

Trinity News

Dublin University Student Newspaper

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March Leaders— Bourke and Kinlay



MARCH SEEKS RIGHT TO EDUCATION

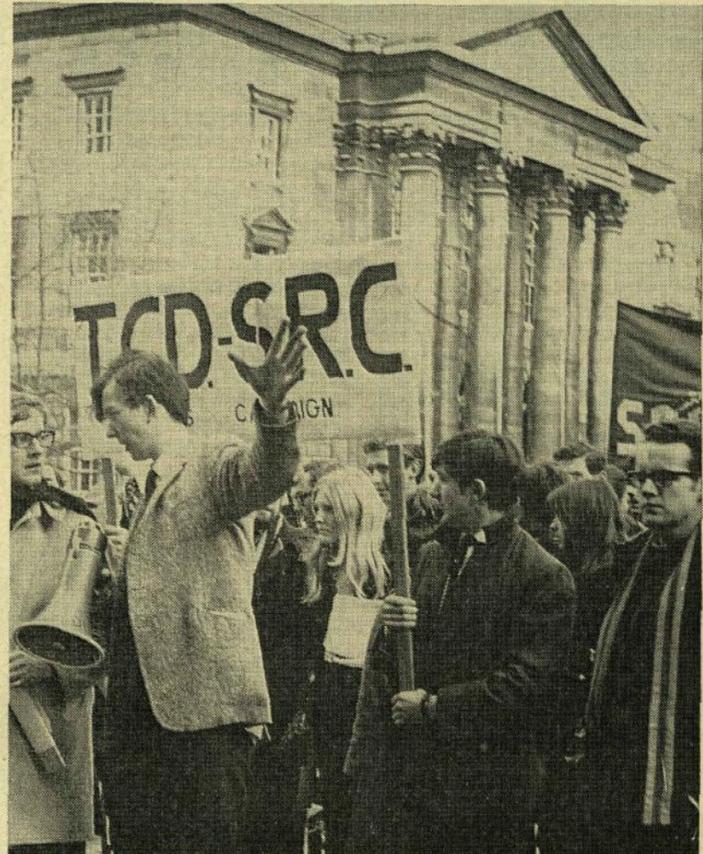
Traffic was brought to a standstill by the largest student demonstration ever seen in Dublin's streets. Students from all over Ireland marched to the Dail to complain about the provisions of the Grants Bill.

5,000 students from Cork, Belfast, Galway, and Dublin marched from College Green, where the two contingents from assembly points in Earlsfort Terrace and Trinity's Front Square united. They marched singing down O'Connell Street, past the GPO to the Department of Education, recrossed the river and then made their way to Leinster House.

The march was organised by USI to draw attention to the inadequacies of the proposed scheme. Howard Kinlay, USI President, said: "Education is a human right" and it should not be the prerogative of a privileged few. USI objects to the Bill since it excludes all students at present in higher education or who obtained four honours in the Leaving Certificate prior to 1968, but who were for financial reasons unable to take up university or college places. In addition, the grants are considered to be inadequate and not related to the high cost of a student's maintenance.

Kinlay proposes that the scheme be extended since it will at present only affect one-twelfth of the total Irish student population. He suggests that grants be made to all students now in higher education.

This would cost an additional £600,000. USI's proposals have been rejected by the Minister.



Marchers assemble in Front Square.

Gardai stood behind the closed gates and the students began a sit in, blocking most of Kildare Street and Molesworth Street. Some TD's had to go into the Dail by the back entrance. Howard Kinlay addressed the marchers asking the Minister to defend his Bill.

Mr. Lenihan refused both to speak and to listen to student representatives until the demonstration dispersed, but when Sean O'Driscoll, Education Vice-President of U.S.I., was allowed into Leinster House, the demonstration was ended.

SLOW DOWN ON EXPENDITURE SOUGHT

The Financial Resolutions passed by the Dail on November 5th have added £2,000 to the College's postage and telephone bill. The Treasurer has urged members of the staff to make economies to combat the "mini-maxi" budget. Greater use is to be made of the Telex to save on costly trunk calls; the use of air mail will be restricted; and telephone calls are to be cut to a minimum. Headed note paper will not be used for internal mail, for what the Treasurer asks is the "cost-benefit of formality in internal correspondence."

Ulster Museum Exhibition

The works displayed at the Modern Art Exhibition in the New Library have been loaned to the College by the Ulster Museum. The collection has only been assembled in the last six years and it includes many foreign modern works as well as British and Irish.

The museum has restricted itself to purchasing foreign works which have been created since the war.

The Northern collection of contemporary art is said to be one of the most exciting in any public gallery in the British Isles.

The exhibition, which lasts for three weeks, contains works of two talented sculptors, and some three dimensional works, made of wood and metal, in addition to many paintings.

Even though some works may seem disappointing, Julio Le Parc's "Continuel - Lumiere - Mobile," and Jesus Raphael Soto's "Carre Aregente," certainly deserve a look.



Mrs. Crawford

NEW TENANTS MUST WAIT TO MOVE IN

For the first time in the College's history accommodation has been made available for women within the College grounds. Sets have been allocated for 7 Scholars and 2 Fellows, but the rooms are empty, and may remain empty until the end of term.

Miss Vivienne Darling, Vice-Warden of Trinity Hall will act as Resident Assistant Dean of Women Students to supervise the female students in New Square. Despite the completion of the redecoration, women cannot yet move in due to a technical hitch. The 12 o'clock rule will have to be repealed or amended to allow the Scholars to stay overnight. The Disciplinary Committee, whose task it is to revise "anachronistic" regulations has still to meet. Whatever its recommendations they will require the Board's approval. Mrs. Denard, Dean of Women Students, said she did not know when the Scholars and Fellows would move in, but added that it may well not be until 1969.

The New Square rooms have been modernised at a cost of £76,000. Nos. 33 and 34, and 36 and 37, are now linked by corridors to allow the use of common facilities. Trebles have been eliminated since they were long felt to be unsatisfactory. Each student should have his own separate bedroom and this is not always the case with treble rooms. The blocks have full central heating from their own boiler house to replace the antiquated gas fires, for which students will pay £7.10.0. a quarter, commented Mrs. Crawford, Assistant to the Registrar of Chambers.

The project has been financed out of accumulated rents and marks the near completion of a ten-year plan to improve living

conditions in College. The Rubrics remains the only completely "unmodernised" block and because of its age may remain so for some time. The Jacobean building presents major architectural problems and offers few prospects for adaptation.



Members of the AFC picketed the Junior Dean's office demanding that he explain his "undemocratic" actions. The vigil began on Monday, although the J.D., Dr. McDowell, ignored the small group that gathered outside his office. After the Mass Democracy on Friday when Joe Revington, SRC Vice-President, dominated the discussion, the AFC continues to make its silent protest.

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SPORTS NEWS

RUGGER

NARROW DEFEAT UNDESERVED

Trinity 9; N.I.F.C. 11 pts.

Once again Trinity were hit by the early loss of a player, prop-forward Alexander having to leave the field with torn ligaments in his shoulder, and against a surprisingly strong North side this handicap proved just too much to overcome. In fact, Trinity were unlucky to lose, conceding a controversial try and an unnecessary penalty when they twice looked as if they might snatch victory.

During the first half-hour, Trinity did not seem to be relishing their task, but after poor tackling allowed North through for their first try, more urgency crept into the play and a fine 35-yard McCombe penalty shortly afterwards left the team only two points in arrears at half-time.

After the resumption, Trinity went into the lead with a try from Blake-Knox who ran strongly to capitalise on a good cross-kick from Hipwell. A blatantly offside interception by a North forward put us in arrears again, but ten minutes from time a magnificent try, started on Trinity's 25 and ending with Hawkesworth going over in the corner again gave Trinity a single point lead. However, the match was lost when the ball was handled in a loose scrum and North made no mistake from the resulting penalty.

The forwards fought with great spirit, and more than held their own in the lineouts and loose play, although they could not hope to give any good ball from the tight scrums. Keane played well under constant pressure but McCombe had a quiet game and missed at least three shots at goal he would normally have kicked. The three-quarters' performance failed to inspire confidence; they still lack real penetration while their tackling was not up to its usual standard. Hutchinson's comeback to the first

team was clearly premature and Donovan's return to the centre can hardly be delayed much longer. Fresher Blake-Knox had an encouraging game on the wing; one hopes that he will be retained when Herron recovers from his injury and returns to the side. Murphy did not have one of his happiest days at full-back and he has quite a few problems to solve before announcing his Colours team.

Mike Segal.

HOCKEY

TRINITY COME FROM BEHIND TO WIN

Trinity 2; St. Ita's 1.

Trinity recorded a good win over St. Ita's in the 1st round of the Irish Senior Cup on Saturday. They attacked for much of the first half but were unable to translate their efforts into goals, hitting the post on one occasion. Just before half time St. Ita's took advantage of a Trinity defensive error and went ahead.

In the second half Trinity settled down and put much more effort into their game. Within a quarter of an hour they deservedly drew level, Douglas scoring with a good shot following a short corner. A tense struggle ensued with anxious moments at both ends. Breen was finally able to give Trinity their winning goal with a magnificent deflection following another short corner. The 2-1 result was essentially a team effort, but Captain John Douglas must be singled out as he had a splendid game in both defence and attack.

—DICK WATERBURY

FENCING REVIEW

Fencing Prospects

Tomorrow, Friday, Dublin University Fencing Club goes into action against Glasgow University in the first serious competitive match this season. When the two Universities last crossed swords in April Trinity came out decisively on top, so hopes are high for a repeat victory.

The D.U. Fencing Club currently holds the Irish Universities Championships, having won it for the 11th time in 14 years. Next term the Intervarsities will be held on home ground in Trinity, so there is a good chance of retaining the title.

Fencing in College has grown considerably in the last few years to the extent that it is rare not to have at least one Trinity fencer in the final of most significant Irish competitions. The one club in Ireland that clearly outranks Trinity is Salle Duffy Club in Sandymount, and to which most of the better Trinity fencers owe their success. Trinity fencers have in fact managed to take somewhere over 20 Irish titles in the last three years, largely due to the presence

of Professor Duffy as their official coach.

The Fencing Club has also managed to build up good relations with several European Clubs with relatively recent tours to Holland, Germany and Hungary. There are current invitations for the Club to visit Berlin and Scandinavia. Apart from this there are several clubs clamouring to visit Trinity and Ireland.

Trinity is gradually losing some of the fencers on whom it previously relied, but provided it can keep up good relations with all other Irish clubs it has a relatively bright future. How bright a future will be seen when Trinity faces the Glasgow team tomorrow.

C. O'Brien.

SQUASH

Troubled Days for Squash Club

Trinity Squash has for the last three years owed a lot to Bill Barr, last year's Captain, who has played seven times for Ireland. He won the Ulster championship last season and is now ranked third in Ireland. Encouraged by the achievements of Jonah Barrington, now the world's leading player, Barr is going to Australia next September for a year of Squash: it is a trip sponsored by a London stock-broking firm, which gives an indication of his potential.

However, despite this individual success, both Trinity teams are now bottom of the Dublin A League, having lost all their six matches. These poor results are largely due to a handicapping system which is based on the traditional strength of Trinity in this sport. This means that the best five players in College cannot play on the same team, but are instead distributed between the two teams so that they are of equal strength. In past years Trinity has been able to overcome this handicap to win the League on occasions. How-

ever, the system takes no account of the fluctuations in the playing strength of the club. Although there is a relative shortage of talent this year, if the best five players were in the same team they would have a good chance of winning the League.

The side had a tour to Scandinavia cancelled last year because of foot and mouth, but are hoping for better luck with their proposed trip to Holland and Belgium during the Christmas vacation, which could improve next term's results.

R. Pennant-Rea



Bill Barr, Trinity's No. 1 and Ireland's No. 3 Squash player.

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SOCCER

CUP KNOCKOUT FOR 1st XI

Trinity 0; St. Brendan's 4.

Trinity faced St. Brendan's in the second round of the Cup on Saturday in College Park and were duly beaten 4-0 with a minimum of resistance, thus adding to the other grim results this season. The club is now out of the Cup and without a single League point.

After last week's dismal performance a completely reshaped team took the field. Nelson, Hassard and Rooney were brought into the forward line in a 4-2-4 formation, while Boss came on as one of the twin centre-backs. Neither

side achieved anything for the first 25 minutes. The steadiness of Hamilton in goal contrasted with the play of the defenders in front of him. In the 26th minute a poor clearance by Boss allowed a St. Brendan's forward time to score with a magnificent 25-yard shot. Sheehy gave away a penalty nine minutes later to put Trinity two down.

Within two minutes of the restart St. Brendan's were allowed to go three up when one of their for-

wards intercepted a bad pass and had no trouble in scoring from close range. 11 minutes later Jackson and Smith missed a lob into the penalty area, thus leaving Hamilton once again helpless. In the remaining time Trinity came back into the game, and both Fitzsimmons and Hassard tested the opposing keeper with good shots. It is hoped that the club will soon find a settled team, and look for improvement on this basis.

D.W.

TRINITY DIARY

Suffragette Hysteria



The annual suffragette protest took place at the Hist. last week. It's special feature this year was the father-daughter alliance between the two camps. Charing the Hist meeting was Conor Cruise O'Brien: leading the Militants was daughter Kate Cruise O'Brien.

The meeting set out to debate the concept of 'a just war' but it was soon interrupted by Bill McCormick, who wanted to discuss the admission of women. As the furore grew Dr. O'Brien broke his saying he "could not be impartial on such principles." Dr. O'Brien had apparently agreed beforehand with his daughter to show his views. Hist member Brian Perrson accused Cruise O'Brien of "cheek and rudeness" in accepting the society's invitation. He was not, as he admitted himself, acting as chairman. Cruise O'Brien then walked out.

Mr. McCormick's motion was defeated, to the great annoyance

of a faction of the Society. The noisy and angry exchange between members of the audience completely drowned the speakers — some invited from Aberystwyth, Queen's, Durham, and U.C.D. The guest speakers sat silent and

amazed at the proceedings and the few that did manage to speak were drowned by the argument from the floor. The time spent on the question of women in the Hist precluded the others from even expressing their views.

Talkaround

Bill Barr, final year Honours Economics student is to spend a year in Australia playing squash. He is currently Ireland's No. 3 and hopes that his stay abroad, with much keener opposition than here, will sharpen his game and improve on his current position in the ratings. He is being sponsored by an English firm of stockbrokers and will therefore be able to concentrate solely on his game without the mundane problem of having to earn his living. There is no question of his turning professional at this stage but there are many who wonder what will become of **Phillipa Kennedy**.

Anonymous and **Mike Graves-Johnston** seem to have been pursuing sport of a different sort. Teenybopping as is their wont, last week they offered a girl a lift back to Drumcondra. On reaching her home the girl opened a cupboard full of whips which would have gladdened the eye of any self-respecting Borgia, and promptly requested that they allow her to beat them. **Mike**, of Flower Drum Song fame, promptly rushed from the building but what became of **Anon.** is not known.

Players, too, have their exciting moments. The whispers that 'Puss in Boots' will be the pantomime this term instead of the advertised 'Treasure Island,' stem from the birth of five kittens in the newly opened Green Room to one of the College cats, who chose this venue for a feline maternity ward. **Stephen Remington**, father-figure of the Society, denies paternity in this particular instance. Another piece of good news for Players is that their entry for the NUS festival has been deemed suitable for the programme in Exeter. The adjudicator saw the play, Strindberg's "The Creditors," directed by **Keith Hornby**, last Friday and said that he would certainly recommend it for inclusion.

The pavilion bar, however, is not enjoying such good fortune. Figures for last year show a loss of £80 and it would seem that the remark about propping up the bar could literally be applied here to beneficial effect.

Someone who cares no longer about such parochial issues is **Ben Morgan**, alluded to in this week's letter. **Ben**, who failed last year, has decided to cut his losses and leave Trinity and Dublin for London where he will work for a firm who specialise in installing sound equipment. **Charlotte** will no doubt be pleased with his decision as presumably will many left-wingers.

Stands the clock at ten to three

To those among us who do not possess a watch and to those who do and set it right by the clock at Front Gate, the fact that this worthy timepiece has been stopped several times recently may not have passed by altogether unnoticed. Time flies, we are told and so at first sight do the perpetrators of this stop-go policy with the forty-foot high clock. The modus operandi is however something far short of miraculous. It appears that the culprit or culprits first gain

access to the catwalk which runs round the top of Front Square by means of one of the emergency escape ladders which are at the top of each block. Thence they sidle round until they are above Regent House and behind the clock, whose pendulum they stop before beating a hasty retreat.

The motive for such actions is not easy to discover. **Kerry McDermott** and **Mike Finch** (who do not have honey for tea) are most perplexed by the whole issue.

TV DRAMA COMPETITION

BBC TV is organising a play competition open to all members of universities or colleges of education in the British Isles. Duplicate scripts of original material (never performed in any medium) must be sent in by 31st March. Plays must run for a scheduled fifty or seventy-five minutes of screen time and the first prize is £500, with deserving runners-up sharing £250 between them.

The BBC reserves option on all entries and may perform them on the television in the Wednesday Play series. This includes entries which do not win a prize. If performed, BBC will pay the standard fee to the author: £600 for 75 minutes, £400 for 50 minutes. This is in addition to any prize money already won.

Plays must have a contemporary setting and not involve too many sets, too large a cast or very much outdoor filming, which is expensive. Further details can be sent for to:

Student Play Competition,
BBC Television Centre,
London W.12.

It would be a pleasant surprise to see a Trinity student winning.

J. D. picketed

Last week the Junior Dean's rooms were picketed by a lone placard bearing Internationalist. The Internationalists called on the Junior Dean to explain himself. Whether this implied a specific issue or more generally the archaic function of his office was not abundantly clear, but apparently the J.D. declined to explain anything. When Trinity News tried to find the J.D. and ask him about his attitude to being picketed, he could not be found.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—I find the attitude displayed by Mr. Benjamin Morgan in his letter of Nov. 14th not appalling but frightening.

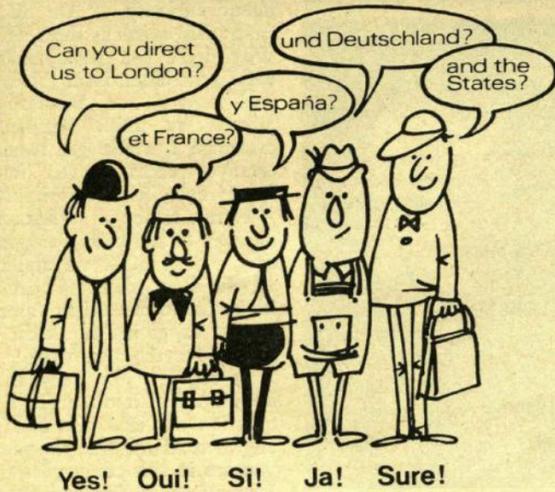
As humans we are responsible for all other humans; those who consider themselves responsible only for themselves are, I think, inhuman. Please excuse my high moral tone; I would refer you to St. Matthew, Ch. 25 vv. 40 but I don't think I will after all. As an eminent surgeon, Dr. Barnard is professionally responsible for humans, and indeed to divide politics from other facets of life is an impossibility (I refer to the true politics of what happens to you and me and them, not the facial squabbles and high-powered tiddlywinks that we see on TV and despise as such). Barnard and Benjamin and the readers of Trinity News and I are all inculcated in the estrangement and suppression of people, whether they be S. Africans, Rhodesians, Biafrans, Czechs, American Negroes or Brixtonians.

Nobody but S. Africa would be capable of accusing the MCC of "dragging politics into sports" when they had protested against D'Oliveira's exclusion, or would be capable of the hypocrisy which allows them to ignore the injustices in their own eyes and yet fire at the motes in their brother's eyes. **Ben** denounces UNSA for "bad manners": how well-mantered is Voorster's regime?

Because I believe this is wrong I sat (reluctantly, it is true) for six hours with 89 others on the floor of Heathrow Airport, to stop a S. African—a boy of 18, known by Immigration Control to have supported Anti Apartheid—from being deported back to Johannesburg and certain imprisonment. For dabbling in communist activities is a capital offence in S. Africa and this boy was doomed by the fact that he had "Cuba" stamped on his passport. We have since learnt that because his name was published in the papers, his friends and relations in Johannesburg were hounded by the police and subjected to hours of questioning; they can no longer consider themselves safe.

I would not attempt to dissuade Benjamin Morgan from his belief on moral grounds; I would not attempt to persuade him of anything, but I would ask him to watch for his own survival. He has chosen a good place to be a racist; a country where the few coloureds are generally of the "white mask" besuited and mini-minored type, and where, despite this, 98% of the landladies will not take them. But surely he and all of us must realise that the time is galloping towards us when the third world will lose patience and then no amount of concessions and Civil Rights campaigns will appease them. Benjamin Morgan and you and I will then be swallowed whole, irrespective of our former glories. — Yours etc.,

Elgy Gillespie.



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CUBA: Castro's new country

I find it hard to talk about Cuba; when I do try I come out with little oddments like phones being free in Havana or the popular trials held in the streets. I saw a lot in my two months, enough to know the daily curriculum and what they ate for breakfast. There were three days in a workers' holiday camp in Las Villas—where we all quarrelled about what to put in a telegram to Fidel, and were taken aback at the rally to find he didn't read it aloud after all. It was a mess of solidarities and liberation fronts which actually said nothing — the telegram, I mean.

The rally itself was a very domestic affair involving a crowd some five times that of the crowd you get in Trafalgar Square on a New Year's Eve. I could have shot Fidel with a pea-shooter from where I sat; up till that point I had been very uncomfortable in Cuba, since we arrived (having obtained permission from the Board of Trade only three days previously), completely ignorant of what we were going to do.

Guerillas

There had been a paragraph in the New York Herald Tribune, informing us that a party of 90 British students were going to Cuba to be trained in guerilla tactics and be indoctrinated. We rolled around the gangway of our shudderingly old Czech plane, mirthful for the whole 17 hours trip when we read that, but it was no reassurance to arrive in a luxurious camp to the strains of what sounded like 'Oh we do like to be beside the seaside' but was, in fact, the Cuban National Anthem, the Hymn of the Revolution, confronted by vast hoardings in the virgin palm trees, mangoes

and mountains, advertising youth: "Ver la juventud es vet non solamente l'energia pero tambien la capacidad" together with pictures of strapping mulattos examining test-tubes. It upset the older members of the party (two Irish navvies, a woman lawyer, a businessman) quite considerably. Then we had discovered that there were 700 other people in the camp, mostly European students it was true, but also representatives of all the Latin American countries, plus a negro jukebox mechanic obsessed with electro-magnetic transport, and all of them were fiercely playing the redder-than-thou game, at the same time being mostly even more bourgeois than I. Also the freeness-for-the-taking of everything in the camp: mosquito nets, boots, jeans, books, films (including 'Morgan'), guarapo juice—all except for stamps and maraccas—in return for four hours coffee planting, unleased me.

Castro Rally

When I saw Fidel at the rally I vaguely understood how Cuba was possible: how its eight million inhabitants will toil twelve hours a day, undergo sufficient but not luxurious rationing, love Castro with all their might, never covet worldly possessions and never take the name of Che in vain. He



Mass democracy: Castro addresses a crowd in Havana.

vara calls a 'tuning fork.' He would introduce a topic, explain it, explore it—all in easy words without making it simplistic—he would ask the fifteen-year-olds at the front what they thought; they would reply and he would enlarge from their reply. The crowd kept moving continually, it being 100°F and Fidel being good for another three hours at least. I asked a sugar caballeria champion if this meant respect for Castro had declined: "Oh no," he replied, "it's just that we've got over the emotional stage, we appreciate him intellectually now." When it was over I

gether' and 'The Seven Somurais' was showing at the local while 'Alvarez' documentaries showed on the side of a nearby wall. (In Havana I watched Mastroianna in 'Divorce, Italian Style' on the side of the vast students hostel).

After that we discovered the Russians had invaded Czechoslovakia. Consternation rife; Cubans were despondent "There are other kinds of imperialism than American." We waited for Fidel to weigh up publicly. A nasty moment, because we knew that if he defied the USSR 6/10ths of the sugar

of doors on the verandah that this doesn't seem to worry them. I discovered that the rations were enough, since one meal was handed out on the job if you worked; if you are a woman you are expected to put your children in their respective schools and nurseries and go out and work too; if you are living on a private income or compensation for property money you have to queue outside restaurants two or three times a week to supplement. Whoever you are, even if you're the director of the Book Institute, you are expected to do one paid day of tough agricultural work in the fields a week as part of the job; if you feel like going to one of the eastern provinces you again can go there plus family, or to the Isle of Pines, and be paid the rate of your normal job. In addition many people work voluntarily in the green belt on Sundays; I went along with some student nurses at six a.m. in a cattle truck to tend some gandhul beans one sweltering Sunday morning, but as always they were a bit apprehensive.

Short Skirts

They had not seen a European in their lives, being very young nurses, and their attitude was a mixture of intent curiosity ("Are all European girls' skirts as short as yours? Why don't you wear make-up?") debordant enthusiasm (if I hadn't the money for bus-fares and offered an Irish halfpenny in exchange I would get twenty-five centavo pieces shoved into my hand) exhaustless hospitality.

I grew weary of asking anybody the way to anywhere, knowing that they would insist on singing me all the Beatles' songs they knew, invite me to meet their family and persist in giving me their coffee rations for the next week.

In reply to the question "But does one feel free there?" I would question the existence of freedom anywhere. How free do you think you are in this country? I thought I was free in England till I discovered that, leaving for Havana, all our passports had been photographed by the MI5 "as a mere formality."

In Cuba you can worship as you like; churches are well-attended, free chicken blood and snakes are issued for the voodoo *santieros* (to avoid a black market. Medical aid and education are absolutely free and encouraged in every way, artists are given living wage grants to enable them to paint and write

● CONTINUED ON PAGE 5.

OUR WOMAN IN HAVANA

spoke only of how it had been a nasty year financially, how he was sorry that he'd only been able to give students two pairs of shoes each, how he was going to attempt the fixing of incomes gradually from the bottom up, because they couldn't afford to lose highly-paid doctors and scientists, how the eventual aim, he reminded them, was to abolish money altogether or just use it as a means of distribution—*patria o muerte, venceremos*. All through Fidel was what Gue-

felt I had been having a conversation with Castro about the family-budgeting over the kitchen table, throughout while he tickled his left nostril, chain-smoked and tugged his beard.

We spent countless afternoons visiting dams, community centres, farms, prisons (where I found many poems of despair and proverbs from the Bible on the wall), housing projects (which earned the approval of the Irish navvies, Eamonn and John, considering they were built with voluntary labour), schools, nurseries, the university, artificial seminarian centres and so on. We took great care to criticise all of them to make sure our discriminatory faculties were still alive, but when someone complained that the roses the patients in the mental home were planting were subversively red, I realised that the amount of sense and constructiveness Cuba could teach Ireland, a small country in much the same situation as pre-revolutionary Cuba, was incalculable.

Isle of Pines

The most idyllic part was the voyage across the peacock Caribbean to the Isle of Pines where we stayed in another workers' holiday camp by the sea, where supplies of chilled Bacardi were plentiful and where everything we visited in the way of plantations left us with armfuls of coconuts, water melons and day-old chicks (hatched in incubators that had been exchanged with Canada for the Bay of Pigs mercenaries). I wandered into a theatre in the town there, Nuevo Gerona, to find the Stones belting out 'Let's Spend the Night To-

harvest would stop going there and economically the situation would be desperate. On the other hand if he supported it the Americans might use it as a lever to attack Cuba. Besides, our plane was Czech and it had been lost somewhere in the furore; should we send for a gunboat? He supported it, but not without giving the Russians a hefty kick "Do they help Korea? Do they help Vietnam? Would they help us? Would



Fidel Castro.

we ask them to?" During this time the camp was claustrophobic. The French barricade-hardened stoics to the last discovered and denounced their CIA agent. Three planes of Dutch and Belgian students never arrived. I left for Havana and went to stay with various Cuban families; finding a place to stay wasn't difficult, though most Cuban families live in well-crammed conditions. They spend so much of their time out

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OPPOSING VIEWS ON STUDENTS' ROLE



In his President's report to the SRC, Alan Matthews proposed revolutionary changes in the University and in the SRC. It was too much for the SRC Council and he was defeated by the considerably less radical Adrian Bourke. This week Trinity News runs interviews with the two to show the gap between them and the decision the SRC Council had to make — between co-operation and revolution.



Bourke asks for Co-operation

Trinity News: What do you see as the role of the university?

Bourke: My idea is that it is the final phase in education. At university a student gets his training and he gets the most basic idea of what he's going to do when he leaves.

Trinity News: Do you agree with Alan Matthews that it needs reform?

Bourke: I am as disgusted as Alan Matthews is with the present

structure of the university and of Irish society. Where we basically differ is in the means of reforming it. His means is to get men who think the same way he does and then attack, attack, attack. My means are more subversive, I prefer to attack from within. It's only by the student taking part in the administration of College that he gets an awareness of what's going on outside, and gets disgusted with it, so when he goes outside he intends to alter it. I believe in co-operation, by throwing an issue up in the air to make a row about it, you're going to antagonise people.

Trinity News: How exactly are you going to get change through the SRC?

Bourke: I would certainly never change things by the method Alan advocates, by people of similar views coming together to do something. I believe firmly that the authorities of Trinity understand fully the problems of students. They're not going to be herded into altering things. We've got to come up with a damn good reason why they should be changed. There is no use screaming it ought to, it should be changed. That's dreaming, wishful thinking.

Trinity News: In his President's report Alan Matthews made four criticisms of the present SRC. What do you think of them; taking the first one — that the SRC is based on the belief that the aims of authorities are ultimately the same as the students?

Bourke: Alan's criticism is an unthought-out generalism. That would mean the Agent for example is there just serving the staff and not giving a damn about the students. No, the SRC must work with the establishment provided it's not led up the garden path. But it's not my belief the SRC is being so led. For instance, I don't take the view that the new Board Committees are a fob.

Trinity News: Matthews second criticism was that there was no basis for unity with 36 SRC councillors all having conflicting ideas.

Bourke: I sincerely hope that many conflicting ideas will emerge. I refuse to believe that any SRC decision, on the Merger for example, is the best one.

Trinity News: Thirdly Matthews spoke of the gap between the SRC and the main student body.

Bourke: SRC is going to the students. I've had three complaints in the last five days and I'm taking each one up personally as a kind of ex-officio ombudsman. Joe Revington is setting up a Welfare Committee to find out what students want, not what Alan Matthews wants, but what Joe Bloggs in first year Business Studies wants. He's going out into the highways and byways to find out what the consensus of students want. I'm not interested in the Great Left of Trinity, they can look after themselves. I'm interested in the other three thousand and what they want.

Matthews argues Revolution

Trinity News: What is your view of the role of the university?

Matthews: At the moment the role is quite clear, it is an economic one providing technicians, administrators and so on for society. The university's function ought to be forwarding the interests of the oppressed class, those who are denied economic power.

Trinity News: Isn't it necessary that society be changed for the type of university you want to exist?

Matthews: Yes, that's true. We must have a revolution in society before the university can serve its proper function.

Trinity News: Can the SRC be used to change the university? Bourke says this can be done effectively only from within the system.

Matthews: I think when Adrian Bourke and I are talking about change we're talking about two different things. The type of change the SRC can carry out through talking to the authorities is aimed merely at increasing the comfort of students. The change I want to see is in the political awareness of students. This is change that would oppose the characteristics of our educational system. If in fact this was achieved with all the upheavals it would entail I don't think people would worry too much about dingy digs and so on. By dealing with minor matters the SRC is going off into byways which will actively hinder the second type of change. Obviously it is better to work with the authorities for the first type, but for the second it is impossible, because the authorities are opposed to the students. They have to be.

Trinity News: What can be done to achieve this second type of change?

Matthews: By opposing the various parts of the educational system which are related to the

needs of capitalism. There are four main areas. Firstly and most importantly is the oppression, or as I prefer to call it, the deprivation of students. The whole purpose of learning at the moment is not so that the student will be able to use his knowledge, but so that he can pass an exam. What should happen is that the students should learn facts because they will be needed in the next stage of their inquiry.

Secondly, research. It should be used as a teaching method; at the moment it is done not from the student's point of view, but for the people who finance it, the drug firms and so on.

Thirdly, there are the arbitrary educational decisions. These run from lack of consultation over the Merger to arbitrary exam results.

Fourthly there is no attempt to relate theoretical knowledge to practical problems.

Trinity News: You have criticised the SRC for having no basis for unity. Bourke argues that conflicting ideas are vital.

Matthews: The lines of thought in the SRC aren't really conflicting in the context of the types of change I was talking about. Really the only arguments they can have are in the priorities they attach to various issues. Over the Merger, for example, they've got to find out whether it will increase the 'comfort' of students. In a general sense, any action immediately implies the domination of one line; one must allow continuous criticism from minorities which disagree.

Trinity News: Bourke argues that if you had become president you would have been unrepresentative of the students as a whole.

Matthews: I don't believe the electoral type of democracy gives a good view of what students want. I would have acted on what I believed on any particular occasion to be correct, and if students didn't agree they could resort to the ultimate sanction.

CUBA: Our woman in Havana—contd.

as they wish, sports are free, phones are free, one cannot go hungry or ill-clothed even if one does not work. Illiteracy is virtually wiped out. Before, 70% could neither read nor write. You would not write 'I hate Castro' on the pavement outside the Havana Libre Hotel, but if you harboured a grudge against the revolution (and those that did came and told me so) it would be the social pressure of your neighbour's contrary opinions rather than bayonet-point dramatics that would cause you to feel constrained. This was explained to me by a Cuban called Johnny, who came back to Cuba before the crisis, in '61; "If you have three men in a factory, all union members and all getting the same, but two of them do voluntary overtime and the third doesn't, the third is going to feel hard done by if the others don't let him speak because of it. "The counter-revolutionaries I met usually gave their reasons as the shortage of beer, the closing of the nightclubs, the fact that their hot-dog businesses had been closed down, that they had been tourist guides and there were now no more tourists, or that because of the severe economic embargo which impedes Cuba from attaining most of the goods she needs—

biro-points are rare. As for writing, there is no centralised censorship, but panels made up of other artists. Indeed, a film which a lot of my party considered counter-revolutionary was running in central Havana when I was there. There is a fierce anti-bureaucratic feeling. For instance, the owners of new houses were asked where they wanted their inside walls to be.

Miller's Criticism

Nick Miller's indefensible criticism that Cuba only became communist because America wouldn't aid them before the crisis, I cannot answer, only observing that it is now communist; (I saw a union election at a tobacco factory, various Revolution Defence committees and popular street trials, and was satisfied that it is a popularised country) and that if you look at the articles of the 1940 Constitution and the writings of Marti, the anti-Spanish revolutionary, which are what Castro had supported since his attack (fruitless) on Moncada barracks in '53, you will find it surprisingly socialist. I don't usually think of ends justifying means, but taking into consideration the fact that 90 miles from Florida is a bad place to go red anyway, I would think it has done so successfully here. It was small things like no advertising, fewness of cars, and people handling a lot of money with little to spend it on except restaurants, that took getting used to; but now I have acclimatised myself to Cuba and cannot reacclimatise myself to the humilities of capitalism. I still sometimes expect to wake in a haze of white mosquito net and feel pained when it isn't there. If you would like to visit, write to the Secretary, 23 Hamilton Gardens, London NW8.

Elgy Gillespie

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ARTS PAGE

Dedicated to Keith, Gordon, Maurice and the Vice Squad, who uncompromisingly pursue that which makes them happy.

A DRAMATIC STRINDBERG

Strindberg may not have been the inventor of the "well-made play," but "The Creditor" is one of those tight, self-sufficient plays where everything links up with everything else and the whole thing is set in high drama. It is like Ibsen and Miller. If there is a knife on stage it will be used, if there is a door it will be opened, if there are three characters (and there are) each one will have a scene with each other.

The plot is basically a *menage á trois*, with an ex-husband attempting to revenge himself upon his former wife and her new husband. A consistent theme is the responsibility of each man for himself and for others in a world without God; everyone is a creditor and has a creditor.

Julian Brett plays the former husband, Ludvig, with uncompromising complexity. Complexity is a dangerous thing for an actor, especially in a one-act play; it is difficult to be both effective and subtle, indeed it is impossible unless the actor has a firm grip on the character beneath its changes and moods. Julian Brett has this kind of grip and can afford to

be a goading Iago and a middle-aged man who is aware of his own loneliness, aware that he has severed his last human connection in the course of taking his revenge.

The husband, Adolph, played by Jeremy Kynaston, has been wrought to a pitch of hysteria in the eight days of Gustav's visit, prior to the action. Mr. Kynaston has accomplished the difficult task of justifying the intensity with which his performance must therefore open. Adolph is an invalid, a cripple, and Mr. Kynaston reconciles the invalidism with the dynamism of his character by capturing a feverish quality.

Noelle Douglas, in the role of Tekla, Adolph's wife and Gustav's former wife, has also opted for a complex interpretation. The part can be played as a flirtatious bitch, but to do so would change the nature of Gustav's and Adolph's tragedy. Tekla must be a more profoundly attractive woman than a mere flirt. Understanding this, Miss Douglas attempts to give her character a deep understanding of the scene, an almost ironic control showing through in her reading of each line. This is one way of attaining the necessary profundity of the character, but it conflicts with the master-mind aspects of Gustav, and renders slightly unconvincing the case with which

Tekla is seduced by her first husband.

As a curtain-raiser for the long one-act of "The Creditors," Mr. Hornby has chosen Strindberg's "The Stronger," a very short monologue addressed to a silent woman by her friend. It is not a very good play. The gimmick is rather too apparent in having one character silent, and the territory which is covered by the speaker is too broad to sound more than glib. In the five-minute speech we are to learn about their friendship, their struggle for the same man, the hatred and jealousy which came out of this struggle, and the contrast between the sterility of the theatre with a home life and children.

To all this Mr. Hornby has unfortunately seen fit to add a lesbian note, in an attempt to add some life to the play. The experience was not unlike eating a whole salmon on a thin biscuit. Angela Madigan and Susan Hughes acted the speaking part on alternate nights. Miss Hughes emphasised the fact that her character was an actress and played the scene aggressively, Miss Madigan underplayed and looked more for the sympathy in the character. Both actresses tried, but the play and the direction were all against them. **Daniel Shine.**

WILLIAM BURROUGHS
(author of 'The Naked Lunch,' 'Nova Express,'
'Dead Fingers Talk,' 'Junkie,' etc.)

and
DOM SYLVESTER HOUEDARD
(famed concrete poet)

are at present both in Ireland. It is hoped to arrange a reading for these two avant-garde writers (their first in this country). This will probably be on FRIDAY (tomorrow) at the Folk Song Society in the Dixon Hall.

WATCH FOR NOTICES

Films in Dublin

'HANG 'EM HIGH' (Savoy) is an American attempt at reproducing the Italian Western Movies' success ('A Fistful of Dollars,' etc.) which also starred Clint Eastwood. Although the American version incorporates some of the Italian trademarks — extreme violence, flat photography, lack of emotion — it differs basically in that like traditional-style westerns, it has a moral: that of bringing justice to a new territory. The hero, unlike the totally self-sufficient, money motivated hero of 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly,' actually gets interested in a woman — although his love scenes are disappointing when compared with his killing scenes. 'VILLA RIDES' (Carlton) is a glamourised tale of the Mexican 'Revolution' led by the bandit (shades of 'Salvatore Giuliano') hero Pancho Villa. The film does not attempt an evaluation of the revolution ('International Socialist' criticised it as a petty-bourgeois entertainment) and is more in the mould of 'The Magnificent Seven' with Yul Brynner as the Robin Hood with a devotion to the leader he thinks is right, Charles Bronson as the humourously cold-hearted killer, and Robert Mitchum looking marvellously drunk/sleepy. It is a good entertainment film with well constructed (not model) battle scenes. Fortunately these are not the only thing in the film, as is the case in 'Epics' and it is interesting to see Brynner with hair, even if it is only a wig. All this week's films seem to be in the category of adventure/tough. Frank Sinatra in 'THE

DETECTIVE' (Capitol) is a sympathetic New York cop who runs the gamut of a nymphomaniac wife (with psychological troubles from her childhood) drug addiction (heroin not pot as the 'Evening Herald' fails to distinguish), queers, homicides and so forth. Shots of New York in the early morning — predictable but nevertheless exciting, if you like hard cop movies.

Billy Wilder has lost the sense of humour that sent everyone back to "Some Like it Hot" time and again. "THE ODD COUPLE" features Jack Lemmon doing the same balless stunt once too often, Walter Matthau, who is funny sometimes, and a host of the usual stock comedians. The basic joke is two men deprived of their wives (in humorous ways) who set up house together and make a mess of it.

Players' Worries

Last Friday Players held an Extraordinary General Meeting for the purpose of bread and butter changes to the Constitution. The interesting part of the meeting was the Chairman's (STEPHEN REMINGTON) statement of his fears about Players. These were that members of the Society are becoming almost totally apathetic, except a hard-core minority, and that people are only interested in the glamorous jobs and not the hard work. It was rather strange to hear him say that the Society might be in danger of folding when ostensibly it is flourishing with the new 'Green Room' and so forth. It would be a grave pity if 'Players' failed and a solution must be found to revitalise the Society and to get people interested in the theatre. Perhaps the answer would be experimental work groups and more communication — interaction within the Society. Theatre people take heed and DO SOMETHING.

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News in the Arts

Marston/Brecht

Players' Term Production, which starts in a week's time, Marston's 'The Malcontent,' is going to be shown at Castletown House (Desmond Guinness' Georgian Society Showpiece). The play will be shown in the kitchen, which is more of a Great Hall, to people who are prepared to pay about £1 for play, dinner and claret cup at the interval. Veering strongly from High Society and its trappings, Players are arranging a BRECHT STUDY GROUP in collaboration with the German Embassy and the Institute of German Culture.

Blues Assembly

Trinity's home-grown Blues Group is on the verge of breaking into the Irish Pop(?) scene. Two dates at the Countdown (Mary Street) as a sole attraction — does Blues go with a suburban discotheque atmosphere? — and a much appreciated evening for a 'jeans' audience at the Art Society have led to further bookings at the Countdown and a booking at the APARTMENT Club. Strong hopes that the group are not influenced by Irish promoters to stop playing blues in favour of commercial rubbish.

Free Library

The new Art Society's building is the home of the first FREE library in Dublin. The idea behind this is to get away from bureaucracy — there will be no membership list (the Mod. Lang. Lending Library now imposes exorbitant fines for late books), anyone can take books out. It is hoped they will contribute books in return. They range from trash novels to back copies of the Catholic Standard and the Village Voice to serious novels. The venture is based on trust. Perhaps if you do trust people they repay that trust. Perhaps it will prove there really is something wrong with the New Library Military Regime.

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Analysis

GRANT SCHEME — NOT ENOUGH

NEIL HOLMAN

In recent years British students have managed to live far more comfortably than their Irish counterparts. In addition to a maintenance grant (The maximum of which has just been raised from £340 to £360), the Local Education Authorities pay fees, all travelling expenses above £4 a term, and vacation grants which cover the costs of extra curricular courses and revision for exams done outside the term. Thus a student often receives a sum well in excess of £400 — adequate support for that portion of the year he spends studying—and is left free to earn money during the vacations.

The recipient of a large grant is, to a great extent, financially independent of his parents, but is, however, completely at the mercy of the Government. Although the grant has just been increased it has not kept pace with the cost of living and students are powerless to stop it devaluing still further. They are in no position to negotiate increases with the Government, to whom they contribute little.

Up to this year there was no financial aid for Irish students: While in theory nobody in England need be excluded from university on grounds of poverty, in Ireland the son or daughter of a professional man stood fifty-two times more chance of reaching higher education than the child of a labourer.

Then this year the Bank of Ireland launched a loan scheme for post-graduate and final year students while the Government began paying grants to students with parents in the lower income groups. As well as satisfying the financial requirements,

applicants for grants must obtain at least four honours in the Leaving Certificate examination. Only students who entered university and took their Leaving Certificate examination this year are eligible to receive money.

USI have launched a massive campaign to have the grants extended firstly to those students who took the Leaving Certificate ex-

Students in receipt of grants may not take up jobs during the vacation

amination before 1968, but only entered college this year; secondly to all students at present in College who satisfy the financial and academic requirements but are excluded because they came to College

before the grants scheme began. Last Friday the Minister for Education, Mr. Lenihan, rejected these demands on the grounds that they were excessive.

Only 6% of Irish students are at present receiving a grant. They receive up to £300 but this has to include fees, travel, and all other expenses. Nor can it be supplemented by the student because the Ministry for Education has recently decreed that students in receipt of grants may not take up jobs during the vacation. In cases where parents cannot support the student £300 is a totally inadequate sum to finance a year's study.

There are further criticisms of the Grants scheme and further questions that the Government has left unanswered. They have not made it clear whether grants will be available to post-graduate students or to students studying outside the State. There are inconsistencies in the scale used for determining the size of the grants,



Mr. Lenihan

and it has been suggested that because of the means test, a social stigma will ultimately become attached to the receipt of a grant.

In spite of the USI's campaign,—petitioning T.D.s, lobbying the Ministry for Education, organising marches and distributing leaflets—they have in reality, very little bargaining power in trying to bring about early reforms. At the moment the Government seem to be taking a very high-handed approach to student demands. Their scheme has so far been hall-marked by gross miscalculation and confusion. Justice demands that the scheme should be reformed and it is hoped that justice will prevail.



Howard Kinley, President of USI.

Richter's Musical Climax

As with Russian interpretation of ballet, SVIATOSLAV RICHTER suggests that art is an expulsion of the passions rather than a refinement.

The piano is a barbarous instrument that has to be alternately thumped and tickled; they become symbiotic to a degree where Richter and the piano are no more separable than ego and superego.

His approach to the piano is devoid of flourishes, religious veneration or Semprini-type cosiness; like a fat twelve-year-old he bites straight into it as though it

were a Procca-loaf and he very hungry.

This wasn't the best of techniques, I felt, for the Bach Suite No. 2. The piano lacks the power to suspend sounds the way an organ can, swirling them inside your head when they're no longer physically present. Since Bach wrote them for organ, it requires, I think, a player capable of generating a cathedral glow or reverence to transpire the bare exercise of wheeling progressions. My theory is that it should be played by a woman, since women go about Bach in a less methodical, more

subjective way. And I don't mean Myra Hess, though she knew 'how to make mathematics humane' as Tarquin in Durrells "The Black Book" describes Bach.

The Beethoven, the 'Eroica' (Fifteen Variations and Fugue) was again executed with hostile perfection. In parts I felt Richter didn't like the music; written in the earlier (not earliest) stage of Beethoven's life, it lacks a fine ordering of the sense of dramatic timing. But I have to confess I spent most of it with my ear cleaved to the crack in the sound-proof doors hearing damn all.

But the Mussorgsky would have been worth lying prostrate on the roof of the R.D.S. with ear crushed against the tiles. The promenade is one of those themes that everybody knows (re-do-fa-soh / doh / la-fa-soh-re-doh) because it's used for documentaries about expeditions to the North Pole but, in fact, "Pictures from an Exhibition" is a description of the pictures and drawings at Hartmann's posthumous exposition in Moscow, 1874. It is an extraordinary work for its time; Mussorgsky, a close friend of Victor Hartmann, is depicting the bareness of his Hartmannless world, the warmth residual in the gallery and the strength of his drawing, bringing you back to the misery of his absence. Ravel's famous orchestration was, people generally think, an improvement, since it fleshed the bones of the music, especially in the glorious final "La porte des Bohatyr de Kiev" which Ravel adorned replete with Gothic ornamentation, buttresses and bells in fitting monumentality. But Richter reminds us that it was not the gates, just a drawing of the gates, and the starkness of the single piano is not inadequate, but pathetic and lonely, full of faded but moving majesty. Oh, Eisenstein.

This unbelievable delivery was justly cheered, acclaimed, encored. So Richter reappeared in the nonsense way of a People's Artist of the USSR and—to prove he could be delicate and that he preferred the 20th century — performed (I think) one of Debussy's 'Romanische' with his usual confidence, entirely from memory (again, as usual).

Brought up in the Ukraine and Odessa trained under Neuhaus in Moscow and Nadia Boulanger in Paris, Richter must have seen sizeable chunks of interesting history. Unfortunately, he doesn't speak a word of English. I hope he comes back again; arranged at four weeks' notice, the concert was the musical climax of the year.

E.G.

20 Gauloises. Gone.

Twenty firm white columns of rich pungent French tobacco. Gone.

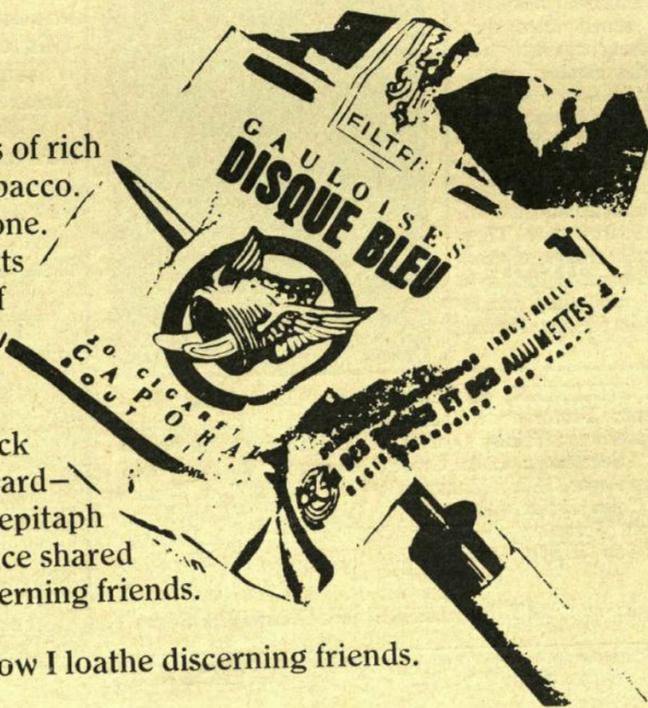
Twenty white-tipped butts scattered over the wake of yet another day.

One crumpled blue and white pack lies spent on alien sward— sad epitaph

+ to five and fourpence shared among discerning friends.

How I loathe discerning friends.

+ PRE-BUDGET PRICE



3,000 STUDENTS REJECT MERGER

OVER 3,000 students attended the Teach-in on the Merger held in UCD last Friday. Though the majority of students were from UCD, there was a large contingent from Trinity. From the audience's reaction to the speakers it soon became clear that the mood of the meeting was predominantly anti-Merger. Speakers included a cross-section of staff and students from UCD and Alan Matthews, Tommy Murtagh and Senator Sheehy-Skeffington from Trinity.

Alan Matthews thought that the Government were not trying to solve a far greater problem, the lack of equality in higher education: a middle class child has a 33% chance of going to university but the child of a labourer of 0.3%. He claimed that the Government had never been on the side of students and they were interested in higher education for two unsatisfactory reasons. The first is that it is a good investment plan: young people are being trained to take over the managerial and administrative positions in the country. Secondly, according to the Taoiseach, the country develop a

good image abroad if they invest a lot in education.

Mr. Tommy Murtagh, lecturer in French, said that students had to bring pressure to bear to win their demands. He urged the audience not to be duped by apparent concessions offered by the authorities, students cannot afford to accept them.

He outlined two effects the Merger would have: firstly a clerical influence would begin to permeate through many courses, and secondly that the Government would, to a large extent, run the new university and he added, that having seen the way they handled

the Referendum they should not be allowed to tamper with a thing as vital as education. He finished by saying that if students' demands were rejected they should use the workers' weapon—strikes. Mr. Murtagh's speech was greeted with standing applause.

Only one of the important speakers, Senator Garret Fitzgerald, Economics lecturer at UCD spoke in favour of the Merger.

MENTAL BREAKDOWN

I n an interesting and amusing meeting at the Eliz last week Dr. Melia, the college psychiatrist, and Mr. Poole, behavioural psychologist, led the discussion on "Mental Breakdown."

Dr. Melia considered that mental breakdown was based on our primitive reactions to anxiety which are totally inappropriate in the modern world and therefore led to a build-up of prolonged physical reactions which gave rise to unpleasant symptoms. He said that the most important sources of stress laid rested between our work, sexual and social lives. In concluding, he said that the reliance by Trinity students on the wondrous powers of alcohol sublimated most of these stresses.

Mr. Poole suggested that students were generally more susceptible to mental breakdown because of greater isolation, social rejection and internal conflict. He also criticised the exam system which, he claimed, led to a permanent state of conditioned anxiety.



Mac Liammoir draws Crowd

The Phil was packed to capacity on Thursday night when Michael MacLiammoir was a guest of the Society at Richard Pine's reading of his paper, "Oscar Wilde, Saint or Sodomite?"

Pine spoke of Wilde's status as the "founder of English aestheticism," his trial for Sodomy as a consequence of his "frivolous love affair" with Lord Alfred Douglas, and his death in "poverty and dishonourable squalor," in Paris in 1897.

Calling Wilde an "entertainer and brilliant wit," Pine also described Wilde as a man with a "soul so heavy with some grief as to have often written his own epitaph."

MacLiammoir praised the "Sensitivity" of Pine's paper but

objected to his statement that Wilde's relationship with Douglas was "frivolous." Rather, MacLiammoir said, it was a "profound and lasting passion." He spoke of the man's "undeniable selfhood," and commented that Wilde was "no more fitted for tragedy than Shakespeare's Desdemon."

The tragedy of Wilde, he said, was "heightened by the fact that he was so essentially joyous," "a congenial, good humoured and perfectly mannered wit."

This week's stories by: The News Editor, Neil Holman, Sue Tarrants, John McClancy, John McLaughlin, Paul Tansey, Eamonn McCann, Margaret Barry, Tom Roche, Piers McCausland.

UNSA Explain Protest

Replying to Ben Morgan's criticism of their demonstration during Dr. Barnard's visit last week, UNSA stated that they were demonstrating against "the gross inhumanities involved in the apartheid policy in South Africa." In a letter to Trinity News, signed by all the committee, they criticised Dr. Barnard for not speaking out against apartheid and felt that they had to remind students of the situation in South Africa. They rejected Morgan's charge of bad manners and damage to Trinity's reputation and said they would demonstrate again in any similar case.

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News Photographs by: RAY McALEESE and CHARLES SCOTT.

Trinity News

Dublin

Thursday, 21st November, 1968.

Trinity News takes a line on academic freedom

The university's function is to train people to fill jobs. An economist, for instance, is trained to deal with the range of problems that will arise in his government or ISI post.

Teaching is therefore primarily concerned to pass on a specific range of knowledge and facts that are useful for the job. It is consequently designed on certain lines. The lecturer, possessing the necessary experience, transfers it to the passive notebooks of the students. At the end the student's ability to regurgitate this knowledge is measured by exams (or now more and more, by 'continual assessment') and he is passed into society a graded, labelled package.

Thus it is that the present teaching system is limiting and in a sense oppressive. It allows only a certain range of theory to be examined. Basic criticism is stifled or at best not encouraged.

This is not what the university's function should be—nor is it the result it should be achieving. The aim should be to develop the student's understanding. The result should be that the fullest range of practical and theoretical frameworks are examined. This can be done only by disassociating the university from the job-role. For it is this association, working through the assessment system which is the limiting factor. Assessment, which assumes the all powerful authority of the teacher, should be abolished. The lecture system too must be changed, and lectures become an opportunity to develop ideas under the guidance and encouragement of the lecturer. A full range of alternative theories can be examined and subjected to criticism. The present rigidified structure must be freed of its old bonds and a completely flexible one substituted.

The charge most often levelled by critics against such a change is ivory towerism—theory and the hard, practical world are divorced. We will still, they say, need trained economists, scientists, etc. In fact an academically free university will produce far better economists and scientists. For they will be people able to take a much wider view of their jobs and ready to examine a greater range of alternatives. They will in short, be broader, more flexible job fillers.

The present university system cannot be modified to allow such change, for the lecturers as a group have themselves been trained to fill a specific role — passing on knowledge — and to think of this as the limit of their job. This feed-back mechanism ensures that the present structure is self-perpetuating. A revolution at attitudes and of structure is therefore necessary.

The first implies lecturers must be prepared to guide, not to dictate. The second means that all assessment must be dropped.

This means the basis of student action against the authority must change—at the moment it is based only on increasing "comfort" of the university.

New Computer

A new computer, worth approximately £200,000, is being installed in the Fellows Garden and is expected to be completed by the month. It will be used by the Library but also for teaching and research and will be available to staff and students through terminals based in special rooms.



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MARCUS COLLIE WILL READ HIS PAPER:

FRENCH CANADA

Distinguished Visitors:

PROF. ROBERT MACKENZIE, PROF. JEAN BLONDEL.

G.M.B. 8.15 p.m. (Tea 7.45)

Private Business