

UNION NEWS



LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION

Vol. III. No. 10.

Thursday, 5th May, 1949.

Twopence.

U.C. RESTRICTS PRESS FREEDOM!

GRANTS & WELFARE QUESTIONNAIRE.

The response to the Questionnaire was very good and over 1,500 forms were returned. Each form was checked as far as possible and we think they were completed accurately and carefully on the whole. Only 42 returned forms were unfit for use.

During the Easter vacation the Questionnaires were analysed on Hollerith machines at present on loan to the Chemistry Department. Owing to the forthcoming examinations, however, it will be impossible to prepare a full report of the findings before June.

From the analysis we have obtained useful and interesting information. We find, for example, that 19% of the students had no grant at all and that 20% had grants below £150 p.a. (including fees). R.S.T. students formed 6% of the total number of forms, and 46% of their grants were below £100 p.a. (including fees). The general level of non-F.E.T.S. grants appear to be inadequate. When comparing academic expenses we find 78% of Arts Students and 30% of Medical Students had expenses of £30-£60 p.a., but 51% of Medical Students and 13% of Arts Students had expenses of £60-£90 p.a. This shows clearly how academic expenses differ between faculties and the need for taking this difference into consideration when assessing maintenance grants.

It must be emphasised that these figures only relate to the 1,581 forms which were analysed. We cannot, at the moment, say that these percentages relate to the student body as a whole. We are asking, however, for the return of a further 100 forms of a selected representative sample to bring up the return of these sample forms to 95%. We can then prove the figures of the entire survey, and we appeal to all students who have recently received a duplicate form to complete and return it without delay.

The most interesting part of the returned Questionnaires were the comments on the back page. All these have been read by the Survey organisers and while we cannot analyse the comments we are attempting to utilise the information given.

A copy of some of the preliminary figures has been affixed to the Grants and Welfare notice board in the Union.

At the Union Committee Meeting on Monday, January 7, a motion restricting the free entry of the Press to the Union was passed. This motion was, "that representatives of the Press, acting in an official capacity, shall request permission from the Executive before entering the Union. The Executive are empowered to delegate this responsibility in special circumstances to Theatre Group, the Rag Committee, and other Union organisations who desire Press liaison."

The U.C., in passing this motion, were entirely motivated by a wish to safeguard the words and actions of the student body from misrepresentation in the local and national Press. Whilst agreeing that there is an urgent need for such action, we feel that any ruling which restricts the Press from free entry to the Union is liable to be more of a menace than a safeguard.

If facts are misrepresented then the solution seems to be to demand a public apology and explanation on the part of the paper concerned. To suggest that by the Exec. acting as censors the risk of misinterpretations can be avoided borders on the ridiculous. Without depreciating the efficiency of the Exec., it is clearly not possible for them to be *au fait* with the details of all activities within the Union. In fact, on one occasion, when the situation was not made clear in

the Press, the information was given by two members of the Exec.

We would also like to point out from experience that it is frequently not possible to contact a member of Exec. even at lunch time, the only occasion at which some students are free.

Further, there does not seem to be any effective way of putting such a motion into operation. In the first place, any reporter can quite easily enter the Union building without the Exec. ever being aware of the fact. Secondly, there is nothing to prevent a reporter contacting a student outside the Union Building.

Finally, when the tendency is for better relationships to be sought between the town and the University, such a motion as this, liable to misinterpretation, is in danger of operating in the opposite direction and militating against student interests.

PEACE IN PARIS.

I was elected at the Bangor N.U.S. Congress to attend the Peace Congress in Paris. N.U.S. Congress is not a delegate body and I was sent only by the individuals at the Congress and not by the N.U.S. officially. I took with me "Peace Notebooks," containing messages and signatures from 200 students affirming their desire for peace and their belief in a peaceful settlement of the present crisis in East-West relations.

Whilst in Paris I spoke to young people from all parts of the world and discussed with them not only the questions of peace, but also the youth problems of their countries. I was deeply impressed by the interest which they showed in our problems, and in particular I remember the Hungarian student who told me that the Universities in his country had broken away from the French

system of organisation and were working towards the English model.

Other members of the British delegation discussed with their counterparts the problems of housewives, teachers, the Church, and the Trade Unions in their respective countries. These contacts were in my view the most valuable part of the Congress, paving the way for a closer understanding between peoples, and a growth of tolerance and mutual respect.

The Plenary Sessions were more spectacular and aroused the interest of the Press, although they were in my opinion, very misrepresented.

In the Plenary discussions, differences of opinion and interpretation emerged—from the Catholic idealism of an Italian Christian Socialist to the im-

RAGTIME!

In order to show everybody that it is nearly Rag time, the Rag Committee have acquired a band that plays nearly rag time. The first performance in public was given in front of the Union one lunch time last term, and there was an even bigger crowd than when a well-known orator used to hold forth last year. The band made a wonderful noise, and Mr. Berwin, in a speech telling people what they can do to help Rag, promised future performances by the same outfit.

The promise was carried out last Thursday, on a slightly larger scale. This time, the band mounted a lorry and, submerged beneath a mass of supporters carrying balloons, descended on the innocent inhabitants of Leeds, stopping at all the traffic lights. A radio van followed, and more publicity was put over.

On other fronts, Rag is progressing well. Rag Revue, now officially christened "It's Rag Time," is rehearsing furiously, but still wants new recruits, especially comedians. Also, it is planned to send storm troops out, in groups of five, to wrest money from citizens on Rag Day, and volunteers are wanted to organise these groups.

Souvenir programmes are to be sold at Rag Revue, consisting mainly of advertisements. Volunteers are wanted to sell advertising space to business houses, and should contact Mr. Pengelly, who will supply them with order books and valuable advice.

A field day is going to be held in which the T.A., A.T.C., R.A.F. and schools will take part. A mile of silver will be laid in the Garden of Rest, and prominent personalities are to be asked to raise a target indicator each day in front of the Town Hall. Further doings are also planned, but these are too awful to be made public just at the moment.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY VERSE ANTHOLOGY.

The Leeds University Verse Anthology now on sale is the second volume of its type to be printed. Consisting entirely of poems written by past and present members of the University, it is of local as well as literary interest. A review of the anthology appears in the latest edition of *The Gryphon*, and further details are available on page three of this issue.

★ CONTINUED ON PAGE 4.

Union News

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION.
THURSDAY, MAY 5th
1949.

Vol. III. No. 10.

Staff and Committee :

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Ex-officio members :-

The Union Executive Committee
and the Editor of *The Gryphon*.

EDITORIAL.

In one of our letters this week, a correspondent has pointed out that although we cannot all sit on the Union Committee, this is no reason why the Union Committee should sit on us. This is, perhaps, an example of exaggeration for effect; but there is another point about which we feel that the Union Committee is not doing all that it should. This is the matter of publicising decisions made at U.C. meetings.

Recently, a motion was passed to the effect that no student may use the broadcasting system without permission from one of the members of Exec. We are not here concerned with the rights and wrongs of this decision, although we might mention that on several occasions no member of Exec. has been available when the broadcasting system was required. The point is, that this decision was not publicised until some time after it had been taken, and then only by inserting a small typewritten notice on the covered notice board inside the Union entrance.

Another example was the passing of the Motion about the Press mentioned on the front page of this issue. This motion was passed on Monday, March 7, but has not yet been published. And yet, like the decision about the broadcasting system, it effects a very large number of students.

Apart from the small notices displayed on the U.C. notice board, Union members may find out what has happened at U.C. meetings by attending the meetings, reading the minutes in the Exec. Office, or reading the accounts in the *Union News*. But we do not feel that this is enough. If the U.C. is anxious that members of the Union should take a full and active part in Union affairs, surely they should make every provision possible for letting people know immediately any change made in the rules and regulations governing their activities. In this direction, U.C. still has a long way to go.

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

This and That

HOPPING.

The result of the questionnaire to societies and athletic clubs about the possibility of holding Wednesday evening socials next session instead of alternate Friday night socials showed surprising returns. The Athletic Clubs (for whom the idea was originally intended so that they could entertain visiting teams) turned the idea down whilst the majority of societies welcomed it. Socials will therefore be tried next session on Wednesdays and Saturdays, whilst the formal balls will remain on Fridays.

MEALS.

The serving of evening meals was resumed on the first day of term, and numbers tend to fluctuate. Up to press it is felt that students may be unaware of the restoring of the service.

BARBER'S SHOP.

This is gradually taking shape in the Men's Common Room, and it is hoped to complete the fabric and install the barber by the middle of May. Normal Hair-dressing Union rates will be charged and the hours of opening will be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays, and 9 a.m. to 12 a.m. Wednesday and Saturday. It is rumoured that the ladies are now agitating for a salon à coiffure.

BAR.

When this is installed it will be in the M.C.R. Annexe, and the M.C.R. will become a Lounge, liquor for the consumption of therein. Hours of opening as laid down by the Senate are 12—2 and 6—9. The Bar will be a "free house" and will proudly own two engine pumps.

ELECTIONS.

Conversation among high-ups reveals the fact that the U.C.

members should be prepared to put aside all society and club offices and concentrate on Union matters. Normally it is found that the people who are elected to the Committee have been reliable society secretaries and presidents who are asked by societies to continue in office for a further year. It is felt that this should not be encouraged, for if Union sub-committees are to be run effectively by those who are elected to serve the Union, then U.C. members must be prepared to put aside all worldly things and devote their time and energies to the lofty solitude and spiritual calm of inter and intra-university administration.

BOOKSTALL.

Plans are being drawn up with a view to erecting a bookstall between the telephone kiosks downstairs. As soon as the Post Office Telephone authorities will allow it is hoped to install a third telephone kiosk for the large demand for 'phone-calls.

CLIMBERS' HUT.

Discussion is taking place among committee members about a proposed plan sponsored by the Physical Education authority and the Climbing Club for the purchase of a hut in the Lake District. The demand for its use by Union members is apparently not yet determined.

VISITORS.

Five German Local Govt. officials visited the University this week. They lunched with the Vice-Chancellor and had tea with the President and Executive of the Union. They also attended the Union Committee meeting for a short time to see how an English Universities Students' Union is administered.

SAVOIR.

STOP PRESS

At the meeting on Monday, the U.C. re-affirmed past decisions that a bar should be built in the Union as soon as possible. The suggestion "that a referendum should be held to find whether there is still a demand for the bar" was rejected with three votes in favour and one abstention.

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NO TECHNIQUE !

In the R.S.H. on Friday, April 21, a dapper little gentleman with brass buttons on his waistcoat, and a monacle, stated that the art of acting is to have no technique at all. He, Esmé Percy, could give no clues to the secret other than the fact that the greatest acting results from unconsciousness of self. Studied technique and attempts at realism in the theatre only result in greater artificiality.

The first hurdle thus passed evasively, the rest of the talk was composed of a series of anecdotes about Shakespeare and Shaw. In the old days the sacred and untouchable Shakespeare seems to have been treated with the utmost flippancy. "Hamlet" enjoyed a vulgar popularity, so that an Italian audience could uproariously demand an encore of "O what a rogue and peasant slave am I." "To be or not to be," breeding contempt through familiarity, was either omitted, or rewritten as a variation on the old theme.

His acquaintance with Shaw seems to have been the reason of Esmé Percy's co-production with John Gielgud of "The Lady's not for Burning," for this play by Christopher Fry claims to have a Shavian flavour.

Shaw gave Percy little encouragement for acting and producing plays of his own, which at the time were greeted by British audiences with something in to a stony lack of any sense of humour; at the same time he displayed an unusual interest in Percy's health by appraising the "beneficial physical exercise" he must have derived from acting.

Answers to questions revealed Percy's opinion that the status of the British theatre is high, the outlook for playwrights rather gloomy, and the future of radio drama excellent.

M.R.

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I.U.S. THANKS LEEDS.

In a letter addressed to all members of the Union, Joseph Grohman, President of the I.U.S., expresses his appreciation at the way in which last term's referendum on "Politics in N.U.S." was conducted.

The Referendum Special is singled out for special praise and is described as one of the best examples of publicity for I.U.S. yet produced in England.

The attitude of many student committees both here and abroad is sharply criticised, and he suggests that many take upon themselves the responsibility of making decisions, even on major issues, without consulting the student body, and sometimes even indulging in the "conspiracy of silence" about the N.U.S.

His opinions, he says, are in no way affected by the result of the referendum and in conclusion he states that "he is confident that the students of Leeds will play an ever increasing role in the work of N.U.S."

The letter will be displayed on the N.U.S. notice board for the next few days and it is hoped that everyone will take an opportunity of reading it.

AMENITIES

I don't want my hair cut here;
I'd far rather have a beer.
When I paid my Union fees,
I hoped I'd get amenities,
Worthy of the name.
I didn't pay to smooth the way,
For some immobile popinjay.
If he's too lazy to walk down
And find a barber's shop in town,
It's a shame.

MEDIC.

CONGRESS.

The central theme of the N.U.S. Congress was a well balanced compromise between student and national affairs. The Minister of Pensions, Mr. J. P. Marquand, provided the opening session with an interesting view on the latter aspect in his speech on "The Student and the National Economy." His optimism and friendliness, combined with a wide experience of both students and nations brought him a warm response from the floor. Mr. Lowe, the speaker on "Peace," was optimistic and caused a good deal more controversy. Students of all views and nationalities condemned, praised, pleaded with, or dismissed him according to their various outlooks, but were mainly united in their desire to reach world understanding peaceably.

Student Affairs.

The more specifically student affairs were dealt with by our own Vice-Chancellor, very much at home on the topic of "The Student and his Studies," and Mr. Bowen Thomas, who spoke on the "Student's Part in National Culture." Although nobody attempted to define "culture," we were asked to appreciate it, to contribute towards it, to leave it to those who could understand it, and even to integrate it. One budding mathematician, much to our delight, solved this latter difficult problem by his own form of calculus, his results being published in **Congress News** the following morning.

Hours Off.

Thus we were by no means always serious. The opportunities for meeting other

students from all parts of the country, and from many other countries of the world, ensured lively discussion on almost every subject. We met and talked at dances and at debates, at sports and socials, not to mention the Union and our lodgings. We had trips to the mountains and all the delights of the Welsh countryside and sea-coast almost on the doorstep. For our indoor entertainment, there was an excellent production of "Lucrece," an unforgettable concert by a Welsh choir, and several films.

Leeds Activities.

Amongst the bewildering but colourful range of ties, scarves and blazers which were to be seen throughout these activities, the Leeds colours were fairly well represented, though a former Leeds student, Mr. Mayer, occasionally preferred his notorious patch-work coat to his striped blazer. In the field of sport, we must congratulate Mr. Chen for winning the hard-court tennis championship, and Mr. Mahabir and Miss Roseman, the winners of the two table-tennis tournaments. In another sphere honour is due to Mr. Singleton, who was elected as delegate to the Paris Peace Conference. Moreover, we were very pleased to welcome Mr. C. R. Morris, who even consented to join us in the rain for our photograph.

Finally, just to prove that all our delegates participated in at least one function, we were congratulated on our rendering of the University cry by a native of its country of origin, New Zealand. We hope to hear it even better performed next year at Brighton.

HIGHBROW OR LOWBROW.

Once again, the time-honoured battle of "highbrow versus lowbrow" is on, this time over the question of film shows. Rumour has whispered in the ears of the Film Committee that in the opinion of some of the programmes given last term were hardly of the cultural level looked for in a University. The Committee are, however, quite prepared to defend their choice of films on the grounds that they were launching

out on a new venture, and short of taking a Gallup poll they had no means of assessing public taste in advance. It was felt that preferences probably ranged from those of serious-minded devotees of cinema art to the simple needs of easy-going Philistines and on the whole it was considered wiser at the beginning to incline more towards the latter.

On 24th April, the first Sunday of the term, we gave a French film, "Le Roi S'Amuse," directed by Pierre Colombier and starring Raimu and Victor Francen. An amusing burlesque of present-day political systems it was handled with that inimitable artistry of which only the French know the secret.

The principal feature on 1st May was the great Swiss film "The Last Chance." A powerful drama, with tense realism and a message of tolerance and human comradeship.

The programme on the 8th May, it is hoped, will consist of Basil Wright's two superb travel films, "Song of Ceylon" and "Man of Aran." Though it is fifteen years since these films first appeared, they have lost

none of their original lustre. It was not Wright's intention to take his audience on a "technicolourful" journey. His object was to catch the authentic spirit of the places he visited, and he succeeded so admirably that after seeing these films one feels that one has had a glimpse into the minds of the strange contemplative Oriental and the primitive peasant of Western Ireland.

Encouraged by the reception given to "A Night at the Opera," it was felt that it would be generally acceptable to put on another Marx Brothers film in the coming term. On the 15th May, therefore, we are giving "A Day at the Races." So take a couple of hours off from the work you ought to have done last November, and come along and enjoy yourself.

One final word for the benefit of those who have not been to any of these shows before. They are held on Sundays at 7 p.m., in the Riley-Smith Hall, and though it will probably be necessary to increase slightly last term's admission charge of 3d., we can guarantee that it will still be a great deal less than the commercial cinemas. F.G.D.

THE VERSE ANTHOLOGY.

I went to tea at Bill Moody's house just before the long Vacation last year, and he showed me a copy of the little green paper-backed Verse Anthology, published by the English School in 1924. I thought, or maybe he suggested, it might be worth trying to bring it up to date, and shortly afterwards I consulted Mr. Muir, who was interested and offered help. Through last summer I wrote to dozens of old students who had written verse at one time or another, and their response was encouraging, and occasionally startling. One gentleman sent me about 200 of his works; one lady, nothing to do with the University but who had somehow "heard," submitted six sonnets in memory of Winifred Holtby, and one quite renowned poet grew very cross indeed in the course of correspondence, and asked me for his poem back. After a number of false starts, Mr. Arnold agreed to print for us, and I set about finding a cover design. Through a local introduction I was privileged to meet Henry Moore who, with much generosity, drew us a "Family Group"; and Professor Dobrée asked Herbert Reed for an introduction. The University Bursar gave £10 for incidental expenses, and the Union Committee confirmed their financial backing. By the beginning of the autumn term **The Gryphon** Editorial Staff had made a final selection of MSS., illustrations were booked to artist members of the embryonic Art Society, a couple of telegrams elicited Henry Moore's drawing, and by Christmas the lot went to press.

The printers have tried to make it a good-looking volume, and we put into it what seemed best of what was submitted, thinking that perhaps both students and staff would be moved to support such a strange by-product of their University.

M.H.

B. S. M.

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TRAVEL AND TRAVAIL.

After much delay the N.U.S. Travel Programme has at last arrived. The general impression is of greater variety, especially in the less expensive tours. Costs vary from £20 for 16 days in Denmark to £150 for 3 months in the U.S.A., while new names include Portugal and the tiny state of Andorra. Details of the Budapest Youth Festival are also included, but here currency restriction limits attendance to those taking an active part in the Festival. Currency rationing also caused the last minute cancellation of all Swiss tours, but a partial reprieve followed.

Farm Camps.

Twenty-three camps have already been organised in various areas in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Ely, and the Severn Valley. Improved facilities and better organisation have been promised. The response is expected to be heavy and at Leeds at least we are well on our way to surpassing last year's record contingent. Prospective campers are advised to apply early and avoid last year's disappointment.

Both travel handbooks and farm camp leaflets are in short supply, but copies have been distributed to all the hostels and posted at a number of strategic points.

Work Schemes Abroad.

The choice is not so wide as in previous years, but Norway, Sweden, Finland and France are among the countries offering places. This still remains the cheapest way of getting abroad, though in no case is the payment sufficient to cover expenses.

Home Front.

Possibilities of local employment are not being neglected. The Ministry of Labour spokesman reminded us that priority must be given to the considerable number of unemployed in the city, but added that there should still be plenty of scope for student labour. Results of enquiries so far have been meagre and anyone who has any information or suggestions is asked to contact the N.U.S. Secretary as soon as possible.

Charlie Steel and his Music

Have played for the

Badsworth Hunt Ball
Bedale Hunt Ball
Airedale Beagles' Hunt Ball
Halifax Hospital Ball
York & Ainsty Foxhunters' Ball

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LECTURER v. LECTURERS!

The Vice-Chancellor gives his views.

I am grateful for this opportunity to give my views (for what they are worth) on the Union News Gallup Poll on lectures.

A strange reader might, I think, gain the impression that from the student point of view lecturing was of quite overwhelming importance. I doubt whether many students do actually think that this should be so. It would be strange indeed if they did; for a student spends about twelve hours a week at lectures, whereas he presumably spends at work of all kinds from thirty to forty-eight hours a week during term, not to mention vacations.

Lecturing—not everything.

Most students come to the University, I believe, not so much to be "taught," but to work on their own account under guidance, encouragement and criticism from the more experienced and established scholars who are on the teaching staff. They get most benefit, in my judgment, from working side by side with able and like-minded contemporaries; but they would not get these benefits without the help and criticism of older men. Formally teaching or lecturing has something to do with it, but certainly not everything, and for many students not very much.

Experience suggests, it is true, that it is easy for inspectors, visitors and perhaps students, to underestimate the good that is done by lecturing, even when the lecturer is not especially talented at the art. Experience shows too that where "useful" lectures have been withdrawn, students have often pressed for them to be re-instituted. Not every young man or young woman entirely trusts himself, if left too much to himself, to remain on the right lines or even to keep going at all. Still there is certainly a besetting temptation for the organising authorities, when numbers are large and conditions are difficult, to over-use the lecture.

Appointments.

More broadly, many of the critics perhaps think that some of us on the staff are just bad—not merely bad lecturers but bad on any account. This is chiefly a question of appointments. No doubt it is in some degree a matter of conditions of life. For obvious reasons University appointments must, after the

first few years, be secure; there is far too much risk to vital freedoms in any other arrangement. So "University life" must be such as to make it easy for us to keep our enthusiasms, our freshness and our resilience through the last fifteen or twenty years of our working lives, when our experience may be supposed to have value.

High Qualifications.

But fundamentally quality of staff is a matter of appointments. It is universally conceded, I think, that University appointments in this country are about as objective as it is possible for human choices to be. Selection committees are chosen with an eye to the proper representation both of expertise and of general University values. The question is therefore primarily one of the qualities for which selection committees are looking. In my judgment such committees differ very little in their conception of what is desirable, though they no doubt vary considerably for reasons outside their control in their degree of success in finding perfection. They all look for a high degree of academic capacity and promise, for a flair for original work, and for a desire and ability to be helpful to students. It takes all sorts to make a world, and there are many different ways in which an established scholar can assist and encourage younger scholars. But if a selection committee feels that a particular man or woman, however brilliant academically, can be of no use to students in any possible way, it has, however reluctantly, "to crown him with wool and send him to another city."

Responsibility of Students.

It is my hope that emergency conditions will soon become a thing of the past, and that there will be opportunity again for that variety in relationships between senior and junior members of the University that there ought to be. This, I am sure, is the right line of advance; and the proper use of our opportunities, as they come, will depend in great measure on good judgment and high vitality in the student body. But if we ever came, in making appointments, to lay less emphasis than we now do on academic distinction and flair for original work, it would be a bad day for our Universities. We should not be falling short of our aims, we should be abandoning them as impracticable.

Leeds University Women's Boat Club

W.I.V.A.B.

Championship Regatta

SWILLINGTON BRIDGE

MAY 14th

Refreshments

2 p.m.

'Bus from Bay D Leeds 'Bus Station

Variations on Modern Themes.

No. 6.

Little clock ticks at the foot of the bed.

Carpet is ash grey that used to be red.

Hush! hush! whisper who dare.

Christopher Robin is tearing his hair.

Aelfric was younger than Oswald I'd say.

(Oh, wasn't it fun in the Caf. to-day?)

The lemon so cold and the blonde so hot.

Oh, God bless Beowulf, I quite forgot.

(If I open my file-notes a little bit more

A small billet-doux flutters down to the floor.

She's a beautiful thing, but she's ever so good).

The Battle of Maldon?—How trivial and crude.

(Yes, she's far too good for so lovely a lass).

"Edda and Saga?"—we'll let that pass.

(Her virtue seems to be all her strength)

Oh there's whales were a (peach) of a length.

I wonder if Wulfstan and he were good friends,

Or if they both cheated to gain their own ends.

(There's a film at the Tatler I'd like to see.

I'll ask her to-morrow. I'll see her at three).

Little clock ticks at the foot of the bed.

Carpet is ash-grey that used to be red.

Hush! hush! whisper who dare.

Christopher Robin is saying his prayer.

H.M.T.

★ Continued from Page 1.

pressive realism of John Wood of the Scottish Labour Party; from the oversimplification of the lesser Eastern delegates to the well-balanced survey of world problems by Zilliacus. All were united by a desire for peace and a determination to avoid another war, whatever their opinions on the apportionment of the guilt for the present situation. The Congress was an impressive demonstration of the common interest of all peoples in peace.

FRED SINGLETON.

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“ about it, and about ”

(i). Confusion!

Madam,
On January 4th of this year, I applied to the Union, by letter, for the hire of the Riley Smith Hall to run a “ Rugger Social ” on one of the first two Saturdays of the Summer Term; permission was also sought to run a bar. A few days later Mr. Bourn informed me in the course of a telephone conversation, that the applications had been successful, subject to a later confirmation. This was obtained verbally from the House Secretary, although which particular Saturday had still to be decided.

I heard nothing further and naturally assumed all was in order. On applying to the House Secretary just before Easter, I was not a little annoyed to find he had forgotten our application when arranging the programme of Summer Socials. All Saturdays being allocated, I enquired after a free Friday and was told we could definitely have the second of term, the only one available. On the following day, however, the Secretary of the Chemical Society informed me that the House Secretary had long since promised this Friday to him and that tickets had been printed accordingly. So we lost that date too.

It was very important we ran a Social this year so that we could pay back a £30 loan the Finance Committee kindly made to us, at least in part, from the proceeds. Never mind, with luck, Mr. Johnson may remember the good intentions of the year's Rugger Club, when he presides at next year's Finance Committee Meetings when the question of the repayment is raised. Of course, he may forget . . .

Yours faithfully,
D. BEARD
(Capt. L.U.R.U.F.C.).

(ii). Action Please!

Madam,
It is time that some publicity was given to the attitude of University and Union authorities

in the matter of theft inside the University.

Under present conditions no student can leave his property unlocked without the possibility of their having been stolen on his return.

The position is not improved in that when these losses are reported to the authorities they are merely added to the end of an already long list of “ Lost ” property, and that no hope of his ever recovering them is held out to him.

Should he have enough bad taste and common sense to suggest that the police be informed, the authorities suppress a well-bred shudder and pretend they haven't heard, at the same time delicately implying that they cannot countenance the scandal.

There must be others in the University besides myself, who think it as scandalous to have a University infested by petty thieves (most of them incidentally destined to knock the honour out of previously honourable professions) as to expose their presence to the public gaze.

To give definition to the picture sketched above let me give a recent instance of non-intervention by the authorities, and let me point out that although the case quoted concerns a cleaner, not all thieving can be attributed to cleaners, as they can scarcely have a market for professional instruments.

In this case the cleaner was recently found by two witnesses, giving a very thorough over haul to the contents of a woman student's shopping bag. The responsible authority, who was informed at once, instead of interviewing the cleaner, expressed regret that he could not now trust her, and further regret that he dare not mention it to her lest she should leave.

The implication — that a cleaner is more valuable than the security of students' personal property — seems a little frivolous.

Thus the student is forced by the attitude of the authorities into living an extremely undig-

nified existence, in which he must either lock up or carry on his person all his marketable possessions.

It is evident that unless pressure is brought to bear on the authorities they are going to avoid washing their dirty linen in public, and continue to bear — as nearly as possible without scratching — the crawling mass that lies beneath.

Would it not be better for the health of the community if we washed our dirty linen, and loudly avowed our intention to scratch at the least sign of any new upheaval?

I am, etc.,
ANNE SENIOR.
The Dental School.

(iii). Cold Calculations.

Dear Madam,
In the course of our liberal education at this University we have learned that the optimum of mental energy is reached at a temperature of 38° F.

We note with alarm that the temperature of the Brotherton Library is maintained at approximately 65° F. — at which mental output is little more than half that at the optimum.

A simple calculation should enable the Authorities to estimate the effect of this on the results of the forthcoming examinations and act accordingly.

We are,
Yours faithfully,
L.C.
J.F.W.

(iv).

Madam,
This letter may appear very trivial, but I should like to appeal for a better standard of spoken English from some of the Engineering Lecturers.

They seem to somehow go out of their way to always Split their Infinitives, and when one gets into the habit of listening for them, it becomes increasingly difficult to all the time keep concentrating on the lecture.

I mention no names, only saying that many of the Engineering Lecturers are guilty,

and also two of the El. Maths. Lecturers.

Yours, etc.,
F.

(v). Bar a Barber.

Would it be asking too much to request that the person or persons who decided that a barber's shop be installed now, and a bar later, should give reasons for the choice, publicly?

We anticipate a stormy meeting in the R.S.H. with many embittered Medics. present.

Opinion on this subject is naturally divided, but the extreme point of view was put by the Medic. who said, “ I knew they'd never do it! They can always think of something else. This is the last time I climb this hill this term.”

The other extreme was voiced by an Agric. “ It's healthy to keep the hair short. Long hair collects twigs and parasites! ”

Women students are rather left out of the issue, which is a potent argument against the high priority given to the men's barber shop. One woman student suggested that proprietary brands of “ home shampoo ” should be sold at the Porter's Office, in order to avoid any suggestion of favouritism to the men. But as we explained to her, this could lead to all sorts of things.

Typical of the middle view was that expressed by a Textile student. He said, “ I'm not sure which we should have had first, but who decided and why? ”

Who did decide? What were his reasons? Surely all Union members should be consulted as to which amenity should come next, especially when considerable expense is involved. We can't all sit on the U.C., but that's no reason why the U.C. should sit on us!

The most inflammatory opinion we heard was given by a probably thirsty student who, as he gazed sadly at the expensive shop fittings, said: “ If Union officials can't interpret our wishes better than this it's high time Membership became optional! ”

P.D.A.F.

GRAMO. RECITALS

Next Monday in the R.S.H.
at 1 p.m.

ERNEST BRADBURY

Music Critic of the Y.P. on

“ MAHLER ”
(illustrated)

All welcome

OVER THE HILLS.

In the first week of the Vac. a party from the Climbing Club met at Laggangarbh, the Glencoe hut of the Scottish Mountaineering Club. The weather was so fine that, on one occasion, they sunbathed at 1,500 ft., and then tramped over snow at 3,000 ft.

Their ice axes, which bewildered the inhabitants of Glasgow on the way, were to prove very useful; for two other climbers whom they met had tried glissading on Bidean without axes and had badly cut

their hands and faces on rocks at the bottom.

Some of the party went on to Nevis Youth Hostel at the weekend and climbed “ THE BEN.”

At the top of the gully was a cornice of snow about eight feet thick through which they had to hack their way, emerging on the ridge of Carn Dearg. A short walk round the top of the cliffs brought them to the summit of Ben Nevis, from which Skye and Rum, about fifty miles away, could clearly be seen.

B.H.W.

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★ SPORT ★

ATHLETICS.

Inter-Faculty Sports.

The Athletics Club opened its season on Saturday, April 30th, the occasion being the Inter-Faculty Sports held at Weetwood.

The weather was ideal, the meeting well-organised, and the competition so keen that one was reminded of meetings held in pre-War years, when the "Inter-Faculty" was a major social event and, on occasions, warranted the use of Headingley Cricket Ground to accommodate the spectators.

It is always difficult to select certain performances as being worthy of special mention. However, two new records were established and these ought to receive notice. In the mile, D. Birch ran a well-judged race in 4 mins. 37 secs., thus lowering the record by $\frac{2}{3}$ secs. In the Three Miles, a thrilling battle was fought out between D. W. M. Haw and D. Birch. Both contestants were racing neck and neck over the last 220 yards, Haw finally breasting the tape a foot ahead of Birch to win in the record time of 15 mins. 7 secs. Birch also registered a faster time than the existing record.

BASKETBALL.

Leeds Win U.A.U.

The U.A.U. Basketball Final between Leeds and Cardiff on March 12th, resulted in a convincing win for Leeds, and marks the major achievement of a very successful season. At the beginning of the season the team was weakened by the departure of several of its members, but it has been built up again and is now strong enough to take on the best in England.

Apart from University fixtures, several games have been played against American teams. The American tactics differ in many ways, and whereas the University team concentrate on sudden break-aways the Americans carefully engineer their openings, making the ball move rather than the players.

The Club is organising a tournament to be held in Leeds on May 7th, and several top-ranking American team will be competing; why not come along to support the University!

YOUR CALL!

TETLEY

THE ALE OF FINE FLAVOUR

THE BREWERY

LEEDS

TELEPHONE - - - 30331

EDITORIAL.

We enter the Summer Season with one U.A.U. Championship (Basketball) and with a very lively interest in another (Swimming). Our congratulations to the Basketball Club on its achievement, and our best wishes for their success to the Swimming Club, and to all the other clubs who come to life during the Summer Term.

At the G.A.C. Meeting on April 28th, a motion to divide the University Athletic Clubs into major and minor clubs eligible for full and half colours respectively, was defeated by a large majority. There is no space to enlarge upon the scheme, but doubtless second and third year students will be familiar with the idea.

Congratulations to J. F. Collins and J. G. Reid, who are included in the party from which the English Universities Rifle Team will be selected.

EARLY SHOCKS FOR YORKSHIRE.

The annual fixture between Yorkshire and the University Combined Eleven was played this year on Tuesday, April 26th, at Weetwood, against a team which included every County "cap" except Hutton and Yardley.

In perfect weather before a large crowd, Bill Bale, the University captain, won the toss and decided to put Yorkshire in. Halliday and Watson opened and the former was soon off the mark. The score mounted steadily until, after seventeen minutes play, Watson was completely beaten by a yorker from Jim Thompson, and only two balls later, Smithson was caught by Roy Thompson off Wright. Meanwhile Halliday continued to bat well and had scored 21 before he, too, fell a victim to Wright, being lbw to a ball which appeared to keep low. At 30, Foster replaced Thompson, and off his second ball Sutcliffe was beautifully caught at the wicket by Ingham. Four overs later, Foster deceived Wilson, who was lbw to a top spinner. Lester, who was beginning to open out, was then joined by Aspinall. However, Bale had brought in a short leg to the new batsman, and this move was soon rewarded. 51 for 6 after fifty minutes play.

Roy Thompson, bowling left hand slow, then took over the attack from Wright. Thompson took some time to settle down, but had Coxon well caught in his third over by Doug. Morris fielding a mid-off. At the other end, Foster was maintaining an impeccable length, keeping both Lester and Wardle very quiet, and at 93 he took a return catch from Lester off the fourth ball of a particularly good over. Unfortunately for the University, loose bowling from the other end enabled Wardle and Brennan to add 49 invaluable runs in 30 minutes for the ninth wicket. Wardle was eventually caught in the deep by Roy Thompson off Foster, who disposed of Brennan three balls later to close the Yorkshire innings with the score at 142. Foster's final analysis was 5 for 29 in 13.5 overs; a magnificent achievement against such opposition.

The University opening pair, Sanders and Cross, went out to face the bowling of Aspinall and Coxon. Neither batsman started very confidently, and with the score at 5, Cross edged an out-swing from Aspinall, and Wardle, fielding at first slip, made a magnificent one-handed catch. Reg. Davies, the Medics. captain, then joined Sanders, who began to play with more assurance, his forcing strokes on the on-side being particularly sound. The score mounted slowly to 18, when Sanders was lbw to an appreciably slower ball from Coxon which swung in very late. At 21, a double bowling change brought on Robinson and Wardle, and the batsmen were subdued for several overs. Then Morris, attempting to drive Robinson for six, was dropped at long-off and promptly celebrated by repeating his attempt. This time he succeeded. Morris was especially severe on Robinson, and Brennan was obliged to recall Aspinall with the score at 60. This move was immediately successful, for the bowler beat Davies in the first over of his new spell. Worse was to follow, for Bale and Ingham came out in quick succession. Wright swept one ball to the mid-wicket boundary, but became Wardle's third victim with the score at 75. Morris took his score to 44, the highest of the day, with another four off Wardle, but was out attempting another big hit the next ball.

Whitehouse and Roy Thompson played on quietly as the match drew to its close, with Robinson providing last minute excitement by bowling Whitehouse in the final over of the game.

YORKSHIRE 142 all out.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY .. 92 for 8 wickets.

SOCCER.

The Soccer season is fast drawing to a close and with it our last hopes of winning a local cup trophy. Our closest and most commendable effort came last Monday evening when the University Reserves met Swillington, the League champions, in the final of the Ramsden Trophy. Outstanding were Cross and Thompson in defence, with Buckton a fine attacking wing half, and it came as no surprise when Saville headed home a centre by Chavity after ten minutes play. The game continued at a fast pace and it was only after seventy-five minutes that Swillington managed to equalise from a corner. The deciding goal came in the last five minutes. Sutcliffe, the captain, has been outstanding for his leadership and enthusiasm in the Second XI throughout the season.

Next season the First XI will play in the Senior Division of the West Yorkshire League, while the Second and Third XI's will play in the "A" and "B" Divisions of the West Riding Old Boys' League. These changes have been made because ex-Service men will be in the minority next season.

SWIMMING.

The first fixture of the Summer Term is the all-important Water Polo game against Liverpool on May 4th. This game will decide whether Leeds or Durham go to London on May 14th to meet the Southern U.A.U. Champions.

Leeds are hoping to equal if not better last year's successes and as part of their training included water polo games against Leeds Old Boys and Leeds Training College. Both games resulted in comfortable victories.

In the Christie Swimming Championships held at Manchester on April 30th, Leeds (17 points) were third to Liverpool (31 points) and Manchester (25 points) respectively. Pengelly won the 200 yds. free style event and came second in the diving. Ayers gained first place in the plunge with 62 ft. 8 ins. The team at present lacks sprint swimmers and would welcome any "discoveries."

Thorntons
SPORTS - GAMES

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