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TRINITY NEWS

A Dublin University Undergraduate Weekly

THURSDAY, 5th DECEMBER, 1963

PRICE THREEPENCE

Outside TCD

"The Trinity world is bounded by the College walls—until it is realised by Trinity staff and students that Trinity is an Irish University with a duty to contribute to Irish life and to adapt herself to Irish life, Trinity will remain in the stagnant pool of out-dated ideas in which she is to-day."

This excerpt appeared in an article by Jarlath McKenna which recently appeared in the UCD publication **Awake**. In its almost envious criticisms of Trinity, this article seems typical of many people's views. Trinity is to them a relic of British rule in which Ireland and the Irish have little place. Trinity's history is one of isolation from the rest of the country. The students treat Ireland as an offshoot of England, hardly realising that they are in a foreign country, and interested only in English politics and problems. To them Trinity life is typified by the Trinity Ball and the College Races, faintly reminiscent of Eton's Fourth of June or Ascot. Whatever it calls to mind, Trinity seems to them to be living about fifty years out of date and still trading on its past reputation.

The argument that Trinity is run by and for the English has little weight when it is realised that whereas 56 per cent. of Trinity students are from the Republic of Eire, 38 per cent. only are English, and there are more graduates of Trinity and other Irish universities among the lecturing staff than there are from all English universities together. It may be true that many English at Trinity take little interest in Irish politics, although this is hardly surprising when in the four

short years while they are in Ireland, they are unlikely to be personally affected by them. This does not mean to say that no interest at all is taken in Ireland. Societies like the Hist, the Phil and the Fabian by no means concentrate exclusively on English questions. Ralph Bates, Chairman of Players, said that they would be delighted to do more Irish plays if only there were any suitable for University drama.

The idea that English students do not realise that they are in a foreign country was indignantly denied by all the English people your reporter spoke to. Half of Trinity's charm lay in the fact that it was a foreign country, and this was often one of the main reasons for choosing to come here. Michael Newcombe, President of the S.R.C., said that it was quite wrong to say that Trinity has always been isolated from the stream of Irish history when the inspiration for the Nationalist movement was centred on Trinity. Men such as Wolfe Tone, Robert Emmet, Isaac Butt and Thomas Davis, to name but a few, were all at Trinity.

The cure for Trinity's so-called parochialism is, so it seems, to make it more exclusively Irish. First, fees for non-Irish students were raised by 50 per cent. and now only Irish students can do general studies. On this, Newcombe said that he thought that such a move would be contrary to the whole idea of a university. In his view, and this was endorsed by several others, a university should be as broad as possible; it should be uncommitted to any particular belief, race or philosophy; it should embrace all points of view and tolerate all people. It is doubtful if this ideal would be achieved by making Trinity exclusively Irish. Thus McKenna's remark that Trinity should adapt herself to Irish life is the very reverse of true, and because at this moment Trinity is relatively broad and tolerant it is doing its "duty" in contributing to Irish life.

The third main point that the article tried to make was that Trinity was in a "stagnant pool of outdated ideas." Jane Cox, a second year Arts student, thought that to a certain extent this was a valid judgment and Trinity was old-fashioned, but she did not think that this was necessarily a bad thing. It implied a less desperate attention to exam results, facts, figures, courses and set-books; a more leisured attitude to education, which allows more time and gives more importance to extra-curricular activities. "Education is more than a sort of passive reception

(Continued on Page 7)



—Photo "Irish Times"

Dev cuts first sod

An tUachtaran Eamon de Valera ceremonially cut the first sod of the New Library project yesterday afternoon. He used a spade inscribed in English and Irish: "Presented to H.E. the President of Ireland, Eamon de Valera, by the architects on the occasion of the cutting of the first sod for the New Library of Trinity College, Dublin, December 4th, 1963."

The existing buildings will remain in use but only as functional extensions to the New Library. It is hoped to have the new system in working order in 1966.

The President in his speech referred to the history of the Library and was very proud that he should be associated with yet another stage in its life.

The Provost has announced that the Government has given another £100,000 to the Library.

Euphonia: "Winny dear, I am off to U.S.I., coming?"
Edwina: "What's U.S.I., Phoney darling?"
Euphonia: "They are taking care of my travel arrangements to Greece."
Edwina: "Travel only?"
Euphonia: "No, they represent all the students in Ireland in all spheres and are working for the betterment of student conditions. They arrange Vac. work, debates and a host of other things. I'll give you a loan of my U.S.I. HANDBOOK which tells all."

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To the Editor

Sir—I find it hard to accept Mr. Newcombe's argument that "as long as Catholics are permitted to enter Trinity on the understanding that they do so at their own risk, religiously speaking," the Laurentian Society must maintain unaltered its own constitutional prohibition upon engaging, as a society, in any religious activity whatever.

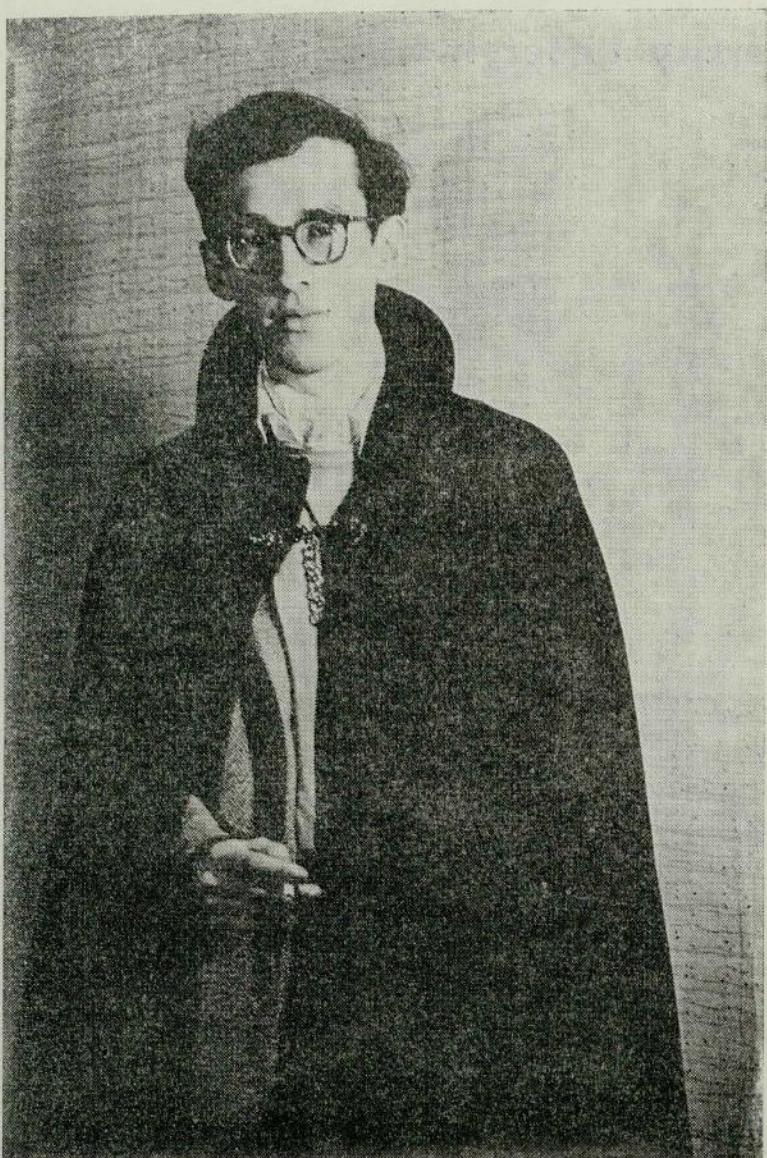
In the first place, I have seen no evidence that when the Most Rev. Dr. McQuaid grants permission to a Catholic to enter Trinity, he does so only in the hand-washing spirit indicated by Mr. Newcombe.

Second, I do not see, even if the Catholic authorities really did disclaim all responsibility, religiously speaking, for anything that might happen to Catholics once they dared to enter Trinity, how this would in any way prevent a Catholic Society like the Laurentian Society from engaging in any religious manifestation its members deemed fit, provided that Catholic doctrine on faith and morals was not contravened.

Many student groups and societies manifest their religious views in Trinity College in a wide variety of ways. I have not yet seen demonstrated just precisely what risk Trinity Catholics would run at the hands of their own Church authorities were they to decide to act with similar freedom.—Yours truly,

O. Sheehy Skeffington.

Tony Rance



An imperceptible darkening of the atmosphere; a rustle of black cloak; Anthony John Rance comes sweeping across Front Square. A ripple of sophisticated laughter in the white-tiled cosiness of Jammet's; in smoking-jacket and cigarette-holder, Tony Rance expatiates on the merits of Oscar Wilde. One can also observe him in red carpet-slippers, in a monocle or wearing a velvet stock. His cloak is, of course, his most famous creation and dear to the urchins of Dublin, who call him Dracula. It is indeed very much part of him; an extension of the bizarre and eccentric elements in his character. Rance often likes things because they are unusual or outmoded; he is the sort of man who would use a water-clock or an earth-closet if he could get one. A good example is the lute which is at present being specially prepared for him by one of England's two remaining lute-makers.

Tony Rance is tall, gaunt, wasp-waisted. He combines the odour of asceticism with a knowledgeable connoisseurship. The exterior of emaciated sanctity is belied by his familiarity with happy nights in the Bailey or Jammet's. Indeed, he has a feeling for the subtleties of drink and sips it as delicately as he will read a passage of Victorian prose, turning each phrase on his experienced tongue. His criterion of merit is the word "pleasant"; the unusual or the exotic make an immediate appeal to him. He has a great yearning for the Nineties and would probably have fitted very easily into that strange world where exoticism, fantasy and artistry were the highest values. Not to mention a well-tempered exhibitionism. The Yellow Book is his Bible and

his favourite author, almost his own discovery, is the extraordinary Baron Corvo. The gall-maufray that is Corvo's style, his rancour, his thwarted religious ambitions, are all very much to his taste. He also enjoys poetry, provided the dust has settled on it, the rolling sonorities of the Augustans, the elegant scurrility of Rochester. With this taste in literature goes an interest in old editions; his bookshelves are lined with tattered editions of Milton, Lyden and Pope. Once, he was wandering across the Bay and, happening to look in a dustbin, discovered a seventeenth century French translation of the Annals of Tacitus, which now is one of his proudest possessions.

Educated at Douai, he has strong monastic tendencies and often disappears to the hospitality of the monks during times of stress. An aura of infallibility enfolds him; sometimes he seems to be pronouncing a judgment ex cathedra rather than making conversation. His musical taste is also religious and many a night one can hear him returning from the Bailey in a state of post-Dubonnet elation chanting the Dies Irae with the very best sacerdotal intonation. On matters of religious controversy he is an expert and his knowledge of the intricacies of the law is rapidly becoming formidable. When it actually comes to working, he cannot be said to over-exert himself, but his results are usually highly impressive.

And I should have mentioned his liking for old ledgers which he buys on the quays and uses for keeping his notes. And his magazine on The Art of Forgery which sold out in a day. And his velvet gloves—and so on.

Theodora Thrashbint

Contrary to specific College regulations, Theodora left a week early this term. She left instructions that, invited or not, I should attend at least five parties, but as I only managed two, I thought I would fill in the time with a

little profile: If you meet Theodora, you forget her instantly; she has the most forgettable face ever invented. Her ears are grotesquely developed (for listening in to other people's conversations), her mouth is small (for keeping shut) and she glides rather than walks; I have known her to get from one side of a cocktail-party in rooms in five seconds flat. She drives a 4,000 c.c. hirondel-engined chevvy and keeps her hub-caps full of tin-foil to counter speed-traps; she holds a world-record for 12 assorted balls, dives, orgies and garda-posts in one night; she . . . but I could eulogise for ever, now I have an important (?) function to perform; ah Theodora where are you now?

Friday, Marlborough Road, Paul Shepherd and Norry Boultong opened their bean-cannery; Mike MacKenzie played hard to label. David Ridley fell on the floor and reviewed the "Entente (Martine Bruneau) Cordiale," while Norry Boultong and Juliet Richardson watched the happenings behind the curtains with interest and some mistrust. Anthea Thorpe investigated the W.U.S.; Mike Newling and Heather Lukes investigated. Paul did a snake-dance and mesmerised Lee Langly. Chris Whittaker made

up for it with another of those lovely American girls. Why don't Ralph and Jo keep more to themselves? Kick of the week for deviationists: eating the host's food in the loo; anyone interested contact Sua MacHarg or Tony Weale.

Saturday: a house-on-a-hill in Lucan. At her "last cocktail party of this type," Gay Douglas showed us the best advertisement for days of wine and roses since Al Capone. Judy Dunlop had her dress straightened and boy-friend Brindley went camping. Sally Brinton formed a lasting friendship with gin and tonic, and only Mike Gilmour managed to break through the mists. Roland Brinton braved the winter of his discontent on mini-pizzas and Peter Coulson practised his three-minute-chat on Penny Oakley. Charles Edwards flitted here and there, while James (Taras Bulba) Brown gave his scalp-lock into the safe-keeping of Veronica Sweetman. Jane Lipscombe, like all good icebergs, showed only her best third and that was to Mike O'Neill. Judy Loxton and David Russell mixed their drinks.

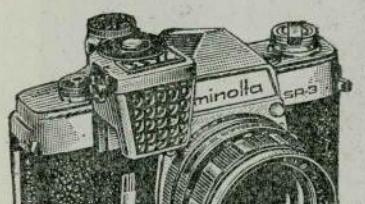
And so I went to bed and resolved that this was the last favour I would do for anyone; even Theodora Thrashbint, bless her.

heavy glares which met me necessitated a deep gulp of Spanish Rosé (only four shillings) which went down much better than my remark.

There were a few really serious drinkers there and one of them told me "Drinking is my only hobby." I looked impressed and thought guiltily of the piles of crochet at home and the happy hours my brother spends with his do-it-yourself carpentry kit. At least such pastimes don't give one a purple nose. Morgan's Quinta Tawny Port (eleven shillings a bottle) made me feel purple all over and is just the thing to make you glow (internally like a heater, externally like a light bulb rather than a pig) especially on a cold and frosty even.

I have a hazy recollection of sampling a not very good Petit Chablis 1962, which at nine shillings a bottle I cannot recommend, before teetering weakly out to grab some suety grub to sop up the surplus alcohol.

T.T.



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TRINITY NEWS

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ICARUS

"Par ma foi! il y a plus de quarante ans que je dis de la prose sans que j'en suis rien."

That we all speak and write prose is largely to blame for the rarity in a literary magazine like *Icarus*, and for the indifference with which its odd manifestation is received, of good prose. The Trinity "poet" is meanwhile accorded a tribute to curiosity and embarrassed envy earned by his extraordinary genius for writing with fulsome metaphor but slender meaning in verbless italic lines of unequal length, encouraged by his readers' insistence that prose requires no sensibility of language to assist its meaning and so poetry needs no sensibility of meaning to lend force to its language.

Compare, in this term's *Icarus*, Timothy Brownlow's high-flown twaddle with Brendan Kennelly's delicate sense of language, each word appropriate both to thought and image, the whole marked by a gentle restraint which gives a peculiar poignancy to his *Road Accident*:

Her blind little run, the sharp collision.
Her body stretched on the sunny road . . .

Compare, too, Frank O'Connor's *The Weeping Children*, in which the language can be said to be apposite to the story only if one is willing to admit that a dull plot necessitates a barren style, with James Donovan's *The Salvation of Sammy Ackroyd*, which is again characterised by a restraint that gives a subtle irony to the story, though Donovan could study O'Connor to learn when to leave off; the first dialogue with the priest is weakened by its being too long continued.

Nevertheless, careful and repeated reading through has its rewards, notably in Annabel Hadman's two short pieces and Dick Benson-Gyles' one. But Tim Webb's *A Medieval Morality* is too contrived to be funny, and his single line of genuine poetry occurs in the prose contribution, *Searching for a Light of Green*: "a cluster of buzzards darken a stark tree . . ." It is a pity Deborah de Vere White has been unable to maintain the standard of her writing in the previous issue:

. . . the way it takes the old
Down dark grey lanes to where
The sea with its cold thin lips
Draws sad men down to colder roads
Than those you linger by . . .

The dedication of Alban Barbet's contribution gives a clue to the phoney symbolism of "hesitant stylus," "poised to despoil," "grasping the symbol" and "swollen subconscious." Michael Longley's *Epithalamion* includes too much; it looks like two poems braided together. Charles Sprawson's article on pop-songs is good in its way, but intensely annoying because in striving to attain the detachment of the historian he has merely established a sneering superiority. He had done better to remember that songs like *Stormy Weather* and *These Foolish Things* are probably more genuinely poetic than much that has appeared in *Icarus* yet.



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Grocock was in command of his instrument and of the audience. In fact he gave an eminently able and convincing interpretation of this taxing work. To end the first half of the concert, John Wilkinson conducted the Singers in some carols.

Last Friday's Singers' concert, conducted by Stephen Ryle, featured the first performance of Carl Bontof's *Missa Brevis*, with John Aspinwall, piano. It showed a commendable spirit of adventure to choose a work by a student, and the conviction with which it was performed contributed in large measure to its success with the audience. Yet although such recognition of indigenous talent is admirable in itself, it is only right to expect certain standards in a setting of the world of the Mass. The setting was in this case unliturgical, so presumably it was meant as a concert work, not intended for any practical purpose. Mr. Bontof's mass did not hang together as a concert mass should. Such a work is not to be under-

taken lightly, for the words of the liturgy are notoriously lacking in artistic coherence, and all successful examples reflect the deep religious conviction of mature creative genius. This mass was more a series of ideas strung together without any feeling of necessity than an unified whole. It was perhaps too ambitious an undertaking, but the music did have an unmistakably contemporary flavour, and contained some successfully original things.

The Bach 'cello suite No. 1 in G, played by Richard Grocock, was musically the major event of the evening. These suites for unaccompanied 'cello are extremely difficult to bring off in performance, but it was obvious from the first note that Richard

After the interval, Julian Hall (flute), Tania Crichton (violin) and Peter Ritchie (piano) played two Interludes by Jacques Ibert; slight, "salon" music, elegantly performed. Finally the Singers, conducted by Stephen Ryle, sang a group of Christmas motets by Palestrina, Vittoria, Sweelinck and Dering with their usual expertise and enthusiasm. The acoustic of the Public Theatre adds an extra glow to "a cappella" singing, and makes the sheer sound of the music a pleasure to hear. D. J. L.

Cinema: The Birds

(The Savoy)

The Birds is Hitchcock's latest and most fantastic experiment with the spectator and yet another feather in the cap of a man who has been in the film industry for forty years and is still able on at least three occasions to make us catch our breath at the sheer beauty of his filming.

Unlike Preminger who is content to place the spectator on the perimeter of his film, Hitchcock entices him inside, whereupon he slams the door shut, sets

the film rotating around him and doesn't allow him to emerge until two hours later. Hitchcock's films are really built up around the moments of tension to which this technique provides a frame.

In *The Birds* the moments of tension are an ornithologist's nightmare, a terror in comparison with which *Psycho* seems tame. They are, however, far too brief to fill up two hours of screen time, and so Hitchcock provides us with a great deal of padding. There is a theme which he describes as "complacency," some love interest and a dominating

mother. Sadly, this material is very much secondhand, lifeless and unexplored. It is also immensely contrived, especially when one considers that it takes up the first third of the film, but when the birds begin to attack, the problems entailed by the love interest are happily shelved.

The Birds is not a well balanced film, and its psychological interest completely fails. But as another "shocker" from Hitchcock's workshop, and for its frequent moments of superb cinematography, it is well worth seeing.

Harriet Turton.

Theatre: The Happy Haven

(Gate)

"Arden not your hearts against those who are old," could well be the theme of *The Happy Haven*; the play itself is a mixture, and not always a happy one, of pantomania and music-hall. Arden uses the ballad, colloquial prose and highly formal verse to make his statement on old age, and does it casting naturalism and sentimentality to the winds.

This play is the first example of the formal presentation and simplicity which had been appearing in his earlier work. As such

it owes much to Eliot and the exponents of the Theatre of the Absurd, in the handling of the "black comedy" and the juxtaposition of the expected and unexpected.

Set in The Haven, an old folks' home, under the direct supervision of an energetic and immature Dr. Copperthwaite, pleasantly played by David Andrews, the action centres around his research for an elixir of life. We join him at the point where he has almost succeeded and find him planning to put it to the test on five of the inhabitants. These patients discover what is afoot and one part of the play is devoted to their discussion on whether they would like to be young again. The patients are decharacterised by wearing masks; using them as types, Arden goes on to the more

vital discussion on how and why we should prepare for old age.

To achieve the deep contrast between the music-hall routines, the "black comedy," the jesting and the highly moving verse needed a wholly positive direction. This was not what happened; it was an half and half approach which resulted in only a partial success.

Notable performance came from Michael Mars, John Franklyn and Peter Mayock, but even they could not remove the general air of shoddiness which prevailed in this presentation.

Michael Gilmour.

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SOCIALISM IN IRELAND

To what extent have the aims and ideals of James Connolly been realised in modern Ireland? Is Socialism a live force in the Republic? What prospects, if any, are there of more co-operation between those parties which profess the interest of the working man, so that Socialism may speak as a coherent and articulate voice in the State, and not merely as a collection of discordant and dissentient opinions?

Let us start by asking ourselves what are the components of Irish Socialism. There are, I think, three main factors, the Irish Labour Party, the Trade Union Movement and the National Progressive Democrat Party.

Let us consider each of these three components and try and assess to what extent each has a claim to call itself Socialist.

First, the Irish Labour Party. There has been a Labour Party of one kind or another continually in existence throughout the

history of the state. At times it has split into two or more fragments, only to be re-united again for a time pending the development of a new split, which in turn has been patched up.

change of aims

Up to 1941-1942 the main core of the Irish Labour Party proper was distinctly Marxist in outlook, due undoubtedly to the teachings of James Connolly. However, at the Party's annual conference held in 1941, a teacher who was

a member of the Irish National Teachers' Organisation made a most important speech which was to change the entire future of the Irish Labour Party. He announced that he had been in consultation with some members of the Catholic Hierarchy, and had been informed by them that the Party's principles were contrary to Social Catholic teaching in at least two respects: (1) that the Party aimed at a Workers' Republic; (2) that public interest should come before private interest. The delegate went on to say that unless they changed these articles "anyone who did not know the Irish Labour Party might think there was a tinge of Socialism about it." In due course both these items were removed with the approval of the then Chairman of the Labour Party, William Norton, and replaced by the statement that the Party's aim was a representative form of Government giving social justice to the citizen.

This is in fact still the fundamental aim of the Irish Labour Party to-day, not exactly Socialist in the accepted sense of the word Socialist.

Nevertheless, the Irish Labour Party in spite of the fact that it is not a Socialist Party in the strict sense of the word, and in spite of its internal differences, has always been the third largest party in the State and except at the 1948 General Election polled the third largest vote. On this occasion it fell to fourth place, the third place being taken by Sean MacBride's newly-founded Clann na Poblachta Party. The number of seats held by the Labour Party in the Dail has fluctuated during the period 1922 to 1963 between 15 and 20. So it can be said that while the Labour Party has made no headway during this period, it has nevertheless managed to retain its position. Looked at from another angle, the Party can be regarded as being static, neither progressing nor declining.

efforts to extend power and influence

However, in the last two years the party has bestirred itself, slowly at first with the appointment of Brendan Corish as its leader in place of William Norton, followed in 1961 by the creation of the post of Secretary to the Parliamentary Labour Party, filled most ably by Mrs. Catherine McGuinness.

These two appointments brought a new atmosphere into the party and gradually the party has activated itself in various directions.

In 1960, discussions were held between the Labour Party and

Clann na Poblachta with a view to forming some kind of liaison between the two parties. However the discussions came to nothing, largely because the Labour Party and Clann na Poblachta took different views on what form such a liaison should take. The Labour Party interpreted it in terms of an amalgamation of the two parties, with Clann subordinated and absorbed within the Labour Party. While Clann interpreted the liaison in a strict sense of election pacts between the two parties, whereby each would agree not to fight the other in the same constituency — the parties deciding between them which would have the better chance of winning a particular seat. Clann also regarded the Labour Party as not being a Republican Party, and it was on this point that the negotiations finally broke down.

At the last General Election in October, 1961, largely due to Mrs. McGuinness's efforts, the Labour Party increased its membership in the Dail by two. Since then, Mrs. McGuinness has worked unceasingly to further the party and has done much to raise the standard of the questions asked by Labour deputies in the Dail, not to mention the standard of their speeches. She has also been responsible for a very thoughtful pamphlet on education in Ireland.

But Brendan Corish's and Mrs. McGuinness's work only provided the background for the recent intensive activity of the Labour Party during the last six weeks or so. During these last few weeks, the Labour Party has been making phenomenal efforts in all directions to increase its prestige, its membership in the Dail and its support in the country at large.

How far has it been successful in these, its latest moves? No one who reads the *Irish Times* can have failed to have seen during the past six weeks the amount of Labour propaganda which has been appearing daily on practically every news page of that paper. This is largely the work of the Political and Lobby Correspondent of the *Irish Times*.

One would think by reading the *Irish Times* some days, that the Labour Party was in fact the Government, from the amount of space devoted to its activities both inside and outside Leinster House.

pressure on Ceann Comhairle

There are nevertheless a number of black marks to be awarded to the Labour Party in respect of its recent activities. The worst was the attempt to put pressure on the Ceann Comhairle, Patrick Hogan, who is a member of the Labour Party, to vote



Patrick Hogan, Ceann Comhairle.

against the Government in the event of there being a tie in the crucial Dail debate on the Labour motion on the Turnover Tax. It was thought at the time that there would be a tie in the vote of 71-71 and that the Ceann Comhairle would hold the casting vote.

The Administrative Council of the Labour Party met and passed a resolution which desired the Ceann Comhairle in that event to vote against the Government. This was a most unethical act, since it is a well-established convention that in the event of a tie the Ceann Comhairle shall always vote to maintain the status quo. In fact, Patrick Hogan was saved from this most embarrassing situation at the last moment, when two Independent Deputies, who had previously voted for the Opposition, decided to vote for the Government. It is greatly to Patrick Hogan's credit that he is alleged to have stated privately that he would, notwithstanding the resolution of the Administrative Council of the Labour Party, vote against their resolution and for the maintenance of the status quo. It seems that the Ceann Comhairle at least is one member of his party to place Parliament above party. This episode has not endeared the Labour Party to many who might otherwise be attracted to it at the present moment.

ineffectualness of Trade Unions

There has been a tremendous drive to increase the Labour Party's membership in the Dail in recent weeks. So far only Sean Dunne, the Independent Labour Deputy for Co. Dublin, has returned to the fold. But negotiations are going on with Noel Browne and Jack MacQuillan of the National Progressive Party to join the Labour Party. There is much speculation at the moment as to whether they will in fact do so.

On balance it seems most probable they will, in spite of some opposition within the Labour Party to this move. Most people in politics in Ireland, including even some in the Labour Party, are now aware that Noel

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by a Special Correspondent

IRELAND

Browne is a very questionable political asset.*

An abortive attempt was made, shortly before Sean MacBride left to take up his position as Secretary General of the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva, to arrange a meeting between him and Brendan Corish with the purpose of re-opening negotiations for an amalgamation of Clann na Poblachta with Labour. Notwithstanding the fact that Sean MacBride is no longer in Ireland, the Labour Party are still contemplating such an amalgamation—perhaps they feel that they may have more success in this venture now that Sean MacBride is safely in Geneva!

The Labour Party are also turning their attention to increasing their seats at the next election



Sean MacBride, S.C.

by more orthodox means, namely, that of winning them with suitable candidates. Con Lehane, the former Clann na Poblachta Deputy, has been approached with a view to his contesting Dublin South Central at the next elections. Should he decide to accept this invitation, it is most likely that he would in fact win a seat here for the Labour Party.

Efforts have also been made recently to unite Clann na Poblachta and Labour in West Galway. Here again there would be a strong chance of a Labour seat should such a pooling of votes take place.

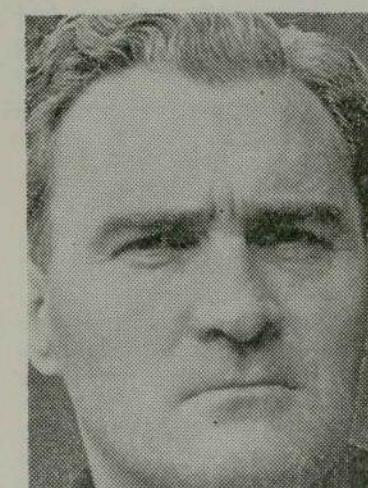
Estimates of Labour's seats after the next election vary between twenty-five and thirty. This on the face of it appears impossible. But from a close analysis of the figures at the last General Election it seems possible if not probable, as there are a number of seats such as Wexford, Mid-Cork, Clare, Co. Dublin and Kildare where Labour already hold one seat and could by intensive organisation win a second seat, provided and always provided that they succeed in procuring suitable candidates. Other constituencies where there is sufficient Labour support at present to make it worthwhile

concentrating their efforts in the hope of winning fresh seats are Dublin North East, where Denis Larkin failed to retain his seat at the last election, and Laoighise-Offaly, where there is already a large Labour vote. South Kerry and Sligo-Leitrim are also possibilities, although more doubtful than the others just mentioned.

Up to now the Labour Party have depended far too much on the personality of their individual candidates to win and retain their seats. This is one of the chief reasons up to now why they have not made any significant inroads on the other parties. The party has failed to attract support in the West, largely because the West is intensely Republican and has never forgotten that the Labour Party voted for the acceptance of the Treaty. In Dublin, they have failed for quite a different reason, namely, that their policy has been far too vague and, being based on local questions, quite unsuitable for urban areas which require a detailed and coherent policy. Local personalities find it far easier to win seats and retain them in the country than in Dublin. Labour Deputies, when selected to the Dail, have concentrated on local issues and their policy in Leinster House is distinctly opportunist in the sense that it deals with specific issues as they arise and is not concerned with problems which do not immediately effect their own representatives.

The Labour Party seems recently to have realised this and is making tremendous efforts to remedy this situation at the Eleventh Hour.

However, Brendan Corish recently announced that the Labour Party would not be a member of



Brendan Corish, T.D.

any future inter-party Government, but intends to remain aloof from any Government until it is in a position to form a Government of its own.

Browne's chimerical party

The position of the Trade Union Movement in this part of the country is extremely interesting, for very few of the trade unions are at the moment affiliated to the Labour Party. Never-

theless the vast majority of trade unionists vote Fianna Fail, even those members of trade unions who are in fact affiliated to the Labour Party.

The Labour Party has been to a large extent responsible for this situation because they have failed utterly to educate the rank and file of the trade unionists in Labour principles.

At present the trade unions are for the most part very autocratic and their officials are completely out of touch with rank and file opinion. Of course this is also a criticism of the rank and file, who are very apathetic, otherwise they would cease to re-elect their officials year after year, in spite of the fact that they consider these officials to be virtually useless. This may be one explanation why there have been in the years since the war so many crippling unofficial strikes in essential services, which have been extremely bitter and long drawn out.

The Trade Union Movement has not been overlooked in the Labour Party's recent reappraisal. They intend to persuade as many of the trade unions as possible to affiliate to the Labour Party, in the hope that through their contacts in the trade unions they will be able to build a solid block of Labour support which will be diversified throughout the country. This could, of course, prove most valuable, as there are some 350,000 trade unionists in this part of Ireland. The effect of this would be that, if even half of them could be persuaded to vote Labour, the Labour Party would in fact be in a position to form a Government.

It is most significant that Fianna Fail should at this very moment be considering bringing in legislation to abolish the present trade union set-up in the State and replace it with one general trade union, with members drawn from all the existing trade unions. This national trade union would be given special and independent representation in the Senate.

Lastly, there remains the National Progressive Democrat Party to be considered. This party is generally regarded as being the only truly Socialist organisation in the country, as well as providing the only real opposition in the Dail. How far are these two assertions justified?

The National Progressive Democrat Party was in fact formed more or less by accident. A meeting had been organised by a group of young Trinity and U.C.D. graduates and undergraduates at the Lansdowne Hotel some time in 1957, to which Noel Browne was invited. The real purpose of the meeting was to found the 1913 Club. The Club's purpose was to hold weekly meetings to discuss current Irish problems in the light of Socialist doctrine. At this meeting it was put to Noel Browne that he should form a

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DUBLIN 4

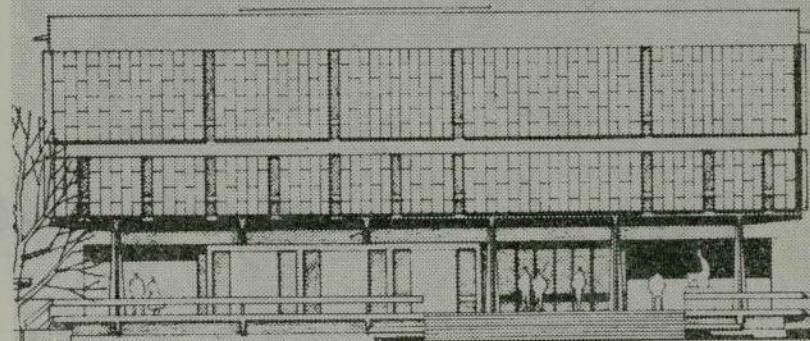


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political party. This Browne was reluctant to do, but agreed with the view of the younger members in respect of forming the 1913 Club. Later that year Noel Browne made a pact with Noel Hartnett. Shortly after this, there occurred a bye-election in Dublin South Central, at which Browne decided to put up Noel Hartnett as a candidate. This was a somewhat reckless move, as there was no party organisation, nor had the party even acquired a name. However a name was now quickly provided, with Noel Browne and Jack McQuillan as the Party, and the 1913 Club providing the workers for the campaign. The election result was pitiful, and there was much discontent both during the actual campaign and immediately afterwards. A post-mortem meeting was held in the North Star Hotel. There ensued a massive row and a grand showdown, followed by a walk-out of a number of the younger people who had previously remained loyal to Browne. Browne was now left with a party consisting of himself and Jack McQuillan together with a few supporters who were not admitted to membership.

Considering the view that the National Progressive Democrat Party provides the only real opposition in the Dail, what, one asks, is the function of an Opposition? Browne's supporters would reply sustained criticism of the Government. But this criticism is always destructive and negative, never constructive and positive, whereas the real function of an Opposition is to provide an effective alternative Government.

It can now be seen that there is in fact no Socialist organisation in the true sense at work in Ireland to-day. The Labour Party is making tremendous efforts towards increasing its power, presumably with the object of forming a Labour Government within the next decade. But unless it radically alters its fundamental ideas, it will certainly not earn itself the title of Socialist.

* Since this article was written, Browne has announced that he is dissolving his party, and that both he and Jack McQuillan are joining the Labour Party. He added that there was little or no difference between the policies of his party and the Labour Party.

BEARDS:

The beards of Trinity—an ever-growing problem. This term more excrescences than ever before have been flaunted on once presentable chins. We are all well used to Laurie Howes' Saxon haer, Denis Wright's barbe, Ron Opas' arctic guise, and David Adam's goatee. The Freshers offer a fierce contrast, with their fresh young complexions; it must be the pressures of Trinity life that account for this, as many other phenomena, in Trinity life. "Working for exams" seemed a ready excuse for the unfortunate lack of shav-

ing in the autumn season. With the results, and joy in sight, John McGuire summoned up courage to take razor in hand and slash the cords of conflict. Not so many others. Is it that sophisters felt a need to pose as sages to the freshers? Or merely as Males? Or is it that in their Freshman years, beards and confidence did not come easily to them? Puzzled by this phenomenon, and anxious for Trinity's fast vanishing beauty, I carried out a survey.

Trevor Crozier was summoned to the telephone to answer my probing questions. "We are just

good friends," he said. The subject switched to beards. "Why did you shave off your beard?" "No particular reason, any more than I grew it for any particular reason." In an exclusive interview, Jerry (he would not give his surname) disclosed that he shaved his beard because it tickled in bed. Nick King said that if he had to have an exclusive interview, he would shave off his too. Otherwise he would shave it off when he got bored. Asked how soon that would be, he was lost for words. Sammy Olagbaju said that he was too lazy to shave, he hadn't a razor, and

anyway he was a smooth man, and did I want any more reasons. Andrew Fox Robinson had a definite reason for re-growing his beard. "It is creative." He act of creation by shaving it off didn't feel he had violated the again. "Shaving is just as creative," he explained.

Having carried out these personal interviews, I made a reconnoitre of Trinity's most frequented spots. I went into the New Reading Room and was almost disappointed in my quest. I could see one possibility, but this was as yet a nascent growth. The Old Reading Room was more

rewarding. Here were five beards, two in the stalls and three in the dress circle. Was this distribution significant? Showing an inordinate craving for milk, I went from the Coffee Bar through Butterly to Buffet. These were the relevant statistics:

10 per cent. Buffet.
5 per cent. Butterly (all drinking through straws).
Nought Coffee Bar.

Throughout my survey I found difficulty in defining Beard. Some faces were neither bearded nor beardless. On consultation of the shorter Oxford English Dictionary (Standard Version) I found, quote: hair of lower part of face, chin tuft of goat, etc.; awn of grass, unquote. These last I did not count.

LETTER

Sir.—Is "Trinity News" to share the fate of the College Historical Society, the SRC—possibly even the College Chapel—and become just another platform for the Newcomberical Movement? For Heaven's sake spare us any further mention of the Great Ubiquity. Hardly an issue this term has gone by without some reference to him or some article from his flux-ridden pen. His last letter, a masterpiece of prolixity, contained the following gem: "I have on other occasions, and at greater length, expressed by views on the injustice of the Hierarchy's attitude towards Trinity." Yes, Mr. Newcombe, of you I can believe that; but why not keep your graceless style and pompous platitudes out of these columns?—Yours faithfully,

Claude Lester.

BRIDGE

VI — BRIDGE FACES

Of those present at the first meeting of the Bridge Club five years ago, only two remain, Noel Bolingbroke-Kent and — Ah! but I have an excuse, I'm a medic! In those early days the ladies, even in rooms, were very much in the background at the green biege tables. Not so now. The game sports some of the prettiest and most intelligent, vivacious and ablest hostesses in College. A roll-call hardly seems fair, but name dropping can do no harm especially when it includes Bim Hargrove, Grania Fitzgerald, Dinah Wood, Jill Brendan-Smith, Trissa O'Connor, Nicky Grant, Jenny Newman, Mirabelle . . . No one can tell me that they ALL play because Tony Godfrey does! No, one is forced to admit that all have fallen prey to that most pernicious of disease, "Social Bridge."

Nothing has been said of Trinity's male bridgeurs—but, then, what indeed can one say about Danny Pouget, Chris Robinson, Jocelyn Pugh, Ewen Simmonds, John Orange, Piers . . . that is, without opening one's self to libel charges. Everyone knows they play up and play the game; but do they, one wonders, play it for the game's sake?

R. J. B.



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Around the Clubs**BOAT CLUB**

A scratch Trinity crew emerged victors against a probable U.C.D. 1st VIII at the Trinity "At Home" Regatta last Saturday, so retaining the King George V Cup. This event for scratch crews provided some most exciting racing, in ideal rowing conditions. Three Trinity crews of comparative ability were entered. "B" crew was knocked out in the first round by Lady Elizabeth B.C. "A" crew did very well against Old Collegians, but were just pipped for the semi-final at the post by one-third of a length. "C" crew provided the surprises of the day by respectively defeating Galway B. Garda, Lady Elizabeth B.C. and U.C.D. I. U.C.D. were extremely lucky to get into the final because their semi-final race with Queen's "A" was a dead-heat and due to approaching darkness the result had to be tossed. U.C.D. won it. Following Trinity's Regatta success, the Regatta dance proceeded to drink up an alcoholic victory as well as a financial one. All this bodes extremely well for next term.

ATHLETICS CLUB

The athletics season got off to an early start last Monday evening with an enjoyable indoor meeting at the Curragh which is the venue of a match between Trinity and the Irish Army early next term.

On Monday few of the Army athletes were present, but there was good competition among the Trinity athletes. Once again the fifteen minutes "Parlauf" proved an exciting climax, with the Curragh leading right till the final minute when Shillington's relief their man cracked. Boelens, Austen and Curtis showed fine form in the sprints and freshmen Harrison and Boothroyd showed promise in the 440 and mile. Murtagh, now free from injury, is a real prospect in the high hurdles. In the field events, Boelens' long-jumping, Russell's high-jumping and Hatt's shot-putting were all up to their high standards, while Ross and Pointer

ensured that we shall have ample resources in the jumps.

80 Yards—R. Boelens, 8.8.
500 Yards—S. Austen, 63.0.
One Mile—A. Shillington, 4.43.
300 Yards Hurdles—H. Murtagh, 38.2.
Parlauf—D.U.H. "A" (Shillington, Austen, Toomey, Duff).
Long Jump—Boelens, 21 ft. 1 in.
High Jump—J. R. D. Russell, 5 ft. 8 in.
Shot Putt—L. Hatt, 45 ft. 2 in.

GYMNASTICS

The Gymnastics Club, dormant for many years due to lack of support and equipment, now emerges with £360 worth of gear and a substantial following.

The new equipment includes a vaulting box with spring-board, a pommeled horse, parallel bars, a horizontal bar, rings, a trapeze, and mats. Training takes place on Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m.; Thursdays, 6.30-8.30 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10-12 noon. Next term there will be regular coaching from an Army instructor.

There are plans for a gymnastics display next February by Frank Turner, former British Olympic gymnast, and now coach to the British Olympic team. An Army display team will also perform, and, of course, members of the Trinity Club.

Officially, those who join are members of the Boxing and Gymnastics Club, but once the gymnastics side is firmly on its feet, it will break away and establish a separate club. In the meantime anyone with any experience or interest in gymnastics is urged to join and help to make this new venture a success.

We regret any aspersions in our Rugby report of November 28th with regards to John Coker, and we apologise for doubting his courage.

voices off

The Irish Universities' Drama Festival Committee have unanimously severed all connections with USI. As far back at 1960, USI in a policy statement were discussing ways by which they could take over the running of the Festival. In the following year they promised to give money to put a student production on at the Theatre Festival; the promise was not fulfilled. Last Easter, when UCD were the host University, USI gave £25, which had been raised by local firms towards the running costs. Full publicity was promised with USI as the liaison link between the various productions and the National Press. Again nothing came of it.

During the professional Festival in October, USI claimed credit for bringing over the Oxford and Newcastle productions; in fact, it was the Players' Committee who arranged both visits.

At a friendly meeting with USI early this week the representatives from the founder members, Trinity, UCD, UCG, Queen's and Stranmillis, agreed that the Festival was entirely their responsibility. And so it is up to them to make March 16-21 an even more memorable week of Theatre than before.

**TERRY WALKER**

This week's sportsman is the Junior Secretary of the Rugby Club. Terry is twenty-two and lives in Addington (somewhere in England, I think). His favourite songs are *The Wild West Show* and *Have You Seen the Muffin man*. He enjoys doing Economics essays, especially with his gown on. Though not fond of strong drink, he is only two willing to show how broadminded he is. Hates women—he dances only with Paul Keatinge. He likes to play at being a fireman, and loves aero-spotting, especially at four in the morning lying in bed. He was trained in his present job

Fiesta Bombshell

In January of this year, the World University Service in Trinity College was forged into its present form, and a weekly concert was started under the name "Fiesta Fantasy." The aim was to raise funds for WUS, and at the same time to provide an outlet for musical talent in College. By May, the concert was profiting to the tune of £5 per week.

At this time, Simon Morgan, finding the Belfast-Dublin walk too much for him, crawled into the car of Richard Eager, the newly-elected Chairman of WUS in Trinity. The result was the Drogheda summit conference which brought about a "new era" in WUS fund raising activities.

The first concert under the new régime netted £9 10s., which was very encouraging. This term,

WANTED!

Have you decided what you will do when you leave College? There are urgent needs in the Church in Malaysia, where our own University Far Eastern Mission is working.

1. A woman graduate teacher to work in English medium in a Chinese girls' high school.
2. A man graduate teacher to work in English medium in a Chinese boys' high school.
3. An ordained man to lecture in Trinity Theological College in Singapore.
4. An agriculturalist, preferably a specialist in poultry or pigs.
5. An ordained man for parish work in a new industrial area.
6. A woman parish worker, preferably someone trained in religious education.

RUGBY**Colours Prospect**

Last Saturday's defeat by Clontarf, 26-3, and losses against Collegians and Bective Rangers do not add up to a rosy prospect for the 1st XV in their effort to win the Colours Match (against U.C.D.) on December 14th. U.C.D. have won this match for the last two years and so will be full of confidence of a hat-trick (the first) of victories in this series.

The lack of team spirit displayed by the XV last Saturday cannot be wholly attributed to the fact that six of the side originally selected were unable to play. It is this quality of team spirit more than any other which is likely to give Trinity a win in the most important match of the season.

U.C.D.'s record so far this season may not appear, at first glance, to be very impressive. However, it must be remembered that due to interprovincial calls (they have representatives on each of the Leinster, Munster and Connaught sides) and other games, for instance Co. Dublin v. Toulouse, their full first XV has had little opportunity of playing as a unit. Their victory last Saturday over U.C.G. in the latter's Colours Match will have given them a taste of the "big match" atmosphere which will pervade the air again at Lansdowne Road a week on Saturday. One hardly needs to be reminded that the Irish selectors have entrusted J. Kelly, the U.C.D. scrum half, with the captaincy of the national side against the All Blacks on December 7th, or that the side he will lead out will contain two of his club mates, P. Casey and P. J. Dwyer. Allied to these players, four of the remaining five backs have represented their respective provinces, as have another three of their forwards. In fact, the only weakness of the U.C.D. team appears to be in the second row, where adequate replacements for W. Mulcahy and B. O'Halloran, their combination of two years ago, have still to be found.

To return to the Trinity XV, it must be remembered that last year the form of the side had been little more than mediocre up to and, regrettably, including the Colours Match, after which they gave a brilliant performance in defeating Cambridge University, who had, a few days earlier, beaten Oxford convincingly in the Varsity match by 22 points to 8.

The six players missing from last Saturday's XV consisted of the entire front row, both wingers and the scrum-half, M. Rees, who was rested because of ankle trouble. The wingers, namely C. Morrison and J. Coker, and last year's captain, M. Rees, should be regarded as near certainties for the Colours XV. However, in the front row, the situation is less hopeful, each member having an injury which could keep him out of the game for some time. Their replacements, though on the light side, could be guaranteed on to turn in a spirited performance if required on December 14. Labbett, though not spectacular, is a safe full-back, and B. Siggins must be picked in the centre, particularly for his tackling which will prob-

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ably be stretched to its limit a week on Saturday. D. Maxwell appears to have reached his best form at the right time, and, with the vice-captain, A. Bourke, and P. Ross, should form a more than useful back row. R. Read and M. Rees, the halves, are a match-winning combination on their best form.

To sum up, the scales must certainly be tipped in U.C.D.'s favour at the moment. However, provided the talented U.C.D. backs do not see too much of the ball and the Trinity side play as a team rather than 15 individuals, R. F. Read will have more than an outside chance of leading a victorious team off the green turf of Lansdowne Road a week on Saturday.

SOCER**Grand
Rally**

Trinity	4
Virginians	4

The gap between the pro. and the amateur is probably wider at soccer than at any other game. This was demonstrated on Saturday when, confronted with the first frost of the winter, neither side was able to adapt itself to the hard ground. Nevertheless, after a scrappy first half, notable only for the lack of imagination and purpose from either side, the game suddenly became alive and produced a really exciting finish.

Trinity turned round 2-0 down and that it was not more was due to some terrier-like tackling from new man Shaw. What a valuable acquisition to the side this diminutive character is! Some judicious covering by Mason and a couple of fine saves from Naughton also kept the score down and a bit of fortune played a prominent part.

From the re-start Trinity went straight into the attack and Parry scored a neat goal with his head only to see Virginians strike back to restore their two goal advantage. This did not impress the Meldrum brothers and for twenty minutes the Virginians' goal was besieged by a militant attack, with the result that Trinity led 4-3 with full-time approaching. Andie getting one and Johnnie two to celebrate the end of his celibacy. Obviously thinking well of themselves for securing two league points, the side relaxed and conceded the equalising goal and the game ended in fading light with both sides striving for the winner which neither could really claim to have earned.

Without Markham this could be described as a useful performance. Paul Shaw must have impressed the selectors with his ability and fitness and if Naughton would assume a little more authority in the penalty area the defence will prove hard to score against.

SIDELINE

Now that Mike Gibson has been awarded his "Blue" in his first season up at Cambridge, a thing that he was unable to do here at Trinity, it is perhaps time for all College clubs to re-examine their selection methods. It is a well-known fact that there are many players in outside clubs who are full-time undergraduates at this University, who despite the excellent facilities offered by College are so disillusioned by the hierarchies within the clubs that they have sought to play for Dublin sides. Naturally, those are Irish-based who will opt to play for an outside club if playing for Trinity means that they are going to lose the continuity they have established over previous seasons, or if they would be unable to return to their home club side on account of league fixtures and other commitments. But for an Englishman to go and play for Palmerston or Wanderers is a different story and needs deeper consideration. A player in the class of Gibson who is unable to command a regular first team place has a genuine reason for accepting a position in an outside club if he wishes to stay in top Rugby, but there seems to be some cause for a look at the methods of selection that are at present operating within the clubs as regards the average sportsman.

Why, for example, does a person prefer to play for Avoca III as opposed to Trinity III at hockey? Similarly at cricket, why does people play for Merrion as opposed to Trinity because one can re-register after term ends and play for other clubs within the Leinster Senior League?

There appears to be no easy solution to this problem. An effort is required from both the clubs and the persons involved to try and establish a unity in the sport itself. For their part the clubs must cast their nets as far afield as they can in an attempt to draw everyone in College into their own game. On the other side a bit of patience must be exercised by those who are restless because the larger clubs have great difficulty in finding all the necessary players and even in a club that only runs four sides, such as the Soccer Club, it is very hard to try and get to know every person's ability in the short space of seven weeks.

Criticism has been mounting about the failure of College authorities to do anything about the drainage at Santry. Last year we were assured that the deplorable state of the ground would not re-occur. Now with the drainage system installed, the ground is apparently in as bad condition as before. Let us hope that next term will see a vast improvement in all the facilities offered at potentially one of the best sporting sites in the Dublin area.

Although Wednesday's results are normally too late to appear in the Thursday edition of "Trinity News," we were all heartened to see that the Gaelic side emulated their Hurling compatriots and had also given Queen's a thrashing. On the same day, November 27th, Trinity beat Cork University 4-3 at soccer. The 2nd XI also won, thanks to a gallant effort from goalkeeper John Haslett who appeared despite feeling the effects of overnight food poisoning.

HOCKEY**Dalkey Baulked****Trinity, 2; Dalkey, 0**

Trinity gained their most important success of the season when they defeated Dalkey 2-0 in the first round of the Irish Senior Cup at Londonbridge Road last Saturday. The score seems to indicate a fairly close game, but in fact Trinity were always in easy command and never looked like being beaten. Bagley had to deal with only one shot during the whole game, and both full-backs had little to do.

Such a pattern seemed most unlikely after ten minutes, when Striven was carried off, having been hit by a fierce Dalkey forward. However, he returned, apparently none the worse, after five minutes' absence, and almost at once Heron scored a good goal to put Trinity ahead. This was followed by a second goal, after half an hour, when a short corner, hit by Stiven, was de-

flected into the Dalkey goal by their goalkeeper.

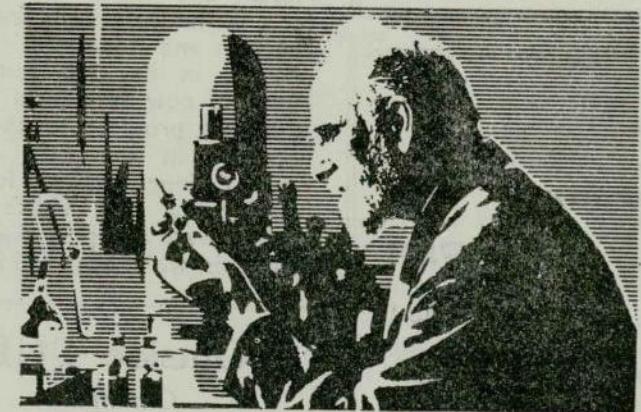
During the second half Trinity did most of the attacking and squandered several good chances. A noticeable feature of the play was the dominance achieved by Clark, McGarrigle and King at half-back. Closely marking their men, they also found time to launch several dangerous attacks, and McGarrigle especially played well and hit many penetrating passes across the field.

In all their games this term it has only been weak finishing that has prevented Trinity from winning more often. The side may not have a distinguished record, four victories in ten games, but nevertheless it has played far better hockey up to the opponents' circle than it has been given credit for, and one hopes this term's lessons will not be forgotten in 1964.

Nisi umpiressent**U.C.C., 1-1 (14); D.U., 1-7 (10)**

Trinity, without their international forward, T. Fitzsimons, were narrowly beaten in a hard-fought semi-final of the Sigerson Cup at the Mardyke last Saturday. In the first quarter, Trinity's forwards laid siege to the U.C.C. goal, and this pressure resulted in a long-range point by J. Malone and a fine goal and a point from fees by J. O'Connor. U.C.C. then took over until half-time, but their reward was only 5 points, mostly off frees, to leave them ahead at the interval by 0-6 to 1-2.

On the resumption J. O'Connor levelled the scores with a pointed free, but U.C.C. forged ahead with a goal and 3 points and looked set for an easy victory.



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