

UNION NEWS

STOP PRESS

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION PLAN THREATENED BY CASH SHORTAGE

V. C. : National Disaster Ahead

"UNLESS more capital resources become available very soon for building further residential accommodation there will simply be nowhere for some students to live." This was Sir Charles Morris's warning to the Court of the University yesterday.

The planned programme for the University's growth in the next five years may be brought to a halt before it is half completed, unless three shortages are remedied. "Three things above all are necessary," said Sir Charles: "Sufficient revenue, sufficient new capital, and a sufficient supply of well-qualified staff."

In the five-year period that ends with this academic year, the number of full-time students has risen from 3,773 to 5,222. By 1967, this should be up to 6,900 - though if Leeds continues to take 6% of all University entrants in England and Wales, as we do at present, this figure will be in the region of 8,500.

The government has asked Universities to give priority to carrying out in full the plan for increasing student numbers. If this is done, it is inevitable that less money will be available for research - with the result that Leeds would be "less attractive to academic staff". The quality of its teachers would therefore suffer.

He added: "The most serious deficiency will be in residential accommodation." To meet "the rapidly-approaching saturation point" for lodgings, 540 more places will be available in Hall by about 1964. The Y.P. comments: "Now one British child from 24 gets to University, compared with one in 12 in Russia and one in four in the U.S.A."

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, LEEDS

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Rodley Kidd
Top of the Poll

the balance on the committee was now held by independent candidates.

Most voters found the large number of candidates too much for them, and on average, only used about nine of their 20 votes in the open seats. There was a 37% poll compared with 35% last year.

This year's votes were more evenly distributed. Last year, three people polled over 1,000 votes. This year, 784 was the most anyone obtained.

"Seems a fair bunch," commented retiring President MacArthur. "I shall get on with them all, though some better than others," said next year's president, Peter Hall.

The election generally had shown that people vote for names rather than policies.



Atkinson Channell

Why did he think Fred Kidd was second in the poll? "Because he's extremely popular, and I don't think he's really offended anybody, not even his political opponents." "It's the first election I can remember where there are people on the list I don't know at all."

The right, too, approved of the results. "Almost the best result possible given the choice of candidates," was Mike Laycock's view. "It's splendid to see Fred in."

The Engineers had notable success. Their candidates were elected for the first time in years. The success of the two, Tony Lavender and Tim Harpin, was obviously helped by having a ballot box in the Engineering Block itself for the first time.

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DICK ATKINSON	709	38.3
PAT WATSON	708	38.3
PETE BRADY	703	38.0
DAVE MERRIMAN	699	37.8
GREG CHAMBERLAIN	663	35.8
TONY LAVENDER	662	35.8
MIKE FLETCHER	652	35.3
MELVYN EASTBURN	621	33.6
DOUG SANDLE	594	32.2
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3 spoilt papers, 3 abstentions

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Dick Atkinson, who resigned from Union Committee last year, was re-elected, which means the Union can expect some lively U.C. meetings next year.

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and the JVP's resignation were what proved to be the stormiest session last Thursday.

Controversy began when J.V.P. David Eastwood led Dick Atkinson's Union Committee manifesto, moving that Returning Officer Brian MacArthur certain words from the manifesto, the Committee and when the motion had been narrowly defeated, had resigned.

One of the troubles was a line of the manifesto read: "If such men as Wilson can say in the Times that 'provin-universities are bear is,' then the only r is to be able to show uninformed snobs that not so."

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Censorship came up again when Eastwood took exception to what he saw as a defamatory reference to Dr. John Rex in a recent Gilbert Darrow. Feeling ran high, and President-elect Peter Hall and Editor Chamberlain both deplored the Committee's attitude pointing out that it was petty and an attempt at a form of censorship.

But the motion of censure was passed and the Editor was ordered to write a letter of apology to Dr. Rex.

Dearer Food

Price increases in refec. meals were announced. Potatoes are to go up 1d. temporarily until the price per ton falls to an economic level. Main meals also go up 1d., this time due to wage increases, and fruit, chocolate and ice-cream are to cost more because of the new purchase tax on them.

The installation of Cona Coffee in the Union means 5d. a cup instead of 4d. now. But most people didn't seem to notice any improvement. "Just the same—horrible," one said. "At least you can smell it now," said another.

Ian Morrison's proposals for cut-price drinks at this year's Union Ball were used to exec., where it was decided to negotiate with Dr. B. Son, Joint Catering Committee chairman, about the matter.

Reminiscent

Scenes reminiscent of the Bull era on Union Committee took place when Victor Johnson explained why he resigned from the delegation at the recent N.U.S. Conference at Liverpool.

A temporary chairman was elected while MacArthur and Squire battled with Johnson, who said he resigned because he was not consulted when the delegation decided on a block vote against changing Clause 2 of the N.U.S. constitution.

General Athletics Secretary Klaus Kaiser announced his resignation as he is taking up an appointment in industry shortly. The present Exec. will handle his duties, and also the J.V.P.'s, until the end of the session.

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Union News Stop Press (2)

Thursday, 17th May,

U N I O N P R E S I D E N T C O - O P T E D T O C O U R T

U n p r e c e d e n t e d S t e p

A T A meeting of the Court in the University yesterday, it was announced that Brian MacArthur and Peter Hall had been co-opted to Membership. The University Court is the supreme governing body of the University, although the University Council and Senate are the effective policy-making bodies.

At only two or three other Universities in the country is a student on its governing body. Brian MacArthur told "Union News" today that he thought the step was significant and welcome. He hoped that students would be able to make a valuable contribution to the work of the committee.

UNION NEWS

Leeds University Union SPECIAL 1d.
Thursday, 17th May, 1962 No. 3

EASTWOOD RESIGNS IN DRAMATIC SCENE

U. News Comes Under Heavy Fire

LIBEL and slander, food prices, and the J.V.P.'s resignation were the things which dominated what proved to be the stormiest Union Committee meeting this session last Thursday.

Left Coup Just Fails

Independents Hold Balance on New U.C.

A FAIRLY balanced Union Committee was elected this week for the new session. Nigel Rodley and Fred Kidd topped the poll, and the three Communist candidates were all defeated. The full results, announced on Tuesday night, are shown on the right.

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HOW YOU VOTED

20 Open Seats

	Elected	Votes	% of voters
NIGEL RODLEY ...	784	784	42.6
FRED KIDD ...	770	770	41.6
IAN MORRISON ...	736	736	39.8
IAN CHANNELL ...	734	734	39.8
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Cause of the trouble was a section of the manifesto which read: "If such men as Dr. Wilson can say in the Sunday Times that 'provincial universities are bear gardens,' then the only answer is to be able to show such uninformed snobs that this is not so."

The Committee felt generally that it should not set itself up as a board of censorship and when, after the vote, Eastwood announced his resignation, they appealed to him to reconsider his decision.

Adamant

But Eastwood was adamant and said he could not serve on a committee where this sort of attitude towards staff was tolerated.

The matter closed with Ian Morrison wondering whether Eastwood would ever dare to read newspapers or manifestoes in the future for fear that he would see something which offended him.

Brian MacArthur said he was "extremely sorry" that Eastwood found it necessary to resign. "He was a most valuable member of Exec.," he added.

Afterwards, Dick Atkinson told our reporter that the whole affair was "typical."

For the next two points, U.N. Editor Chamberlain had to be summoned from the printers at Huddersfield. The first concerned the Indian Assoc. A.G.M., about which controversy has been raging all this term. A U.N. report on it earlier in the term was said to be ambiguous, and an apology was promised by Union News.

But the Committee ruled that until Indian Soc. can clear themselves of all allegations of election rigging, they could not be recognised for the coming session, and a sub-committee was set up to investigate the whole matter.

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C.N.D. and anti-C.N.D. clash after Gaitskell's departure.



The Labour leader was given a peaceful passage to his car after the meeting. With him is Richard Douthwaite, who chaired the meeting.

GAITSKELL SETS UNION ABLAZE

RIOTS were imminent after Mr. Gaitskell's visit to the Union last Friday. Trouble started as he left, when various opponents of C.N.D. tore at banners used in the demonstration.

Nearly a thousand students crammed the Social Room to hear the Leader of the Opposition. Hundreds more packed the corridors and pressed against the windows.

Invited to speak by U.N.S.A., Mr. Gaitskell's topic was the United Nations, its weaknesses and its value, its past and its future. But the crowds were there to see or to prevent C.N.D.'s advertised protest.

The Social Room was full an hour before the speaker arrived. "The Engineers so packed the meeting that we could hardly get in," said one C.N.D. member.

Although the meeting was quiet, there was large support for both sides. Richard Douthwaite, U.N.S.A. President, who was in the chair, said afterwards, "I didn't expect to get through the meeting, especially question time, without a disturbance."

C.N.D. were not satisfied with Mr. Gaitskell's answers to their questions, particularly searching ones like Steve Gould's. Other questioners were Mary Squire, Geoffrey Guest, Roy Enfield and Dick Atkinson. Mike Laycock was shouted down—a repeat of the A.G.M. performance.

"In with socialism, out with the bomb" was the chant that greeted Gaitskell in the packed corridor as he made his way to the President's room afterwards. Anti-C.N.D. students "protecting" the speaker tore down the black banner under which he was to pass and in a moment of chaos he was pushed to the wall.

Coffee and biscuits were interrupted by shouts outside the window—"Gaitskell Out." He calmly opened the window and shouted back, "You'll get tired, you know. You ought to be at a football match."

Others determined to show that "all Leeds students are not C.N.D." attempted to break up the group. One, Vac. Work Secretary Paul Lawrence, later had his shirt ripped as a result.

However Mr. Gaitskell had a quiet passage to his car, and smilingly waved goodbye. He commented on "a very satisfactory meeting" and added, "You can always tell within a few minutes if there is any intention to break it up."

Before he was out of sight a scuffle in one corner sent the crowd surging to join in. "I was carrying the banners away when quite suddenly I was attacked," said the organiser of the demonstration, Mike Templeman.

John Hollies, a Houldsworth student, when asked if he had come for a punch-up or to protect the name of the Union, replied, "A bit of both." Loud-voiced leader of the C.N.D. chanting, Howard King, was not sure what he had achieved. "I hit a few people anyway," he said.

"At least we have shown him how we feel," was the majority comment on the demonstration. "We have some hot-heads in C.N.D.," added Mike Templeman, but he pointed out the "marvellous restraint" of members during the meeting.

President Brian MacArthur is worried about the effect of such behaviour on the public. "The whole affair gives a very bad impression to the public of the tolerance and sense of fair play which students are supposed to have."



The scene in the packed Social Room before the meeting. Many more crowded in the corridor outside.



In action.

Chanting outside the President's room was met calmly by Mr. Gaitskell.

Spectators running round to the front of the Union to catch Gaitskell as he left.

There were scuffles in the corridor as Gaitskell tried to make his way to the President's room.

