



NOV 1966

# Courier



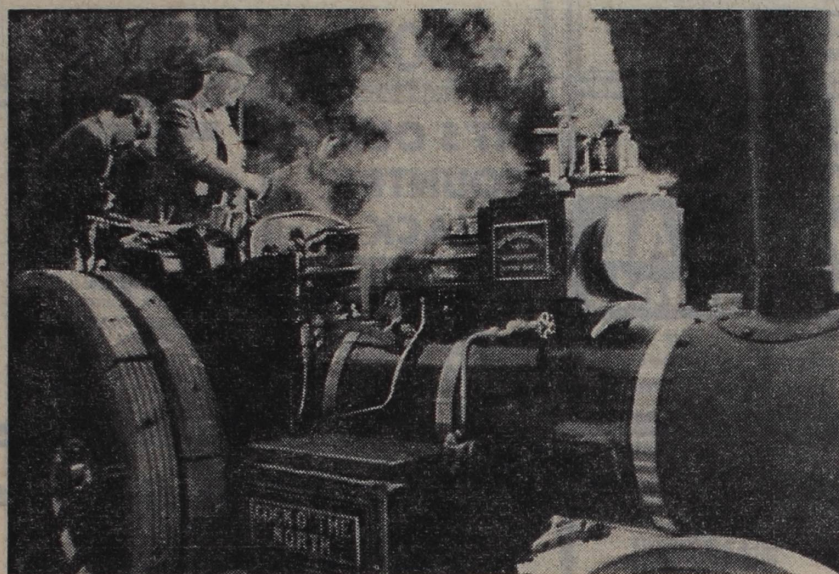
The Newspaper of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1966

## Stunt organisation bad but collections increase

# NO FREEZE ON RAG!



Who made this float?

## Return bout for Swedish contest

TONIGHT at 7.00 Tyne Tees Television are showing a telerecording of a general knowledge Tournament between Newcastle and Uppsala Universities arranged 'expenses paid' as part of the TTT 'Sweden Week'. In the chair will be Ludovic Kennedy.

Our team spent five days as guests of the Swedish team in Uppsala, a beautiful, and until recently largely academic city.

The university itself is the oldest in Sweden, and now caters for 17,000 to 18,000 students. They live in a Student Village owned by a company formed by the Students' Union; financed by 100 per cent Government loans, they have built a number of five-storey flats for single and married students.

### TOILET

These consist of centrally heated, double glazed bed sitters with cooking, toilet and furnishing facilities. Mr. Bernard Kat, one of our representatives and S.R.C. Welfare Chairman hoped that: "The replacement for Eustace Percy would have similar heating arrangements which would be more economical than the inefficient system at the old hall."

This was in fact the model for the "Scandinavian type hall" on the Richardson Road site.

The students are older and maturer than their English counterparts, largely due to pre-university military service, and a high per

centage are married, and consequently they are treated as adults.

The day our team arrived the lecturers and teachers went on strike but the students soon organised themselves into teaching each other.

Their educational system is successfully co-ed and comprehensive and based on day schools. An organisation from which we could learn much and towards which we are gradually moving. It is undoubtedly a function of their advanced political outlook: a democracy tending towards Socialism which encourages good social benefits and schemes.

The students work under a loan scheme. Talking to Bernard Kat, Anderfelk, Uppsala's International secretary points out one snag to this: working class Swedes dislike incurring debts, so the system tends to militate against this section of the population.

Until two years ago anyone could sign on at University choosing their own

course, and taking their time over it. Due to the Bulge, however, specified course are being introduced together with definite time limits.

There are two student bodies: the "Union," comparable to our S.R.C. and the "Nations" based on regional divisions and performing similar functions to our Union. The competition was held at "V-Dala" the most modern nation.

### NURSERIES

The Union runs all student welfare, a shop, day nurseries and play schools and arranges concessions. Our tutorial system does not exist as such.

"I would very much like to see an exchange system" said Mr. Kat. "Between Sweden and England, as we have much to learn from them. There are no plans for this as yet but we hope TTT find the programme successful enough to arrange a return visit."

### CATERING

IF YOU are dissatisfied with the food in the Refectory, there is now a complaints book in the Porters' Lodge and another one in the S.R.C. General Office.

They have been placed there so that all complaints about the service can be handled together. Mr. Bernard Kat, Deputy President of S.R.C. and Chairman of the Welfare Committee, said: "It has been decided that there is no official channel for complaints about the quality of the food in the University and so we have introduced these books in order to see whether students are satisfied with the service."



## THEFTS AT THE RAVE

THERE is another spate of thefts in the University.

This seems in the main to be concentrated in such places as at the Raves on Saturday night, but it has also spread in some cases into Departments.

Five coats were stolen at the Nite Club last Thursday. Together they were worth over £70. They belonged to John Seymour, a doorman; Pat Gold, from the College of Commerce; and Joan Spackman, a Rag Doll.

### DURING THE RAVE

Unfortunately there is no cover for coats stolen within the Union—whether there is a Porter guarding them or not.

A wallet was stolen from the pocket of Mr. Peter Robinson (Economics) when he left his coat in the Men's Cloak Room during the Rave on Saturday.

Several bicycles have been stolen from around the University precincts as well. However, it is believed that the Police have now arrested someone in connection with these thefts.

### SHEEPSKIN

Some of the bicycles have been recovered. But a sheepskin coat stolen from the History Department in the Armstrong Building has not been found.

Some girls have had their handbags pilfered during the Raves as well. One girl, who left her handbag downstairs returned to find that she had had her purse stolen.

Another place where thefts occur regularly is the Gymnasium Changing Rooms. Pockets have been pilfered and wallets stolen. The Gym takes no responsibility for these thefts. This however, is not readily apparent due to the smallness of the notices.

The Gym situation is further complicated as people other than students regularly use the facilities. The Squash Court, also, comes in for its share. Regularly, notices entreat players to take their valuables to the courts with them.

A personal bunch of keys was found outside the Rave. If anyone wishes to claim them, they are now in the Porters' Lodge in the Union.

## RAG PROFITS this year are more or less assured of being over £10,000 plus the Pacemaker/Defibrillator.

The final accounts do not close until the 30th of November, but it is expected that at least £2,000 more than last year will be given to charity. Pete Bennett, Rag President, said this on Monday night and added it was mainly due "to the increased number of collectors coming from the local colleges."

At one stage 1,000 extra collecting tins had to be ordered and the vast majority, total number 3,700, were used.

Other reasons for the increased profits were due to the cutting out of the non-profit making features. In fact, this year nothing made a loss. Particular mention can be made of the Catering which has made £100 more than last year. This was run by a student from the College of Further Education who has just taken his "O" levels!

### PROFIT UP

The total profit made by the Rag Raffle Competition will also be up, despite the fact that not as many tickets were sold as last year.

In fact the number of tickets sold is down by 50,000 on the number sold two years ago, only 70,000 tickets being sold. This is because not as many tickets were sent out to students to sell in the hope that more students would sell out and ask for more.

The actual takings were down by about £500 on last year. The profit has been made because of reduced cost of prizes and the cardiac pacemaker/defibrillator, which in itself counts as a charity.

The results of the Competition will be known on Thursday, when Littlewoods give out their dividend.

### TINS MISSING

The majority of the money is in but a number of collecting tins have not been returned. This year there is a full list of names and addresses for the first time ever of those who have tins and £1 will be charged for all tins not returned.

Regarding the actual organisation and publicity of Rag this was in general good and contributed greatly to its success. However, in some aspects, organisation was lacking.

This was particularly noticeable with respect to the stunts, the organisation of which was, according to Keith Anderson, Rag P.R.O., "Atrocious." What happened to the car cramming? And the piano smashing? The pianos came but before the "organised smashers" arrived, a team of five Agrics, along came a gang of snotty kids from Byker who demolished the lot in record time with their bare hands.

### CONFUSION

There were no crowds for the jousting on Friday—perhaps because most people thought that it was on Saturday. And the time of the Pageant was changed from 11.0 a.m. to 10.30 at the instigation of the Police on Friday. And where was the Rag President at the Saturday Rave? This was the final c... up.

The Agricultural Students' float was adjudged the best at the end of the pageant, thus entitling them to the traditional barrel of beer. This should have been presented to them on Saturday night during the rave.

In past years, Mr. Brian Dennison has presented the prizes for the best float, best stunt and maximum competition ticket sales, maximum collection car cramming et. with the assistance of the Rag Queen.

This year, however, there are instead five Rag Dolls, but no concrete alternative arrangements were made by the Dance and Pageant organisers for the presentations.

As a result, in the absence of the President, no prizes were presented, and no mention was made of them. Later, sixty irate Agrics led by Mr. Dave Nelson, descended on Mr. Bennett.

Where was the Rag President? Rumour has it that last Tuesday he had booked plane tickets from London to New York for a Rag Doll and himself, intending to leave Newcastle airport at 5.30 p.m. on Rag Saturday.

Behind him, he left a train of evidence suggesting that he had sold the fleet of Rag vehicles to a Pakistani firm of caterers in Leeds, and had disappeared with the £1,000 proceeds. In actual fact, he intended to spend two nights in Edinburgh.



The giant Push Ball on its way to the Town Moor for the match between Henderson and Eustace Percy. The result — a draw.

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**JOSEPH** has come home. Do not worry everybody — he will not fly again, he has had his wings clipped.

**MAC** — Welcome back, we have missed you, S. and N. Breweries.

**FILM** — American Trade Union in room 27, at 7.50, Nov. 3 with folk backing by Pete Seeger.

**DUE** to dire threats and low mutterings his Lordship will no longer appear in this column. Anyway he has his own column now.

**GEORGE** — Please come back, we are missing you.—M. and B. Breweries.

**BRIAN AND PHIL**—Monopoly at midnight this Saturday?

**LIKE TO CREATE,** like to carp.—Join the Authors and Critics Society.

**WEST-END** Whiz Kids are Domino Kings.

**S.O.S.** to handbag whipper—will louse who pinched bag at Cavendish Place party on Saturday at least return specs to Union Lodge. No questions asked. — Audrey Coyne.

**CHORUS** — The Bison, The Bison, Ber-Doom, Ber-Doom, Ber-Doom!

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Saturday, 5th ..... **OUTER LIMITS & THE DAWNBREAKERS**

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# Freshers' Conference Makes Small Loss

## EXPENSES CUT

By a Courier Reporter

"It seems that there will be a loss of about £100"—the verdict of Chris Roythorne, organiser of this year's Freshers' Conference.

The statement of accounts has not yet been presented to S.R.C., but it appears that there will be a substantial loss. The reason was summed up by Mr. Roythorne as "everything has gone up this year."

The Freshers were charged £3 each, as a result of estimates which had to be drawn up early in March. Mr. Roythorne told our reporter that the programme had to be presented to the Registrar a month earlier than in previous years. Consequently, actual prices were more than had been anticipated.

### BLAME

The main outlay was on catering. The Refectory charged 5s. 6d. a head for the "free" meals supplied to those attending the conference. Also Union and University porters had been granted two pay rises since the last Conference. The total bill for catering came to over £1,000.

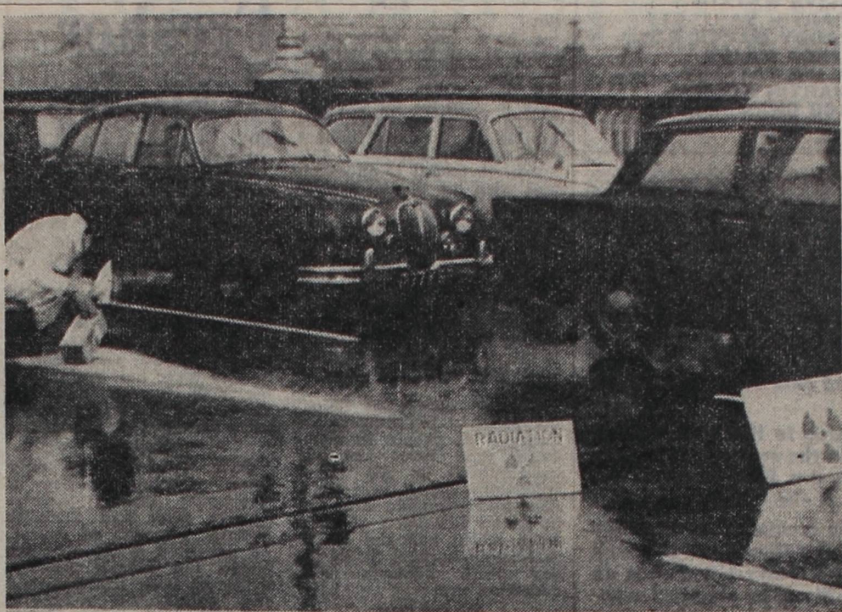
"I'm not blaming the catering staff," added Mr. Roythorne, "but we were just unable to budget for all these additional expenses."

Some of the features of the last two years' Conferences (which together made a profit of about £250) had to be cut out. These included the trip to Hexham, yet even without this trip, the bill for coaches came to the same. There was also a bill for £50 for the Tyne River Trip.

One hopeful comment from this year's organiser, "This year, for the first

time, office expenses were cut."

Obviously, the Freshers' Conference cannot afford to make a loss of this size, and Mr. Roythorne said that when he does present his budget to S.R.C. he will have to recommend an increase in price next year, or the conference will have to be cut to three days.



A student spreading anti-radiation powder on the Tyne Bridge as cars are halted.

## Traffic halted by stunts

### Zebra crossing wash

PANIC, amusement and traffic chaos were caused by some of the unofficial stunts during Rag Week.

The Tyne Bridge was blocked for ten minutes last Wednesday afternoon: the traffic jam reached as far as Claremont Road.

Three people said to be students, drove a van on to the bridge. A metal container tumbled from a wooden box on the van.

Three people jumped out clad in white coats, helmets and red gloves, erected Radiation Signs and cleared people off with megaphones.

Drivers were told to keep their doors and windows shut and panic ensued. Mothers

screamed frightened for their children, who they clutched to them.

The three people carefully replaced the container in the van, sprinkled a white powder on the road and drove off, leaving the chaos behind.

### ORANGE SMOKE

On Saturday another unofficial stunt paralysed traffic around Grey's Monument. Students scrubbing a zebra crossing impeded traffic for over an hour before being cleared off by a harassed traffic policeman.

Grey's monument was wreathed in billowing smoke when a 2,000 cu. ft. capacity orange smoke bomb was exploded on Saturday afternoon.

A Rag Committee member told Courier that these stunts were effected by an "irresponsible group." The Rag Committee were grateful that there were so few unofficial stunts this year.

### Objections to stall by the city police

NEWCASTLE police became confused, and later annoyed, by stunts during Rag Week.

The police did not know about the Rag coffee stall in the Haymarket until it was built. Then Rag received a telephone call telling them to pull it down.

Rag was eventually allowed to keep the coffee stall and amplified music provided that the sound was kept low.

Every night except Friday and Saturday the police objected to the excessive noise of the music. A Rag official ascribed this to "one officious policeman."

### RAG DENIAL

On Wednesday, an unofficial stunt in which the Tyne Bridge was blocked for ten minutes made things worse. Rag denied all knowledge of this, but Pete Bennett, Rag President, was severely warned by a police chief-superintendent.

On Friday morning the police told Rag that the Saturday procession must be

at 10.30 a.m. and not 11.00 a.m. as announced, or else the procession must be split into three to prevent traffic chaos.

A similar situation arose last year, but this year neither the police nor Rag were able to remember this on a Friday. As a result the Procession collections were much less than they might have been.

A police superintendent was reported to have said in the Haymarket on Saturday night that "students should use what little intelligence they are supposed to have. This is all quite ridiculous, and should never be allowed anyway. You never seem to learn."

## Your Money is Wanted

GRADUATE Service Overseas, the department of N.U.S. which sends teachers, doctors, social workers, etc., to serve as volunteers in the developing countries of the world, is in need of assistance from all university students.

Naturally all students cannot participate actively, but they can provide invaluable assistance by donating the nominal sum of 1s. a term. Then the good work of G.S.O. can continue.

## Student World

Miss Vicky Lee, the Catering Secretary of LEEDS University, has resigned because she has: "Met nothing but stone walling at every turn." She has found it almost impossible to get any changes implemented in Catering.

Losses, however, are increasing in leaps and bounds because of labour changes. Miss Lee also said: "Students want low prices but better quality; some students think they are prepared to pay for better quality, but they won't."

Radio Scotland is to provide students with their own programmes in the near future. The one hour programmes will be at 11.30 on Monday nights.

And Newcastle is not alone with its Pirate Radio. Last Saturday SHEFFIELD broadcast a programme which went out from the ship of Radio 270 off Scarborough. A disc-jockey from Radio 270 commented: "It's not bad, considering they obviously had practically no equipment."

The University of BIRMINGHAM is organising a "lightning one-day campaign" to aid the victims of the Aberfan Disaster. It is hoped to raise £100 by means of collections and stunts.

LONDON'S University College's Freshers' Dance ended in uproar when the Union president appeared just after Miss Fresher had been chosen — without his trousers on.

He had been relieved of them by a group of students who discovered him in a state of complete inebriation.

Miss Fresher, 1966, said: "The Dean never informed me that this kind of thing happened at University."

When STIRLING University opens next year, it will be the first American style university in Britain. Its year will be in two halves, called semesters, and the American style examination system will be introduced. Instead of Finals, students will be judged continuously during their course.

## VOTING REFORM

THE Electoral Reform Commission set up by the National Union of Students to investigate the method of election to the National Executive has just published its report.

This follows the controversies of the past few months, when there were even suggestions that the North of England Universities should leave the N.U.S.

### PINPOINT

The report recommends sweeping changes in the method of election. This will mean that less time will be spent on the elections at the National Council and that more information about candidates will be available before voting.

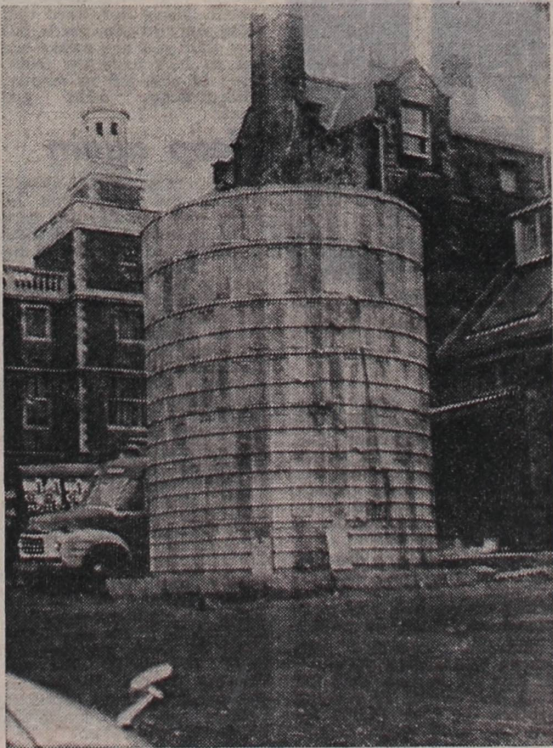
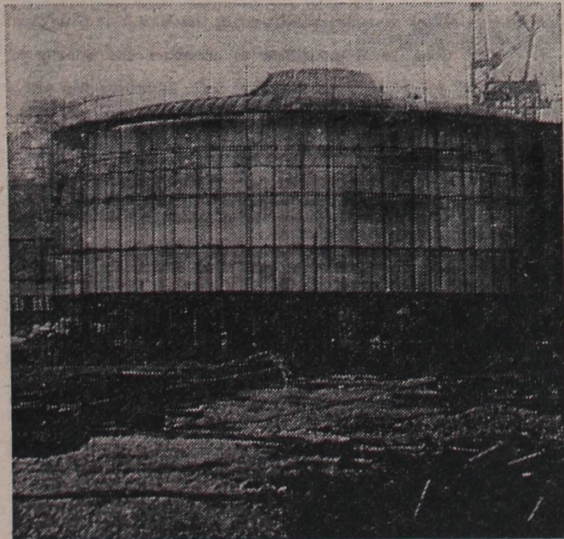
The Electoral Commission's report pinpoints the increasing feeling within the N.U.S. that the Council and Executive should deal with student affairs independently of party-political divisions.

The system used at the moment is the "multiple transferrable vote" and it has been decried many times in the past. Southampton University even threatened to quit the N.U.S. if the system was not changed.

## As one rises the other falls...

THE concrete silo (below), hitherto the property of Mr. Jonathon Wood, research student and silage expert, has at last bit the dust. No longer will this glorious monument embrace the cruel North winds and Mr. Wood's experimental stresses. It leaves in its place an extra parking space.

However, all lovers of ancient, historic and other buildings have no need to fear for as one silo goes, up comes another (right). This silo is not for silage, but is intended to house City Councillors as they hold Council meetings. This, we understand, is a revolutionary approach to Silo design.



## AWARDS GIVEN AT RAG RAVE

THERE was no outright winner of the annual award for the best rag feature this year. Miniatures of the trophy were presented at Saturday's rag rave to the three joint-winners.

Pete Bennett received an award. "Not because he was the best President for 100 years," but because of his idea of the Cardiac Pacemaker. This machine will save on average four or five lives a week.

### PRESENTATION

The Radio Rag team also received an award for their unique idea. It was presented to John Taylor who pioneered rag radio in Newcastle.

John Arnold and Jan receive the third miniature for their work in organisation of the Pageant and particularly for their efforts in obtaining lorries.

A special mention (and a bottle of "alcoholic stimulant") went to Adrian Jacobs for organising the highly successful Folk Concert, and Night Club.

### BLOOD

Perhaps, however, his best achievement was in the blood-donating for Newcastle, with a great total of 437 pints, easily

beat Sheffield, who totalled 360 pints.

The Awards were presented at the Rave last Saturday night which, with the By-standers and the Chosen Few, was one of the best Raves so far this year.

Despite the fact that Rave tickets were only available to those who had collected a tin full of money for Rag, there was a full house.

### TOO LOUD

Some of the groups, however, tend to play too loudly for the space that there is in the Ballroom. And sometimes it's so dark that it is impossible to see who or what you are talking to.

But most of the people there were really enjoying themselves, whether in the bar or at the back of the ballroom...

There was some trouble at the Rave over the pass-outs. At one time it was stated that there would be no pass-outs at all. But eventually the trouble was sorted out.

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NOVEMBER 2, 1966

OPINION

THIS term has been a great one for the petty thief. Coats have disappeared, handbags and pockets have been pilfered from cloakrooms, the Gym and the Squash Club, bicycles and cars have been stolen and also money.

Who is it? It would be nice to think that these were all "outside jobs" and in the case of the bicycle and car thefts they definitely are. Bikes it seems are very susceptible to the wiles of the "town amateur."

Generally they are quickly recovered by the City Police, and anyone losing a bike should get in touch with them immediately. The University Police do their best but the situation will not be changed without a drastic change in the campus security system.

It is just as definite, however, that in other cases the pilferers are the students themselves.

In particular the theft of money from Courier and Rag offices could only have been performed by a student or students with a reasonably intimate knowledge of the various set-ups.

Last year in Courier office there were a number of thefts and a total of nearly £50 was mislaid. There were suspects but no definite evidence. This term a total of £11 was stolen from Courier and approximately £30 from Rag which is fundamentally stealing from Charity.

The only way to ensure that no money is stolen from these places, is not to keep any there.

It is obviously impossible, however, to NOT keep coats in a cloakroom during a Rave.

The majority of the thefts do occur from unattended cloakrooms. It is imperative, therefore, that in the future somebody should be in attendance.

It is also important that no "extra" valuables, such as purses and wallets are left in stray pockets.

The situation, however, at the Rag Night Club was ready made for a prospective thief. Coats were left unattended on the seats on Level 6 and on Thursday five disappeared.

The ultimate responsibility for this must be with Rag. There was no alternative provision for coats and no one to look after them.

It is disquietening, therefore, to hear that they are not to refund at least some money to the unfortunate.

£15 is a lot of money to most students, and it is wrong to suffer that much for the sake of charity, especially when the charity is that of a thief.

A critic of Rag

Sir, I have just delivered a Perry Mason worthy defence of "Rag" to an old lady in the Haymarket. "It's only once a year, all for charity" I was heard to utter. The trouble is I don't believe much of what I say.

I agree that it is an excellent idea to divert student energies to work for charities, but surely there is some other way of doing things. I do not condemn the idea of having dances, nightclubs, or even a fund raising "Rag band" but are the stunts useful? Or are they merely an excuse for certain individuals to put on a display of childish behaviour under the cloak of "Rag"?

Another aspect of "Rag" that must be irritating to the majority of people in Newcastle (and these are our contributors) is the street collections. Again these are a good idea but could there not be better allocation of positions. About half the people in Northumberland Street today were students with collecting tins.

RATTLERS

The general opinion of the tin rattlers seems to be, dress up in a "I AM A ZANY STUDENT" kind of outfit and parade around Newcastle for a laugh. Any money collected is of course, nice but incidental. The money lost in wasted time and unkept appointments, caused by the two day long extension of rush hour conditions (which follows in "Rag's" wake) added to the police's extra pay for overtime, must add up to a sum to rival "Rag's" profits.

I suggest we put this point to the town, and in future ask the inhabitants for this money for a "Rag Prevention" fund, the proceeds of which can go to charity.

Thus we could still collect for good causes, and at the same time be on good terms with the town. The student image redeemed. Since I do not wish to have my public hanging classed as a belated "Rag" stunt I shall not sign this letter with my true name.

Yours faithfully, PETUNIA THWICK

Dear Sir, Concerning Rag Pie, 1966, why are there so many suggestive stories? Surely the causes you seek to support are worthy of a higher standard than this. There is much that is good and humorous - it is sad that such stories should spoil the

LETTERS

Fresher despairs

Sir, I write to your columns in despair, a disillusioned fresher. Before I came to this university I believed that all students were alive to the problems of the world and took a keen interest in politics.

Yet after only one month here, having joined the Liberal Society with great enthusiasm, I find that the largest political association is neither more nor less than a marriage bureau and the Communist Society has faded away through lack of support.

THREE

Thus there remains only three political societies in Newcastle: Liberal Society, Labour Club and Socialist Society. I would, of course, be delighted if all students joined the Liberal Society, which at least has vigorous and enthusiastic members, but I would be very pleased for students to join any political society—just as long as they joined!

It seems to me that the vast student body of Newcastle is either almost totally apathetic, unfeeling, and without conviction or is far too busy meddling in the grotesque fairy-land of S.R.C. or U.M.C. (What the hell's the difference?) to care about real issues and real life.

Yours etc., HELEN MACILWAINE

Returned

Sir, Further to my letter last week I am glad to be able to announce that my bike, stolen from outside the Physics Building, has been recovered. I would also like to offer my sincere thanks to Mr. Richard Welford who, in replying to that letter, put me on the track of the bike.

Yours etc., KEITH M. GREGORY.

Privileged Youth should help to uplift the world, not to degrade it. Your's is a very real responsibility and may God help you to discharge it with keenness and sincerity. Yours sincerely, E. H. COWEN.

In their favour

Sir, As an ex-member of S.R.C. I feel I must comment on the opinions expressed in your headline, front-page article in the edition of October 13.

Though the present system of representation in S.R.C. may be working inefficiently, it does have many points in its favour. It comes as a great shock, therefore, that this year's President of S.R.C. should state that if matters do not improve the "only alternative left over" will be to set up Council on the same basis as Union Management Committee.

PROVISION

But this would destroy one of S.R.C.'s greatest services—the provision of a platform for individual students to air their views as forcefully and freely as they like.

To substitute a system of closed meetings (as used by U.M.C.) would stifle such expression, forcing upon the dissatisfied student the necessity of presenting his views through the mediation of his faculty representative—a person who may hold contrary or hostile opinions—at a closed meeting where he may

not observe that his case is put fairly.

The system used by U.M.C. may be more efficient and business-like, but let S.R.C. not forget that fair representation must not only be done, it must be seen to be done.

As for the apparent failing of the present system, the fault lies not only in the apathy and ignorance of those represented, and the disinterest in their constituents of the representatives, but also in no lesser person than the Secretary of S.R.C.

It is his responsibility to enforce all regulations laid down by Council, and included are measures designed to encourage and enforce faculty representatives to hold meetings and advertise themselves to their constituents.

It seems unfortunate, therefore, that Mr. Bell, last year's S.R.C. Secretary, should refer to the present system as "proving unworkable" when he himself was, to put it mildly, lax about enforcing these very regulations designed to make the system work.

Yours etc., B. E. HALSALL.

Orientalating Students

ORIENTATION is one of the biggest problems, when one moves from one sphere, social or academic, to another. This is no less true of entrance to University.

A new student is tasting, maybe for the first time, freedom from many of the restrictions of school life. After the initial shock he is settling into something resembling "normal" university life.

They are no doubt emulating their fellow men in jeans and sweaters (unless they belong to one of the Image-conscious Faculties like Dentistry) either as a reaction to school uniform, cheapness or laziness.

BOISTEROUS STUDENTS

Boisterous student behaviour must be another manifestation of this release from restriction of school, parents, perhaps church; basically an environment where they are known, to one where they must share in the general anonymity, with a consequent decreasing responsibility for actions/behaviour.

The new student, heaving a sigh of relief that he has survived the trammels of the rat-race relatively unscathed, still has a long way to go.

He may be delighted that at last he is financially solvent, relatively free of his parents; but all too soon he will encounter the difficulties of inducing some sort of elastic quality into his grant.

The student who excelled at school, may find it more difficult at University; greater numbers, more competition. From the elite of the Sixth, to one of many sharing similar talents, can be a very unsettling experience. If you can still excel you are fortunate.

It does not help that other students tend to look down on newcomers—if not in derision, then with apathy. Hence the derogative 'FRESHER'.

University is so large that cliques tend to form as a compensatory factor. It is all too easy to feel 'left out'; and it is a sad fact that attempts to push into some groups can close the ranks altogether.

HIGH PRESSURE

It can be quite disconcerting when one is treated in an 'off-handed' manner by members of a society. On the other hand, many folk, after showing initial interest, seem to fade away after a while. This could be construed as a criticism of high pressure salesmanship at the Fresher Conference.

But the size of the University has the advantage that it can support many Societies, catering for all normal tastes. The purpose of a University career is mainly academic. Yet except in a few Faculties, there is no immediate incentive to work—no 'examming', no admonition on non-receipt of work. The student himself must engender self-discipline.

It is so easy to waste three years. Either by being too concerned in one's own subject to the exclusion of all else OR vice versa. The University is full of people so subject-channelled that they miss a great deal.

Which is the greater evil? The question of priorities is for the individual to answer. Many leave University with no self-improvement; apart from education in its strictest sense. Others are 'asked' to leave, with neither.

University is an artificial society, relative to the outside world; and this can be used for escapism. But responsibility can be had either departmentally, or in the Union or Students' Representative Council.

It really does seem pointless to mention the apathy of students.

Too many newcomers do not find their bearings for some time. And a few never do so. We would seriously question whether the school-leaver is mature enough to benefit fully from life at University.

YEAR OUT

Looking for a solution, a third year in the Sixth can be used to find one's feet. A year spent working also has numerous advantages. Both allow the widening of one's interests without the attendant academic pressures.

It was as an attempt to cope partly with the problem of orientation that the tutorial system was introduced in 1920. Unfortunately there is often, on both sides, a notable lack of interest.

The system in operation at Keele University has much to commend it. Before beginning their particular subject, the students spend one year in the study of a field outside the one in which they eventually hope to qualify.

Halls of residence can play a big part in bridging the gap between home and necessary self-sufficiency. This is not to say that they must be a mass of rules; these would be inviting violation.

A HALL where the students themselves made their own rules, if any, would perhaps be the best idea. This should not be equated with flat-life, for a hall has 'all the home comforts.'

The company in a hall must surely help those who initially feel home-sick. Although good 'digs' also solve this problem excellently.

Malcolm the giant waker

ONCE upon a time, in the dark, desolate land, which lies to the north of the Black River, there dwelt a huge giant, whose name was 'Student-Body.' Student-Body was stricken with 'lethargy,' a disease common to such giants, which causes them to be continually inactive. This giant slept all day and all night, rising only occasionally to eat a small mountain of chips or quench his thirst with a lake of 'Brown Ale.'

One day, into this dismal land, a handsome young squire came riding on a small, black poodle. It was not a fit dog to send a knight out on, so they gave it to him. (mental fanfare for such a splendid classical joke). It—the youth not the poodle—was Malcolm, fearless son of a Middlesbrough woodcutter, who had come to seek fame and fortune in this uncivilised land.

Suddenly Malcolm spotted the giant, lying asleep in a bun field.

"What's this?" he asked, prodding Student-Body with his rhino whip (family motto: a lash in time saves nine).

Bald fairy

His question was answered by a redundant Rag-Fairy-Bandleader, who conveniently materialised at that moment, sang three verses of 'Nobody loves a fairy when he's bald,' and said, "This is the sleeping giant, known as Student-

Body, which even I, with my magic legs, can arouse but once a year."

"I have heard many stories about this Student-Body," said Malcolm. "How he eats broken tankards, drinks bashish and smokes orgies. Perhaps, if I could wake him and get him to tell the truth about himself, and his needs, it would be a goodly step forward in my quest for fame and fortune."

So he tried to wake the giant by holding burning feathers under its nose and tickling its feet; but this only gave him burned fingers and smelly fingernails; and the giant still slumbered soundly.

Out of order

"You had better enlist the aid of the Council Gnomes. They are supposed to look after the giant," said the Rag-Fairy-Bandleader and he/she pointed out the Council Cave where the gnomes lived.

Malcolm entered the cave, brushed aside the cobwebs with his rhino whip and tapped the President Gnome lightly on the shoulder.

"Out of order!" shouted the President Gnome, waking up with a start and banging his little mallet on the table—where Malcolm had, unfortunately, placed his hand.

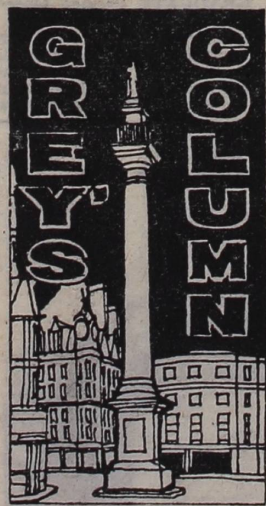
"Aaag!" screamed Malcolm, stuffing his flattened fingers into his mouth.

His shout woke up the other gnomes.

"What's happening?" asked Events Gnome.

"The President hit the gentleman's fingers with his mallet," Publications Gnome announced.

"Oh dear, let me have a



look," sympathised Welfare Gnome.

Martyr

"No, no, I'm O.K." Malcolm answered, putting his right hand, Napoleon like, under the lapel of his jacket; and jumping up on the dais, shouted to the other gnomes, "What's a few crushed metacarpals in the great cause of waking Student-Body?"

The Medic Gnome cheered; the rest whispered amongst themselves, asking where metacarpals was mentioned on the agenda papers.

Malcolm explained his scheme was waking the giant. At first the gnomes were not keen and talked of forming another Ad Hoc (Latin for 'till the cows come home')

Committee; but after the traditional amount of mummbling, they agreed to try it.

They all went out to the giant and, after much laborious effort, managed to wake it. Malcolm was delighted and adopting a serious tone, he addressed Student-Body thus:

"In the past, when you were asleep, you were misrepresented. Many lies were told about you and your needs, but now that you are awake we can, at last, have the truth. Don't be shy; tell us exactly, Student-Body, what you want."

Sleep again

"I wanna go back to sleep," moaned the giant, and he rolled over and did just that.

The gnomes shrugged their shoulders and returned to the cave. Publications Gnome went to buy a copy of Play-boy. Welfare Gnome went to get in the Brown Ale and the Events Gnome went to see what was on at the pictures. Malcolm just stood there, not moving a muscle. The President Gnome tested his reflexes with his little mallet, but it was no good; the poor lad had been turned grey and completely petrified by the disappointment and shock.

The Rag-Fairy-Bandleader took pity on Malcolm and built a tall pillar and put Malcolm on top of it. They put a sign at the bottom which simply said 'Grey's Colm.' However, the sign was stolen during a rag week and so the name of the monument could be passed on only by word of mouth. As the Geordie dialect changed so the name changed, until it became as we know it today—'Grey's Colm.'

# Changes to be made AGOGO BEST POP SCENE

By Michael Herson

THE AGOGO CLUB, under new management, is to become more University minded.

It has recently been taken over by an organisation that owns several pubs, but regards this as its biggest venture to date. Mr. Brown, who is Area Manager to this organisation, is the Acting Manager until a replacement arrives.

In a personal interview with a Courier reporter, Mr. Brown said he hoped to make the Agogo: "The best pop scene in the country." He has great plans for the future, and thinks the place has great potential.

Mr. Brown, unlike the previous managers, has realised

quickly that the University students form a large part of his business. Consequently, he intends to build the club around the students, and have a University Rave once a month on a Wednesday.

### GOOD WORK OF RAG

On this night, some of the proceeds would go to charity, thereby extending the good work of Rag Week from an annual to a monthly basis.

With regard to his plans, Mr. Brown said that his first major alteration would be to build a better and larger bar. He wants a more friendly atmosphere, as he feels that the old management was losing interest towards the end. He hopes to provide a better service to members.

Mr. Brown is anxious, however, not to change the general decor of the place but he said: "I hope to gradually clean up the club and make it a clean club, without changing to suits and cocktail dresses."

Apparently enthusiasm runs high in the directors' camp and so students should be able to regard the Agogo in a new light. Mr. Brown himself is easily recognisable through his constant companion—a magnificent Alsatian.

## Dr. Hudson to go to Cincinnati

THERE is to be an exchange of visits between this University and the University of Cincinnati.

Dr. J. Leeds Barrol III, Professor of English, will come from the University of Cincinnati, and Dr. Frederick Hudson will go to Cincinnati.

Dr. Hudson is very well known as a musical scholar, and he is an authority on music of the 16th, 17th and 18th Centuries. Dr. Barrol's publications have included works on Jonathan Swift and Shakespeare.

### SHAKESPEARE

Dr. Barrol is also editor of the University of Cincinnati's annual hard cover volume "Shakespeare Studies," which includes essays and studies by critics from throughout the world. It is one of only three such productions in the world.

The exchange visit has been made possible as a result of the generosity of private donors.

The Universities of Cincinnati and Newcastle share many common interests—both have large Medical, Architecture and Fine Art schools. Both cities are associated with great rivers and both trace their origins to the foundation of colleges in the early 19th century.



Mr. Brown, New Manager of the Agogo Club.

## Dan Smith pays ransom for his daughter

FOUR kidnappings boosted Rag's funds last week.

Mr. Dan Smith, Newcastle City Manager, had his daughter kidnapped last Wednesday night. She was held in a flat for two days by students from Northern Counties College of Education.

Mr. Smith was contacted on Thursday in London where he had urgent business, and told about his daughter. He returned to Newcastle as soon as possible.

### MAYFAIR DANCE

He arrived on Friday, and went at once to the Rag Ball at the Mayfair, and demanded the return of his daughter.

The Northern Counties students were reluctant to give her up. Dan Smith had to pay a cheque as a ransom for her.

Mr. Peter Walker, Shadow Minister of Transport, was conducted to "refreshments"

after addressing the Conservative Club. The "refreshments" were imprisonment in the Rag Radio studio. He was not released until he had agreed to record a broadcast for Rag Radio.

### THREE BULLS CLOSED

One kidnapping closed a pub. Charington's Breweries found that they could not open the Three Bulls public house; the landlady was missing. She was in the power of Rag. She was released when Charington's had made a donation to Rag funds.

## NEAR-RIOT IN THE BUN ROOM

LOWER Bun Room alterations were prevented last Wednesday night by Mr. Tony Pledger, Union President.

Visiting Hull students apparently found the conditions in the Lower Bun Room so bad that immediate alterations were required.

Newcastle students have been saying this for quite some time. But the Union Management Committee said that major structural alterations would be required; the Hull students might have done this for them.

### STRUGGLE

They were, indeed, preparing for this public-spirited action, and surveying the task from the table tops, when Paul Brooks, Union Secretary, tried to

prevent the impending alterations; he had no effect, and prudently retreated.

At this moment a struggle broke out between a Union porter and the Hull Captain, Jim Perkins, who had been conducting the Hull singing from a table top.

Dragged down by his coat-tails, Mr. Perkins seemed about to object when Paul Brooks reappeared with reinforcements, Mr. Tony Pledger, Union President.

Mr. Pledger asked the Hull Captain to prevent his members from altering the Union structure too drastically; since many of the Hull players were going to the Rag Dance that night, most of the Hull students left.

And so, it seems that improvements to the Bun Room will not be done for some time—unless Hull will return to do it for us.

## WHAT THE NORTH EAST WILL BE LIKE Challenge to Northerners

THE Northern Economic Planning Council has recently published two booklets. The first, "Challenge of the Changing North," is a 30,000 word Study, setting out the main problems facing the Northern Region (Northumberland, Durham, Westmorland, Cumberland and the North Riding of Yorkshire) and suggesting ways of tackling these problems.

The document was prepared by a group working under the Chairmanship of Dr. W. A. Reid, with assistance from Council members and assessors.

### ILLUSTRATIONS

It contains maps and illustrations, and chapters dealing with such subjects as population and growth, employment, agriculture, housing, communications, education, leisure, tourism and the health and welfare services.

The Study is not simply a report on physical planning but has its main emphasis on industry and commerce, because without a prosperous modern, thriving industrial structure, the Region would be unable to achieve the other targets set out in this and subsequent reports.

At a Press conference last week, Mr. T. Dan Smith, the Chairman of the Council, said that regional planning was something to be discussed "on the one hand with Cabinet Ministers and on the other with the fellow next door."

He added that the Study was "in no sense a document which sets out to tell everyone the kind of Region the Council thought they should live in."

### GREAT INTEREST

The Rt. Hon. Michael Stewart, M.P. (Secretary of State for Economic Affairs), writing to Mr. Smith, said that he had taken a "great interest" in "The Challenge of the Changing North" and that it would provide "an excellent basis for consultation with regional interests as a preliminary to the preparation of more comprehensive action."

He hoped that all concerned with the future development of the region will give it the careful study it deserves. Mr. Stewart promised that the Government would give serious consideration to the various proposals for action contained in the Study.

The other booklet, "Challenge to Northerners," is a popular version, in simple, easy-to-read form, of the main Study, emphasising the role of the man in the street in building up a more prosperous and progressive Region.

Both booklets are intended as a basis for discussion with all organisations, large and small. The Council wants to see the Study discussed in the factories and everywhere else, for only with this kind of response would they be successful.

All communications from

the public should be addressed in writing to the Secretary of the Northern Economic Planning Council, Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1, and all views so expressed will be taken into account in the future work of the Council.

## MAN CAUGHT WITH HIS PANTIES DOWN!

MR. ADRIAN JACOBS

a final Dental student and organiser of the Rag Night Club, is being sued.

The episode leading up to this final, drastic action by Messrs. Marshall Ward and Co. began over a year ago, when Mr. Jacobs started receiving a phenomenal number of advertising circulars and catalogues through the post.

According to Mr. Jacobs this was the work of a practical joker. It culminated in a parcel arriving addressed to Miss A. M. Jacobs, containing a black dress with silk trimmings, two brassieres, a pair of panties, nylons, and a slip from Marshall Ward and Co. to the total value of £3 11s.

Mr. Jacobs did nothing about the parcel except try and forget about it. He was not allowed to do this, however, as bills and then solicitors' letters came at intervals in the attempt to relieve Miss A. M. Jacobs of the £3 11s.

### REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Jacobs finally replied explaining the whole situation, including his sex, and suggested that a representative be sent to collect the goods.

A reply came acknowledging Mr. Jacobs' gender and asking for the goods to be returned through the post.

Mr. Jacobs ignored this and heard nothing more for a few months until last week a Bailiff arrived with a summons to the effect that Mr. Jacobs is being sued for the sum of £5 0s. 11d.

Mr. Jacobs' final word: "I shall fight it to the bitter end."

## "Should Army Officers be graduates?"

If this idea arouses (a) shock, (b) disapproval, (c) curiosity, or any other emotion—then you ought to send for your free copy of SOCIETY, THE ARMY AND THE GRADUATE

SOCIETY, THE ARMY AND THE GRADUATE discusses the role and function of the Army in society and in the free world today, and the virtues of the military way of life. It outlines an Officer's career, and describes the ways in which he can specialise—the 'professions within a profession'. It also explains how University graduates, both men and women, can apply for

immediate Army Commissions. For your free copy, write to Colonel C. A. H. M. Noble, M.C., B.A., Dept. 611, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. If your University has an Officers' Training Corps (O.T.C.), you are recommended to approach the Commanding Officer or Adjutant for further information or advice, which they will be very ready to provide.



# THE ABERFAN DISASTER

## Impressions of three students

THREE students of this University, Raleigh Bickford and Elizabeth Brock of the English Department, and Michael Evans who studies History, travelled to Aberfan last Sunday evening just 40 hours after the Aberfan disaster struck. The following records some of their thoughts and impressions.

"OH, you will understand then, they've got pits like that up there." These were the words of one of the local volunteers working on the Aberfan disaster site when he heard that we were from Tyneside.

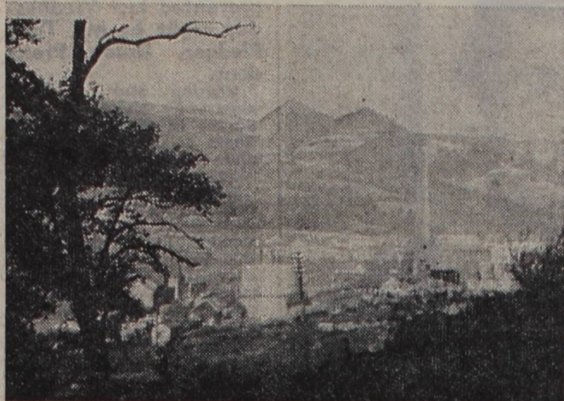
The connection is perhaps true. In fact not ten miles from the centre of Newcastle there is a tip threatening the houses above which it stands, like the one that collapsed upon the Aberfan school.

### Fund

Hence it is particularly pleasing that part of the Rag proceedings is to be donated to the Aberfan relief fund.

Mining is a job with one of the worst public images; the kind of work gives a mining community characteristics peculiar to itself; the mining village is not simply a place where people live, for the work makes a common bond between all.

Danger is part of the ex-



The village of Aberfan at dawn after the disaster.

perience of miners and their families; hence acceptance of such danger is fundamental to the miner. But with this disaster there can be no such acceptance; all reports indicate that someone is to blame, and the people are bitter.

### Death

One old villager remarked upon how different it was that children were the victims; they have hardly started upon life, the responsibility of the adult world. And they are what gives some feeling of permanence to a life which is precarious at the best.

The death of the children will be felt by the village and remembered by those who survived for two generations.

These two factors—the unnecessary nature of this accident and the fact that children are the victims—add

up to the horror and disgust of the scene at Aberfan as we saw it early on Sunday morning.

The experience was a crazy mixture of the ingredients of bad, sensational television drama; it was the reality that was so stunning.

The area was cordoned off by police, and we travelled the last six miles of our three hundred mile journey in the back of a covered army wagon, balancing on bundles of coarse blankets.

### Disaster

The bingo halls, with their garishly coloured posters, the shops of equally tasteless cheap clothes, and the inevitable pubs, chapels and Co-op food stores seemed to indicate a grim and joyless way of life in whose emptiness this feel-

ing of disaster and death veritably screamed.

When we arrived there, amidst the pitch black night, the buried area was lit up by large lamps on tripods, like a film set.

Bulldozers, engines roaring, worked with incredible speed and dexterity sorting through the debris and loading waiting trucks (it seemed the National Coal Board lorries were treated with peculiar venom receiving their loads of rubbish from greater height).

### Ruins

Men with blackened faces laboured in long lines, moving the slag down corrugated iron chutes. Among the ruins there were many pathetic sights, blackened dolls, a smashed and twisted bicycle, books, parts of beds, kitchen utensils.

Standing on the mound one trembled imagining the force that razed the row of houses to the ground in an instant.

### Dawn

Then a sparkling clear dawn revealed that we were in the Welsh hill country, with fields of sheep grazing next to the massive black scar of the fallen tip.

The atmosphere was of physical and emotional exhaustion, crushed bodies were still being picked out, and tons of slag had yet to be removed, but already there was a feeling that the strings of the drab life of Aberfan would soon be picked up, that nothing was fundamentally changed.

"Nondescript Pit Village" becomes "Bitter and Bleeding Heart of Wales" Aberfan, October 1966

The tip slipped,

**AVALANCHE IN ABERFAN. BURIED ALIVE; A WHOLE GENERATION OF CHILDREN; Dead.**

The sun proverbially shines On the green and red tree-spotted hill. —The wet dirt mountain (Mountain is what the villagers call the slag heaped high above their houses) spilled heavily down the hillside, leaving its farm in the yard of the school.

After this the digging began — And Salvationist, Civil Defence and 7th Day Advent women

armed with soup, tea and dry shirts pitched camp on the site . . .

"It's just like the war isn't it?" Meanwhile the published pathos of "Sorrow too deep for sermons"

in sensational statistics, emotions printed large and headlines of morale magnificent, determination weary —until, (No miracles for weeping women), Hope Fades, and miners, faces snapped white in the arc lights are permanently captioned "vacant-eyed."

Now the microphones tout for grief — A kid doesn't answer the question, and among the debris of muddy dolls and a twisted tricycle a man named Jones says he digs for two sons.

After this disaster funds, free holidays for survivors, restoration, rehabilitation too And after that

Begins the Public Bitterness, letters to the editor and the politic finger of blame and responsibility

answered by guarded replies "internal this and abnormal that, —the unforeseeable unique."

After the natural disaster the social metaphor, After the debris our debris

After the avalanche our avalanche that moves obsessively until — it peters out.

After Tynan, Gascoigne, Gilliatt . . .

## Ronald Bryden

Why? How? What's it like?

RONALD BRYDEN was born in Trinidad and went to school in Canada. He produced shows there. When his college put on *1066 And All That* he played the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire. Do we have here the first, distant stirrings . . . ?

**Cambridge.** Bryden was at Cambridge from 1951 to 1955, where incidentally he wrote theatre notices for the *Cambridge Review*. When he went down he wrote for the *Spectator*, moved on to become the *New Statesman's* drama critic. It was the success of his work here—intelligent, witty, literary—that led to his being chosen by *The Observer*.

**Full marks for homework.** Being *The Observer's* theatre critic is hard work. He has to see a lot of plays, obviously. It takes research. Bryden was the only London critic to find, then read, a copy of Lope de Vega's *La Fianza Satisfecha*, the original of Osborne's *A Bond Honoured*. (The *Guardian* had started a rumour that it didn't exist.)

**Still not bored.** After more than 1,000 plays Bryden has still not been bored. Whatever the reason for this, it seems to result in not being boring. Read him in *The Observer* every Sunday. You may agree.



Bryden • The Observer • Every Sunday



## Very honest drunkards

THE Yorkshire Society, which has been in existence for as long as their inebriated minds can remember, must be one of the most diffuse, yet quietly emphatic, societies of the University.

On their own admission, they are the only honest society on the campus. They have no pretensions. The club is purely social with no educational aspirations, and no political or religious connections, unless it be with the god Bacchus.

### RECRUITS

There is no pressuring for recruits, on the premise that those who wish to 'booze' need no incentive to do so. It is a mute point whether they could solicit membership or not, in the euphoria of the products of fermentation, in which they live.

About 30 per cent are not from Yorkshire at all, but every one of them shares the same acquired, if not in-born, habit of drinking.

Not to break records, or to

drink pubs dry (that would be anathema to them) but just because they imbibe as naturally as the rest of us breathe air.

Thus their statement that Committee meetings are held under a table in the Oak Room, becomes more comprehensible.

### PARALYSIS

Their outings, highly recommended, are generally typified by loss of cerebral function. Trips this year: Teesdale and Edinburgh, and judging by the Holy Island visit recently, paralysis will rule the day.

They are the only Society, they say, that organises Tiddly-wink contests. And the championship this year will be held at Edinburgh, together with a Rugby International, in November.

### RIOTOUS

Next month will also see a riotous (so they expect) Soccer International. This will take place at Close House, where they will compete against the Norwegian Society.

Drinkers come, and drinkers go; but the Yorkshire Soc goes on, tipsily, for ever.

## Nothing new—rise and behold

THERE are always some voices heard about the Union, vigorously arguing about, or decrying some facet, of life on the campus; and student behaviour, or lack of it.

So from time to time in this column, we intend to quote previous Couriers, and Union Sauce (the first newspaper of the University) in an effort to prove that 'Nothing's New'.

### FIGURE

Mini-skirts have been with us long enough now, for us

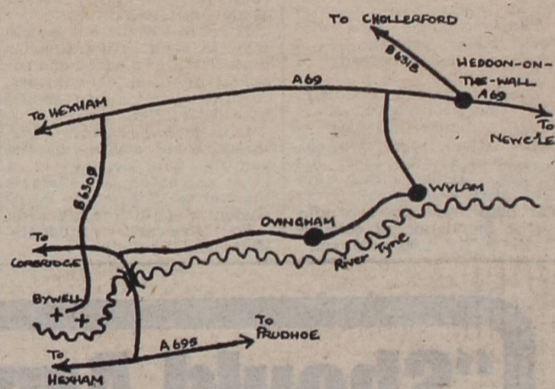
all to be used to them. Even those who react slowly to changes in general, and those concerning revelation of the female figure, in particular.

### KNEE

Courier on May 21, 1959, carried a photo of a student in a dress with the hemline just below the knee. The caption registered the complaint of some students, that the distance between neckline and hem was decreasing every year.

Mini-skirts may now look more like window-pellets, but it does seem a shame to decry them. After all think of all the 'fringe' benefits.

## A last look at



## Northumberland

THE opportunities for travelling long distances into the depths of Northumberland become less at this time of the year. Cold weather and lack of daylight tend to make one somewhat more appreciative of the city comforts. As a final fling in the fresh air, a journey up the Tyne to Bywell is recommended, a distance of about 15 miles from Newcastle.

The most picturesque route is to turn off the A69 just west of Heddon, and follow the narrow road through Ovingham. This road is very close to the river and is hence susceptible to flooding at time of high flow. Numerous graduated posts at the roadside give an indication of the depth of flood water, but if in doubt it is advisable to continue along the A69 and arrive at Bywell via B6309.

### ROMAN

Bywell consists of two churches, a mansion, a crumbling castle and a few cottages. It was supposed to have originated in Roman times when a bridge was built across the Tyne at this point.

St. Andrew's Church was founded in the seventh or eighth century by St. Wilfrid of Hexham, it later became

associated with the "White Canons" of Blanchland Abbey and is now known as the "white church". The outstanding feature is the very fine Pre-Conquest tower, the lower half of which is at least 1,000 years old, the stones being Roman in origin. The upper half was built about 100 years later, around the year 1050.

### GRAVE

An interesting feature to be seen on the outside walls is the preponderance of grave covers, dating from before 1295. These covers were added to the walls about 100 years ago when the North Transept was added.

The second church, St. Peter's, was built in the eleventh century and given to the black-robed Benedictines of Durham, hence it became known as the "black church."

### UNIQUE

Bywell is unique in that these two churches, about 100 yards apart, are so far removed from their main population centres. St. Peter's and St. Andrew's serve Stocksfield and Riding Mill respectively, both of which are on the south side of the river.

These old churches, together with the village cross which looks a little innocuous in the middle of field by the roadside, provide a very pleasant setting, one that is certainly worth a visit before resigning oneself to the winter in Newcastle.

# The Spinners enthral



Three of the Silkie—Mike Ramsden, Kevin Cunningham and Sylvie Tatler. The fourth member was in hospital. Photo by courtesy of the Journal, Newcastle.

## Folk concert

"UNDOUBTEDLY the stars of the concert."

This was the opinion of the majority of the 2,000 people who went to the Rag Folk Concert at the City Hall last Tuesday. Who were they talking about? The Spinners!

With The Silkie and Lynn and Grahame McCarthy, these four boys kept the audience enthralled and entertained for three hours. Their repertoire derives from every part of the Commonwealth, particularly the West Indies and, of course, the British Isles.

## Cosmopolitan

The Spinners share a cosmopolitan heritage—a Cuban-born Jamaican, an Englishman, a Liverpudlian Welshman, and an Irish-Jew. Their singing reflects this composite background.

"To us," said Tony Davis, "folk is traditional music. We all agree on this. But music can easily become accepted as traditional—for example, Pete McGovern's 'My Liverpool Home' is so full of realism it must soon become an accepted folk-song."

The group started its career in Liverpool as the "Gin-Mill Skiffle Band" and founded the Cavern Club. When the Beatles and the Blue Jeans "went electric" and the Cavern became the Mecca of beat music, the boys turned to folk.

## Successful

They have since lectured at training colleges, universities and schools and have made over 400 radio and television broadcasts, including the successful "Dance and Skylark" series on BBC-1.

"Bob Dylan has written some good songs," continued Tony Davis, spokesman for the group.

"His earlier songs were the most important—he had something to say. The Times they are a-changing' was the beginning of the end for him. From then, his songs became the 'we're young so you don't understand us' type."

The Spinners succeeded in getting the audience to join in with clapping, singing, stamp-

ing and chanting during their various numbers. They finished a first-class performance with their latest single "Seth Davey"—the story of an old Liverpool sea-front character.

## Drunkard

The Silkie, perhaps a more well-known group, gave a rather disappointing performance. This was due, in part, to the fact that their fourth member was in hospital with pleurisy. They had, therefore, to adapt themselves to singing as a trio.

True folk-lovers, however, were unimpressed with their "commercial" folk which included numbers by the Beatles. Nevertheless, they presented their material competently and included two or three ethnic (a polite word for dirty!) stories.

The latter were enjoyed by a largely student audience, as was the banter of husband and wife team Lynn and Grahame McCarthy.

## Very Broad

The two ex-teachers, originally from Brisbane who played at the Edinburgh Festivals of 1965 and 1966, and who have just started a 16 week radio series, described their music as "very broad folk."

Their material is drawn from all corners of the world—a lot of it being contemporary music. Lynn has just started writing songs herself, some of which they performed.

"Protest songs form a necessary part of modern folk-music, but now they have become completely commercialised. The folk era finished a year ago."

## Fantastic

All three groups agreed that they preferred playing to club audiences and particularly to university audiences.

"With an intelligent audience," said Lynn McCarthy, "you can ad-lib and get away with it."

Those at the concert on Tuesday certainly enjoyed both the throw-away jokes and the singing. Their warm applause at the end of the show was for all the artistes, but particularly for The Spinners—four magnificent entertainers.

# Forthcoming attractions

AFTER the exuberance of Rag Week, and life lacks titillation, we can do no better than take a look at forthcoming productions in the University.

Rehearsals are well under way for the Dram. Soc. production of Congreve's racy Restoration comedy, "The Way of the World." This will be held in the Co-op's Little Theatre, Jesmond, on November 21-26.

## Lavish

The hiring of this theatre, little used but well equipped (the lighting is especially professional) represents the nearest yet to obtaining a theatre for the University.

Dextrous string-pulling has assured lavish costumes for the production from the Not-

tingham Playhouse. A highly ingenious set design will recapture the original theatrical tone, through a modern screen technique.

Producer Phil Roberts (Eng.) is determined to bring off a big box-office hit, using his experience in the Oxford Experimental Theatre Club.

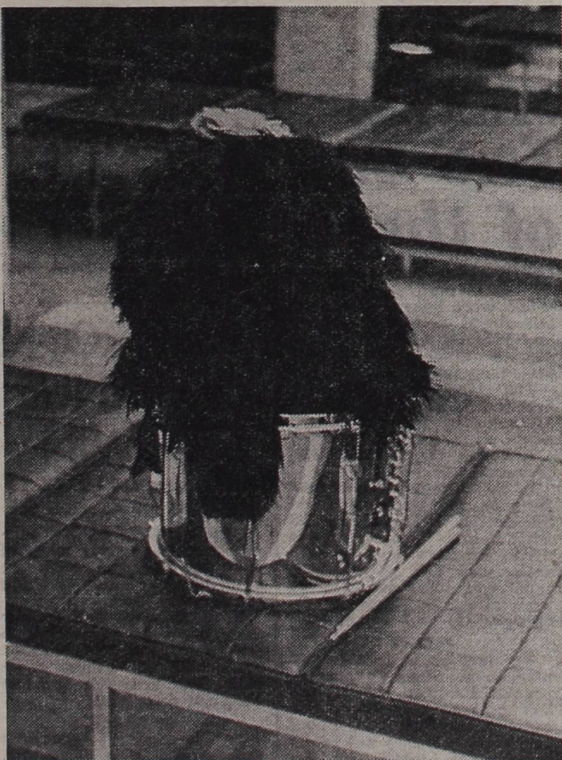
## Henderson

Henderson Hall Revue breaks upon the scene, November 11-12. We are assured that ideas abound for the show, and the material appears to be good.

An interesting travelogue technique is being used, treating the Hall as 'a sort of holiday camp.' Though one would have thought that Eustace Percy Hall had greater claim to fame in this respect.

Anyway we may expect their own particular brand of comment and humour.

# SHAGGY DRUM?



THIS is the hat the Piper wore when he was in the Rag Procession.

Or at least, it's the hat that the drummer wore when he was accompanying the piper who was in the Rag Procession. No one quite knows how it managed to be in the Union or where the owner had gone, but it is rumoured that after the procession the Pipers played for the Rag Fairy and others so that they could do a Sword Dance in front of the Union.

So it's my bet that while Godfrey Leek was whooping it up and ruining the small patch of green grass outside the Union that this lad crept inside for some obscure purpose of his own. But as I said before, we don't know where it came from, and, to be truthful, we don't really care either. But I wonder what he really was doing...

# It's our country, Jack

## Revue review

THIS swinging propaganda vehicle for the Moral Rearmament Movement, bounces into the City Hall next Saturday night, 5th November.

With a moral code, that would make even Sir Cyril Osborne look like an advocate of free-love, left very much upstage, this production comes very close to presenting the movement in a favourable light.

Echoing one of their four Moral Absolutes, we can say with Absolute Honesty that sweeter honey has never come out of a more putrified corpse.

## Mellifluously

The surrounding stench of money-grabbing puritanism was dispelled as the revue zipped mellifluously into action. And stayed there.

This splendid revue moved along apace with excellent continuity. The singing, individual and chorus, matched the remarkably good material.

The effect was heightened by the well co-ordinated movements, which emanated a spirit of unrestrained idealism. The good deployment of

players on stage ensured that one scene flowed easily into the next.

The Revue, however, did not maintain Absolute Purity of Standard. The 'Foursome Reel' marred the high speed effect; and all the old puns were dragged out of 'The Economic Jungle.' The 'Cave Man' lacked sophistication.

## Unpaid

These lapses were readily forgivable. The actors, appealingly unprofessional, were gifted amateurs. All have given up six months to work unpaid in the Revue.

Worthy of special mention were Christine Channer who convinced us that 'We're All the Same Underneath,' Donald Simpson, Conrad Hunt (the celebrated West Indian cricketer) and Padmini Kirtane—a beautiful Indian whose smile radiated Absolute Love, and stole the show.

As the incongruous National Anthem ends, collectors stalk the auditorium. Absolute Selflessness is not recommended, but the evenings entertainment is.

Anyone who has no desire to part with money, and would like to see John Knox playing electric guitar, could hardly do better.

# SPORT

## Easy hockey victory

**Hull University 1st XI 0; University 1st XI 2**  
IN their opening U.A.U. match, played under poor conditions, the University scored a comfortable victory against Hull. The ease with which the 1st XI achieved this victory suggests that they should emulate the previous successes of the club in this competition.

During the opening minutes of the match the University forced their opponents on to the defensive. This was to be the pattern of the entire game. After several near misses the finesse of the University triumphed against the enthusiasm of a packed defence when D. Jones scored after an excellent move down the right wing. The pressure was maintained throughout the half and Hull were lucky to be only a single goal in arrears at half-time.

**OBSTRUCTION**  
Play deteriorated in the second half, perhaps because the umpires ignored much obstruction committed against the University forward line. A switch of the inside forwards composed the Hull defence and Waller placed the ball into the roof of the goal after a free-hit had been quickly taken.

Throughout the game the defence never looked in any difficulty and if the forwards had not seen too unsteady in their finishing, the goal tally could well have been trebled. Waller Marsh and Kokn played in the county team on Saturday.

## SQUASH

A UNIVERSITY 'A' squash team beat the Schooner S.R.C. in a Northern League game on Sunday at Alnmouth, three games to two.

P. F. Child turned out another reliable performance at number three, beating D. Wardhouse 3-2, a match in which he did well to take all chances offered.

At number four, I. G. Jones was overpowered after a promising start, losing 3-1 to J. Green.

At this point, the score stood at two games all and it was left to R. V. Cooper to settle the match in the favour of the University, beating N. Morrison 3-1.

## CROSS COUNTRY

# Edwards storms home

IN spite of an excellent run by Mel Edwards, who annihilated the opposition in demolishing Fergus Murray's Close House course record by 21 secs, a weakened Newcastle team could not match the greatly improved Nottingham squad who are so far unbeaten this season.

From the start, Edwards made it plain to all concerned that he was not going to content himself with a slow time and by Wylam Bridge he had already moved ahead of the field which had roughly split up into a battle between the respective first and second teams.

Up front, Edwards was all on his own, and Pratt and Currell fought hard to keep up with the Nottingham men Bartlett and Osborne. But the visitors proved too strong, although Pratt produced a personal best for the course.

Tinlin ran a fine race to finish eighth but the team missed Head and Coppen and had to wait over two minutes for their other runners, Fryer and Hutton, to finish.

The return match takes place in two weeks and with a full strength Newcastle team, a really tight match is envisaged.

1. M. Edwards, 38.07; 4. I. Pratt, 40.17; 5. J. Currell, 40.34; 8. R. Tinlin, 41.55; 12. P. Fryer, 44.13; 13. A. Hutton, 44.58.

# A rest before the high jump?



THE Riding Club, whose activities are usually confined to the White House Farm, Sunderland, held their first match of the term against Hull University at Close House.

The afternoon's riding went very smoothly, apart from one unfortunate incident; when a horse, which was being ridden for the second

time this term, took a nasty fall.

The Prix Caprilli's Nos. 2 and 4 were won for the University by R. Hodgkinson and G. Carruthers, who both had clear rounds in the showjumping events.

The outcome of the match was a fine win for Newcastle by 306 points to 261.

Sanderson's good kicking

# FINE WIN OVER HULL IN UAU GAME

## Low standard in Saturday's game

Newcastle University 1st XV 11; Hull University 3

IN their opening U.A.U. match of the season, the University scored a comfortable win over Hull in a hard fought game.

Rain, which fell heavily throughout, made handling difficult and an inability to take vital passes was the only factor preventing a much higher score.

### PENALTIES

The first half saw many of the Universities attempts to score, frustrated by the slippery conditions. The first points came when Sanderson landed a penalty from in front of Hull's posts. Good runs by Sykes and Woodcock nearly resulted in tries but Hull was able to equalise just before half time through an easy penalty.

After the interval the University continued with its open play tactics; but Mal Sanderson's accurate kicking was playing a more important part in gaining ground. From a short passing movement near Hull's line, Geoff Hale took the ball and was able to put Newcastle into the lead. Mal Sanderson failed with the conversion.

### SUPERIORITY

The forwards were now beginning to assert their superiority. Duchemin was catching well in the line outs and Robin Poyntz gained several balls against the head in the scrums. Just before the end of the game, a scrum on Hull's line resulted in the pack scoring a push over try, which Sanderson converted from halfway out.

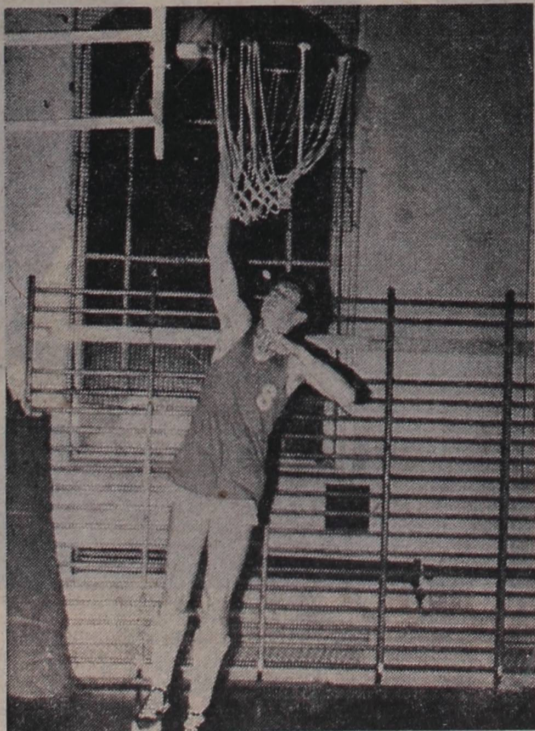
The team can now prepare for more testing battles to come, particularly against Durham on November 30th at Cochrane Park.

### LACROSSE

Despite the waterlogged pitch and continuous rain the Lacrosse team played and won their first match of the season at Neville's Cross Training College. The score was 6-4 the goals being gained by M. Coggan (4) J. Frost (1) and J. Swann (1).

The World Cup Semi-final, England v Portugal, will be shown in Cement Stephenson Lecture Theatre in the School of Agriculture at 7 p.m. on Friday, November 4.

Students interested in seeing this film will be welcomed.



"Ball in the basket?"

Newcastle Univ. 1st XV ... 0  
Stockton ... 0

AGAIN with a depleted side, the University was only able to force a draw with Stockton, at Cochrane on Saturday.

The varsity was willing to throw the ball about and attacks were many; the majority of moves, however, were stereotyped and made little impression.

### INTERCEPTED

All of the threequarters had good runs but these tended to be isolated and lacked support. A try should have resulted, when Holden intercepted and ran clear with only the full-back to beat, his pass went astray and Anderson was unable to take it cleanly.

The forwards gained some good possession from the set pieces but movement away from the loose was often hampered by Stockton's spoiling techniques. This performance, however, was far better than that of the previous Saturday; with Duchemin, in particular, leading the revival.

**Team:** Arnold, Holden, Sykes, Anderson, Walker, Hale, Cadzow, Rooke, Poyntz, Swallow, Duchemin, Dunn, McManners, Woodcock, Morgan.

Further degeneration in

the third quarter by the Newcastle team widened the gap to 48 points to 19, but the final quarter heralded a somewhat belated comeback when Waple and Marchbank regained their shooting form and swung the scoring rate 2 to 1 in Newcastle's favour. Hull held out however to win by 17 points.

Both games were scrappy at times, the referees liberally handing out personal fouls, with the result that in the first game two players were sent off, while in the second game Herrmannson scored no less than eight baskets from free shots.

LEAD

The second team settled down from the start of their match with Herrmannson in his usual good form, and had built up the considerable lead of 61 points to 16 by the end of the third quarter.

Backpeddling in the final quarter, Newcastle went on to win comfortably by 44 points, regaining some of the prestige lost by the first team.

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"Catch me if you can!"

## LACK OF ENTHUSIASM IN FIRST TEAM

OLD HEATONIANS ... 3  
UNIVERSITY 1st XI ... 2

IT is pointless reporting a game of such standard and of deeply analysing their defeat, when the team was incapable of mastering the most elementary foot-balling technique of producing an accurate pass when not under pressure.

After a lucky victory in their first U.A.U. match at Hull on Wednesday, the University produced a disgusting display against mediocre opposition in the League Cup.

Throughout the first half the University were contented to make pretty pattern in mid-field, seemingly forgetting that the object of the

game is to score goals. Indeed they were fortunate to turn round with the scores level, when a two goal lead by their opponents would not have been flattery.

### OPPONENTS

Of the three goals scored by their opponents in the second half, two came from the lack of defensive cover and heartless tackling. Moir did raise some hope for the University with a well taken goal, while their second

one came in the dying seconds of the game through an own goal — perhaps a sign of pity from the Old Heatoniens.

Never during the whole game, did the University achieve any kind of domination. Urgency and determination were lacking in all aspects of their play, and this will only be rectified by dedication to the game. Surely this is not too much to ask of a first team.

### SWIMMING

## SWIMMERS SHOW DEVASTATING FORM

THE University Swimming team had a most convincing win; when they beat Newcastle R.G.S. by 60-27 points on Thursday evening.

The University had maximum points in all the individual events and also won both relays.

Shingler won both the 100 yards Freestyle and the 50 yards Butterfly with Fitch second in both races. Hardman won the 100 yards Breaststroke for the first time this season, with Veitch a close second, whilst Deaton won the 100 yards Backstroke, also for the first time this season, with Morrisson second. The 50 yards Freestyle was won by Mitchell with Easby second.

### MEDLEY

In the Medley relay, the University A team of Morrisson, Hardman, Fitch and Shingler won convincingly with the B team of Deaton, Cowser, Veitch and Mitchell second.

In the Freestyle relay, the University A team of Mitchell, Fitch, Veitch and Shingler were first again with the B team of Deaton, Easby, Morrisson and Hardman third.

### CONVINCING

The University Swimming team were again in convincing form when they beat Durham University by 52-24 points on Saturday evening, once again recording maximum points.

For Newcastle, Morrison won the 100 yards Back-

stroke with Deaton second, thus reversing Thursday's result. Veitch also reversed Thursday's result by beating Hardman into first place in the 100 yards Breaststroke. Shingler also won the 100 yards Freestyle and two lengths Butterfly, with Veitch and Fitch second respectively.

The Newcastle team of Morrisson, Hardman, Fitch and Shingler experienced no difficulty in winning the Medley relay, nor did Deaton, Veitch, Fitch and Shingler in the freestyle relay.

### WATER POLO

## Two out of three

THE water polo team had three matches last week — two were friendlies against the Royal Grammar School and Fenham A.S.C., the third was a first round U.A.U. match against Durham.

The University won the first match against R.G.S. on Thursday by 14 goals to nil; goals were scored by Fitch (7), Veitch (3), Shingler (2), Marvison (2).

In the second game against Durham, the team surpassed themselves, winning by 22 goals to one. Throughout the match the team used the bath space well and played with confidence. The goal scorers were Fitch (9), Marvison (5), Shingler (4) and Veitch (4).

### MERIT

The last match, which was played on Sunday morning against Fenham A.S.C., was lost by nine goals to four. The game was close throughout and the score does not really reflect the merit of the players.

The main fault was a failure to mark closely in defence; Shingler and Veitch were able, by virtue of their speed, to create several gaps in their opponents defence. The goal scorer were Fitch (2), Veitch (1), Shingler (1).

The team's next important match is against Sheffield University on Saturday.

## RESULTS

### INTRA-MURAL FOOTBALL RESULTS

Division One  
Physics 6, Economics 0,  
Commuters 4, N.C.C.A. 2,  
Henderson 5, History 0.

Division Two  
E.P.H. 'A' 1, Geography 'A' 1,  
Elect. Eng. 2, Henderson 'B' 1,  
Metallurgy 3, Planning 0.

Division Three  
E.P.H. 'B' 8, Chem. Eng. 1,  
English 4, Medics 'B' 2,  
Agrics 4, Mining Eng. 1.

Division Four  
Geography 'B' 3, Leazes 2,  
Law 8, Naval Arch 0,  
Mech. Eng. 10, Medics C. 0.

Division Five  
German 5, Norwegian Soc. 0,  
Newcastle C of E 2, Cath. S 4,  
French 5, Geology 3.

### UNIVERSITY SOCCER

Wednesday:  
1st XI 3, Hull 2

Saturday:  
Tyne Utd. 1, 2nd XI 8

3rd XI 0, Old Maclayans 2

### ARMSTRONG R.U.F.C.

Wednesday:  
Armstrong II XV 26, R.A.F.  
Boulmer 6

Saturday:  
Armstrong I XV 19, Stockton  
III 12

Armstrong II XV 51, Stockton  
IV 0

### INTRA-MURAL BASKETBALL

Civil Eng. 39, Arch. 18

Chem. Eng. 29, Fine Art 20

### WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Univ. 3, Hull 1

### BADMINTON

Univ. 8, Hull 1



NOW we really have come to the giants of National Hunt with the splendid racing at Cheltenham on Saturday, and the champion, Arkle, running in the £5,700 Gallagher Gold Cup next Saturday at Sandown. There should be nothing to beat him, but the astonishing defeat of Flyingbolt at Cheltenham could make one a trifle uneasy. It is conceivable that the gallant Freddie, second in the last two Grand Nationals, and already a winner this season, might be the horse to beat Arkle, but it is a long shot.

### SPRINT

The last sprint of the flat season is at Haydock on Saturday, the £5,000 Vernons November Sprint Cup. This should go to Lucasland, winner this year of the Senior Service Gold Cup, the July Cup, and the Diadem Stakes, but watch out for the promising two-year-old, Be Friendly.

Murgatroyd, one of last week's selections for Cheltenham, did not run, but he is entered again at Wetherby on Saturday and is worth following.

### HAYDOCK PARK, SATURDAY:

2.30 Lucasland (Be Friendly), Sandown Park, Saturday; 2.25 Arkle (Freddie), Nap: Wetherby, Saturday; 3.05 Murgatroyd.

### FORM BOOK

\*\*\*Caronbrook (Haydock, Friday, 3.30).

\*\*Lucasland (Haydock, Saturday, 2.30).

\*Exhibit A (Sandown, Saturday, 3.0).

## ARMSTRONG CONTINUE TO WIN

Armstrong 1st IV ... 19

Stockton III ... 12

ARMSTRONG 1st XV continued on their winning way at Cochrane Park on Saturday by easily beating Stockton by 19-12.

Stockton were flattered by their score, as they failed to cross the Armstrong goal line. Their twelve points came from three penalties and one excellent drop goal.

### CROSSED

In contrast, Armstrong crossed the opponents goal line five times, resulting in tries by—Thomas (2), Hackney, Nisbett and Warburton. Aldwinke converted two and came close with other long range efforts.

Congratulations are sent from all members of Armstrong to M. Sanderson, an ex-Armstrong player, on playing for the Northumberland County Team.

### SAILING

## Tactics of team win

THE sailing team made a good start to the season's racing, by soundly beating both Leeds and Lancaster Universities in a triangular match at Tyne-mouth.

The Lancaster team was not particularly experienced, and good sailing and team tactics on the part of both Newcastle and Leeds led to convincing victories.

The races between New-

castle and Leeds were much closer; the tactics being fierce; but brilliant sailing by Mike Clough gave Newcastle an eventual three point victory. This puts Newcastle at the top of the Northern League table for the present.

The team next face Manchester University, who usually prove a strong side; so it is hoped that the recent successes will lead to a further victory.