

My room at the university was then besieged; my room mate is still suffering from shock. It was perhaps slightly unfortunate that the University possesses a large lake and rather grand fountains. Certain people got rather wet and damaged.

Anyway it was very nice to see you all, and I hope Dave Parker suffered no more mishaps on the way home, likewise Tim no more flat tyres!

Hazel

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#### REPORT ON THE LOCAL GROUPS CONFERENCE

This year's Local Group Conference was held at Earls Court Hostel on March 4th/5th, and was attended by representatives from 29 groups.

On Saturday evening very little was done except to discuss the proposed affiliation of the Y.H.A. to the National Trust. Following discussions at last year's conference it was hoped that the National Trust would agree to groups being able to pay a reduced affiliation fee of about £5, compared with the usual £15, in return for which they would be issued with passes for free entrance to all the National Trust properties. However the only result of the negotiations has been for the National Trust to agree to allow Y.H.A. members under 21 years to join for a reduced fee of 15/-. The conference decided that further efforts should be made to obtain a substantial reduction in the corporate affiliation fee.

There followed a discussion on the fact that 50% of travelling expenses of non-skilled voluntary labour workers are payable on application, with a 100% refund for skilled workers, and it transpired that painting is classified as non-skilled labour, whereas filling envelopes with Y.H.A. renewal notices is skilled!

It was proposed that the Annual Reunion should be held in conjunction with the Wardens' Entertainment, in order that group members might have a chance to meet the wardens socially. The date of next years reunion is