

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. 1, No. 9.

Tuesday, March 18th 1947.

Twopence.

Congress and Vacation

A Winter's Tale

About 35 brave spirits of the English Society were not to be prevented by the weather from visiting Manchester on Friday, Feb. the 28th, to hear Mr. L. C. Knights' lecture on "Shakespeare and Politics," and to see the Manchester Drama Society's production of "The Winter's Tale." They now realise that discretion is the better part of valour. The party arrived late for the lecture, but managed to insert itself and hear most of a valuable lecture.

Mr. Knights showed that there was a consistent political attitude implicit in Shakespeare's plays, an attitude chiefly concerned with a nice balance between discipline and individual freedom, responsibilities and privileges. He contrasted Elizabethan and 20th Century England, and pointed

Dates of closing of the
Union Building,
April 4th—8th inclusive.

Dates of closing of the
Cafeteria,
April 4th—13th inclusive.

out that the greater localisation of government in Elizabethan England made it easier for citizens to feel the effect of their own and their neighbours' actions. Beside the "depersonalisation" of politics, Mr. Knights also noted that our language was in danger of becoming too abstract.

A poet can no longer use the language spoken around him. Shakespeare used the language and sympathised with the politics nearer to the needs of natural man.

The production of "A Winter's Tale" was disappointing. The stage and hall were certainly not ideal, but the standard of acting was low. The players were scarcely audible and their actions tended to become melodramatic. The baby, Perdita, in particular, had one or two nasty moments.

In spite of gloomy forebodings, the party did arrive back the same night....., but thereby hangs a tale.

M.B.A.

1,000 Students at Liverpool

Each year the National Union of Students holds a Congress where students can discuss questions concerning themselves and their careers and exchange ideas with fellow-students from other Universities and Colleges.

This year the Life, Problems and Objectives of the student will be examined. The Congress deals entirely with matters which affect YOU as a student.

Congress, consisting of four Plenary Sessions, lasts eight days and is supplemented with an attractive programme of Social activities.

After Registration on Wednesday, 9th April, Congress is inaugurated in a grand Social that evening, and officially opened by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, the Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University and the President of N.U.S. the following day.

Among the most important discussions are:—

1. "The purpose and problems of Higher Education in Post-war Britain....." on Thursday, 10th April.
2. "The International Union of Students—what it means to us." Monday, 14th April.
3. "The Prospect Before Us." Thursday, 17th April.

at which prominent national figures are to speak.

The lighter side of Congressional activity consists of a variety of Film Shows, Theatres, Dances, Sing Songs and Concerts, indeed everything to make the vacation go with a swing.

Fees for the full eight days will be £4-0-0, including accommodation and food. The Union will pay the Return Fare (Leeds — Liverpool) or equivalent and Registration Fee of any student wishing to attend. Final Registration date 19th March. Further information may be had from Tony West, the N.U.S. Secretary.

Congress 1947 ideally solves the problem of the vacation vacuum; providing at a reasonable cost a week of extraordinary interest and amusement. The tastes of all are catered for; and as in the past, it promises to be THE STUDENT EVENT of the year, an unique opportunity for the meeting and mixing of The Nation's Students.

BRITISH LEGION

As was foreshadowed in these pages a few weeks ago, a Leeds University Branch of the British Legion has been formed. In co-operation with the Grants and Welfare Sub-Committee, it is hoped to relieve new students from the Forces next Session of many of the worries their predecessors have had to face. Any student with such worries should contact us immediately—on Fridays, 1—2 p.m., in the Grants and Welfare Office. We will give all the help in our power.

Our committee will be pleased to have offers of active support from anyone prepared to devote a little of their spare time to a good cause.

Some doubts have* been expressed about the function of the Legion. It has been suggested that it is there to provide "beer and billiards after hours." This idea is totally erroneous. The so-called British Legion Clubs which offer such facilities have no connection whatsoever with the British Legion itself. A great deal of relief work is carried out, special attention being given to the disabled. Only by having the backing of as many ex-Servicemen as possible can the Legion carry out these tasks successfully. The entrance fee is 1/-; the annual subscription 2/6. Don't hesitate any longer. Join now!

What's Wrong with the Theatre Group?

Once the most active Society in the Union, Theatre Group seems to have fallen upon evil days. Its record this Session consists of one full-length play and one small fragment—both extremely interesting, but hardly sufficient evidence of a vital and flourishing interest in the Drama.

Compare this with last Session, when four productions were given, and with the Session before, when there were five productions. Against such a background this Session's offerings are meagre indeed and seem to indicate a certain lack of initiative and imagination among Theatre Group.

Why is this? Is it because Theatre Group is too narrow in its appeal, or because it has insufficient support? Or has it developed into a clique of self-admirers? Is it because it is pursuing a wrong policy—or no policy at all?

If plays cannot be produced each Session—and there may be reason why they cannot—then the Group should have play-readings, auditions, lectures and discussions. Its policy should be to keep alive an interest in the Theatre, to find actors and producers and, above all, IT SHOULD PRODUCE PLAYS.

MOMUS.

Music

The XXV String Orchestra revisited the University after a period of seven years, to give the Lunch Hour concert in the Great Hall on Friday, 7th March. It was a pleasant change to hear such a combination at a University recital.

In the "Faramando" overture of Handel and the Britten "Simple Symphony" the conductor, J. Chalmers Park, obtained a very delicate phrasing, evidence of the fine co-ordination of this ensemble. The string tone was good, but not consistently so, a certain roughness being present in the last moments of the symphony. The Lyric Suite of Rawlinson concluded a very enjoyable concert.

M.H.S.

Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.
TUESDAY, MARCH 18th,
1947.

Vol. 1, No. 9.

Staff and Committee :

Editor - - - - Peter Tillott
Assistant Editors - William Baines
A. Griffiths
Trevor Lennam
Sub-Editor - - - Hazel Townson
Business Manager - Margaret Webster
Sales Manager - - - Tony Carter
Sports Editor - - - Tom Vickers
Societies' Editor - Kathleen Forrest
Ex-officio members :—
The Union Executive Committee
and the Editor of *The Gryphon*.

Reporters :

Keith Semple, Michael Sunderland
Margaret Allen, Renee Worrall,
"Momus," Pamela Semple.

The Spoken Word

Following the A.G.M.'s resolution to put the Union Debating Society on the map, we have seen in the last fortnight a very welcome regeneration of that Society. Platform speaking is still below the standard required of a University, but there is ample evidence in speeches from the floor of the last few meetings that a variety of talent is available, and once these individuals can overcome their reserve, we are sure that a Union Debate will be a really worth while event, offering both entertainment and instruction.

Attendance is still poor. The Union as a whole seems unaware of the attractions of a Debate—and there are many. The opportunity of self-expression is unique and, whether critical, constructive or downright amusing, these opinions from different sources make delightful hearing.

The responsibility of the success of this particular Union activity is twofold. The Debating Society MUST ensure a controversial and carefully framed motion, proposed and seconded by speakers unafraid of voicing their opinions; and secondly, the student-body must lend its wholehearted support actively in rising from the floor to speak, or passively as an attentive audience. If this challenge is accepted, we are assured of first-class entertainment next term.

Correspondents are reminded that all letters and articles must be signed, although names will only be disclosed if the contributor so wishes.

Extracts from **Union News** may not be quoted in other publications without permission.

Subscription rates: 5/- per annum, post free.

The next issue of **Union News** will appear on Thursday, May 1st.

This and That

THE LONG, LONG ROAD.

Raise your hats, gentlemen, and bow low and reverently to Senate, who have recommended (technical term) to Council that the Union shall be granted facilities for a permanent bar! But get on your knees and offer up a little prayer for Council when they meet to-morrow afternoon to make the final decision.

GLOSSARY.

Senate is to Council as the House of Commons is to the House of Lords. What's that you say? Who's Mr. Shimwell? Please let's not be personal!

WHO'S BEEN SITTING IN MY CHAIR?

Which means most to you, a cup of coffee, or a seat in the J.C.R.? Because you cannot have both. As a result of numerous complaints received from overworked students desirous of relaxation in the J.C.R. during lunchtime, and who find, on entering, that the majority of settees, etc., are "bagged" by some individual who swears that his pal will be back in two minutes though he never is, the Union Committee have decided to introduce a bye-law prohibiting the collaring of chairs in the J.C.R. However, since few students will take advantage of this the U.C. will not take any strong measures to enforce this ruling. But the chap who comes up to ask you to remove your feet from that chair and your bag from the other will be well within his right.

OPERATION CLOAK.

As a first step towards improvement of cloakroom facilities in the Union, expanded metal grilles are to be fitted in both cloakrooms, to enclose the hanging space. Whereas this is a simple matter in the Men's cloakroom, some knocking down of walls will be necessary in the Women's, in order to shift the doorway.

"FARE" ENOUGH.

Like the last straw which broke the camel's back, the raising of the tram and bus fares has resulted in a demand for an investigation into the possibility of all students obtaining reduced fares.

FLASH.

The Drama Festival will probably be held in Bristol next year.

BYE-BYE.

The Good Bye Dance will be held on June 20th. The dress will be Summer Formal, which to the uninitiated means white bags and blazers for the men and evening dress for the women.

GOVORITYE-LI VY

PO-RUSSKI?

Five Russian students, who are visiting England for the N.U.S. Congress, are coming over to Leeds for the first few days of next term.

WOT!

NATIONALISATION?

That distinguished? (curse the typewriter) personage Mr. Aneurin Bevan, the Minister of Health, is visiting Leeds in July to address the B.D.S.A. Conference. Medics and Dentals please note.

A RAG TO OUR BACKS.

The Rag Committee is in the process of being constituted, and we hope to publish some advance "gen" on this year's Rag plans early next term.

HOLDING THE BABY.

It has been suggested that, like Bristol, we should adopt a German University, chiefly for correspondence exchange. The matter is being taken up by N.U.S. Secretary.

OVERHEARD.

1st Scientist: "What do these Art Students do all day?"
2nd Scientist: "Dunno, but don't they dress well?"

"They very soon came upon a Gryphon, lying fast asleep in the sun—'Up, lazy thing,' said the Queen."—*Alice in Wonderland*.

SNOOP.

SADLERS Notice Board

Books Just Received :

WHEELER—
Intermediate Biology 20/-
MOORE—
Crops and Cropping 12/6
LEWITT—Hydraulics 15/-
GRIERSON—
English Parnassus 8/6
MOULIN—
Electromagnetism 20/-
VOGEL—
Quantative Inorganic
Analysis 20/-
Seven Figure
Log Tables 3/- & 7/6

Sadler's Bookshops Ltd.
201, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds
Telephone 22236

Diary

NEXT TERM.

Saturday, 26th April.

Maths. Club Social.
S.R., 7—11 p.m.

Monday, 28th April.

Gramophone Recital.
S.R., 1—2 p.m.

Tuesday, 29th April.

Film Show.
R.S.H., 6—8 p.m.

Saturday, 3rd May.

I.S.S. Social.
S.R., 6—11 p.m.

Monday—Saturday, 5th—10th May.

"The Beau Stratagem."
R.S.H., at 6-30 p.m.

Union Muse

If you've no idea this Easter
How to spend your time — I'm
pleased ter
Give some hints, of which the
essence may ring true;

My advice I offer gratis,
For I'm quite aware that that is
What a conscientious poet ought
to do.

I am sure the first year student
Would consider it most prudent
To display himself to cousins,
friends and aunts;

Their annoyance start provoking
By his amateurish smoking,
And his gaudy ties, suede shoes
and cord'roy pants.

(Though if I were in his place
Much more benefit I'd reap,
And despite the deep disgrace,
I'd just spend the vac. asleep).

If the student's in his "second"
It is generally reckoned
That he'll talk of all the oddities
of staff;

Of the Prof.'s eccentric manner
When he's eating a banana
And the things he said which
made the V.C. laugh.

(But I'm not the life and soul
Of the party—do not weep—
For my years have taken toll,
And I'd rather go to sleep).

To the man that takes his final
There is no advice of mine'll
Help him through the Easter vac.
—I hope he'll try

To swot hard from dawn to mid-
night
In the hope that what he did
might

Get an easy first Honours in July.
(But I'm in this position
And the swotting—it will keep,
And despite your admonition
I shall spend my vac.—asleep).

P.P.P.

LIVE LETTERS in a DEAD WORLD

Dear Sir,

I beg to suggest that the criticism of the production of "Sweeney Agonistes," published in your last issue was, to say the least, rather too strong.

The general verdict of those who saw the play seemed to be "we didn't understand it, but we certainly enjoyed it!" The more intellectual opinions were: "It was good entertainment, and above all, it was good Theatre."

I grant F.W.M. full right to voice his opinion of the production, but I feel that his criticism is a feeble imitation of Agate's style, and only that Great Man himself is able to use such crushing phraseology in a constructive manner.

F.W.M. suggests that life is still something of a lark. Perhaps if he changed his point of view it would reflect favourably in any future reviews he may publish.

Incidentally after the burning of much midnight oil, I managed to discover the subtle connection between my playing Hamlet and the "Sweeney" production. I think that I would probably play an original, if not a brilliant Hamlet, and if F.W.M. will give me the opportunity, I will have a go.

Yours, etc.,
BILLY BUNTER.

Dear Sir,

I should like to express my appreciation of the Theatre Group's presentation of "Sweeney Agonistes." The criticism you published in your last issue was unjust. Obviously F.W.M. was annoyed because he did not understand the play!

Mr. Baines, I think, interpreted "Sweeney" most successfully. There was not a fault to be found with the production, except that perhaps Sweeney was wrongly dressed, and a little restricted in movement, but the producer deserves the highest praise for giving us such a clever insight into Eliot's mind. The weaknesses of the play were obvious. It was not sufficiently rehearsed, and it had the disadvantage of being, shall we say, "extremely hard work" for the cast; but I think the producer extracted the best possible from that cast.

The ridiculous criticism of Miss Townson's acting was made in gross ignorance. I consider she played the part in exactly the right manner. Contrast between the two women was essential; if they had been alike, how dull we should have found it.

F.W.M. is obviously not broad-minded enough to wish to encourage such ambitious ventures. He would prefer the University to put on the plays he can see at any ordinary theatre. Very well; but I think the Theatre Group should hear the other criticisms too. There were a great many of us who enjoyed "Sweeney Agonistes," and who wish to say: "Go on. Give us more of this kind of entertainment. It is a credit to the University."

Yours, etc.,
J.W.S.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your correspondent, "Man from Dublin," concerning the Leeds Transport Strike, I should like to point out that:—

- (a) The majority of the students who participated did so not from a sense of "public-spiritedness," but more for the fun of it, and of course the money; and
- (b) During the Strike we were not up at the University, whereas during the present "crisis" we are.

Yours, etc.,
SNOW.

L.U.U. GRAMOPHONE LIBRARY

FOR SALE :

Records which are to be replaced in the catalogue. All are in good, but not new condition, and may be tried before purchase on the Union panatrope.

- Beethoven—Symphony No. 5 in C minor 15/-
- Borodin—Song of Prince Galitsky (10") ("Prince Igor") 2/-
- Elgar—Imperial March.
- Meyerbeer—Coronation March ("Le Prophete") 4/-
- Delius—La Calinda ("Koanga") Intermezzo ("Hassan") 3/-
- "Summer Night on the River" (10") 2/-
- Coward—"I'll see you again."
- Porter—"Night and Day" 2/-

Solution to last issue's Crossword.

- ACROSS—1. Aldershot; 6. Cur; 7. Maria; 9. Exclusive; 12. Inset; 15. Eli; 16. Tentacles.
- DOWN—1. Alchemist; 2. Doris; 3. Rum; 4. Her; 5. Tragedies; 8. Ass; 10. Lie; 11. Ideal; 13. Sen; 14. Tea.

Society Notes

The Doctors' Dilemma.

The Natural History Society had to postpone its visit to Bramham Park because of the intervention of the winter sports. However, their next meeting was very successful. About 100 students came to hear Professor Passey speak on Cancer Research. The importance of the subject can be judged from the fact that one in six or seven people over the age of 35 die of a form of malignant tumour. Professor Passey outlined the research that was going on to discover causes and cures, but the investigations are still in the hypothesis stage it appears. Professor Passey showed specimens of tumours on experimental animals, a reminder of the cost of this research. We are assured that the animals feel no pain, but while less complex truths defy us we can hardly be expected to appreciate a rabbit's feelings.

M.B.A.

International Society.

What does the future hold for Germany? You will have a chance to air *your* views on this important subject in a debate to be held by the International Society in the near future. Speakers, and suggestions for a suitable motion are welcome.

To all those who realise that the world does not end at national frontiers and wish to broaden their horizon, the Society offers a great opportunity.

The outstanding of recent activities have been a stimulating "Brains Trust" on "World Literature," a social with songs and recitations by foreign members, and talks on Pan-Americanism and World Affairs.

In addition, the Committee has taken the initiative in suggesting better co-ordination between Union Societies—a problem which becomes of greater importance every term.

WOODSLEY HALL

"A SPRING-TERM PARTY"

Woodsley Hall again went to town on the night of Feb. 21st, holding a very novel "Spring Term Party."

The Hall was a masterpiece of decoration, the supper magnificent, and the programme, organised by Ted Wigglesworth, whirlwind.

To Matron, to Ted, and to the Warden, Dr. Chambers, congratulations (and thanks) are due, for a splendidly planned and happy evening.

G. E. OVER.

Personalities

(No. 3)



THE STAFF.

Faculties—not very apparent.

Years—they put them onto others.

Peter Tillott : 1st Year English, but knows more about the University than most people, since he was attached to it for 5 years. Spent the war years travelling in food (since he could not enter the Forces). Brilliant organiser—if everything goes to plan.

William Baines : 3rd Year Physics (God knows why!). Fancies writing, so inflicts plays, articles and chunks of **Union News** on all and sundry.

Trevor Lennam : 1st Year English, ex-Service. Has well-defined ideas, expresses them seldom; when he does, cannot do so in under 5,000 words.

A. Griffiths : 1st Year Arts, Ex-Service. Likes loud clothes, women, and is only miserable when there is nothing to grouse about. Looks like a farmer with aesthetic leanings.

Hazel Townson : 2nd Year Arts. Likes writing and acting—but hates anyone to know. Liable to outcrops of caustic humour.

Margaret Webster : Actress and Medic. Loves work, life, and.....?

Tony Carter : 3rd Year Engineer. Denoted by a fair moustache and sad eyes. Life and soul of everything. Particularly noted for his renderings of University songs.

Tom Vickers : 2nd Year English, ex-Service. Spends much time booting a ball about, for which he has colours. Has fortnightly headache—preparing the Sports Page for **Union News**.

Kathleen Forrest : 3rd Year Soc. Dip. But efficient despite that. Likes everything and everybody—suffers from an infectious laugh.

SPORT

ENGLISH v. SCOTTISH UNIVERSITIES.

Cross-Country.

England 33. Scotland 45, at Leeds.

On a foul 6½ mile course run entirely on roads, English Universities gained a 12 point win over the Scottish Universities. Leeds had two men in the first six: Haw, who won in 36 mins. 33 secs.; and Birch, who ran fifth in 37.55. Day ran instead of Dichen of Birmingham, whose train was snowed up in Sheffield, and ran fifteenth in 41.00. The first six were:—

Haw	Leeds	..	36.33
Kendall	Aberdeen	..	36.49
Parker	Liverpool	..	37.21
Wilson	Glasgow	..	37.49
Birch	Leeds	..	37.55
Boak	Durham	..	38.13

After the event the team entertained itself by having dinner at the Great Northern, by putting someone's car in the Union Building, then they restored their jaded nerves by going to the Rhythm Club Hop.

Leeds Soccer Success.

Leeds University 5—Sheffield 2, at Worksop.

Mill 2, Bishop, Conry, Vickers.

Leeds hopes of winning the U.A.U. Championship this season soared when the University gained a meritorious victory over Sheffield University in the Semi-Final tie, played at Worksop Town Ground, on Wednesday, 5th March. The game had to be played on this date, and the countryside was ransacked for a ground, without success, until Sheffield found Worksop. Even so, conditions were anything but favourable. There were three inches of snow and broken ice on the ground, which was a sheet of ice, and the game was played throughout in a fine drizzle of snow. Sheffield had previously never been defeated, and their attacking method of play demonstrated this, attacking with wing halves as well as forwards.

Prospect—Cricket.

The Cricket Club extends a welcome to old members, freshers and ex-Servicemen. Three teams will be run, and attractive fixture lists have been drawn up. We play Yorkshire C.C.C., Harrogate at the County Ground there, and nine inter-Varsity matches, including the U.A.U. and Christie competitions, which are played by the Combined Cricket Team including the Medics. and Dentals.

The Club has secured the services of Herbert Sutcliffe and Mr. J. H. Nash, the Yorkshire County Secretary, as advisers, and coaching by two Yorkshire cricketers has been arranged. We feel sure that the Club will enjoy a very successful season, and owing to the shortness of the season it is essential to "get organised" as soon as possible. Practise as early as you can and sign the list in the Union.

Practice days are 16th and 17th, 22nd, 23rd and 24th April, and the first match is 26th April.

The Club's Officers will be pleased to give information. They are: G. A. Thompson, Dental, Capt.; K. R. Robinson, Physics, Vice-Capt.; D. J. Cowling, Chemistry, Hon. Sec.; and J. C. Hines, Fuel, Hon. Assist. Sec.

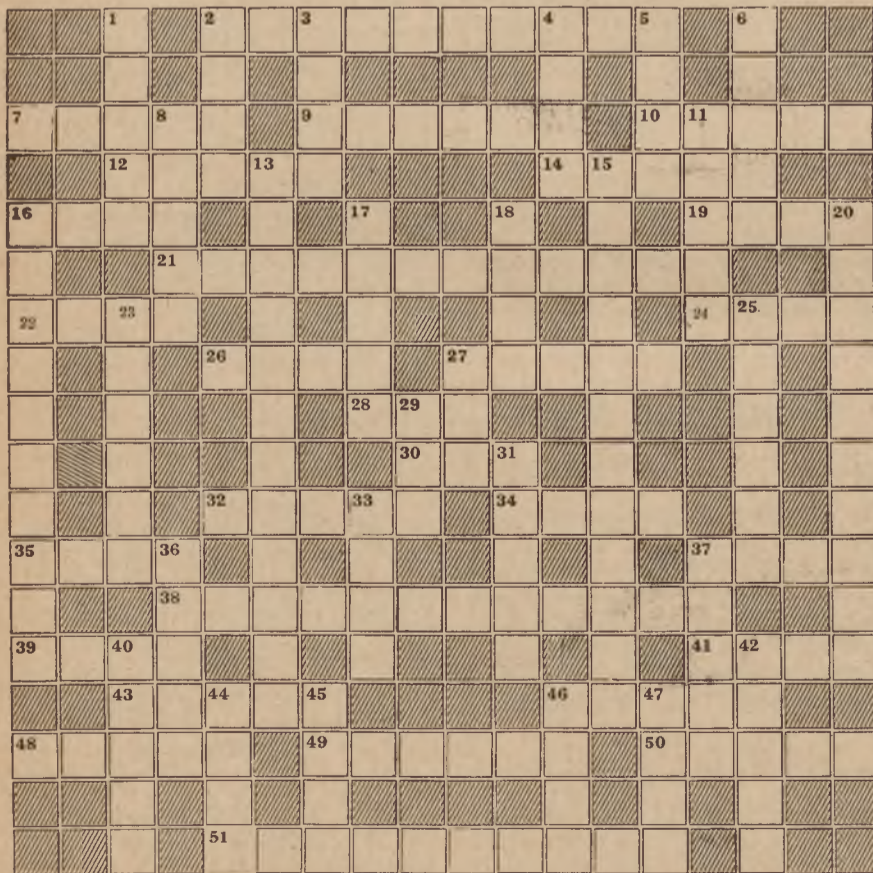
Fixtures.

- March 19th.
- Soccer 2 v. H.H. League team
- March 22nd.
- Soccer 1 v. Birmingham.
- Soccer 2 v. Whitkirk.
- R.U.F.C. (Com.) v. Headingley.
- R.U.F.C. "A" v. R.T.C. Catterick.
- Men's Hockey 2 v. H.M.S. Demetrius.
- March 29th.
- Soccer 2 v. Leeds Albion.
- Staff Hockey v. L. Corinthians.

Bumper Easter Crossword

(No. 9.)

By W.E.J. and D.J.K.



Clues Across.

2. How the tailor describes the giant, in these days of clothes rationing? (10).
7. Applicable to "things that go bump in the night." (5).
9. Are all of us wicked to the end? (6).
10. Turkish mails (5).
12. A railway and twice nothing produce cloth. (5).
14. Frequently a synonym. (5).
16. More uncommon air. (4).
19. Consular privilege. (4).
21. Playing Harry James at small hours in the morning apparently makes the neighbours this. (12).
22. Young Tory? (4).
24. The hour for mad dogs. (4).
26. Egotistical lady. (4).
27. I am needed to make it optional. (5).
28. Mother of twenty-nine. (3).
30. Sweet—and lovely, we hope. (3).
32. Gather in Scotland. (5).
34. No counterfeit coin. (4).
35. Is this how the Egyptian greets his kinsman? (4).
37. Closely connected with hose. (4).
38. Troon Picnics (anag.). (12).
39. Easterly cult. (4).
41. With tea is delicious buttered. (4).
43. Reveille does this. (5).
46. What mad dogs do? (5).
48. Is this magical personality drunk. (5).
49. This is a libel. (6).
50. Rule. (5).
51. "Do you believe in fairies? Well, shout for me!" (two words). (6 and 4).

Clues Down.

1. Usually considered the equal of a young lady! (two words). (1 and 4).
2. Reverse the past. (4).
3. Cutting remarks. (4).
4. Argentine lasso. (4).
5. Send out time. (4).
6. Lancashire town of Hertfordshire river. (5).
8. Donor of a melody. (5).
11. Minus four. (5).
13. Needed to complete the chain. (two words). (7 and 5).
15. A telling foal (anag.). (12).
16. The attribute of "saying nuttin' "? (10).
17. The state of idols! (5).
18. This point is arguable. (4).
20. A despot wishes to become this. (10).
23. Tchaikovsky wrote an overture about one of its citizens. (6).
25. A sudden advance. (6).
27. Bird. (3).
29. Of Balaam. (3).
31. Distribute larva. (5).
33. Pleasant spot in France. (4).
36. Family likeness on coins? (5).
37. Those who do this are blissfully ignorant of the irritation they cause. (5).
40. An unpleasant name, but beloved by children nevertheless. (5).
42. Otherwise. (5).
44. One. (4).
45. Mr. Lane has an urge. (4).
46. "Ye myrtles brown, with ivy never ———" Milton. (4).
47. Siberian sea. (4).