

# UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. VII. No. 1

Monday, October 6th, 1952

Threepence

## "STROLLING PLAYERS"

### "TWELFTH NIGHT" GOES ON TOUR

It all started last Christmas as a rather impossible idea—that Theatre Group should go on tour during the summer vacation. Everyone knows how difficult it is even with a theatre and everything laid on, but the thought of the Group on tour just seemed ludicrous. However, 19 of us did take "Twelfth Night" to Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cheshire, Westmorland and Cumberland audiences. What is more surprising is that 19 of us did return (groans from the Union Committee).

#### Planmaking & 'Bus Buying.

The venture had tentative beginnings; an old member of the Group and a member of staff got together and made enquiries about halls and so forth. The result was that it seemed as if we could count on enough school audiences in the Leeds and Manchester areas to guarantee our expenses for playing in Village Halls in the Lake District. Our only problem was transport, and that was a problem from start to finish! We secured at a nominal sum of £45 a 1937 'bus. A most beautiful "contraption" which was complete except for one broken window. Strangely enough the dear old thing was never Christened, but it did receive many less formal names during the six weeks it belonged to us!!

The last fortnight of term was very active, arrangements and rehearsal proceeded with the "usual vigour," so that eventually we had to be locked in the rehearsals room by the producer in order to get the play something like ready.

#### The Expedition Departs.

Nevertheless, the first Monday of the vacation saw us off to Goole Grammar School. The journey was hair-raising, but we arrived safely, having removed only one telegraph post. At the school we discovered the shape of things to come. The staff were excellent hosts and the boys and girls received the show with tremendous ovation. For our part we had our first experience of a small stage with exits at only one side. The remainder of this week was sheer hard work—we did six performances on two days, each one at a different school.

#### Nineteen Dig In.

On the following Sunday we moved to Manchester, but not without the 'bus's boiling *en route*. We spent the week in the metropolis under the "care" of a landlady who had had students before. Her opening remarks were, "I sent five lots out after Easter so you'd better behave yourselves." Theatre Group, I



Members of the cast planning a route before their departure. (Courtesy Yorkshire Evening News).

ask you! We managed to stay the whole week, but both parties were glad when Saturday came. The whole tour was full of incident and will be a source of yarns for many years to come. At Padgate, where we did a show, the play was received by the recruits almost in silence, but it ended with reassuring applause. Afterwards one of the audience inquired of the Front-of-House Manager, "Who was Shakespeare and did he write any more plays, as I'd like to read them?" So in some way we did achieve our altruistic purpose—to take Shakespeare where it had never been seen before.

#### Intense Last Fortnight.

During the last fortnight of the tour we lived under canvas. Our

camping would not have appealed to Baden-Powell perhaps, but we thoroughly enjoyed it. The villages received the play well, and only once did we make a loss, then it was only 2/6. The tour finished when on the way to our last performance the 'bus gave out quite dramatically by forcing the "big-end" through the sump. That was that, and the next day we returned to Leeds in a furniture van. The four weeks were an enjoyable holiday and a valuable experience from the theatrical point of view, not to mention living with 19 temperamental people under the strangest conditions.

P.S.—We are reviving "Twelfth Night," for a week on October 27th.

## Message from the Vice-Chancellor

I hope that every young man or woman who is coming up to the University for the first time this autumn is coming with high hopes. It is certainly right to do so. The University can give tremendous opportunities for the three, four or more years that the student is there; and there is exhilaration in the knowledge that those opportunities can only be taken by those who by their own effort and initiative take them for themselves, and take them in their own way.

Universities fortunately do not have the task of pressing an unwanted training upon young persons of no particular pre-occupations or whose pre-occupations are elsewhere. Educationally speaking, they are there to give opportunity to men and women with intellectual interests and the desire to fit themselves for their life's work



THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dr. C. R. MORRIS  
(Photo. : Courtesy Yorks. Post).

by higher study. To believe that such higher study will make one better able to do one's work and live one's life is necessarily an act of faith; and even with that faith no benefit will follow unless one is devoted in some degree to a chosen life of study for its own sake. Fortunately when we are young we do not find it difficult to devote ourselves in this spirit. There is indeed an opposite

danger. The young man whose imagination has been caught, for instance, by poetry or by physics knows that he will have for some three years an opportunity of learning from, and of watching at work, scholars of high distinction and capacity such as he may never meet again; and that he must not miss a minute of it. Yet he will make a mistake if he thinks of nothing else, and plans his university life—and nobody but he can plan it—in entire concentration on his special study alone. For he is also, for his three years or more, enjoying a chance of gaining something beyond price from his contemporaries. Never again will he have so closely and intimately around him so many gifted young

people of his own generation, with intellectual interests like his own, yet following a diversity of studies as wide as human knowledge. And not only are they following different studies, they have also different temperaments and are different sorts of persons, destined for different kinds of lives. They will range from the most fanatical of scientists to the most practical and matter-of-fact of executives, the most other-worldly of artists and the most human of physicians and teachers.

It perhaps requires only a very small act of faith, and little imagination, to believe in all that can be gained and enjoyed from the years of university life on this side of things.



**Union News**

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6th, 1952.  
Vol. VII. No. 1.

**Staff and Committee :**

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Union News is not the official organ of the Union Committee.

Last day for copy, Wed., Oct. 15th.  
Next issue, Thursday, Oct. 23rd.

**EDITORIAL**

Old students come back to University Road full of great resolutions, Freshers are experiencing a life different from any they have known so far. Everywhere there is bustle and activity and most of us have an air of determination or importance about us.

There are the introductions to a bewildering number of smiling faces, so many that by the end of the day, one has no idea to whom any of them belonged. There is the greeting of old friends, not seen (or written to in spite of all we said), for three months. The rapid chatter of a few can be heard above the general roar in the cafeteria. "Had a good vac?" "Fine thanks, — you?" "Seen John about?" "Yes, he's stayed on to do Edu." "Coffee tastes the same as ever, why don't they do something about it?"

It seems difficult to imagine that all that we see going on around us now, has happened in much the same way every October for more years than most of us can lay claim to. Every year we have our seven days wonders. Every year personalities make their mark in the Union, they leave, and they are soon forgotten by most of us.

"All the world's a stage  
And all the men and women merely players:  
They have their exits and their entrances;  
And one man in his time plays many parts."

None could ask for a better stage and a better opportunity to rehearse for his role in life than is offered to him here, now, in the University and the Union.

Are you making the most of your part?

**WANTED**

A Sports Editor, Society News Editor, reporters, typists, and a sales staff for "Union News."

Have a word with the Editor or leave a note for him in the "Union News" office. Freshers and second year students will be preferred but there are plenty of jobs available. Contributions, and letters to the Editor are welcome on all subjects.

**Without Prejudice**

(OR WHAT YOU WILL)

I write Without Prejudice to express the hope that the Freshers this year will not be so fresh as they were last. When the President last year asked a particularly attractive young lady what she was reading he received the smart alec reply—"You brother, like a book."

Passing now from social science to International News, reliable reports have it that the President of the Union has been behind the Iron Curtain. It is to be expected that he has returned somewhat changed. No doubt we shall see something of the mailed fist inside the mailed glove. How refreshing to have the House Secretary purged for the failure of a water cistern or waste pipe. How infinitely delightful to learn that the Chairman of the Conservative Association has been fined 2/6 for right wing deviation. Union Committee meetings should have the air of the Politburo about them—and might even be worth a visit.

sing the glories of the immortal brew or rattle sabres for a dying cause.

Debates are, however, of the lifeblood of a University. It will be grievous indeed if what has been so well and recently developed is allowed to sink back to the stammering obscurity from whence it emerged.

At this time of the year the Union Ball begins to excite interest. For many people it is their first big social function. Compounded from the pure essence of enchantment and romance, caressed by soft lights and sweet music, it is the event of the year. For an Entertainments Secretary it issheer misery.

At the Engineers' Ball the Engineers turn out to decorate the Union—at the Agrics.' Ball, the Agrics.—at the Union Ball no-one. I have seen entertainments secretaries working solitary amid the alien corn and greenery, ankle deep in high tension wires and tin tacks with



Apparently Mr. Black's sense of humour landed him in trouble. Surely a responsible student leader should know that some songs are "in" and others quite definitely "out."

Sung to the Volga Boatmen :—  
"When I was young at Omsk,  
I used to visit Tomsk.  
Stalin and I—  
Manufactured bomsk."

... is definitely "out."

Debates, which in the last two years have improved beyond all recognition, should be the concern of everyone. The big mouths and little minds of yesteryear have quit the field of oral strife. No, neither Mr. Forster nor Mr. Cook will be heard stinging the air with cliches and platitudes hotfoot from the Conservative Central Office. No more will they rise to their unsteady feet to

less than five minutes to go before the reception.

The Union should be ashamed of the way in which it leaves vast amounts of toil to one man. Let the Union Committee and officials roll up their sleeves and pitch in this year. The result might not be very artistic but it would be encouraging.

"The Clubmen" I hear are just back from a tour of Britain's Mecca Dance Halls with Geraldo and his Orchestra. Considering the way in which they beat out their primitive rhythm the "Club" men as a band, are aptly named. Still, I shall be pleased to hear them again playing their latest stuff like "Little Man You've Had a Busy Day," and "Maud won't come into the Garden 'cos Maud Knows a Thing or Two!" "PUER PIGER."

**Politics in the Union**

Freshers will very soon become aware that there are political societies in the Union. Whether this is because they are particularly interested in the world around them or because student politicians are more loquacious than politicians as a whole you will have to judge from your own observation. One thing is certain—you won't be able to miss the student political societies, even if you try. One day, staring up at you from a caf. table will be a leaflet condemning the actions of such and such a party. Another day someone will try to sell you a political pamphlet or newspaper (In some cases the two are very similar). You may creep into the Social Room for a few moments' rest only to be confronted by a student meeting on the economic crisis in Matabaliland, or some such topic touching the lives of us all.

I think that the student political societies greatly add to the interest, intelligence and tolerance of students as a whole, but don't take my word for it, go and see for yourself. I'm simply your snoop who knows what is going on in a political society—often before the society knows itself. What I say should always be taken with a pinch of salt.

**The Various Political Colours**

The two largest political societies, both with a three figure membership, are the Conservative Association and the Labour Society. We have a recently revived Liberal party for those who believe that a revival is both necessary and possible. There are two other Left Wing Societies — the Socialist Society, which invites all socialists, regardless of party to join its ranks, and the small but hardworking Communist Society with which many disagree, but without which our soap box collection would never be complete.

**Why Not Join In?**

There, in brief, you have it for the present. I could tell you all sorts of things about student politics but you will only be able to find out what it is really all about by going to meetings, listening and participating.  
"BACKBENCHER."

**ULYSOPS FABLES**

Old Hiram's Goat, was feeling fine,  
Took two red shirts, from off the line.  
His master tried to get them back,  
So tied him to, the railroad track.  
A train came along: 't'was going fast,  
Old Hiram's goat, could see his last:  
And when he see'd, 't'was all in vain,  
Coughed up them shirts, and flagged the train.  
(To the tune of "And when I die," etc.).

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## WATCH THE HEADLINES!

Leeds is in the news again: this time in organising the first ever "Festival of the N.U.S." The Festival, to take place in Leeds during the Christmas vacation, is to replace the Congress and Arts Festival of previous years. "Union News" will report information about the Festival as it becomes available. Details of the Festival, together with programme and speakers, will appear in the next issue of "Union News."

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## LOST — ONE VILLAGE



Excavations at Wharram Percy—the corner of a cottage wall comes to light. (Courtesy Manchester Guardian)

To risk one's neck in a ramshackle car which was out of date when horse-drawn trams were invented, just to go digging in a field on the crown of the Yorkshire Wolds, seems to many to whom this story has been told, sheer lunacy.

A party of odds and ends in the student world, led by Mr. Beresford of the Economics Dept., made an expedition at the end of the Summer term to unearth the remains of an abandoned medieval village, Wharram Percy near, Malton. Those with sense hitch-

hiked, the rest sat patiently in the ramshackle car and waited at the top of every hill until the oil and the water had stopped boiling. By divine mercy all eventually met at a disused schoolhouse, not far from the site of the extinct village. This was to be our headquarters for the two week-ends during which excavations were made.

#### "Pot," or Flower Pot?

Pickaxes, spades, trowels and even fingers were the tools employed, although digging was

frequently interrupted to have intellectual discussions to decide whether odd pieces of baked clay which were unearthed were medieval pottery or Victorian aspidistra pots. The foundations of cottage walls are firmly buried in three or four feet of loose chalk and a thick covering of turf. Even so, the outlines of many houses and streets show up on the ground as rectangular thistle-clad hummocks and regularly placed hollow ways. Four or five days of "strenuous" work were sufficient to reveal most of the base walls of one house quite close to the existing but dilapidated church.

#### The Village Church.

Inside the church the bible still rests on the lectern, but the only congregation ever seen in the church now is one of pigeons. plain evidence of whom is to be seen on every pew. The Fourteenth century church tower is cracked nearly to ground level. The progress of this now "leaning tower" is checked by the local gamekeeper, who puts a twig in the crack to see how it is going. The twig falls out every few weeks—disquieting to

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## LOST — ONE VILLAGE

Continued from Page 3

be told this when one is standing at the foot of the tower. The gamekeeper assures us that there is nothing to worry about; the tower always used to sway when the bells were rung.

Each evening we made our way back to the schoolhouse, but stopped on the way for a boiled egg and a cup of tea at a railwayman's cottage by Wharram station, where the station master is local gamekeeper, churchwarden and chairman of the Village Institute, and still has time for his garden. Back in the schoolhouse we swilled ourselves down under the pump in the playground, ate a hearty meal and went to bed.

We left Wharram Percy with our "finds," medieval pottery (or Victorian aspidistra pots), bone needles, pins and needles, and blisters on our lilly-white hands—evidence of a week-end spent "in pursuit of knowledge."



WHARRAM PERCY, High Street, with Church in background

(Photo. Courtesy Manchester Guardian)

## "PRINCESS IDA"

Produced in aid of Rag Funds June 23rd—30th.

Of all the operas—or operettas, whichever you will—of Gilbert and Sullivan, "Princess Ida" is the least known, least produced and the most unjustly neglected. It is, as the programme note for this production told us: "a well-nigh flawless satire and a finely wrought piece of stagecraft . . . an inspired parody . . . an original comic creation." But, one asks, if it is all this, why do we not hear it more often? The answer is that Sullivan, in this instance, though fluent, pleasant and harmonious as always in his music, failed to produce any memorable individual melody.

None the less, "Princess Ida" is an immensely enjoyable whole, and this production brought out the best in it. Teamwork was evident throughout, and such flaws as there were seemed to be due mainly to over-enthusiasm. Among these flaws might be counted Alan Holliday's Harry Take-like twitchings of his moustache (in the part of *King Hildebrand*), and his constantly seeming to be on the point of breaking into some intricate step-dance. The humour of these antics palled after a time and they occasionally diverted attention from necessary dialogue; but Mr. Holliday threw himself with such abandon into his part, and sang so well, that it seems unfair to carp.

Biggest disappointment of the evening was Sheila Galvin, in the title part. Her voice was clear and true, and her musical sense impeccable; but Gilbert's words

are important, and those of Miss Galvin's songs (and some of her dialogue too) were inaudible.

These drawbacks apart, the performance was an immense success. The chorus work was well controlled, and showed no raggedness, for which Mr. Edward Mumby, the musical director, deserves our hearty thanks; the costumes were effective; the grouping, lighting—indeed, all aspects of the production—were very capably managed by Mr. Frederick May, who succeeded in obtaining a swiftly-moving show without sacrifice of clarity. David Horsfall, as *King Gama*, was sufficiently malevolent and delivered two difficult patter-songs with great aplomb. Roy Bywood made a pleasant *Hilarion*, in excellent voice, and together with Albert Cook as *Cyril* and Denis Marshall as *Florian* rollicked happily through the action; *Gama's* three sons (Alan Farnill, Peter Baker, Donald Brewster) personified wooden-faced military stupidity in its laughable extreme. But it was Celia Payne, as *Lady Blanche*, who really stole the show. Her vibrant contralto disapproval and dominating presence made her a Professor of Abstract Science of whom Gilbert himself could not but have approved, in spite of his having envisaged a rather more Junoesque figure. Jean McDade, a comforting *Lady Psyche*, and Sylvia Wicken as the melting *Melissa*, gave Miss Payne sound support. This was the most entertaining show seen in the University for several years.

CHARLES KINGHAM.

## MUSIC IN LEEDS

By TAPIO.

The announcement that the Leeds Triennial Festival is to have no Festival Chorus in 1953 was, I suppose, the most important single musical event to take place in Leeds for some years. The pros and cons have been debated at various lengths and levels of temper and temperature in the local Press, but the fact remains that good tenor choralists are at a premium nowadays, and the 1950 chorus only just managed to attain a satisfactory balance of forces.

For myself (a humble representative of a generation that does not remember pre-war Leeds Festivals), the breaking of a set tradition is of little consequence compared with the attainment of performances of a truly festival standard—that is, nothing less than excellent. Such a standard was not consistently maintained in 1950, chiefly because the chorus had too much to prepare in too little time, and if the sharing-out of the work between several local choruses will remedy that defect, I for one shall have no grumbles, always providing the element of programme-building is also maintained at a festival standard. This was a

questionable point in 1950, and it was depressing to learn that the first two composers announced by the Festival Committee to be represented in 1953 were Handel and Elgar. While no one wants to go to the other extreme of profitless and recondite experiment, one must hope—writing in August—that better things lie ahead, and by this I mean no disrespect to H. and E.

One may recall that our own Music Society's orchestra was disbanded last year due to lack of players. It is, of course, very difficult to extract a proper orchestral balance from a constantly-changing student population, but at all events one may hope the Society's chorus will not go the way of its orchestra or, indeed, of the Festival Chorus. The new season's main work for performance—Bloch's "Sacred Service"—is musically, if not necessarily financially, an admirable choice which should richly reward the chorus for the preparation it will require. Here, indeed, is a chance for the Music Society to show the Festival Committee a thing or two, and I hope both "Freshers" and "old stagers" will co-operate whole-heartedly in the enterprise.



## CONTRIBUTION FROM "THE LITTLE MAN"

"Write me," said the Editor, "250 words of welcome to the Freshers and make it snappy." In order that the editorial calm may continue its so far unbroken spell I hasten to obey.

The young Fresher, his mind now burdened with the deeper problems of human knowledge, his face betraying a resolute purpose to master these problems, and his hand clutching a little book by Bruce Truscot which he thinks is going to solve these problems, may be forgiven if after stumbling into the Union he suddenly looks up at the Head Porter, and says: "Please Sir, can you tell me where I can have something to drink." Even we were guilty of the same sin.

The Porter, with all the indifference of an old Beefeater showing a stranger round the Tower, will direct him to the Cafe. Here in truly English and student surroundings he will sample many un-English and unstudentlike beverages, not the least of which will be a cup of coffee. Emerging from this rendezvous like a chrysalis gaping at

a new born world, he may decide to walk into the J.C.R. This stands for Joint Common Room and believe me every word is significant. Here in an atmosphere only to be found in Soho he can sit and read, and sit. Half way through his reading he may discern in the twilight of smoke a figure. Hard would it be to describe him, for this my friends is the typical undergraduate—the second year man. He is not



THE AUTHOR  
(Courtesy "Rag Times.")

dressed as the schoolboy imagination has dreamt about him on many an occasion; no, here he is in a decent blue lounge suit, with a remarkably clean collar, his trousers are well pressed, yea

he is respectable. He would pass unnoticed in a crowd if it were not for the haggard expression, and the deep steel blue of his eyes, the product of a summer vacation spent with British Railways. His words, which do away with all the formalities of introduction, are clipped and icy:

"I say, do you play bridge?" If the Fresher, hiding his excitement, nods his head and jumps up, then he is doomed; better that he be written off the book of time, for once the bridge paralysis takes hold of the body the end is nigh. Its symptoms are a tendency to think lectures are unnecessary, and a feeling that an afternoon spent playing bridge is a relaxation that the learned can't do without.

Lunch time comes and the Fresher feels hungry; our advice is don't. The Refectory lunches once brought the remark from a wit, that the Refectories were employing a religious cook, every meal was a burnt offering or a sacrifice. A cup of coffee in the cafe will soon obliterate all the taste of lunch. Now he may decide to play a game of billiards or table tennis, after visiting the home of both these sports he decides he would like to watch a game of billiards or table tennis. Never have the tables been free when we have wanted to play.

## HEADINGLEY PICTURE HOUSE

Continuous performance daily from approximately 6-0 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays from 4-0 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 6th**— 6 days  
John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara, Barry Fitzgerald.  
"The Quiet Man"  
(Technicolour).

**Monday, Oct. 13th**— 3 days  
Anne Francis, Dale Robertson.  
"Lydia Bailey"  
(Technicolour).

Also Dana Andrews, Maureen O'Hara.  
"Britannia Mews."

**Thursday, Oct. 16th**— 3 days  
Christine Norden, Ronald Shiner, Derek Farr.  
"The Reluctant Heroes."  
Also Donald Duck cartoon.

Suddenly, at 3 o'clock, he will hear a mighty babble of human voices, the cafe has reopened. Here until tea time he will talk and listen, and talk and listen. He will hear of the mighty men who form the Executive, or the even more mighty men who play in the University teams. He may come away with the impression that all University students are mighty people...

After dinner he decides to take a stroll with a new found friend, they walk into town, in search of entertainment, it may be the cinema, a theatre, or even a pub. He may tumble into bed long after midnight... Yes, you have had a busy day little man.

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## WHAT IS THIS "N.U.S."?

Of all the abbreviations in the student world, none is more frequently used or more often taken for granted than N.U.S.

The National Union of Students, a federation of University and College Unions throughout Britain, with a membership of over 100,000, exists primarily to represent British Student opinion both at home and abroad and to promote the general interests of students.

Such a definition will hardly be a Plain Man's Guide to N.U.S. and will not satisfy the average student, who is more interested in knowing when his grant is to arrive and where he can find lucrative vacation work, than in learning the niceties of student government.

### Services Provided.

For the impecunious the Grants and Welfare Department works at both local and national levels for the satisfaction of individual needs and improvements in student conditions generally. The Department hasn't got round to getting that leaky roof repaired in your room in hall, but if you come along and see the Grants and Welfare people they will always try and do something for you should you really need assistance.

For those who want to travel the N.U.S. provides inexpensive tours and travel facilities abroad, while work schemes on farms and in factories are organised by the Vacation Work Department. Many students have participated in such N.U.S. activities as the Arts Festival and Congress and still more use the facilities of the International Correspondence Exchange, the Bookshop and the Student Hostel.

Undoubtedly, the prime function of N.U.S. is that of a unifying and co-ordinating body of national status, for if this were not so International Relations, the organising of National Festivals and the pursuance of a comprehensive grants policy, would be an impossibility.

### Which Way Now?

The benefits which the student receives in return for his 1/- subscription (included in the Union Fee), are not all so tangible as these I have outlined. How is one to calculate the benefits derived from co-operation with the national student unions of other countries, from the efforts to secure Parliamentary representation (now an accomplished fact) for our grants policy?

Time alone will show the worth of these things and in the mean-

*Continued on Page 7*

## ON COMING UP FOR THE FIRST TIME



The Freshers of 1950 show the University to the Freshers of 1951

(Courtesy Yorkshire Evening News)

"Who on earth is that dark-haired bod with a ginger beard and a corduroy jacket? Surely they don't allow chaps like that to wander about the University off their leash!"

Exclamations of this sort probably come from the lips of most of us, or are at any rate muttered under our breath when first we come up to the University and are put face to face with "students" of all ages, shapes and sizes, from the portly and middle-aged to the diminutive "fourteen year old" who turns out to be a civil engineer with a Ph.D. For my part I know that the astonishing variety of people was one of the first impressions I had of the University.

My next impression was of the complete freedom which one has

to work to play and to waste time as we chose—no one compels us to do anything. For the first time we are credited with a sense of responsibility and for the first time we find it. There was for me a great satisfaction in being able to settle down into a chair in a cubby-hole of the Brotherton Library to work, and to realise that I was now a part of this impressive place and that all it had to offer was at my disposal. It may be that I have not settled into that chair frequently enough to get used to it, but I still have that slightly elated feeling as I pore over some dry text on the laws of usury in the Sixteenth century.

### "Swotting" Is Not All.

Unfortunately there are some among us who come up to the University and devote themselves to their books and their seat in the Brotherton to the exclusion of all else. This, to me,

seems a great pity. If only someone had told them that although they would learn an awful lot of chemistry or an awful lot of philosophy that way, they would only be achieving half of what the university and the people outside expect them to achieve; to become knowledgeable, but at the same time to learn how to apply that knowledge in everyday life and to be able to feel at ease amongst their fellows. A really good natter on setting the world to rights in one's room in hall or in digs, an active part in a debate or a society in the Union and regular recreation at Swillington, at Weetwood, are things which most people "intend" to do after they have heard all the "pep" talks at the Freshers' Conference. But how many of them let their opportunities slip and have to content themselves with "could have done" and "might have been" when their time comes, and come it will like lightning, to leave the university?

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**WHAT IS THIS "N.U.S."?***Continued from Page 6*

time the National Union is continually changing. It is certain that unions such as ours in Leeds will be instrumental in shaping the N.U.S. of the future.

JOHN GEE,  
(Leeds Secretary of  
N.U.S., 1951-52).

**Impressions of Council.**

N.U.S. Council, the governing body of the National Union of Students, held its final session for the 1951-52 year in Birmingham last July. The trends of the meeting, which were more anticipatory than policy making, are readily apparent.

1. Relations with the Communist led International Union of Students, received the spotlight when Council voted that the British N.U.S. should not participate in the "Unity meeting" (ostensibly to find common ground for East and West), unless the Yugoslav N.U.S. was invited.
2. The finances of N.U.S. are far from satisfactory; the whole position will be reviewed when the budget is submitted to the Council's next meeting in November.
3. The Annual N.U.S. Congress and the Annual N.U.S. Arts Festival are to be combined into an annual "Festival of the N.U.S." The first to be held in Leeds this Christmas.

**SPORT IN THE UNIVERSITY**

By G. W. RHODES

If you look through the Union Handbook you will see a long list of sports clubs—you may not be interested in any of them. Even so, this article should interest you since you are all financial supporters of the sports clubs, for their costs of travel, and other expenses are met from Union income.

**The Facilities.**

There are sports facilities here which many other young people in the City of Leeds long for but never get the opportunity that we have to use.

Playing fields are very scarce. People returning from this year's Olympics have said: "If we only had the facilities available to the Finns, the Americans and the Russians." We in the University have these facilities and it is a great pity that the great number of students who use them is not even greater.

At Weetwood we have pitches for Soccer, Rugger, Hockey, Lacrosse, Tennis, Cricket and Athletics (Track and Field). The cinders athletics track is one of

the best in the North. In addition we have the gymnasium in the Union grounds, the free use of the Corporation Swimming Baths—until our own swimming pool is built, and the Boat House at Swillington.

**The Clubs.**

The striking thing about university sport is the variety of clubs in existence. There is something to suit all tastes and if by some freak of fate your favourite game is not yet included, there is nothing to prevent your forming a club and becoming officially recognised. But do remember that when you join a club active participation is what really matters, and it is rarely possible to be a playing member of two clubs in one season.

**"Am I Good Enough?"**

If you are a Fresher you may wonder whether you will be good enough to enter a team. Begin by not contemplating this and you will probably surprise yourself. After all not many students have been here for more than a couple of years anyway. Last year in the highly competitive

sport of track athletics two of the outstanding men were Freshers and were awarded University Full Colours.

For those who are not able to represent the University or who cannot play regularly, there are inter-mural games organised by the Physical Education Department. There is a place in a team for everyone who wants one.

**Why not "Have a Go"?**

May I urge you to make some effort to play some part in this side of university life—*however small*. Once you leave the University the demands of work and home will probably deprive you of much of the opportunity you now enjoy. Team work and sportsmanship are qualities which, developed at Weetwood or Swillington, can have untold benefits on those around you now and on those you meet in other spheres of life in the future.

So, remember, when you are immersed in a sea of heavy tomes in the basement of the Brotherton that you must relax sometimes and recreative sports facilities are there to be used whenever you want them.

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# ★ SPORT ★

## LEEDS REGATTA, 1952

As usual, Leeds Regatta had to contend with wet and windy weather and it is to the credit of the Regatta Committee that in spite of this the Regatta was well organised. For the first time the Women's Boat Club Regatta was combined with the men's regatta. With something approaching 40 crews competing the time-keeping at the landing stage needed careful forethought.

### Results.

Leeds, although acting as good hosts, were not good enough on the water to retain the Swillington Challenge Bowl for Senior Fours, which was won by Manchester. The Thistlethwaite Cup for senior scullers in fine boats was also won by Manchester, but Leeds did figure in the victories with Ian Hillary, who won the Andrews Challenge Cup for Maiden Sculls. The Leeds women's first crew competed unsuccessfully for the Stewart Cup.

Although unable to win outright in their event the Leeds maiden crews showed great promise and the club has high hopes for the future of these crews when they have become better watermen.

### Good Commentaries.

An elaborate maze of wires had been rigged up and for the first time really worthwhile commentaries from a vantage point on the top of the boathouse, were given to report the progress of races whilst still out of sight above Swillington Bridge.

Once more the Lord Mayor presented the Cups and the "pots" and the evening was rounded off with the Regatta



**Leeds Women's First Crew,** with BILL SAWYER, before competing in the Stewart Cup.

Front to rear : MAUREEN EVANS, PAT CORLEY, JEAN ARMITAGE, PAT FOLKES.

(Courtesy Yorkshire Post).

Below : IAN HILLARY (Leeds), winner of the maiden sculls.

(Courtesy Yorkshire Post).

Dance in a marquee pitched by the boathouse. This upheld its reputation, established last year as a riot of fun for all present.

Although always a strongly supported club, the Boat Club will welcome all Freshers who join them and they emphasise that very few of their members now in the top crews had had any experience of rowing before coming up to the University.



## LACROSSE

The activities and achievements of the Rugby and Football clubs are well known, but there are perhaps many of you who feel that you are not good enough for these sides, and yet would like to play in representative teams, so let me bring to your notice the lesser known clubs. As a member of the Lacrosse club, I can say more about it than any of the others. Last year the Club entered the North of England League and after a very successful season, gained promotion to the 2nd division. Of last year's XII, only six will be at the University this session, so there will be ample opportunity for newcomers to gain places in the sides.

Previous experience is not essential, so don't forget the smaller Clubs. Visit the stalls on Bazaar Day. I can assure you of very happy days both from the Athletic and Social point of view.

W.E.L.

D.V.M.

## THE RUGGER CLUB

The Club welcomes all new members of the University who are interested in playing Rugger and urges them to join the Club if they have not yet done so. We look forward expectantly to the coming season and trust that we can do even better than last by improving on our position as U.A.U. runners-up, and again retaining the Christie and Wilson Hey Shields.

Don Jagger is again captain, Tony Duckering vice-captain, with Ronnie Shuttleworth and Brian Parsons as joint secretaries. John Dwyer is Publicity secretary and Ken Hymas treasurer.

We are fortunate in that few of last year's players have left us, but this does not mean that newcomers will not get their chance. Any Fresher will get a try-out and if he's good enough he'll be "in." In this way we can foster the happy spirit which was so evident in the Club last year.

Four XV's are being run. All the regular University fixtures will be played, while in the First XV fixture list this year we have Headingley, Bradford and Morley, as well as such other regular fixtures as Roundhay, Royal Signals (Catterick) and Skipton. This year the "A", Extra "A" and "B" XV's will have full fixture lists.

Apart from playing, we would like to urge everyone who can, to turn up and support the Club—it makes a tremendous difference to the players and we trust that it will be time well spent.

A.E.D.

## THE SOCCER CLUB

Apart from being one of the oldest clubs in the University, the Association Football Club is also one of the more active and we look forward to this season, when we shall be running four teams.

From the team which reached the final of the Leeds and District Cup last season we have left a nucleus of six members. Around this we have to build up a team to regain the Christie Cup, which we lost to Manchester last year after it had lain in the Union for two years.

Although we had a bad start to the season last year the First XI lost only one University fixture in the Spring term. This year we hope to get away to a good start—where we left off last

season. To achieve this we shall need the help of new players, and I take this opportunity of inviting all Freshers, interested in playing Soccer, and all those in their second and third years who did not play regularly last season, to join the club and help us regain the "Christie."

Trial matches will be held early in the term as usual, but if for any reason the times of these are inconvenient, any member of the Union will be given a trial in one of the teams, simply by writing to the Secretary of the club.

The Soccer Club notice board will give you further information—on your right as you pass into the "Caf."

# BEER !

# TETLEY LEADS

## THE BREWERY LEEDS