



TRINITY NEWS

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TRADITION BROKEN

A Woman Speaks in a Major Society

HISTORY was made at the Philosophical Society's inter-debate. On Thursday, 26th November, 1953, a lady entered the hall and addressed the House for the first time. Welcoming her, the President expressed the hope that it would be possible for ladies to be present at public business meetings in future.

Thereupon Mr. M. Maconnail from U.C.G. proposed the motion "That hypocrisy is one of our national characteristics." Hypocrisy, he decided, was universal, but the Irish type of hypocrisy is of such a pleasant sort springing from a sincere desire not to give offence, that it is a unique characteristic.

Mr. G. Sheehy, Auditor of the Literary and Historical Society, U.C.D., was in his element opposing such a motion and he retold the magnificent saga of the Irish struggle for freedom. How, he asked, could the charge of false patriotism be levelled against such a people.

Mr. R. Seaman, Registrar, U.P.S., spoke of the hypocrisies that exist in the national and religious life of the Irish. Anti-partition was just an excuse to dominate the North. In the best Phil. tradition, he discussed college hypocrisy; here everyone agreed that the major societies were worthy of support, but only few join them.

From Queen's University, Mr. D. Hawthorne dealt with the religious

aspect of Irish life. He saw regular Sunday worship, isolated in a week of sin, not as hypocrisy but rather a desire for respectability at all costs.

It was at this stage of procedure that history was made. Miss O'Regan from Galway joined the President in his wish to see ladies taking their proper place in the Society. This duty done, she pointed out that the greatest example of Irish hypocrisy was the pretended hatred of the British monarchy. The Coronation film was banned but everyone went secretly to see it; the Royal family was condemned officially but everyone read about them in the magazines.



Miss C. O'Regan

The President's turn came, and with eloquent humour, and occasionally common sense, he arrived at the conclusion that the only solution to Ireland's problem would be to forcibly drive all young people from the country for a period of years. When they returned the country's faults would be appreciated. Those various characteristics which had been attributed to hypocrisy were fundamentally due to paradox. Paradox not hypocrisy, he claimed, is the natural characteristic.

The task of the Secretary, Mr. D. Hodgins, was a difficult one after such a spate of oratory, but he was not at a loss. After discussing the Begley case, he concluded by saying that hypocrisy could be a virtue if it were used with discretion and not too openly.

After Mr. J. A. McArdle from U.C.D. had delivered a complex oration with self-confidence and wit, the President adjourned this highly successful inter-debate.

DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?

A.M.A. REPORT AT LAST!

As we go to press, the morning papers are splashing the long-awaited report of the American Medical Association across their front pages. Publication by the Irish Medical Association was decided upon, it is stated, to "counter-act the many misconceptions, begotten of unauthorised and inaccurate accounts" which have been brought to its notice.

The full report, however, would simply appear to bear out the truth of most of the accounts which we have read, with the important difference that it states that the main function of the investigations was not to carry out an appraisal of Irish Medical Schools but to compare the Irish methods with American. The investigators stress that any comment by them on the differences in methods was not made with the intention of criticising. Indeed, they recognise the great history and tradition of medical schools in this country and have nothing but praise for many aspects of our teaching. The reason for their ultimate decision to recommend that Trinity's school should not yet be recognised by the American associations lies simply in the fact that in several important respects, and especially in the pattern of clinical teaching, there is a wide divergence between Ireland and the U.S.A.

It is now up to us and so it is interesting to find what the Board's opinion is. In their laudable comment on the report, they say: "It remains to be seen how far any attempt on the part of the Trinity College School to conform to American methods and ideas is possible, even if it should be agreed that such an attempt is desirable." A very fair comment, indeed.

CHRISTMAS VACATION

London

Second Annual Festival of N.U.S., 30th December, 1953, to 5th January, 1954, S.F. Essex Technical College, Walthamstow, London. Symposium of Commercial Television: Christopher Mayhew, M.P. Drama Competition. National Debating Competition, final rounds. Visual Arts Exhibition. Details N.U.S., 3 Endsleigh St., London, W.C. 1.

Students' House Party, at Norton College, Swansea, Wales, 19th Dec.-15th Jan. For British and overseas students. Programme includes: Visits to theatre, Horse Riding, Rambles in the Country, Social Evenings, Debates and Discussions. Facilities for study. Tuition in English. Terms, 6 gns. a week inclusive, for periods of two, three or four weeks.

WORLD SUPREMACY

The whole picture of Europe had changed more in the last 15 years than it had done in the previous 50. Sir David Kelly, former British Ambassador to Moscow, last Monday night at the first public meeting of the newly-formed Laurentian Society went on to say that the main reason for such a change was the military eclipse of Germany.

The Society Union had emerged from the war with the whole of East Europe as her satellites. She had now China as an ally. Russian policy was based on the inevitability of a world revolution. With such a policy, Sir David considered that Russia was more imperialistic than any Western power.

Sir David went on to say that he thought Stalin's death had not altered the foreign policy of the U.S.S.R. He ended by saying that unless the traditional faith of people could be restored, people were bound to look for something else.

Dr. Donal O'Sullivan was in the chair. Mr. Quirke, proposing the vote of thanks, said that the Laurentian Society was filling a much needed gap in College life, providing as it did social, cultural and recreational facilities for Roman Catholics in Trinity.

BI. "SCHOOL" BANNED

We understand that the Committee of the Bi. have declared that their room in the G.M.B. can only be used for more academic pursuits than at present. The 'boys' were not consulted at all, and from reports there sounds like a revolution brewing.

RUGBY

We congratulate Rev. Robin Roe and Joey Gaston on having been selected for the Ireland XV to play Combined Services, following the international trial last Saturday.

BRIDGING THE GAP

On 24th November, Mr. Norman McGrath read a very interesting paper on the Sydney Harbour Bridge. He first outlined the difficulties of constructing a single-arch bridge 1,650 feet in span and 160 feet wide. In fact, some eminent German engineers had said the whole thing was impossible, as the bridge had to be started from both sides and the two parts were to meet in the middle (owing to the fact that the sea bed was too soft to provide support pillars). However, completed it was, in five years, at a cost of £6,500,000, and is now Sydney's famous landmark.

Messrs. Cox, Evans, Meeock and Maginnis also spoke.

Mr. Maginnis's final remark was "Hooliganism is all very well in lectures, but not at Engineering Society meetings."

Inter-Varsity Club. Concert of Carols and other Christmas Music, conductor Francis Cameron. Tuke Hall, Bedford College, Regents Park, Thursday, 17th December, at 8 p.m. Admission free.

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TOWN AND GOWN

Gaiety. — Dublin Grand Opera Society. Mon., Wed., Fri., "The Bartered Bride." Tues., Thurs., Sat. mat., "Don Giovanni."

Olympia. — Sonnie Hale, Claude Hulbert in "Not A Clue."

Abbey. — 8 p.m., "This Other Eden."

Gate. — 7.45, Siobhan McKenna in "Saint Joan."

CINEMA

Royal. — Film: Robert Ryan, Rhonda Fleming, William Jundigan in "Inferno." Stage: Jack Cruise in "Holiday Hayride" (reviewed).

Adelphi. — "Qua Vadis."

Cameo. — "Thunder Across the Pacific." Also: "A Million Dollar Pursuit."

Astor. — "The Razor's Edge."

Regal Rooms. — Dorothy Lamour in "The Fleet's In."

Grafton. — "Summer Storm."

Capitol. — Gathryn Grayson, Gordon MacRae, Steve Cochran in the new "Desert Song" (reviewed).

Metropole. — Fernandel, Gino Cervi in "The Little World of Don Camillo" (reviewed).

Carlton. — Mark Stevens in "Torpedo Alley."

Wednesday, 2nd December

8. 0 p.m. — College Historical Society.

8. 0 p.m. — Classical Society. Inter-debate with U.C.D., "That the Mantle of Rome has Fallen on America."

Thursday, 3rd December

8. 0 p.m. — University Philosophical Society.

9. 0 p.m. — Commencements Ball in Metropole.

Friday, 4th December

1.10 p.m. — In G.M.B., Lunch-time Concert, Hayden's F Minor Variations, played by Francis Engle.

7.45 p.m. — D.U. Law Society debate, "That our law of contract is in need of reform."

Saturday, 5th December

Arts Lecture Term Ends.

Sunday, 6th December

In College Chapel. 8 a.m., Holy Communion. 10 a.m., Morning Prayer. Preacher: The Very Rev. W. C. de Pauley, D.D.

Monday, 7th December

8. 0 p.m. — University Biological Association Ordinary Meeting in Dixon Hall. C. J. B. Orr and J. A. C. Terry.

CHRISTMAS VACATION

Dublin

Dec. 15th-18th — U.C.D. Dramatic Society present "Merchant of Venice."

TRINITY NEWS

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For advertising space in this newspaper apply the Advertising Manager, TRINITY NEWS, 3 TRINITY COLLEGE.

Vol. I TRINITY NEWS No. 6
WEDNESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 1953

THE last leader of our first term must inevitably be a review of the progress of "Trinity News." The paper was really founded two terms ago, and many who were connected with it in those early stages have now left College. Thanks to much of their foresight and planning, "Trinity News" has appeared regularly throughout the term and has built up a sound financial background which ensures its place in university life in the New Year.

Last in the term comes the most important topic — College co-operation. There is a great deal of discussion at present about a "Union," about the position of women and the Societies, and about activities outside purely academic duties generally. Most urgent of all is the need for a general discussion between major and minor societies on co-ordination in all sorts of matters. Overlapping of meetings, better arranged College dances and many financial adjustments are all things which could be improved this way. For example, with only the slightest co-operation, Dublin University could have been represented at the "Sunday Observer" Debating Competition.

This suggestion need not interfere with the traditions of old Societies. Times change, and if centralisation will bring the University closer to present-day requirements, as we believe it will, then a vague reverence of traditional aloofness would be unwise and short-sighted. To act now upon this suggestion would heal many of the breaches and rifts that have occurred recently, and result in improved standards in every respect.

MUCH of the sports equipment of the University is suffering through enforced neglect caused by a lack of sufficient capital to replace old and worn-out material. Floors, showers, and rooms shared by a number of clubs require replacing or modernising, but even if only essentials are renewed, thousands of pounds will be needed.

At a recent meeting of the D.U.C.A.C. it was proposed that the capital required for this should come through the Board, from the students; in other words, that a small sum should be added to the University fees to be set aside for this purpose. Such a procedure is the rule at most of the British universities, and seems to be remarkably sane, fair and practical.

It is a commonplace that the University exists for more than the mere process of learning. Education is more than this. Helping to run a sports club, playing for a team, and supporting your own side are as important as speaking in a faculty society or obtaining a "first."

If the scheme proposed were adopted and the Board approve, every student will be able to take part both in the club in which he has an interest and subscribes to, and also in College sports life generally.

Profile:

CAPTAIN OF D.U. FOOTBALL CLUB
W. R. Tector

THREE years ago a full back of exceptional quality played for Trinity 2nd XV. People wondered that he, a full back as good as any in Leinster, should be contented to remain in this comparatively lowly position. To-day—there is an appropriately Christmas touch about the story—Bill Tector is Captain of the Club in its centenary year, and was prevented from playing in the Final Irish Trials only by an untimely injury.

It is as a clubman that he stands out, and his loyalty is a great boost to a club that has never been noted for that quality. He is recognised as one of the best captains of recent years. Avoiding the limelight, he steers a good course between accepting responsibility and craving it. He learned his rugby at Kilkenny College, but at that time he preferred cricket. After a slow and discouraging start in Trinity rugby he first played for the College team at centre, kept off at full back by Gerry Murphy, the Irish international.

To meet he is quiet and friendly, with a rather anxious look that betrays not anxiety, but his birthplace, Wexford. To College life he represents the meat and blood, as some of our more aesthetic and fairy-like colleagues represent the milk and water. He is straightforward, without the trivialities of pseudo sophistication. He thought there were some queer types in Trinity—until he saw Oxford. He can endure struggles, but cannot tolerate fools.

Of late Trinity rugby has been in the doldrums. They have not beaten U.C.D. for several years, and have not won the Leinster Cup since 1926. There is no one more suitable than Tector, clubman, leader, player, for breaking this jinx, and restoring the club to its former high position. We wish him luck.

GO WEST, YOUNG MAN

On Wednesday, 25th November, the College Historical Society debated the motion that the present policy of America is a danger to the peace of the world. This was an encouraging debate. The attendance was high and the standard of oratory, though not remarkable, was better than many previous debates.

The Librarian, despite the fact that his inevitable Biblical Quotation is becoming tedious, made a polished attack on the militant aspect of American Foreign Policy. P. D. H. Riddell, for the opposition, took up a negative attitude and attacked the exponents of anti-Americanism. This he traced to fanatical Conservatism and fanatical Socialism. P. J. Ohale could see only the militaristic side of Marshall Aid and imposed his own Nationalistic attitude on the present world situation. In startling contrast, M. F. Kimmitt told a funny story. P. Gildea-Evans spoke with an engaging frankness but remarkably little clarity. He was followed by W. Somary, who made an outstanding maiden speech. He was, perhaps, a little too lengthy and a more coherent climax would have been an advantage, but these slight criticisms cannot detract from a speech that was most impressive in style and sincerity. The Record Secretary made some good points with commendable brevity, while A. G. M. Moore made one good point with a conspicuous lack of brevity. J. F. L. Otter was subdued and A. D. Taylor continental before the motion was put to the House.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

YESTERDAY afternoon, the Fifth Annual Exhibition of the Photographic Association was opened in the Gaelic Society's rooms in 2 T.C.D. This is one of the best exhibitions this energetic society has ever held, and the members are to be congratulated on the unusually high standard of their prints, both from the technical and the artistic point of view.

The Advanced Section is the most disappointing part of the show, for there are only eighteen prints shown in this section, and these are the work of only two members. It is sad there should be such a lack of interest shown by the older members of the society, and one can only hope that next year there will be more entrants. Of the pictures shown, there were few of the technical standard that one has come to expect from this part of the exhibition. There are three interesting street scenes which cleverly convey considerable atmosphere to the beholder, and there is one rather pleasant character study of an old man lighting his pipe. The portraits in this section suffer rather badly from technical defects, and although there are several competent photographs, there are no outstanding pictures. Altogether, the standard in this section, though in itself not bad, is considerably below that of former years.

The Beginners' Section is altogether a different story, and although the prints are smaller and more crowded than in the Advanced Section, they display very considerable variation in tone, design and subject matter. The standard of the few portraits shown was not remarkable, but they show that at least some of the

new members know what they are about, and have some idea of how to use lights and pose models. This year, there are an unusually large number of pictorial and scenic photographs—usually a difficult sort of picture to take successfully, and it is extremely gratifying to find that so many of the new members are so skilful at pictorial composition. Surprisingly, too, the actual technical standard of the photographs shown is very high, and although an occasional photograph could have been printed with greater clarity, or mounted on cleaner cardboard, the overall impression is excellent. It would be invidious to name any one picture as being outstanding, as, at the time of writing, the competition has not yet been judged. Suffice it to say that everybody who comes to the show during the next two days will find plenty of interesting material, for there are pictures of everything from motor bikes to graveyards, and from pretty girls to unusual shots of the Campanile.

We were unable to get a preview of the colour slides, but we are assured that, as in former years, the fairly large entry of colour photographs will be projected at frequent intervals throughout the exhibition, and we hear that there are some extremely attractive shots.

We cannot recommend too strongly that everyone who has any interest in photography, or just likes looking at good pictures, should go to see this exhibition before it closes at the end of the week. We say this not only to give encouragement to the members of the Association, most of whom are exhibiting for the first time, but because we are certain that there is much on view that would be of interest and give pleasure to anyone with the slightest pretence to any artistic sensibility.

ANCIENT AND MODERN



ance, and the concert last Wednesday was no exception.

Two works of entirely different character and period were chosen: The "Hymn of Praise" by Mendelssohn, and "Christ's Birthday" by Bruce Montgomery. The "Hymn of Praise" is an old favourite, uninspired and uninteresting, but the choir made the most of it. A programme note pleading for more Tenor and Bass members was significant, for, though the acoustics of the theatre may be to blame, it seemed that the volume of male sound was thin. The result was some forcing, especially from the Tenors.

In spite of inaccuracies, the energetic rendering of "Christ's Birthday" was the most enjoyable part of the concert. This virile work has complexities and simplicities that require a lot of practice, and in the few weeks of rehearsal, the Conductor, Mr. Joseph Grocock, had managed to make the choir sensitive to the composer's intention. In the last chorus, "Good-day, Sir Christinas", the absence of an orchestra with percussion was noticeable, but at other times the piano accompaniment of Noel Wilkinson, assisted in the Mendelssohn by Betty Weir, was highly efficient.

It is rumoured that the Choral Society is to change its traditional policy of one concert per term, and restrict its ambitions to two concerts during the year. If this means a concentration of effort into really well-rehearsed items, and a concentration of funds to attract soloists that are above mediocrity, this ancient Society may go from strength to strength.

HISTORY FROM A HAT

A Hat-debate seems the most improbable form of meeting for a History Society, but that was what went on last Tuesday. In the chair was Mr. Eoin O'Mahony and his inspired methods ensured that all those present—attendance was poor—spoke on the subjects drawn out of the hat. These ranged from "That Trieste should go to Yugoslavia," to Commercial Television, and not once was there an embarrassing silence or awkward speech. Altogether this was the most interesting and best conducted meeting of the term. The only pity is that not more members thought it worthwhile to turn up.

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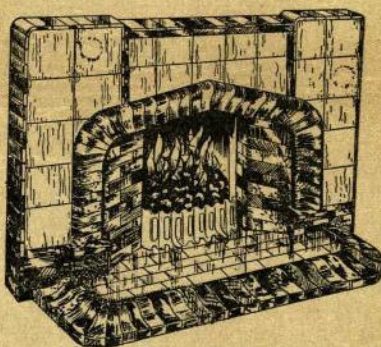
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ROUND AND ABOUT WITH BRICRIU

Social and Technical



ON Thursday night I left my usual metropolitan haunts to visit the International Hotel in Bray, where, I had been informed, the Dublin University Motor Cycle and Light Car Club were holding their annual dance. On my arrival, I was surprised to find the hall crowded and the dance in full swing, especially as several of the people present had been comfortably settled in the back bar in Jammet's an incredibly short time before.

As soon as possible, in a lull between spot prizes, I extracted the M.C., Niall O'Donnell Browne, from the mêlée in order to find out more about the Club, but he had hardly time to point out Dr. Fry, the Club's new President, when he was called away to present a reversing-light to Ursula Lacey.

I noticed that Norman Williams was celebrating his election to the committee with great enthusiasm, for, undisturbed by the reserved nature of his partner, he gave us many novel vocal and instrumental arrangements with the able assistance of Connelly Cole, Paddy Hopkirk, and Kane Archer. Soon afterwards, matters became chaotic and I caught kaleidoscopic glimpses of a young lady emptying a half-pint of Guinness in 4.5 seconds, of Harry Howden being raised gently from the dust by Chris. Orr, and of Henry St. George Smith carrying his partner with him, on a chair, and trying to dance the samba. Soon after, the D.U.M.C. and L.C.C. returned to the high lift camshafts and other paraphernalia of ordinary life, and the dance was over.

The Plebs

The Swimming Club "hop" in the Dixon was a much more sober affair

than the last, but I must say I was rather surprised when Anne Rose Sinclair greeted me with: "Come in, take your clothes off." However, my modesty was saved, and I went over to see Ernie Irwin and Henry Blackburn. Ernie was fulminating about some "poisonous rag" or other, while Henry was lost in a brown study, trying desperately to remember which girl he was taking to which dance. Feeling it was useless to attempt to continue the conversation, I bade them farewell and departed.

Literary People!

Some days ago, a copy of "Icarus" was dropped into my letter-box, but to my disappointment I discovered it was a back-number, and when I took it along to Front Gate to exchange it for the current issue, I was told that it was only an advertisement, and that they did not want me to review it. I bought a copy, nevertheless, and studied it with the closest attention, especially after having read "T.C.D." and discovered what to look for. Suddenly, I noticed there was a misprint in the first poem by Douglas Sealy, and turned the pages of "T.C.D." eagerly to see if "they" had also noticed it. They had, but just as my hopes of an exclusive "scoop" were evaporating, I suddenly realised that, like Homer, even the Editor of "T.C.D." could nod, and so I went to see him, full of conscious pride. "Mr. Simpson," I began, "or may I call you Gordon," when he interrupted me to apologise for not having inserted "By courtesy of 'Trinity News'" in their Classical Society report. My mind, however, was on more serious things. "I regret to say that your correction of the error in 'Icarus' is itself erroneous, DEIRDRE is spelt neither DEIRDE nor DEIDRE but DEIRDRE.

CAREERS

Using a Vacation

FINANCIAL considerations and revision requirements apart, much can be made of taking a useful vacation job. For example, you can demonstrate your enterprise in working your passage to Greece or hitch-hike to Carthage instead of being feather-bedded into the Riviera. But whilst this is in the older tradition there are, nowadays, numerous opportunities to broaden one's outlook about a career. Some employers take it as a compliment that you want to find out about their activities and they offer vacation jobs or vacation courses. Steel and oil companies, gas boards, banks and insurance companies have led the way, and the possibilities may well appeal particularly to students who are quite convinced that business is not for them. Such vacation work is a good opportunity whereby to remove prejudice or confirm your conviction, and, if time permits in your four years in College, there is a good deal to be said for having a look at both what you want to do eventually and what you're quite sure you don't want to do. Perhaps, too many are prejudiced against school-teaching because of their own highly romanticised version of their treatment in the fourth form, and not because they have tried teaching in a good school.

It can sometimes be a valuable and rewarding experiment to take a job offering a monotonous routine or a repetitive task, perhaps in a store or on a production belt. Some employers are unable to offer jobs or courses but are pleased to have you visit them. For example, a Government department such as Inland Revenue, or the London Stock Exchange through its new glass window.

The scientist is well catered for in this respect and can quite easily arrange a job in industry or a research establishment, but the arts graduate has little to complain of if he is prepared to take the initiative. A few weeks in a bookshop may well demonstrate that culture is not necessarily bound up with books and, similarly, work in a travel agency may cause you to revise your ideas about "work with people." In both cases you may get a different slant on the profit motive.

The Christmas vacation offers the most opportunities for earning money, the Easter vacation may in some cases be most suitable, but there are few such jobs available except, possibly, as private tutors. The Summer vacation can be happily divided between your academic work and a rewarding foretaste of a job.

Special Note: I have just received from the Ministry of Finance the estimate of likely vacancies in the Civil Service up to 31st August, 1954. It includes two vacancies for Administrative Officer, and the examination consists of an interview, an essay, an oral Irish test together with a qualifying test in written Irish.

A further note will be of interest to those who are interested in the professional and technical posts: if a competent knowledge of Irish is not prescribed as an essential qualification, qualified and suitable candidates who possess competent Irish are, in accordance with the regulations, given absolute preference by the Civil Service Commissioners.

A. H. B. McCLATCHEY,
Appointments Officer.

A YANK AT TRINITY



EACH year a certain amount of Americans come to Trinity. Although some are undergraduates, most are research students who come to probe further into Yeats or to give another twist to the key to "Finnegan's Wake" or perhaps to develop unexplored fields. There are also a few external students, who follow no university programme, but attend lectures of their own selection. Trinity impresses them in different ways, depending on what they come here for.

Generally, the post-graduates don't find too much difference between Trinity and their own American university. The nature of the work is the same, research on the highest level. If there is a difference, it is that at Trinity the emphasis is more on independent research, on the individual's personal approach, and less on stereotyped scholarship.

On the undergraduate level, one finds the most striking divergence. In America the student doesn't specialise for at least one year, occasionally two. Mathematics, science, language, composition, history, all are common to the pre-law student, to the pre-med, the history and language student, for example, before they are allowed to choose their speciality.

In addition, the student must fulfil a certain number of Course requirements outside of his own subject throughout the four years of undergraduate work. Fifteen to 18 hours a week is the average time a student spends in the lecture room.

Instead of three seven-week terms, like the Arts at Trinity, the American undergraduate has two terms, of about 16 weeks each. At the end of each term major examinations (three hours) are held in each of the four or five courses studied.

Because of the frequency of examinations in colleges in the United States, the American finds the Trinity examination system unusual. When he isn't baffled by it, he is awed.

When one comes from a large city college in the United States, which might have 15,000 or 20,000 students, one finds particularly agreeable the compactness of Trinity. It has all the benefits of the large city college with few of the drawbacks, usually produced by overcrowding.

Trinity social life one finds inimitable

to Trinity. Here, I think, the Dublin influence is most strongly felt, determining the pattern. The nature and scope of Trinity society seems to be directly derivative from that of Dublin society.

The Dublin influence on Trinity goes a long way in determining whether an American likes Trinity, or, I suppose, any foreign student. When one remembers Trinity, one can't escape from the memory of Dublin.

A city always helps to shape the character of a university, especially when the relation is close. One can't accept the one alone; they go together, parent and child. To like Trinity, one must like Dublin. Most American students like both.

MATHEMATICAL NIGHTMARES

"Mathematical Nightmares"—a title which he thought of on the spur of the moment, was the subject of Dr. Allen's talk to the D.U. Mathematical Society last Friday.

He discussed the fundamentals of Mathematics and tried to find out what Mathematics is or should be. He said much about intuition, believing that it invariably leads to non-intuition, as for instance, when a clever trick often leads to a definite theorem.

In discussing paradoxes, Dr. Allen said that nearly all could be easily dismissed except that of Bertrand Russell concerning the set of all sets—the only inherent paradox known. However, he felt certain that there are more paradoxes and mistakes in famous theorems which we shall find sometime. The nightmare was: "Is there a divine truth?" Dr. Allen's answer was "No!" When we say something is true, we mean that it is consistent with something we know to be true, which in turn is consistent with something else, and so we get an infinite regression. Dr. Allen concluded with remarks on the fallibility of human reason. Mathematics does not exist unless you know it—it is an evolution in thought, and teachers must not be taken too seriously.

In the discussion that followed, Professor Broderick claimed that Mathematics is pushing symbols around and is also an Act of Faith. The President, Dr. Gardner, then adjourned a very successful meeting.

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Guest Reviewer

ICARUS

November 1953

IN many ways this is the best issue of "Icarus" that I have seen. Certainly this is true of the poetry. Douglas Sealy has rung the bell at last with his "Midsummer Eve," which falls into the mind like a stone into a pool, sending out ring after ring of symbolic meaning; it is a long time since I saw Irish mythology used to such good purpose, as a means, not an end. Elaine Savours is more in the current English fashion, building her poem round not a symbol, but one elaborated image or conceit. And, to complete this international round-up, there is the American poetic manner of Jack Dagilaitis. I hope the pun in his poem (discreetly) is indeed his, and not the printer's, for the latter has been allowed to run wild on every page.

Sebastian Ryan very properly draws attention to the distinguished Irish writer, Samuel Beckett. He can hardly

do more than that, for Beckett, it seems, is a formidable writer, very deliberately post-Joycean. The next step will be for Players or the French Group to think about producing Beckett's play, "En Attendant Godot." Owen Quinn, writing on Joyce, is able to penetrate further; and does so very well, both sensibly and subtly, though his article falls away from a good start.

It is the stories that continue to disappoint. As usual they are technically very old-fashioned indeed; if our bookish boys haven't yet got around to Chekhov and James, they might still have learned from O'Connor, O'Faolain, and Elizabeth Bowen, how to leave something to the reader's imagination. College story-tellers apparently cannot trust their readers to pick up a hint unless it is heavily underlined in red ink.

Still, this is a good shillingsworth. A pity about those misprints, though. D. D.

Players

"THE LOST WAY" and "RIDERS TO THE SEA"

Miss Yvonne Voigt, who produced the two one-act plays last Thursday, is a student of drama and a specialist in the work of J. M. Synge. Her choice of "Riders to the Sea" for her first production in Trinity gave the audience proof of the value of her system of play-direction and her understanding of Synge's interpretation of the Aran Island tragedy. Her work with the cast to attain complete absorption in the play was based on her insistence that they should understand not only what they were saying but why they said it.

"The Lost Way," by D. M. Webster,

was the first of the two plays. It is an adaption of a short story and does not really come to life as a play. The main character has to suggest the personalities of four people who never appear on the stage and Miss Voigt's system helped Olive Clancy as the old woman to do this effectively.

In "Riders to the Sea" it is most important for the members of the family group to be sure of their relations to one another. In this production they all acted round the character of the mother who is, of course, the centre of the real tragedy, and by doing this they demand that the play be judged on its whole effect. To single out individuals is to misinterpret the aim of the production, but Joanna Woods as Maurya and Maeve Keogh as Nora certainly gave the play its genuine West of Ireland aura. Eleanor Warham and Brian Shiel, although not so finished in their conception of the true Synge idiom, understood their roles and played them sincerely.

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WOMEN IN MAJOR SOCIETIES.

Opinions

College Historical Society: E. W. Gorton, Auditor

WE were interested to learn that a young lady had succeeded in addressing the University Philosophical Society. The leaders of this Society seem to have been so delighted with this that they have, we believe, announced that in future their doors will be more frequently opened to ladies, and their performances subjected to the scrutiny of these most charming critics.

Perhaps this is the "show down" we were promised by "T.C.D." at the beginning of Term. If so, it is as unimpressive in its effect as it will be sterile in its outcome.

If, as my informant asserted, women are to form an audience, but not join the Society, then the condescension implicit in the act will be quickly noticed by those against whom it is directed. If I were to support the admission of women into the "Hist." it would be as full and equal members, with no probationary periods, interesting experiments, or cunning wedges delicately inserted into impressive structures. I need no convincing that women—some women—are more than our match.

Nevertheless, I am convinced that neither the two major societies need to join the gay riot of reform at present noticeable in the University. There will, of course, always be those who will say that such-and-such a thing "must come" and therefore advocate a joyless embracing of the "modern approach." As one who is convinced, however, that reform is never inevitable, and that the "Hist." at least need not fear its protagonists, I must offer my sincere congratulations to Mr. Garret-Anderson for demonstrating, to our infinite comfort, his own lack of faith in the "survival value" of the Society which has thrust him so very much in the public eye.

THERE are times when we get a little weary of this business of being a woman. Before our readers, male and female, shriek at us: "Unnatural, sexless hussy!" let us explain. We are not tired of being feminine by nature; we could never visualise ourselves being anything else. But the strange ideas which prevail (especially in masculine skulls) about the nature of femininity continually leave us amazed. Of course, these ideas vary greatly from skull to skull, and any female who was unwise enough to try to give general satisfaction would soon be contemplating self-destruction. Which is one more reason why our feminine readers should be themselves and please themselves.

This is our last opportunity to get what we want to say said in this column, so we are going to spill the beans to an unprecedented extent. We are frankly tired of being considered a type of strange addition to a complete-enough world, a second sex which may or may not be considered a Good Thing, but which on the whole is to be certified as of Doubtful Nature. Ever since we can remember, we have been simmered at, flattered with, lectured and patronised by the oppressors; the fact that we are perfectly capable ourselves of ignoring lectures, slaying the condescending, simpering sweetly, or flirting (mildly or hectically) does not alter the fact that we consider the whole business unlovely and unhealthy. We declare here and now that we are not, despite any possible appearances to the contrary, devil or angel, symbol, myth or romantic illusion, delight or torment, primitive creature of instinct and emotion personified. Nor are we doll, moron, imbecile or plaything. Shall we be really daring and revolutionary, and state that we are that proud and wretched thing, a human being? Yes, we shall.

"This woman goes from one piece of triteness to another!" we hear you exclaim (that is, if you are not darkly muttering even worse things). Alas, the sex-mad world, on the whole, cares not a jot for our humanity. Almost every allusion to women, advice to women, appreciation of women implication on women is designed to play up their sex-appeal and play down their humanity. And since a great many human activities, including all intellectual and political and most artistic pursuits, have no very specific connection with femininity, as distinct from

humanity, away with them! The real reason for the widespread dislike of women who busy themselves with these pursuits is simple; it is not that they are really invariably incapable of doing these things, or that activities of this sort make them unfeminine in manner or outlook. No, it is that they may be tempted not to consider "love" (pardon our inverted commas) the be-all and end-all of life. A dangerous business in a world in which Eros, though he may have nothing in his face, is still the undisputed idol of the human race.

Musing glumly on the dozens of counterfeits which people try to persuade us are really love, we wonder in addition why a woolly-minded world confuses this purely private matter with public affairs. As far as we can see, the qualities needed in both worlds are different, and because a woman may, if she so chooses, be unassertive and accommodating to one particular man, it does not follow that she intends to show these particular qualities to the world at large. We have never accepted this wretched business of considering love as either a career or vocation, or a sheer necessity for well-being. The Civil Service or teaching is a better bet for the one, and as for the other, a good stomach powder will do the job as effectively.

"So you don't believe in love?" ask our scandalised readers. Pardon us, we do. We are not going to be fool enough to enlarge on this topic before our experienced and cynical clientele. But this much we will say. The reality of this phenomenon depends on the sentiment, and this sentiment cannot be faked or conjured up or consciously evolved just because it would make life so nice and safe and pleasant if only one were in love. Call us an impractical romantic if you like, dear calculating females. We ourselves think we are being soberly realistic—realistic enough to know that sympathy, or pity, or liking, or sexual wars or tuneless passions just will not do as substitutes for the genuine article.

"Tis woman's whole existence?" As a matter of fact, we believe that it is, if you ever happen to find it; not in the sense that it becomes an occupation that takes the place of all others, but that it becomes the meaning and motivating force of every action. "Amor omnia vincit" is a motto to which we say Amen. Provided we add with our last youthful and cynical kick at the pricks, it really is that rare and genuine sentiment, as old and as true as Time.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Sir,—It seems to me to have been a little more than mere coincidence that the poem referred to hereunder should have come into my hands at this time and for one penny. For it was published in 1876 and would appear to have awaited the most favourable opportunity to appear amongst us again.

The preface, which is most unusual, should have an interest for Dubliners and Gate Theatre-goers in general and for graduates and undergraduates of Trinity College in particular. And here it is:

"The poem which I now present to the public was NOT awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Prize in the College of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, near Dublin, etc., etc. Whether this fact will ensure its meeting with an unfavourable reception or not, I am, of course, unable to foretell."

And here are a few brief extracts from this poem which has come so strangely out of the past at this time:

'Oh! sirs!' she said, 'I still recall that day,

How through the fields I took my pensive way,

My soul filled with strange thoughts;

Which wandered nigh, I sat me down to dream;

And how the evening bells, that called to prayer,

Flowed solemn out upon the perfumed air,—

And sudden in their peal I heard a tone,

Which said that France might rise by me alone.

Oh then, like waves, o'er my enraptured soul

Dim shades of my great destiny did roll,

And by that stream I knelt, and weeping prayed

To God's blessed Mother for support and aid.

It would be nice to think of the foregoing being read again in Dublin some 77 years after the poet was NOT awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Prize.

J. G.

Dear Sir,—As it has such great possibilities for influence in our society, it seems to me very important that all who belong to a university should ask themselves as often as possible: "Are we on the right track?" It is gratifying to see that the subject of your editorials has been the state of Trinity College, but your emphasis on the need for research has left me with some doubts. When you suggest that scholarship funds be used to provide for research "because a university which merely teaches is failing in its purpose", I must ask myself whether teaching is not, however, the first purpose of a university, and whether this purpose is being achieved at Trinity. When you speak of our professors as "overburdened with tutorial and administrative labours", I must ask how provision for research is going to lessen the burden of those who are actually lecturing or tutoring. You close by saying: "If our professors do not have time to write their books, their reputation and that of their university will suffer." I must wonder whether the hundreds of unreadable books written each year by the professors of well-endowed American universities really enhance the reputation of their authors and sponsors, even when this is not the sole aim of their publication. I must ask myself whether Oxford and Cambridge do not owe their reputation largely to the tutors, a body of relatively unknown men.

May I suggest that Trinity will not be able to fulfil its teaching function until the staff has been increased sufficiently to permit the establishment of a tutorial system similar to that at Oxford and Cambridge, and that it is towards the cost of this increase that any funds should be redirected.

Yours, etc.,

Adam Nott.

Editor.—Mr. Nott has made several good points in his letter. However, in our opinion, teaching in a university depends completely on research. We still think that without research, teaching will be of a poor quality.

At The Cinema

The Desert Song (Capitol)

As has often been said, it is extremely regrettable that the vast expense involved in producing films inevitably leads to the choice of subjects for filming being made on a basis of potential box office appeal rather than artistic merit. It was rather with a feeling of relief that we heard that the new Hollywood musical in glorious Technicolour at the Capitol this week was yet another film version of that fascinating musical comedy "The Desert Song". Previous experience on stages and screens throughout the world guaranteed the success of such a film, and we welcomed another chance to go and hear Sigmund Romberg's haunting music.

As far as we can remember, this new version has nothing to add to the entertainment value of the previous films, and we would have been just as content to see a reissue of one of them. Nevertheless, Gordon Macrae is a good sheik, and Kathryn Grayson makes a very attractive Margot, the girl who falls in love with the mysterious Arab leader yet shuns him when he makes advances to her in his more prosaic "Dr. Jekyll" role. We recommend this film to anyone who has never heard the music before, but for those who know the piece, this just isn't their cup of cocoa-cola.

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"The Little Word of Don Camillo" (Metropole)

A delightful Continental comedy. The film shows the verbal and physical battles of Don Camillo, a village priest, and Peppone, the local Communist mayor. Fermandel plays the part of Don Camillo with rare sensitivity. All others in the film are admirably cast. We recommend the film to all. It will give you a delightful evening's entertainment.

"Inferno" (Theatre Royal)

"Inferno," which is being shown this week at the Theatre Royal, was originally a 3-D piece. It was interesting, therefore, to see it here without any technical boosting and to consider it for the usual dramatic and visual qualities.

It's story is the story of a business man who, when left to die and rot in the desert by his wife and her lover, harnesses all the resources at the command of his office-softened and physically maimed body to a tenacity for survival hardened by hatred of his betrayers.

The picture is competently made and in particular the quick flashes from the merciless desert and the mainly cactus diet of the husband to shots of the wife and her lover by the side of a swimming pool are cleverly and naturally done. In other words it does the job which the screen can do so much better than any other media.

Meds. on Buffet



"And then they extracted 26 razor blades from his stomach." — T.C.D. last week.

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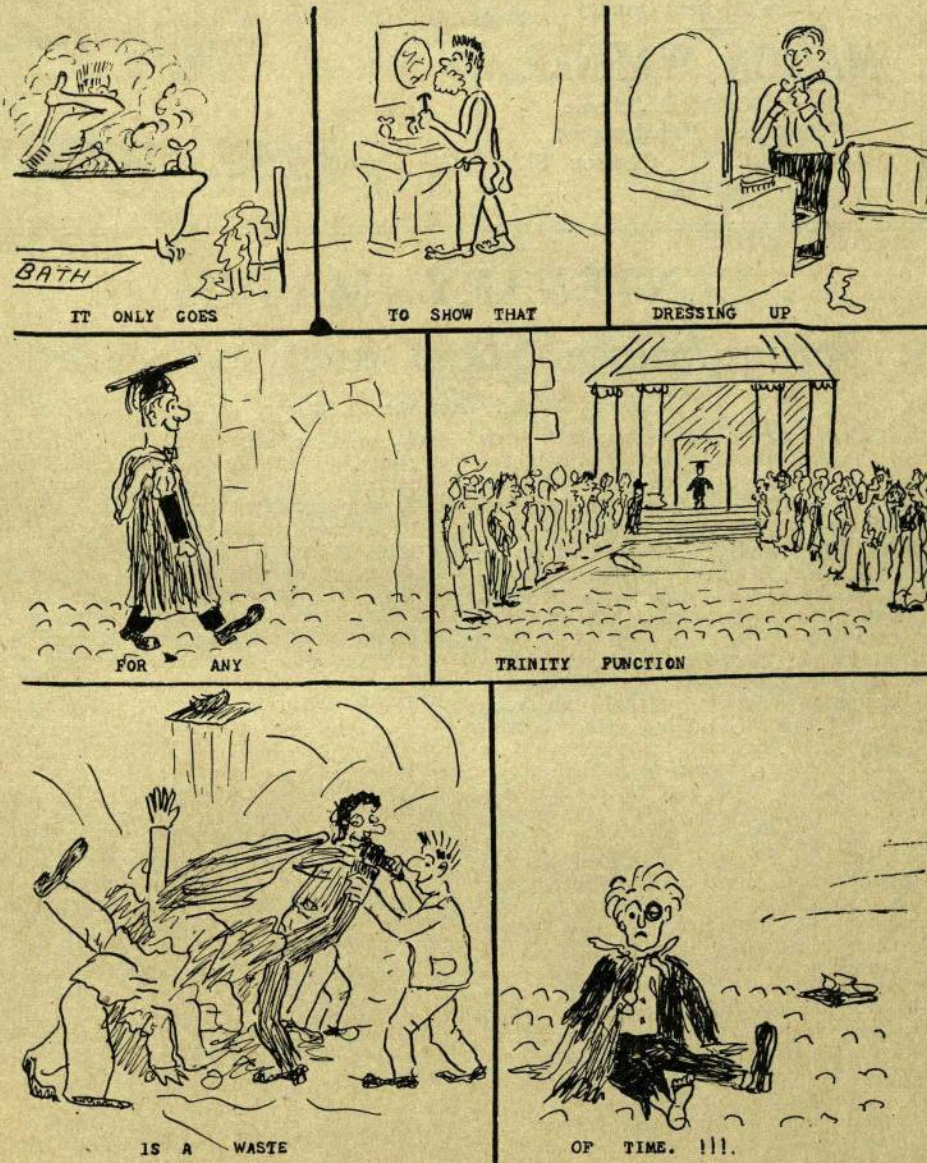
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GAELIC SOCIETY

On Wednesday last, Mr. Prionnsias Mac Aonghusa read a paper on Pádraic O Conaire to the Society. He gave a brief survey of O Conaire's career, saying that the material circumstances of his life largely accounted for the pessimism and despondency found in his works. O Conaire was the first European writer in modern Irish, being strongly influenced by French and Russian literatures, and was, above all, a realist, perhaps even a naturalist writer. His greatest importance was as a master of the short story, although he had also written one of the best novels in Irish in "Deóraíocht".

Mr. Douglas Doak-Dunelly said that before O Conaire the modern Irish novel had been very poor indeed, the best work it could offer being that of Peadar O Laoghaire. With "Séadna", Canon O Laoghaire's literary development began and ended.

Miss Barbara Robinson said it was instructive to compare the works of O Conaire, the realist, with those of his idealist contemporary, Pearse. O Conaire had great psychological understanding of women and they were prominent in all his best work.

The Chairman, Mr. Seán McGrath, in summing up, said that O Laoghaire was a good minor writer but that his literary vein was self-destructive and incapable of real development, whereas O Conaire had founded an important literary school that has reached its apotheosis in the work of Máirtín O Cadhain.

London Club

The newly-formed London Club will be holding their first dance on December 18th. Tickets from Miss V. R. Johnston, 19 Queen's Gate Terrace, London, S.W. 7.

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CENTENARY MATCH

Scrum-halves Show how to Score

Trinity, 3 pts. Blackheath, 3 pts.

In this "match of the century" we saw the sort of rugby that has kept the game going, good staple stuff with the odd highlight. There was a large crowd, which increased towards half-time.

Trinity won the toss and chose to play with the wind. Trinity pressed and Lyle made a neat break. Blackheath attempted a penalty from half-way that missed more narrowly than Tector's effort from 30 yards. Then came the first spell of aimless play, with loose kicking up and down, until Tector found touch with a good kick. Play swung to the other end, and from a scrum in the 20th minute the Blackheath scrum-half nipped over for a try. The kick failed.

The Trinity backs had plenty of the ball, but they mostly took their passes standing and there was little thrust. Blackheath kept up the pressure and bad Trinity tackling nearly gave away another score, but Tector marked the ball and saved the situation. After 32 minutes McLean from a scrum 50 yards out, made a lovely break and with two tantalising dummies went over for a score. Crawford just missed the conversion with a good kick.

A Blackheath centre was hurt and changed place with the lock forward, but had to go off for good at half-time. Thus at half-time the score was even.

McLean, who was hurt scoring the try, did not resume for 10 minutes after the interval. Brennan went to scrum-half. Then there was more scrappy

play, and Trinity showed a distinct aversion to falling on the ball. The Blackheath out-half just missed with a drop at goal. Trinity came back, Hyde tried a long cross-kick and there was nearly a score. O'Connor, who was showing up well, made a good break, and Gaston tried a kick ahead. Then the Trinity forwards clicked into gear. There was good work in the line-out and once Gill, Crawford, Brennan and Lyle combined in a movement that swept down the field. But no side really looked like scoring, and full-time came with both sides tired from giving of their best.

Lyle had a splendid game at out-half and was keen-eyed for an opening. At centre, Mostert and McCarthy lacked penetration, although they put in a lot of work. Hyde ran well, and Gaston, as always, looked like a rocket, fuse alight, ready to soar at any moment. Tector, playing his first game for many weeks, did some good things and promises to be back in top form soon. Among the forwards I liked best Roe, O'Connor, Brennan and Crawford. Perhaps some day Trinity will play a really first class game, the talent is certainly there.

BOAT CLUB

On Saturday the Michaelmas "At Home" races are being held at Island-bridge, when crews from Queen's University Rowing Club, the National University Rowing Club and Trinity will compete for the King George V Cup.

The IV's races for the Usher Cup will also be held. These IV's will consist of new members of the Boat Club, and each IV will have been assigned a senior member of the club as a coach, which will provide rivalry between coaches as well as crews.

SOCCER

Easy Win for Trinity

Trinity 5 goals
Vets. 1 goal

It was a pleasant change to see Trinity, obliged to fight hard in their previous matches, in control of the game against Vets. Lack of opposition allowed Trinity time to execute an occasional "nice move," satisfying for brief moments this spectator's craving for international football. Armstrong awoke memories of Wilf Mannion with a pleasing demonstration of how to hold the ball until an open space appeared and how then to send it along the ground into that space for a player to run on to. He helped to make Trinity's first goal, taking the ball up the right wing and centring into a cluster of players from whom the ball emerged to Hyland, who scored. Hyland and Davidson scored again for Trinity from MacGloin, who showed some nice touches at centre-forward. MacGloin increased Trinity's total to five with a header, taken in the classical manner from a centre across the goalmouth, and, early in the second half with a fine 25 yards' shot.

By now play was becoming carefree. A Trinity full-back was seen trying to dribble the ball round his opposite number; a Trinity full-back was heard on the sideline trying to arrange an evening's outing, being interrupted only when his goal was threatened. It was in this casual atmosphere that the Vets' outside-right, finding himself in possession of the ball with only Kendall to beat, did so, to give his side their only score.

Trinity deserved this win, but it was in no way a proof of the team's strength. I could suggest that having seen that they were in command of the game, Trinity might have seized this opportunity to play an open type of football, which in the team's present state they cannot do when they are under pressure. But, on the other hand, we might do as well to remind ourselves that football is only a game.

HOCKEY

Successful End to Tour

St. Andrew's University 1
Trinity 2

After leaving Northern Ireland the Trinity hockey team concluded its tour last Friday with a win over St. Andrew's University to the tune of two goals to one. It was very unfortunate that the weather was very bad, but, in spite of the conditions standards of play were high, both teams playing cleverly and it needed all the wiles of two solid defences to withstand the attacks of two strong forward lines.

George Wheeler and Wills, both playing at full-back for Trinity, played extremely well, especially in the second half when St. Andrew's were attacking most of the time and had a monopoly of the ball. Jones played well at centre-forward and had the ability to finish off a good movement. His goal was the result of fast following up. Fitzsimons was fast and elusive on the left-wing and had a very good game. His partner, Athey, also played well.

Outstanding among a good St. Andrew's team was their African goal-keeper, who saved his side time after time when the situation seemed all but lost.

The visiting Trinity XI opened the scoring just before half-time, when Bell converted a penalty corner. Both teams were very closely matched and the share of the play was fairly even. The ball was swept from goalmouth to goalmouth by the forwards, only to be stopped and sent back up the field by the plucky defenders. In the middle of the second half Jones increased Trinity's lead, but immediately afterwards Redstone scored for St. Andrew's. For a while it looked as if St. Andrew's might score again and draw level, but they rallied and kept their lead.

CROSS-COUNTRY

On Saturday last, Trinity Harriers had their third fixture of the season and again the result was achieved with admirable consistency; Trinity were defeated. The opponents were Leeds University and Queen's University and the race was held over the six-mile course at Islandbridge.

The weather was nippy and the ground rather slippery for the runners. E. Buchanan of Leeds, unbeaten this season, set a hard pace and forged easily ahead, leaving the other runners behind. He finally came in strongly to win in the time of 32 mins., 55 secs., to equal the course record—a very fine achievement under any circumstances but more especially so considering the conditions.

S. Webley (D.) and Barratt (Q.) were battling out some distance behind with the latter drawing away to come a very fine second in the time of 33 mins., 38 secs.—11 seconds in front of Webley. Mackey and one of the Leeds runners struggled together all the way and finally came in together. Good Leeds packing gave them places from 6-10 and an easy win.

After this, there followed a large gap and the next Trinity man to come in was 16th. The rest of the team came in in a bunch together.

All the Trinity eight's old faults were evident, lack of training in some, but mostly the seeming inability to start a race quickly and keep it up. Should these faults be rectified, Trinity could have the makings of a good team.

Architects "B" 4 goals
Trinity 3rd 3 goals

A rather small and rough pitch, together with a wet ball, were obstacles to good play in the game between Trinity 3rd and Architects "B" at Terenure last Saturday. Architects had the better side and led 1-0 at half-time.

After the interval the play improved, but it was still a bit ragged. David scored for Trinity, and Architects replied with three goals in a row. Trinity rallied towards the end and scored two more goals, the first by Pugh from a corner, and the second by Hannigan from a good centre. This left the final score 4-3 in Architects' favour.

BOXING

Trinity Beat Oxford

Trinity 5
Oxford 4

The Trinity Boxing Team travelled over to Oxford for its annual fixture with Oxford University last week. Trinity repeated their success of last year with a close victory, and into the bargain, deprived Oxford of its unbroken record of home wins, by winning by five fights to four.

Trinity were leading by 3-2 when P. Shanks entered the ring for his fight with Johnson. The former won easily, the fight being stopped in the third round, but Johnson put up a very plucky fight and took a tremendous amount of punishment before the referee intervened. Shanks was the more experienced and varied his punches throughout.

R. Coote, of Trinity, an Irish Universities' Junior Champion, also provided one of the better fights, and his fight with Courtman, of Oxford, was lively and full of excitement. Although there was little in it, Coote was the eventual winner due to greater punching power.

In the light-heavyweight bout, K. Comyns, of Trinity, met T. M. Fallon, of Oxford, who has improved greatly since last year. Both men boxed beautifully and cleverly. The fight was won by Fallon.

FENCING

In a mixed match, in which both men's and women's foil teams took part, last Thursday evening the D.U. Fencing Club first team defeated Royal College of Surgeons narrowly by 13 games to 12. It was a most exciting match and the issue was left in doubt until the last fight between M. McCausland, the Trinity captain, and A. Kieskevitz of Surgeons. The fight was lively and the two opponents were well matched. After a few minutes of quick exchanges the score was 3-2, with one hit to decide the winner. McCausland was slightly the quicker and so won the bout and the match for Trinity.

Misses G. Seldon and M. Bowden, and Messrs. J. Stuart and W. Somary also fought.

PREPAID ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR Sale, Flexaret Reflex Camera, f. 3.5 lens, 8-speed Prontor shutter; also Iloca 35 m.m. Camera, with coupled rangefinder, f. 3.5 lens, 8-speed synchronised shutter, etc. Both cameras with accessories in A. 1 condition. Apply Oliver Samuel, c/o. Biological Association.

THE Chairman and Staff of Trinity News wish the Editor and Staff of T.C.D. a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

RAINCOAT Lost last Thursday night. Finder return to A. Bolchever. Reward.

U.C.D. Rugby Football Club

D.U. Rugby Football Club

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