

Trinity News

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Thursday, 17th April, 1969.

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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STUDENTS REPRESENTED ON COLLEGE BOARD



Adrian Bourke.

In what SRC President Adrian Bourke called a victory for the "power of negotiation" the Board of Trinity College decided earlier this week to invite two representatives of the students to attend future meetings of the Board.

The statement issued by the Board added that "due to the limitations in the existing Statutes, students cannot become full members of the Board and the decision to permit them to be represented at the Board is without prejudice to future legislation affecting the Statutes of the College."

In view of the new method of election by which the President and Vice-President of the Students' Representative Council will be elected by general suffrage of the students, the Board has further decided that as from the next election these officers of the Students' Representative Council shall represent the students at Board Meetings.

As a result of this it will be the first time in Ireland or Great Britain that students will have been admitted to the supreme governing body of a university. The students will not only have a voice in the running of the College, but their representatives will serve as a direct link between Board and students. The representatives will not have voting powers, however, but Bourke sees the move as "the first step on what I hope will be a movement towards full Board representation for students."

As it will be the President and Vice-President of the SRC who will represent the students, the Presidential elections on 22nd April will now acquire an added status and significance, since the statement marks the recognition by the College authorities of the SRC as the primary student body in College.

KENNELLY SLAMS MINDLESS VANDALISM

Brendan Kennelly, Assistant Junior Dean, has hit out at the outbreak of vandalism which plagued College last term. While admitting that much of the damage was probably caused when those responsible were under the influence of alcohol, he deplored the "cowardliness of deeds done in the dark."

While vandalism as such is not a phenomenon new to Trinity it reached almost epidemic proportions last term. Doors and locks were smashed, toilets destroyed, water pipes torn from the walls, and 36 windows broken in the last 10 days of term alone. Those responsible do not seem to realise that it requires little intelligence or bravery to commit such senseless actions, especially as most are committed under cover of darkness. It is not without relevance that most of the offences are the work of one particular section of the student population. While there has always been an element in College of the opinion that drunkenness is next to godliness it has only of late begun to really annoy the rest with its escapades.

Quite apart from the considerable waste of time and money which is spent to repair the damage caused, there is also the inconvenience given to the skips. They have quite enough work to do without wondering what new damage may greet them afresh each morning.



Brendan Kennelly.

This whole question of student vandalism has been brought to the attention of the Disciplinary Committee and they have stated that duly severe penalties will be imposed on anyone found committing such offences. But is this the real solution? Dr. Kennelly feels personally that stiffer penalties are not the only solution. He believes that it might be better to try and show the culprits the essential pettiness of their actions, and asked "those responsible to develop a sense of responsibility." Trinity surely has enough financial worries without that caused by vandals, so let us hope that the children responsible may soon come of age.

NEW RULE GOVERNING SOCIETIES' MEETINGS

On request from the Provost the student/staff Disciplinary Committee have investigated into the disturbances which occurred during the last open meeting of DUBES.

The report was received by the Board of the College who noted that in any case no charges were to be levied against individual students by the College Deans. While agreeing that no action should be taken on this particular incident, the Board deplored the fact that societies or groups within College should have interfered with the freedom of another student society to conduct its normal business, and considered it necessary to formulate a regulation to prevent a repetition of any similar occurrence. The Board has accepted the recommendations made by the Disciplinary Committee to this end, and the new ruling came into effect at the beginning of the Trinity Term. It is as follows:

"It shall be an offence for any

member of the College, either individually or acting in concert with other persons, to prevent access to and egress from any public meeting of a club or society or to any public meeting or lecture held within the College. It shall also be an offence to impede members from attending a private meeting of a club or society.

In the event of such prevention or impeding of access or egress, a Dean or Assistant Dean shall request any person imposing the restriction to desist. Any member of the College who refuses to accede to such request will be guilty of a further offence. Should such refusal lead to the abandonment of a meeting or lecture those concerned will be guilty of a grave offence."

CATERING INNOVATIONS

The Catering Committee have taken steps to improve the standard of food in the Buffet. The first staircase will serve a meal consisting of soup, a main course, and a sweet at the very reasonable price of less than five shillings. The other two counters will continue to serve meals of a similar nature to those in the past.

One interesting innovation is the introduction of health foods to attract more female students who previously had cause to fear the fattening qualities of the food in the Buffet.

In an attempt to further improve standards there are now suggestion boxes to allow students to give their views on possible improvements. A questionnaire is being organised also which will be phrased by psychologists, and the results analysed by Paddy Lyons and Mr. Dillon Malone.

The suggestion boxes did not prove productive on the first collection. There was a request for tobacco to be on sale, someone praising Cornish pasties, and 6½d. in change!

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College Organ

There is a new organ in the College Chapel which has been provided through the generosity of the College Trust and many friends of Trinity. The Gazette states that the Secretary of the Organ Committee which has been formed to look after the organs in College is the Reverend J. T. F. Patterson. All inquiries about organs should be made to him. For enthusiasts of organ music there will be a lunch-time recital by Dr. Joseph Grocock on the 22nd April in College Chapel.



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G.M.B.

SPORTS NEWS

SHOOTING

Narrow Defeat in Colours Match

In the annual 'needle match' against Queen's University, Belfast, the D.U.R.C. eight scored a best performance of 1538 ex 1600 — better than 96 per target — to break the record for the match. However, the Queen's side, obviously more at home on their own range, finished strongly to win by the narrow margin of 6 points.

Team: M. Maxwell; H. Carslake; O. Catchpole; J. Martin; D. Agnew; S. Greer; J. McGing; C. Hansard.

M. Maxwell and D. Agnew were replaced by J. Waite and R. Horton-Smith when the team travelled to Scotland for their first ever tour. Only average scores were returned in losing to Edinburgh University, Heriot-Watt and Strathclyde, but the high point of the 5 day tour was undoubtedly an unexpected victory over Dundee University, current Scottish University Champions, by 1515 points to 1508.

Will clubs please note that all contributions and results must be given to the Sports Editor, No. 9.34 not later than midnight on Saturday.

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RUGBY

1st XV REACH CUP FINAL

Blackrock 9; Trinity 14.

A fine try from Trinity's captain, Murphy, two minutes from the final whistle gave the College team victory over Blackrock and a place in the Leinster Senior Cup final for the first time in 9 years.

Trinity, playing with the wind, started well and took the lead after two minutes when Hutchinson, playing at out-half in place of McCombe, dropped a fine goal from 25 yards. Trinity went further ahead after 20 minutes when Donovan ran through to score a try in the corner which Murphy failed to convert. At this stage Trinity seemed to be well on top but the Blackrock pack fought back strongly and Trinity conceded two penalties which were converted by Butler, making the half-time score 6 points each.

Blackrock, now playing with the wind, started the second half with great spirit but following a scrum 5 yards from the Blackrock line Trinity took the lead again when scrum-half Keane broke on the open side and, when tackled, passed inside to Hawkesworth who crashed over for a try. Murphy failed to convert.

Blackrock then levelled the score with a third penalty by Butler and it was not until the final two minutes that Murphy clinched the match for Trinity with a try which he converted himself.

Trinity's opponents in the final next Saturday will be St. Mary's who crushed UCD 27-6 in the other semi-final. We hope that with the return of McCombe, Trinity will play better rugby than last Saturday and will overcome their tendency to make expensive mistakes in their own half. Trinity will be favourites to win the final, and it is to be hoped that they do this by playing the bright attacking football that has so characterised their game this season, and was so lacking last Saturday.

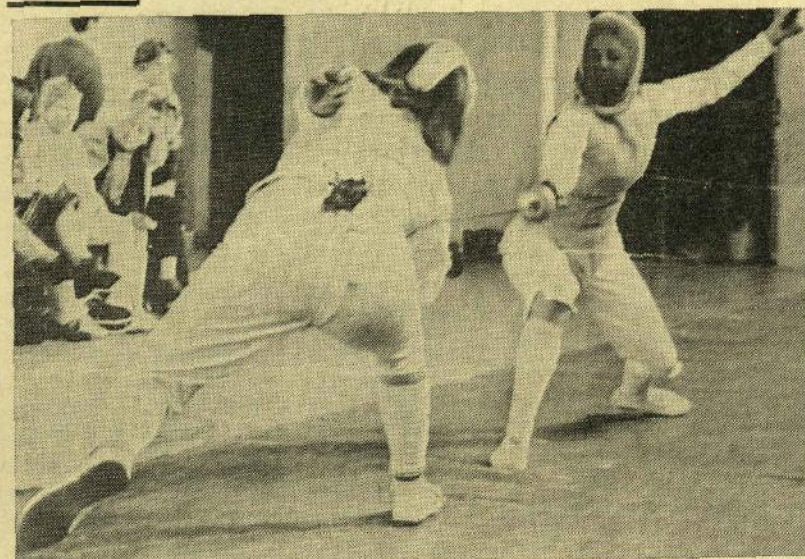
Leinster Senior Cup Final
Trinity v. St. Mary's College
Lansdowne Road
Saturday 19th April.
Kick-off 4.00 p.m.

The Belfast to Dublin Walk will start from Belfast on Saturday. The leaders are expected in Dublin early on Sunday morning.



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FENCING



Ruth Eustace scores against M. Hoffman.

Successful Tour for German Fencers

The Wurttemberg fencing group from Southern Germany started a highly successful eight day tour in Ireland as guests of Trinity Fencing Club on Good Friday. The following Tuesday they defeated Trinity in both the men's and ladies' foil events, but were beaten in the epee.

In the men's foil event Trinity were soon in trouble, and were finally defeated by nine fights to three. The Germans won the ladies' foil by the same margin, but Trinity did well to win the epee by eight fights to five.

In their other matches in Dublin the Germans were defeated by Salle Duffy in the men's foil and epee events but were victorious in the ladies' foil. A team consisting of the younger German fencers narrowly defeated a Dublin Schools team.

The visitors' varied cultural and sporting programme was made possible by the kind sponsorship of various Irish and English engineering firms and the Guinness Group. The Germans left Dublin last Saturday.

JUDO

Tour wins over Oxbridge

Trinity Judo team had a very successful tour in England during March, winning three of their four matches. The men's team defeated Oxford and Cambridge Universities, and also the current British University Champions, London Universities, by three fights to two in each match. They were beaten three fights to one by Birmingham University when P. Murphy was forced to retire through injury. T. Watt was the most successful of the Trinity team, winning all of his seven contests. The ladies' team was narrowly defeated by London Universities by 27 points to 20.

Sports Shorts

SKIING—In the British Universities' Championships Giant Slalom held at Aviemore in Scotland, Trinity finished 8th of the 20 universities taking part. D. Crossley came 19th and J. Young finished in 35th place, but M. Beresford surprised everybody when, starting at the end of the field, he had a time 40 seconds faster than competitors starting with a similar handicap and finished in 29th position. In the slalom Crossley, starting at the end of a field of 90, skied well to earn 9th place.

SOCCER — In Switzerland last month Trinity were defeated 2-1 by Basle University in the first game of their three match tour. In the second match they overcame the problems set by their opponents' continental defensive system to beat Neuchatel University by 4-3. Unfortunately their final game against Geneva was cancelled due to rain.

SQUASH—Bill Barr of Trinity won the Bankers Open Handicap during the vacation, beating Peter Holder, also of Trinity, in the final. Barr was the only member of the Irish Universities' team to win a match in their 4-1 defeat by the Scottish Universities'. The Irish team was composed entirely of Trinity players, the first time this has ever occurred. Trinity also recorded victories over visiting teams from St. Andrews', Nottingham and Bristol Universities during March.

MOTOR SPORT — Trinity entered a three car team in the Circuit of Ireland Rally consisting of Agnew (Lancia Fulvia HF), McCosh (Escort Twin Cam) and Wilkinson (Cooper S). Both Agnew and Wilkinson were forced to retire, but McCosh after a steady, if somewhat unexciting drive, managed to be among the 59 finishers from the original field of 147.

HOCKEY—Trinity were among the 38 teams from various European countries taking part in the Weymouth Hockey Festival over the Easter weekend. Of the six matches they played, they won five and drew the other without conceding a goal. Their most notable victory was their 1-0 defeat of the current Midland Champions. Some measure of their success can be found in the fact that five Trinity players were chosen to take part in the final festival match.

GOLF

SECOND PLACE FOR TRINITY

At the Irish Universities Championships held at Killarney, Trinity were beaten into second place by UCD, finishing 40 shots behind the winners. Elliott won the individual championships by 6 strokes with a total of 297 for the 72 holes. Elliott and Caldwell were picked for the Irish Universities team after the championships.

On their tour of the North of Ireland, Trinity were defeated by Royal Portrush 8-3 and one halved and also by City of Derry 7-4 and one halved. Their third match against Queen's University was cancelled.

In the West of Ireland Championships, Elliott qualified with 74 gross but was beaten in the third round. The competition was eventually won by ex-Trinity player Robert Pollin.

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REVULSIONARY COMMEMORATIVE PROFILE

by Jack Berryhill — the Agent

Ever get the idea, upon entering Front Gate, that a time barrier is being breached? That you are stepping backwards from the Sixties to the Thirties? How quaint — or typical — that TCD should provide us with an organisation dedicated to earnest atavism. Nostalgia was never like this. Step right up, ladies, gents, and buy your Revulsionary Commemorative. Revolutionary? More reactionary. A new view? Rather *deja-vu*. But so simple.

Let's see. There are the goodies and the baddies, the rich and the poor, the oppressors and the liberators, the fascists and the socialists, the capitalists and the workers. Yet who can resist scrumming with the plebes? Who can hold back his long pent-up feelings on such urgencies as: the rise of Benito's Fascist Party, the Spanish Civil War — pros and cons, or Marx (Karl? Groucho? Deutche?)

For what it is worth to the Internationalists (I admire their provincial irony), the dreams of the previous generation were shattered in 1939 when Stalin signed his non-aggression pact with Hitler. The role of the intellectual was thereafter changed forever. History became a tangle of meanings, without clear-cut issue. What would never come back, in this most political of ages, was the faith in a wholly new society that had been implicit in the (then) revolutionary ideal. Comrades! Camus has long since replaced Lenin.

And is it not ironic to reject the previous generation, yet rehash its very same outmoded dreams and ideals? The successful blue-collar workers who, as now organised in the once very necessary but now highly reactionary labour unions, constitute a real and dangerous potential for Irish authoritarianism. The workers operate under a confusion of symbol and reality: the wage is more important than the work, and because all must conform to union hours and (mediocre) union standards, any real enthusiasm for a craft is effectively discouraged. But a work force so robotized is all the more inviting its replacement by machinery, since a contrivance that won't work must inevitably be replaced by one that will. The basic

assumption of unionism was not the dignity but the drudgery of labour, and the strategy was, therefore, to do as little as possible for as much pay as possible. Thus, as automation eliminates drudgery, it eliminates the need for the worker, whether industrial or agricultural. The Internationalists are attacking the wrong piper to the strains of a dated tune.

In fighting for abstract concepts and in mistaking anger for understanding and concern, the Internationalists show that they too confuse the symbol with the reality. They are not "radical," because radical means "to go to the root." The Internationalists but skim the surface. We are all aware that the new convert to a religion or ideology is apt to be most violent in his enthusiastic single-mindedness. He thinks because it is new to him, it must be new to the world, and he tends to dismiss as "apathetic" anybody who does not share his new-found sense of urgency. It is fashionable once more to blame all our ills on the structure of society or the university, as if the individual were no more than a helpless victim of social or academic forces. If this hypothesis were true, every society would produce conformists and nothing but conformists. The rebel is precisely one who resists social pressures to conform. By his very act of rebelling, therefore, he denies his thesis that society or the university is overly oppressive. While sympathising with his assertions of independence, I am puzzled by his argument that (a) the present

structure of society and the university compels all its members to bourgeois (another archaic therefore meaningless term) conformity, but (b) as a member of that society refuse to conform and demand revolutionary change. The two parts of this argument seem to destroy each other.

These old slogans — capitalism, socialism, fascism — are used with calculated ambiguity. Damn it, I'm a member of the "working class" and I don't get paid a farthing for the distinction. The only rising I do is to make a 9 o'clock lecture. But moderation is taken for apathy and patience is looked upon as a pretext for inaction. Extreme positions, left and right, are becoming more and more uncompromising. An individualism of suspicion and distrust is replacing John Dewey's individualism of opportunism and hope (and Dewey has more relevant comments to make here than Marx). In *Science and the Modern World*, Alfred North Whitehead says that a contradiction is the signal of defeat in evolution of real knowledge it marks the first step toward a victory. This is one great reason for the toleration of variety of opinion . . . an unflinching determination to take the whole evidence into account is the only method of preservation against the fluctuating extremes of fashionable opinion. This advice seems so easy, and is in fact so difficult to follow.

The besetting sin of these "revolutionists" and "socialists" is to see things in black without the contrast of white, to be intolerant of ambiguity and complexity, to search for scapegoats (the Junior Dean?), to reject all evidence which complicates their outlook, to be in *toto* shallow thinkers. Let's give them to Bord Failte to hawk their Irish Lenin.

A university may not march on its stomach, and Colonel Walsh would probably prefer it if students did less marching, but this has not deterred him from bringing the experience of a successful career in the British Army to bear on College catering. The Buttery, the Buffet, and Cumberland and, of course, the "Colonel's Mess" in No. 27 are all his creations, and



this year College catering costs should break even for the first time in history. Add to these responsibilities for all buildings, gardens and grounds in College, general house-keeping and College servants, the telephone service and the J.C.R., and a say in building plans costing several million pounds, and the Agent emerges as one of the men most influential in shaping College.

Yet he seems in many ways to be a voice from Trinity's past. He is frank and proud about the Anglo-Irish, military tradition from which he comes. "I have always had one foot firmly on either side of the Irish Sea." The influences which formed him were his family of parsons and soldiers in Longford, his education in Wellington

Public School and 22 years in the Army. It was an extraordinarily varied career — he escaped from Dunkirk, won the Military Cross and five Military Medals in North Africa under Montgomery ("the man I admire most after the great Duke of Wellington"), became an expert on anti-tank warfare, spent two years in both Washington and Japan, and finally became a staff officer in England. Then in 1958, aged 42, he retired and became the first non-academic senior administrator in College, where he is now known for his efficiency, his great likeableness and masterly handling of student and staff demands which leaves the complainers charmed and Colonel Walsh's plans intact.

He is firm about his need to be able to act on his own initiative. "I have been hired to take decisions and if I take the wrong decision I can be fired. I am all for responsible student participation. The student voice should be heard and attention paid to it. I would like student representatives as observers on the Board, but I can't see that students should take part in major decision-taking, especially on long-term development. The student is young, inexperienced, a bird of passage. I do my best to meet demands, but I am not prepared to be told by a student how I should run my catering." The Catering and Amenities Committees have, he says got off to a good start and show signs of being very valuable bodies.

He works hard, and foresees a need soon for splitting his job into two, with himself becoming "a sort of College Development Officer." What is the aspect of College he values most? — "Its tradition, especially the idea of a residential college. One of my chief aims is to stop residents being removed, and their numbers have been maintained."

He has not much leisure for recreation—he does some gardening, shooting and fishing, "and after I have read 'The Times' I have little time left for books." His politics are "traditionally conservative, but I have no dominant causes or ideas." The virtues he admires most are sincerity, integrity and devotion to duty. And he sums up his attitude to his job as being "service to College." The agent is a gentleman, a soldier, and a traditionalist, efficiently serving a College now less Anglo-Irish than ever. Yet this administrative efficiency may well be the hallmark of the traditions which are developing.

By DAVID F. FORD

ARTS

Film Review

THE PRESIDENT'S ANALYST

The American way of life seems to lend itself at the moment to satire while the British to the less fine art of caricature. The Americans are discovering the knack of laughing at themselves in a way which they were not able to do years ago. The situation has indeed reversed for the English! This is brought home in a brilliant satire on life in the States: *The President's Analyst* (Academy). During the rambling and complex relating of the plot, numerous holes are picked in multifarious aspects of

the American scene. The film's basic premise, the reliance on psychoanalysts (who are elevated to the status of priest/confessor) is typically and uniquely American.

There are also sharp pointed digs at the spy and spoof spy mania, as well as dependence on gadgets and sex. Only the hippies remain unsullied. At times the sense of the ridiculous is lost and the film strikes an all-too-realistic note. When the analyst (James Coburn) seeks refuge with an 'everyman' American family, it is impossible to believe that they are in any way exaggerated. Their foibles are so common. Their mannerisms, so-called liberal attitudes and latent violence (No, Son that's the car not the house gun) have a terrifying ring of authenticity. There are other frightening aspects; the megalomaniac telephone company and the neo-fascist F.B.R. Violence plays an important part in the film as it does in the American ethos.

The plot has so many neat turns and ironical facets that it is impossible to do it justice. Not to be missed on any account.

FILM SOCIETY

Enterprising is perhaps the word for the Film Society. For the first time in its chequered career it has arranged a programme for the Trinity term and a very exciting one it is too. During the last two terms it has shown a wide range of films and plans are now in process to bring it more into line with the type to be found in English Universities. This term they have already shown the controversial "Warrendale" and next Wednesday the film will be the American underground movie "Portrait of Jason." They are also continuing their festival of directors — this term's will be the Danish Carl Dreyer and the French Robert Bresson.

Last date for entries for their film script competition is April 21.

INDEX

Art Society — Exhibition Hall: Exhibition of student work. 22 April to May 3. Last date for entries Friday 18.

Season of underground films: Friday April 18. Films include "Inauguration of the Pleasure Dome."

Players — 23 April for one week: George Mully's "The Master of two servants" and Shaw's one acter "The Great Catherine."

R.D.S. 20 April — Noted Spanish soprano Victoria de los Angeles singing songs by Scarlatti, Debussy, etc. Student tickets 7/6.

Ritchie Hendriks Gallery, St. Stephen's Green — Edward Delaney: Exhibition of Ireland's premier sculptor's new bronzes.

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JUDY PALMER

I suppose that one of the most important questions which one can ask of any of the left-wing groups is whether they are revolutionaries or reformers? Very few students, not even Naisby-Smith, would deny that constructive criticism of the structure, administration or activity of this university serves a useful purpose. But is it necessary to attempt to create a revolutionary situation to achieve an audience for this sort of criticism? What made and then broke the French revolution last year was an alliance and then a split of the revolutionaries and the reformists. Their situation was different of course in that it was original. What I would like to see is the Republican Club, for example, letting us know exactly what they think and where they stand. At the end of last term we saw for the first time an alliance, albeit a shaky one, of the left. The 'United Front' even got round to releasing a communal hand-out, printed by the Free Student Press in UCD. But one wonders exactly what kind of unity was going on. The Republicans sat through a meeting in the New Library in which they took a hammering from the Internationalists, having previously been beaten to death in the Revolutionary Alternative. And its not simply that they're masochistic invert-brates with thick skins really—just swimming round in indecision and procrastination. It wouldn't be altogether unfair to say that in their own way, and despite Ronnie Lindsay, they are revolutionaries in theory but reformists in practice; a dry run for the real thing as supplied by the Internationalists and Co. Ltd. There is potential there, but as long as they stay in the club the potential is uncashable. What decent revolutionary would go along to an RTE interview in a three-piece suit and a silk handkerchief, even if he does write for the United Irishman? Unless there's been a thorough spring cleaning recently the Republicans are right of the Labour Party. Even if the foreign affairs department of the Labour Party do keep summer dachas in County Kerry, at least they put their cards on the table and attack their critics. Maybe I haven't got my ear close enough to the ground but I would be very happy if I thought I understood what the Republican Club is thinking, and indeed if I could distinguish more clearly between the revolutionaries and the reformists.

NEWS SNIPPETS

Around ... and About

Those were the days

Tradition may die hard in Trinity but it is easily moved. The old rule about gowns has been changed. Students are now entitled to wear gowns appropriate to their College standing within the College precincts, but they are required to do so only at Commencements and Commons. Masochistic traditionalists can either graduate or go to Commons. Or those who like tradition for its own sake, the new ruling allows the wearing of gowns at examinations if the student so wishes. No doubt the next to go will be the J.D.: he will only be required at Commencements and Commons.

One lump or 432

And down in the Buttery some can tell the difference between stork and butter. A mathematically inclined customer calculates that a lb. of butter costs 10/8d, and with a ½ oz. pat selling at 4d., he's right. There is of course the cost of the individual foil wrapping, etc.; but those still aggrieved can take comfort in the old adage — what you lost on the butter, you gain on the sugar. To equalise the account take 432 sugar lumps with your next cup of Cona — that will bring the butter down to about 5 bob a lb.

Keep it quiet

Remember the AFRWC? Remember the great challenge to

Senator Sheehy-Skeffington to explain his views of world hunger? The Senator, never one to shy away from debate, accepted the invitation. Imagine how disappointed he was to learn in a letter from the Anti-Famine Relief Week Committee that since Paddy Lyons did not wish to attend a meeting, they did not intend to carry on with their plans. Remember the dictum "no right to differ without discussion"? How's that for suppression of ideas!

Bar-my?

A touch of sun adds brightness to the alluringly high fashion customary for the Trinity female this term. But whatever the weather the tourists are always with us. Since the removal of the bookshop to the east end of the Old Library, the entrance hall of the New Library has enjoyed its new-found silence. In the past week however, several groups of visitors have been walking around the library. Cameras click; student teachers from Scotland chatter; and other privileged guests just gape. It's a little like the Zoological Gardens. "Gee, just look at the students." Perhaps the bars will be installed in time for next term.

Strictly for the Birds

Peter Manson's gas bill for the last period was over £13, which makes 30-1-7 one of the hottest places in College. Bachelor girls take note.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

After many constructive complaints, the form of the Ecumenical Service in College Chapel has been substantially altered. Criticism of the previous liturgy had been expected because a newly constructed service of this kind could not possibly give immediate satisfaction. As a result of much discussion between students and the Deans of Residence a more generally acceptable version has been agreed and takes effect this term.

Since its inception some five years ago the Ecumenical Service, which is held each Sunday evening at 8.30 p.m. (7.30 in the winter terms), has tried to serve two purposes. In the first place it provides an opportunity for Christians of all denominations to worship together in an essentially simple service based on the liturgy of several different churches. Its other object is to be of some help to those many students who have let their religious beliefs lapse. It appears that although the number of committed Christians in College is small, so too is the number of committed atheists. The remainder include those who firmly believe that man cannot live on bread alone, but yet who are deterred from

Christianity as they know it; possibly this stems at least partly from a reaction against their dogmatic and uncompromising religious education.

The Ecumenical Service has proved valuable to many students who have found its unpretentious approach both refreshing and stimulating. One of the aims of the service is to present Christianity in a practical and straight-forward way, and to encourage uncommitted students to think seriously about their religious beliefs (or lack of them). Each service is followed by coffee in No. 6 where there is an opportunity to meet the preacher and to take part in informal discussions.

STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

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Trinity News

ITS ROLE IN COLLEGE

EDITORIAL

One of the most annoying aspects of Trinity life over the past year has been the increasing intolerance, on the part of those who have recently become politically aware, to the views of others: this applies equally to the Internationalists, the New Left and the New Right. Not content simply with expressing their opinions, they have to try to ram them down the throats of both their ideological opponents and of the apathetic majority. The trend is not a surprising one because it is what happens, to a lesser degree, in the world around us, for exaggeration and an unwillingness to compromise are the usual means of trying to convert others to a particular standpoint.

Perhaps one of the main sources of annoyance for the non-political and apathetic student has been the harnessing to a relatively extreme political line of the major newspaper in College, Trinity News. The new militants in their rush to put across their gospel have selfishly overlooked just what the real role of Trinity News should be. The Editor has every right to have his opinions and to transfer them to the readership: this is what happens in national daily newspapers throughout the world. Further, like Trinity News over the past two terms, these newspapers have a constant political philosophy running throughout. But in any nation, except those with oppressive centralised censorship, there are a number of newspapers from which the newspaper reader can choose — and he will usually choose the one in line with his own political views. However, there is only one major newspaper in this College and so its role must be essentially different from that of newspapers in the outside world. Trinity News should try to be as representative as possible of the opinions, or non-opinions, of the people within the society it serves. One of the main functions of this University society is the discussion and transfer of both political and social viewpoints and theories, and so too should this be one of Trinity News' principle duties. It must facilitate this process of exchange, and so allow the uncommitted at least the opportunity to review the choices open before them. Ideally the many publications existing in TCD at the moment could be merged into a single comprehensive one in which all sections of opinion would be completely free from any form of censorship. This is obviously an unlikely event, but one that should be sought with or without the help of the various ideological groups.

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