

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. V. No. 6.

Thursday, January 18th, 1951.

Twopence

RAG - FRAY COMMENCES

After half a term of delay the Union Committee, at its final meeting of last term, elected the Rag Chairman for 1951. He is Barrington Black, second year student of Law, publicity manager of the Law Society and impressionist-comper of Rag Revue, 1950.

This year will be The Festival of Britain Rag, and the need for a spectacular effort is greater than ever before. Realising the importance of his task Mr. Black got down to work immediately and gathered together a selection of the finest skivers to be found in this University and the Leeds colleges. Two committee meetings took place, at which many useful and some not so useful ideas were put forward, before Secretary West discovered in his archives that the Rag Committee must be elected to office. Nominations have been called for and operations have been suspended for the time being.

But whatever the result of the elections may be a number of very important matters will face the Rag Committee. First and foremost is a CAST FOR RAG REVUE. Auditions have been arranged for January 25th, in the Social Room at 7 p.m. A large part of the Show has already been written, and what we need now is a first class cast and a really good chorus. So, you muscle bound men and you curvaceous, captivating women, get out your dancing pumps, your false noses, or your corny gags, and let's see you at the Auditions.

TYKE, as usual, will require material — jokes, cartoons, stories, humorous, clean or not so clean. Contributions should be dropped in the Union News box.

PUBLICITY is a vital part of Rag and anyone capable of painting posters or posting same should apply at once. There are dozens of vacancies in all departments and ironically the Rag Office is at present in the Vac. Work den. Anyone with fresh ideas on the subject of extorting from innocent people the maximum amount of money in the shortest possible time will be welcomed with tears of joy. For this year it has been definitely ruled that collecting may take place only on Tyke Saturday and Rag Day itself. A more than ever concentrated campaign is just beginning. Rag needs you—rally round the Rag.

NEW YEAR NEWTS

1951 broke into the Union this year with a flourish. A full scale party-dance sped its way through the early hours of New Year's morning and drivers of early 'buses were amazed to see paper-hatted students blowing hooters and staggering home amid volleys of snowballs at about 6-30 a.m.

Encouraged by the success of a similar Christmas Party a small band of stalwarts worked like madmen to make arrangements for the New Year's festivities. As soon after Christmas as they were sober they set about buying eats for the hungry, laying on drinks for the thirsty, hiring bands for those who wanted to dance, and putting settees in place.

A practically life-size image of Big Ben was built to adorn the stage. This with a cunningly concealed wireless, was to ring in the New Year, but due to someone's tuning to the wrong station, it provided us only with Wilfred Pickles, six pips and God Save the King." Undeterred by this Mike Rennie, who started the morning as M.C.—and no one knows how he finished it—wished everyone a belated "Merry Christmas" and kissed all the girls who were not nippy enough in their side-step.

Merry New Year too.

The Clubmen thereupon burst into a joyful "Auld Lang Syne" and the dancers, as soon as these formalities were finished, retired to the Bar. This institution functioned, under a crafty system formulated by one of our legal community, until 6-0 a.m.

Decorations were not spectacular though the lighting effects lent a warm glow to an atmosphere which varied in temperature according to the number of visits paid to the bar. Opened parasols descended on the crowd in spectacular fashion and looked even more beautiful when seen in early morning light sprouting from the necks of empty beer bottles in the J.C.R.

Fun for the Kiddies.

A wonderful stock of spot prizes was acquired, but some-

how not all of them were given away. Anyone who feels that he merits one of these should apply to Andy Davies, who appears to have absconded with them.

He has available, among other things, a replica of a papoose so lifelike that it complies with the laws of Nature when one

squeezes the back of its head.

From the above it would appear that this was a drinking orgy, which is not strictly true, but it is pleasant to learn that a small profit was made and has been donated to the cost of a wireless set given to Leeds students in Killingbeck sanatorium.

PROGRESS OR STAGNATION

What is the position of the National Union of Students *vis-a-vis* the I.U.S. in view of the recent announcement that a majority of students out of the 31,755 who voted in the national referendum decided that the best interests of the N.U.S. would be served by a severance of relations with the I.U.S.? To readers of the *Times Educational Supplement* I would say that, despite the report to the contrary in that journal, we are still members of the I.U.S.

The relations of the N.U.S. to I.U.S. cannot be changed until the March Council has taken a decision on the matter.

It was made clear at the Liverpool Council by those who sponsored the referendum that they were not intending to circumvent the normal N.U.S. machinery.

In clarification of a point raised by one of the Leeds delegates, it was stated that the referendum was merely to advise the next Council. When we meet in March we must decide whether or not we shall accept the advice given by the vote. Any constituent Union might decide to hold a referendum to mandate its delegates to support the decision of the National Referendum!

Referendum Figures.

The National Council may well choose to ignore the guidance of the referendum, not merely because it is constitutionally entitled to do so, but also because the majority is by no means conclusive; 32% of the members of N.U.S. returned valid papers in the National Referendum, and of these 16% said, in effect, stay in N.U.S., and 14% said get out.

Several big unions boycotted the referendum, and this Union, although participating, expressed its opinion on the matter as follows: "That this Union re-

sents in the strongest possible terms the decision of N.U.S. Council to hold a referendum to determine the attitude of British students to membership of the N.U.S., and instructs its delegates to raise the matter at the next N.U.S. Council."

Where We Stand.

The position, then, is as follows:

(1) We are still members of the N.U.S., and will remain so until Council decides otherwise.

(2) The national referendum is advisory, and its decision has no constitutional status.

(3) The whole matter will be re-discussed at the March Council and there are several courses of action which may be taken between the extremes of full support for I.U.S. and a complete severance of all contacts.

Whatever decision is taken, we hope that it will be reached in a more dignified atmosphere from that which prevailed at Liverpool, where a state of near panic was induced by the Chairman's erroneous statement that there was a constitutional crisis resulting from the threatened resignation of the President and some members of the Executive. It is certain that there will be much criticism of the behaviour of members of the Executive.

It will not pass without comment that certain members of

Continued on Page 4 Col. 2.



Univ. of Leeds
A-0.019

Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18th., 1951

Vol. V No. 6.

Staff and Committee:

Editor - - - - - B. Lund
Sports Editor - - - - - D. Conway
Society News - - - - - J. Peden
Business Manager - - - - - S. H. Denby
Sales Manager - - - - - C. Wolfe

EDITORIAL.

Towards the end of last term **Union News** found itself the subject of much discussion. Some members of the staff objected to our publishing the facts of the Devon raid on Weetwood. The two students who moved an unsuccessful vote of censure on Union Committee objected most strongly to the fact that an editorial be used to express Editorial opinion on matters of importance. The Exec. resigned its position on the Editorial Committee and the Union Committee asked that we should point out emphatically that we are not their official mouthpiece. Sales figures doubled those of last year.

We repent. We have sinned. We have written things intended to stimulate discussion. We have erred into those paths of journalism reserved for newspapers. Our shame is so profound that we would omit entirely the Editorial column were it not for making the **Times** and the **Guardian** feel conspicuous.

So that hostel wardens shall no longer throw out insinuations of irresponsibility so that people who want to wear gowns shall not hear of others who do not, so that those who wish to move votes censure on Union Committee shall have no one to oppose them, so that to suit the S.V.P. we express neither or both sides of a question, we turn over a new leaf. Herewith our Editorial.

Hasn't there been weather lately. There has been rain, snow, wind fog (we apologise for any omissions). Two opinions exist about such weather—favourable and unfavourable. We have not met anyone with the first notion but we feel sure, for the S.V.P's sake, that such people exist. Among those with the second opinion are tram-drivers, Ministers of Fuel and two members of the staff of **Union News**—David Conway, Sports Editor, has pneumonia, and John Peden, Society News Editor has influenza.

Since this is an Editorial we are not allowed to give vent to our own thoughts, and we leave it to our readers, having read both sides of the argument to think out a solution for themselves.

THIS AND THAT

GETTING THINGS STRAIGHT.

Last term it became apparent that a new disease was spreading in the Union. It is called constitutionalitis, and the symptoms are a tendency to carry the Union Handbook about all the time and consult it frequently, and a restlessness at meetings of all kinds leading to much jumping up and down on points of order. Victims of this fell disease are also liable to preface many of their remarks with the words "But according to the constitution." Somewhat disturbed by the prevalence of this disease, the powers that be have decided to appoint a sub-committee to examine the Union constitution and to receive and consider suggestions from members of the Union as to its revision. The main aim is to clarify a number of points, and no large scale changes are anticipated. Suggestions should be sent in to the Union Office by January 20, so that they may be included in the agenda of the A.G.M.

BRIGHTENING UP.

Those who were unable to keep away from the place and came into the Union a few days before the beginning of term were met on arrival by a large notice saying "Wet paint everywhere." This indicated that the Union was being repainted, and those who were accustomed to sliding down the bannisters found that (a) they could not do so, and (b) if they tried, it was rather detrimental for nice new clothes acquired at Christmas. However, the place looks much brighter, and it is hoped that it will be at least a fortnight before the pillars at the top of the stairs begin to show that wonderful black mark at the corner which shows how much people like swinging round things.

ELECTIONS.

This term again sees the elections for next sessions U.C. At the last U.C. Meeting it was decided that the Presidential

candidates will not speak at the A.G.M., because it is thought that it would be just as well if they could be heard this year. Exact dates for everything have not been announced up to press, but the call for nominations for President is going out very shortly.

RAG.

The first meeting of the Rag Committee was held on the last Thursday of last term, and the second meeting on the first Tuesday of this term. In between much back-stage work was going on involving a great deal of pouring through last year's files (if any). Choruses for the Revue are, as usual, needed urgently, and also any contributions to the Revue and to **Tyke** will be very welcome. The other main need at the moment is for typists, preferably ones who can type.

BLOOD-SUCKERS.

January 15th and 16th will be quite bloody. The reason is that the Blood Donor section are taking over the W.C.R. and asking people for a pint of blood each. There is no formality about it—you simply go along and lie down and they fix a tube to your arm and then you are given a cup of tea to help you to recover. There is no other reward except the glory. Although of course one can build up a wonderful line out of it, and you might even be able to get people to give you things and do things for you on the excuse that you are feeling weak.

TIME, PLEASE.

On entering the Union library a few days ago, it was observed that the clock there which had said 2-20 for the last three years had vanished. So far it has not returned, and a dim hope is growing that it is actually going to be put right. Further developments are awaited with bated breath.

PETE.

DIARY

If the Engineers live up to their usual standard the Spring Term should get away to a flying start with the Engineers' Ball, to be held to-morrow.

Turning to more serious matters the University Sermon this Term will be on Sunday, at 11 a.m. in Emmanuel Church, and will be given by the Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, The Rev. T. R. Milford, M.A.

There is quite an assortment of talks and lectures, too, to which attention should be drawn. On January 22nd, Prof. J. Butt will speak to the English Society—his subject, "Dickens at Work." Prof. J. Proudham, of Liverpool, will lecture on "The Deep Circulation of the Atlantic Ocean," on the same day, in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre, at 5-15 p.m.

Friday, January 26th, will be Republic Day for the Indian Association. Dr. J. T. Sheppard, Provost of Kings' College, Cambridge, is to continue the series of University Lectures, his subject being "Shakespeare and Greek Poetry," on the same day at 1-45 in the Great Hall.

The Musical Society opens its activities this term with the presentation of operas by Mozart, Vaughan Williams and Purcell, in the Riley-Smith, from Monday, January 29th, to Thursday, February 1st. These will begin in the evenings at 7-30 and there will be an extra performance at 2 o'clock on Wednesday. Also on Monday, 29th, Dr. F. Fraser Darling will give a talk entitled, "Wild Life Conservation with special reference to the Highlands," in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre at 5-30 p.m.

The Natural History Society have arranged a talk on January 30th, to be given by Prof. Good, of Hull University College, who will take as his subject "A Recent Visit to the Persian Gulf."

FOREIGN NEWS

The Scottish Union of Students has decided to remain in I.U.S. This decision is couched in very definite terms in the motion on the subject, which was carried by 14 votes to 9 at the recent Council meeting of S.U.S. The Scottish students declare a firm belief in freedom of opinion and mean to have their say even though they may have a very small minority in I.U.S.

A serious situation has been produced in the University of California by the introduction of a "loyalty oath" for members of staff. This has resulted in 55 professors being purged for refusing to sign the oath, this in its turn has caused the abandonment of 50 classes, which is at the present time embarrassing many of the research students. Looking round our University, one could think of several departments that would cease to exist if such an oath were introduced here, "hope breathes eternal..."

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Bracing News - Or "What the Speaker wore"

The procession slowly made its way along the lower corridor of the Union. There were six of them in all making their way from that end of the corridor normally held sacrosanct for the women students and the President of the Union. One of the six, sure enough, seemed to be wearing the President's robe of office, but who were the other five, dignified in academic garb and yet paradoxically bearing some resemblance to students? Were we witnessing the beginnings of a resurgence of the spirit of law students' week, or was there, as a hint of apprehension in the black-robed figures hinted, some tragedy affecting their life? Perhaps, one thought, the standard of Union coffee had changed or—unhappier thought—the lady by the gate had contracted laryngitis. But no, it was none of these.

The Explanation.

What you should have witnessed by the time you read this is that procession making its entry into the Social Room, where both sides of the House rose as the Speaker walked across the floor to take his seat, followed by the Clerk to the House and front-benchers on either side. Yes, a vote in Union Committee has decided that debates be formalised. Principal speakers are to be robed in academic dress as befits their eloquence and learning (and, we pray, their wit); the House is to rise at the entry and departure of the Speaker as befits his office, the

Secretary of Debates, for his sins, is to keep and read minutes of proceedings, and, finally, the House is to move to a division at the close of the debate behind two gentlemen appointed for their honesty and arithmetical powers as tellers for the "Ayes" and "Noes"

An Enlivened Atmosphere.

In this new setting we might hope for a new liveliness in debate. Fingers of derision—followers of Churchill desist!—may be pointed at the "gentlemen opposite;" speakers may find new confidence from having benches behind them and blocks before them, and, perhaps, the bright and perverse, with more wit than convictions, will even propose amendments as standing orders permit. The thrust and parry, the whole tactics of debate with filibustering by members, moving that a speaker be permitted to speak for a further five minutes (cf. standing order 11) and members anxiously scanning benches opposite to decide the right moment to move that "the question be now put" or that "this House now adjourn" as the occasion demand: this you may witness. Under a surfeit of wine and Christmas Pud., this may well be imagination, but it could happen.

By the time that this issue of *Union News* is published one Debate will have already taken place. The next is at Lunchtime on January 23rd, on the motion "That Christianity is the only hope for the World."

The Meds. and Peter Pansy

The Medical Students held their Annual Nurses' Party in the Riley-Smith Hall, on Thursday, December 14th.

Three main attractions were offered—dancing, concert and pantomime, and the bar and extension, in order of demerit.

After an unsatisfactory late start, the concert commenced, with the can-can girls making up for lost time.

Among the most attractive scenes were the dancing fresco, Mike Diamond's ten minutes of wit, and the conjuring tricks manipulated by Mr. Ian Berg.

The panto. started after the

interval. This was a skit on Peter Pan and the mannerisms of the Medical School staff, not forgetting—EDGAR! Principal parts were well played; mention should be made of Captain "Schuck" (Pete Lockwood), Peter Pansy (Jack Blackburn), and the crocodile (Bert Mendelshon).

The evening carried on with rhythmic alternations between dancing and the bar. Unfortunately the band's intervals between numbers were too long; stamping and chorusing filled up the long minutes.

By far the most interesting part from the Union's point of view was the introduction to the dance of bags of gorgeous nurses. A sight such as they produced would cause chaos at any normal hop.

ABOUT IT AND ABOUT

Dear Sir,
With reference to your issue of December 1st, last, I would call your attention to a letter signed A.A.A., attacking student art. Are you sure that this pseudonym protects the skin of a student? Even forgetting the infantile content, the expressions and style used were but a paraphrase of the attacks on the impressionists nearly a hundred years ago. Really Sir! this IS a University and we ARE in the twentieth century! I should at least recommend that such nonsense—if indeed written by a student—should be saved for the Rag.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
Richard Courtney.

Dear Sir,
It was only with great reluctance and after searching every alternate method, that we decided to raise refectory prices

to meet our annual deficits. Previous losses have been made good by use of a reserve fund—this no longer exists. We refused to consider a reduction either in the quality or quantity of food provided, and as no large-scale economies were possible under the present two-refectories system the increase of 2d. per meal was unavoidable.

The committee did, however, discover certain small economies which will be put into operation immediately. The elimination of avoidable waste by students would help. We hope to reduce the length of queue at the extension by introducing a supplementary pay-box at rush times for students able to tender correct money.

We will be glad to consider at all times any suggestions for the improvement of refectory service.

Yours faithfully,
Reginald D. Fox.
Joint Sec. University
Catering Committee.

G. W. SURVEY

One of the most valuable facilities of the Union, caf. and Mr. Large excepted, is the Grants and Welfare sub-committee. Once again they must be congratulated on a piece of good work, this time for the Freshers. They have issued to all first year students a very well set-out questionnaire accompanied with an explanatory letter.

The letter points out that the sub-committee wishes to gather information on which to base the Union's attitude to the future grants policy of the Ministry of Education and Local Education Authorities. This is very desirable because with the end of the Further Education Training Scheme there is a possible danger of a general reduction of grants on the grounds of economy. It is for this reason that the committee are trying to find if the present situation is satisfactory or if any cases of hardship do exist because of the close-fistedness of any particular authority.

In the case of many Union activities apathy tends to ruin the efforts of others, so in this instance it cannot be over emphasised that only by 100% support can the committee gauge the financial position of students and thus DO something to improve matters where necessary. It's up to you Freshers, fill the form in NOW and return it to the ballot box in the entrance hall. If it doesn't help you personally it may help somebody else, so don't forget.

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IS THE UNION HAUNTED?

By Our Engineering Correspondent.

Wierd groans and clankings heard at dead of night in the Union have at last been traced to a number of ghosts assiduously rehearsing for the Engineers' Ball. For tomorrow a mysterious metamorphosis will overtake the Union, and the noble halls of Castle Lewytte will emerge glorious and hell-haunted to entertain those who have the good fortune to get a ticket.

Twelve o'clock. The bards and minirels twang on their instruments. These still capable of mounting the stairs do so. Midnight at Castle Lewytte... who would not be there? You probably, we regret to say, for numbers are still limited to 350 couples and until we get a bigger Union the Engineers' Ball will have to remain an unrealised pleasure to many of our friends.

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LET'S GO TO THE PICTURES

January 22nd—27th.

TOWER

Annie Get Your Gun (U),
Betty Hutton.

TATLER

"Pagliacci" (A),
Tito Gobbi.

HEADINGLEY

North West Mounted Police
(U) Gary Cooper.
Prelude to Fame (U),
Jeremy Spenser.

CARLTON

The Gunfighter (A),
Gregory Peck.
Dance Hall (U),
Petula Clark.

CAPITOL

Rogues of Sherwood Forest (U)
John Derek.
Nancy Goes to Rio (U),
Jane Powell.

MAJESTIC & SCALA

Union Station (A),
William Holden.

January 29th—Feb. 3rd.

TOWER

Devil's Doorway (U),
Robert Taylor.

TATLER

HEADINGLEY

Seven Days to Noon (A),
Barry Jones.

CARLTON

Rogues of Sherwood (U),
John Derek.
Shadow of the Eagle,
Richard Green.

CAPITOL

Cargo to Capetown (U),
Broderick Crawford.
Winchester 73 (U),
James Stewart.

MAJESTIC & SCALA

Harriet Craig (A),
Joan Crawford.

Progress or Stagnation

Continued from Page 1 Col. 4.

the Executive, and the Senior Treasurer, found no difficulty in advocating that the Referendum should be financed from N.U.S. reserves, although at the same Council they had opposed the appointment of a Grants and Welfare organiser on the grounds that finance was not available. We await with interest the receipt of a financial statement of the cost of the referendum. We shall then be able to judge the extent to which this unprecedented adventure, the results of which are so inconclusive, has inhibited the work of the National Union in other directions.

A Week of Culture

The vast majority of the 600 students who attended the third N.U.S. Arts Festival left Bristol culturally inebriated. Confused by such a varied and concentrated week of drama, music, poetry readings and marionettes, they faced with relief the duller aspects of another term's work. The Arts Festival Review says: "This Festival has not been a Festival, it has been a passive exhibition of talent." Drama and music discussions were perhaps the most successful and beneficial of the numerous activities. Any student had the opportunity to ask the producers questions on their particular interpretation of the play; and many constructive ideas were exchanged. A fact discovered through these discussions was the difficulty of presenting a play on such a big stage as the one at the Bristol's Students Union.

Student Productions.

Loreas' Spanish tragedy, "The House of Bernada Alba," performed by The Royal Holloway College and Chekov's "Proposal," were the two best productions of the week. The former was very tense and through the sustained tension the reality of the tragedy of the six daughters of the House of Bernada was conveyed to the audience. For 40 minutes the Bristol Union was rocking with mirth as University College of London performed with verve and tremendous energy "The Proposal" in contrast to Sophocles' tragedy "Antigone," which preceded it.

Other Aspects.

The concerts also played a leading part, with choirs from various Universities, and new

Nothing Barred

The Lunch Hour, which begins at approximately 5¼ minutes past twelve, and ends at 1-56, may be profitably spent in a number of ways. Some folk use it for eating, some for filling little squares with long letters, others for trying to find people they know. But amidst all this strife and turmoil there is one haven of rest, of companionship. I refer, of course, to that seat of learning, the BAR. Apart from the selling of heavy water, ham sandwiches and other potentates, it appears to exist for another purpose. A **Union News** reporter was sent down there, and posing as a connoisseur of lemonade he recorded the following:

Just as I was walking along, minding my business I happened to bump into some biddy, and from out of his sleeve fell the King of Diamonds and the Ace of Spades. This caused me to look around, and I saw many a strange sight. The Barman summed the situation up, with that vividness of phrase developed by his profession as being like a "b— Casino here at Dinner Time."

Boys and Girls Come in to Play.

At circa 12 o'clock, a steady stream of landed gentry, wend their way slowly up to its portals. They are equipped with every game under the sun, and a lot that aren't. Here may be seen the noble art of Shove Halfpenny, played with any number of people, and any number of coins except halfpennies. Here, too, through the smoke of half-deserted cigarettes three people may be discerned searching valiantly for a fourth to make up a game of Bridge. Bidding is high, and those aspirants who think they can bid 2d. a 100, must be sorely shaken, for 2½d. is the minimum. A game bearing the singular name of Solo, and which I learn as nothing to do with the National Eisteddfod, is also in full swing.

I had not the valour to ask four South Korean looking gentlemen, sitting on the floor under the shade of a table what they were playing. It seemed from a distance that the game had its origins deep in the folklore of Egypt. Near at hand other more interesting phenomena were to be observed. There was a gentleman reading a little book entitled, "How to play Back-gammon in six easy lessons and four hard ones." Here let it be stated that he was not smoking a Church Warden Pipe. One of the most interesting games, however, is "Pro Bono Public House," which means who is to pay for the drinks to-day? It has the advantage that any number can play it, and the only equipment you need is a double-headed penny, or a marked pack of cards. Played with this is another game. That of seeing how much of the other person's liquor you can drink without him knowing.

Field Events.

Behind the wooden curtain more harmless activities prevail. One of the games consists of hitting a small ball with a big bat at the opponent's face; points are scored if the ball lands on the table. One has to even pay to participate in this diverting activity! There is also a dart-board, matches are played *inter alia*, and the winner, I think, takes the darts away and hides them.

Women and Song.

On Saturday Night these activities are banished, for this is the time when the 27 Musical Societies meet. All the Anthems are taken from the "Engineers' Manual of Folk Songs," which I regret to say still remains unpublished. Each choir has found a better method than singing in unison, and that is to sing in opposition to each other. The Chorus Masters have been grounded in the appreciation of Music and the knowledge of the basic principles thereof, in that renowned institution THE TUNBRIDGE. An interesting addition to the Bar would be a barrel organ. No doubt a monkey could be found after consultation with the Engineers, or failing that a piano minus notes. A useful acquisition when one considers that A.G.M. is to be held this term. So if you want to play or sing come to the Bar Jim come to the Bar.

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At 5-15 p.m. one Tuesday evening Socritess' understudy made her way towards the Great Hall where the Ballet Club performs its weekly antics. Skillfully avoiding all invitations to take an active part in the proceedings herself, she sat upon the platform and gazed with eager and absorbing eye upon the bare toes which the enthusiasts waggled in happy abandonment. Perhaps she had expected something in the way of frilly skirts and ballet tights (*vide* the Club poster), together with a whirligig of hands and feet, but despite the lack of these she was not disappointed in the evening's entertainment.

Miss Clare Sumner, who travels every week from Manchester, ably led the class in some loosening up exercises and a few simple basic steps. There is little of the strictness and precision of the classical ballet in this modern method, and the gestures seem freer and more spontaneous. We are looking forward to seeing their display in the demonstration to be given some time in February, under the auspices of the Physical Education Department.

£ s. d.

Although Union Societies no longer organise the Saturday Night and the occasional Wednesday Night Socials they are still to derive financial benefit from them. The Union Committee has decided that the 1/9 or 3/6 which you pay—according to financial and matrimonial circumstances—will go into a fund from out of which it is proposed to finance Societies.

The Hon. Student Treasurer, Mr. Khusro, states that all Societies whose Secretaries apply for a grant will be suitably reimbursed. There is to be no discrimination between Societies, all are equally entitled to financial assistance, the sum received by each, depending upon the amount each Society receives in subscriptions, the number of members, and activities of the Society. It is understood that the Society, commonly known as the Loyal Sons of Intemperance, is not to apply for official financial support.

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LEEDS, 2

SOCIETY NEWS

Labouring under great difficulties "Society News" this week has struggled to appear without the invaluable help of Socrites and Socritess, who are both incapacitated with 'flu (which, surprisingly enough, they did not catch from each other—so they say!), and so the editorial eyeshade has temporarily passed to Socrites' "Alter Ego," who sympathises with the 'flu victims and attempts to produce this page in accordance with their true spirit of enquiry.

In the last edition we offered to all Societies valuable advertising space on this page free of charge. Repeating this unique offer we invite secretaries to send to the **Union News** office details of meetings to be held by Societies. Remember that a week elapses between copy day and publication day, so don't send details of a meeting that will have been held by the time that the announcement appears. Communications should be addressed to Miss B. M. Walker. Several Societies have already taken advantage of this offer and their reports appear on this page.

Operas & Things

The Music Society will provide an interesting study in contrasts at the end of this month, when it presents Vaughan - Williams' "Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains," scenes from Purcell's "Fairy Queen," and Mozart's "Bastien and Bastienne," in the Riley-Smith Theatre, from January 29th to February 1st.

The neglect of the "Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains," with its delightful orchestrations and haunting, if rather fragmentary melodies, must be attributed, not so much to its shortness but to its difficulty. Its neglect is undeserved. For here is dramatic writing for male voice ensembles, two attractive parts for female voices, interesting melodies for flute, oboe and harp, and to end the opera, an exhilarating song of praise from the shepherds, joined by a "celestial" choir of female voices off stage. It is a work which should be performed frequently.

Like the Fairy Queen, which is comparatively well known, "Bastien and Bastienne" has not suffered too acutely from neglect, for although it was written when Mozart was twelve it is neat, concise, amusing and attractive. The lovers Bastien and Bastienne, quarrel and are reconciled by Dr. Felsé, who "deals in spells" and within this slight framework Mozart writes pathetic little melodies which are to lead to such arias as that of the Countess in "Figaro." He writes lively melodies which are to be developed to the "buffo" aria of his later operas, and he even gives a hint, in the duets, of the mastery which is to be shown in the ensemble writing in "Figaro," "Cosi Fan Tutte" and "Don Giovanni." It is a charming little work, easy to sing, to play and, what is perhaps most important, delightful to hear.

Inter-Bar Warfare

The following paragraph recently appeared in the **Yorkshire Evening Post**: "One bright spot in Leeds in these days of shortages and cuts is a Headingley hotel, which has introduced the pre-war custom of serving snacks at lunchtime.

The dinner-hour customer is now offered cheese, biscuits and pickles—all on the house—to be washed down with good ale."

This seems one step forward from the system in the Union Bar. Any wandering student discovering the whereabouts of this benevolent hostelry and communicating that knowledge to us will receive our eternal blessing.

Scots 'Wha' Ha!

Although most Societies, at the time of going to press, had not commenced their activities for the term, the Scottish Dance Society were hard at it again the first day of term. Many of the members, in fact, looked as if they had not stopped dancing throughout the Vac. but, had been continually practising eight-some reels around their New Year trees with the assistance of one kilt, one set of bagpipes and one pair of sturdy limbs and employing as dancing partners six haggises (what the hell is the plural of this word?) and one large piece of sandstone (origin obscure).

Let it be recorded that we admire their enthusiasm.

ECHOES

A little dicky bird with a medical sort of mind has whispered in our ears a tale that the Medics. intend to carry on the raggings initiated by the Engineers and continued by the Lawyers. Date of the proposed lunacies is not yet fixed, but is not likely to be in the near future since in March an air of gloom associated with exams. descends on Lower Tonbridge Street.

Floreat Chaucer etc.

This year's English Society Dinner was preceded by the presentation of two short Nativity plays in Emmanuel Church. The plays, translations of York Miracle Plays, were received by a large audience of staff and students with obvious appreciation.

The dinner passed off quickly and merrily (although even sherry and white wine could not quite hide the fact that we were eating steak and kidney pudding instead of turkey) and the speeches that followed were witty, and of a length admirably suited to the occasion.

Later, all restraints forgotten, the company retired to enjoy a few hours unstinted merriment and to be entertained by some amusing sketches by first and third year students. Particularly amusing was an original sketch, produced by the Freshers, entitled "Shakespeare or Bacon," which was far from being an intellectual discussion upon the merits of these two poets; and also a very entertaining poem presented with profound apologies to Mr. T. S. Eliot.

The evening ended with some rousing Christmas carols led by Devon residents—who lustily and melodiously (?) rendered the First and we hope (from them) the last Nowell. The party eventually broke up, taking away with them memories of a very happy evening.

A Week of Culture—Contd.

compositions by students were greatly appreciated.

Marionettes and poetry readings gave a wider aspect to the value of the arts. Few colleges offered paintings and those shown were not a good representation of what might be expected.

Socially the Festival was not quite so successful, because members of different Universities and Training Colleges tended to cling together. This disappeared on New Year's Eve and the last night's party, when the students really did enjoy themselves!!

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CONGRATULATIONS

—To Peter Bayles and Harry Sharratt, selected to play for the English Universities XI against the Welsh Universities at Aberystwyth on 23rd January.

—To Johnny Noton, David Jagger, and Ray Cross, selected for the English Universities XV v. Scottish Universities at Hawick on January 6th; also to Ernest Purvis and Brian Parsons, who played during the Welsh tour.

—To Roy Groom, selected for the U.A.U. Hockey team v. Cheshire County and South African Universities on Saturday, 27th and Sunday, 28th January.

It is a long time since Leeds was so well represented in U.A.U. teams, and I feel sure that the list for this year is by no means complete.

Whatever the explanation everything seems to indicate an improvement in the standard of athletics at Leeds University. It is long overdue and I feel convinced that this is only the beginning, for all Club captains are of the opinion that the gap between 1st and 2nd teams is decreasing every year. This year's Freshers have certainly given of their best and prospects are promising for a few years to come.

Motor Club Rally

This will be run on the night of January 27th/28th, starting at the Parkway Hotel at 8 p.m. The course is 100 miles in the West Riding and the first man home should arrive at 2 a.m. There are six controls indicated by map references and the route in between them is optional. All kinds of fun is in store for competitors, including a game of golf near midnight and an early morning quiz.

Future Announcements.

1. Jan. 18th, 5-30 p.m. in the Union Committee Room—A Special General Meeting.
2. Jan. 25th, Road Safety lecture and a Film Show at 7-30 p.m., in the Women's Common Room.

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EDITORIAL.

According to Mr. Large the number of people using the billiard room runs into hundreds per week. Considering this, it is surprising that a billiard or snooker championship has never taken place, but that does not mean it can't take place.

The **Union News**, always to the fore in Union life, has decided to sponsor a snooker championship during this coming term. The responsibility of arrangements has of course fallen on the Sports staff, who can no doubt bear it, but if a few volunteers would like to come forward to help with the running of it they would be very welcome.

If it's not too late may I wish the readers of this page (both of you) a successful New Year in all their sporting activities and may I thank the Club Secs., who were so helpful last term. Keep it up. D.C.

CHRISTIE—HOPES & PROSPECTS

When I was asked to write this article my immediate reaction was to refuse. The last article I wrote on these lines contained a prophecy inspired by a then unbeaten Hockey Club. Our very next game—a U.A.U. fixture against Durham—ended in an overwhelming defeat by 4 goals to 1. The Sports Editor, however, repeated his request for this article—I'm in the clear!!

There can be no doubt about our hopes in Christie games—we hope to win. These games are more than just inter-Varsity games. There is about them the keenness of a Leeds v. Hunslet, or, Barnsley v. Rotherham game; they are played in the best "derby game" traditions.

The Christie Competition is confined to the Universities of Leeds, Liverpool and Manchester, all of which in the not so distant past, were merely colleges in the old Victoria University. Manchester University was originally Owens College—hence the now strange sounding cry of encouragement "Up Owens." The competition is further restricted to definite branches of sport, including Soccer, Rugby, Cricket, Tennis, Golf, Athletics, Cross-Country, Rifles, Boxing and Fencing. With the exception of the last two the competitions, unlike the U.A.U. competitions, are decided on a home and away basis, the trophies being held (by the winners) for a period of 12 months. To clear up much of the present-day confusion—a competition is NOT a Christie unless a Christie trophy is awarded to the winners.

The present session finds Leeds in a promising situation, particularly in the winter games. In the course of the first term the Soccer Club, playing at home to Liverpool and Manchester, drew with the former and defeated the latter. This gives them 3 points out of a possible 4. We await with interest the result of their away games during the present term. Incidentally, the keenness of the competition is evidenced by the fact that Peter Bayles and Harry Sharratt are seriously considering refusing their invitation to play against the Welsh Universities, in order to play in the Manchester return game, which unfortunately falls on the same date.

Johnny Noton's Rugby team probably has an even better record having defeated both Manchester and Liverpool on their grounds! Prospects in this Club are particularly bright. The return games at Weetwood should be well worth seeing.

The Cross-Country Club have already won the Christie for the present session, while their 2nd team completed a good day by winning the Junior Christie.

Of the other Clubs the Basket Ball team has won its equivalent of the Christie, while the Men's Hockey, with an away victory over Manchester and a draw with Liverpool is in a reasonable position. These Clubs, however, do not participate in genuine Christie competitions.

So much for the results up to the present time. Regarding the Summer Clubs I prefer NOT to prophesy, but merely to amplify my earlier statement: "We ALWAYS hope to win a Christie." R.G.

LEEDS
SNOOKER
CHAMPION ★

IT CAN BE YOU.

The UNION NEWS staff are arranging a Snooker Championship in the Union.

For further details buy the next issue of the
UNION NEWS

Ticket Mystery Explained

Many criticisms and commendations of the new hop-ticket system were passed on Saturday night. Before passing final judgment, we invite you to consider the following explanation submitted by the Entertainments Secretary:

Saturday Socials or survival of the fittest. It is in the spirit of fair distribution and not cussedness that has motivated the constant changes in the methods of sale for Saturday Social tickets.

Now yet another system has been evolved, a system that will with your co-operation satisfy if not please everybody.

Considering the almost unprecedented popularity of socials, the problems are, to ensure that Union members have first claim on tickets for a Union Social, to provide for a more equitable distribution of the sexes, and to permit a member to bring an outside partner if he or she so desires, without the Riley-Smith being swamped by non-members.

Obviously any system will be awkward and unwieldy if it is to fulfil the above requirements.

The proposed scheme has been given careful consideration and with your co-operation will prove quite workable and reasonably simple.

There will be 200 women's tickets and 300 men's divided into supper and non-supper.

There will be a number of double tickets, the number to be fixed when the demand is more accurately known, it will probably be in the region of 150. The various Women's Colleges in Leeds and the Nurses' home will receive 50 tickets. All students with single tickets must produce a Union card. Students with double tickets must show their Union card and sign in their guest.

It is pointed out that the above figures will be changed if it becomes obvious that they are quite wide of the mark.

BEER!

TETLEY

LEADS

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