

INDEPENDENT



FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1974

A newspaper for the University of Kent at Canterbury

No. 92

CATERING SHOCKER

THERE is now evidence that the increase in food prices in the University dining halls, which took effect from February 18th was entirely unnecessary.

The increases, which average at 11 per cent, are described by Derek Crabtree, Chairman of the Bursars' Committee as "not drastic, but marginal," but a motion was passed at Wednesday's Union meeting totally opposing these increases in the light of the fresh evidence and the static level of the student grant for the year.

The document which reveals the fact that there was no necessity to impose price rises is initialled from RTB Langhorne, a former Head of the Bursars' Committee. The document states that if there were an "outcry" at the rises and "a demand to investigate the figures very closely," then such an investigation "could not be sustained by us because turnover has so far increased as in effect to lower our labour costs by more than food costs have risen. We are, in short, improving on budget to a quite unexpected degree."

It continues with various means of justifying the increases with a clause which expresses concern at more students using the dining halls as extra staff would have to be employed.

The alternative of not raising the prices is offered, which if accepted, the Bursars would "make a virtue of it," and "say that we will absorb increased food costs for the sake of helping students." A compromise of imposing increases only on items such as fish, rice and sandwiches, which, states Langhorne, "would have the merit of preserving something of the principle of making prices relate to costs and could be abandoned at any point without serious damage, should we feel the need to keep a concession in hand."

The document concludes "of these two I should prefer the first" (i.e. an average 11 per cent increase). The Heads of Colleges Committee finally accepted these recommendations. Both Crabtree and Langhorne are on the committee.

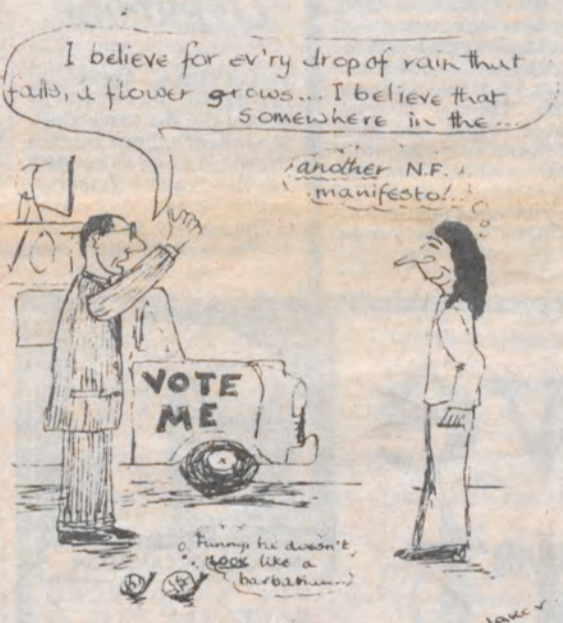
The figures which conclusively illustrate the hypocrisy and lies behind the decision to implement the increases lie in the prime deficit budgeted for the year 1973/4. This figure was set at £32,000, but without price increases, this is "now expected to be £20,500," a reduction of almost 40 per cent.

However, with the prices now in effect, this is likely to be in the region of £5,000, with the situation even better after the savings on light and heat and the increased revenue from the vacation conference trade.

A spokesman for the Students' Union commented: "We are totally opposed to these increases," and in the light of the document the Union will press for a joint Students and Trade Union Working

Party to investigate the catering situation, just such an investigation that the Bursars would try very hard indeed to avoid.

Both the Bursars' and Heads of Colleges Committees are held in camera without any student representation. None of the Bursars were prepared to comment, and Derek Crabtree was unavailable at the time of going to press.



DEAN QUILTS

REPERCUSSIONS of the Cotter case continued to be felt on campus last week when Professor Guy Chilver announced his resignation as Dean of Humanities, following the University Senate's decision to over-rule both the Faculty Board and Academic Review Panel and re-instate Joe Cotter.



Dr. Peter Stone, a senior lecturer in English has also resigned his seat from the Senate in protest at the University's decision, because he claims that he felt "the humanities faculty did not get the support it should have done. The faculty behaved in a responsible way, but was let down by the University."

He went on: "It becomes more and more obvious that urgent action must be taken — by university authorities and by the government — to end the wave of organised disruption which is affecting the education of thousands of non-militant students."

Professor Chilver outlined the reasons for his resignation in a recent interview in the Daily Mail in which he said that he felt it was "an impossible situation where somebody in my position as dean can have my right to make decisions on academic matters usurped by political extremists among the students."

He also claimed that there was no doubt in his mind that it was "left-wing political extremists" who were causing the violent trouble in our universities, often he said "not even students" at all.

It has been suggested, however, that other events, unconnected with the Cotter case may have prompted Professor Chilver's resignation as dean. There was mounting dissatisfaction this

term over his part in the Chair of Philosophy appointment, after which one senior and respected member of the department left Kent to take up a chair at Essex University. It was also felt in some quarters that his handling of the Cotter and similar disciplinary actions had created a certain amount of disillusion among members of the Humanities Faculty.

Professor Chilver will be continuing as Professor of Classical Studies.

Press hysteria

THE reporting of recent events at UKC in the local and national Press has brought a severe and indignant response from many groups within the University.

Over the past weeks the Joe Cotter case has found its way into nearly every one of the local papers and has received extensive coverage in many national dailies and on Southern Television.

The most controversial report to have appeared to date was the leader in last Wednesday's Daily Telegraph — "MOB-RULE IN KENT", in which it said that "if Kent University is not yet a place of darkness, of ignorance and of mob rule, its descent to that gloomy state has been quickened by the Joe Cotter case."

The report went on: "Mr McGowan, a self-confident young barbarian, Prof Chilver, a conscientious but defeated scholar, and the university authorities, who are little more than cringing appeasers, all testify to the same fact — that at Kent University, academic standards are now determined by mob-rule. What are the standards prevailing in the philosophy department today? Can any student be dismissed in future? If not what is a degree from that institution worth? And, if it is worth very little, why should the taxpayer subsidise those receiving tuition?"

Answering this criticism in a letter to the Telegraph's Editor, Union President John McGeown said that Kent University was not now a place of darkness, but that "during the last few weeks more people have actually participated in what goes on at this place than at any other time in its history. If this is "mob-rule" then I confess that I am in favour of it."

"The Students' Union struggle to re-instate Joe Cotter was characterised by daily mass meetings that took place both inside and outside of the Registry. These mass meetings were the decision making bodies of the Students' Unions — such is our conception of democracy."

The Telegraph's leader also brought a sharp retort from members of staff at UKC. In a letter signed by seven academics they said that "the traditional excellence of academic standards and staff-student relationships will not be disturbed by the boorish antics of a misguided few, nor should the taxpayer (including the numerous academics among them) be deterred by journalists from the continuing to support the vast majority of students at Kent and elsewhere who have tried no interest in playing at revolutionaries and are therefore of no interest to the national Press."

In another letter a Professor at UKC stressed that this university "like others is a fairly enlightened place where the mob does not rule."

Earlier, criticism of the Press' coverage of the affair was voiced by students who had been trying to bring an end to the occupation. In a statement issued before Monday's EGM they said that "the media seems set on conducting a smear campaign against all students in this university. Reports have already appeared which accused students of violence, harassment and of behaving 'like animals'. If the sit-in continues this campaign will accelerate and allegations such as these can only harm Cotter's case as well as the reputation of the student body at Kent."

Feeling has been particularly bitter on campus at Press coverage since Joe Cotter was re-instated, as many feel that many of the nationals were dwelling on the 'violence' and disruption unnecessarily after the situation at Kent was just beginning to return to normal. Disquiet has already been expressed by students taking finals in June, that the continued adverse publicity will severely damage job prospects. Others fear that as has happened at other universities who have had severe and a prolonged adverse publicity, Kent will see both the number of applicants for places and jobs fall, having a damaging effect on all concerned.

Into battle

Labour hopes of a swing to the left in today's General Election at Canterbury, on the showing of their candidates in the recent council polls, will nevertheless have to be a dramatic one if the Conservative majority of 18,050 at the last election is to be broken.

Then, David Crouch, again standing as the Tory candidate polled more votes than his two opponents put together, having one of the largest majorities in Kent.

This year the seat is being contested by 4 candidates, one of whom, Labour's Mike Fuller is a lecturer in Economic and Social Statistics at U.K.C. At the last election in 1970 the Liberals polled 3 and a half thousand votes less than the Labour Candidate but with the current upsurge of Liberal strength in recent by-elections they could present a challenge to the big two.

On his showing in recent council elections, the National Front candidate, Ken McKilliam is unlikely to even figure in the final result, particularly after the "blacking" of the National Front's election address by the Post Office last week. They complained that an offer in the manifesto to "send 10p in stamps" and get more information on the party contravened the 'Representation of the People Act' which allows one canvassing leaflet to be posted free of charge, but only if it is on the election and nothing else.

In the election manifestoes of the 3 major political parties out recently, only 2 of them contain a direct reference to their plans for higher education. The Labour manifesto only includes a general guideline on education.

The Conservatives, under whom the whole grants issue has been re-examined by NUS and a national campaign mounted, say little that differs from their present policy. In their manifesto it says, "The expansion of further and higher education will be less rapid than planned because of reduced demands for places and the present prevailing economic crisis."

"A review of student grants is proceeding and we shall continue to improve the parental income scale so that parents on a given income will pay less towards the grant."

The Liberals take a wider look at higher education in general and if anything see an expansion rather than a cut-back in educational opportunities.



"We will end the binary system of further education," they state, "and bring about a closer integration of universities, polytechnics and colleges of further education." They also hope to see the establishment of "community colleges" that would be "open to all age groups with the ultimate aim providing further education to all who desire it." They conclude that "to this end, an adequate student grant through our credit income tax scheme would be provided."

SIT-IN
SPECIAL P. 6 & 7

PART I's SCRAPPED AT YORK



YORK UNIVERSITY, whose course and examination structure is very similar to that of UKC, has recently announced that they are to scrap their Part I Social Science examination and make entry to Part II on the basis of continuous assessment throughout the first year.

The news, which could pave the way for similar developments at Kent, follows mounting criticism of the York course structure which culminated in a mass boycott of Part I's at the end of last term. Then only 93 of the expected 170 candidates turned up to sit the Social Science paper. After picketing of the hall, the exam was called off when staff felt that it was "psychologically impossible" for the students to take the exam even if they wanted to. This was then replaced by a "take-home" paper for candidates to do over the Christmas vacation. When 35 students were later accused of cheating in this the exam was abandoned altogether.

"DIRECT ACTION"

Both the students and the authorities are claiming the initiative in getting the exams abolished. The Students Union see the boycott as a victory for "direct action", claiming that it was this and a sit-in at the economics building which proved the decisive factors in the campaign. Many university lecturers are saying, however, that there has been increasing dissatisfaction among staff with the system for some time and that the changes came about after a year's careful debate on the subject.

Some senior lecturers have actually claimed that if anything the boycott had hardened the authorities attitudes against changing the course and the Social Science Faculty feel particularly bitter at having been selected as a target, as they say that they have been one of the most liberal faculties at York and have worked hardest towards reforming courses.

IN VAIN

Many students, however, disagree with this view. One claimed that students have been vainly trying to get the system

changed for the last five years, while history students had recently been able to get their Part I's abolished without any fuss.

Whether Kent will follow the example of York is uncertain at the moment but from past discontents it seems likely that this summer will see the perennial call for exam boycotts heard once again. With the extension of the "Counter Course" scheme, which last term was noticeably geared to social scientists and the recent disruptions of social science lectures all the signs are that fresh activity could well be on the way again.

BIRMINGHAM

BIRMINGHAM'S special committee set up to consider nominations for a new Chancellor have unanimously recommended Peter Scott as their choice.

They say that the nomination of Mr. Scott, of plaster duck and broadcasting fame is 'part of a trend toward environmental concern within the University and the academic world.'

LEEDS

LEEDS Poly is to ask for a Union fee increase of over 66 per cent in order to maintain its activities at their present level.

The move, if accepted by the Polytechnic Governors, would increase the fee for a full-time student from the present rate of £15 to £26, making it the highest fee of any Students Union in the country.

The Union say the increase is needed because the intake at the college has stopped increasing and because of inflation. "If the proposals are rejected," a spokesman for the Union said, "we will have to cut back on all expenditure and seriously think of sacking staff and increasing bar prices."

CAMBRIDGE

A £10m gift from a local racehorse owner to found a new college is being considered by the university authorities at Cambridge.

But despite the generosity of the gift, some dons have voiced disquiet at the scheme, particularly those who live in leased accommodation on the proposed site.

Generally, however, it is felt that the proposed 1981 target of 13,000 students, 1500 up on present numbers, would be more easily achieved by the foundation of a new college.



— the universities

DURHAM

DURHAM Student's Union is to propose a censure motion on NUS Deputy President, Stuart Paul at the NUS National conference to be held at Liverpool in April.

The move follows an attack by Paul on President John Randall, in which he described him as "at worst a nonentity and at best a mimic of other people's policies." Backed by 9 members of the 16 man executive, Paul hopes to oust Randall from the Presidency this Easter.

Durham Union President, John Spens, said recently that he thought it "disgusting that the Deputy President should be seen attacking the President of NUS at one of the most crucial stages of the Grants campaign. Randall was, he said, "a very competent leader."

The motion is expected to receive the backing of Newcastle University and the North East London Polytechnic.

LIVERPOOL

THURSDAY nights at Liverpool have never been quite the same since 30 students there formed themselves into the "Eddie Waring Impersonation Society."

The society meets each week to exchange and

debate various nuances of the Waring technique and the one who takes him off best is said to get all his beer free that night.

They have invited their hero to one such evening as their guest of honour and Eddie Waring says he'll be delighted to attend, even declining the travelling expenses they offered him.

OXFORD

300 students marched through the city centre recently against the arrest of 8 people at a Grants Campaign sit-in at the Indian Institute in Broad Street. They were also protesting at what they called the 'unnecessary force' used by university staff, police and security men in clearing 50 people from the hall.

But despite these allegations the University are adamant that nothing more than minor scuffles took place. "There were no hired thugs," said a spokesman for the University, "and the claims of brutality is ridiculous."

They claim that only a group of 50 volunteer staff, "including relatively elderly gentlemen, entered by a ladder to evict intruders. The VC was rumoured to have led them.

Bus Fares go up

EAST KENT BUS COMPANY are to put up the price of fares from March 3, despite objections to the move by 21 local councils. The increases, agreed to recently by the South Eastern Traffic Commission, will be the second round in under eight months.

Representing the 21 councils opposed to the increases, Mr. Michael McMullan said that the councils were "profoundly disturbed and upset by the impact that this will have on the population of this area."

The increases will put an extra 1p on all fares over 15p and will increase the cost of Wanderbus and Express tickets by between 12½ and 15 per cent. Most damaging of all will be the scrapping of the 2p off-peak reduction and the proportionate increase in children's fares.

Although the increases were blamed on the rising price of fuel oil, the new fares are expected to turn an annual loss of £463,000 into a profit of £91,000.

Good news, however is that despite the increase in fares, services are expected to stay at the same low standard that they always have been.

PLEASE HAVE FARE NOT INCLUDED IN GRANT READY TO ASSIST CONDUCTOR



Massive support for demo

... and at UKC



MORE THAN 20,000 STUDENTS attended the National Grants Demo at Hyde Park on February 8th, and with delegations coming from universities, polytechnics and colleges from all over Britain, it was one of the largest turn-outs to be seen in London since the Anti-Vietnam Demonstration of 1968.

Despite police having been stationed at what were thought to be the two likeliest targets en route — Centre Point and the Department of Education and Sciences offices, the demonstration went off without incident.

No illusions

At Hyde Park the meeting was addressed by Jack Dunn, President of Kent Miners and members of the NUS Executive. At the meeting NUS President John Randall called for all students to vote Labour at the next election despite having said: "Let us have no illusions about the nature of a future Labour Government. They will inherit a crisis and their record when last in office gives us little ground for optimism." He did, however, stress that he thought them infinitely preferable to the Conservatives who had done little to meet the demands of the Grants Campaign.

Jeers

When he was followed by Judith Hart, one of the Labour MPs at the rally, there were some jeers and booing when she refused to commit the Labour Party to meeting the full NUS grants claim of £655. Labour have made no specific reference to

higher education and how they will view the claim if elected in their recently published election manifesto.

Since the demonstration Randall's call on all students to vote Labour at the next election has again brought a split in the now often divided Union Executive.

Coalition

At an Executive meeting the proposal was defeated by 6:5 by the now familiar 'Broad-Left' coalition led by Stuart Paul. Certain members of

the Executive thought it was wrong to urge students, many of whom were Communists to back Labour in preference to the 43 Communist candidates contesting seats on the 28th.

After the meeting a spokesman for the Executive said that they would now be publishing material which called on students to support any candidate who supported NUS policy on grants, education or foreign issues. This meant that at the election they would be able to vote Labour, Liberal or Communist, but not Conservative.



NUS ANNOUNCED RECENTLY that 29 students unions are on rent strike this term. Rent Strike Funds have been set up for students to pay into in all these cases with the exception of Durham who have agreed to pay part of their college bills.

THE NATIONAL ONE-DAY strike on February 8th in support of the NUS Grants Campaign was somewhat overshadowed by other issues on campus, but in fact more support was given to the mass rally in London than to the previous one, with all five coaches leaving Canterbury full.

During the rally, the Students' Union did ask for speaking rights to explain the situation at Kent, but the NUS Executive refused on the grounds that such a speech would be diversionary. There was however, an announcement declaring support and asking for telegrams showing solidarity with the students, here. The 300 strong contingent from Canterbury distributed leaflets about Joe Cotter's case to many of the 50,000 who were taking part in the demonstration.

At Kent, although attention was very much focused on the Cotter case, continued support for the Grants Campaign has been shown with over £700 flowing into the Rent Strike Fund in week 4 — at the height of the occupation. By the end of week 5 the fund stood at around £10,000 which is higher than at any time last term and almost equals the level reached when the Rent Strike reached its high point last Spring.

Letters to the Editor

Assaults on Porters?

Dear Sir,
I understand, on good authority, that during the afternoon of Tuesday, Feb. 5th, the offices of a local newspaper received a phone call from the Students Union categorically denying that any acts of violence had taken place. This call was received before any violence had been reported. I wonder why? I am employed in the Registry and wish to emphatically state that force and strong-arm tactics were definitely employed during the disgraceful operation by members of the Students Union. I was myself viciously assaulted by six students simultaneously and forcibly deprived of the keys to the building. Four of my colleagues were likewise assaulted, two of them being ex-servicemen in receipt of disability pensions. This is surely a shameful thing and the guilty persons should be swiftly punished.

As a direct result of this violence my fellow-members of the staff of porters have withdrawn all goodwill and labour services for all student functions which means that no film shows or social events will take place till the present situation has ended. We do realise that the majority of students on the campus are moderates and have hitherto been apathetic as far as SU elections have been concerned. Many students do not even know why their social functions have been curtailed and do not believe that any violence took place on Feb. 5th. I trust that this letter (if published) will serve to enlighten them; if it is not published, I shall draw my own conclusions.

I would stress that to regain the goodwill and cooperation of Registry porters at student film shows and social events the onus is now on the moderate element of students to bring their influence to bear on the minority of trouble-makers at present in control of their affairs and, if necessary, to even replace them at the earliest possible opportunity, in order to retrieve the situation.

I would also add that as a further token of resentment against the recent happenings all mail received at the Registry addressed to the SU will not be handled or redirected by Registry porters. On behalf of my colleagues I apologise to those students who are being deprived, even though innocent of any misdemeanour. The blame must lay squarely on the Executive Committee of the SU who, having sent their members into the Registry, must accept full responsibility for their actions.

Yours sincerely,
L. E. Daniels,
Registry Post-Room.

OKAPI?

DEAR Incant,
I'm afraid Clive (any relation to DW?) Griffiths fucked up again. The IMG film was not to have been made by Willisconti, but by "Blue" Sergei Eisenstein and "Digger" Vertov, the well-known Australian silent (or at

any rate, taciturn) film-makers. However, this project has been shelved, following objections from the Hayes office, and shooting has started on "Gunfight at the UK Corral," starring Dean Martin Chilver and Eric (19th century) Fox. The production company is United Piss-Artists, and I have been asked to appeal for any people who have been savaged by guard-dogs, to play bit-parts.

Yours,
Laszlo Kovacs.

YES

Dear Sir,
My son had occasion to visit some friends in Canterbury. On his return he occupied the greenhouse and refused to emerge until Lady Jane Grey is reinstated. We are desperate-our tomatoes are dying. Can you help us?

Norris Stumes,
Zulu Road,
Abingdon.

(Water your tomatoes. Ed.)

Incant urgently requires the following assortment:

News Reporters
Features Editor
+ Writers
Sports Editor
Layers-out, etc,

All enquiries concerning these highly-rewarding positions should be addressed to Geoff Wallis, via Darwin IPS or Incant.

McGEOWN ANSWERS

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity of replying to Mr Daniel's letter in the same issue of your paper. This is a procedure that can only help to increase the authority and informative nature of "Incant" and as such must be welcomed by all. However, to Mr Daniel's letter.

Firstly, Mr Daniels is wrong in claiming that statements were made to the local press before any violence took place. Certainly, as soon as violence had been alleged (and wild gruesome allegations they were), the Students Union offered publicly to investigate specific incidents and offered its regrets for any injury which staff had suffered. This investigation has been offered on numerous occasions over the past two weeks and remains on offer. However, to date it has not been taken up. As to Mr Daniel's "authority" I cannot comment as he does not state what or who his "good authority" is!

As to the specific allegations which Mr Daniels makes, our investigation reveals that his account suffers from exaggeration. The keys were certainly taken from him and in this one of his fingers was gashed. However, it must be said that this incident would not have taken place if the staff had been given instructions by the University to stand aside and not engage in fisticuffs with students.

Having said this, the Students Union feels that any "violence" which took place is deeply regrettable and we have extended our sincere apologies to all concerned. The Students Union and the Trade Unions are in discussions on this matter and that is surely the proper forum for this debate. Until those discussions have ended, I am not in a position to comment further.

Best wishes,
Yours fraternally,
John McGeown
President

Henderson speaks

I was interested to read the ramblings of an illiterate Nottingham tosser who can't even spell Graeme properly, in Incant Diary (February 9). Not that I have any thing against illiterate Nottingham tossers, but I am not surprised that he was unable to find out any scurrilous rumours about me since he forgot to spread them around before investigating.

But, in fact, I would contend that "The Whole Executive are a bunch of Commie Wankers" - I have only caught six so far and one of those was a member of the Labour Party. What is more, I don't really see why commies should have the sole right to relieve their sexual frustrations in this manner - after all our great society does afford some freedom of action, even if it does try to confine them to under the bed! Mind you, I suggest that it is only fair that the Tories should also suffer - It can't be very pleasant having to sleep on a wet mattress.

Nevertheless, I was glad to see some sympathy for my position. "Poor Graham is almost bound to end up as the new Daskiewicz and what a stigma". Perhaps this reflects that whilst, as a first year, I am relatively unknown to most people, I am still totally unknown to some others - mainly irrelevant, badly informed, very amateurish journalists.

Yours,
Graeme Henderson.
E. O. for Communications.

P. S. I wait your reply. (Now that the scrabble and jigsaw society has been set up, perhaps we can set one up for all those people, including Richard Allen, who love insulting people.)

P. P. S. We will certainly get the whole of the IMG to join.

(Mr Henderson's imbecilic letter speaks for itself and requires no further comment. ED.)

CUT OUT AND SEND TO THE NEXT MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

..... College
UKC

Dear Sir/Madam,

I still find it impossible to exist satisfactorily upon the meagre pittance you call a grant.

If your Government does not raise the level of grants and abolish discretionary awards, I may be tempted to take direct action.

Yours sincerely,

INCANT

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EDITORIAL

A Question of Fact?

PERHAPS if The Daily Telegraph had ascertained and presented all the facts in its recent coverage of the sit-in instead of producing a piece of bigoted, jingoistic verbal garbage, it might be taken a little more seriously on this campus. The 'reports', veering from the basically inaccurate to the blatantly misrepresentative, can only be seen as part of the 'Telegraph's' get-the-Tories-re-elected campaign. By claiming that UKC is a hotbed of Communist agitation, it is doing no more than adding its name to those already supporting a kind of neo-British McCarthyism seeking to prove that there are 'Reds under the beds' of every institution and factory in this country. At the same time it is trying to draw public support away from places like UKC under the usual laughable claim that they are a waste tax-payers' tax-payers money. Two questions: Will the Telegraph's policy towards UKC change after the Election depending on the leanings of the victor? Why have the University authorities not answered the criticisms levelled against them?

Etiquette

At a national NALGO Conference last weekend, a motion was carried (in the light of recent events and, perhaps, the ensuing Press coverage) demanding that NALGO members should be given forty-eight hours warning if a sit-in is going to be held in any University in this country. Should this not occur, a policy of non-cooperation would result. One wonders how the NALGO representatives think Student Unions are operated. Though this very gentlemanly scheme might have worked very well fifty years ago, it seems very foolhardy to suppose that it could possibly work today. Could anyone imagine John McGeown, or any future Union President, going round to see Jim Reilly, the local NALGO rep., to ask him, quite politely, to vacate the building in a couple of days time? In a sit-in, tactics play the most important role and to give away such secrets, as NALGO hope, would be tantamount to treachery. Perhaps NALGO should be tested with a few cries of Wolf' first.

OPEN LECTURES

FRIDAY 1st MARCH

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE SINGAPORE NAVAL BASE

W. D. McIntyre, MA, Ph.D

(Professor of History, University of Canterbury, N.Z.)

FRIDAY 8th MARCH

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND THE POLITICAL CARTOON

Helen Vlachos*

FRIDAY 15th MARCH

THE INEQUALITY OF MAN

Sir Peter Medawar, FRS

* See page 1

ALL LECTURES WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CORNWALLIS LECTURE THEATRE AT 6 pm
ADMISSION FREE
NO TICKETS REQUIRED

GOD SAVE IRELAND FOR THE EMPIRE

By John McGeown

God save Ireland for the Empire,
God save Ireland all say we,
From the base designs of those,
Who would free us from our foes
God save Ireland from the woes of
liberty!"

So runs a verse of one traditional Irish rebel song written to castigate the traitors of 1921 who signed the treaty accepting partition in exchange for positions in the puppet government established by British Imperialism. No doubt similar verses will be written (if they have not been already) about the parliamentary cretins of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (S. D. L. P.) who are playing the same game today.

Whitelaw's executive — no solution!

The so-called 'Power-sharing' Executive announced in the British House of Commons on Thursday will have 11 members — six from the Official Unionists, four from the SDLP, and one from the Alliance Party. This 'dazzling feat of compromise' as the Guardian described this new executive which the Tory Government hopes will be in action before the new year. While this would undoubtedly represent an advance for British imperialism — it having finally overcome

the problem of whether or not a mace and prayers for the Queen should grace the uncertain future of the Northern Ireland Assembly — it in no way represents the consolidation of British rule in Ireland. The struggle that rages in Ireland today — a struggle for self-determination will not be fought out behind the pillared facade of Stormont Castle but on the streets of Belfast, Derry, Dublin and indeed the streets of British cities.

Disraeli once said that every time Britain finds an answer to the Irish question, the Irish change the question. This is just a clever way of saying that British diplomacy in Ireland has always covered its nakedness by

avoiding the issues and discussing irrelevancies. The new executive is just the latest example of this grand old tradition. The key feature of Britain's latest plans for Ireland is their failure to grapple with the needs of the Irish people (which was to be expected) but also their failure to satisfy the needs of British imperialism itself.

A disembowelled green paper

It is now commonplace knowledge among socialists, republicans and political commentators in general that Britain and its native Irish clients desire a 'federal solution' to the Irish problem. There is no need to elaborate on this, merely to mention that the general forms of the solution were outlined last October in the Green Paper, 'The Future of Northern Ireland'.

The Green Paper undoubtedly marked a major shift in the historic orientation of British imperialism in the sense that it posed the need for some formal unity between North and South and the need for a definite sharing of executive power between the Catholic and Protestant communities in the North. The central revision concerned what is known as the 'constitutional

position' of the Six Counties. The Green Paper stated that this "must not preclude the necessary taking into account of... the Irish dimension." Britain's confidence at this time was highlighted by its desire to give its chance of policy as wide a currency as possible as is evidenced by the statement that a refusal to speak now of Irish unity would be "a prescription for confusion."

By so framing the problems the need to radically alter the structure of power in the North was deliberately posed. Thus the open acknowledgement that "minority groups should be assured of an effective voice and a real influence" and the stress laid that this would have to be done by "giving minority interests a share in the exercise of executive power."

Arising from this new orientation two important practical proposals were made. Firstly, that a 'Council of Ireland' should be set up which would take account of the Irish dimension by giving the Southern bourgeoisie a significant say in the affairs of the Six Counties. Put simply, it was intended to end the sovereignty of the Unionists. Secondly, that a 'community government' be set up in which representatives of the Catholic minority (i.e. the Catholic middle class) would wield ministerial power. By the time the 'White Paper' was pub-

lished the Irish dimension had all but disappeared and the new Executive and its Assembly had been relegated to the role of a local authority. In the next section I will examine briefly why this was so.

Resistance from the south — obstacles in the north

Although British imperialism wishes to introduce these reforms and alterations, it is caught in the web of its past policies. Britain's increased intervention in the Southern economy rather than hastening in the federal solution has made it less attractive. It has produced a decline in the rate of profit which has been offset by an increased rate of exploitation. This latter has already received a practical manifestation in the huge strike wave that marked the 1960's. In addition to this central feature, there is a whole galaxy of secondary problems — intensified inflation, worsening balance of payments and run down of external reserves, etc., which eat away any surplus social product that might have been used to provide

decent social services or create a welfare state.

Secondly, the unexpected explosion of the struggle in the North reactivated the traditional instincts and came as a timely shot in the arm to the Republican ethos.

Of course, the more important and profound stumbling blocks to any meaningful implementation of the Green Paper came primarily from the North. The heterogeneity of Unionism, the unique position of the Protestant working class and of tremendous importance the continued effectiveness of the resistance of the Catholic minority spearheaded by the armed struggle of the Provisional I.R.A.

The White Paper — Britain in retreat

It was obvious even when the Green Paper was first published, that the proposals logically flowing from it could not possibly be implemented against such odds. Unable to deal with all the obstacles and suffering repeated retreats every time it tried to grapple with them, British imperialism has been forced to retreat. The magnitude of this retreat was revealed by the White Paper and

has been confirmed by the new executive. The Irish dimension has had to be put back in dust covers and the Assembly is in fact no more than a glorified County Council. Thus the question of power sharing is avoided altogether by depriving the Assembly and the new Stormont of any effective power. In other words, the new Assembly will be a more naked form of direct rule.

In this form, the Assembly cannot act as stabiliser. While it strips the Unionists of power it does not give the Catholic middle class any additional power. The S.D.L.P., while it may be prepared to accept this temporarily in the hope of better things to come, will not embrace it as a definitive solution. Apart from the absence of any real power in the Assembly, the methods by which what does exist is going to be shared are transparently ineffectual for the simple reason that the Six Counties by its very nature is a sectarian apartheid state and can only be genuinely reformed in an All-Ireland context. No matter how many places there are on the Executive any Catholic or non-Unionist Minister will have to submit to a Unionist majority. Thus their hands will be firmly tied. No wonder Brian Faulkner can boast that the "epoch making" proposals are only a souped-up version of the proposals made by the Unionist Party as early as... 1970!

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Soviet Railways

SHREWSBURY

THE CASE FOR THE WORKING CLASS

OF the original Shrewsbury 24, six are now in prison, ten have received suspended sentences and the remaining eight are due to appear in court shortly. The final cost of the trials will be well in excess of £500,000 and its duration will certainly set new records. The savage sentences, ranging from three years to six months are themselves without precedent. It would seem obvious, simply from an examination of the statistics of this remarkable trial, that something extremely important was at stake. Surely these men must have done something wholly unusual and outrageous to meet such a fate?

However, a study of the case shows that they did nothing very unusual for trade unionists. During the 1972 building workers strike they took part in and helped organise pickets in and around the North Wales area following the official union policy. The novelty lies not in what they did, but in the application of the law of criminal conspiracy to the activities of trade unionists in the class struggle. This had never happened before.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ACT SHELVED

The last time that trade unionists were sent to prison for picketing activities was during the dockers strike, when the Pentonville five were jailed under the Industrial Relations Act. This particular piece of legislation has such a clear class bias that thousands

of trade unionists were able to mobilise on a massive scale, with the TUC going so far as to threaten a one day General Strike, in defence of these men. From this defeat the ruling class was determined to make sure that the next time it attacked the right of workers to picket, it would have to use another law. They want to use a law that was not only not so "obviously" class based, but also made it a communal offence so they dug up the 1875 Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act, with which they have charged the Shrewsbury Building workers.

CONSPIRACY BY WORKERS?

The use of a conspiracy charge so governs the course of a trial that it colours even those offences over which it is not alleged there was any conspiracy. The rules of evidence governing conspiracy cases are so loose that defendants can be character assassinated with all manner of hearsay, suppositions and allegations about events which have nothing to do with those from which the specific charges arise. So it was little wonder that one of the men, John MacKinsie Jones, was found guilty of fighting and making an affray even though the judge himself dismissed the evidence against him. Similarly the one specific allegation of violence made against Eric Tomlinson and Dennis Warren was that they pulled a lump worker off a road roller. They too were

convicted even though defence witnesses testified that the man got off the vehicle without any help from anyone else. In a conspiracy charge there is no such thing as "reasonable doubt."

The prosecution did not have to prove that these men CTUALLY intimidated anybody. Nor was it necessary for the prosecution to say when or where the alleged agreement took place. "It is not necessary for the prosecution to prove that they sat down and worked it out," said the judge. "You know very well it can be conspiracy when they never met and never knew each other. It can be conspiracy by inference of all the circumstances." In other words the jury were being asked to convict on suspicion.

OR CONSPIRACY BY THE STATE

If there were plenty of unsubstantiated allegations of violence flung at the defendants, there were even more substantiated ones that could be made against the other side of the struggle. One lumpster recalled how he had thrown bricks at the pickets, while another admitted that they had threatened to cut off a man's head with a shovel. Most startling of all was the man who threatened pickets with a shotgun! Needless to say, none of these men were charged with anything at all.

Obsessed with conspiracies, the court hardly seemed to notice these "minor" offences. But was there not also an actual conspiracy between the employers and

the State when one employer told Warren, "I've been told I can have every available policeman in the area to keep this job going"? Was there not some evil conspiracy between violent men when Warren was told to get off a building site, or else an "anti-picket" squad of 300 men would arrive from the "syndicate" to "forcibly remove" him and his men? And is there not after all a permanent conspiracy by lump employers to intimidate men to abstain from lawful work when lumpsters are forced to work on building sites in conditions which violate the laws governing safety regulations? As a result of these conditions, hundreds of building workers die every year through accidents. As it turns out, the "lawful work" from which the pickets are alleged to have "intimidated men to abstain" was, as the defence pointed out, not lawful at all! Perhaps there was also a conspiracy between the judge and the Director of Public Prosecutions that such "technicalities" as this would not stand in the way of "justice."

RULING CLASS TACTICS

The massive expense and effort put into the Shrewsbury case is a part of the ruling class strategy of making the working class pay for the crisis of capitalism. The Tories and their allies

understood the significance and success of flying pickets as used by the miners during their last strike. Not only are they prepared in a physical sense to deal with pickets (Special Patrol Groups and flying police squads) but, through the Shrewsbury trial, they have prepared to intimidate other workers from taking similar actions. One of their greatest weapons is the "rule of law," for the law carries with it one powerful advantage — the entire leadership of the working class has always bowed down before the "majesty of the law" and this attitude has infected wide layers of the working class as a whole.

Only the day after the Shrewsbury verdicts, another part of their plan paid off: the House of Lords ruled that the right of peaceful picketing did not include the right to stop lorries to "peacefully persuade" the drivers not to cross the picket line. What is involved is quite simple — the ruling class has added to its stock of legal weapons which it will use in its fight against the trade union movement. The position for socialists is equally clear — we cannot allow the ruling class to decide our tactics for us through the courts. Therefore even if a court finds a picket guilty of using violence, our defence of that picket must be unconditional. The defence of all the Shrewsbury 24 remains a vital task.

JOE COTTER: Ramifications and Implications

THE chants of 'Cotter in, Chilvers out' have now become a fully realised demand with the reinstatement of Joe and the resignation of Professor Chilver. But the set of events and the various forces which brought about this victory for direct action need a thorough examination for an understanding of the future implications of such struggles.

Joe's case was regarded as a test case by both sides in the conflict. Although the Faculty may perhaps have recognised that Joe's case was borderline, once having taken the decision of asking him to withdraw they would have found it hard to retract. We did, however, allow them all the loopholes available. Evidence not considered at the original academic

against his wishes. Its basis, however, is a rejection of the right of the University to say who comes and who goes and to decide arbitrarily what is taught. Tied in with this is a recognition of the fact that the University represents a crystallisation of the aims and values of society and although one may personally disagree with these aims it is very hard to

versity in the context of aiming for greater control over the curriculum. During this period a large number of students were brought over to the understanding of the need for students to express their demands not through the formalised, liberal committees set up by the University but through the only way in which students can effectively act totally in their own interest. The main purpose of such an occupation is a focusing and strengthening of student support for a cause. It is one of the few ways that students can overcome the divisions imposed on the student body by the authorities.

A situation emerged, therefore, in which the

resulted in dividing its own forces while the students showed at an emergency general meeting that 1,600 of them were prepared to carry on a struggle although there was disagreement over tactics. It seems that the University's closest allies are the trade union leadership on this campus. The students, however, have no quarrel with the Trade Unions and are continually working for an alliance with them. In 1972 when all other unions deserted N. U. P. E. and G. M. W. U. in the face of redundancies the Students' Union maintained active solidarity in the form of an occupation.

On the first day of the occupation of the Regist-

number of their members showed themselves to be not in the least hostile when we went around talking to them.

In effect the University authorities were working their draw way towards a situation where, unless the occupation ended, there would be a closedown. They could not, however, draw on the support that would enable this to succeed. Inside the Association of University Teachers there was the call for a strike passed by 89 to 87 votes with 12 abstentions. The strike called for an end to the occupation. It seems that at the most 25 per cent of staff actually obeyed the strike call. In such a situation a closedown would not have had much

students supported Joe's case there was a division amongst the students over tactics. The occupation was voted out. But over 600 students showed that they were willing to continue the occupation, an amazingly large number.

It was not this decision to end the occupation which caused Joe's reinstatement, it was the fact that we had occupied in the first place and displayed enough militancy at that meeting to show that we were prepared to take direct action again if necessary. Couple with this was the legal aspect of the case. Previously the authorities had asserted that their procedure was legally watertight but because of

DOMESTIC WORKERS on campus are expecting to receive a pay rise of up to £2.40 for those working a 40 hour week, although at present they have received no indication as to when this increase in wage will take effect.

Although the occupation has disrupted the working of the Finance division of the Registry, a return to normal could see the rise taking effect within the next few weeks.

NUS HAVE BROUGHT OUT A BOOKLET which deal with the whole subject of rent strikes in an attempt to increase involvement in the campaign and answers questions students may have. In it it gives details of rent strikes and the law, and gives answers to anyone who may face hostile questions on the use and validity of direct action.

+ Incant will be looking at this booklet in more detail in its next issue.

MIKE DURHAM, THE CHRISTCHURCH STUDENT whose article on the college appeared in the last issue of Incant, has been called before the deputy Principal because of the criticisms in the article were deemed unacceptable.

Durham and another student were told that they had a careless attitude towards teaching and have furthermore been expelled from Spring Lane Comprehensive by the Deputy Head Master for not turning up to assembly in the morning.

The article on Christchurch was said to come at a particularly awkward time for the college as it was due to begin negotiations with the University with a view to amalgamation.

Richard Allen examines the results of the sit-in

review panel was submitted, the visitor was approached; Joe's supervisors were approached, members of the Senate and the Faculty Board were contacted. The Faculty, however, stubbornly stuck to their decision, a decision which rested on very shaky ground even in their heavily legalistic terms.

When faced with such a situation the only road left to the student if he wishes to prove the case, is direct action. Founded in this is a number of concepts about students and their ability to struggle. Firstly, there is the clause of Union policy stating that no student should be asked to withdraw

challenge them effectively inside the University. Direct action, although not a direct reasons challenge to society, offers a manifest rejection of these aims.

Secondly, a number of people suggest that struggle is impossible on the campus for the very reasons stated above, i.e. crystallisation of society as represented in the University. But the experience of the last three weeks has been a direct contradiction of this, in which the students have shown themselves to be capable of struggling and winning.

Students have causes to pursue which can only be followed inside the Uni-

sides in their relative strengths were lined up. The strength of the students lay in two sources. Firstly their willingness to push Joe's case as far as it would go and secondly the fact that Joe's case was a good one, making reinstatement by the University justifiable and reasonable in their terms throughout the campaign. The University, without being directly involved, nearly brought disaster on its head in the form of a closedown by letting loose all the forces it had at its disposal. Although it intended to present a united front and a show of strength in opposition to the students its actions

ry it was agreed to vacate the building simply so that the workers on the campus, who were expecting a back-dated pay rise, could receive the payment the following day. But neither the Registrar nor any of the staff showed up. It was also agreed that the Trade Unions would assist us in our fight to have Joe reinstated but nothing materialised. At this stage we resolved regrettably that this was a struggle which the students would have to carry on alone in the face of the hostility of the Trade Union leadership. But the Trade Unions were clearly not united in opposition to us, a large

effect; students would have continued to run the laboratories and study and many of the staff would have remained behind.

With its own forces so divided the University authorities came to appreciate that they had gone too far and already people inside the Senate and the Faculty Boards were beginning to think in terms of a reopening of Joe's case. The hold that they had on the Trade Union rank and file was not as strong as they thought it to be, while the students were demonstrably strong as was shown by a meeting attended by 1,600.

Although all 1,600

certain information that came to light we discovered that Joe was being charged for one offence and sentenced for another.

The authorities say, as one would expect, that direct action in no way influenced events. But how can this be true when previously the Humanities Faculty had regarded the case as closed and were seen to be satisfied with their own procedure, when three weeks later we see Joe reinstated and the Dean resigning. It was not divine intervention which caused this but direct student intervention in the running of the University.

The Cyrenians

WHEN most people hear of the Cyrenians, if they know anything about them at all, they generally think that they're the people who look after the people with nowhere to go. Rather like 'Down and Out in Paris and London'. Eager to know what I'll need to do when down and out, I knocked on the door of 13 Wincheap, The Cyrenians Limited, only

to be beaten back by a white-fanged, glint-eyed, large yellow dog. This hostility melted into a very warm and friendly reception when two Cyrenians answered the door. Brigid and Tom Gifford are the national organisers of the Cyrenians, Tom is General Secretary of the organisation and the canine Cyrenian was in fact a friendly beast called Bas with two-S's-really. They

explained how The Cyrenians Ltd. were not the institutional doss-house wardens of George Orwell's 'Down and out etc.' who operated the getting-vagrants-off-the-street machine. But rather, The Cyrenians

are rough and ready accommodation available to absolutely anyone who has nowhere to put his head for the night. Residential homes for Cyrenian Communities offer a more permanent home to those whom

by Carey English

exist to care for uprooted, socially isolated people without a home to go to.

Many of these rootless people have been institutionalised, for example, in Children's Homes, prison, hospitals, the armed forces, or mental homes, and find themselves unable to cope alone with the outside world. Others have suddenly lost those on whom they depended for support, their mothers, fathers, wives, or husbands, and are unable to form any lasting satisfactory relationships. Many people take it for granted that 'The Welfare State' takes care of all the rootless and socially isolated, but in fact what happens is that the very people in need are those who are often rejected or repulsed by existing facilities. The Cyrenians try to reach those for whom no adequate provision exists. Or who refuse to accept or are refused certain kinds of existing help.

The Cyrenians operate on a national and a local level. The National Cyrenians campaign to alert people to the need in their area to care for homeless people and to encourage the setting-up of group residences and night shelters. The latter

society rejects as vagrants, dossers, tramps or alcoholics. The Cyrenians work on the basis of a relationship with the people they help founded not upon dependence, but on partnership. Residential projects are run by full-time volunteer workers who share the lives of those with whom they are working and give the

support of warm, human relationships. The object of their caring is to help the residents to recover their faith in themselves and in other people. The spirit in which they work is one of acceptance of everyone as a person of

worth, respecting his or her desire to make a contribution and not be always on the receiving end.

The Cyrenians Ltd. was established in 1970 and since then fifty other Cyrenian Communities have been set up. The numbers in each are deliberately kept low in order to avoid the anonymity of large institutions. They stress that each Cyrenian Community is an autonomous group - the National Cyrenians act as a servicing and advisory body.

To get a first hand idea of what a Cyrenian Community was actually like, Incant went to visit the most recently established Community, and the first to be set up in Canterbury, on Whittable Road. After sorting out the confusion resulting from having a choice of four front doors, Incant was given an inside picture of what goes on inside the house.

Some people come to them from referral agencies, mental hospitals, prisons, etc.; others hear of The Cyrenians by word of mouth and come

looking for help and friendship. Everyone in the community lives as part of a family; the household is run on a basis of group co-operation. Besides the usual domestic chores, this includes group decisions on household policy. The only rules which exist are that there should be no violence and no alcohol. Each person is accepted without question and there is no pressure on them to say where they come from or where they are going.

The Canterbury Cyrenian Group have links with local communities in attempting to make local people and students more aware of the needs of people in the area. Financially, they are compelled to depend on local government grants and Social Security benefits and the money they are able to raise as a registered charity.

The Cyrenians see their role as not merely to rescue those who are sleeping or living rough, but to educate society so that people become aware of these problems and become involved in helping to deal with them.



FUSS FUSS FUSS
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?

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Faculty of Humanities



FROM the minute that the file of one J. M. Cotter, 3rd year Philosophy student, was discovered on the desk of the Humanities Faculty Dean on February 5th, it was known that there was a case for reinstatement. The short-lived sit-in of that corner of Eliot College had been worthwhile.

This documentation of the case confirmed that there had been a retrospective justification from the Faculty Board after he had been required to withdraw, as the original basis was found to be "inconclusive".

Geoffrey Templeman, after chairing the Senate meeting on 13 February at which the decision to immediately reinstate Joe Cotter was reached, stated in a circular to all members of the University that "there appeared to be an inconsistency in the documentation supporting the decision. The decision to require Mr. Cotter to withdraw was taken specifically on the grounds that he failed to fulfil his obligations with respect of a course on Marx. But a subsequent letter to the Dean . . . stated: 'the Panel felt that the evidence in respect of the Marx was not conclusive'".

Templeman therefore joined those who have seen the file in question and had reached the same verdict as most students and some academics of the 'fairness of these procedures'.

Joe Cotter first became aware of disciplinary pressure for missing classes on November 23rd of last year. Summoned to the office of the former

Dean, Professor G. E. F. Chilver, Cotter was informed of the doubts on his progress, and subsequently received a formal letter from Chilver demanding compulsory attendance at his seminars: "If during the remainder of your course you miss compulsory classes or fail to produce the required written work, without good cause,

then it is likely you will be required to withdraw from the University".

On the same day, Chilver sent a note to Cotter's tutor asking "I do wonder whether he really is going to settle down to regular work."

Both letters are concerned with the time from the end of November onwards, and after the remaining two and a half weeks of that term, Faculty Board decided that his failure to attend two seminars was sufficient to require him to leave and did so on January 9th.

Joe Cotter expressed his dissatisfaction with that decision and the lack of representation and opted for an 'Academic Review Panel', a group created by the board to act as final arbiters.

The Panel, consisting of Professor Gregor, Michael Leahy, and Mr. W. Bell, met on January 23rd, had the accused in for a short period, and deliberated for two days, reaffirming the Faculty's decision.

Following both a letter from Cotter, who explained his absence as due to 'nervous exhaustion', resulting from academic and personal problems and pressure (which he outlined), and a Senate and Union Executive meeting at which some members of Senate felt it unreasonable to 'take such drastic action as a result of failure to attend the Marx course in a period as short as 2½ weeks, Chilver wrote to members of the Review Panel to consider reviewing the evidence. He rejected the complaints of the meeting and the letter but hinted that there might have been insufficient evidence.

Two days later the Panel reaffirmed its decision, revealing that they had been 'furnished

with information relating to the career of Mr. Cotter prior to the warning letter of November 27th. It felt 'the evidence in respect of the Marx course was not conclusive, and it therefore looked at Mr. Cotter's record since he entered Part II in January '73 in the light of B.A. Regulation 6(a)(i)."

The Panel's letter continued: 'it notes Mr Cotter's current performance but feels that such information lies without the scope of such an enquiry.'

The clause with which Cotter was penalised originally therefore changes when there was insufficient evidence to support it, and the expulsion was based upon something of which there had been no warning or hint, and was in blatant contradiction to Chilver's letter of November. They were going beyond 'their scope'.

After indicating doubt on the procedures used, and using that doubt as a means of honourably reinstating Joe Cotter, the Senate ironically "reaffirms its belief that, in the case of Mr Cotter, the Faculty of Humanities followed fully and meticulously the procedures laid down . . . but is, however, persuaded that the procedures . . . require further consideration."

The University, in its diversified form therefore wins, while only a part of it loses. Professor Chilver has now resigned his £50 a year for wine Dean's job as a reaction to the Senate decision, but it is likely that another test case will be chosen soon by the Faculty of Humanities who will fend off outside intervention and attempt to throw him or her out, to assume its former authority and discipline. However, they may well make the same mistake again.

"This campaign of direct action is very useful – it has achieved things, not only in reinstating Cotter but has shown the archaic procedures of the Humanities Faculty which are used are totally out of the Victorian age and should not be allowed today" – Joe Cotter in interview after occupation.

SIT IN RETROSPECT

Monday 28th January.

At a joint Senate/Union Executive meeting, the Union demand re-discussion of the Cotter case. The Senate agree to allow a representation to be made and the submission of evidence not previously heard at either the Faculty Board meetings or by the Academic Review Panel.

Tuesday 29th.

More than 100 students march to the Registry in support of Joe Cotter and a representation is made.

Monday 4th February.

The University announce that they have upheld the decision of the Academic Review Panel and again demand that Joe Cotter withdraw from the University.

Tuesday 5th.

At 10 a. m. a meeting is held in Eliot JCR and a decision is taken to occupy Eliot Administrative Block and the Office of the Dean of Humanities, Professor Chilver. During this occupation evidence is found that throws a new light on the Cotter case, suggesting that Cotter has been sent down not for failure to attend the last two seminars of term but on the strength of his previous academic record. Soon afterwards a UGM in Eliot Dining Hall votes in favour of the occupation of 'a strategic building near Rutherford', and between 3-400 students take over the Registry, having been let in by students inside opening windows and through the rear entrance. Most of the Registry staff leave although some remain locked in their offices until they are seen out by trade union officials some time after. During this time scuffles are reported to have occurred and certain members of the Registry staff claim they were both assaulted and harassed. Heating and telephones in the Registry are cut off. That evening it is discussed at a meeting in the foyer whether the occupation should continue until Cotter is reinstated or whether it should simply be a 'lightning tactic' to show the University that the Union mean business!



Wednesday 6th.

Following reports that the university workers are to receive a back pay award to be distributed from the Registry, the occupation decides to evacuate the building. It is then rumoured that arrangements have already been made to pay out at Beverley Farm. The invitation for a University Surveyor to assess the extent of the damage was it seems not taken up. In light of these developments and the announcement that afternoon that the Senate had again decided that Cotter must go, those in the Registry decide to continue the occupation.

Thursday 7th

A meeting is held between representatives of the university trades unions and Kevin Fulcher at which officials from MGWU and NUPE declare that Registry porters will no longer work at official Students Union functions until further notice. In a statement they claim that the move is due to five Registry porters having been assaulted during the occupation first of Eliot and later of the Registry. A further union statement is then issued by all the unions in which it declares that "both implied and actual physical force" has been used by students during the occupation. This is later denied by the Union President John McGeown as having been no more than 'minor scuffles' and he says that apologies have been sent to those members of staff said to have been involved in incidents. That morning also sees the boycott and interruption of some Social Science lectures.



WORDS

"THE only way we can press our case upon the University is by a campaign of direct action. We had used all the available channels; indeed we had gone outside those channels, but to no avail. My case was treated with no respect at all; I have been treated with no respect at all and therefore it is time we treated the University with no respect at all."

"This campaign of direct action has been very useful – it has achieved a lot of things, not only in my case, but also it has shown the archaic running of the Humanities Faculty – the procedures which are used are totally in the Victorian age and should not be allowed today."

Joe Cotter in interview after occupation.

"THE efforts of all those who have sought to have this matter resolved through the proper constitutional channels have been of great service to the University by

helping to create an atmosphere in which this could be done.

"I am deeply conscious that this matter has caused grave concern throughout the University. The efforts of those who sought a solution through the proper channels have been a great service to the University."

"Senate's decision was not an easy one to make."

"But I would ask all of you who are genuinely concerned for the welfare of the University to continue to support the Senate and other properly constituted bodies through which alone issues can be justly and fairly resolved."

Vice Chancellor.

"I deprecate very strongly what has happened if only for the unfortunate Mr. Cotter. This action means that any chance there ever was of a further hearing within the University has now gone."

Eric Fox

"I went out of my way before this happened to tell the President of the Students' Union what alternatives the consequences of this action (an occupation) would be and what alternative were open to him. He did not accept any of my advice on how a possible way out within the University could be reached, nor to the best of my knowledge did he communicate it to anyone else."

Eric Fox

FOLLOWING Wednesday's reconsideration of the Cotter case and the Senate decision to have him reinstated, Union President, John McGeown has shown satisfaction at the outcome of the campaign.

Speaking to Incant on the question of whether or not he thought the Senate decision was a 'climb-down' he philosophically answered "both." "It was," he said, "just one example of the successful implementation of Students' Union policy, to refuse to allow any student to be arbitrarily expelled."

Asked whether the occupation was a decisive tactic in the campaign he answered, "that 'direct action' was the only tactic left open to students concerned with Joe Cotter's case. He stressed that 'normal channels' had been tried on three occasions and therefore something like the occupation of the Registry, was as he put it "inevitable" and had served its purpose.

John McGeown's initial reaction to reports in the local press that the occupation has been, "living on baked beans, as temperatures fell to sub-zero" was one of amusement. But when asked whether the attitude of the press might

have been softened by letter and direct communication, he agreed, with the modification that such journalism was in the nature of the press rather than due to the lack of information.

REPRESENTATIVES OF FOUR TRADE UNIONS AT UKC have said that they hope legislation can be introduced to control militant students, who they say, are making life difficult for their members.

The four unions, ASTMS, NUPE, NALGO, and GMWU have all expressed concern for their members during the Cotter dispute, particularly they say since many of them are women. Cyril King, chairman of the Joint Council said that something must be done for this and every other university. He said that "things were completely out of hand" and that there was no measure of law and order.

He further pointed out that "if one of the other employees on campus behaved like a small minority of the students do then they would quickly be out of a job."

AN Incant reporter spoke to Mr. Edwards the surveyor about the amount of damage that has been done. He said that the building is in "a pretty bad state." It was extremely dirty when evacuated and a great deal of the decorations, walls, and floors are damaged. An independent firm will be contracted to do the cleaning which should be completed by the 25th but the Registry will not be completely finished until the end of term. A report on the extent of the damage will be ready in 3-4 weeks. Mr. Edwards said he thought that the re-decorations would cost a substantial amount of money.

NOW! for a LIMITED SEASON

Fresh from triumph in ELIOT J.C.R. and the REGISTRY. UKC Dramatics are proud to announce an OCCUPATION of the "OLD VIC"! Coaches to London Come and support our SIT-IN!! Olivier OUT!

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Good grief

Direct action has been achieved a lot of any case, but also it is running of the – the procedures totally in the should not be allowed in interview after

SIT-IN PERSPECTIVE



At midday rumours that an 'alternative Registry' has been set up at Beverley Farm prompts about 300 students to march there but which they find empty on arrival.

Friday 8th

At a meeting of the AUT, 89 members decide to withdraw their services from noon on Monday due they claim to a situation having been reached "which is not only alien to the nature of a University but one in which it appears to be unsafe for members to carry out their duties". 87 vote against this move, and 12 abstain.

The previous night it is announced that the University have served writs on 12 members of the occupation to appear the next morning (Friday) before a judge in chambers. At this hearing it is found that one of the 12 was 200 miles away from the University when the occupation occurred and costs are awarded against the University. When news is phoned through of the decision 350 students take over the Cornwallis Lecture Theatre complex for a meeting. The authorities threaten to cancel the play in the Gulbenkian if they do not promptly withdraw. They leave but the theatre remains closed all over the weekend.

Sunday 10th

Union Executive meeting votes 7:5 in favour of de-occupying the Registry.

Monday 11th

At noon some members of AUT stop teaching, although others carry on. ASTMS academic branch also continue to work.

At the EGM held that evening, a motion calling for the de-occupation of the Registry is passed 930:630 although it is decided that if the Cotter case is not favourably concluded within three days, a series of lightning disruptive activity will continue.



Tuesday 12th

A meeting of all university employees is held in the Sports Hall where despite the call of some workers for an immediate withdrawal of labour it is decided to strike only "if the situation deteriorate after Friday 15th. If after Friday the occupation continues all services except those classified as emergency services will be withdrawn for an indefinite period".

A 3 p. m. exactly one week after the occupation began, about 300 students leave the Registry to the tune of the bagpipes.

Wednesday 13th

The Senate resolve to re-instate Joe Cotter on the receipt of a written undertaking that he "diligently perform the academic obligations required of him". The National Demo planned for Friday is called off.

An EXTRAORDINARY General Meeting

THE EMERGENCY GENERAL MEETING held on Monday of week 5 to debate future policy on the Joe Cotter case, saw one of the largest ever attendances for a union meeting held at Kent. Nearly 1,600 students packed Eliot Dining Hall to vote on a motion calling for the de-occupation of the Registry and the reaffirmation that 'lightning disruptive activity' should be continued if negotiations with the University should prove fruitless in the three days set apart for the purpose.

Monday's EGM followed a hastily convened emergency meeting of the Union Executive on Sunday, at which 7 of the 12 strong Executive Committee expressed serious doubts over what a protracted occupation of the Registry was achieving. In a statement issued after the meeting and signed by the 7, including Union Treasurer Kevin Fulcher, they said that fresh action in the form of further 'lightning disruptive activity' should be used to further the Cotter case if fresh negotiations through existing channels broke down, again. They also claimed that failure to vacate the Registry by Wednesday as had been originally planned had merely alienated all trades union support, disrupted the entertainments programme and threatened to close down the entire University.

The EGM itself, at which over 900 people voted for a de-occupation of the Registry saw numerous outbursts from both sides that threatened to disrupt the meeting. Meeting Chairman Ken Spencer called for calm several times during the proceedings. After the vote had been taken in favour of the de-occupation there were shouts of 'sell-out' from those, over 600, who had voted in favour of continuing the sit-in. As the meeting ended with the two sides sharply divided, there were various loud and often quite bitter exchanges.

Those who spoke for the motion generally stressed that it had been decided before the Registry was taken to limit the campaign to a series of 'lightning tactics', principally designed merely to show the authorities that the Union meant business and not to bring the entire administrative and teaching life of the University to a standstill. Karl Flint, proposing the motion said that the authorities had not changed their policy of refusing to negotiate under duress in two

Faculty of Humanities



previous occupations of three weeks and there was little reason to believe they would back down in this case.

Kevin Fulcher speaking for the motion stressed the fact that the Union's grant of £21,000 due to be paid at any moment would not be paid while students continued to occupy the Registry. He also said that the occupation had severely disrupted the Grants Campaign and that not one cheque had been paid into the Rent Strike Fund since the occupation had begun.

Those in favour of remaining in the Registry argued more than once that it had been the occupation that had brought Joe Cotter's case to the attention of not only students, but everyone on the campus. When Joe Cotter himself got up to support the de-occupation and was accused of 'selling-out' he said, "someone says I'm selling myself out... if that's the case who are you to stop me." Others however stressed that it was not simply Joe Cotter who was now threatened by the University, but all those who had taken an active part in the occupation and who now, they claimed, stood to be victimised.

It was also pointed out that the occupation had succeeded in getting the campaign national support and that Kent had received messages, delegations and telegrams from many students unions including Liverpool, Manchester and Essex.

Earlier in the proceedings an amendment to the main motion that would have left the period of negotiation open-ended was convincingly defeated. It was generally felt that to leave the matter completely open would achieve little - nor would it prompt the authorities to reconsider their decision to throw Cotter out unless further threatened in some way.

During the day there had been a barrage of publicity on the issues involved, calling for support or rejection of the motion. It was hinted in more than one handout that whichever half of the Executive failed to gain support should resign. But in the main motion itself it was made clear that this was not simply a vote or non-vote of confidence in that half of the Executive who had supported the occupation right up to Tuesday of week 5. Part of the motion read: "This Union believes that the making of votes on this issue ones of confidence by members of the Executive is the surest way of splitting the Student body. This meeting condemns this move as not in the interests of Joe's campaign and calls upon all members of the Executive to withdraw this threat."

Although the possibility of a censure motion was still being voiced right up until Wednesday of week 5, no such motion had been put before the UGM that night.

A QUESTION OF VIOLENCE

THE Joe Cotter campaign, perhaps more than other demonstrations at Kent, was surrounded by allegations of violence and harassment. These figured particularly noticeably in the accounts given in the local press and on the television. In numerous statements made by representatives of the trades unions on campus it seemed to be either actual violence that they claim had taken place or the threat of further instances that prompted first the AUT decision to withdraw their teaching services and which later caused a mass meeting of all university workers to agree to strike if the situation had deteriorated after Friday of week 5.

The first joint statement of the Committee of Trades Unions at UKC said that "we particularly draw the attention of the student body to the implied and actual physical force and harassment that has taken place during the occupation of both Eliot College and the Registry."

This was again reiterated in a statement given to incant by officials of the Registry porters unions GMWU and NUPE who said that their decision to withdraw their labour from official Union functions was "Due to the fact that 5 registry porters have been physically assaulted and received medical attention and have also received considerable harassment in the line of duty." The incidents that they say occurred were noticeable when a student drove his car at a Registry porter and two incidents during the occupation itself when a porter was said to have been injured by a door closing on his hand another when a porter had a key ring pulled off his finger.

In an attempt to answer these allegations the occupation called a meeting to which university staff were invited and also issued a handout on the subject. In it Union President John McGeown said, "It has been alleged that students occupying the Registry committed acts of violence against University employees. We have investigated these and found them unsubstantiated." The next day he endorsed this slightly when he wrote, "We have accepted that during the original occupation of the Registry minor scuffles took place. In the course of these events one porter suffered a cut to his finger as a key ring was removed from his hand. Another porter sustained a minor injury which we have not been able to determine the exact nature of. We believe it is also a small cut but stand to be corrected. Other than that there was a certain amount of jostling and pushing but no more. The wild stories of Porters being hospitalised which appeared in the local press and on television, made it sound as if students had gone out of their way to kill the entire domestic staff. We can only ask whose benefit such allegations serve."

Following this a mass meeting was held in Eliot Dining Hall and after discussion, a motion was passed unanimously apologising for the injuries and inconvenience suffered by any members of staff.

The occupation then claim that as far as the porter and the car incident was concerned, he had been 'more shaken than hurt', by what had happened and went on that the student involved had apologised for what they describe as 'his silliness rather than malice' adding

that he had written a letter of apology, copies of which had gone to all porters in the University.

The other alleged incidents seem to have occurred either during the occupation of Eliot college or in the disruption of certain social science lectures during the week long occupation. In the Times Higher Education Supplement of last week, 4, the incidents are highlighted which it claims AUT members were particularly unhappy about. These they list as "the use of alarm clocks to disrupt social science lectures, the 'forceful picketing of lectures, the breaking into the office of a staff member and ordering him to leave during the occupation of Eliot as well as drinking a case of his wine (students offered to compensate), and using a blind student as a ruse to gain access to the Registry and then opening a window from the inside."

Whether or not this accurately reflects the motive behind the decision of 89 of AUT's members to support a withdrawal of labour, the motion they passed certainly alluded to either these incidents or ones like them. It said, "Following upon a Union General Meeting three hours later the Registry was occupied. In the process AUT members, many of them women, suffered intimidation harassment, and actual physical assault. Subsequently at least three serious incidents of interference with teaching have occurred."

The occupation then countered this in a statement made soon afterwards. In it they said that the Students' Union had clarified its view on all the incidents that had taken place during the occupation and that where appropriate, public and private apologies had been made. They added, "The Students' Union has also made it clear its reasons for the picketing of lectures on Feb 7th - being an attempt to bring the basic issues of the expulsion of Joe Cotter to all students and staff. In the event, the Union did not find this sort of action productive and it will not be repeated in this campaign."

At the mass meeting of all university staff held in the Sports Hall on Tuesday opinion regarding the violence seemed to be fairly evenly split and while the meeting unanimously condemned violence as so many of the staff present had not witnessed any incidents. Those trade union officials on the platform who spoke of both the actual violence and what was felt would be the result if the occupation continued after Friday, tended to come from the unions whose members had either worked in the Registry or were porters. When asked by a member of the audience to name specific instances of what had taken place, one college porter said that during the occupation of Eliot "There had been no actual physical violence", but said that the member of staff who had been turned out of his office was very worried that his personal papers and belongings had been gone through. Jim Reilly, an official of NALGO added, "porters were assaulted - and although porters might be expected to cater with a certain amount of pushing and shoving, clerical office workers went through far beyond what was expected of them in their line of duty. "When asked to comment more particularly he said, "there are many forms of violence - there is explicit violence and there is implicit violence. When staff were told to get out of the Registry this was implicit violence."

NEW ALBUMS



Mahavishnu Orchestra . . . From Nothingness to Eternity" (C. B. S.)

The Mahavishnu Orchestra died in December 1973, two and a half years after its conception. This posthumous offering gives an indication of why the group's death was so lamented.

The album was recorded live in Central Park and although the sound is excellent, there is no atmosphere whatsoever. In fact, I don't think the album gains anything from being a live recording - I would like to have seen them put down the same tracks in a studio where they would be less prone to rather aimless repetition and over-extension. Side Two is taken up with such a track, superb and Mahavishnuesque in places, but basically structured around two rather weak riffs which cannot support a 21½ minute track. In parts of the piece, "Dream", the guitar rambles a la Humble Pie, and that really ought not to happen in this band. Before I come down too heavily on side two, with a few listens I could learn how to put up with the bits that drag for the good passages, especially those featuring Jerry Goodman's stunning violin.

Side One is divided into two parts, the first of which is a trilogy of "The Sunlit Path," "La Mere de la Mer" and "Tomorrow's Story not the Same." These pieces are in the vein of the band's other albums, more especially "Birds Of Fire." The second part of the first side is a Jan Hammer track sounding rather like Free. The album doesn't stand up against the first "The Inner Mounting Flame", but is worth hearing, if only for the beautiful musical, if not personal, feeling between the musicians and their instruments. The Mahavishnu Orchestra were Mahavishnu John McLaughlin (guitar), Jan Hammer (piano and moog), Rick Laird (bass), Jerry Goodman (violin), and Billy Cobham (drums). R. I. P.

JIM COLE

STOMU Yamash'ta's East Wind . . . Freedom is Frightening" (Island).

The man from the East returns, minus Close to the Edge, but now in the company of a far more prolific, vibrantly mellifluous ensemble. There's owl-like Hugh Hopper, late of the Softs, pounding away on his fuzzy bass, Gary Boyle, famed session guitarist, once with Brian Auger (does anyone remember "This Wheel's on Fire"?) and Keith Tippett, Brian Gascoigne, naturally classically trained, on keyboards and moog, and Stomu's diminutive spouse Hisako on fast-fingered violin.

As can be expected with Hopper and Boyle in the band, the total musical effect smacks of British jazz-rock. (I hate categories in music, but sometimes they're the only way you can get something across). There are, quite naturally, touches of the Softs ("Rolling Nuns" has the same format as Ratledge's "Out-bloody-rageous"), Crimo (Boyle sounds one shit of a lot like Fripp in some places), Nucleus, et alii. That's not to say that the whole thing's one gigantic musical usurpation. In fact there's a lot about this album which could put it a cut above the others, or at least on a different plane.

Yamash'ta essentially provides most of the atmosphere. On the title track (incidentally, he wrote the framework for all the tracks) he tinkles away manufacturing all manner of scrapes, scratches and thunks before hitting a regulation drum-beat and meeting up with the rest of the band. Hopper and Gascoigne, apart from the occasional break, maintain a continual Yamash'ta, Boyle and Hisako, only on "Pine on a Hill", to take all the limelight. In concept, the album's basically a collation of all past influences. There's not much more I can say, due to limits of space-time, but its fingerlickin' good.

Alonso Wilkinson

Dave Mason . . . It's like you never left" (CBS)

To be honest (and honesty pays, or is it crime? I can never remember) I haven't heard much of Mr Mason since his Traffic days. (Incidentally, I heard Jim Capaldi say that "Hole in My Shoe" was rubbish the other day on the radio. Quite strange.) There was that abortion of an album he made with Cass Elliott and the superb "Alone Together"? But, apart from all that, there were only info snippets saying that he was bringing out an album for Blue Thumb called "Headkeeper" and, lo and behold here on this CBS album there's a track called "Headkeeper".

The concept of the album is in many ways similar to "Alone Together" - Dave playing some cuts by himself and others with the help of a few friends who include Graham Nash, Jim Keltner, Carl Radle, Greg Reeves, Malcolm "Ton-to" Cecil and, would you believe?, Stevie Wonder on harp. But surprisingly, the backing men don't obscure Mason.

JACKSON 5: Get it Together

Tamla Motown Album reviews, often pretentious and cliched, occasionally informative, are little to go by, but "Get It Together" undisputedly shows the Jackson 5 to be something more than a black Osmond family, even after "The Plan."

The album covers standard Tamla Motown numbers, lavishly arranged by a variety of technicians and producers (Hal Davis and Berry Gordy - remember the superb production on "Papa was a rolling stone," the Temptations Classic of 1973).

Professional treatment that Tamla fans have come to expect from the stable encompasses the J5 - and the record comes as a welcome progression from "Sky-writer." The Supremes' "Reflections" is done with tight harmony, Michael Jackson's solo voice and moog, while the Whitfield / Strong (Temptations) numbers sound remarkably like the originals.

Don't be put off by the coy filmly cover of the Jackson 5 image, they "gotta brand new thing."

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III Attempted Moustache CBS

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III is a great natural humorist, and his style of wry humour varies from the highly satirical to the cutely funny. This new album is better produced and instrumentally more complex than earlier records.

It features such notables as Kenny Buttrey, Doug Kershaw, and Ron Cornelius and his given a smooth polished production by Bob Johnston.

Wainwright updates a Woody Guthrie number while his own "Liza", sung unaccompanied, is a glimpse of the early life of a very famous lady of that name with a Z. An all-pervading evil and unrestrained violence is to be found in the simply constructed "Clockwork Chartreuse."

"Down drinking at the bar" creates a wonderful, boozy, low-life atmosphere, complete with tinkling bar-room piano.

It is quite easy to draw comparisons between Leo Sayer and Loudon Wainwright, but I prefer the real thing. A Beautiful album. Ian Elliot

My kind of sunshine

A column of jazz news and reviews

The local scene is showing signs of a revival with Sunday lunchtime and Wednesday evening sessions at The Smugglers, Herne and The Shrew Beshrewed, Island Road, Westbere respectively. Both 'do's' feature local jazzers and are FREE!!!

The Canterbury Jazz Appreciation Society meet once each month and Pete Webb, the man at the helm, is working hard to get a few live events off the ground. The Society held a wildly successful if somewhat sad 'benefit' for the dependants of Ernie Austin, a founder member of CJAS, and anyone who missed that one should be shedding a tear or two. Highlight of the evening was a superb performance by Tony Coe on 'Here's That Rainy Day.' T. C. obviously likes this one and usually manages to fit it into his programme, this time, (perhaps because Coe and pianist John Burch compliment each other so well in their styles) he produced a ravishing yet unsentimental version that ought to have been recorded for posterity. Coming up from CJAS is a Piano History concert at Ashford that will feature the trios of Paul Jury, John Burch and Pete Gresham. Should be a good 'n, note the date Tuesday, March 19th at 8 pm. Tickets are 50p and are available from Pete Webb, 7 Glenside Avenue, Canterbury.

NEW ISSUES.

Polydor seem to be about the only company in this country putting out jazz albums just now. I may be wrong but everything else seems to be an import from the States or Europe (sorry I keep forgetting we're part of it). Anyway clock two superb issues on Polydor's Verve label. 'The Voice of Jazz' Vol 6 (Verve 2304 116) is a further example of the artistry of Billie Holiday (who else), and some of the fine little bands that loved to support her. As always the tunes are good, or it may be that she just makes them sound that way, and the lyrics make some kind of sense when compared with the crap that gets shoved about these days. In fact 'Speak Low' is a collaboration between Kurt Weill and Ogdan Nash which is pretty heavy company by any standards. As a bonus eight of the tracks have Ben Webster blowing behind 'lady' and the drum-sticks are in the hands of Mr. Metronome himself Alvin Stoller. Stoller plays mainly in the studios now where his fees are reputed to be astronomical - well he sure keeps time and that's a fact. Whatever your bag might be don't miss this one. Ben Webster pops, or should I say jumps, up again on 'Blue Saxophones' (Verve 2304 169) alongside Coleman Hawkins and what music these two make together! This is tenor playing at its finest, performances that will still be played 20 or 30 years from now and if the history of these sides is anything to go by they'll have been re-issued about ten more times by then, and why not? Great stuff. Only one adverse comment on these two albums concerns the cover design. Who ever does it can I'm sure get pills for it and I suggest that he, or they, take the whole bloody bottle. For good designs MPS take some beating and the music on the records inside isn't bad either, in fact in the case of 'The Daddy of the Violin' by Joe Venuti (MPS 2120885-0) it's very good indeed. The title is appropriate too, Venuti has been playing jazz violin since the twenties and, with Eddie Lang on guitar, was half of one of the greatest duos in jazz history. This album, on which he is backed by pianist Lou Stein, (he played on some of the Bird with Strings tracks) bassist Marco Ratti and drummer Gil Cuppini, was recorded in 1971 and he shows that he has lost none of his magic. He plays a Gershwin melody comprising 'Wonderful', 'Summertime', 'Lady Be Good', 'Embraceable You' and 'Rhapsody in Blue' a spot of hillbilly on 'One Finger Joe' and a raving 'Honeysuckle Rose' and I can't think of anyone who could do it better. Not so pleasant to my ears is 'The Chris Hinze Combination' on 'Mission Suite' (MPS 21 29177-4). Hinze blows flute over a fierce and frantic rhythm section and the incredible voicings of one, Henny Vonk. I have no doubt that this group should be seen for their music to have maximum impact. On record it all seems a trifle contrived, even messy. At times it swings but then again at times it doesn't, I'm going to give this a few more spins and if my appreciation grows I'll let you know. The title for this album comes from an album by the 'Rhythm Combination and Brass' a band led by trombonist Peter Herbolzheimer which knocked me out some time back. Well they've got another album out and it's even better! 'Waitaminute' (MPS 21 21751-5) crackles along from the opening track and works up a heavy head of steam. The ensemble, despite the lack of reeds, sounds nicely balanced and the soloists are first class. Jiggs Whigham has thankfully lost his plug and here plays old fashioned acoustic trombone and plays it beautifully. His solo on Bobby Troup's 'The Meaning of the Blues' has more than a touch of class and trumpeter Rick Kiefer gets a fine outing on 'The Ballad of the Sad Young Men.' The drumming is rock orientated but good and Orsted-Pederson once again proves that he is one of the greatest bass players ever.

by Pat Sullivan

new

mild crushproof

CAMEL

filters

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REVIEWS

'QUAKE' by RUDOLPH WURLITZER (Picador)

A mash of surrealist prose, exposing the result of the earthquake on California (which is going to happen). An exploring account of the collapse of the fragile system in which we all live.

7.6 on the Richter scale, and man comes out of his conventional controlled life into his more basic animal state and society imposed abnormalities. Buildings are shattered and the crumbs that are left provide only meagre shelter for the survivors. Wurlitzer a citizen of New York, author of two previous novels, 'The Octopus' and 'Flats' plus, writing the script for 'Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid,' demonstrates his insight into the collapse of society in this book. Written in a manner so convincing and super-real, "his hair was wet and the colour was running out of it."

The subject is staying at a holiday inn, come morning the whole mass has had an earthquake, people running around not knowing what has happened and others spurring out all weirdnesses that have piled up in them for so long. Sexual perversions coming to the surface, as Wurlitzer describes it, 'A strange and delirious energy had seized the room. A scene of human connection and strangely realistic behaviour, which is described by such remarkable words and detail. A panic which no one attempts to explain and individuals leave their actions to themselves.'

The Mexican scurried everywhere. "This is the last meal," He sang out. "Si si this is one monster of a disaster and the country is over. Who is not to say that? Ole." A shortxman in



artificially faded jeans and black cowboy boots and a pink and white western shirt shouldered his way past me. In front of him on a silver leash pranced a white German Shepherd dog carrying half an arm in his mouth.

It seems all are turned into maniac forces uncontrollable by anyone. Yet keeping a strange amount of morality, doing crazy things, like, casting a fishing line through the shop window wanting to catch a doughnut. The subject then walks into the town aimlessly, too much shocked to do anything (like everyone), shots are fired and the collapse of the town continues. "Is this a war or what?" he began to cry. "I thought this was an earthquake."

Paranoia is the reality, as gangs of people attempt to organise the remainder of the populace into a social body; police, rescue workers being the main competitors for organisational power, and gangs of urban guerillas attempting to implant their own new system. The guerillas take captives and talk of tactical fighting movements, their opponents taking possession of the areas to the east and west of the town. The subject in the book is taken captive by these revolutionaries who are known as ALPC's, and other captives are told to strip and route marched to a school football field, where eventually a

massacre occurs. False panic relations are attempted, as people try to understand this newly imposed reality. However despite all this havoc, a certain amount of humanity is kept; as one of the guards finds out when he attempts to sexually assault a teenage boy; he gets hung. A red cross post is operating in the town, yet is under cover, so as to seek protection from the 'wildmen.' Looting and vandalism is the norm and killing has no retrospective effects on the murderer. The last scene is an area of the town, being stocked up, and, barricaded up against snipers and the like. The story teller does not live to give the final verdict on the chaos, and dies having been shot in the shoulder and through the hand.

Wurlitzer shows brilliant insight into the collapse of society, one of reality and imagination, following a long line of such books; yet even more extreme than 'Clockwork Orange,' and certainly more factual in that this is one area of the world which has a massive fault running through it, and a very dense, highly 'organised' population.

'Dazzlingly vivid, disturbingly prophetic' 'As if Burroughs had written Lord of the Flies.' New York Times book review.

rob farebrother.

Revenge of the Lawn. Richard Brautigan. Picador 50p

"WHAT'S this one about?" "Just another book," says Brautigan, the self-confessed minor poet whose books lie slim and dusty in odd corners of old shelves. He's right; he will never be studied for his meaning and ambiguity but the dream-

like mystical flow of his reflections of life in Tacoma and San Francisco mystical flow of his reflection in Tacoma and San Francisco will never fall to addict any who accidentally open the pages.

Stories they aren't. Just odd memories and recollections of childhood and the life of a wandering poet among the naive and artless

natives of the North-West Pacific coast. Don't be bored by the sound of this; he manages to capture the mystery and idle wonder of just sitting around thinking about what he has seen and done in simple and vivid detail.

All of which sounds like back-cover journalese. There is no way of recommending in words the style of Brautigan. If you can imagine the lighter moments of Kerouac or Kesey without the attendant forcing of a message or ideal down your throat you might get some of the idea. He has become a minor cult by word-of-mouth recommendation between friends. Read it and pass it on. All you need now is a bottle of wine and gentle summer sun. And if you can't find a copy read his novels instead, or as well. Consider this a friendly recommendation.

Off Campus

A guide to what's happening in the Kent area until the end of term

MARCH

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| 1 Wye College | Bar extension | |
| 1 N. E. London Poly | Pink Fairies | |
| 2 Kingston Poly | Fruupp | |
| 2 Bognor Regis College of Education | Gallagher and Lyle | |
| 2 Imperial College, London. | Tom Paxton | |
| 2 Odeon, Hammersmith for 7 days Odeon | Roy Wood's Wizzard | |
| | Other Canterbury Tales plus She Should Have Stayed In Bed | |
| | The Beguiled plus Violent City | |
| | Hatfield and the North | |
| ABC | | |
| 3 Roundhouse, Chalk Farm | Zorba the Greek | 7.30 pm 20p |
| 3 Wye College | Pilgrims Progress (Theatre roundabout) | |
| 4 Marlowe | Dance in Action: Dance drama group | |
| 4-9 Marlowe | Bernard Klee, Yvonne Minton, Ernst Haefliger | 8 pm ends 10 pm |
| 5 Royal Festival Hall | Haydn: Symphony No. 102 | |
| | Mahler: Das Lied von der Erde | |
| | Manon (Massenet) | |
| 5 Sadlers Wells Opera at the London Coliseum | | |
| 6 Gulbenkian | The Harris-Harris Show with Added It" by John Killick Thanet Technical College & Impasse" by Galton & Simpson, Wye College | 7.30 pm ends 11 pm |
| 6 Royal Ballet at Royal Opera House | Madame Butterfly: Puccini | 7.30 pm ends 10.30 pm |
| 7 Sadlers Wells Opera at the London Coliseum | Carmen: Bizet | 7 pm ends 8.20 pm |
| 7 Gulbenkian | The Devil in Summer" by Michel Fauve, Canterbury College of Technology and Hands across the Sea" by Noel Coward U. K. C. | |
| 7 Royal Festival Hall | Lorin Maazel, Alexis Weissenberg | 8 pm ends 10 pm |
| | Shostakovitch: Festive Overture | |
| | Rachmaninov: Piano concerto No. 2 | |
| | Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 | |
| 8 Univ. of Sussex | Chic Corea Band | |
| 8 Gulbenkian | Playing with Fire" by A. Strindberg, Christchurch College of Education and Trojan Women" by Euripides, Sittingbourne College of Education | |
| | Rigoletto: Verdi | 7.30 pm ends 10.30 pm |
| 9 Royal Opera at the Royal Opera House | Final Night: Performance of Award Winning plays. Presentation of awards by the Mayor of Canterbury and Miss Susan Hampshire | |
| 9 Gulbenkian | French Connection plus Vanishing Point | |
| | The Serpent | |
| | Hospital" | 7.30 pm 20p |
| | Queen | |
| | Carmen: Bizet | 7 pm ends 10.20 pm |
| | Lorin Maazel, Gary Graffman. | 8 pm ends 10 pm |
| | Mendelssohn: A Midsummer Night's Dream. Bruckner: Piano Concerto in G Minor Symphony No. 6. | |
| | Queen | |
| 12 Roundhouse, Dagenham | Macbeth | |
| 13 Odeon | Michael Tilson Thomas, Miriam Fried. | |
| 14 Royal Festival Hall | Balakirev: Overture on Russian Themes. Tchaikovsky: Violn Concerto. Stravinsky: Petrouchka | |
| | Patience of Socrates: Telemann | |
| | Roy Harper | |
| 15-16 Marlowe | In the Night | 7.30 pm ends 10.30 pm |
| 15 Goldsmiths College, New Cross | Giselle | |
| 15 Royal Ballet at the Royal Opera House | Gentle Giant | |
| 16 Drury Lane, London | La Traviata: Verdi | 7.30 pm ends 10.45 pm |
| 16 Royal Opera at the Royal Opera House | | |
| 17 Odeon | Sexual Partners | |
| 17 Wye College | Oh What a Lovely War | 7.30 20p |
| 17 Roundhouse, Chalk Farm | Gong (French group plus Henry Cow) | |
| 18 for 3 days Odeon | Romeo and Juliet: Zeffereilli | |
| 19 Royal Festival Hall | Bernard Haitink, Vladimir Ashkenazy. | 8 pm ends 10 pm |
| | Beethoven: Overture Leonore 3. Piano concerto No. 4 in J. Symphony No. 4 in B flat | |
| | Gentle Giant | |
| | Babe Ruth | |
| | Brother Sun and Sister Moon | |
| | The Story of Vasco (New production) | 7.30 pm |
| 19 Town Hall, Watford | | |
| 20 Marquee, Wardour St. | Desmond Dupre Trio | 7.30 pm |
| 21 Odeon | Telemann: Trio for flute, gamba and continuo. J. S. Bach: Sonata for flute and continuo. Vivaldi: Sonata for flute and continuo. Scheidler: Sonata for flute and lute. Rameau: Troisieme concert for flute, gamba and harpsichord. | |
| 21 Sadlers Wells Opera at the London Coliseum | Golden Earring | |
| 22 Folkestone Arts Centre | Canned Heat | |
| | Queen | |

GENERAL INFORMATION.

British Rail run a combined fare and theatre seat to save money on the concerts that have been mentioned in this OFF CAMPUS. Approximate times of the end of each concert has been included so that it's possible to get a train back to Canterbury. Tickets by post from Music and Theatre Line, British Rail Travel Centre, 40, Station Hill, Reading RG1 1NQ (phone 52615). Christchurch has a Folk club every Wednesday 15p for members 25p for non-members starts 8pm plus a disco every Friday. Nonnington has a disco every Wednesday. There is to be a Drama Festival at the Gulbenkian 6-9th of March which should be of great interest, awards to be presented by Miss Susan Hampshire. Odeon Tel. Canterbury 62480. ABC Tel. Canterbury 62022. Arts Centre Folkestone Tel. Folkestone 55070.

You will find all books reviewed in Incant at The Albion Bookshop

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 Canterbury
 Canterbury 68631

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Also at Broadstairs, Cliftonville and Ramsgate



Towards the Relevant Theatre

RECENT events on campus have highlighted the difficulties on developing a socially responsible and responsive theatre, when a UKC Dramatics production fell foul of a Registry shut-down of the Gulbenkian for the second time in 18 months.

The theatre is, alas, a ponderous animal — the preparation of a production is a long term effort by both management and company. Thus instant cancellation is devastating, and immediate response to local incident inhibited by the near-professional standards for which the amateur campus companies aim.

Perhaps central to its constrictions, however, is a theatre's audience. The play involved in the closure — Arden and D'Arcy's *The Royal Pardon* (which, happily, was flexible enough to go on to Registry and JCR performances) — was about an individual in face of ridiculous and unsympathetic authority, and was ideally suited to the rather heady atmosphere of the week.

The essential difficulty, of course, is in the debate between form and content and presentation. The aim of most productions seen at the Gulbenkian is to succeed as theatrical presentations. This aim governs the choice of play and cast, and determines the length of the rehearsal period and the care given to costume and set design. In itself this represents a laudable ambition — it means that the company is attempting to raise the standards to which they practise their craft as close to the highest levels as they can manage within the obvious limitations. But the concept of theatre as only concerned with plays already written and proved, and, despite their experimental, basically designed for the conventional theatre is not exactly adventurous, and perhaps particularly unsuitable for campus theatre.

The open lecture given in Week 5 by ex-I.C.A. director Michael Kustow, now with the National Theatre, provides an apt postscript to this discussion. His present aim, to provide an institutional 'umbrella' for many new theatrical enterprises that have rejected conventional performing situations within the new South Bank complex seemed considered and progressive — but the audiences' questions seemed to show that they felt the endeavour rather heroic, but probably doomed to failure. It was difficult to decide whether they were being faint-hearted, or merely realistic.

JON MORGAN

GULBENKIAN THEATRE
Box Office: Cant. 69075
 present
U.K.C. Dance Theatre
LUNCHTIME PERFORMANCES
 Thursday 28th February and
 Friday 1st March at 1 pm
AN OPEN RECITAL OF
SCHUBERT'S WINTERREISE
 Tom McDonnell — Baritone
 Alan Laing — Piano
 Sunday 3rd March at 8 pm
EAST KENT STUDENTS
DRAMA FESTIVAL
 Six Colleges compete with
 Six Different Plays
 Wednesday 6th to Saturday 9th March
 at 8 pm
 UKC English Board of Studies
 and Irwin Enterprises present
WOMEN BEWARE WOMEN
 by Thomas Middleton
 Wednesday 13th to Saturday 16th March
 at 8 pm

WAR AND PEACE

At Sadlers Wells

IN THIS time of nationwide discontent it is worthwhile remembering that this week the Sadlers Wells Chorus and Ballet troupe were informed that their salaries would be actually lowered. This is clearly a disgraceful situation, especially as a Junior Chorister may only at the moment be receiving take-home pay of £18 per week — in London a negligible amount. It is a tribute to their art (as well as a moral lesson for other sections of the community) that instead of taking action to damage the Company, not itself responsible for the decision, they are prepared to carry on working anything up to a 72-hour week for the miserable pittance which the average skilled performing artist receives. And who has the

moment when, without prior warning the entire company (who have been on stage looking at a huge map of Russia) swing round and face the audience like Brechtian automatons to sing the huge Paeon of Praise with which the opera begins, to the final mammoth chorus in praise of Kutuzov and the Russian Motherland, this is unquestionably great music, a superb synthesis of unusually Tchaikovskian lyricism and the spiky sardonic music with which Prokofiev is more usually associated. The production that Sadlers Wells, the finest ensemble opera company in the world today, have given it is one of the most effective they have ever mounted; there is an imaginative simplicity about it which is far more satisfactory

assured command. There is surely not another baritone in the country who is capable of extracting so much from any librette.

The production itself, using many back-projections effectively to add depth and necessary perspective to the simple sets, was unimpeachable. Brilliant results were received with little technological extravagance; as for instance the flames and smoke of the burning of Moscow, which rising to their height for Napoleon's entry made him appear to be a devil out of hell. The conductor, David Lloyd-Jones, is the greatest expert in the West on Russian Opera; the version he has made (a complete performance would last over seven

by Chris Webber

impudence to say that their job is not valuable?

Their heroism allowed Saturday's capacity audience to see Prokofiev's 'War and Peace' this 4½-hour long, 14-scene work is the only important opera to emerge from Communist Russia, and naturally relies very heavily on the chorus, to say nothing of its 73 solo parts. Obviously without the complexity of Tolstoy's novel, the Opera achieves coherence by centreing on the relationship of Andrei and Natasha; to this is added a celebration of the unconquerability of the Motherland (The Opera was written at the time of the Nazi invasion). Pierre brings together these two strands, backed up by the chorus and spasmodically by some of the other characters, notably Andrei himself. Characters are employed and discarded in a way that precludes epic development, but Prokofiev's more extensive treatment of Andrei, Natasha and Pierre on the one hand, Napoleon and Kutuzov on the other makes the work a unified masterpiece in its own right.

It is also hugely enjoyable: from the

than any attempt at massive complicity could be. Individual performances of stature are many, but pride of place must go to Norman Bailey, whose powerfully sung, movingly acted Kutuzov completely dominated the second half (WAR). The first half ('Peace') is centred on Andrei and Natasha, and here Tom McDonnell and Josephine Barstow were more than adequate; Mr. McDonnell, well known to UKC for his appearances in 'La Boheme' and 'The Sea Symphony', is quickly gaining quality of tone to add to his undoubted strength, whilst Miss Barstow, although perhaps too tall and mature to make an ideal Natasha, confirmed her position as one of our leading dramatic sopranos. In the smaller role of Anatole Kuragin, John Brecknock stood out for his vocal characterisation and miraculous diction, whilst Ann Hood as his sister, despite vocal unsteadiness, gave the acting performance of her career to emerge as a near-ideal Helene. Derek Hammond-Smith's Napoleon was a real counterbalance to Kutuzov and despite the restricted size of the part this was a performance of

hours if all the music that Prokofiev wrote were to be performed) is intelligent, cutting out some of the less noteworthy patriotic scenes without disfiguring the important scenes involving Pierre, which the versions made for the Bolshoi and Sydney Opera tend to do. The orchestra rose to the challenge of the work under his inspired direction; the chorus, particularly in the patriotic evocatory choruses, better than ever before. Covent Garden should learn the lesson; the ensemble-type opera company, where all the company on chorus to director are on the spot and working together, has proved time and time again that it produces better results than the outmoded inefficient star-system of the international opera house. All in all, this presentation of the battle of the Russian people is a new peak of achievement for the company.

Let us hope that the chorus will win their battle in order that further advance may be made; an opera company without a chorus is quite as serious a threat to the nation as a mine without miners.

ROYAL PARDON

THIS performance was arranged at one hour's notice, when the Registrar finally decided to close the Theatre because of the troubles of campus, and credit must go to Tony Scola and his Stage Management for acting so swiftly to put on a show for those members of the audience (including two school parties from Maidstone) adventurous enough to cross the great divide between the Gulbenkian and Eliot College. Whether it was the goodwill of the audience, the added concentration of the cast in spontaneously adapting the production to circumstances, or simply that the play was more suitable anyway for JCR treatment, I am not sure; but at any rate the play was far more successful here than it had been in the restrained politeness of the Gulbenkian Theatre. This is Arden / D'Arcy 'Rough Drama,' and somehow if the spirit is right, faults of

production and non-acting, so apparent in a traditional theatre, faded into unimportance. The play is a fairy-tale / social work about the fortunes of a travelling group of actors in England and France: the audience-conscious figure is (as usual in D'Arcy-Arden drama) a soldier, played conscientiously by Simon Evans, should dominate in a way that proved impossible either in the Theatre or Eliot. This was partly due to lack of positive direction (less important in the JCR) and partly due to some fine performances which put him in the shade. Pride of place goes to Alison Fletcher whose Mrs. Croke was a beautifully controlled and superbly funny portrayal of an ageing LEADING LADY: Chris Wilde played the villain of the piece, the Constable, with relish and enthusiasm, whilst Mark Hodsworth and Anne Marriot gave their best performances

at UKC to the latter in particular exhibited delicacy and comic timing of a high order. Alison Salter and Steve Jolley as the Princess and Prince were also highly entertaining with their thinly veiled innuendo neatly capturing the mood of the audience. The direction lacked bite at times, but was never incompetent. Not a great ensemble effort — few characters had examined their lines carefully enough and the result tended to be lightweight and lacking in punch — but under the circumstances this was a good attempt and some of the performances definitely made the evening worthwhile. Pity about the bar noise and pinball machines, but Eliot JCR at least showed up the virtues of the Gulbenkian, too often overlooked by the 'committed' elements of UKC Dramatics.

CHARLES WOTAN

Dramatic Festivities

The Sixth Annual East Kent Student Drama Festival will take place at the Gulbenkian Theatre from March 6-9. I have been associated with it from its inception and have witnessed many changes from its relatively humble beginnings.

In 1969, with the aid of the Kent Messenger Newspaper Group, which put up the finance and a Festival Cup, three student drama groups met for one evening in the Concert Hall of Canterbury College of Technology for an evening of competitive drama. UKC brought its 'Where Are You Going, Hollis Jay?' which had received such acclaim in the Sunday Times/NUS Festival and, not surprisingly, won the KM cup. What really set us on our way was the enthusiastic audience which packed the Tech's Hall.

Thus encouraged, I brought into being a Festival Committee of student representatives from each competing College and, with seven entries, we booked the Marlowe Theatre for a week. That too was a success, with the continued financial backing of the Kent Messenger and the then Mayor of Canterbury, Alderman Buckworth donated a second cup, the Mayor's Cup (naturally).



In 1971, we looked for a theatre which might have a better atmosphere for student drama and came to the Gulbenkian, which has been our home ever since. This is due in a small part to the really friendly and generous support of Reg Brown, Mike Hamon and Robin Howard, who have done everything possible to make our little Festival a continued success.

After the 1972 Festival, the Kent Messenger ceased its sponsorship — nothing personal, a part of its general policy. We survived this by means of contributions from the Students' Union of the competing colleges, more extensive support from the Gulbenkian Management and a most helpful donation from the Kent Messenger which maintains a friendly interest.

Last year our Patron, Susan Hampshire, put in a personal appearance on our Finals Night and was amazed at the high standards of production which she witnessed. She was a super hit with the audience and announced her intention of giving another award, the Susan Hampshire Cup for the Audience, which will be presented for the first time at this Festival. Miss Hampshire very much hopes to be with us again at this year's Finals Night, filming commitments on 'The Pallisers' permitting.

The Mayor has always attended the Festival, there is a strong civic interest, and this year will be no exception.

This year's adjudicator will be Mr David Kelsey, former Artistic Director of the Marlowe and now a freelance director, playwright and adjudicator. The public adjudication given each evening is an integral feature of the Festival.

The aim of the Festival is very simple. It is to present plays which student drama bodies wish to present for public performance. The reasons for their choice are not questioned. The Festival has always been competitive because the committee believes that the spirit of competition brings the sharpest edge to production and acting.

The members of the Committee change from year to year but, as the constant link, I have been impressed by the spirit of co-operation and goodwill that has always prevailed. We don't even have written formal rules, agreeing on a general format and procedure at the beginning of the year and adapting it to the needs or problems of any college if necessary. And it works! On average we have four committee meetings a year and this is quite sufficient for the smooth-running of the Festival. Of course a great deal of work is done in the individual colleges revolving around the production being mounted and the ticket sales. The latter is the biggest problem; obviously we want a large student audience to see the works we present and we need a large audience if we are to approach a satisfactory financial balance. We are not a profit-making concern, but with costs rising annually, if we could make a profit it will help next year's Festival.

Our programmes, which cover the whole Festival, are produced at a loss, even if every one were bought. However, it is a matter of policy that we want the audience as well informed about the proceedings as possible.

This year, for various reasons, six Colleges are competing, compared to the 'normal' seven or possibly eight in the East Kent Area.

Martin Mann
Der Tod in Kanterbury.

UKC LITERARY SOCIETY
ALL IN RSCR at 8.15 pm
Events
 Thursday 7th March
M. L. KRUPNICK on "Henry James in "The Golden Bowl" "
 Thursday 14th March
PROF. L. FERNANDO on "The Functions of Criticism in Asia" "
 Wednesday 20th March
GRAND VICTORIAN EVENING

What's Radical Women?

Radical Women is now a political force on campus that cannot be ignored. The power and potential of the group is constantly growing. In the occupation we saw a greater involvement of women than ever before, not only numerically but qualitatively, i.e. in the political level of involvement. It is not much more than a year since the group was set up; it is now about four times as large as any other political group locally. This numerical strength would of course be meaningless if the group was not an active one, fighting around concrete issues. The group is not a talking-shop but is practically engaged in a wide range of activities.

WHY WAS THE GROUP FORMED?

This involves two questions: (1) Why do women see the need to organise in a university situation? (2) Why organise a separate group?

(1) A university is not free and isolated from the rest of society. Although a woman here does not usually experience specific material oppression (unless, of course, she is married or has a child) she by no means finds a three year sanctuary from the ideological and social pressures which exist to prepare and mould her for her eventual function as wife and mother in the family and/or a particular ("second class") sort of worker. The initiators of RWG quickly discovered that the apparent independence and equality that a campus situation seems to offer is in fact illusion. Oppression operates in the form of sex-votes which are objectively fragmentative and de-humanizing whether or not a woman acknowledges this. The woman who is worst off is one who has internalized her role-conditioning to the extent that she does not even realize what is happening to her and accepts a well-defined identity. A woman at university is not magically freed from her past determinants nor barricaded from the social role that waits her on leaving college - a role which usually involves accelerated oppression. RWG thinks it important to prepare women to combat the social destiny she may not realise is assigned to her.

The realisation that the colleges are not immune to sexism in society as a whole meant that we had to organise, reorganise and practically begin to combat our oppression. The Canterbury WL group was practically falling apart, and the campus SWG had dissolved. An initiative from a Socialist group to call a conference on the question precipitated a group of women to fill the vacuum by creating a new women's group.

RWG was not formed on the first wave of feminine radicalisation, so we had the experience of a movement that emerged in the sixties to draw on. So the name Radical Women, to show that we saw ourselves as part of the Left in general, and understood the necessity to make up the question in an outgoing political fashion. The group is, of course, heterogeneous politically, and we all saw this in different ways.

The group was never formed with the intention of confining the issue of women in the college, but understood how important the group could be as a base from which to contact working class women on the estates.

WHY A SEPARATE GROUP

We defend the right not only locally, but nationally to a separate women's movement. We believe that women themselves are best equipped to fight their own oppression. If we ourselves are to control our own lines then we must control the nature and development of our struggle. It is only recently that even the Left has intelligently considered our struggle let alone demonstrate active support. It would be Utopian under the existing social conditions to expect men to be free from chauvinism or indeed for women to be in themselves liberated. We welcome any man or group willing to give us active support, like the support men gave in the demonstration. Most importantly, the real way any oppressed layer gets its ideas across and gains support from the left and other oppressed sections is to wage an independent struggle and be seen to be doing so.

Why Radical Women?

THE Canterbury Radical Women's Group is a very active force on campus and membership is increasing continually. The Group meets as a whole once a week, on Monday evenings at 8.00 pm in Keynes, one week being a business meeting for organisational and co-ordinating purposes, the following meeting being an educational, when one or more papers are presented and discussion of the theme follows.

However, due to the size of the group and diversity of membership, it was decided to establish sub-groups, to accommodate the particular interests of members. These groups meet during the week and report back regularly to the Monday night meeting. It is generally within the smaller groups that the concrete proposals and plans arise. At present there are seven groups functioning. One group is producing a magazine which will be published shortly and contains articles contributed by members of RWG.



-Well, as long as you don't try to get away, you can hardly feel it.



The Street Theatre Group has already given two successful public performances in different colleges this term, having also performed before an audience of Sixth formers and staff at Simon Langton's Girls' School. It is intended eventually to give a public performance in Canterbury, which could draw attention to the women's movement from an area other than the campus.

A Mechanics group was organised last term and the first mechanism examined was a car engine. Future projects include converting a squat into a women's centre.

One Group, 'National Campaigns,' has made contact with some schools in this area and is now making regular visits talking to girls in general terms about their situation in life, the prospects they see for themselves and the discussions which arise during these visits seem to have proved valuable both to pupils and to members of the group and have certainly encouraged the group to continue and extend this activity.

Another project which was started by this group but which is now

controlled by Canterbury housewives is a price-watching campaign. The idea for this arose from the obvious escalation of the price of food and then a proposal was made to boycott a particular store, modelled on the example of the Derby boycott which was so successful a few months ago in attracting public attention.

Two consciousness raising groups have been set up since the beginning of the year and another is in the process of being formed. A group concerned with the position of women within the University has been making inquiries into pay structure and job opportunities and has set up a seminar group on alternate Wednesday evenings to discuss Women's studies with a view to setting up a course on this subject within an academic faculty.

Last term RWG and other supporters formed a large contingent in the anti-SPUC rally held in London. There have also been letters published in the local press on the demands women are making, such as free abortion and contraception on demand, 24 hour nurseries for moth-

ers who work night shifts etc.

On Feb. 6th ten members of the group attended a conference run by NUS which was to provide suggestions for a national women's campaign. At this conference many concrete motions were passed although these are still only of an advisory nature until passed at a policy-making NUS Conference. A steering committee for the campaign was also elected, containing two members of the UKC RWG group.

At the last UGM a motion was passed which notes the organisation, in the near future, of a Women's Conference at UKC for the local Kent area. This is intended to assist women in small colleges to start their own Women's Groups and to fulfil an educative function by increasing the awareness of students on the problems of women's oppression.

The relationship between the Gay women in the group and other women has always been very good and now the first national Conference for Gay Women is being organised for April 26/27 in Canterbury.

WOMEN AND THE UNIVERSITY

A look at sexism in the academic world

IN 1973 there were twice as many applications to British universities from men as from women. Like almost all British universities the University of Kent has more male students than it does female and a great majority of these female students are reading for degrees in the Faculty of Humanities. In the Faculties of Social Science and Natural Science and in the School of Mathematics only about a third of the students are women. If we look at the numbers at other levels in the University hierarchy we find that women constitute only about a quarter of the total number of postgraduates and about a tenth of the academic staff. As you may have noticed, the vice-chancellor, the deans of the faculties, the registrar, the university doctor, the surveyor, the baker and the butcher are all men.

However, whilst we can say with some assurance that women at the University are over-represented at the most menial and ill-paid level and under-represented at the well-paid and influential levels it is still necessary to ask whether or not this matters, or whether it makes any difference to the way the University is run and what the University is. After all, there is no reason to suppose that even if women did have a greater share in the power structure that anything would change. There is not yet an adequate expression to describe the woman who is to women what an Uncle Tom is to Blacks

but there are enough of them about to give weight to this prediction. These good ladies when interviewed on conquering some bastion of male supremacy (perhaps the first woman to swim the channel backwards) assure the public that they hate the 'mere idea of women's liberation'.

"Series of tortuous knots"

And so they should. For if women's liberation is to be about anything then it surely must be about the creation of a society

which is radically different from that of today's industrial capitalist countries in which achievement and success are measured within a narrow and largely material framework. In these countries women are tied in a series of tortuous knots. Socialised in the vast majority of cases to be feminine rather than female. They are presented with a world which asks them to give precedence to man and which in return offers a few albeit rather tarnished rewards. Women increasingly have to work but the difference is now that they have to work both outside the home for money and inside the home to maintain some

vestige of a family life. The oppression of this double job is not of course the same for all women. The better off and better qualified woman is able to buy the help which is denied to someone in low paid and insecure jobs. Many women must feel like deluded packhorses, doing two jobs and running in ever-increasing circles whilst at the same time deluded with information and about staying young, lovely, calm and attractive. How to be the most beautiful corpse when the cause of death has been overwork.

59%

Those women in Britain who do work outside the home work for wages which are only 59 per cent of those earned by men. In 1938 women in manufacturing industries earned 47 per cent of the amount earned by men. It is a sad reflection on the so-called improvements in our society that in 1972 this figure was 51 per cent. A gain of 4 per cent in 34 years. In the service industries (where two-thirds of women workers are to be found) the situation is slightly worse. It is only in the professions (teaching, the civil service, etc.) that we find equal pay and then it

must be said that the majority of senior positions in the professions are held by men. For example, in schools it is usually men who receive the graded post allowances which augment the pitiful wages paid to school teachers. Despite low pay and minimal chances of promotion, women still work and for those with children the difficulties are compounded further. Popular mythology still holds that women with small children don't work and that if they do they are either greedy, money grabbing monsters or neglectful and cold hearted mothers. And so the provision of facilities for the proper care of small children are grossly inadequate. Women who are forced into the labour market by the low pay of their husbands or perhaps the non-existence of a husband are therefore forced into agonising anxiety about the children that they leave with untrained and diffident child-minders.

Privilege?

And so the question which must confront women in the university is the question of how it is possible to create an awareness of the situation which women in Britain

face today. Women students occupy a place in society which is a privileged one. Despite certain changes in the status given to holders of degrees it is nevertheless still true that a degree is a passport to certain elite positions in our society. Those women who will leave the university with degrees are those women who, in a few years time, may be in a position of authority over other women. It is to be hoped that at a university it might be possible for women to gain some knowledge and some information about those in a position which is less privileged than theirs. And yet, at the present time there are no courses which exist about the position of women in British society. At other British universities courses have been started which consider the whole question of the role which women play in modern society and these courses after some initial difficulties have attracted a great amount of interest and a great amount of sympathy from both men and women within the university. There is obviously on this campus a great number of women who feel acutely aware of both their own situation and the situation of other women and it is to be hoped that this awareness

can be translated into some form of serious attempt at the establishment of a course or courses dealing with the position of women in Britain. A number of seminars and meetings have been held on this question lately but still there exists a great need for some kind of central information about what is going on.

The Law

On Wednesday, March 6th, a meeting at 8 pm in Darwin Tower Room will hear a paper on 'Women and the Law' and, it is hoped, discuss plans for further seminars and possible courses on Women's Liberation.

Demonstrate your knowledge of the oppression of others and come to the meeting.

JUMBLE SALE
In aid of the
Oaks Day Nursery
2 pm
March 2nd
at
St. Thomas' Hall

Obituary

CLIVE
MUNGO
GRIFFITHS
(1953-1974)



TO those who knew him well Clive 'Hotpants' Griffiths always appeared to present an image of bureaucratic hedonism. Rejecting the unlimited prospects of his former career as a part-time gynaecologist and Ipswich Hippodrome Gaiety Girl, he came to University to see, in his own words, 'How the other 99.9 per cent lived.' Though his academic qualifications were limited - an 'O' Level pass in 'A' Level Navigation and an HND diploma in Petty Dogmatism - he shrugged off these and his less well-known physical disabilities in order to take a full and active part in his degree course of BA Underwater Equestrian Polevaulting and Italian. His personal impact on College and University life was, again in his own words, 'Devastating, Darling.' As Chairman of the Darwin SS (Queen's Own Volunteers), he was often seen falling over after wild sherry evenings held by the mysterious figure, rarely seen and seldom visaged,

known only to some as 'Brian' and to others as 'The Master.' His ubiquitous talents naturally led to his becoming editor of the local student 'newspaper' 'Insult' which position he used to great effect (several libel suits pending) though he preferred No. 42 with a cane-back chair and a bucket of prawns himself.

His untimely death, the result of a mysterious visit to Herne Bay and a severe case of congenital brain damage, leaves an irreplaceable gap in the community or am I just being polite? He leaves a stamp collection, a unique set of Boy Scout woggles, and two thousand copies of his infamous best-seller 'Rabbit - Keeping for Profit.'

MERVYN NORKS.

YOUR STARS

THIS week will be one of conflict for all. Mars is racing through the sphere of elements. The appearance of the comet visible at first dawn in the sphere of Mercury signifies wasted effort, futility.

Most people are notoriously ignorant of astrology although they read their horoscope. Each person has both, a rising and a sun sign. Both influence their lives and they may be in conflict. Every person should know his strengths and weaknesses - a good horoscope advises them on both. We can only recommend that you have your star-chart drawn up by a competent astrologer.

SCORPIO: The strongest sign. You have undertaken a project involving a great deal of conflict. Continue, you will win. Utilise others confusion, exert your will, money is forthcoming, and a move.

PISCES: Trouble with a capital T. Especially for women. The best option is to let things take their natural course. Don't commit yourself. A party will get things together.

CANCER: Visit from an old girl or boyfriend. If you play your cards right, it will be okay. Work is most untogther. Good news from home.

LEO: A long standing relationship is in the making. Don't be forceful. Watch the domineering (Mars) aspect of yourself. Success in this sphere means failure in others - sport and work.

ARIES: For those with spiritual aspirations it will be a great week. You are surfing over things. Swift progress.

SAGITARIUS: The goat with a fishes tail. Sagitarius people love arguments, and this week they'll get plenty. Money runs right out. Academics go well.

GEMINI: Means division, irresolution, at best, intense experience. This week is full of small surprises against a background of boredom.

AQUARIUS: Your Age is coming to an end. Soon we are moving into LEO. In your life, things are coming to an end. It's time to break out. Meet new people. Change.

LIBRA: Don't be unduly upset by the unsociable behaviour of friends. Compromise is advised all round. Complicated but not insoluble.

TAURUS: With Scorpio - great success with sex. This trying week will not present too many problems to your powerful personality. All business deals are well aspected.

VIRGO: An enigmatic time. Move is in the air. Ignore rumours but accept other's advice.

CAPRICORN: Naturally shy, you must make your presence felt more. You have a good capacity for work; use it. But don't let others use you.

DOSTRA NAMUS

Futsac?



FUTSAC! A word? A ritual? A way of life? An organisation? An enterprise? An insult? Take your pick, its true definition has ben variable variable as the weather, depending on which way the wind is blowing.

The time has come, before its too late and I am no longer futsacing at UKC, to disclose to you thousands the secrets of FUTSAC. No doubt, during the past two and a half years, some of you, if not most, have heard or seen it.

Well once upon a time on a misty island off the northcoast of France landed the chief futsacer of all time. It was October 1971 AD and cries of "FUTSAC!" were heard down the northern corridors of Elliot College. These cries soon spread, notably at discos and entertainments. But this intriguing yell had its roots in a far and distant land where it came to life the previous year.

The author heard these famous words spoken by the Afrikaaners and his mind bogged, blowing fuses and transistors. The implications of this word were infinite. Under the pressure of the political atmosphere of the time a cynicism developed and FUTSAC

became an ironic retaliation. Much research by Yelseeb and Robins (currently futsacing at Birmingham University after a lifetime in the Kalahari Desert) was undertaken. Form many a night from within the local hotel bar came the songs: 'Futty Sac' (analogous to the Cutty Sark) and 'If I was a futsacer'. Straining over the development of the cult continued through many full moons and Yelseeb and Robins futsaced.

The following of Futsac thus began and it lives on in many parts of the globe. (See the Futsac Honours list at the end of this monograph). However its literal translation still remains vague, no doubt. But it can mean something for everyone. FUTSAC is derived (with respect to good Dutch) and distorted from an Afrikaans phrase 'Voetsek', best translated by Brislin (currently back in the Kalahari Desert contemplating new defini-

tions) as "Go ye hence."

For the unsuspecting ears its cry is confused with a popular Anglo-Saxon phrase although if said in the right or wrong way it could imply such a meaning. Futsac certainly has its uses.

Over the years FUTSAC has expanded from nonsensical to commercial - FUTSAC Enterprises coming into business during October 1972 when, to mark its anniversary of one year at Kent, the FUTSAC T-shirts were released to the world; in fact all thirteen of them (lucky for some).

As the word and cry implies and kindles a sense of awareness, joyfulness and sometimes annoyance, its service is everlasting in the fight against mental indolence and non-participation. So be friendly and FUTSAC and participate.

Now you know all about it. Use it with extreme care, but to be taken three times a day conscientiously.

Best of FUTSACS.
The Chief Futsacer,
Mik Yelseeb

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TRAFFIC

May 4th

For the full story behind the Stomu Yamash'ta cancellation see next issue

small ads

SEAN McGunn's 'Little Black Book' is now available from Allen and Edye Ltd., 227b Thatcher Avenue, Dogma, Bletchley. Price £5 o.n.o.

FOR sale. One worn-out Griffiths with recently attached grommet. Comes in brown, blue or very rarely. State hip size and second preference.

WHAT'S wrong with Bubonic plague?

WHY aren't you speaking to me any more, Ed?

YOU'VE got the brain of a four year old boy and I bet he was glad to get rid of it.

WHATEVER happened to Delius?

DISTRESSED Editor of local student newspaper with well-defined anal-expulsion complex requires mother figure. Contact through usual address.

A L C O H O L I C S anonymous meets regularly in D4.4. Bring a bottle.

CAN I come round and tickle your feet again, Margaret?

FOR those in peril on the sea.

LIMERICK Competition: "There was an old fellow called Fox" . . . Complete and send to Incant.

HOME wanted for young dog - he's no intellectual but very good natured. Steve Forfar Keynes IPS. THE above smallad is genuine.

ENOUGH'S enough. You can go a bit too far, you know. There's a limit to everything. Beyond the bounds of human reason one cannot go etc.

FALLEN on your head lately, Keith? A3 rules.

MY God, is Gina really the creature that ate Sheffield?

TWO months left, Martyn.

E - MC squared. Now why didn't I think of that.

Get high on Hegel. COME back, Ken, all is forgiven.

IN the old days these small ads used to cost 2p a throw. Is that why I'm sitting here having to make them up?

OLDIES but goodies:

WATCH out, Delius is armed to the eyeballs or is it balled to the armpits.

BEWARE the cult of the ANTI-NED.

FOREST for the cup.

SIT-IN Keynes Incinerator Room from this Monday in support of the Free Patagonian Liberation Front. All comrades welcome.

PHEW whattascorcha.

SO what's this about you and the goat, Sally?

YOU can stick those fangs in my neck anytime, Helen.

NORTHOLT boot-boys rule.

YOU bloody hypocrite, John.

COME back, Chilver all is forgiven.

DAVE would like to apologise to everyone he's ever met.

IT wouldn't stand up in court.

OH to be in Ireland, now that McGeown's here.

. . . FSS - CIA

WHO is Joe Cotter?

FOR sale 600000000 back copies of Incant. Offers to Clive c/o Shittfing Enterprises Ltd.

THE north begins at Hemel Hempstead or is it Penge?

BLIM blim blim blim blim blim blim.

