

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. II, No. 9.

Thursday, March 11th, 1948.

Twopence.

LEARNING AND SPENDING

INCREASED COST of LIVING and THE STUDENT

At a meeting held on the 24th February in the R.S.H. to discuss the effects of the increased cost of living, Mr. W. Foster stated that last year there had been an obvious rise in the cost of living (estimated at 10%), which affected the student population, especially those students in receipt of F.E.T.S. and Scholarship grants. The present position was that the ex-Service students had a maintenance grant based on the cost of living in October, 1946, whilst the Scholarship student was still based on the pre-1946 cost of living index.

The grants and fees committee of the N.U.S. had therefore arranged to see the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education. Mr. Hardman agreed with the statements, but pointed out that maintenance grants were based on the recommendation of the Scholarships Committees of Universities, and the Ministry were not in a position to award such increases without suitable recommendation from these committees.

LEEDS ACTION

The British Legion and the Grants and Welfare met the Vice-Chancellor, who promised to raise the subject with the scholarships committee, to recommend that F.E.T.S. and scholarship grants should be based on the cost of living and that Honours students visiting foreign countries as part of their degree course should receive an additional grant to enable them to do so.

The Association of University Teachers, Leeds Branch, have approved the Grants and Welfare recommendations:—

1. All awards should be based on a Ministry of Education scale, which should also apply to non-University courses, e.g., at Technical colleges.
2. There should be additional provision for adult students.
3. The Ministry should be kept up to date and base grants annually on recommendations from an assessment board, which should include one student member.

HOUSING

Mr. MacLeod of the British Legion said that financial help had been given to students whose grants had been assessed, but whose cheques were delayed, and to students whose grants were not sufficient to cover extra expenses. During the meeting with the V.C., Mr. MacLeod had presented a summary of the outstanding housing problems as they affected ex-Service students, and the V.C. had stated that although there was a shortage for staff use he would try to assist.

LONG TERM POLICY NEEDED

Explaining the rôle of the campaign committee for the expansion of higher education, Harold Parker pointed out that the Grants and Welfare committees had a short term policy, but that a long-term policy was required. A greater university population was needed in this country to meet the growing demand of graduates, especially teachers and scientific workers. To make this possible the expansion of existing universities and the building of at least one new university, closer co-operation between technical colleges and universities and an increase in the number of awards of State and County scholarships were advocated.

The National Campaign Committee was set up last October and amongst its immediate aims were that there should be full maintenance grants for all students, and that, as the F.E.T. Scheme becomes obsolete, the monies should be re-allocated to scholarships. Regional campaign committees had been established and Mr. Parker appealed to all students to support the campaign committee in future activities.

St. JOAN

Theatre Group has never lacked courage; after the strenuous exertions of last term, it would have seemed wiser to produce a play a little less difficult than George Bernard Shaw's "St. Joan." However, the Committee forgot any qualms it might have had and David Coombs was allowed to go ahead with the extremely ambitious production.

Sitting through the first scenes we began to realise that ambition is no substitute for good production. Lighting was poor, costumes were of dubious period, and the actors were far too often allowed to shout in a strident monotone. Wit and pungency so carefully provided by the author were lost amid the general sound and fury.

After the interval it seemed as if a blessed miracle had been performed and we were watching a play instead of a series of noisy charades. Thankfully we settled down and listened to the Inquisitor's speech, impeccably delivered by David Vicars. Hugh O'Hara's Chaplain and David Coombs' Cauchon were adequate foils to this frigid Inquisitor. Heather Mill a small figure to withstand the blasts of clerky learning and mediæval dogmatism, showed enough spirit to convince us that she was quite as capable of leading an army to victory against the "Goddams" as she was of dying for her Voices.

Colin Archer's Dauphin was a delight to watch and for three long stretches he carried the play on his slight shoulders. Brother Martin, played with warmth and humanity by Mick Smith, gave us a glimpse of the Church which contrasted with that other side revealed by Richard Hinton's portly Archbishop. R. E. Morgan as the Earl of Warwick had all the presence of a professional soldier fighting shrewdly for his class.

Backstage organisation was of the same high unobtrusive standard which has been associated with other Theatre Group shows.

Catholic Students' Congress

About 100 members of the Union of Catholic Students from a dozen Universities met at Leeds during the last week-end in February for a conference on "The Student and the Moral Law." The subjects set for the discussion groups give some idea of the range of topics covered— "Is War Justified?"; "God and the Atom"; "Atheism"; "Church and Politics"; "Birth Control and Abortion"; and "Divorce." The aim of the conference one might say, was to give Catholics an opportunity to rethink the basic principles of the moral order as defined and commented on by the Church, and to apply them to the particular problems of to-day.

It was interesting to compare this conference with the Christian Movement conference held in Westminster this year. Discussion began on a different level and the approach was by the humbler road of tradition. There was more deference to the opinions of past thinkers and to revealed truth.

The speakers: Fr. Redman on "The Student and the Local Society," Fr. Andrew Beck on "The Moral Order" and "Ends and Means," Prof. Brockman on "Medicine and the Moral Law," and Prof. Wortley on "The Nature of Man in English Law," required hard thinking of their audiences, and the discussions and questions which followed showed that the audience had responded. All emphasised the seriousness of the present attitude towards morality. Prof. Wortley's lecture showed that English law was essentially Christian and compared its working with actual examples from Nazi Germany. The tradition of English law is obviously one we must preserve and implement.

The conference was not only concerned with our intellects. There was Benediction on a Saturday and Sunday evening, daily Mass and an academic High Mass at St. Anne's Cathedral on Sunday at which the Bishop of Leeds pontificated. A social was held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, the Saturday social being public. The visitors were appreciative of the arrangements made for them by the Leeds Catholic Society. Miss Pamela Griffiths in particular put much hard work and good humour into the conference.

M.B.A.

Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11th.

1948.

Vol. II. No. 9.

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EDITORIAL.

This issue is the last of this term and as it goes to press one tends to think back over past issues and, more important, to think forward to the future. Next term will see only two issues, one before the examinations and one after. Reasons for this are, we think, fairly obvious. The staff of the paper, like everyone else, have to justify their continued existence at the University by proving to singularly hard-hearted examiners that they have sipped wisely, if not voraciously, of the waters of academic knowledge. **Union News** will, in common with other Union activities, enter the pre-examination doldrums.

Looking forward beyond next term another factor emerges. The paper will be produced next Session, but it will probably be under a new Editor and, to a large extent, a new Staff, for of the present Editorial board some will have "gone down" whilst others will perhaps not wish to continue as members. In any case an influx of new Staff will be required for the Session 1948-49, and whilst it may seem early yet to think of such matters, we believe that an appeal for new blood is necessary.

Students who feel interested in helping to produce next Session's **Union News** are therefore asked to submit their names to the Editor so that at the paper's Annual General Meeting (to be held next term) they may become members of the new Editorial Staff for 1948-49.

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

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

Subscription rates: 3/- per annum, post free.

This and That

UNION NEWS.

We're warning you. If you do not carry your Union Membership card around with you you may find yourself unable to get into Union functions, especially Socials and Dances. It has all arisen from persistent petty thieving from the Cloakrooms. The Exec., trusting implicitly in the honesty of students, believe this is largely due to odd outsiders who are making a habit of gatecrashing Union affairs. Therefore, starting from next term, you are likely to be stopped and asked for your card and, unless you can give very satisfactory proof of your identity, your night of dancing will come to an abrupt conclusion. However, as they are at pains to point out, it is for your own good.

UP THE POLL.

To-day the elections are for the Senior and Junior Vice-Presidents, positions which surely merit as much attention as the Presidential election since the latter in particular is almost always a strong possibility for next year's President. With four candidates for the first and three for the second there is an air of healthy competition. Again proportional representation is used and if anyone is sufficiently interested in this mathematical masterpiece of election method, and would feign understand it, let him approach the office for a copy of the rules and regs.

MARDI GRAS.

Among the proposals lightly bandied to-and-fro at recent Union Committee get-togethers is the intriguing one that U.C. members ought to wear badges. Apparently there are still students who cannot recognise or who do not know Committee members and, whilst we think that such a blissful state is devoutly to be defended against an outrageous world, there are those who think that students should know their representatives. Suggestions so

far received include bowler-hats with puce and vermilion stripes for the men and crinolines and Stetsons for the women. The President should wear a monkish habit in saffron satin (Armour for A.G.M's) and the Senior Vice-President a grass skirt and lilies. Well...at least the Union would be brightened.

CUP AND COME AGAIN.

To relieve the strain both on the innumerable individuals who imbibe indeterminate quantities of coffee annually and on the staff behind the Caf. counter, it is likely that J.C.R. and Cafeteria will reverse their functions. With a hatch knocked through the J.C.R. wall into the kitchen and a long counter it should be possible to serve the queue very much quicker, besides providing an increased overall seating at lunch time. And think of the increased turnover for Cafeteria if everyone in J.C.R. sat with a coffee in hand throughout lunch hour!

ET TU BRUTE!

To follow "St. Joan" we hear that Theatre Group has something (else) really big (up their sleeve) for the beginning of next term. The Bradford Civic, one of the best known theatre clubs in the North, are presenting both "The Merchant of Venice" and "Julius Caesar." To make it doubly attractive they are hoping to secure Ernest Milton, the well known West End actor, to play Shylock and Cæsar.

BOUQUETS.

Congratulations to the Fabric staff and the catering firm who have made the Medical Refectory into a first class restaurant. In order to finish the job in the minimum time there has been swinging of hammers and brushing of paint far into the evenings and even on Sundays.

SNOOP.

Union Muse

Forgive my precipitate
 Manner—I'll nip it at
 Once (in the bud),
 If my temper should fall.
 Observe from the phrasing
 I'm blasting and blazing—
 Indeed it's amazing
 I'm writing at all.

I go to the Union
 For coffee (the noonly 'un),
 And yet I'm waylaid
 By a ravenous band,
 Of cranks, politicians,
 Misguided musicians,
 And stern statisticians
 With pamphlets to hand.

Demented news-hawkers all
 Shouting their raucous bawl
 Bid me to buy
 Any rubbish they sell.
 And I, very rightly,
 Refuse them all lightly,
 And add—most politely—
 "Begone! Go to hell."

P.I.P.

Recital

The temperature in the Great Hall must have been higher than that prevailing outside when Mr. Elimson gave a Lunch Hour piano recital on Friday, February 20th.

Mr. Elimson is a brilliant pianist, and brilliance is perhaps an advantage in Mozart's A minor Rondo and the lovelier Chopin studies.

Beethoven's last sonata was the main work, and the slow movement was in very moving contrast to the remainder of the programme, being restrained and delicately phrased.

A strenuous rendering of the G minor prelude by Chopin concluded the recital.

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LEEDS MUSIC.

From Dr. Burney's account of his musical pilgrimage across Europe, one gathers that music was once an even more ill-rewarded profession than it is now. Violinists (whose technical attainments were often higher than that of many amateurs we call "good" to-day) were mere "scrapers." Composers sat at meat with scullery maids. Opera writers were the scum of the earth. For various reasons the musician suffered. There was no copyright law. Almost everyone with whom he had to deal in a professional capacity seemed to be a scoundrel—from publisher to librettist. Worse, however, his education was often a haphazard affair. Seldom had he time to apply himself seriously to other pursuits in which he had an interest—though that learned figure, the padre Martini, was a notable exception.

Music students at Leeds should welcome the fact that they are also required to qualify in subjects other than music. It is more natural and beneficial to study the evolution of a highly complex art in relation to its general artistic, scientific and philosophical background.

Lunch-time Concert.

On February 24th, the Madrigal Group, under the direction of Mr. F. Tomlinson, gave a recital of miscellaneous items. Some drinking choruses composed by the accompanist, Mr. R. Gordon, were soundly treated in accordance with their alcoholic flavour.

P.T.B.

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2/6

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REFRESHMENTS

INTER-VARSITY DEBATE

Was it the snow, or the motion? At 5-15 p.m. the Social Room was deserted, and the six delegates from other Universities began to pack their bags to return home. Eventually, however, mainly due to the efforts of the Union Porter and the paging system (another example of hypnotic suggestion?), about 60 students gathered to hear the opening remarks by Mr. Daggett in the Chair.

Mr. Tomlinson (Glasgow) opened for the Proposition: "Discussion," he said, "is the key to Democracy. Without toleration in Parliament, minorities would be suppressed." He went on to describe Social Security and Planning, as only a means to an end—to abett democracy. Speaking as a Liberal (Mr. Berwin—"Hear! Hear!"), Mr. Tomlinson wanted discussion as a way of building finer individual citizens.

Lip Service and Thuggery.

Mr. Cadogan (Newcastle) explained that parties grew as the "Political expression of a given economic interest or class." Fascism was the final condition of the ruling class, where lip-service to Democracy is replaced by thuggery, and Communism was the governing of the Workers by themselves through the Trade Unions and Workers' Parties. In a classless Society, there would be no antagonism, therefore no need for parties. The ultimate aim of the Communist Party is its own extinction. ("Hear! Hear!")

Miss Hickeson (Sheffield) denied that all men could be equal—their characters depended on hereditary factors and on environment.

Mr. Bassir (Liverpool), in supporting the Opposition, quoted Mr. Churchill and his party as hindering development and progress for selfish interest; "Democracy means a Peoples' Government," he said, "elected to do the will of the majority."

Revolution.

From the floor—Mr. Khusro, in one of the finest speeches heard in the House, showed what the Opposition had achieved in this country. "Revolution," he said, "was all right, provided the party which evolved ruled democratically."

Mr. Jarvis—"There are no Opposition Parties in Russia, and look what a mess she is in."

Mr. Chesner—"There is no party to represent the serfs and barons in this country." (Mr. Jarvis—"There aren't any!"). Mr. Chesner—"Precisely. There are no Capitalists in Russia."

Mr. Hepworth—"There is a large majority of non-Communists in Russia. The parties elected in this country represent not economic interests, but the people that elect them."

Miss Hughson—"Even in a Socialist Society, with no Capitalists, points of difference had to be discussed."

In summing up for the Opposition, Mr. Smith (Durham) advocated a strong united Government, as in war, as the best means of overcoming the crisis. Opposition parties at the moment were more concerned with selfish interests than National Unity. Abolition of Opposition Parties in this country would not mean abolition of opposition, but would ensure free discussion, with the best brains working together.

Masses and Motions.

Finally, Mr. Bayley (Manchester) closed the debate. He said that two fundamental factors were required for democracy—everyone had to take part in the Government, and everyone had to accept legislation. Talk of "Masses" was only by people with fancy dreams. (Mr. Chesner—"Einstein"). The duty of the Opposition was to help the Government, not like the Tories, who had the prime object of returning to power. The Motion was carried by 47 votes to 15.

J.R.

BACH'S MASS

The greatest of praise must be given to the Music Society for their performance of the Bach B minor Mass—one of which the University may well be proud. The chorus deserves a large part of the praise; its quality was quite outstanding and revealed Dr. Allam's expert skill in handling choral works.

In the Sanctus and more particularly the three great choruses of the Credo the chorus and orchestra admirably combined to create the changing moods upon which so much of the Mass's sustained interest depend.

The solo work, whilst being sensitive and often moving, had a general but understandable shortcoming. The soloists had

neither the power nor the clarity to remain always in evidence when accompanied by a large orchestra. Pamela Mellor has a pleasing tone—Roy Bywood sang well in the Benedictus, especially in his lower register. Fred Tomlinson's bass aria "Et in spiritum sanctum" from the Credo was the best solo of the evening, restrained, but with a good feeling for the flowing quality of the melody.

An augmented orchestra led by William Appleyard was always very competent. The artistic success of the Mass has admirably repaid the vast amount of work and collaboration which is necessary to perform so large a work.

M.H.S.

King's Shilling

Now that the Senior Training Corps is to become part of the T.A., it is felt that undergraduates are not fully aware of its future policy. Many advantages are to be gained from the Scheme, whose objects are:—

- To give basic military training to those undergraduates who have had their military service deferred and thereby assist them in reaching commissioned rank early.
- To give military training to those undergraduates who have been studying for regular army commissions.
- In association with the University faculties to give technical training to both deferred and non-deferred undergraduates.
- To further the military education of the ex-service undergraduates who have reached commissioned rank.

Undergraduates are entitled to the rates of pay and allowances made to the T.A., and training is so arranged that it will not interfere with studies.

Attachments and courses to Regular Army Units, Schools and Hospitals are made available during vacations, without cost. The majority of undergraduates who have left the S.T.C. for National Service have attained commissioned rank, and undergraduates with National Service liabilities are, in their own interests, invited to call at S.T.C. Headquarters in University Road.

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"...About it and about"

[The Editor does not necessarily share the views expressed by correspondents.

Will correspondents PLEASE keep letters SHORT.]

Protest

Dear Sir,

As one of the speakers at the S.G.M. of the International Society—22/1/48—I wish to protest against a report on that meeting, published in the **Union News** on 5/2/48, which was one-sided and tendentious, besides being written in an utterly frivolous tone.

The report omitted the fact that no adequate time was given to the Opposition to present their case, the 1—3 minutes allotted being scarcely sufficient. In addition speeches were frequently interrupted by people making counter-speeches from the floor, and that after one such occasion (in my own case) the interrupted speech was not allowed to be continued. I have also a personal complaint against the report. My charges against the Committee of partiality in their selection of speakers on European problems (never adequately refuted) and in the questionnaire they sent around the University last year (never answered at all) were not mentioned in the report, but a mistake made regarding the connection between the I.S. and I.U.S. was mentioned, as well as the "rebuik" of Mr. K. Semple, although I accepted his explanation there and then. The withholding of my name in the report, finally, does *not* alter its tendentious character.

Yours, etc.,

C. J. L. HEU.

Answer

We asked our reporter who covered the story to give his side too. "The question as to whether this report was tendentious is, I think, purely a matter of opinion. I agree that it had a certain note of frivolity, but the job of a reporter is to blend his report of the proceedings with the mood of the meeting. If Mr. Heu's speech

caused much merriment, then that is hardly the fault of the reporter.

Regarding the complaint about time allowed for speaking, Mr. Heu must stand in a category of his own. The majority will agree that Mr. Inebnit was scrupulously fair in his difficult job in the Chair.

Finally, surely Mr. Heu is not suggesting that his points were not adequately answered by the Committee because *he* remained unconvinced. It was the Society's job to judge their adequacy. They did so, and voted 120 in favour of the Motion, with 4 against and 23 abstentions against Mr. Heu and the opposition proposals."

LOUIS CHESNER.

Control

Sir,

A considerable amount of publicity was given in your last issue to the action of the President of the Union at the A.G.M., held on February 12th, 1948. Your publication, Sir, being largely the mouthpiece of the Union Committee, presented the President's case in a very favourable light.

I would, however, wish to draw your attention to the fact that in all probability the majority of members present at that meeting were there to take an interest in the proceedings. The President's inability to "take it" from the rowdy section of the audience prevented many members from taking part in this very important constitutional function.

The Committee must be well aware of the fact that a large number of students would be unable to attend the meeting held on Thursday, February 26th, 1948, due to their necessary attendance at lectures, etc. Certainly the handful present were not representative of the body of over three thousand strong.

Control of the noisy element would have been more expedient, and immeasurably enhanced the President's reputation.

G.F.L.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Far, far more peculiar smells have been pervading the Medical School than are usually to be detected. The Refectory has at last been re-equipped and re-decorated very tastefully in turquoise and buff, with blue plastic table-tops to match. A few bright pictures would complete an admirable piece of work. Popular opinion held that a secret cache of jam-sponge or pre-digested cabbage had been

unearthed during re-tiling operations. Paint, however, is indomitable in persistence and penetration.

Three days of discriminate judgment have declared the standard of cooking to be excellent. We sincerely hope that this is not merely an enthusiastic but evanescent improvement.

Eating may be regarded once more as a pleasurable necessity.

M.H.S.

CHEZ CHEMITEXTILE

This year's Ball has completely disproved that the wool-gatherers and solvent spillers are stagnating in their social life. Although no fantastic pieces of apparatus were littering the Union, remarkable quantities of dilute aqueous ethanol (flavoured to taste) seemed to be on tap from a hypothetical still which must have been concealed in the boilerhouse. While dancers enjoyed themselves in the higher regions of the building to the music of Norman Dixon and his Collegians—a most inappropriate name since they looked so learned—those who were unable to place their feet in the right place, either because they had not learned or because they just could not, were able to enjoy themselves in quiet in the Nite Club in the W.C.R.

A notable feature of the dance was the invitation of the representatives of the Chemical Societies of the neighbouring Northern Universities to show them the social life at Leeds. They went back with a very good impression and several ideas for their own Dances.

Your reporter must comment on the fashions in dress and hair styles. He has never seen such a wide variety of modes used to such good effect, which lent a very non-austerity aspect to the dance. This wide selection led to a considerable amount of head-scratching among the judges of the best hair style; however, the prize of a spray of orchids awarded to Mrs. G. G. Evans met with universal approval.

Adding to taste gay and original decorations, valuable prizes for marathon elimination dances, and a behind-the-scenes organisation which left you to enjoy yourself at your own speed, you have the cocktail which was the reason for the tremendous success of the Ball, a price that would please even Mr. Wigglesworth.

D.P.

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Brief Chronicles

This is the time of the University year when nothing seems to happen. Freshers have long since lost their youthful laughter and the cold shadow of approaching exams. casts a gloom over the convivial coffee. Claims are already being staked in the Brotherton, that marbled mausoleum of light oak and dark learning. Conscience makes degree-chasers of us all, and the words "I *must* do some work" have become standard interjections in all conversations.

These were the thoughts that assailed me as I stood at the bar at the Woodsley Social the other Saturday. Why such unbidden thoughts should have held me at that time I cannot tell, for revelry ran high in that hostel of the "very, very low," as indeed it always does on these occasions. There was good food, dancing, the indefatigable cheeriness of Ted Wigglesworth and the indefinable but quite tangible aura of friendliness that Woodsley always emanates. Alan Over's entertainment was the peak of the evening, and all the comforts and discomforts of hostel life were pitilessly and wittily exposed. The sudden apparition of a somewhat battered Peter Pan (sans Wendy) over the mantelpiece had the right touch of insanity, and the Mikado's legerdemain with a portable laboratory would ostracise him from the company of all scientific purists.

Still They Come.

Multitudinous as are the number of Societies in the Union, there are still students who feel that their especial needs are not being met. Witness the newly formed Labour Society, which has been created for those Socialists who feel that the Soc. is far too Left for comfort. Then there is the projected Rationalist Society, which is to cater for those who have spiritual yearnings and yet feel existing religions have not the answers.

'Tis Merry in Hall . . .

The Inter-'Varsity Debate was perhaps not the success it might have been, but the Delegates forgot their individual differences under the mellowing influence of the Debates Dinner. Meeting afterwards in the President's Room, they compared notes and stories. Leeds was praised for its Union Building, and one of the longest and corniest shaggy dog stories ever was trotted out (all about a farmhouse on Dartmoor, a farmer's daughter and a quite inexplicable flow of visitors with a taste for Kelloggs). One of the Delegates choked in his beer as he heard the one about the Leeds lecturer who gravely assured his class that chemists prefer blondes, believing that where there is Light there must be Heat . . .

INCA.

PARIHEW.

Said David J. Coombs, "If anyone calls at my rooms, Tell them to leave me alone—I'm producing St. Joan."

STUDENTS IN PRAGUE

The action of students in Prague during the recent disturbances has received much publicity. The position as revealed by a series of communiques and reports from N.U.S. and I.U.S. is far from being clear, although it seems unwise to accept at their face value reports which have appeared in the Press. First hand accounts of the situation will be given at the Leicester Congress, by Dr. Thomas Madden, British General Secretary of the I.U.S. and Mr. Derek Slater, English Editor of I.U.S. publications, who are coming over from Prague.

Embassy Statement.

In reply to questions from the N.U.S. the Czechoslovak Embassy on February 26th stated that "Czech students were demonstrating in favour of the National Socialist Party ministers who had resigned. We have no information on the numbers involved. Press reports about shooting of students are untrue. Action Committees had been formed in faculty societies, Universities, etc., and an Action Committee has taken over the Headquarters and leadership of the Czech N.U.S."

I.U.S. will not be affected in any way, since it is not concerned with the internal situation in C.S.R."

Melee.

The *Times* correspondent wrote on 27/2/48: "An official statement has now been issued about the clash that occurred. This says that on the whole the manifestation was orderly and calm. Several groups, however, 'inspired by students,' attacked the police. In the melée a rifle went off and one person was wounded in the leg. Another person was hurt in the leg by a car." On March 1st, he wrote: "It is true that reports abroad of riots and casualties have been much exaggerated. But there have been several clashes between police and students, most of them without serious casualties."

Dismissals.

Madden and Slater in a telegram datelined Prague, 1st March, confirmed these reports and stated: "Professors dismissed not according to parties but activities." I.U.S. work continues normally, and the Secretariat is to issue a report.

Meanwhile Dr. Madden is visiting in prison those students who were arrested during the disturbances, as well as Be-hounek, the student who was accidentally shot.

SOCIETY NOTES

Scout and Guide Club.

On February 11th the Scout and Guide Club heard a talk by Dennis Rogers on the African Scout Jamboree, which had been held exactly a year before. He managed to introduce something of the sunny atmosphere of the Gold Coast into the chilly Card Room by showing films of the beach, the glittering sea, and the busy markets. Emmanuel Tagboto took us inland through dense forests to the grasslands of elephants and buffaloes. He made us envious by talking about the great heat and the fruit. From Mr. Rogers we heard about education and scouting in West Africa. The schools, he said, were run by Missionary Societies, and there were colleges and a University, staffed by Europeans and Africans. Scouting, he said, was growing in the schools. Scout training did not differ from ours, but there was better opportunities for the practical side.

Through this country we travelled in three lorries and three "mammy trucks" for three days, along dusty, bumpy roads to the Jamboree, where the Scouts of Africa met together in friendship. The Camp, which was in the grounds of St. Gregory's College, Lagos, was opened on February 11th, by Lord Arthur Richards, the Governor of Nigeria, who introduced the Chief Scout, Lord Rowe-Allen. The film showed the tribal dances and greetings of this ceremony. The days passed quickly in an excitement of entertainments, swimming competitions, picture shows, visits to the Docks and a tin factory, football matches, and a march through Lagos in which the Gold Coast Scouts excelled, Sports and a great public Camp Fire. On the Sunday morning there were Church Services; the Chief and the Governor attended a Service in the Anglican Cathedral. The theme of the address was brotherhood—the same theme which impregnated the whole Jamboree.

We felt very sorry to leave as we travelled through the grasslands and eventually reached Southampton. But it had been a wonderful experience and we all felt most grateful to Dennis Rogers for sharing it with us.

The Group held a meeting on "Thinking Day," and the last meeting of the term will be an Easter Guest Night on March 11th.

Conservative Association.

Although the Mock Election may be now, for the majority of students, little more than a memory of speeches, pamphlets,

stories of bread-pudding controls and Sousa marches, we make no apology for referring to it, in view of the great Conservative success; the result, indeed, is a stimulus to greater effort. Unfortunately, we were not able to secure "parliamentary" approval for our policy, and we trust that, in any future "session," many more of our supporters will respond to our "whip."

On February 4th, the Association was fortunate in having Mr. Christopher Hollis, M.P., to give an address on Marxism; he pointed out some of the paradoxes at the root of Marxian ideas in a broad review of the topic, showing where Soviet practice deviated from these latter, and stressed that Marxism is often neither original in its concepts nor universal in its implications.

Before this edition is published, the Association is holding its first discussion on Commonwealth affairs which, it is hoped, will be attended by many overseas students, and on March 12th there is to be a meeting concerned with the supremely important topic of taxation. Our membership is still increasing and the Secretary or Treasurer will, at any time, be happy to receive further additions to our ranks.

G.C.F.F.

Communist Party.

The present term has been an extremely busy one for the Communist Party Branch. In addition to giving support to the Socialist Society in the election campaign, a number of meetings have been held, among them being a talk on the Soviet Union by Tamara Rust, editor of *Women To-day*, who was born in the Soviet Union.

The Wednesday lunch-time discussions have been well attended and will be continued next term. All are welcome. In addition a new series of discussion groups have been started in which Arnold Kettle, Ph.D., M.A., has dealt with the social significance of Art. The next of these "Art and Society" meetings will be on March 12th.

And, of course, the Communist Party has kept up its political activity. It is now possible to buy the *Daily Worker* every Monday morning outside the main building, and various pamphlets have been distributed. The Communist Party is making every effort to bring home to students the effects of the Government's policy on their grants, and the disastrous consequences which the cuts in capital expenditure will have on Higher Education. Only a policy which aims at cutting the Forces

to release manpower, and reducing the inflationary tendency by cutting rent, interest and profit instead of wages will solve the crisis. This is the policy for which the Communist Party is fighting. Judging by the anger aroused in certain quarters, some progress is being made.

Spanish Society.

A term of continued activity draws to a close. One of the highlights has been the visit of Sr. Xavier de Salas, of the Institution of Spain in London, who spoke on Goya to a packed audience. The adventures in Spain of two members of the Society have been brought to light by Miss Kelly and Miss Hobdey, who hardly had time to unpack before they were addressing the Society in polished Castilian.

The long-delayed visit of Miss I. Macdonald, of Cambridge, allowed students of all Faculties an opportunity of hearing a talk on Cervantes, with special reference to Don Quixote.

The Society Social has been postponed until April 30th, because of the presentation of "St. Joan." Spanish dances which will be performed during this event are already in rehearsal, we hear. Meanwhile the University is being scoured for suitable male volunteers.

Charlie Steel and his Music

are appearing at

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★ SPORT ★

Summary.

In order to give secretaries plenty of time, we would like to tell them now that, in the first edition of **Union News** to appear next term, we hope to publish a complete resumé (summary to the uneducated) of all the Winter Sports Clubs. **Would they therefore be good enough to let us have full details of the results of all their matches as soon as their fixture lists are completed.** In this way, we hope to be able to put on record a **complete** analysis of student sport for the first time in history in Leeds.

Finally, to all our readers here are our best wishes for a very happy Easter. Have a good vac., but remember that, at the end of next term, you will be faced with.... that's right.... **FINALS.**

PAST

U.A.U. Cross Country Championship.

The Cross Country course at Weetwood is at any time a pretty tough one, but on February 21st, unkind weather had made it even tougher.

D. W. M. Haw, despite the fact that he had that very morning taken an exam., and had been laying off for possible Olympic chances, nevertheless ran a brilliant race to finish just in front of Birmingham's strongly-finishing Hughes.

Strong support was forthcoming from the rest of the team, the other counting men being Birch (8), Batey (22), Day (30), Rowell (29), and Beedall (34). With such an array, Leeds finally finished third to London and Cambridge.

Finally, to all those members of the University who helped in any way to make the championship such a success—many thanks.

YOUR CALL!

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Soccer Report.

The 1st XI have marked their return to League games with some high-scoring wins after being absent, playing and winning, their Cup fixtures. They defeated Yeadon Celtic to the tune of 12—1; Mills scoring 6; and Hull University 11—0. However, against Thackley, the leaders of the West Riding County Amateur League, the score was 4—1 against, conceding two early goals which proved too much of a handicap to overcome.

The 2nd XI have won the Half Holiday League and hope to qualify for the final of the League Cup to meet the University "A" team to make the final an all University affair.

Note.—On Easter Monday the 1st team meet Burton's Sports in the Semi-final of the West Riding County Challenge Cup on the Leeds U.Y.M.I. ground, and we need all the support we can muster.

Women's Basketball.

On home boards the team scored a close, hard-won victory over Birmingham University on Saturday. In the first half they met a very tight and well-planned defence and the half-time score of 20—24 indicates the accuracy of the Leeds' shooting in the few break-throughs that they made. A sharp pep-talk by the attendant coach at half-time and the brilliant shooting of the attacking line, Renée Worrall and Barbara White, turned the defeat into a well-deserved victory in the second half. In our defence Barbara Whitfield played a wonderful game in completely cutting off the main shooter of the Birmingham side.

The final score of 33—29 was a fair result and compensates for the loss when the teams met at Birmingham.

PRESENT

Rugby Union Football Club.

The Club has a rather doleful tale to tell of the last few matches. Against Roundhay the University was very much shaken in the first few minutes of the game by the 12 points gained in the snowstorm which blotted out most of the game. Despite taking command of the game for the rest of the time the University was unable to score, and left Roundhay victors 12 points to 0. In the game against Old Leodiensians the score of 13—17 indicates a very even game. Both sides played brilliant open Rugby under a first class referee and the loss was compensated by the zest of the game.

On top of three hours travelling and several withdrawals from the team the University faced Loughborough, one of the finest College teams in the country, and by half-time were losing 26—5. In the second half, however, they more than held their own, although they could add only three more points to their score.

On Saturday, the University lost to Sandal by 17 points to 8.

Individually, however, the University is well represented. Little has been seen of the hooker, C. A. Meredith, who has played in many representative games for U.A.U., English Universities, and his home county, Gloucester. Perhaps 1948-49 will see him gain a place in the Engla

side. The captain, E. Pollard (scrum-half) and D. E. Pryor (front row forward) have also been selected for U.A.U. teams this season.

Bathing Beauties ?

Recently, the Swimming Club have gone from strength to strength, and are now in a very strong position.

When, on February 18th, Leeds travelled to Manchester, someone's record had to go—and it did. Manchester suffered their first University defeat for two years to the tune of 8—1.

The following Wednesday, Liverpool came here and they received similar treatment and took home with them memories of an "unusually low" water temperature and a 6—0 defeat.

Now, in order to defeat Leeds in the Christie, Manchester will have to defeat both Leeds and Liverpool somewhere in the neighbourhood of 30—0.

Tally Ho.

Thanks.

The Editors wish to express their thanks to the person who put a donation of one halfpenny in the contributions box. As, however, there are two Sports Editors, perhaps he will remit the other half of his subscription in the not too far distant future.

FUTURE

Cricket.

Most competent astrologers, after long weeks of star-gazing and intricate mathematical endeavour, are agreed that in this coming Cricket Season, Leeds University is destined to carry off with ease both the Christie Cup and the U.A.U. Championship. As a matter of fact, it has been known to some people inside the University for some considerable time. It is obvious that such a club needs and deserves all possible support, and all those who are interested are urged to join and have a share in this successful season. An immense sheet of paper will be posted in the Union towards the end of this term and anyone wishing to join should "sign on" before going down for Easter. In addition to players, anyone interested in acting as umpires or scorers will also be welcomed.

Nets will be opened at Weetwood towards the end of the vac. A Detailed notice giving exact dates will be put up. The first match is expected to be against Yorkshire C.C., and the more people there are at the nets the better will be the side for that fixture.

Club officials will be pleased to give help or information at any time, and take this opportunity of wishing all members a very happy and successful season.

And so say all of us.

Women's Tennis.

Another reminder, this time to all those of the fairer sex who are interested in tennis.

The first and most important practice will be on April 21st, the very first day of next term, so do not forget your kit. Everybody is welcome.

For full details, just watch the notice board (opposite the Women's Commqn Room).

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