

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. VIII. No. 7

Friday, February 19th, 1954.

Threepence

STUDENT OPINION REPRESSED!

PLASTER FALLS THROUGH

On Thursday of last week the Union once more resounded to the noise of squeakers, "penny" whistles and tin trumpets, and the annual stench of moth-balls mingled with some less savoury odour. Students from every department waited with mounting impatience for the doors of the Riley-Smith Hall to open to admit them to the A.G.M. When at last the rattle of keys was heard in the locks, the high spirits, so long bottled up, were unleashed in a mad scramble for the points of vantage, followed by the usual moth-ball battle between the "Ups" and the "Downs." The Platform, neatly arranged to seat the Exec., was speedily stripped of its furniture, and Devon took their stand upon it to do battle with the rest of the hall.

The Exec. received a warm reception, and at least ten minutes elapsed before the cheering and supply of moth-balls ran out. We feel, however, that the throwing of EGGS, TOMATOES, CAF. CAKES and SNOW and FERTILISER "SNOW-BALLS," showed a lack of that modicum of intelligence and good sense which even the furore of an A.G.M. should not entirely sweep away. Damage to suits (expensive items) is not funny!

Though rowdier than usual, the A.G.M. lacked that scintillating wit and that originality of idea one has come to associate with an A.G.M. Was the passing round of toilet-paper really worthy of repetition? Was it funny or dangerous to set it alight? Was our dance floor improved by indiscriminate spraying by the "gent" (?) on the front row? Was serious business concerned with amendments to the Constitution helped or hindered by the playing of a gramophone?

The grand climax planned to raise the standard of originality was foiled. A large bag of plaster-of-Paris was hung over the President's chair, ready to turn him into a ghost of his former self at the tug of a cord. Anyone peering into the Riley-Smith Hall at about 11 a.m. would have seen a bevy of cleaners, ankle-deep in plaster-of-Paris, clearing up the result of the discovery. What a Union this is in which apparatus for the dropping - of - things - on - the - Presidential-head is a permanent piece of equipment!

Shocked for once into silence, the Union Committee on Monday evening listened, appalled, to the report on the recent Women's Halls Committee. Do not be misled by the title of this select body. It in no way represents the interests of the Women in Halls. It represents only the vested interests of those who run the Halls. A few students are "allowed" to attend as OBSERVERS (!), but any attempt to express opinion is firmly quelled. We were informed that those present were treated like children, their views were overruled with: "Oh, yes, but WE think..." or "Yes, we know it's difficult for you dears, but it will be MUCH WORSE when you're older." One really begins to wonder whether this is a University or a Kindergarten! Perhaps the members of this committee should be informed of the difference! The Union Committee is holding an enquiry into the whole situation, and would be grateful if information, complaints and ideas could be forwarded to the Editor as soon as possible. We understand a similar situation is current in Men's Halls, and would be grateful for information on this also.

Jubilee Arrangements.

The Queen Mother will attend an Honorary Degree Ceremony in the Town Hall, on Tuesday, April 27th. Fifty-five or one hundred invitations, if the University can be persuaded to give us that number, will be available to students at the Porters' Office. Afterwards she will have tea in the Union, and will go round the Union. It is her wish to see students following their normal pursuits. In order to prevent tremendous over-crowding in the Union it has been decided to issue 1,000 admission tickets to students. These tickets are to be for students at present studying at the University. They are not to admit parents and friends. One ticket per Union card will be issued at the Union Office.

Tickets for the Jubilee Dinner-and-Ball will be on sale in the Riley-Smith Hall this term on a Friday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon, the

All in all, we feel there was a tendency to carry effervescence too far. Damage to property is NOT a traditional characteristic of A.G.M.'s, and we certainly hope extremism will not continue. It should be remembered that it is **primarily** a business meeting.

exact date depending on the printing of the tickets. They will cost £2 per double ticket, this to include the Dinner in the New Building, and the Ball in the Union.

Union Cards.

It was decided by a majority of two to drop the question of photographic Union cards. One wonders why the U.C. went to the trouble and expense of having a referendum, which they then proceed to ignore.

Union Ball.

The Union Ball has reverted to its normal date in October, following an offer from the Engineering Soc. to help with the decorations. Various large Societies are to be asked to decorate one room each, in the hope that a little competition will lead to more helpers and better decoration.

Honesty?

It was reported that seven **Gryphons** were taken from the pile left for sale in Staff House, and in payment 2/- was left! It was pointed out that the allegations of **Gryphon's** decline in the Annual Secretary's report were untrue, and that on the contrary **Gryphon** sales had increased considerably in the past year.

BOHEMIAN NIGHTS

On Friday last, the Arts Ball opened, in spite of the lingering scent of moth-balls and naphthalene. The Union was rapidly filled with a motley throng of students in every type of costume, varying from an Eastern dancing-girl to the Frankenstein Monster. The Saints, playing in the Riley-Smith Hall, were definitely on top form. For once everyone did not crowd round the band, and it was possible to realise what an excellent band they were to DANCE to. The White Eagles in the Social Room also played well, though perhaps we should draw a veil over the decorations there!

In the bar the rowdier elements of the A.G.M. appeared to have gathered to continue the riot! The convivial atmosphere of cheer and good fellowship was broken only by the regular tinkle of falling glass. Here, the thin veneer of civilisation wore thinnest. One wonders if the breaking of £5-worth of glasses was essential to the evening's entertainment.

The organisers are to be congratulated on a really hilarious Ball.

PROF. HEEDS STUDENT CLAIMS

Following a complaint made by Prof. Armfelt to the Bursar on behalf of the Committee representing the students of the Education Department the Bursar has suggested the following arrangements for **payment of grants** :—

PRESENT.

1. £10 at beginning of 1st term.
2. $\frac{1}{3}$ of the remainder in mid-November.
3. $\frac{1}{3}$ paid in mid-February.
4. $\frac{1}{3}$ paid in mid-May.

Proposed.

1. £20 at beginning of 1st term.
2. The same as at present.
3. $\frac{1}{3}$ paid in early January.
4. $\frac{1}{3}$ paid in early April.

The Committee has accepted these arrangements, and it is expected the new scheme will come into operation in April of the present session.

This raises an interesting point. Why, if it is possible to give Education students their grants earlier in the term, is it not

possible to do the same for other students? For the first half of each term one constantly hears: "I want to do X but my grant hasn't come through yet." "I MUST have that book, but I just haven't got the money. My grant hasn't come through yet." We realise that in some cases this is the fault of the awarding authority, who seem to think that students can live on fresh air and exercise for the first month or so of every term. But we understand that the University gets many awards right at the beginning of term, and yet continues to dole out the cheques in the middle of term. Why? This is a bad practice at any time, and is particularly so at the beginning of the session, when many students, who could save pounds by buying second-hand books in the Book-Exchange, are unable to do so because of lack of ready cash. We repeat: if Education students can be paid on this more reasonable arrangement, why not other students?

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19th
1954

Vol. VIII. No. 7.

Staff and Committee :

Editor - Eunice M. Beaty
Assist. Editor - Brian R. Shaw
Sports Editor - Brian R. Shaw
Business Manager - Jack Stacey
Sales Manager - Philip Levy
Society News Editor

Shirley A. Adams
Photographer - Sydney P. Larter
Despatch - Margaret Appleyard

Union News is not the official organ
of Union Committee.

EDITORIAL

In the Union there is a growing feeling of dissatisfaction over Staff-Student relationships. There appears to be an increasing tendency in certain departments to regard students as children, as an unnecessary nuisance, or as a side-line which, once dealt with, can make way for **real** work. It is deplorable that this should be so. If a University is to be, as it should be, a place for free interchange and development of ideas, then the attitude of Staff to Students is all-important, moulding as it must the attitude of students to staff. If, in their dealings with members of Staff, either in work, or in administrative problems directly affecting themselves, students find a rigidity of attitude and idea, an atmosphere of distrust is bound to arise in which this free interchange becomes quite impossible. Such appears to be the case in some, though, we hasten to add, not in all parts of this University.

Perhaps the students themselves are partly to blame for this situation having arisen at all. For the relationship of which we speak is of a dual character, and students must show some sense of responsibility if they in turn are to inspire trust and confidence in members of Staff. But this does not mean that on the rare occasions that individual students act in an irresponsible fashion, the Staff should turn round and say: "Typical. They're all the same"—which is manifestly untrue, and thereafter ignore or dismiss all student ideas and suggestions as coming from an irresponsible body.

What is needed, is a mutual tolerance, a mutual willingness to see and CONSIDER the other's point of view. This is an attitude in which the initiative **must** lie with the Staff—and indeed, at least in some of the Arts departments, has already been taken up with mutual benefit to us all.

OUR PICTURE GALLERY



Mr. Gordon T. Heard.

Editor of "Gryphon."

Gordon Heard was born in Todmorden in 1931. This split birthplace may account for the two different people, who from time to time assume this name.

The one is seen walking round the Brotherton murmuring incantations acquired during the process of writing a thesis on the "Influence of Occultism on Twentieth Century Poetry", after a three-year career through the English Department, gaining on the way a top second. The other person can be seen careering between Leeds and Batley on a motor-cycle or running up and down odd mountain slopes. This man also confesses to being allergic to strangers in railway trains, and gives this advice to the like-minded: flatten your face against the window, beckon invitingly, and the carriage is yours for the rest of the journey.

The two people combine to produce the Editor of **Gryphon**, who organises a difficult job with tact and ability, as the recent editions witness. His sense of humour and excellent qualities as a raconteur have earned him the post of co-Editor of the **Tyke**. (All contributions gratefully received!) They have also contributed to two successful appearances as a main speaker in debates, where the serious content of his speeches mingled with the right amount of wit. All this in spite of a major occupation in writing poetry, and being joint Editor of "Leeds Poetry Anthology, 1954."

Gordon is generally liked for his good company and powers of consumption, whilst being respected for his breadth of mind and fearsome qualities as an opponent in discussion. But do not be deceived; for beneath both exteriors, there beats a heart of stone!



Miss Shirley Wood.

Catering Comm. Sec.

On first impression, Shirley Wood will probably appear, to the blue stocking as that gay young thing, and to the gay young thing, if not as a blue stocking, as a bit of an intellectual. The former because she is easy on the eye, wears good clothes and misses lectures, the latter because she is older than the average student, if not in years, certainly in outlook.

To those who have overcome her initial reserve and know her better, she is a sensitive and clear thinking person with a disarming ability to sum up a person or situation with considerable accuracy. Perhaps the epitome of Shirley's character is her underlying and lively sense of fun.

She was born and lives in Shepley, near Huddersfield, attended Queenswood and Huddersfield Tech.; before coming to Leeds to read English. She gained an Honours degree last year and is at present studying for a Diploma in Social Studies. Amongst activities on Union Committee, the playing field, Theatre Group and English Soc., her outstanding ability was shown last term when she managed Theatre Group's production of "A Doll's House." At the same time as being Student Secretary of Catering Committee, Finance Committee, running a flat, passing Christmas exams. (not to mention getting engaged), she quietly and efficiently overcame many difficulties and setbacks, finally finishing with a profit on her books and, most important, an unfrayed temper. Just how, will remain a mystery to the less able, although she showed a shrewd business sense even at the age of 7 or 8, when she ran a paying concern flogging Chilblain Ointment made of Vic, Surgical Spirit and Cochineal, at 7/6 an Aspirin bottle.

But if her retiring and unobtrusive manner leaves her true self unappreciated by the many, her poise and charm have been noted by more than a few.

PROGRESS REPORT

The Editor and Staff of **Union News** are pleased to report that, following a motoring accident a fortnight ago, Mr. Michael Watson and Mr. Michael Kellet are on the road to recovery. We hope we will soon see them with us once more.

Music in Leeds

By DORMIN.

Browsing through the Grove "Dictionary of Music and Musicians" the other day, I came across the following interesting facts about Harrogate.

In an article written in 1926 we are told that Harrogate is one of the few towns where a symphony orchestra is subsidised by the municipality. It goes on to remark that this is "not done so much from an artistic and educational point of view, as because an orchestra is one of the usual attractions of a well known watering place."

In the year 1924 the orchestra, in addition to its usual round of "light music and variety entertainments," was in the habit of giving about twenty Sunday afternoon Symphony Concerts. For these the orchestra was augmented to nearly forty performers . . . in order that they might play the classical symphonies "without doctoring the score." In passing, it mentions that the conductor in those days was Basil Cameron.

It is interesting to reflect that Basil Cameron, the guest conductor for the Y.S.O. concert to-morrow night, was once conductor of such a humble group of instrumentalists—a group that for symphonic purposes expanded to the gargantuan proportions of "nearly forty performers." Today, Basil Cameron is well known as conductor of the London Phil., which as readers know is one of the orchestras to be heard in the Prom. season (the other being affectionately known as "Sargent's Mess").

Talking of the Y.S.O., I see that Norman del Mar has been announced as the associate conductor to Nicolai Malko. Though I heartily applaud this choice, I venture to hope that the Y.S.O. will not drop its scheme of apprentice conductorships that has worked so well. It is the only one of its kind in the country and has already shown results in that one of the previous holders, John Hopkins, is now conductor of the B.B.C. Northern Orchestra.

BOOK NEWS

FROM

AUSTICK'S BOOKSHOP

NEW PENGUIN TITLES

To be Published on 26th February

George Orwell - Nineteen Eighty-four
The Penguin Book of

Modern American Verse

Plato - The Last Days of Socrates

An English-German :

German-English Dictionary

David Talbot Rice - Byzantine Art

Science News No. 31

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A SOUTH-AFRICAN IN LEEDS

By P. L. LOUW.

As an Overseas Student I find, that when sitting down to write an impression of anything English, a certain amount of reticence must forcibly be applied so as to avoid any unhealthy comparisons which proceed so easily from a naturally biased outlook. Especially so, when one writes such an article huddled over an electric fire in a vain effort to keep warm. Therefore I propose to begin my commenting on the things which have pleased and impressed me in this University, and the country in general.

A word of praise and thanks is necessary for the welcome extended to me by the University on my arrival. I was amazed at the elaborate and detailed arrangements which had been made to acquaint us with our future academic home. South African Universities would do well by studying the events and facilities provided for Freshers during those three days of the Conference. Under the heading of praise and thanks I would like to say how kindly and hospitably I have been received into the homes of English families all over the country. As a newly-arrived, I found that some considerable time was needed to overcome the shock experienced after being addressed by London 'bus conductors as "Darling" and then later in Yorkshire as "Luv." I am sure as a result of this, incalculable harm has been done to my ego. Then there is the admirable interest shown in us students as the "whole man." Ranging from the attention shown us by our Moral Tutors, to the measuring of bones, writing of pedigree forms and the final embarrassing photograph.

Coming from a country where race prejudice colours nearly every avenue of human endeavour, where fear, insecurity and political tension reign paramount in the mind, the absence of it, as experienced here, is indeed refreshing and stimulating. To be able to converse freely with Negroes and Asiatics, to invite them to one's lodgings without incurring social displeasure, was for me a new and interesting experience. From such opportunities I have gained a great deal of benefit. However, before leaving this delicate subject of colour prejudice, I would like to make a few comments on the British approach to this subject. Generally I have found it to be far too sentimental and unrealistic. This, I believe, is mainly due to your occidental standard of values. Fortunately or unfortunately, not all these values are applicable back home where a distinct and entirely new standard of values has come into being. The Britisher does not seem to realise this, and thus sees only an English world, be it in South Africa or Timbuktu. This may seem perhaps an obvious point to have made, but it is one which few people in Britain fully comprehend. Neglect of this

factor in one's thinking leads to prejudicial conclusions and a distrust of the sincere efforts being made by the South African leaders to solve this problem. Remember also, that no solution of the S.A. Race Problem is possible without taking into consideration and understanding the place and claims of the white man.

There is no doubt in my mind as to the truth of the statement that people in S.A. suffer from varying degrees of Cultural Isolation. To be able to see and hear the best in entertainment, rendered by the experts themselves, is infinitely more delightful than waiting for some months later, when the goods are delivered in re-edited, copyright censor scrutinised forms. This geographical nearness to the origin of things, has made life more exciting than it formally was. There is that in-feeling, a taking part in international developments, a closeness to cultural progress or regression. This feeling of being more alive, of course, makes greater demands on one's powers of observation and reason. Back in the Union one can so easily slip away into a quiet backwater of self-complacency, far from the general flow of human interaction and its many interesting manifestations.

On visiting many of your historical buildings, majestic Cathedral Churches, or ancient seats of learning, I can't help becoming conscious of the great debt the world owes to this nation for the part they have played in setting the world an example. For while living your own life, maintaining and developing your own peculiar characteristics, you have managed to join in the larger life of a wider group, and thereby make your contribution to the upbuilding of human civilisation and the establishment of a Commonwealth which to-day secures peace and opportunity for one fourth of the human race.

It may be a comforting thought for you to know, that while men on this Isle were actively worshipping God and maintaining a high standard of civilisation, many of my darker brethren were still scratching fleas from the back of their necks. Yet in view of my reasons for the above eulogy, I find it difficult to understand why so many thousands of Englishmen to-day vegetate around soccer and cricket fields (Alas! we too in S.A. suffer from the deification of the Ball), in cinemas, and find some weird sense of satisfaction in wading through congeries of football-coupons. Perhaps people in this country are forgetting their great heritage, divorcing their work from their play, their art from their living, and substituting the rational for the spiritual.

My travels up to date have taken me into many counties. Apart from the numerous depressing cities of the North, and a certain sense of claustrophobia, I have found a new conception of

landscape beauty. In comparison with Africa's harsh contrasts, there is here a gentle texture built upon a solid foundation of fertile soil. In Scotland as well as in England, I could not but marvel at the abundance of water and economic utilisation of the land. Two striking features are the loyalty which individuals show for their particular part of the country, and the existence of so many different dialects. This surprises me when I consider the size of the Island and the extensive systems of communication.

To come now to the people. The most noticeable difference between my people and the English is that the Englishman stands more upon form and tradition. Fanatical adherence to some forms of this tradition leads to pernicious prejudice, more observable among the moneyed classes. It is this "tradition" manifested in its prejudicial form which is a major cause for some of my countrymen disliking the English.

Student life is very much on a par with that found back home. Batches of pimply adolescents in various stages of development, all frantically concerned about how near they are approximating to adult behaviour. There are also the usual gatherings of folk intently striving to verify the findings of Freud. I have found English girls more interesting, less conceited and easier to talk to than their counterpart in South Africa. Amongst the men I would welcome more eccentricity; let's have more beards, longer hair, untidy clothes and the occasional bomb under the Parkinson. I make this plea for more eccentric people, because most folk in this University seem to be living perpetually under the shadow of an impending exam. This idea of a degree nicely tied up with blue ribbon above all else, with consequent neglect of some of the more serious issues of life, I believe to be inimical to the life of a student. But this is more the fault of the authorities than ourselves.

To conclude then on a more serious note. I suggest the canteen staff be sent for a holiday to S.A. so they may learn how best use can be made of the coffee bean. Another minor reform would be the transference of the University to York, or better still to a sunny little hollow on the highveld.

South Africa Exhibition.

An exhibition organised by the South Africa fact-finding Commission will be on view in the O.S.A. Room on the top floor of the Union, to-day, Friday, February 19th, and on Monday next.

GIBBON WROTE IN VAIN
ABOUT DECLINE AND FALL
FOR ROME WILL RISE
AGAIN AT THE
TEXTILE BALL

UNION LIBRARY New Books

A number of Penguin and Pelican Books, including "The Scientific Attitude," by Waddington, "Opera" by Edward Dent, and "The Physiology of Sex" by Kenneth Walker, "Science News" and others have been introduced into the Library as a new experiment.

NOVELS.

"Lucky Jim," a new novel by Kingsley Amis, is a kindly satire about a History lecturer in a provincial university who finds himself in trouble because he is quite unfitted for his job (any resemblance, etc., etc., is purely coincidental).

A society novel by Betty Asquith called "The Blossoming Tree" tells the story of Lady Catherine Vanroyne and her test of loyalty when trouble overtakes the dull politician who is her husband.

"The Business of Blanche Capel," by Bryan Morgan, is not a blonde's autobiography but a new thriller about biological research, espionage, and a hunt across Europe for a Polish scientist who, it is thought, has stolen Britain's answer to germ warfare.

SOUTH AFRICA.

"South Africa in a Changing World" is said to be the best book of its kind for many years and a very fair presentation of the facts. It is written by Dr. Edgar Brookes, who was for fifteen years the Africans' representative for Natal in the South African Parliament.

"The Letters and Papers from Prison" of Dietrich Bonhoeffer tell some of the struggles of this great German churchman against Hitler and his party, who eventually shot him in April, 1945. Incidentally, a man who was one of his closest friends and to whom some of his letters were written, Eberhard Bethge, will be addressing the Student Service at Emmanuel Church on 21st February.

TREACHERY?

I hope I will not be branded a traitor for including in the Library collection a recent book with the title "Oxford Triumphant." In it Norman Longmate gives a critical account of all aspects of daily life in the post war University.

ALSO RANS.

Other books include Gilbert Harding's autobiography "Along My Line," "Thurber Country" by the American humourist James Thurber, "The Collected Plays of Terence Rattigan" (two volumes), and "Markova, her Life and Art" by Anton Dolin.

When Beaty's bones are rotten
Of her let it be said:
"Her newspaper's forgotten
But her hat was always red."

W. SELWOOD,
after Belloc.

DEAR MADAM

May I thank Miss Smith for her suggestions concerning the magazines of the Union Library, but may I point out that both the *Church Times* and the *Methodist Recorder*, together with several other periodicals, were stopped in November last. In the case of the *Methodist Recorder* complaints were lodged with the House Secretary and it was duly re-ordered, so that although the need for such a paper may not be apparent in the Union it is nevertheless there. At the time of stoppage a notice was printed in *Union News* and suggestions for new magazines were invited **in writing to the House Secretary**. Miss Smith's, however, is the first. Any others would be very much appreciated and very seriously considered.

Yours faithfully,
HARRY WALKLEY.

Who was responsible for the fantastically absurd and **dangerous** decision to keep the Riley-Smith Hall balcony doors locked until 1-30 p.m., immediately before the A.G.M.? I can only presume it was a move by the executive to try and combat the behaviour one associates with an A.G.M. audience. The situation which developed on the upper landing became extremely dangerous and reached alarming proportions; it was far worse than any crush I have ever come across in a football crowd (including the mad Geordies of Tyneside). I consider it was a near miracle that no serious harm occurred to anyone.

This was by far the noisiest A.G.M. during the past three years and the litter spread around at the end of the meeting was evidence enough of this in itself. I venture to suggest that the "warm" reception which the executive received would have been somewhat cooler had students been allowed into the Riley-Smith Hall a little earlier and worked off some excess energy on one another!

Yours sincerely,
COLIN BROOKS.

I was very interested to see in the last issue that Rhythm Club have converted Music Society to their way of thinking. In these days of sharp differences of opinion and stern antagonism, it is a healthy sign to see such opposites being reconciled. I am, however, a little bewildered, to say the least, by the sum of money which appears to have been transferred from the one Society to the other. The Music Society treasurer has no record of it, and if there has been some "fiddling" there will have to be some very careful investigating. In the meantime, a little more information from Rhythm Club would be welcome: it might prove useful for filling up the Society News page.

Yours, etc.,
SYDNEY P. LARTER
(Hon. Sec. Music Soc.).

According to a recent edition of a daily newspaper, Paris

tions have been circulating the following bit of logic:

The more we learn the more we know.

The more we know the more we forget.

The more we forget the less we know.

Moral: What's the good of learning?

Yours sincerely,
NORMAN G. FRIER.

An item which the Editor herself could not understand:

We print below the text of a mystery post card which somehow found its way into the copy files of this week's paper, and has been baffling the office's finest brains ever since. There are no prizes for the most ingenious explanation of the Riddle of Hermit Hole, as it has come to be known in journalistic circles.

139, Hermit Hole,
Ingrow,
February 10th, '54.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Having contacted with Mr. Somma 102? Devonshire Street (West) Keighly, you may be able to have loan of an Organ which you request.

A Miss Talcadam Sometimes hires same for tired horse funds. Liberal Rooms. A late Student may ring you up—If you should find an Old Photo of King Edward the Peace-maker Please send it to me.

Yours faithfully,
ADA BLACKBURN.

(We have been on tenterhooks waiting for the late Student to materialise. Communications from those who have Passed Over are all too rare in this office. Perhaps if anyone could lend us an Old Photo . . . ?)

Anyone with any information please contact Mr. Macfarlane.
EDITOR.

While I cannot agree with John Turner's opinion—expressed in his letter in the last issue of *Union News*—that religious opinion is a mass-neurosis, I am sure he is right in pointing out that Christians do not sufficiently concern themselves with the social problems of the world.

For Christians as a body to make a contribution to social progress implies a shift in the emphasis of Christian morality away from personal virtue toward the wider concept of social values. Christian ethics in the past has concentrated almost exclusively upon such questions as sexual morality, personal honesty, etc. This attitude has led to a blindness in which Christians fail to recognise the existence of poverty amid potential plenty, or the contrast between rich and poor, as moral problems at all, and so come to accept such things as natural and inevitable—instead of considering how Society can be changed so as to eliminate them. A Christian missionary can spend his life selflessly working in Africa (teaching the children to sing "Holy Night") and, though surrounded by the most dreadful poverty and misery, never ask himself who is responsible for the existence of this poverty and

what social changes are necessary to help these people build a better life.

By examining such problems, the Christian body could make a significant contribution to the world progressive movement, instead of supplying (as they have in the recent past) a reserve for reaction.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GREENSHAW.

Re "Our Picture Gallery."

The idea of the above feature is excellent, I feel, as it is a big help in making more well known to the junior members of the Union the personalities and attributes of their leaders. I was distressed, therefore, to find that the standard of the article on Mr. Brian Shaw was not that expected of a University Union newspaper, being more representative in fact of the style of the lower class of Sunday newspapers in this country.

The author of the article should learn that repeated alliteration is not even mildly amusing, but rather becomes intensely boring in a very short time. Mr. Shaw is attributed the virtue of maturity. Let his biographer then also show a little of this virtue and spare us in future from the use of the more juvenile phrases used in this article.

Apart from this lapse from good taste, Madam, the standard of the last issue was very good indeed.

Yours faithfully,
H. R. BOSWELL.

Graham Sutherland is the greatest painter in Great Britain.

His paintings are very expensive. I have one of his works. It is hanging on the wall of my room. I feel like a connoisseur. But connoisseurs are rich people. I am not rich. What then, you may ask, is the secret of my good taste? I will not tell you. But I will advise you. Contact the Secretary of the Art Society and ask for details of the Union's new Picture Lending Library.

Your humble servant,
ELI XANADU.

The assertion by Mr. Macfarlane that the Union would be turned into a brothel if the women's common room was re-opened on Saturday night, casts a vile implication upon the women of this Union.

I wonder if Mr. Macfarlane realises that a brothel is a place of low morality and ill repute, where women of the same nature entertain their prey?

If so, the pointed inferences that are thrown on the Union women are obvious, and Mr. Macfarlane should apologise.

His appeal to us was on the ground of CONSCIENCE, but a better word would be IMAGINATION, for surely this is the case where a little harmless necking is magnified to such an extent as to throw a dark shadow of immorality amongst all concerned.

Puritanical, Victorian morality will not do. The members of this Union have a sense of propriety and know the difference between harmless flirtation and flagrant immorality.

Fie, O fie, Mr. Mac, for thy exaggerated rantings.

Yours, etc., R. LAW.

Opening an account

Opening an account is a simple enough matter. You can go to any branch of the bank and start an account in your name alone or jointly with someone else—and the joint account is often found to be a great convenience for husband and wife. You will be asked to give a personal reference, and the bank's signature card must be filled in and signed, but you will find that the opening of your account takes only a few minutes and is pleasantly free of formalities. And they are minutes well spent, for the number of ways in which a banking account can help you is really quite surprising. Any of our managers will be glad to explain them to you.

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DEPT. OF THE WEEK SPANISH DEPARTMENT

“Sunbeams on the Top Floor.”

There's many a thing I bet you don't know about the Spanish Department—unless you, too, have to rush to the top of *el parkinson sanguino* every day (and if you do, our sympathies), You won't be much wiser at the end of this column but did you know, for instance, that we have the greatest number of students attending Spanish lectures in Britain; that we have the most recently acquired Chair in the University (though the cash for it arrived in 1918), and that we had, a few years ago, the highest departmental marriage rate? I bet you didn't, nor care . . .

We are so popular in Spain that they publish articles about us in their top-line monthlies, and photographs and criticisms of our

plays are seen, possibly read, by all the best Spaniards who buy *papas fritas*. At home we're known (from now onwards) as the “Paladin of Spanish Golden Age Drama,” and the annual entertainer of hordes of Yorkshire schoolkids.

The distinction of filling our new Chair goes to Professor R. Brown—the same gentleman (yes!) who has just returned from Spain sporting the most magnificent bifurcating beard seen since the days of El Cid.

For the last five years the Department has combined with Theatre Group to produce world premieres in English of some of the great Spanish plays, and John Boorman's translations and productions have brought great credit to himself and us. The B.B.C. have just broadcast his

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

A Minority Report.

A little man with dirty fingernails, wearing a festoon of toilet paper and smelling of mothballs, crept out of the Union looking rather sheepish last Thursday afternoon, and slunk with an air of reproach into the engineering drawing office. Two remote and preoccupied Sappers, engrossed in the intricacies of a nine-by-nine permutation, looked up curiously as this refugee from democracy (cursing the while) stripped off his flour-laden muffler and began, with an air of Pilatelike bewilderment, to wash his hands. The words “morons” . . . “cretins” . . . “louts” . . . filtered through clenched teeth between bitter imprecations.

After a while, the little man recovered himself sufficiently to remark that he had always thought a University to be a place of culture, an oasis of civilization in a world of chaos. The novelty of this idea prompted one of the bigger men to call in question the speaker's sanity, (to say nothing of his antecedents), and it began to look as if the midget would have done

better to brave the A.G.M. The notion of civilization in that sanctum of Our Ford was obviously more out of place than a banana skin on a ballroom floor.

With ponderous logic, one of the big men (the one from Burnley) explained to his little friend that students were like that; that they were only young once; that their freedom was circumscribed by so many restrictions, their daily life conducted on such a high plane of seriousness, the dangers of their calling so besetting, and the rewards so exiguous, that they might be excused one departure a year from their normally dignified and purposeful behaviour.

The little man, his eyes streaming with naphthalene fumes, his best suit ruined by a playful flour-bomb, was apologetic but unconvinced; they ordered things better, his look seemed to say, in the N.U.M.

Much later, as he watched two old ladies sweeping a Riley-Smith Hall ankle-deep in the debris of democracy, he was heard to sigh. “Youth's a stuff, 'twill not endure . . .”, he murmured, and looked inexpressibly thankful.

YORICK.

“Saint and the Sinner,” first presented, two years ago, in the Riley-Smith Hall.

We are always ever so busy and if anyone asks—it's work! It is, occasionally. Work! The Department's slave-driver, if ever there was one, is generous to the point of embarrassment when it comes to recommending books one should read!

Seriously though — the

academic outlook of this Department is pretty broad, and it is refreshing to find it so—and the Spanish Society has imbibed this spirit. If it is only just keeping its sombrero above *agua* this year, it has such a glorious record behind it in Spanish dancing, singing and acting, that it will surely soon rise again to great heights.

JOHN P. HANDLEY.

On Using Your Bank

We suggest that you will find it much easier to keep money matters in good order if you have an account at the Westminster Bank. You will find a lot of useful information on the subject in our booklet ‘On Using Your Bank’. Any branch will gladly give you a copy; and the fact that your resources are, for the moment, not very large need not deter you from visiting us, for we give the same efficient, friendly attention to all our customers, whatever the size of their accounts



WESTMINSTER BANK LIMITED

Dear Madam (contd.)

No doubt you will be aware of the recent challenge contained in the pages of **Union News**, as I see it thus—

"Gather round all (pseudo-) intellectual culture vultures, for a big dose of Kulture as prescribed by 'Dr.' Shirley Ann Adams. Soak yourselves in the cultural atmosphere of the Riley-Smith Hall, and turn up to all the high standard plays which we are privileged to have the opportunity of seeing here."

This apparently is the social medicine appropriate to the diagnosis that, by their poor attendance at such plays, Leeds students are giving Redbrick a "bad name." Well, are we capable of accepting the challenge?—does the "undisputed" intelligence of everyone else lead us to the same conclusion as that of Miss Adams?

We are informed that "most Society meetings seem to be well supported." If the Philanthropic Society can pack the Riley-Smith at all its meetings, why can't Theatre Group, etc.?

I wonder what exactly Miss Adams wishes to convey to us. What exactly does she mean by "most societies," and what exactly does she mean by "well supported"? I can only con-

clude that this young lady is a member of all sixty-seven Union Societies, and is aware of their attendance figures over the last month or so.

No, Miss Shirley Ann Adams, it is not we who, conspicuous by our *absence* at plays in the Union, give Redbrick a "bad name." It is students who do not turn themselves into "fact (seeking) machines" before propounding judgments. If "accepting the challenge" is equivalent to "being entertained at every possible opportunity by Union plays," then I for one would prefer to refrain from this time-wasting occupation of the first order.

Yours, etc.,
J. T. ANTRIM.

Madam Editor,

I do not wish to make a complaint (I hate "complaints"), but I would like to make a few observations on the state of University life in Leeds. As a science student I feel greatly distressed at the "school-masterish" attitude of many of our lecturers and demonstrators and the general ethos of school discipline prevalent in parts of the faculty of science, and especially in the Organic Chemistry Department. The fact that one lecturer will not allow into

his lecture any students who are a minute late (excuse or no excuse) and the fact that in the laboratory one is tied to a long set of rules on the correct method of writing up notebooks (according to Mr. ———) are, in themselves, not serious but are indicative of some far deeper danger which is destroying University life and making relationships between staff and student cramped and cold. A student can be ordered what to do and what not to do so often that he may never learn the independence and integrity which a University is supposed to teach him. I realize a number of rules are necessary but it is the attitude with which they are delivered that is important. There is eternity's difference between the "law" and the "spirit." Fortunately, not all the faculty (nor the whole Department) is the same and elsewhere staff-student relations are usually quite happy, although, for the most part, either superficial or indifferent. All this has its implications in the insularity which develops in departments and faculties, the shallowness of much student conversation and the general lack of cohesion and integration in the University. To a certain extent the Union is the one saving grace.

In the talks and discussions at the Freshers' Conference one might catch a glimpse of what a University means. I humbly suggest that in practice the term "Technical College" may be more appropriate.

Yours faithfully,

UNDERGRAD.

MAN WHO DEFIED HITLER

Pastor Eberhard Bethge, who will be the preacher at the service to mark the Universal Day of Prayer for Students on Sunday, 21st February, in Emmanuel Church, will not be widely known in this country. In Germany, however, he is known as one of the members of the German Confessing Church, who along with men like Martin Niemoller withstood Hitler in the Thirties. He was a close friend of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whom the Nazis executed in 1945 for his complicity in the resistance movement, and whose "Letters and Papers from Prison" Dr. Bethge has recently edited and published. Dr. Bethge himself was imprisoned but later released.

Since the war Pastor Bethge has simultaneously served student congregations in Humboldt University, East Berlin and the Technical University in West Berlin. He has also been in charge of Religious Broadcasting in West Berlin. In September he came to minister to the German congregations in London and has been appointed by the World's Student Christian Federation as Visitor to Britain in 1954. It is difficult to imagine anyone better fitted to speak to students in Britain at this time and we are very fortunate to be able to welcome him to Leeds during his short tour.

BOTTLES BAR BANTER

It seems longer than three issues since I put in one of these columns of rubbish, but having at last recovered from the Christmas festivities, I am once again capable of putting pen to paper, for better or for worse. And now let us take a look at the Passing Parade.

Primarily, it must have given all Bar Banterers a feeling of hope for the future to see that the contenders for the Union Chair are all so vehement in their assurances to improve drinking facilities all round. Ale during the vacs. should prove to be a fine electioneering slogan.

Breweries seem to be taking an increasing share of University Education. At least three visits since the beginning of term. Needless to say, the interest doesn't lie in the manufacture—only the sampling; indeed, the less subtle and more iniquitous openly arrive late, after three o'clock, just in time to join in the post circuit revelries.

Is it true that Jimmy Macfarlane is advocating a closer relationship between Union Bodies—it seems rather risqué. At the same time I can promise that Mr. Papp fully backs him in this for I am told that he has to make light of a serious matter, a very high regard for a young lady whose name he doesn't know, and who is blissfully ignorant of his feelings—lucky girl. Still, it wouldn't surprise me to find him making more determined steps, and with those shoes he should do it.

Slacks for women have long been regarded as bad taste in Caf., and yet the appearance of a black pair during the snows aroused interest rather than dis-

gust, and why not if Scottish Dance Society are allowed kilts?

Devon Hall is a strange place at any time to the non-resident, but at two a.m. it is most remarkable. I paid a nocturnal visit recently and on my way out found several things distinctly out of the ordinary. A quiet man, one would have thought from his appearance, was busily running up and down the stairs with masses of wire, plugs, and lights—he had several on the floor of the landing and seemed to be busily arranging more. Weird sounds are heard at all hours and when I finally left, my only method of exit was over a most easily climbed gate. And yet these folk object to jiving—or Bop I believe is the term—yes, they're queer in Devon. Just try to buy a stamp there on Sunday evening! Passed to you.

CONGRATS. CORNER.

For the removal of a nasty beard. To the littlest one for less boot and more sock.

For the disappearance of a large shapeless fawn sack knitted on size 7 needles.

To a would-be man of the world for almost succeeding.

To a lady climber and her affianced for a belay well tied. To the University Authorities for the useless bits of railing round the grass by the Parkinson.

One thing which the **Union News** lacks is, I feel, an advice or guidance feature on non-academic subjects. Accordingly, I say, if you have any troubles write to Daddy Bottle and have your assistance in black and white. This is really a plot to increase my readers to more than

BOTTLE.



"Have you a Faculty of Finance?"

"Don't ask me!" said the Freshman. "You should know more about the organization of this University than I do."

"I should have said faculty, not Faculty," went on the Third Year Man patiently. "The f is small, as in french."

"Oh, I see," said the Freshman. "Well, all I can say is that the £ is small, very small, in my £ s. d."

"If your income is, shall we

say, slender, all the more reason for having financial guidance at your disposal," the Third Year Man explained.

"And where do you suggest I look for such guidance?" asked the Freshman.

"I'd strongly advise you to let Lloyds Bank look after your interests," answered the Third Year Man. "That was one of the first things I did when I came up in stat. pup."

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SOCIETY NEWS

Visit of the Buganda Delegation.

The Social Room was well filled on Thursday, Feb. 11th, for a meeting with the Buganda Delegation (organised by the Socialist Society, and jointly sponsored by the Labour Society and S.C.M.).

Mr. Mulkiri dealt with the broad outline of events in Buganda leading up to the deposition of the Kabaka last year, while Mr. Mukambi gave an extremely clear and witty account of the relationships between the Governor of Buganda, the Kabaka, and the Buganda Parliament.

Mr. Mulkiri faced a disbelieving audience when he asserted that the Kabaka had been kidnapped, but his story of the sudden arrest in Government House and the immediate transportation by plane to Britain, without even chance to pick up warm clothes to face the British winter or chance to say goodbye to his wife and daughter, soon convinced the disbelievers that "kidnapped" was indeed the right word. Mr. Mulkiri revealed that one of the charges against the Kabaka contained in the Government White Paper was based on a misunderstanding. The Kabaka desires the development of Buganda as a unit within the Protectorate of Uganda: the authors of the White Paper confuse this desire with the development of Buganda as a separate unitary state—a demand which the Kabaka has never made.

During the latter part of the meeting the speakers answered questions, and heard with interest a suggestion from one student that the delegation should publish a pamphlet setting out their point of view.

The good attendance at this meeting, despite the counter-

attraction of the A.G.M., demonstrates the great interest amongst students in the life and problems of colonial peoples.

SPAIN TO-DAY

Miss G. Moore Rylands, who teaches Spanish at Roundhay High School, spoke to the Veritas Society on Tuesday, February 9th, about "Spain To-day." In spite of the weather the meeting was attended by three dozen members of the Veritas and Spanish Societies.

Miss Rylands, who has lived in Spain for a short time and is a frequent visitor there, spoke of the geographical formation of Spain and the effect it had on the nature of the people. From this she went on to tell us of the social conditions as she herself had found them.

After the talk, which included gramophone records and a few exhibits of Spanish needlecraft, there was a lively discussion initiated by Mr. Steve Schmidt. Mr. Schmidt's opinion differed in most cases from Miss Rylands', but he thanked her for the very true picture she had painted of Spain to-day. The meeting did not end until after seven o'clock and half a dozen or more stayed behind to carry on the discussion which centred mainly on Gibraltar.

The Veritas Society invite everybody to their next meeting on "Communist or Christian?" in the Large Card Room at 5-30. The talk will be given by Mr. David Shaw.

U.N.S.A.

(United Nations Student Association)

There are as many members of U.N.S.A. as there are students in the University, a fact not exactly calculated to perplex all but the

statisticians among us. Many a time, last term, did a microscopic percentage of the components of our microcosm attempt by means of visual remedies to cure the cerebral inertia of their worthy fellows, through the medium of the many notice boards boasted by Union and University proper.

Admittedly, our first gallant effort to attract attention by showing films—"The Eternal Fight" and "That All May Learn"—two U.N. sponsored productions—received an encouraging enough response. Our Hop, the first in the Society's history, and, we hope, the foundation stone for a whole skyscraper of them, was as far as the mass-hoppers were concerned—well, just another Hop, and as such, well patronised.

But the United Nations Association (our parent body) campaign of the year, "The Way Ahead," received but a tepid welcome from you all, the more disappointing in view of the efforts put into it by U.N.S.A. and Theatre Group, and so distinguished an individual as Mr. Andrew Campbell, in order to make successful its culminating feature. The latter consisted in a dramatised review of the ever-increasing but little known work of such organisations as U.N.I.C.E.F.; U.N.E.S.C.O.; W.H.O.; F.A.O.; etc., alternated with speeches by the Indonesian Ambassador and Hugh Gaitskell. The show, a worthy climax, after a week of advertisement and pamphlet-hawking, was a great step on the way to further propagation of distant but no less imminent world affairs.

This term's programme began on the afternoon of the first snowfall—a fact as unfortunate as it is significant—with a meeting organised by the "War on Want" Steering Committee. The attendance of older people

interested in the problems on hand was excellent, as was the meeting *in toto*, but the amount of students was negligible. We were pleased and honoured by the presence of the speaker, Mr. Lewis, Professor of Political Economy at Manchester, and further entertained by a film, "World without End"—showing the incomparable achievements of U.N.E.S.C.O. in the backward countries.

It is regrettable that the largest Society in the Union should also be the most impoverished. The reason, of course, is that membership is free and automatic, thus leaving you all in pocket and in ignorance. Yet, we have hopes of a bright future, in spite of the lack of enthusiasm shown at our latest lunch-time meeting, when Martin Ennalls spoke on "Is U.N.E.S.C.O. worthwhile?"

There are, for the benefit of those interested, activities outside the normal run of world affairs—such as the International Summer University, work-camps and other U.N. projects on the continent, details of which the Secretary (Lynda Harvey) will advertise as soon as they are at hand.

P.L.

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MOTOR CLUB

There seems to be quite a lack of interest among members of the Motor Club this year, but perhaps both bad weather and the price of petrol are the main causes, and so we hope more members will turn out later this term.

It was unfortunate that the night rally had to be cancelled owing to lack of support, as a very good route had been planned.

On January 28th, a very interesting film show was held, when some of the Shell racing films were shown; other programmes arranged for this term include the latest Esso and Castrol films.

A very interesting visit was made to Tetley's brewery, and it was noticeable that some of the visitors arrived on foot, not willing to risk driving through town after sampling the various brews. At the moment negotiations are taking place and it is hoped that visits will be arranged to the Wakefield C.I.D. and also to the Aston-Martin Factory in Leeds.

On February 7th, the Chairman's Event was held, and this took the form of a scavenger

hunt; competitors had to produce a multitude of articles ranging from a blonde young lady to a hard-boiled egg. Only nine cars started, but competition was very fierce; the event was won by Tony Greenwood and party in his 1924 Morris Cowley, second was D. C. Pickard in an M.G., who must be congratulated on a fine performance, producing all the articles except the blonde young lady—I only wish I could produce blondes at such short notice on a Sunday afternoon in the way most of the competitors did!

I think all members will be deeply shocked to hear of the dreadful accident which our two most active members had on February 5th. Both Mike Watson and Jock Kellet were very badly burned when Mike's Javelin, in which they were travelling, was in collision with a lorry near Harrogate; they are both in Harrogate Infirmary and I am glad to say are making good progress. I am sure all members and friends will join in wishing them all the best for a speedy and complete recovery.

J. DENNIS JOPLING.

SKI CLUB

Some people may have heard that a Ski Club is being formed in the Union. We are very fortunate to have with us an experienced ski-instructor, who has already given us a lecture on the principles of ski-ing. In the future he will take classes in dry ski-ing in the gym., and when the weather permits "wet" ski-ing on the local hills.

It is hoped to have a meet in Scotland at Easter, and in future years, with a bit of luck, on the Continent. Anyone interested in ski-ing should follow the notices on the Climbing Club notice board, or see Mr. Seidler,

as we need as much support as possible to give the Club a good start.

C. WILSON.

NOTICE

CAPTAINS AND SECRETARIES—PLEASE NOTE—

A *Yorkshire Post* sports representative attends the Union at 5 p.m. each Monday, and can be found in Caf. He welcomes news of your Club. All sports activities are important, be they in a large or small Club.

This is free publicity for your Club—why not use it?

B.R.S.

BOXING CLUB

On Wednesday last the team travelled to Dublin to take part in the U.A.U. Championships, which are being contested to-day at the National Stadium.

There are some 52 entries from 10 colleges for this year; there are ten weights, but the fly-weight and heavyweight classes will probably have few contestants.

From Leeds we are hoping that Brian Shaw will retain the heavyweight title and that Jim Hope will gain honours among the feather-weights if he makes the weight.

Among the newcomers to the Club, Fred Boden, from Liver-

pool, should do well in the light heavies and Steve Montjane, a fine wacker from J'burg, is expected to reach the finals of the lightweights. Steve, though he has only had two fights in the square ring, has already attracted the attention of several N.P.A. of A.B.A. officials by his speed and style.

The remaining two members of the team are Roger Green and Dick Sotheran, at light middle and bantam respectively. All these boys are in their best physical condition and performing well, so may we wish them luck and good punching.

FENCING CLUB

This season the Fencing Club has had a great deal of success in its inter-Varsity matches. Of the first team matches, Leeds have won eight, lost one to Manchester away, and in the other match, which was against Cambridge and Leicester, Leeds came second to the very strong Cambridge team, which won 26:14:11.

The first foil, sabre and épée team has won through the Northern division U.A.U. team championship to the semi-final, having beaten Durham and Liverpool convincingly (18:9 and 21:6). A very close victory was won over Manchester at home (15:12).

YORKSHIRE MEN'S FOIL CHAMPIONSHIP.

On Saturday, 20th February, the Club will be holding the championship, when C. A. Gentile, the Yorkshire foil and épée champion, is to defend his title, which he has held for two years in succession. Fifty entries have been received and these include many of the leading finalists in the North of England. A high standard of fencing is expected and anyone who is interested and has never seen any fencing before,

would spend an enjoyable afternoon and evening, and is invited to come along to the gym. at two o'clock on the day.

CELLULOID SPHERE

On January 23rd the U.A.U. Table Tennis championships were held at Sheffield. This year a Leeds player, Bas. Bennet, recorded a notable victory in the men's singles, so bringing home a title which has for a long time eluded Leeds entrants. This victory was a just reward for the consistently high standard of play which Bennet has displayed throughout many seasons with the Club.

Other Leeds players were Crossland, Minnit, Dabanovic and Moore. In the men's doubles Crossland and Dabanovic reached the semi-finals, where they were very unlucky to lose.

Results in the Leagues continue to be most encouraging. The 2nd and 3rd teams are now almost certain to be promoted to higher divisions. The 1st team is still among the leaders in their division, and have an outside chance of pulling off the championship, although Victoria and Y.M.C.A. will prove to be stiff hurdles, as is known from hard experience.

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