really widespread feeling amongst the people we met desiring a peaceful settlement of the German problem and Berlin in particular. The Peace Movement in East Germany is no lunatic fringe; it is a strongly constructed expression of peoples' basic feelings and anxiety over the present world political picture. It was sad to see that a country so clearly making such tremendous strides in its economy and society was having to be the centre of such bad international tension, and was being made the target for some of the most insidious journalistic attacks yet unleashed.

BRING BACK LUCRETIA!

demands a Correspondent

SIR,—I am afraid that it was with pleasure that I noted the vote of censure on Mr. Darrow on the gentlemen wearing sun-glasses.

Judging by the standards of dress and behaviour seen about the University this session it would seem that it is time to resuscitate Lucretia.

I should like to see votes of censure on those long, third-year pony-tails and four year pig-tails, Bee-hives are out, dead and buried (I thought they were two years ago). A university is not the place for blue or even just blue-streaked hair, nor is the "M.J." the place for knitting. My dear, if you do want to knit why not use the Virgins' Retreat (W.C.R.)? And as for scrunching apples in the Brotherton and permeating the places with Cox's orange pippins, I think only eating oranges or cracking nuts could be worse.

A university is supposed to be a place for study. I know some misguided individuals come for the "social life", but they can only be pitied. Social climbing inside Union Committee, etc. is presumably a necessary evil but please take the other sort at least outside the Union. I should hardly have thought it very happy hunting ground anyway.

Girls at University should try and combine a neat appearance with sensible clothes. There is no need to come teetering in on five inch heels, nor to clomp round in brogues; an overdressed, over made-up girl looks just as bad as a tartan skirted hockey player.

THE MEN

The men are however just as much a disgrace to the University, not only pimply schoolboys and fourth year overstretched jerseys. I'm sorry that your mothers and girls friends are all such bad knitters — tell them to try using smaller needles next time.

Granted that your financial position might not run to a jacket and decent trousers but at least your other clothes might be clean — and you, too. There's no excuse for hair that's started curling on your collar. It's not clever and Bohemian — it's just dirty, messy and untidy. I'm sorry you haven't got enough self-respect to keep up a reasonable appearance — you must be Arts students.

Yours etc.,
CAROLINE ROSS.

"Lucretia" was removed last session by Public Demand. We have no reason to believe that the general attitude then prevailing has now changed substantially and so have not resurrected the article.—Ed.

POLITICS, LIFE AND ACTION

A Fantasy
from the Prophet
Atkinson of Dicksaiha

AND the Lord said go forth ye packet and ye plastic bag and fill yourselves with processed products and gife forth your uselessness. And the packet and the plastic bag, dressed in all manner of colours, went forth into all the corners of the world

and disgorged their products. But the world knew them not for the world saw only a white God and knew not red or black. So the earth was filled resplendent with colours that were cast out by the white ones.

It was at the time of these journeyings that the world was full of shouting and great abuses, and the lost people of the Lord were repentent. So in manner like unto the hermit they did go and live in holes in the ground and did not drink the milk of the sacred animal; also they did dress in harsh brown paper and lamented. The world was both amazed and amazing. At this time one among their number was created Lord of a mountain top, and he did join them in their holes. But his was a plush hole.

The animals roamed the earth in freedom, yet there was one among them who had long time ago travelled from the old valley of Eton. He was a hairy one about the top lip and was called wonderful. His hair was gray and smooth and he did have the visage of the retarded rabbit. He too went forth into the world and did speak with many and was little understood, for he was a blue one. Yet he was chosen to be player with little balls and big drums. But the devil did prevent him from hitting them, for the devil was a cunning beast and did play most awfully upon the temple of the retarded one with an hairy face.

Sore Distressed

So the day came upon the world when the cunning devil did once more make the one from Eton play an airy one and he was made sore distressed and did say to the world: "Verily, journey ye to Hell". And with his big stick he did beat upon the buttons created by the wise ones and he did hit them better than the balls.

There were many rumblings and

grumblings from the East and from the West and the world was rent with foul winds and white heat, and many thought it was the Lord. But those in the holes did return to the earth, and laughed and cried and did die. Those on the earth did crouch down and worship of the soil and the soil accepted them and they became one with it.

So when the elements had settled and rested there remained only one amongst them for he was living in a deep and thickly-walled dungeon. He too was a hairy one, but also a white red and wise one who had written books on the logic of things and who did sit down in great places and it had been said in high places that he was a false prophet. This one did look around him and did weep, for no longer could he worship his gods who were dead, namely Truly So and Toldu So.

Writing on the Wall

Thus came the writing to be on the wall: "From dust and ashes to dust and ashes." And it was all curtains for the world and everything was drawn and quartered, and the world was all amen and awomen.

So in the end it can truly be said was the button deed and that the beginning has had its ending. So neither was the dragon, that old serpent, the one with the many faces, any more either. But he shall be remembered in the memory of the spirit as the retarded beast with an hairy face like unto a rabbit, who knew only the foul and the vermin, who were now all dust with him, and they shall rejoice in this fact.

Yet verily, the spirit of the wild and the salty one did say that everything was all over Omega, and that Alpha and Omo were no more.

LIVELY MINDS WRITE THE GUARDIAN...



DOWN-TO-EARTH SPACEMAN...

Whenever anyone puts a man into space, the circulation of The Guardian registers a noticeable tremor.

Even people who (for reasons best known to themselves) take run-of-the-mill newspapers on run-of-the-mill days prefer The Guardian when something special's happened in the world of science. They recognise that here is science reporting which treats them neither as B.Sc.s on the one hand nor as little children on the other, but as intelligent adults with their adult wits about them.

John Maddox, who looks after our scientific side, is himself an atomic physicist and lectured at Manchester University before joining us. On The Guardian he is given unlimited (well, nearly) scope to follow up promising lines of scientific development, whether it's the low-down on the lemming's lovelife or the latest loggerheading between the neo-Freudians and the neo-neo-Freudians.

This determination to cover the exciting developments of our world even when they demand some attention from the reader is what keeps some people away from The Guardian. Such folk don't care for thought in any form, particularly when it's they who have to do the thinking: and The Guardian is not for them. The Guardian is for readers who have lively minds and like to keep them lively by exercising them from time to time.

LIVELY MINDS LIKE

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The State of the Press

DANGEROUS CONCENTRATION

MR. ROY THOMSON said last week that there was no longer danger inherent in a situation where ownership of the basic media of mass communication was limited to a few powerful moneyed men. Mr. Thomson owns more than one hundred newspapers throughout the world and he owns Scottish Television. There is an irony here somewhere and it was gratifying to see that Mr. Thomson's address to the Commonwealth Press Conference did not go unchallenged by other newspapermen.

It does appear today that control of the Press is limited to a small powerful group of men who cynically barter newspapers as though so precious a commodity was a block of flats or a licence to print money. Ultimately freedom of speech in this country will depend on our newspapers and on the variety of their methods of expressing their editorial comment. Newspapers are the basic freedom of speech: Independent Television as a means of freedom is secondary because it is more directly tied to its owner, the necessity for profit, and advertising.

I hope therefore that the Shawcross Commission on the Press will evolve some means whereby in a newspaper world of inflated circulations, a circulation of two million is considered uneconomic, and six million readers (based on the A.B.C. figure of three readers per paper bought) are deprived of their own choice of newspaper. A more dangerous aspect of this situation is the cynical sympathy manifested by the Beaverbrook and Rothermere fraternity when a newspaper ceases to publish, for it is these same proprietors who combine to keep the price of newsprint, the lifeblood of a paper artificially high, so condemning papers with smaller

circulations to death. In the newspaper world, as in television, there is no doubt that the advertiser is the root of all evil, and the real, corrupting initiator of the debasement of standards.

Unless a newspaper has circulation, the advertisers are not interested in it and we, their readers, become the unwanted victims of newspapers like the *News of the World* (readership 18 million), the *Sunday Pictorial* (15 million), the *Express* (daily 12 million, Sunday 9 million), the *People* (9 million). The situation even renders a newspaper like the *Daily Mail*, with a daily readership of over 6 million, uneconomic and there are reports that the *Mail* is struggling, together with the *Daily Herald*, *Daily Sketch* and *Reynolds' News*.

More disturbingly inherent in the advertising/profit basis of the news-

paper industry is the fact that amongst the popular papers, there are only two radical papers, the *Herald* and *Reynolds' News*, both struggling and both written with some concession to intelligence (the *Herald*, unlike the *Telegraph*, did not print the details of the Osborne/Gilliat affair).

Comment

A newspaper is a voice of political comment. Any government which pays lip-service to the ideal of an opposition should be deeply disturbed,

Mr. Macmillan, by the fact that 12 million voters and readers could, in the present situation, be quite easily deprived of a radical, left wing voice in the British newspaper world. The newspaper world is becoming dangerously undemocratic. Mr. Thomson controls over 20 newspapers, amongst them the *Sunday Times*, the *Scotsman* and the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*, in fact well over 10 million readers; and 12 million readers are fed every day with the proprietorial whims and fantasies of Lord Beaverbrook.

Circulation

It is with some sense of gratitude that one notices the rising circulation of the quality papers and the establishment of a new one, the *Sunday Telegraph*, despite the fact that this is merely an extension of the same proprietor's voice which we hear booming every day through the solemn editorial columns of the *Daily Telegraph*. The *Guardian* and *The Times* now have 700,000 readers each and the *Telegraph* three million. This

is welcome, but without being condescending, one feels that it is the popular, not the quality, section of the press that needs control.

Provincials

Where do the provincial newspapers fit into this pattern? The first thing that should be noticed in this respect is that these newspapers, while reflecting the more humdrum and down-to-earth activities of people's lives, are also controlled by individual proprietors, thus allowing for more variety and eccentricity of editorial opinion. Each allows for a second viewpoint to that of the national newspaper, and each aspires to "quality" status. One feels that merely because of their provincial status, the editors of provincial newspapers are far more in touch with their readers than the London set, who hear second hand what is thought to be the outlook and opinion of their readers. How can Lords Beaverbrook, Rothermere, Burnham and Astor

than to lumbast the *Sunday Pictorial* and *The People* particularly for their continuous erosion of all the standards which make life worth living.

I feel that the Shawcross Commission should establish a guardian body to the Press, with far more power and bite than the Press Council. It should also recommend to the Government some form of control over Press advertising and subtle influence of the advertisers. It should recommend an end to restrictive practices like those over newspaper distribution and newsprint.

Ideals

Only then will the Press once more flourish in the liberating and enlightening ideals of C. P. Scott of the then *Manchester Guardian*, the Shakespeare of journalists. His influence is needed today when many many reporters and their proprietors are creating of the Press, a corrupt, cruel and shameless monster.

Recommended Reading: "Dangerous Estate" by Francis Williams (Grey Arrow paperback).

BRIAN MacARTHUR

investigates in this article the present position of our newspaper industry and the dangers that loom ahead

know what their readers want—they have never met one of them.

Democracy

Thus, throughout the country, in Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool, Darlington, Bristol, Cardiff, we have newspapers which are bastions of local democracy and defenders of the "little man" with more sincerity of attitude than the national paper after a "good story"—a term of abuse and condescension which allows gross intrusion into the lives of humble people.

It is interesting to note that the local newspaper gives far more coverage to cultural and political news and to the basic events which their readers are interested in—the council, rents, call-up. The persuasive influence of the national press is therefore compromised by the provincial press, though even in the provinces there is no radical newspaper.

The Press Council is a eunuch body more concerned to criticise the *Guardian* and *Spectator* for using the four-letter word for sexual intercourse



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