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Courier

The Newspaper of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1965

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Too little talk on merger, says Graham Reynolds

COUNCIL CHAT STOP



Graham Reynolds, past President of the Union Society.

Cathedral success

A CAPACITY audience of over 280 watched the final performance of "Murder in the Cathedral" in St. Thomas's Church on Saturday night.

"The actors responded with a fine display of acting which was obviously greatly appreciated by the audience," says Mike Evans, one of the producers. "There was a lack of applause in the church. The play ended by darkening the stage and fading a spotlight on the altar very slowly so that the play finished some time before the audience recovered from the effect."

Only the generosity of Newcastle College of Commerce allowed such an effect to be produced at all. British Rail mislaid two thirds of a consignment of lighting equipment, all of which was put on the same train. They redeemed themselves in part by delivering one third of the equipment on Wednesday and some of the rest on Friday. Some is still missing.

Adventurous

The low grant from S.R.C. and Dramsoc's large production costs (over £150) mean a loss of around £30 will be made on "Murder in the Cathedral". Mike Evans, Dramsoc Chairman, has commented: "A loss which the society can scarcely afford." The adventurous spirit of the society is reflected in their plans to put on two plays next term, one performed solely by "freshers".

Prof. Cooper

After being involved in a road accident, Prof. M. M. Cooper, Dean of Agriculture, was taken to Newcastle General Hospital on Thursday night.

He was alone in his car when it was in collision with a van on the A1 at Morpeth. He received left trunk injuries, but by Saturday he was well enough to return home.

The Editor regrets any wrong impression caused by Mr. Hooper's letter in last week's edition. Any reference to Union officials was without foundation.

Reynolds questions chair

STUDENT Representative Council criticised John Thompson, President, near the end of Monday evening's meeting for stopping discussion in what they considered very important subjects.

In particular, Thompson's action in refusing to allow discussion of the possible merger of the Union and S.R.C., now being discussed by the respective executives, was condemned.

Mr. Reynolds, Medical, demanded at the beginning of the meeting that the merger should be discussed immediately since the Executive had no mandate from the Council to carry on these talks.

President Thompson allowed very little discussion it was felt, and put the motion to the vote. It was defeated by one.

Mr. Caning, S.R.C. President two years ago, said that he was "disturbed that the executive should go straight ahead with these talks instead of waiting to find out Council's opinion."

"Do you really know whether we want a merger or not?" he asked. "Surely it would be more logical to ask for Council's view first?"

S.R.C. Secretary, John Bell, speaking on behalf of S.R.C. executive, emphasised that they had no power to take any decisions on the subject. "Nothing definite has been decided," he said "and everything has to be discussed in Council first."

CRITICISMS

Mr. Russ Watson, Union Secretary, informed the Council that legal advice was being obtained concerning the feasibility of any merger. An essential problem was the trusteeship of the Union.

Mr. Bell reiterated that this matter was not for discussion but had been brought up in order to inform Council of the talks that are going on. When there are facts to report, then they will be he said. In reply to criticisms that the Executives were not the best people to carry out any discussions, Mr. Bell stated that he believed that the Executives were the level at which this subject was best raised.

At this point Mr. Thompson refused any more speakers. There was disquiet among the Council members over this statement.



John Thompson, president of N.U.S.R.C., who came under pressure at Monday's Council meeting.

U.G.C. visit plans

THE University Grants Committee is to visit Newcastle next year, and in an interview with 'Courier' John Bell, Secretary of S.R.C. gave this statement about it.

The committee's terms of reference are to enquire into the financial needs of the Universities in Great Britain and to advise the Government as to the application of any grants which Parliament might make. Further, to assist in consultation with the universities and other bodies concerned, in preparation and execution of such plans for the development of the universities as may from time to time be required to ensure that they are fully adequate to national needs.

With these thoughts in mind

we as students offer our comments, criticisms, and recommendations as to the prevalent conditions and projected schemes for the improvement of Newcastle University in the next quinquennium.

Accommodation

The topics for recommendation that S.R.C. suggest are relevant are, the United Society, Athletics, Library

facilities, Staff relations, teaching and accommodation. Already a sample 10 per cent of students have been issued with a questionnaire on accommodation and John Thompson, President says, "Even though S.R.C. have selected certain students to represent them, the committee always welcomes other students to express their opinion on level six."

N.U.S. opposition

NEWCASTLE University may leave the National Union of Students.

This results from the way in which the recent Margate Conference was used as a political platform by some other Universities. Several members of our delegation have severely criticised their action.

Val Finch, Lady President of the Union, who was present at Margate, feels strongly that politics have no place in N.U.S. "University Authorities respect the student body only when it is non-political," she states. "If the N.U.S. conference had spent more time discussing welfare and concessions and other internal problems then they would be doing a much more useful job than listening to long speeches about Rhodesia."

COMMUNISTS

"The discussion of irrelevant issues mainly brought up by small training colleges leaves no time for the really important subjects," she continued. "Debates on Rhodesia and Vietnam I do not consider as important. No one

has enough background knowledge of them."

"Of course," she commented, "Council does attract a certain type of person who is politically minded. Thus delegations may not always be properly representative. On a national level this has meant that there has been a preponderance of Communists on the Council."

The first day at Margate, she said, was an "utter waste" anyway. "There were far too many interruptions because very few people knew the procedure." This, she felt, revealed one of N.U.S.'s weaknesses. Like other student bodies the Union lacks continuity. Delegations change from year to year and the fortunes of various universities fluctuate. Newcastle's delegation, which has been one of the most outspoken in the last two years, seems to have become an "elder statesman."

This time a number of delegations have asked Newcastle for support and advice and as a result our delegation may have considerable influence on the policy of N.U.S.

Comment has been made of the cost of sending large delegations to conferences. John Thompson, President of S.R.C. said: "I feel there may be a chance one day that the cost of N.U.S. will cause certain Northern Universities, who are dissatisfied with the Union, to opt out of it."

The figures given out

WELL, at last we've seen some figures for Rag! Not that those responsible have been slow in publishing them, but so many and various have been the rumours surrounding them, that it's pleasant to be able to report the matter with authority!

The figure which sticks out is the Car Competition, which made £2,000 less profit than last year. However, this still remains a very lucrative proposition, since income was over double the expenditure.

Another £304 is yet to come in. The fact that income was less than expected in this venture was partly offset by the fact that profits on the Rag dances were up by more than £900.

PROFIT

Rag Review made a negligible loss, but again compared badly, profit-wise, with Rag time Cabaret (which made £261).

The Ball once more has proved to be a social proposition rather than a financial success, and a loss of about £100 this year compares with a profit of £128 last year.

There has been little variation in the sum received from collections and donations, but

it is to be hoped that the ceiling for this sort of revenue has not been reached. Stunts cost a mere £12 but transport reached the unusually high figure of £270. It is hoped to give approximately £8,450 to charity.

Northerner next term

BERYL Young, editor of Northerner, the University Magazine criticised S.R.C. publications committee at the meeting on Monday night.

She accused them of being out of touch with the magazine, and publications in general. She asked that they should take part in producing either Courier, Northerner, or Handbook and Diary as a qualification for membership. Beryl Young also gave Council a preview of Northerner, and requested that members present should encourage the staff and their own constituents to buy it. They had, she said, given her £150 to produce Northerner, so they might as well go out and sell it.

IT'S A LIE!

In the Bristol student newspaper this week we find the boast that "There have been many more editions of Non-such this term than have ever been produced by any other student newspaper—today's is the ninth. Next edition published January 28th, 1966."

This is the TENTH issue of Courier this term. The next edition will be available on the 10th of January.

'HOOTENANY' This THURSDAY, 7-30

SPECIAL GUEST STAR — **FRANK DUFFY**

TICKETS FROM PORTER'S LODGE, 2/8 ROOM 27

PERSONAL COLUMN

PARTY OF THE YEAR. — Soiree Francaise in the French Dept. Tuesday Dec. 14, starting at 8 p.m. Admission 1/6 members, 2/- non-members. Bar, buffet, burger-bar, music, dancing.

FLASH. Baxter Law, and Spanky Slade unit for Scotland.

WANTED. Car park attendant. Apply "Palace" internal mail.

WILL the student who was in the Union on Sunday send his complaint to the Jesmond Ratepayers Association.

BEST WAY to start the Christmas festivities. — Soiree Francaise Christmas party at No. 4. Marvellous conclusion to a term of varied activities. Every one invited, watch the notice board for details.

STUDENT now weighs 5 stone. Give generously.

Malcolm.

DAVE. What a cheek! Nothing false about No. 55.

Penny.

When can I come and see your quarters? — Dave.

WHERE DO WE START? Is the title of Rev. R. Horn's talk at the Christian Union Meeting on Friday, December 10th. Percy Building Room 57, 1.5-1.35 p.m. All welcome.

WINE, DINE, DANCE with the Riding Club, Monday 13th December at 8.0 p.m. till 2.0 a.m. Michaels Night Club. Tickets from Porters Lodge.

LOST. A Fresher scarf. Apply A. Flesher via internal mail.

BOMBS kills 90% of all known germs — also excellent for removal of black or brown shoe polish.

NO MATTER how fast the Goldfish swims he rarely appears to sweat.

WANTED. Two dusky melancholy sprites with a view to an orgy. Apply, Biss and Pidge, via Int. Mail.

FOUND. Black, short-haired terrier in Union. — Apply Porter's Lodge.

WOT! no Gail this week.

MISSING: One Ghazal Dewd — last seen wearing Union Jack.

WANTED: Butcher's apron in part exchange for duzle coat — apply G.D. int. mail.

TYPING SERVICE. Peter Coxson Typing Service. Dissertations, theses, etc. Fast and accurate. From 5/6 per 1,000 words plus 4d. per carbon. Write 56 Draycott Place, London, S.W.5. KNI 5566 any time. For price list call Courier Office.

I AM COMPILING an anthology of lavatory inscriptions for an encyclopaedia on faecal ethnology. Will anybody who feels they may have an original contribution take it to Box 632 Courier Office.

BAYSWATER BANGERS ride again. Dusky melancholy sprites bowled over.

COMMUTERS deny rumours of imminent transfer of their portly right back to Real Madrid.

FORTUNES TOLD and horoscopes prepared. Apply to G. WOULD the person who nicked my gown from U.S.E.C. office between 4.30 and 5.30 on Monday night please return it. No questions asked. — Dick Milner.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY. Anyone interested please write via Internal Mail to Photographic Editor, Courier. What do you know?

ALL I want for Christmas is a woman. — Paul.

U.S.E.C. Film, Saturday, Dec. 11th, 7.15. Room 57. What ever happened to Baby Jayne?

GILLIAN of Percy Road, looking forward to seeing you. Men of Durham.

GILLIAN of Percy Road, have a ball! — "Inmates."

COME to the West Indian Society Dance in the Union Ballroom on the 8th December to listen and dance to a West Indian Steel Band and to see the Limbo performed. To provide pop music the Gasboard are in attendance. Tickets are only 4/- from the Porter's Lodge or from members of the society. Remember: Wednesday 8th December from 8.0 p.m. until 12.0 midnight in the Union Ballroom.

LONDON. Life available next week. Read "Kingston" on Wall News.

THE WEEK IN NEWCASTLE

College

WEDNESDAY 8 — Barn Dance, Scottish Country Dance Society, Balnbridge Hall, 7.30 p.m. - 11.30 p.m. Cost 3/6.

Chinese and Malaysian Society Visit to Thomson House. Meet Union Foyer 2.30 p.m.

FRIDAY 10 — U.N.S.A. "Racialism." The Debating Chamber, 7.30 p.m., Eustace Percy Hall, Christmas Dance, Henderson Hall, Christmas Ball.

SATURDAY 11 — Mock Trial of Balloon Debate.

MONDAY 13 — Careers Talk — "Insurance" 4.30 p.m. Appointments Office.

Alderson and Brentnall. Luncheon Organ Recital, Melville Cook (Hereford Cathedral) Newcastle Cathedral, Tyneside Yorkshire Society, "The Roman Wall Revisited," Balnbridges Restaurant.

THURSDAY 9 — Recorded Music Society. Falla and Rodrigo, Y.W.C.A. **FRIDAY 10** — Northern Sinfonia Orchestra, City Hall, Newcastle Photographic Society "Venice" (8, Windsor Terrace).

MONDAY 13-TUESDAY 14 — "Everyman" St. Thomas's Church, 8.0 p.m. 13-14

— "The Three Sisters" Tchekov. Peoples Theatre, 7.0 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 15 — "Oratorio" — Handel's "Messiah" City Hall, 7.0 p.m.

Henderson v Alnwick III A BASKETBALL

WEDNESDAY 8th Newcastle v Leeds H

MONDAY 13th Newcastle v Weardale A

BADMINTON

THURSDAY 9th v Newcastle St. Gabriels H

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Sport

RUGBY

WEDNESDAY 8th 1st XV v Sheldale A

SATURDAY 11th 1st XV v Tyneside H

Eustace v Ministry of Pensions H

Town

WEDNESDAY 8 — Oratorio, Messiah (Handel), Newcastle City Orchestra, conductor, Dr. Chalmers Burns. Tickets from

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Mr. PAUL ELLMAN

Opposer: LORD HASTINGS
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ANTHONY PLEDGER
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QUIZ TEAM ROUTED

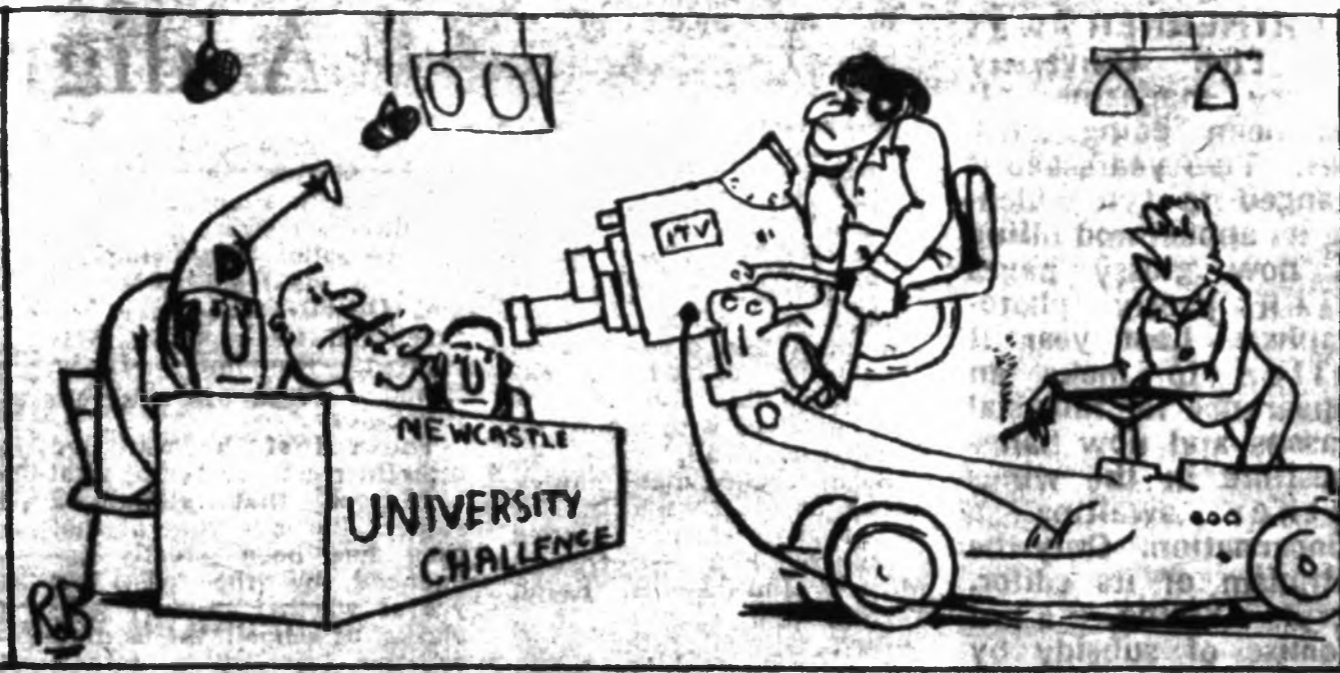
NEWCASTLE'S University Challenge team was defeated by Jesus College, Oxford, last Monday when the tele-recording was made for transmission in a fortnight's time.

The score: Jesus 330, Newcastle 30. This is a record, it is the highest and lowest ever scored by any of the teams in the history of the series.

In an interview to Courier Mr. David Nixon, a member of the team, gave his reasons for the disastrous defeat. "Jesus," he said, "were extremely experienced and fast on the buttons" (which are used to attract the attention of the Question Master). But he also admitted that they were a very good team, the best as their score indicated in the present series.

The questions, he thought, had not suited although he had no complaints to make.

Unfortunate
He considered that the University had been extremely unfortunate in being drawn against such first class opponents for its first television appearance this year. Last year the team got through two rounds.



"EVENS ON 2 + 2"

Ball, Bar and Bedlam

"HAVE you tried your dress yet?" "Yes, I'm letting the hem down an inch." All over E.W.H. the sound of dress fitting and hem sewing was heard, shouts of "Got any green thread?" could be heard resounding round the 'Corridors of Chaos'.

What went on behind closed doors in the next two hours was fortunately banned from printing and barred to photographers.

Judging by results mirades must have been performed in some cases (some people describe it more of Witchcraft).

Brrr-Brrr. "Phone call for Miss E. Williams." "Oh! you don't think he's broken his brass or something and can't come, do you?"

"Yes, Miss E. Williams, who is it?"

"Mr. E. Percy here for you. Will you come and sign him in?"

"Be down in a minute." (Average Ethel's in 15 minutes.)

In the 'Foyer' (Ex-porter's Lodge), a pride of suave male visitors paced the floor.

"Hello, Dear, you look divine."

"Do you think my dress is long enough?"

"Oh perfect, even Jean Strimpton would be jealous."

"Shall we go in?"

"Oh, if we must."

An Ex-Rag fairy bellowed: "Miss Ethel Williams and Mr. Eustace Percy!"

"Good evening, Miss Trues-

d-ale, Miss Browning and Mr. Brooks."

"Sweet or dry, sir?"

The next five hours can be summed up in three words. "Bar, Ball and Buffet."

There was a slight interval in which several folk songs were sung well, but inaudibly (due to electrical faults). Most people were talking throughout the interval.

But the few who did pay

attention enjoyed it. Then back to the Ball.

"Oh yes! Anyone for bowling?"

"How can we go there at this hour?"

"Taxi!"

Constrained in long gowns, coats of physical contortion

were performed which may be judged by the remote-spat seams and broken finger nails.

Remarks such as "I get on much better now I know how to hold the ball" were frequent.

But even inebriated



CABARET AT ETHEL WILLIAMS

students get sober and tired.

"Taxi."

"Where to, sir?"

"How about coffee at your place? It's only in Jesmond."

"All right, then."

Several bus conductors on the 17 route were heard to have been suffering from mild cases of disbelief and shock when numbers of people in evening dress and suits were seen going to E.W.H. at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning.

Successful war on want

THIS term has brought considerable success for the War on Want scheme. Started four years ago to provide money for underdeveloped countries, the scheme had recently been stagnating. A 100 per cent increase in advertising at the beginning of the term coincided with a move to 4 Eldon Place and brought a renewed interest. This is clearly shown by the figures given to Courier by President Keith Anderson.

Within a fortnight of the beginning of term £450 was sent to an Indian village the University had adopted. This money had taken 2 years to raise but it is hoped to send a further £110, which has all been raised this term to help a second village.

The money is put to good

use in the villages, being spent on fresh water and irrigation systems, power, mechanisation and education. Some of the money is also used for food to alleviate the immediate suffering of the poorer villagers.

The last lunch of this term will be held on Monday, the 13th December, and there will be a new series starting next term.



BREAD FOR THE HUNGRY

ETHEL'S TRANSPORT PROBLEMS

GIRLS from Ethel Williams Hall missed 9 o'clock lectures last week yet they had been queuing for over an hour in the snow for buses.

The girls usually go out for their buses at 8.15 a.m. and are all away by 8.30 a.m. But one day last week only

five people got a bus in half an hour. Four buses went past completely full.

The bus company has done everything possible in the past to solve the problem. Inspectors have been sent out to one stop to investigate but they have found that nothing further can be done owing to a lack of buses and staff.

Miss Truesdale, Warden of Ethel's, said that a similar situation arose at the beginning of term, and inspec-

tors were sent out to discover which bus services were not full. As a result two buses were deflected past Ethel's so that the queue usually seems to have cleared by 8.30 a.m.

She believes that present transport arrangements will be satisfactory provided that there is no more snow or fog. This country, she says, is never prepared for snow and should take a lesson from Scandinavian countries where such hazards are not allowed to cause complete chaos.

"If the University authorities feel that student opinion can be a garbled acknowledgement in a lecture theatre or at some social function then my argument is that they are completely wrong."

"Student opinion comes through the elected members of S.R.C. There is no reason to believe that any Council member will not be in touch with student opinion."

At the present time S.R.C. represents students on the Committees for Close House, Cafetering, University Theatre, Health Service, Physical Education, Playing fields and Buildings, and Student Residence.

Representatives only have votes on the Close House Committee and the Health Service Committee. They are only "observers" on the other committees.

REPRESENTATION
Mr. Thompson comments, "I believe we should have representation on the Committees of Council. We should also be represented on any other Committees to do with Welfare and Education."

"Surely any recognition can only lead to harmony between staff and students. Is this not an ideal for which every university is striving?"

LIBERALS DISCUSS ENTRY

ONLY 45 people have signed the Liberal Society's petition against the Government's White Paper on immigration. On Thursday last, the Society organised an open discussion on the subject of immigration.

Councillor Cairncross, from Whitley Bay, presenting the case for the Liberals. He stated that there were genuine and searching questions that ought to be asked of the Government's White Paper. He questioned its purpose and intent.

PRIZE AWARDED

A NEWCASTLE graduate has been awarded a £25 prize for new work in architecture at the University. She is Miss G. S. Kellie. She shares the £25 Joseph Prize with a London graduate. It is awarded by the British Federation of University Women for women students of architecture and engineering.

She was recommended by her Head of Department and considered the best in her year in June 1964, when she obtained B.A. Second Class Honours, division 1.

Since then she has spent a year in Australia, very successfully working in architects offices. She has now returned to the University to complete her second degree.

Her practical work is considered to be of very high standard.

IMMIGRANTS

Councillor Cairncross stated that what was needed was to persuade immigrants to adopt themselves to our ways. By their obvious discretion against Commonwealth immigrants, 85 per cent of which were coloured, the Government was hindering rather than aiding this.

Arthur Barnett answered for the Government. His address was thought tepid. One Liberal commented: "Perhaps he did not think the members present warranted his usual sparkling effort." No Conservative was present at the meeting but Mr. Barnett adequately filled the gap in the opinion of those present.

He claimed that the Government wanted to operate a moratorium for three or four years to remove certain and undesirable elements that were raising their ugly heads and which certain people had exploited for political gain.

A rhythm group which plays to please the majority

The programme consists mainly of pop with some 'commercial' A & S

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DECEMBER 8, 1965

OPINION

THROUGHOUT the whole of the last week, the Executive of S.R.C., the Editorial Board of 'Courier', and officials of the Union Society have been wasting hours and hours in order to agree on a retraction of the Grey's Column and Geordie's Marra references to Paul Brooks in last week's edition.

At every stage, and this includes a long secret discussion by Council on Monday night, 'Courier's' Editorial Board and those of the staff concerned in the matter of this alleged misrepresentation of fact have firmly refused to print a full retraction of the statements, considering them a reliable account of the proceedings.

Mr. Brooks refused to accept 'Courier's' reliable sources of information and threatened libel action at at which stage S.R.C., who, as publishers, are responsible for such actions against the newspaper, took the easy way out by demanding 'Courier' should print a retraction which it by no means feels sincerely.

The article in question appeared in those parts of the newspaper which are the place for more outspoken, witty comments. As such many remarks, although factually accurate, are often presented in a lighthearted manner.

It must be made plain that this matter is a frivolous one which has been blown up enormously. The blame for this must be laid completely at the feet of the people involved for letting such a thing go as far as they have.

Frantic talks were still being carried on between the Board and S.R.C. executive on Tuesday afternoon as the paper was ready to go to press. Eventually the Board representatives at the printers were forced to insert a front page apology dictated by Paul Brooks himself, yet named as the work of the Editor. The alternative mentioned by S.R.C. Executive if this was not carried out was that they would come out to the printers at South Shields themselves and stop this week's edition.

As they were told many times, this would have been the end of 'Courier' for many, many weeks, as our business associates in printing and advertising could not have tolerated such a farcical situation, brought about by such shortsighted action.

According to all written laws, 'Courier' is not bound to insert anything it does not wish and it is felt throughout the staff that S.R.C.'s lethargic officious attitude to the whole unfortunate, ridiculously trivial affair has created a precedent of very grave import to the students of this University.

Lord Thompson of S.R.C.

HERE beginneth the third chapter of the book according to Grey, reading at verse four. (Verses one to three have been censored by the Editor!)

A new prophet is come amongst us, and he shall be called Thompson and he is an hairy man. And yea, he shall be known from generation to generation of his people as "the greatest".

For now he has made preparation for his role. This man hath borrowed a lamp from the habitation of Courier (a club for Pharisees and tax collectors) and this shall be a light to lighten the Executive and a glory to the Flying Wing. Soon, a great sign shall appear above his office which saith 'Come unto me', and underneath shall be a hook on which to hang his socks. And thus shall his presence be sensed throughout the corridor.

He shall buy a chariot of fire and visit his home in the heavens, and a slab whereupon he may sacrifice fatted calves (and any other beast of the field bird of the air, or publication that he may feel like throwing to the wolves).

And so, student of Newcastle, let due reverence be shown to this man for he is Cassius—the great 'I am'.



Victory for Henry II

A DAMSEL with a red hand-bag,
 In a vision once I saw,
 She was a social studies maid,
 And outside E.W.H. she said,
 "Damn it all, the bus is full!"
 At seven-thirty she arose,
 One foot out and froze her toes,
 Yawned, washed, dressed and
 blew her nose.

Martin Pinder, past Editor of 'Courier', on his ideas for 'Northerner'

'Northerner' and students

A digression

NORTHERNER was the University literary magazine. It has been going since 1901. Two years ago it changed its style widening its appeal and filling its now glossy pages with pretty photographs. Last year it failed to make an appearance for financial reasons and now hangs ghostlike in the wings rather awaiting a reincarnation. Only the optimism of its editor, Beryl Young, and promise of subsidy by S.R.C. next term keep the name Northerner alive.

Ever since the beginning of the century it has been coming out two or three times a year. It was given away free in those days, receiving a fairly large subsidy from S.R.C. and strengthened by advertising. The editorial staff consisted of the inevitable clique where editorship was handed down rather like "apostolic succession." In October 1958 it took a new turn when the price of sixpence was charged. Apart from the obvious source of revenue, the idea of charging a price was that students might value the magazine more highly, either in writing for it or reading it, and it would be read more deeply.

Whether or not the increase in financial emphasis of the magazine was significant, Northerner has continued to decline from 1958 on and financial disasters of every kind imaginable have prevented any glimpses of progress developing. Even in 1963 when Peter Collins brought out his "glossy" the advertising contractors who took on the risk of the project lost £200, which was one of the reasons why no Northerner appeared the following year.

FUTURE

What is wrong with Northerner then? Has it any future or should it be scrapped and forgotten about? The first thing I did to try and answer these questions was to find out what Northerner was really like ten years ago when it thrived. I went to see Brian Shall-

cross, an ex-student of the University, who is at present working at Tyne-Tees Television (and incidentally spoke in the debate on Friday). Brian who edited Courier in 1958-59 arrived at the University just as a group of very talented and active students were leaving. Their exit proved a great loss to student life which was beginning to take a new course. Northerner proved no exception to this and we now find ourselves with almost no Northerner at all.

Brian recalled many names, either of his contemporaries or of those names handed down to him — George Moster, Jim Tollitt, Ralph Watson who all wrote in a "biting, satirical, rather way-out style" that was five years later to emerge with 'Beyond the Fringe', and the arrival of so-called satire into the mass-media of newspapers and television. Names like Alan Plater who advocated new approaches to drama in letters to Courier that were later to emerge with Pinter, Osborne and Wesker. He is now one of television's top writers and scripts much of the 'Z-Cars' series.

JAZZ

Earlier the staff of Northerner included, Stan Evelyn who now writes plays regularly for the Third Programme; Pat Tilley, now a successful commercial artist with a fine reputation for graphic design; Richard Cook, a past editor who now has a dentistry practice in Harley Street; Ian Stevenson, another artist who has several of his paintings in the Tate Gallery; David Mercer, now a well-known playwright, Ian Carr, one of Britain's better jazz musicians, used to write poems for Northerner.

A high proportion of these people were General and Fine Artists and many in the Department of English. They just found themselves at university. This was a time when there was no scramble for places, on articles in the papers about "throwouts" and statistics on places, applications, 'A' levels... no Robbins Report.

Now the Fine Artists keep very much to themselves. General Art is very often a compromise for the student with the wrong qualifications — either without sufficient grades or too many of the wrong subjects. Courier has had only two or three English students on the staff in the last three years (no comment).

Student life is now dominated by work on one hand and the more material aspects of leisure on the other.

The active students spend their time organising the much larger Union and the more ambitious activities of S.R.C. There is no lead given

finger on the central heating. After the T.V. and toilet incidents in that place, we're not surprised that things are hotting up a bit!

Nelvet

From some accounts, it appears that St. Thomas a Becket was murdered in more ways than one.

Rag stop go

The Rag Treasurer, Keith Anderson, He had eight thousand pounds. He added his figures up to top, And he added them down again. When profits were up they were up, And when profits were down they were down, And Courier reported them £500 down and then £200 up.

Ethels

Dr Ethel Williams' portrait was covered up with a screen of red velvet during the Christmas Ball. We wonder why? Was it because her presence would have marred the atmosphere, because they were frightened the people would throw buns at the portrait, or to give the aesthetically pleasing appearance of a vertical Russian billiards table?

to culture. The most successful activity of the unpredictable Arts Festival has been the films which is an entirely passive outlet. These students are now the resident Medics and Dentals who have the time and the applied Arts students Economics, Law, Social Studies, Politics, Psychology.

The end of the war had brought together several vital conditions that stimulated student life. Everyone at that time had been greatly influenced by the past six years, whether it was gas-masks at school, the bombs, or the loss of a father, brother or someone you knew in the street. Students were older with a high proportion of ex-servicemen. Education had now become the opportunity of all under Colin McInnes' "Attlee regime" and the working-class candidate no longer had to rely on a scholarship to get to university.

AFFLUENCE

Now is the age of affluence. People are satisfied and no longer have a burning desire to write. The politicians are left to get on with it. Even if the Prime Minister announced tomorrow an imminent threat of nuclear war the British public would remain relatively unaffected with stubborn optimism that "it will work itself out in the end."

So where does Northerner fit in? Has it any chance of reclaiming any of its past vigour. At the moment the only physical evidence of its existence is an attractive girl editor living at Tynemouth and a wooden file in Courier office with four drawers. In these drawers I am told are four old copies of Northerner, one handbag, four almost

empty cardboard files and box of envelopes and writing paper.

Has anyone seen a copy of Northerner? Nobody cries out to write for it or read it. It is obvious that it cannot exist in the way it did ten years ago. One cannot suddenly inject into Northerner artificial stimulants and expect it to flourish. People just do not write nowadays in profusion. Even people on Courier do not regard themselves as writers but just members of Courier with all that entails.

EMPHASIS

What Northerner can do is to put its whole emphasis on writing, argument, and language, making no compromises to readability.

The trend at the moment is on the superficial level of glossy paper, pretty layout and photographs. This is where surrender to the contented mass. More people might read Northerner but it will be forgotten in a few days and provoke no reaction at all, either among its own staff or in the University as readers.

It must be a "workshop of writers" using even means possible to experiment with language, provoking the student bodies, the University authorities and public opinion into open discussion and controversy. The extremes of opinion on student and educational affairs, on politics, on sex, on art, on science should be encouraged to flower in Northerner.

Northerner should go back to scratch. It should come out regularly and cheaply. Only in this way can it have a sustained impact on student life and give its writers a regular means of expression.

Let's have something that is original, that is student, that is living.

SOCIALISTS IN?

Sir,
 Congratulations, I am glad 'Courier' continues those fine traditions that make it the favourite fictional weekly for freshers.

"Grey," that master of misstatement, will, I am sure, be delighted to hear that I can tell, and I tell as truthfully as he, that I have indeed received, and accepted, an offer of outstanding financial generosity for my services as a catalyst for debate.

You will be pleased to hear that I have donated it all to the Arthur Barnett Rehabilitation Fund. Arthur is recovering from a stab in the back, an ailment common among Labour Party members, seldom fatal, it usually maims for life. It is believed that Harold Wilson in a sudden fit of vote catching intends to enable his old friends who suffer from this complaint, to claim under the Industrial Injuries Act. Until then further contributions for Arthur Barnett are welcome. More seriously I feel that 'Courier' has not fully understood the implications of the Socialist coup d'état in the Labour Club.

Arthur Barnett is a man of wide political experience who has done much to promote political awareness amongst students of all political groups.

Many members of the Conservative Association are also members of the Labour Club (et vice versa) for our interest in politics makes us as curious about the falacies of our political opponents as we are about the verities of Tory thought.

When a group of Socialists decided to make a take over bid for the Labour Club so that, not content with the financial grant they receive as the Socialist Society, they could exploit the finances and facilities of the Labour Club and put forward their own misconceived and ill considered views, under false colours as those of the Labour Party, not all members of the Labour Club were delighted.

I as a member of the Labour Club regret the

replacement of Arthur Barnett, a Labour Party man, by a Socialist, for while under Mr. Marnett, members of the Labour Club could expect to have Labour Party policy honestly presented by Ministers and M.P.s of that misguided party, I fear now we will only be treated with Socialist waffle and hysteria.

I look forward to the continued lively reporting of the political and debating scene by Courier, but I respectfully suggest that a little more perception and accuracy and a little less imagination would not be amiss.

Yours respectfully,
 JONATHAN G. M. WOOD

Sir,
 We should like to thank you for your new and futuristic fashion column.

Stricken on Thursday by Miss Rhodes' stunning blow to our former Mecca, Marks and Spencer, we realise that we must forsake it—together with Fenwicks French—and hasten to Byker now that the "outer ripples of the London boutique boom" have at last hit Newcastle. The equable temperatures have permitted us to follow her advice and cast aside with neither a tear

Letters to the Editor

nor a shiver our duffle coats, scarves, ski-pants and boots — indeed all that pertained to our former warmth and dowdiness. Watch out for us in the University, bedecked in floral pyjamas, butchers aprons and Union Jacks! We offer our deepest sympathies to our less fortunate sisters who have not the sylph-like silhouettes demanded by the dynamic vogue.

Thank-you, thank-you Miss Rhodes! For two years we have struggled on without you. We shall never look back. The days of opiate pneumonia are here!

Yours etc.
 The Glenariff Dowds

Plough mightier than toothpick

PARASITIC Butchers' is what Ken "Gallon" Noble called the Dentals in last Thursday night's Dental v Agrics debate as he eulogised to a packed house on the power of the plough over the toothpick.

Referring to the amount of sugar produced in this country from sugar beet grown by Agrics, he reminded his audience that sweet foods were the prime causes of tooth decay and thus "Agrics keep those dental bastards alive."

Proceedings had been late in starting and the chairman, accompanied by the speakers, arrived in "grand" procession to the strains of that famous anthem "Why are we waiting." Armed with a mallet, bigger than himself, the chairman opened by exercising his authority on the debating table. Rising to cries of "get off your knees," he complied by first standing on the chair then on the revered block of wood in front.

Crop
Armed with plough shear and riding crop, the proposer of the motion, the afore mentioned Mr. Noble threw himself with gusto into the attack.

Paul Sinden, B.D.S., replied for the dentals; throwing scorn on the tooth pick he demanded to know where the plough was. This provoked a curt reply from the opposition when a member said: "The horse hadn't a Union Card and permission to sign him in hadn't been granted. Dental Paul Brooks, Union Vice President was shouted down when he tried to speak!"

Pick
Mr. Sinden mentioned that ploughing was nothing more than a rustic simpleton being drawn by horse, and that the mechanical cultivator which was superseding the plough was in reality a motorised collection of tooth picks. He mused upon a number of uses for the toothpick, noticeably amongst which was its use as a means of aborting mice.

Snips (the Plough) Parsons seconded for the Dentals armed with a carved tooth pick which he represented as a lavatory brush, (referred to as a 'harpic') he exhausted the uses to which the tooth pick could be put.

A short interval was declared by the Chairman after which the debate was thrown open to the floor. The resultant inter-exchange of crudities and insults was only terminated when someone reminded the chair that there was only two hours to closing time.

An average of the Tellers returns was taken and by doubtful means the motion was declared carried, an Agric win.

Figures were not published, in any case there was hardly a soul left all having fled to the troughs of plenty.

Our part to play

THE University has an important part to play in regional planning says Professor Paul Brenikov.

He made this point in his inaugural lecture on Monday evening.

"We in Newcastle University are particularly well placed to make a contribution of this kind," he said.

Speaking of the new regional planning councils he commented: "As pioneers facing over very difficult terrain they deserve all the help and support we can give."

The importance of their immediate objective, the establishment of active agencies for regional planning in all

Boyle on Education

GOVT. SQUEEZE WRONG

False priorities —

"THE Government have a completely wrong sense of priorities about education," Sir Edward Boyle told a crowded Debating Chamber last Friday.

He was speaking on the "Prospect of Education" at the invitation of the Conservative Association.

Sir Edward, Tory Shadow Minister of Education and Minister of Education in the last Tory Government, deplored the way in which the Government has cut back on university spending. "I cannot see how it can make sense to cut back on university and technical college building, yet still spend 100 million pounds a year of free meals and milk for schools."

Suffered

Before the meeting Sir Edward had told Tim Heywood, Conservative chairman, that the building of the Arts/Science block might have suffered from the Government's squeeze had not the North-east been a "growth area".

The 54 million pounds he

had approved for 1965-66 when he was Minister of Education was the minimum compatible with the target set by the Robbins Report. U.G.C. also thought this sum at least was necessary. However, the amount had been cut back by the present Government.

In general, up till now, the rapid University expansion is just about as Robbins had dictated, he said, and we are still committed to his figures. For instance, Colleges of Advanced Technology are still being brought into the university system.

Question

He then said that he had a question to ask Mr. Crossland this Thursday concerning the new Technological



SIR EDWARD BOYLE

Universities for the North-east which had been suggested in March. He wishes to know what is being done about it.

In replying to criticisms that University expansion in the next seven years would mean "enormous universities," he said. "Some of them are growing much larger, but in fact most of them will be relatively small by American standards."

Speaking of post-graduates he said he was pleased that more people are staying on for fourth and fifth years at University. He hoped that this would lead to much more open-ness between Universities and Industry, particularly in the scientific field.

Level

The whole aim of Tory educational policy was to "level up not level down" so that the fullest use could be made of the Nation's manpower.

Sir Edward made a general survey of the whole educa-

tional system in his speech, explaining present Tory policy on each point as he moved from primary through to Higher Education.

In his survey he included comments on the new comprehensive schools planned for Newcastle.

In an interview with Courier, Sir Edward said that he personally was against any removal of the "means test" by which the value of grants is determined. However he thought that national student bodies should have greater access to the Committees which determine the over-all level of grants.

Turnout

Sir Edward told Conservative Association Chairman Tim Haywood that he was very impressed by the turnout for his talk, and by the concentration with which his speech had been received.

He will be returning to Newcastle to give the Earl Grey Memorial Lecture next spring.

Sniff granted

Newcastle University has been given a research grant to investigate sweat. Unilever Limited have awarded the sum of £5,200 over three years to the Department of Dermatology to finance research on eccrine sweating. Professor S. Shuster, who will direct the study said: "The grant will enable us to try to develop a technique for the physiology of the sweat gland which can be applied to investigate the mechanism of diseases such as prickly heat."

ALAN'S BACK

THE Alan Price Set had a very welcome return this Saturday at the Union Rave. The interest in his music was shown by the crowd which gathered around the group to watch the group playing.

Alan himself said "It is hard to strike a happy medium between listenable numbers and dan-



ALAN PRICE SET

cing numbers. Many people wish that more basic-beat groups were engaged for the Raves. All this jazzy stuff is very impressive to listen to but no good for dancing."

He also said, "We all enjoy playing at Universities," which confirms this for the nth time, and proudly disclaimed "I have been voted Number One Keyboard Instrumentalist in the Organ and Piano category in the magazine called 'Beat Instrumental.'" How about that then?"

On Thursday, Dick Milner was informed that Roy Everett's Blue Hounds had disbanded. He engaged a group called "The Rats" from Hull in time for Saturday.

Towards the end of the evening the music became more danceable and the rave was a fairly good one.

RUTH KNOPFLER

DEBATE SUCCESS

THE Newcastle University team came out top with 489 points in a preliminary round of the National Students' Debating Tournament for the Observer Mace held last Wednesday at Northern Counties Training College, Newcastle. The motion debated was "Party Politics are for men without principles".

The speakers representing Newcastle were Mr. Brian Mountford, and Mr. Tony Pledger. Leeds University came second with 472 points, Durham third with 376 points, and Northern Counties Training College fifth with 336 points. Leeds were the only team to gain points for team work, but Newcastle won on individual speakers' points.

PRELIMINARY

At the same time another preliminary round was taking place at Lancaster University. Newcastle entered two teams, the proposing team consisting of Miss Anna Baker and Mr. Douglas Harrison, a fresher, who hit back admirably against stiff opposition. The opposing team consisted of Miss Susan Muirhead and Jonathon Wood, both experienced debaters who narrowly missed beating Durham and going through to the next round with Newcastle's first team.

Student entry

THE intake into British universities of overseas students last year increased by nearly 18% over the previous year's 64,000. This is reported in the booklet "Overseas Students in Britain".

Two thirds of these came from the Commonwealth, the largest numbers being from Nigeria (8,067), India (4,843), Jamaica (4,092) and Malaysia (3,271).

At the S.R.C. meeting on Monday evening, Judith Wright was elected Secretary of the Newcastle Branch of the National Union of Students. Miss Wright was a member of the delegation which went recently to Margate for the National Conference.

STUDENT WORLD

Magic eye

HULL are using a "magic eye" invisible ink to catch gatecrashers at their Union Hop. On Saturday, when the dancers line up at the door they will be asked to place their wrists below an ultra-violet lamp to see if the letter 'P' is stamped on their wrists in invisible ink. Only a handful of students have objected. One student suggested "I think a clipped ear would be more effective." Well the Union Hop has been described as a cattle market in the B.B.C!

Resigned

A MARRIED Leeds student Mrs. Margot Kent, secretary at the Leeds branch of the N.U.S., has resigned from the Communist Party as a protest against extreme left wing tactics at the N.U.S. Council Meeting. She has also resigned her secretaryship.

She said that "Communist Elements should have openly declared their aim to get N.U.S. to join the Communist Dominated International Union of Students instead of concealing it behind speeches calling for a 'Neutralist' N.U.S. Policy."

She accepts the Communist Party's general policy of influencing student opinion, but she disapproves of its methods.

Bookwork

MANY students think that a Union Bookshop would be a good idea. Keele University have got one, but they have their troubles. They have the same old delays because of publisher's late deliveries.

Could you say this just six months after graduating?

"AFTER two months the work on the filter drew to a close, and by that time I had acquired a firm knowledge of the plant. This now meant that I was able to look at the whole problem of glass-dissolving in a wider sense, and was able to start developments in a number of sections. I was now faced with my first real management task — that of ensuring the co-operation of the foremen in modifying a technique which had been built up over the years and which to them

seemed the correct way to do the job. This task was difficult, and I learned a tremendous amount from tackling it. Technically, the work I had begun was successful, and although the filtration trials did not meet with any measure of success, modifications to the process enabled the plant to achieve economies in steam amounting to some £40,000 per annum. This, of course, was a team effort, but I was conscious of my own contribution and derived great satisfaction from it."

Extract from an account by a Unilever graduate trainee of his early days in the business.



The experience our graduate describes took place three months after he joined the Unilever Companies' Management Development Scheme. Graduates in many disciplines are meeting a similar challenge, and finding similar satisfaction early in their training for management in production, marketing, finance, buying, transport and a number of other important functions.

If you want to know more about careers in Unilever, ask your Appointments Board for information, or write direct to:
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"Murder in the Cathedral" triumphs



Lawrence Werber caught in a tense moment while playing Becket.

ON its first night, Dram. Soc's version of "Murder in the Cathedral" was remarkably good.

Lawrie Werber's portrayal of Thomas could, one feels, have been better. At first neither his voice nor his face gave the sense of urgency necessary to show the torment within the man.

For Beckett's inner struggle as he faces martyrdom is an integral part of the play; and the inhibitions on this part, making for lack of swift or excited movement, meant total reliance on the face and voice. In the second half, however, this was much better.

The chorus throughout was excellent, and always put over well the sense of impending doom. The unison was near perfect, but there were times when the articulation was not clear enough to reach the back of the church.

Attention

The portrayal of the three priests was unfortunately inconsistent. Most times they were good, but occasionally nondescript. Their spoken word was usually adequate, but their actions, as when trying to lead Beckett to

Vespers, sometimes not sufficiently fluent.

The effect of the four tempters did not appear very strongly in this production. In fact most of the speech of the third was lost to the majority of the audience. The fourth did succeed, however, probably because he was standing close to Beckett, on whom was focused the attention.

The Knights added their rumbustious contrast well. But the actual slaughter was an anticlimax; most of the audience could not see it.

Clear

Their excuses for the killing made later were merely farcical, instead of being sincerely given. I think this was intentional, but it detracted from the supposed climax of Beckett's murder. And the true pathos of the urgent pleas for understanding which the Knights were making was not as clear as one would have liked.

The producers, Mike Evans and Ian Roberts, deserve praise for their adaption of the play to the surroundings of St. Thomas church. The difficulties of poor acoustics were for the most part overcome. Those responsible for lighting should also be congratulated. This was consistently good.

For the first night, there were few flaws, and on the whole we witnessed a fine performance of a difficult play.

AFTER our success in producing "Murder in the Cathedral" comes news that Durham University Drama Society has gained a place in the National Student Drama Festival with their production of the "American Dream" by Edward Albee. Durham will compete with seven other one-act plays for an N.U.S. plaque in the finals which are to be held in Bradford at the end of December.

G. & S. SOC. JUST PLAYS TO ITSELF



"THE SPIRE" By William Golding. Published by Faber and Faber. Price 6/-.

"The sheer impossibility of the spire"—The book describes the process of medieval building, and the emotions and hardships involved in constructing a 400 foot spire in defiance of physical laws.

The story is essentially about one man's pride, and thence his folly. Often the master-builder refuses to continue, but the Dean Jocelin forces the work on until, on completion of a tottering spire, both men are broken and dying.

Throughout, Mr. Golding maintains a remarkable urgency of feeling. The descriptions included of medieval life are purely incidental—always there is the will of one man with a vision, refusing to accept worldly advice, believing always he is God's appointed servant in an impossible task.

Unwieldy

There is a lack of dialogue, and therefore the descriptive passages can be unwieldy. There is constant repetition also of the dust-ridden state of the church, of Jocelin's will and power, and so on. And this becomes irritating at times.

Mr. Golding spends pages inside Jocelin's mind—and it becomes heavy and difficult; at times several attempts must be made before the meaning is clear. Occasionally, too, the urgency is overstressed, and turns in cheap melodrama.

The vocabulary used is carefully chosen and exact, and the metaphors often original and interesting. Although the book is not easy reading, it never seems pretentious by the use of this wide range of vocabulary and long descriptions.

At times "The Spire" is excellent at times exceedingly boring. But nevertheless, it deserves the unflinching concentration necessary to make it entertaining because it is completely different.

"A RELISHED feast of musical slapstick... unparalleled since Kama Sutra"—or so said Brian Mountford in the Introduction to "H.M.S. Pinafore."

The Gilbert and Sullivan Society provided a good, though occasionally unwarrantedly amateurish, concert version of this last week, interspersed with a witty and ribald recitation.

On Wednesday the audience was surprisingly small, and at first, therefore, the cast did not give their best. But by the interval they hid their disappointment, and thence performed very well.

Unfortunately, after rehearsing hard, David Cragg was unable to sing due to throat trouble, and Russ Watson stepped into the part as Able Seaman Rackstraw at the last moment.

GUSTO

This, I think, was a pity, especially in the nightingale song, which Russ puts over with rather more gusto than is necessary. At times, also, he failed on the high notes, though credit must be given for his effort.

Peter Gee and Roy Stephenson, as Captain Corcoran and Sir Joseph Porter respectively, really made the evening. Both were in fine voice and fully conversant with their parts, especially the latter. (Unfortunately, Peter went completely wrong in the encore—quite funny, though.)

Diane Ashworth was the best of the "fair sex"; her voice was loud and clear, and yet maintained its sweetness throughout. Maureen Delve also rendered a brave portrayal of Josephine. She tried extremely hard, but was a little hoarse, and therefore some notes only just emerged.

CHORUS

The chorus always sang with unflinching joviality. At times they added touches of humour by spontaneous actions which, though usually funny, could detract the spectators' attention from, say, the solos then being enacted. But on the whole,



Russ Watson in characteristic pose.

Photo: Colin Purkiss

this was the only way to awaken such a dull audience.

The cast entertained a meagre audience well (and continued with a carol service in the Ban Room afterwards). Both they and the musical director, Liz Hellwell, deserve praise for their efforts.



The colourful Roy Stephenson during last week's performance.

Olivier at his best

AFTER up to ten hours queuing in hectic snowy conditions audiences at the Theatre Royal on Monday and Tuesday evenings were thrilled by Sir Laurence Olivier's now legendary performance of Othello.

The rest of the cast acted superbly; for the most part they were members of the original London production but Billie Whitelaw took over from Maggie Smith in the part of "Desdemona."

Frank Finlay was a cunning Iago though the interpretation lacked some of the spite that others had given it; one is almost tempted to speak of him as "mischievous" though this

see Olivier and Finney together in such a riotous comedy? Many obviously couldn't and were rewarded by a complete and delightful theatrical experience.

The plot itself is hardly memorable; no important moral or social philosophies are profounded; no attempt is made at showing depth of character, but the humour is vigorous, bawdy and invigorating. It is also extremely theatrical, and I feel this is why the play has been so long absent from the London stage.

REACTION

The wit is devastating but at the same time often sophisticated, and the mere reader of Congreve can never fully appreciate the power of this kind of humour. It can rarely succeed outside a theatre. Congreve was writing for an audience and until a reaction between this and the players is achieved the play has little effect.

Basically it is the story of the attempts by Valentine, the hero, to win the love of Angelica. Interwoven with this theme are the amours and intrigues of their families and friends. Their schemes and escapades cheerfully reflect the frivolous immorality we have come to expect from Restoration comedy.

The humour lies in the situation and dialogue and this has been developed to perfection in the National Theatre production. For this, honours go to Peter Wood whose masterly timing and intelligent characterisation moulded and refined the play into a complete and full-blooded entertainment. But the greatest praise goes to the actors who enjoyed playing their parts, for such obvious enthusiasm is very catching.

Each performance, without reservation, was skilful and vivacious, but above all others "The Master" stands out. Not without reason is Sir Laurence Olivier considered by many the finest English actor.

EXPRESSION

He seems to have a magical influence over his audience... every exquisitely timed movement, every intuitive flicker of expression has the desired effect in his portrayal of the half-witted beau, Tattle. He does not abuse this power and unselfishly allows the other actors their glory.

And the glory was great. Alben Finney as Ben, the sailor brother of Valentine was outrageously bawdy and hilariously natural. Scandal, the cynical friend of the hero was treated sensitively by Robert Lang, and Joyce Redman's Mistress Frail was delightfully disreputable.

National success

Full houses and long queues of shivering hopefuls may seem unlikely for such a rarely staged play as Congreve's "Love for Love" but when we realise that the National Theatre company is involved, everything becomes clear.

For who in Newcastle, with its disheartening lack of any living, meaningful professional drama, could possibly resist the temptation to

Theatre letter

After three weeks of enquiry Courier succeeded in obtaining from the University authorities little more than negative statements and straight contradictions about the form of the new theatre. As a result of these enquiries SRC followed up the question of student representatives on the design committee and the local press has confirmed the generous "mystery gift."

The detailed design of the new theatre is for the working party of the design committee to settle, in conjunction with the architect, but the form and style of the new theatre is of more general concern.

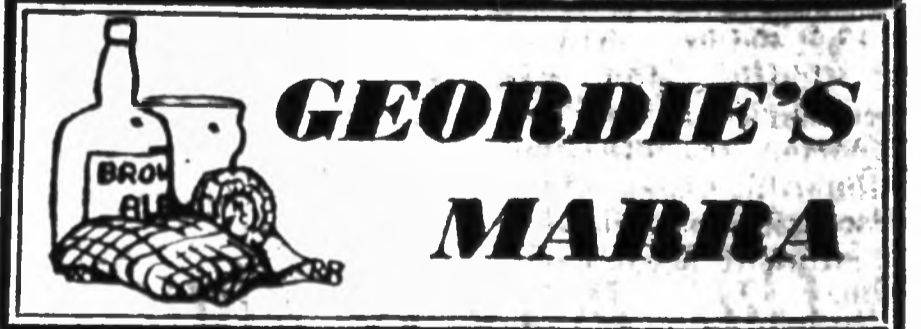
John Thompson talks, in a statement to the Press, of former student apathy in drama in the University, but surely he is forgetting the active and flourishing Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and indeed the smaller, more specialist productions by others such as the Anglo-German Society. For many years these societies have suffered the expense and inconvenience to their audiences and production teams of a nomadic existence in the halls and theatres of Tyneside.

However, instead of this, there is talk of a "studio theatre", primarily for use by the new department of drama which is to be set up in the University, and not intended for productions of the nature of Rag Revue, Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, or plays of a scale above that of experimental drama. This is distressing since it has already been stated by informed people in the University that normal University finances, as provided by UGC could never be used for a theatre intended for that kind of use; but they could be used, one presumes, to provide the necessary facilities for a teaching department, so why is this gift to be used for that purpose?

The design committee has been meeting for at least eighteen months, and the design appears to be in the hands of the architect, Mr. Whitfield. Were they designing a theatre to be paid for by UGC to which this gift has now been diverted? Or has the gift been available for some time? Until the Vice Chancellor makes the official statement no-one will know, or admit to knowing, the answer. If the gift is of recent donation there is the opportunity for fresh thinking in consultation with the appropriate student bodies.

Let us hope that the best use will be made of this exceedingly generous gift for a much needed and long awaited facility in the University.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN S. WHEELER.



The snaa's 'bidin' a lang time but the brass wellies will be needed when the thaw starts—aa hope Joshuha's aren't still stuck in the clarts or he'll hev t' send fer Moses and that'll mean a lang wait!

One major hazard of caad weathra waas revealed t' Geordie an' me at St. James's the utha neet when the Dynamos wor playin. Ye see tha waas this fotographa, sittin on the hard snaa abint the goal, waitin' t' tokek a pitecha, an' this lad ahint us see—"that fotographa's wife isn't ganna be verry happy the neet." Geordie then tordned t' me an' said, wi' a poetical tern o' phrase, "The moral o' that story is—if ye want te stay marras wi' ya lass, divn't gan roond attin' on caad waals, 'cos it freezes them!!"

BAYSWATER

Aa divn't knaa if it's generally kmaan but tha's a dangerous sect operatin' in the toon at the moment. Look wi'ha such organisations they hev a uniform an' gan by the name o' the "Bayswater Bangas." What aa mention them for is in case sum of ye ever cum across any o' them. If ye der divn't fash unless yer a memba o' the gentla sex.

An see tha has been sum toak about who has had the mayem moast in this paper over the last few weeks. It seems as if John Thompson has the edge over Paul Eelman for this oona (?).

The Lord Mayor's town

I ARRIVED on Monday morning at the Lord Mayor's suite in the Civic centre—a confirmed southerner—I left in the afternoon almost converted to the religion of the North-east. Such is the power of the enthusiasm which the Lord Mayor, Mrs. Theresa Russell holds for the region.

"No city, outside London," she said, "is so go-ahead as Newcastle is today — and Newcastle cannot be compared to London because they are cities of incomparable character; London is cosmopolitan, it is not England, whereas Newcastle is typically English."

by
Alison Harris

Her personal interests lay in the artistic and cultural development of the area. She talked enthusiastically about the city as a centre of such activity and the role of the council in this. £30,000 a year is spent on promoting the arts, both in subsidising such famous professional artists as the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and in encouraging amateurs.

No other city in the country can claim an arts theatre like the People's Theatre in Newcastle, belonging entirely to the city and where every member is an amateur "except the electrician in the interests of efficiency."

But the Lord Mayor was not yet satisfied, she wanted to see further expansion which she thought, in the twentieth century, should rightly take place under the auspices of the local government.

"The money spent every year is less than one penny in the pound of the rates and I feel that up to sixpence in the pound could legitimately be used for these purposes."

UNREADY

She hoped that eventually a state of affairs would be brought about whereby local government subsidies would enable the charge for entrances to performances and exhibitions to be so low that no one would be debarred because of it.

With these high ambitions for the future Mrs. Russell coupled a realistic attitude to the present situation. She said she well knew that all citizens were not yet ready for this—that a great increase in public spending at a time when the North-east is still conscious of the need for material development would be improper and would rightly arouse opposition.

As she talked the intense

Newcastle in "columns" talk

Last Friday a member of Courier Staff was persuaded by the BBC reporter to join Paul Ellman in a short taped discussion on the state of student accommodation.

Unfortunately the same old questions emerged and the same old clichés were given as answers.

But one important point! Both those interviewed agreed that some form of tenant association should be formed amongst the students to prevent the exploitation which seems at present on the increase.

So listen next Sunday at eleven o'clock to "Columns" on the Home Service.



The Lord Mayor, Ald. Mrs. Russell. — Photo Andrew Anderson.

and very real interest that the Lord Mayor has for the city and people of Newcastle became apparent. She does not consider that her pride and ambition for the city is at all unusual, but feels that it is shared by all citizens to an uncommon degree.

FAMILY

Her involvements in the affairs of Newcastle perhaps eclipse some of the other aspects of the Lord Mayor's personality. When pressed however, it became apparent that her private life was just as active as her public life.

She does not draw a hard and fast distinction between herself as Lord Mayor and Mrs. Theresa Russell, doctor's wife and mother of three. Her family are as much involved in civic life as she is. Her husband being a town councillor and Chairman of the Town Planning Committee, and her daughter being Lady Mayoress.

On the subject of politics she pointed out that officially

the Lord Mayor has no party, but that personally she was a committed Socialist. She is Jewish and sees Socialism as a part of her religious philosophy.

She became interested in civic politics when one of her eight brothers was elected to the Hull City Council, but she herself did not take an active part until after her marriage.

I asked her about her election as Lord Mayor. "Lord Mayors are invariably chosen for seniority rather than ability; in England it is not so unusual these days to have a woman as Lord Mayor, but my position has caused considerable amazement and amusement to some foreign visitors."

"Funny and tender hearted," was how Mrs. Russell was described in a recent Sunday Times interview. These qualities she certainly has but moreover I found the Lord Mayor of Newcastle a dynamic and sympathetic woman.

TROUBLE IN PARIS TOO

SO Newcastle thinks it has a student problem! In Paris there are more than 100,000 students and the number increases each year.

Naturally the lodging situation is critical and some Sorbonne students

By Carol Dexter from Paris

lead a nomadic life changing their abode every couple of months.

The "cité Universitaire" houses many students; it is cheap and has modern amenities. Each country has built a hostel in a huge park; the aim of the project is to create an atmosphere of international friendship but vast numbers somewhat overwhelm this object.

LUXURY

A student living in a hotel is quite normal but any ideas of a decadent life and unlimited luxury must be dispelled immediately.

The only room a student

can afford is on the 5th or 6th floor; needless to say the lift is non-existent (and 98 stairs to climb everytime you forget something develops a retentive memory in the most woolly brained of us).

The "loo" is half way down the stairs and the pias is lit by a lethal and flimsy system of "minuterics". (The light operates on a time switch) either you're plunged in darkness and risk a fall to your death or you arrive at the bottom trembling and breathing heavily if you try to beat it.

A safer way for foreigners to live is in a room given in return for doing a few hours' housework, baby-sitting, or giving lessons.

This room is usually a former maid's room also on the 6th floor. It may have heating and hot water, but it is often a grossly hovel with cold water only, and this available on some distant landing.

The "Jesmond problem" is it seems, not confined to that area of Newcastle. The inability of a city to equip itself to cope with and absorb a large student population is international and if Paris is anything to judge by is internationally unresolved.

new men... new knowledge... new problems to be solved...

Today's children will grow up in a world that is being remade before their eyes. They will have a wider range of opportunities. They will also face problems calling for new solutions. To be able to use their opportunities and resolve their problems, today's children need the most imaginative and creative teaching. Teaching by men and women who are among the ablest of their generation... graduates who are among the most outstanding of their year.

What does Teaching offer you in return?

New opportunities

Teaching is a vigorous and growing profession. It offers the graduate greater opportunities than ever before, both in developing professional skills and in achieving posts of influence and responsibility — often far earlier than in many other careers. For example, nearly half of the men graduate teachers between 25 and 29 hold such posts and receive salaries well above the basic scale. About half of those in their 30's are heads of departments, earning up to £4,398 or hold even higher posts. One-fifth of those now in their 40's are headmasters who may earn salaries up to £3,850. The prospects of attaining these positions of responsibility are even better for graduates with first or second class honours, or a higher degree.

New ideas—new initiative

The mastery of teaching skills and the evolution of new methods are a stimulating challenge to today's teachers. Moreover, new discoveries and new knowledge present teachers

with problems for which there are no precedents and which must be solved by the initiative of the teachers themselves. To help them they will have at their elbows a growing range of communication techniques and aids.

The opportunity for leadership

Teachers have greater influence on future generations than any other profession. With work that is closely linked to every field of human progress and endeavour, teaching today offers wide scope for creative leadership... a chance to use your talent and trained intelligence to the full.

Training: an extension of your knowledge

Many graduates are attracted to teaching but feel unsure whether they are temperamentally suited to the work. The one-year post-graduate training course equips you to start your career confidently, and gives you a chance to measure yourself against teaching requirements in the classroom.

Why not find out more?

Talk things over with your Appointments Board and ask for the new booklet, 'Careers in Education for Graduates' or write for a copy to Room 114 (36B/1), The Department of Education and Science, Curzon Street, London, W.1. It discusses the special qualities needed by teachers today; the opportunities for graduates in the various types of school, with salaries and special allowances; and gives a glimpse of the many exciting things that are happening... things in which you might take part.



He needs trained minds like yours to fit him for tomorrow's world

Issued by the Department of Education and Science

UNION RAVE Saturday Dec. 11
the V.I.P.'s — 3'6 — the KIRBYS

Outstanding Stuart achievement in reaching semi-final GOOD PERFORMANCES IN BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP

IN the B.U.S.F. Badminton Championships held at Crystal Palace, Newcastle University scored many individual successes. Although the Championships were dominated by strong Cambridge and London entries Newcastle secured places in 4 semi-finals and 2 quarter-finals. The outstanding achievement was undoubtedly that of Elliot Stuart who reached the semi-finals in his three events, singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles.

Men's singles
Elliot Stuart produced some excellent play to reach the semi-finals. Here he met Woolhouse of Cambridge a well-known County player; after a very close first game he yielded to a much fitter opponent.

Ladies singles
Joyce Axcell reached the quarter-finals where she was defeated by J. French of Exeter.

Men's doubles
Elliot Stuart and John Carey won through to the semi-finals without any difficulty, where they met Kirk and Woolhouse (Cambridge). The two couples were very evenly matched and produced the best game of the tournament with Newcastle narrowly beaten in the third end.

Ladies doubles
Joyce Axcell and Kathy Robson combined well to fight their way through to the semi-finals, where they were defeated by a London couple. Their best performance was in the quarter-finals against Steele and Burns, a strong Glasgow couple, in a match which went to three close games.

Mixed doubles
Elliot Stuart and Joyce Axcell reached the semi-finals where they were narrowly defeated by K. T. Lee and Miss Wood. This was an exceptionally good performance since their opponent Lee Kia Tat is a Malayan International player of high repute. In the quarter-finals Lee and Miss Wood (London) also defeated Brian Stott and Kathy Robson.

Newcastle were represented by: E. C. Stuart, J. Carey, C. Fitzpatrick, B. Stott, Miss J. Axcell, Miss K. Robson, Miss E. Gray.

By Brian Stott

Winning badminton

NEWCASTLE followed up their BUSF success by winning both U.A.U. titles in the Individual Championship events at Birmingham last Saturday.

In the Men's doubles John Carey and Elliot Stuart beat Donnachie and Follett (Birmingham) in a fast well-played final. They started badly losing the first game but quickly found their touch to score comfortable wins in the last two games and to win the title.

In the singles final Elliot Stuart had a comfortable win against Donnachie (Birmingham). In the first game both players concentrated on drop-shots and clears moving each other over the whole court. Having lost the first game Donnachie changed his tactics playing a fast smashing game. This cost him six points from which he never recovered losing 15-4 giving Elliot Stuart the title.

Mixed U.A.U. Success

THE following Newcastle players were selected to represent the U.A.U. and W.I.V.A.B. against Scottish Universities at Crystal Palace: E. C. Stuart, J. Carey, Miss J. Axcell, Miss K. Robson.

Elliot Stuart and John Carey played first couple for the English side and comfortably won both their matches.

SCOTTISH UNIV
Miss J. Axcell and Miss K. Robson also played first couple though lost both matches to the strong Scottish girls. Stuart and Joyce Axcell playing No. 1 defeated their opponents in a very good game; and Kathy Robson playing with T. S. Lee (Reading) as No. 2 lost in a close three games.

WOMEN WIN THROUGH

THE women's table tennis team are through to the national semi-finals of the W.I.V.A.B. tournament, having defeated Durham on Saturday by six games to three.

It was a slightly hollow victory, however, as three games were won by default, one of the Durham players arriving only in time to play one of her matches.

ENGLISH
Newcastle played especially well in the doubles, winning both. Pamela Suter registered the only singles victory, both the University first and second strings losing to the Durham captain, an English Universities player.

Team: Sandra, Inglis (captain), Gwen Spear and Pamela Suter.

Moir honoured

UNIVERSITY winger Ian Moir has been chosen to represent the U.A.U. English Universities when they play the Scottish Universities at Whitley Bay on Saturday, 11th December. Colleagues Pete Reay and Alan Stephenson have been selected as reserves.



THEY'RE OFF—beginning of a hard snowy run

DURHAM GIVE LESSON IN RUNNING

CLOSE House was the bleak and forbidding venue for the North-east Area Cross Country match (Northumberland v North Durham v South Durham and North Yorks v Newcastle U v Durham U v Nottingham U); Newcastle's annual lesson in running.

For its baptism the BUSF course had chosen a dress of white, but on several stretches the snow had melted and become a quagmire of clinging mud, uncompromisingly unhostipable for all the 7½ miles.

Ernie Pomfret, the British Olympic steeplechaser, representing North Durham, took the field of 75 off at an adventurous pace, quickly stringing out over the first mile. At 1½ miles Parker Foster and Leitch (all North Durham) were playing paces to Pomfret's Wenceslas as the new labouring field began the first of the two country circuits.

CONTENTION

For Newcastle, Randall, engaged in fierce contention about 15th place, had begun promising another fine run, while Pratt and Coppen who had good starts were consolidating their positions.

The start had in fact settled the issue. The first big hill which raped most of their strength, served only to strengthen Pomfret who at five miles had a lead of 75 yards over Parker, Leitch and Hicks who had displaced Foster and who were 100 yards clear of a fluid dozen including Randall.

PRANCING

That was how they finished; Pomfret prancing home to head North Durham to a crushing victory. The Universities had a tight fight of their own, Nottingham by virtue of fine packing overthrew Durham by one point.

Results: North Durham 34; Northumberland 84; South Durham and North Yorkshire 87; Nottingham Univ. 171; Durham Univ. 172; Newcastle Univ. 183.

BY JOHN CALLADINE.

Second place in top battle!

ON Saturday, the University Swimming Club travelled to Sheffield to compete in the Northern Universities Championships.

The top two teams from the North-east and North-west U.A.U. divisions were taking part.

Newcastle still qualify for the U.A.U. finals by coming second and should give Sheffield, Birmingham and Loughborough a hard fight.

CHAMPION

Geoff Shingler gave Newcastle a good start by winning the 200 yards freestyle from the Welsh International and Freestyle Champion, G. Lewis (Sheffield), in a time that was only just outside his personal best.

John Deaton followed this by coming second to former Great Britain swimmer, A. Briggs (Manchester) in the 110 Yards Backstroke whilst Chris Veitch gained second place in the 110 Yards Butterfly behind Lewis. Dave Hardman was only fourth, however, in the 200 Yards Breaststroke while Dave Fitch was third in the 100 Yards Freestyle.

An excellent display by Dave Whittaker in the Diving earned him first place, which meant that Sheffield held a

narrow two point lead over Newcastle when the relay events started. However Newcastle did not do so well as expected in these events which the Medley team of Deaton, Cowser, Veitch, and Shingler being beaten into fourth place.

In the Freestyle Relay Veitch, McGregor, Fitch and Shingler came third in another close race.

Results: Sheffield Univ. 33 points; Newcastle Univ. 23 points; Leeds Univ. 22 points; Manchester Univ. 16 points.

BY GEOFF SHINGLER.

Five out of five

THE University Fencing Club in the deciding match of the U.A.U. Area Championship, recorded their fifth successive win from five matches when they defeated Durham University on Saturday.

Durham, last year's U.A.U. finalists, as was expected, took six victories to three in our weakest weapon—foil.

In sabre we made up the deficit by six victories to three.

EPEE

Thus with all even the epee was fought in an atmosphere of great tension. J. Stephenson won one, P. Sheehan won one (losing two by one point) while D. Russell won two and the last fight was taken to 3-3 before gaining the last point for victory.

By **PETER SHEEHAN.**
The University now proceeds to the U.A.U. semi-finals against Wales next term. Team: G. Tilling, D. Russell, P. Sheehan, J. Stephenson.

After years in the doldrums, the weight-lifting club has been reformed and officials elected. Experienced and inexperienced lifters are welcomed.

RESULTS

SQUASH

Saturday
Durham University Ladies 2
Newcastle 1

JUDO

Wednesday
Leeds University 0
Newcastle 52

FENCING

Saturday
Durham 12
Newcastle 13

NETBALL

Saturday
Durham University 36
Newcastle 38

SWIMMING

Saturday
Northern Universities
Swimming Championships
Sheffield 33
Newcastle 23
Leeds 22
Manchester 16

CROSS COUNTRY

Saturday
North Durham 34
Northumberland 84
S Durham and N Yorks 171
Durham University 172
Newcastle University 183

TENPIN BOWLING

Monday
Newcastle 'A' 2343
Liverpool 'A' 2314
Newcastle 'B' 2006
Liverpool 'B' 1977

TABLE TENNIS—W.I.V.A.B.

Wednesday
Leeds University Ladies 4
Newcastle 6
Saturday
Durham University Ladies 3
Newcastle 6

Intramural basketball league

THIS season's intramural basketball league, comprising eleven extremely enthusiastic departmental teams, is now well under way.

The standard of basketball being played is encouraging, and with the departure of several of last year's winning Turkish team the league championship should be more competitive this year. The Turks and the Hellenic Society possibly provide the strongest sides.

FEMALE

An unusual feature this season is the appearance of a female team, provided by the University Ladies Basketball Club, the first occasion this has happened.

With the fixture list extending well into February there is ample opportunity for players not up to University standard to play a good deal of basketball.

Judo

LAST Sunday the Newcastle University Judo Club entered a team for the Harry Marr Championship at Sunderland.

Nine teams entered, divided into two pools of 5 and 4. Newcastle came second in their pool with 55 points, Wilton winning with 70 points.

In the semi-final Newcastle met Sunderland, a higher-graded team; but Newcastle beat them convincingly, to meet Wilton in the final.

CLOSE

The final was very close. The first three contests went 1 drawn, 1 lost, 1 won. In the fourth contest, 20 seconds before the end, Newcastle were 4 point ahead, but then unfortunately J. Reader sustained a broken thumb and had to retire. E. Poole took over the contest, and lost only after a hard fight. This gave Wilton the championship.

On Wednesday the University had a resounding victory over Leeds University winning by 82 points to nil.
Team: Poole, Marshal, Atkinson, Weatherhead, Jenkins, Buckley.

Riding Club: DINNER DANCE
Monday, 13th December, 8 p.m. till 2 a.m.
At Michael's Night Club
TICKETS FROM PORTER'S LODGE



PETER Sheehan got his honours degree last year in Classics and is now doing a Diploma in Education. Fencing is Peter's sporting stronghold. In 1964 he was Captain of the King's Club and Vice-Captain of the University fencing team. He was awarded his Half-Royal in 1964 and represented the North-Eastern section of the Amateur Fencing Association sabre and epee. In the North-Eastern championship in 1964 Peter came third in the sabre and fourth in the epee.

CAPTAIN

In 1965 Peter was elected University captain and the team under his captaincy has done very well winning two matches 19-8 and 17-10.

Unfortunately, Peter missed both the U.A.U. and the B.U.S.F. Championships in his second and third years because he had too much work to do but he hopes to enter both the competitions this year for the first time. We wish him luck.

BY GRAHAM RAIT