

Trinity News

Dublin University Student Newspaper

Thursday, 16th January, 1969

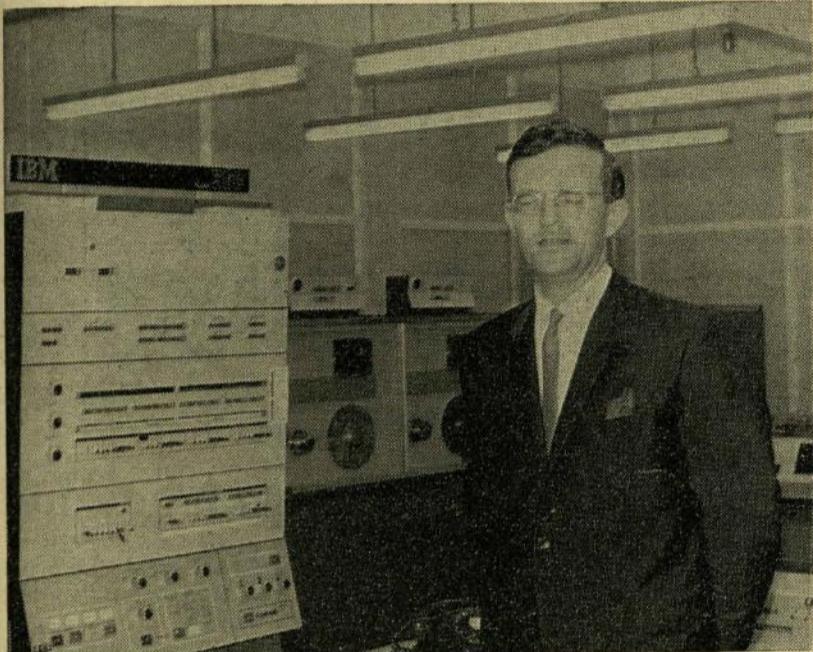
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£1/4M COMPUTER AIDS COLLEGE WORK

The Minister for Education, Mr. Lenihan, speaking at the opening of the new computer laboratory last Thursday, said that the work to be done by the College's I.B.M. 360/44 computer would help to "bridge the gap in a practical way between the humanities and the sciences."

Valued at a quarter of a million pounds, the I.B.M. 360/44 is the third computer to be acquired by Trinity. It is the only one of its kind in Ireland and has an unusually wide range of application.

—Pat Moriarty



John Moriarty with I.B.M. 360/44.

Professor W. Wright, Chairman of the Computer Management Committee, said: "The installation has been designed to cope with the mix of jobs appropriate to an academic environment."

The Manager of the Computer Laboratory, Mr. John Moriarty, has directed the installation and programming of the new computer with the aid of a staff of 13 analysts, programmers and operators. He said that "the need for computer power had grown to such an extent that it could no longer be satisfied by the previous systems."

The purchase of the 360/44 represented a "much bigger step" than the former acquisitions, he said, "because the smaller computers were used for the most part in the engineering field, whereas the new computer not only will facilitate engineering teaching and research, but will have special application to library and administrative needs."

Its ability "to retain large files of data," Mr. Moriarty continued, "makes it feasible to enter areas of activity not possible with earlier equipment." He cited the organisation of the library's some 30,000 volumes annually received under the Copyright Act. He said it would be an aim of the computer to "harness" these new acquisitions and perhaps maintain a "profile of interests of academic staff," so that new material in their particular fields would be brought to their attention.

Teaching with the computer is also facilitated as it is a multi-access, time sharing computer, "to which many students can have simultaneous access through terminals located outside the computer room."

The work of the computer is now in full swing. It is making analyses based upon 1968 student registrations, and has been busy in the teaching and research field since November.

'Jimmie' Shaw dies on New Year's Day

Captain James Shaw, for 47 years Assistant Registrar, died on January 1st. He was affectionately known to many Trinity graduates as "Jimmie" Shaw.

Prominent in D.U.C.A.C. for many years as Treasurer, Capt. Shaw's influence also extended to other aspects of College life.

The "London Times" described him as "effortlessly efficient on his high stool," a man who "could be consulted on everything from abstruse regulations to the records of past senior eights."

Miss Marjorie MacManus,

Late women guests allowed

12 O'CLOCK RULE GOES AT LAST

Soon after the end of last term the Board, on a recommendation from the Disciplinary Committee, decided that all regulations at present applying to male residents in College rooms should apply equally to women scholars.

This means that the 12 o'clock rule is abolished and female scholars can now live in rooms.

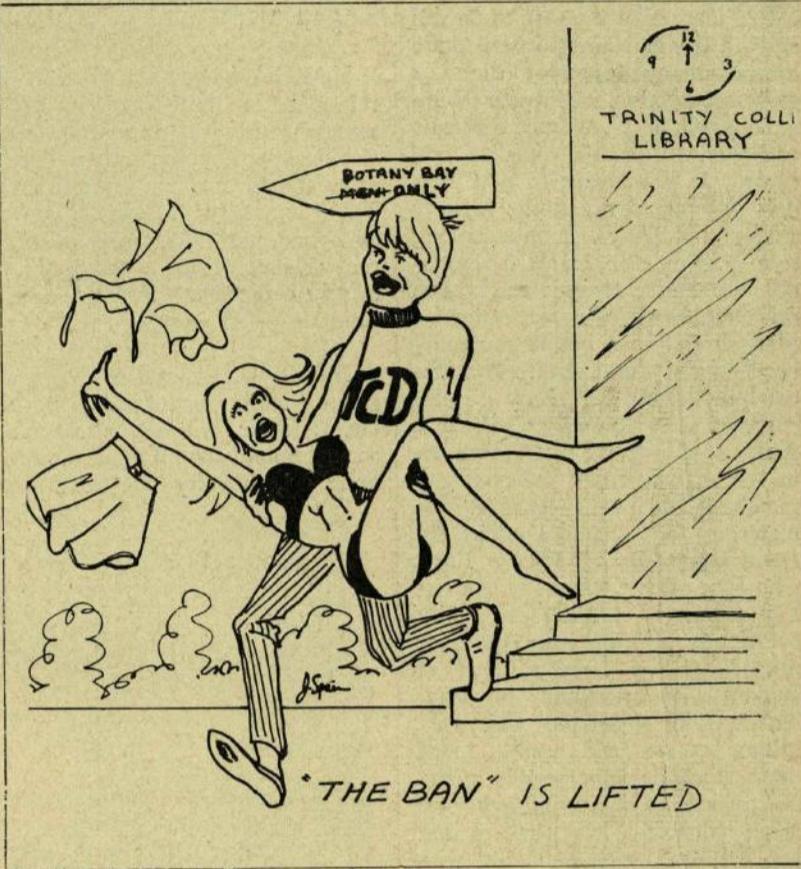
Overnight guests will be permitted provided they are of the same sex, and women may visit male students in rooms and stay after midnight. But no women, except residents, will be admitted after 12.00 p.m.. However there has been no definite statement as to when a late visitor becomes an overnight guest.

PROBLEM FOR THE PORTER

A College spokesman said that the Junior Dean will have to implement the new rules and it is likely that there will be a degree of tolerance. The regulations will be interpreted in a common sense manner and in the light of practical experience. College residents expressed relief at the end of the burdensome rule, though others felt the lack of clarity might in some cases provoke friction with the Deans.

DEAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

The Porters will now have the difficult task of deciding who may be allowed into College as a bona fide residents after 12 p.m. Mrs.



Denard, Dean of Women students and Junior Deans are preparing temporary measures to ease the situation, but it will take a few days to see whether they are effective.

Sunny skies turn skiers to drink

The small Austrian village of Lech was chosen as the resort for the 1968 ski party organised by Oxford, Cambridge and Trinity—a village noted for the reliability of its December snow. But this year proved the exception, and 400 students arrived to find blue snowless skies.

An abortive attempt was made to lynch the organisers. A number left immediately for various parts of Europe, while others packed up in disgust and went home. The more affluent, largely Trinity students not restricted by a £50 allowance, headed for those resorts which were proudly boasting few inches of snow.

The majority, however, stayed in Lech and it was soon found possible to arrange some skiing every day, although this entailed a long bus journey and cable car rides.

Some preferred the apes-saci scene and Trinity soon distinguished itself by winning the beer drinking and cream eating contests, and taking the first three places in the beauty competition.



Adrian Bourke.

Due to an increase in production costs and an increase in the Wholesale Tax, *Trinity News* will now cost 6d.

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This week's news stories by: The News Editor, Susan Tarrant, John McLaughlin, Paul Tansey, et alii.

SPORTS NEWS

EDITORIAL

SPORT AND YOU

"Mens sana in corpore sano"—one of those platitudes heard so often and heeded so seldom; in a world increasingly aware of health and all things healthy where there are as many foolproof diets as there are doctors, it is worth taking a close look at the average student's approach to health, exercise and sport. It is relevant to note that only 40 per cent. of the Trinity student population actually belong to a sporting club, and it is reasonable to assume that no more than this number take any regular exercise. While it has undoubtedly been proved that exercise is medically beneficial, for many Trinity students it is limited to lifting a pint, staggering off to the funnies, or—slightly more exhausting—marching and banner-waving. Too many in fact seem to adopt the smug approach of Henry Ford, who once said: "The only exercise I ever take is carrying the coffins of friends of mine who took too much." So a large number of students are destined to leave Trinity with thickening waistlines, falling arches and rising blood pressure. For some people miserable memories of compulsory sport at school take a long time to die: yet Trinity is well equipped with sports facilities—most of them on the spot—and caters for a large number of "fringe" minority sports. One does not have to be a Hercules to get enjoyment out of many sports—and as there is already a compulsory capitation fee to D.U.C.A.C., one might as well get value for money. And, who knows, it might result in healthier minds as well.



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HOCKEY:

FIRST XI LOSE IN CUP SEMI-FINAL

TRINITY, 0; Y.M.C.A., 2

After reaching the semi-final of the Irish Cup (Leinster Section) for the first time in six years, Trinity seemed quite capable of beating Y.M.C.A. to win a place in the final. However, on Saturday in College Park the team went down 2-0 in a fast and closely fought match.

Y.M.C.A. had the better of things before half-time and were somewhat ironically rewarded by a dubious penalty flick after Henry in goal had made a superb save. Y.M.C.A. went 2-0 shortly after half-time, but for the remainder of the game Trinity consistently attacked the goal area and were unlucky not to score.

During the vacation the team put up some very good performances; after winning their Cup second round match against Glenanne 4-1, Trinity put themselves

in a very good position in the Senior League by winning two and drawing one match; the 2-1 win over Y.M.C.A. was particularly rewarding.

Now that Trinity are no longer in the Irish Senior Cup, they can concentrate on their League programme, a league which is wide open and in which Trinity are well placed. The fact that the team is supplying five players for the Leinster under 23 side against Ulster this week confirms the opinion that this is Trinity's best season for many years.

—PAT MORIARTY



Trinity attack in the circle.

RUGGER:

ANOTHER GOOD WIN FOR TRINITY

TRINITY, 16; TERENURE, 11

In a good open match at Lakelands Park on Saturday, Trinity beat Terenure by two goals and two tries to a goal and two tries—a result which reflected the willingness of both teams to throw the ball around.

Despite the heavy conditions underfoot, play was always lively and entertaining; Trinity led 10-3 at half-time and were extremely well served at out-half by R. Hutchinson, deputising for the injured McCombe. Tries were scored by Davey, Hipwell, Crooks and Blake-Knox, and Murphy was successful with two conversions.

During the vacation Trinity had two very satisfactory results which followed their 8-6 victory in the

Colours match. Playing against a Cambridge side which included twelve blues from their winning team, Trinity drew comfortably 3-3 and this without McCombe and Hawkesworth who were on provincial duty for Ulster and Leinster. Two weeks ago the team drew 6-6 with Old Belvedere and were still not at full strength. Thus the Terenure result is one more victory in what has been a very successful season so far.

Sports Shorts

HARRIERS: Trinity scored a decisive victory in last term's cross-country colours match against U.C.D. John Keys led all the way, winning by over a minute; he was well backed up by Mike Foster and freshman Paul Donnelly in third and fourth places. Only two U.C.D. athletes managed to split the first seven Harriers.

PINKS: Latest additions to the College sporting elite who were awarded their pinks last term: K. O. Lee (Basketball); B. Rogers, A. Bowen, I. Hunter, K. Shillington (Boat); H. Herron, D. Donovan (Rugger); I. Elliot (Golf); P. Craig (Sailing); R. Ballard, J. Reaney (Soccer); D. O'Dea (Swimming).

SKIING: The annual Oxbridge-Trinity ski party went to Lech in Austria during the vacation. The snow was con-

SQUASH

SUCCESSFUL TOUR IN EUROPE

A short and most rewarding tour was undertaken in January by Trinity's squash team who played some of the best clubs on the Continent. The team, comprising Poustie, Pack, Holder, Crossley, McCann and de Wit in descending order, played consistently well and highlighted their tour by defeating a Dutch national side and by narrowly losing to a strengthened Belgian national team.

The first match played against The Hague S.R.C. in Holland was won 3-2. Holder played particularly well to win against a Dutch international, and Crossley and McCann also won. The match against a Dutch national side was again won 3-2, with Poustie, Holder and McCann winning in determined fashion. The match against the British Rhine Army was unfortunately cancelled due to an unforeseen error on the Army's part. In Brussels, however, the team played the top four Belgian internationals and one English player of good county standard. Crossley won well against the Belgian No. 3, and although the other four matches were all

Will clubs please note that all contributions and results must be given to the Sports Editor, No. 30.25 not later than midnight on Saturday.

spicuous by its absence and thus there was little opportunity for serious training. A makeshift varsity match was arranged, although the results were hardly meaningful. Trinity's most successful skier was D. Crossley who was sixth in the open race. All three teams head for the Scottish slopes in March when it is hoped there will be enough snow.

FENCING: In Paris two weeks ago Trinity's C. O'Brien was eliminated in the first day's fencing, but only after several hours of very close fencing. The Challenge Epée Monal attracted 238 fencers from 15 countries, with many world and Olympic champions present. O'Brien lost narrowly 5-3 to the French national champion after leading for most of the fight.

TENNIS: The season starts this term with Trinity playing in the Winter League which provides some useful practice. There is also weekly coaching by John Horn, ex-British professional champion. Captain A. Graham has three old colours to call on and prospects seem reasonable at this stage.

ROWING

Promising Signs

Trinity had an encouraging start to the new season last term with their victory at the At Home regatta which had a record entry of 21 crews. The senior crew will be selected after two weeks of Hilary term from a squad of 10, who returned a week before the beginning of term. They are training for the Wylie Cup which will be held on 22nd February. Although well advanced for the time of year at the At Home, the senior crew, as individuals, will have to train exceptionally hard, with special emphasis on sculling, if they are to make themselves the best crew in Ireland which is essential if they are to compete successfully at Henley. Des Hill, the new captain, deserves credit for a good start to the season and for the success which he has had in recruiting maiden oarsmen. If his senior crew produces the dedication that is required to be really successful this could be a good year for Trinity.

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WHEELS

PAGE THREE

... Denton Farquor ...

To the excited fibbling of the Trinity socialists, the College social column returns to the News after a term in the hands of the Miscellany. Few, in fact, understood what **Heavenly Hamstrung** and **Poisoned Pen** were writing about last term. **Cowslip** knew only too well, but how were **Leigh Murray** and **Des. McCullagh** to know that they had been named respectively **Me-in-a-hurry** and **Ded Faggot**? In fact much of the name changing was meant in the best of humour and the **Pen** was not nearly as poisonous as some thought him. So **Dave Walsh** needn't have been too worried about being called a big shit.

At the very end of last term all the best Northern Ireland drinkers rushed along to **The Hawk's** do in the G.M.B. Other providers were **Alan Spittles**, **Lord Nelson** and **Bell-Ringer**. A firm guard was put on the door to prevent the infamous **Big Roger Spotman** from getting in, but he needn't have bothered. The Northerns had beaten him to all the booze, and even **Paddy** left on his own two feet. Disques were provided by **Vain-Hippy** and **Bernie Arson**, which so successively drowned all conversation ended up as a locomotive rave. The Sailing Club were washed out, so we had to content ourselves with the Colours piss-up. Highlights of the evening were, of course, provided by the team, fresh from rummaging at each other's buttocks in the scrum. **Rabid Donovan** tried christening the gathering with holy water from on high, but was shown to be an amateur by the fire hydrants experts present. **Panties Alexander** gave a remarkable performance as drunken retard. He wasn't as lucky as **Willy McBrush** who had the lovely **Lin** to help him with his problems. **Mary Drawers** looked pleased to be rid of **McSweeney**, and had a **Keane** loose maul on the floor. **Big Bet Hellier** clutched a mass of raffle tickets in one little hand and looked disappointed. **Tone** and **Poustie** won the Best Ice Throwers' Awards and were suitably drowned in a bucket of water. **Big Roger** actually paid to get in and was allowed to sit at the same table as

RESOLUTIONS

The New Year resolutions of several College personalities came to my notice recently. **Nick Sharman**, I'm told, is striving to attain. **Chris (tariq) McGrath**, on originality in his political thinking, the other hand, who last term took a crash course in student power, is intending to have himself taken seriously; so too is **Adrian Bourke**. **Ben Vaughan** wants to make the big five again, and **Nick Miller** wants to make dialectically material babies. **The J.D.** hopes that he will continue to be an inexplicable phenomenon.

MITCHELLS

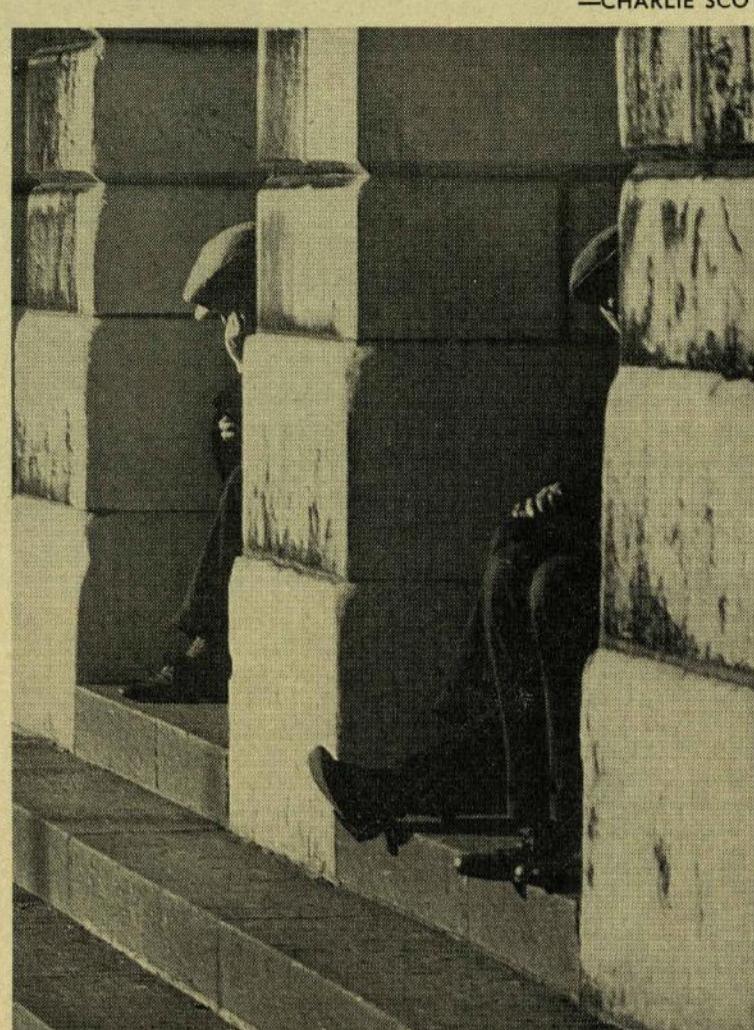
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—CHARLIE SCOTT

The annual Trinity Photographic Exhibition will again be held in April this year in the New Library. It is hoped that as many photographers as possible will contribute. All entries have to be handed in to 15.1.1 before the beginning of March. They should be printed on 10 x 8 paper. Early entries will be considered for publication in this weekly spot. This week's study is of Dubliners on the steps of the Customs House.

mouthpiece

We asked a number of students this question: What do you think of the abolition of the midnight "ban"? These are a selection of their answers.

The abolition of the rule was long overdue—the whole system was completely unnatural and a restriction of freedom.

What annoyed me was that in making their decision the Disciplinary Committee had to pander to Dublin opinion. Why should they pay any attention to them? Let them stay in the 19th century.

With Ted Oliver on the Committee I could have guessed what would happen.

I can't see how the new ruling is going to change anything. Women slept here before, ban or no ban.

College rules don't bother me. I live in a flat.

Most unfortunate. I'll not have any excuse for getting rid of them now.

It should be a remarkable improvement. My neighbours are quiet only when they have women in.

What you couldn't do before midnight you can't do at all now.

Less homosexuality—lean days ahead for the college queers.

There should be provision for married couples in rooms. Its disgraceful that the authorities should only admit single people.

Isn't twelve hours a day enough?

I suppose this means that the college health service will have to be extended to include a maternity wing.

What we need now are contraceptive dispensers in every hallway.

I only hope the dustmen are not Catholics.

I will not take advantage of the new ruling. I believe in the sanctity of the female body. Its a holy delight.

What I want to know is why the Board were so long in accepting the recommendation from the Committee? Over a month, wasn't it?

I can put last month's bribe money to better uses in Northern Ireland.

ON PROGRESS

Now more than ever Ireland needs Communism and Irish students need the Internationalists' Department of Education, the A.F.C. None of you need to be reminded that the Fianna Fáil Party is a political viper, or that the Labour Party, once our morning star and despite the addition of Conor O'Brien, has sold out to the insipid pragmatism of reactionary elements.

Our whole university structure is diseased, a knotted cancer in an unreal and undemocratic society and its true function perverted by the counterfeit currency of big business. Like the inmates of the asylum at Charendon, we want a revolution, now. Comrade Connolly will not have died in vain if Ireland can become an occidental Viet-Nam, fighting heroically for eventual victory over the anti-people monsters of European capitalism.

Trinity College need not be an academic dessert, hostile to all genuinely progressive students, bubbling over with the milk of Maoist democracy. All we need to swing the balance is a concentrated effort by a few dozen concerned students, some valuable discussion on the Dining Hall steps, one or two lucky riots, and the Government will fall, the university structure will crumble away like a sandcastle in the tide and the ghost of Connolly will roam the fatherland with dry eyes.

The boys and girls of Ireland will kick Mr. Lenihan to death and the Provost can perform a bit of traditional hari-kiri. The old changeth to the new request, proceeded by discussion. Anti-academic staff will be exiled and only truly aware and truly democratic Communists will be allowed to direct the minds of the virgin freshers, like the Jesuits did in the old Ireland. The only way to a depersonalised and collective conscience is through interminable discussion; the only effective way to eliminate the difference between human beings is to talk and to persuade people to surrender their individuality.

John Kinney



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MAOIST CHINA

by Bruce Stewart

"Mao," said Khrushchev, when his words might be taken as the official Soviet line, "is nothing but a petty bourgeois with a peasant nature to whom the working class and the proletariat are completely foreign."

"In China," said Mao, "the task is not to seize the big cities first and then to occupy the countryside, but the reverse." (Problems of War and Strategy, 1938.)

Russian and Chinese communism may no longer be treated as the same thing, and with the Cultural Revolution the split is complete. Advocates of Maoism believe that now-a-days China is a realist Utopia, and the revolutionary forces of the world are turning more and more to Mao for inspiration. Socialists in Trinity, as elsewhere, do not regard the USSR as a model communist state. China gives evidence that there is

... spontaneous demonstrations and posters crammed with criticisms of individuals and institutions in the state ...

no such thing. If the Cultural Revolution has proved anything, it has proved that an operable and acceptable communist state must be tailored to the needs, and of

the fabric, of the society to which it is applied.

China today, as more information begins to filter out, is a source of awe to the Western observer. Everywhere there are spontaneous demonstrations, posters crammed with criticisms of individuals and institutions in the state, expulsions of managers from factories by the workers, and all this a part of the permanent revolution, all within the terms of the constitution. Less spectacular is the fact that men and women everywhere wear exactly the same clothes, independent of position or occupation. Cities are filled with news-sheets and portraits (often grotesque) of Chairman Mao. The Red Guards—known derogatorily in Russia as 'Hitler-jugend'—brandishing little red books are in all public places. The whole nation is burning with political enthusiasm. This unique condition is the work of Mao, whose creative intellect has given birth to an ideology capable of supplanting the Soviet ideology, predominant until the failure of the Great Leap Forward in 1957, a disastrous attempt to boost the industrial output, under Soviet direction.

The Cultural Revolution, instigated by Mao, established China's political individuality beyond dispute. In China today a whole nation is involved in an attempt to achieve technologically (i.e. industrial and scientific) advance without establishing a technocratic bureaucracy. The class war in China is moral; class distinctions are in attitude of mind, so that even Liu Shao-chi, former comrade of Mao, could be denounced last year ("renegade, traitor and scab") for his bourgeois mentality. The battle is not one for power, but for a proper attitude of mind.

The Chinese people are in effect struggling for orthodoxy. Ideology is a means for establishing a common basis for theory and action in all spheres. It is for this reason that the Trinity Internationalists have chosen Lysenko as a model botanist, because he applies dialectic materialism to the business of growing potatoes. Similarly, Chinese workers read Mao's thoughts while they assemble complex industrial machinery. In the West, economic differences between nations are only mildly translated into ideologies, because of predominant pragmatism and consequently less planned economies.

It is this 'orthodoxy' that exposes Maoists to the criticism of naivety. The thoughts of Mao have the dignity of religious authority, though they are ostensibly based on dialectic materialism, a system



A Chinese propaganda poster. The caption reads: "Great Chairman Mao, hundreds of millions of red hearts turn to you."

of thought rather than a doctrine. Perhaps Mao (at 70 plus he is liable to vanity and error) is mistaken in permitting personality cult, but for the moment China has achieved the stability it so much desired, after a modern history of wars, civil and international. The very language they use, that of dialectic materialism, is in line with a tradition of good and bad, black and white thinking. Even the very basic term 'contradiction' is a metaphor. It is worth considering the effect of ideogrammatic type in their thinking and language. Symbol (Posters and the Red Book) is a characteristic of the Chinese consciousness.

cardinal lesson of the Cultural Revolution — learned by Mao himself when he severed ties with the Russian regime: each society must find its own solutions to its own problems by examination of prevailing conditions.

This is not to say that Maoism will not exert a major influence in political events outside China. Population explosion and economic conditions threaten abject poverty for the greater part of mankind by the turn of the century. In such circumstances an ideology promoting the virtue of simple life, promising 'de quoi vivre' and providing a full and 'non-sectarian'

In China anything beyond the bare necessities of life are considered self-indulgence and 'liberal' evils.

Poverty is their way of life. The criticism of capitalistic society is that we are firstly consumers, that our values are founded in an appreciation of the superfluous comforts of life. The Czechoslovakian incident originated in criticisms of the powers of the Soviet bureaucracy, censorship and arrest, and the low standard and scarcity of consumer commodities.

Western visitors to East Berlin are depressed by the bareness of shop windows and tawdry clothes of the people. In China anything beyond the bare necessities of life are considered self indulgence and 'liberal' evils. The same applies to literature. In the universities of China (disrupted by the Cultural Revolution) only the works of Mao are read. The Red Guards do not study Marx or Lenin. The people of China are enthusiastic, even aggressive, in their puritanism.

Such a system could never be transplanted to the West. What gives the Chinese material and spiritual (i.e. political) sustenance would not do for us, with a long liberal tradition — the migration of diverse ideas independent of the establishment. Trinity Internationalists demand that we abandon our European heritage of bourgeois culture, Keats and Mozart, Christopher Wren and William Shakespeare. They, and kindred political thinkers, may succeed in educating the proletariat in their new values, but it seems unlikely, for they have missed the

philosophy would have immensely wide appeal.

It is not Maoist thought we have to fear, but the conflagration that might occur when this and Western 'ideology' clash on an economic plane. Britain subsidises Nigeria (ostensibly for communications) and supplies the Nigerian army with guns in order to protect British investments (upwards on £100,000,000). In the process she becomes accessory to genocide. Imperialist war is the last defence of imperialist investment.

Popular opinion will be no more barrier to such a major conflagration in the future than it is in Vietnam or Biafra. Sadly, the public do not appear to have time to consider the nature of national engagement abroad. Then, as now, it will be tepid and ill-informed, and the most liberal will be those who shout loudest.

TRINITY POSEIDON DIVING CLUB

Training sessions are being held in the St. Vincent's Swimming Pool, Glasnevin on Wednesdays, 12.30 - 1.30 (Mike Pelling, Rooms 18.11)

Letter to the Editor

Sir, — Your correspondent's jocular reference to alcohol in his report on the Elizabethan Society's meeting on "Mental Breakdown" (Nov. 21) somewhat disquieted me. He reported that I concluded by saying that the reliance by Trinity students on the wondrous powers of alcohol sublimated most of their stresses. This might be construed as an encouragement to relieve anxiety and tension with alcohol. The point which I was attempting to make was that this practice almost invariably leaves the individual with two problems instead of one. Because it is ignored the stressful situation remains unaltered, and, in addition, he (or she) now faces the problem of dependence on alcohol.

Alcoholism is a vastly more common condition than is generally realised and each year a number of Trinity students become established alcoholics while still in college, many more show prodromal signs and will probably become alcoholics in later life. One of the more tragic facets of alcoholism is the fact that it has repercussions in the drinker's family, and children, who grow up in the discordant atmosphere, emerge insecure and anxiety-ridden.

Alcohol has an established place in our society and is a valued aid to conviviality. The problem drinker will continually remind us of this and use it as a rationalisation for his uncontrolled drinking. He should be aware that an increasingly "good head" for drink and occasional amnesia for part of "the night before" are warning signs that an alcoholic pattern is developing. Inability to stop the day's drinking, once two or three drinks are taken, is one of the signs that alcoholism is becoming established.

Perhaps I should apologise for this gloomy riposte to a light-hearted reference, but being in daily contact with the consequences of alcoholism I felt I should try to rectify any misunderstanding on this subject which might have arisen from my words at the meeting.—Yours etc.,

P. I. Melia, Psychiatrist,
Student Health Service
& St. Patrick's Hospital.

EXAMS: AN ALTERNATIVE

Is the present exam system adequate?

Academic life in College is dominated by examinations. Whether one comes to Trinity to get a good degree or to find a spouse, one has to pass one's exams to remain here. Students have lived with the injustices of the exam system for years, but are only just beginning to question the adequacy of the system as a gauge of their real ability.

Most people agree that some form of academic assessment of each student should be made throughout his course, yet few agree that the exam system is the best form of assessment. The main

complaint with the system is that the authorities are only asking for a superficial knowledge of the subject, for there is little point in reading every book on the book-list if only a small part of the course is covered in the exam. There is little point in going further than the lecturer's notes in answering questions when many lecturers will accept answers based solely on their notes and give good marks for them. And yet one's knowledge of the course should not be based so much on notes as on one's background reading.

The Senior Lecturer, Professor Mitchell, does not see the lecturer's role as being the almighty note giver, the source of all our knowledge, but rather as firstly a guide

to the book-list, recommending books which the students should read themselves, and secondly to cover parts of the course in which he is especially interested in order to generate some enthusiasm for the subject. But unfortunately this rarely happens.

CRAMMING

The fact that people can get away without working during the year and cramming just before the exam to get good grades is itself an indictment of the system, as real understanding only comes with close association with the subject for a sustained period of time. The official attitude of the College authorities to cramming seems to be one of grudging acceptance of its existence — they assert rather

half-heartedly that 'crammers never get to the top of the class, do they?'

The first alternative to the present exam system seems to be a form of continuous assessment where the student is made to work consistently throughout the year. This system is at present being operated in Third year Economics and Political Science, if the student fails to satisfy the staff in essays and seminars he must take an exam at the end of the year to compensate.

BAD COMBINATION

The present system of having projects during the year and exams at the end of it is a bad combination, for the seminars and projects are usually irrelevant to the

examination courses. Although performance in these exercises occasionally affects the position of 'borderline' cases it serves no useful purpose from the point of view of assessment of the student. However, under the continuous assessment system the staff have a far better idea of the student's real potential, being in constant contact with his work throughout the year.

According to Professor Mitchell, 'More staff are needed for this intensive form of examination and they are just not available.'

PROJECTS

The other alternative to the present system is that each year the undergraduate should choose a subject related to his course and write a thesis on it. Professor Mitchell feels that this should not be done in the Junior freshman and perhaps even the Senior Freshman years. In Lancaster University (where he was an external examiner) he said that students did not seem to know how to tackle the projects. It would be advisable then for students to be given a year to learn how to approach their work and to get a thorough grounding in the basic subject matter of their course before they attempted a detailed project. The advantages of this system are firstly that the student chooses the project himself, he is naturally interested in it and is more inclined to work at it, secondly he can spend as much time as he likes on it and thirdly he is clearly able to consult the staff on any problems that arise in his work. In this way the staff would be able to ascertain his real ability. The system would not be particularly demanding on their time, and would help get away from the lecture system and move nearer a tutorial one and so escape our dependence on lecture notes.

The lecture/exam system places too much emphasis on a retentive memory and the ability to write quickly. To replace it with the 'thesis' system would revitalise the academic structure of the College and lead to a far more thorough knowledge of the courses.

PAUL TANSEY

PERSONAL

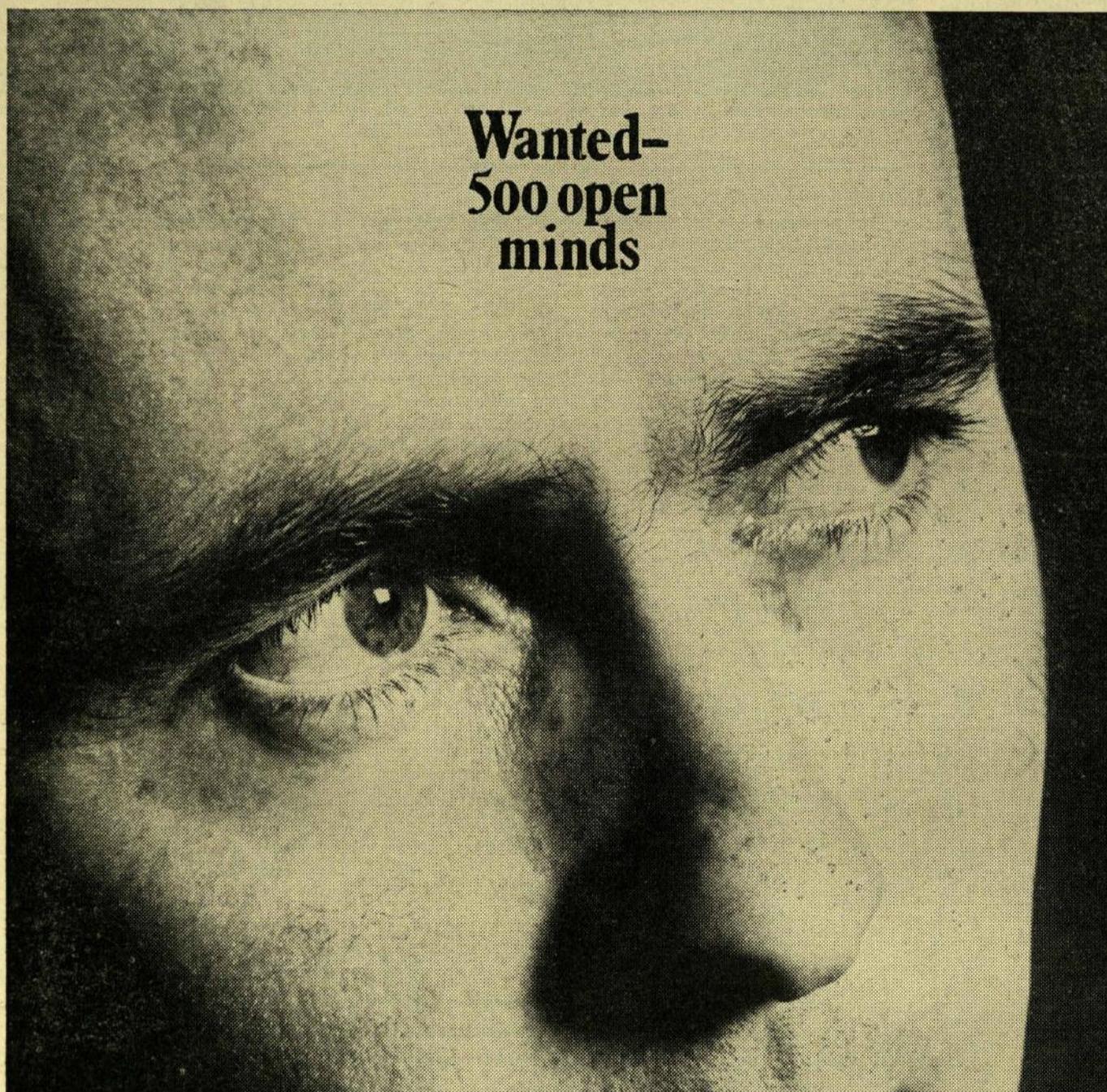
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NEWS IN THE ARTS

ART SOCIETY

The Art Society could possibly brighten up a dreary January. They hope that CHAMPION JACK DUPREE will come and play soon, that some person from the Arts Lab. will come and do (for once) a decent light show and that people will in general take more interest in what could be an interesting "society." Among other things there are Derek Mahon (poet) who will read next Sunday (8 p.m.) in the Free Library—not the Trinity New Library, which is only a reading room, albeit posh—but the library which came into existence last term containing all sorts of literary delights from Peace News, Village Voice to pulp novels—a plug for them because they deserve more people going down to read, borrow and give books—another idea—why doesn't Trinity have a proper lending library? It is understood that it is a copyright library.

H. AND M. PRODUCTIONS

Our South of England scout says that David Henderson, late of this College, Players, Folk Song Society and just about everything else—if you believed him—is still being irrepressible at the Kenton Theatre, Henley-on-Thames, where H. and M. ("M" stands for Ian Milton) productions are doing plays. Our man said he saw a children's play in the afternoon and an amalgam of nearly every revue done in Trinity for the past five years in the evening, and that they weren't very good.

BLUES ASSEMBLY

Early in February those of you who watch R.T.E.'s "Like Now" (a poor version of "Ready, Steady, Go") will see the appearance of the Blues Assembly who will play a song composed by Shaun Davey, their organist and singer, called "Our Lives are Changin'." Their whole performance will be produced by Jon Ledingham (expatriate Irish songwriter, singer and balloonist extraordinary) working here for a short time. Jon will be appearing on R.T.E.'s "Late, Late Show" as well.

PLAYERS

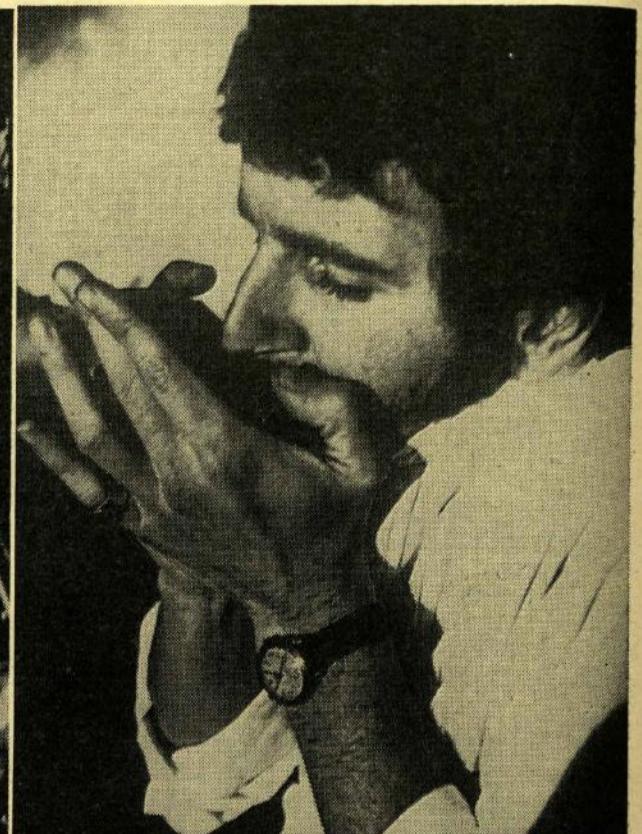
This week at Players there is the annual Modern Language Drama Festival: two English plays, two French, two Spanish, an Italian, a German and a Russian. The week after they will show Sheelagh Delaney's "A Taste of Honey," directed by Fred Meaney. Other plays this term are to be "The Importance of Being Earnest," Anouilh's "Poor Bitos" and John Arden's "Sergeant Musgrave's Dance." They hope they will also have the usual "Sunday Nights" and a week of Brecht (with the German Cultural Institute).

BROADSHEET

"Broadsheet," the only interesting poetry magazine in the city, is due out again sometime this term. Its creator and editor, Hayden Murphy, was married on New Year's Eve, a day culminating in a party said to be reminiscent of the days of the Coombes.



James Morris (bass guitar) and Shaun Davey (organ, vocals, harmonica) of Blues Assembly, playing a recent gig.



FILMS

"Rank" and "ABC" propose to convert about 150 of their cinemas into cinecentas, two or more small cinemas in the same building—small cinemas of the art house variety where "intellectual," for want of a better word, films will be shown. The cinema owners hope that this will combat the decrease in audiences (from 32 million a week, before the war, to five million now), wooed away by

the television screen. These audiences can only now be drawn out by the lure of "big" films like "The Sound of Music" and other such saccharine. Perhaps it is because Ireland's television is vastly inferior to B.B.C. 1 and 2 and the commercial stations. Why is it that seemingly the only films that are shown in Dublin's large cinemas are of the "big" film variety, that they run for so long and that if they are good they are invariably ruined by the censor (who apparently operates with the weird criteria that sex, even incorporated with love, is always bad, but any amount of violence is O.K.). This is surely not the way to create an aware and intelligent audience. The result is that the only places one can see good, uncut films are the Film Societies.

Trinity offers this term among others Godard's "Masculin-feminin," "Fists in the Pocket," the second part of Sergo Eisenstein's "Ivan the Terrible," and Miklos Jansco's "The Round Up."

The alternatives this week in Dublin are "Five Card Stud"

(Carlton) with Dean Martin and Robert Mitchum, a poor effort with Martin wearing exactly the same garb as he did in "Bandit" and Mitchum giving a weak performance as a hell-fire preacher (why is it he always plays drunks so well?). The reason for the failure of the film is the lack of farcical, knockabout humour and a very weak plot. "The Graduate" (Metropole) has, I am told, been shredded by the censor.

A pity, because the version I saw in England was very amusing and although dragging a little towards the end, revived with a marvellous scene in a modern Californian church. "Hot Millions" is amusing in a quiet sort of way, with good screen-play by Peter Ustinov, also playing the main part, and a good performance by Maggie Smith. Another pot-boiler at the Astor, "Diabolique" "Oliver" and "Chitty, Chitty Bang Bang" if you like musicals, and a thing with Jean Paul Belmondo, Ursula Andress at the International Film Theatre completes this week's brew. We pray for something better.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

"Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak. (Bodley Head, 18/-).

A Book: to read in the bath; unashamedly revel in; enthrall the most desperate baby-sitter.

In my pre-undergraduate days I assiduously flaunted erudite avant-garde novels, but now, forced to live up to the title of Privileged Grant-holder, Professor—Student i.e. Intellectual, I can rebel against such fascist regimentation, and (with relief) admit that I never did enjoy anything but children's books.

Monsters, far-away lands, and magic charms still fascinate "old children," as shown by the boom to Tolkien. I found him too contrived, lacking the fantasy-nonsense touch in all true fairy-tales, which have something of the

mystery of mystic rituals in them, muddled with reassuring whimsy from Rumpelshiltzkin to Lewis Carroll and Peter Pan to the Arabian Nights.

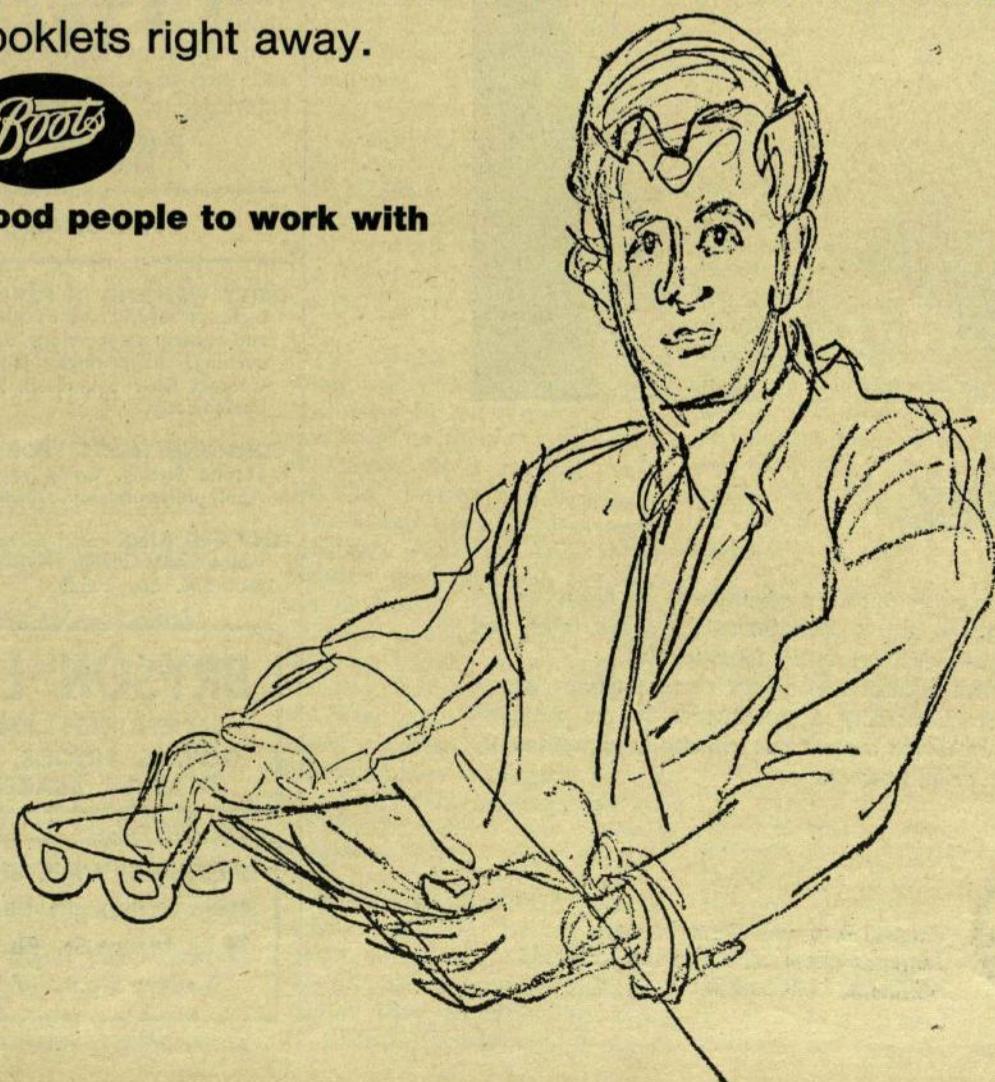
"Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak is in the true tradition, with monsters akin to mediaeval manuscripts plus a cosy hippie shagginess. "They roared their terrible roars and gnashed their terrible teeth and rolled their terrible eyes and showed their terrible claws." There is the obligatory "magic trick" in the hero's power and the dual time-sequence, but the most enchanting part is the weird dream-like pictures. Lose yourself in it for a few minutes.

Material written by John Rawlings with help from Bob Lord and Stephanie Green.

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The Hist: AN INTELLIGENT WOMAN'S GUIDE . . .

At the end of last term, two hundred years of masculine tradition went down the drain when the College Historical Society, the oldest student debating society in the world, decided to admit women to its meetings.

The Hist was founded in 1769 by Edmund Burke and there is never any danger that the members will forget it. His name and his memory are invoked frequently as if he were some sort of debating deity, hovering benignly above the red leather and wooden panelling of the House.

Of course the Hist has been hovering on the verge of polysexuality for a year or two now and only volubility of the Boat Club members has postponed its eventual change from something rich and strange into something democratic and "common as dirt." Admittedly the Boat Club has been noted more for the volume rather than the quality of its opposition, but all the same, even the most progressive liberal must have felt a twinge of regret or something like it when the Chairman adjourned the last all-male meeting at the end of last term. That the Hist should open its doors to female sub-life was inevitable and just, but it does mean the end of an atmosphere genuinely unique and strangely attractive.

Hist debates are held every week. At 8.0 the members squash down the stairs to the debating

hall, a room lined with faded 19th century photographs and split in half by the committee bench, a long, wide, heavy, oak table littered with ash trays, notes, books, water carafes and tape recorders.

At the head of the table is a great high-backed throne where the Chairman places his distinguished bottom and at the other end is the Ballot Box, from where the speakers address the society.

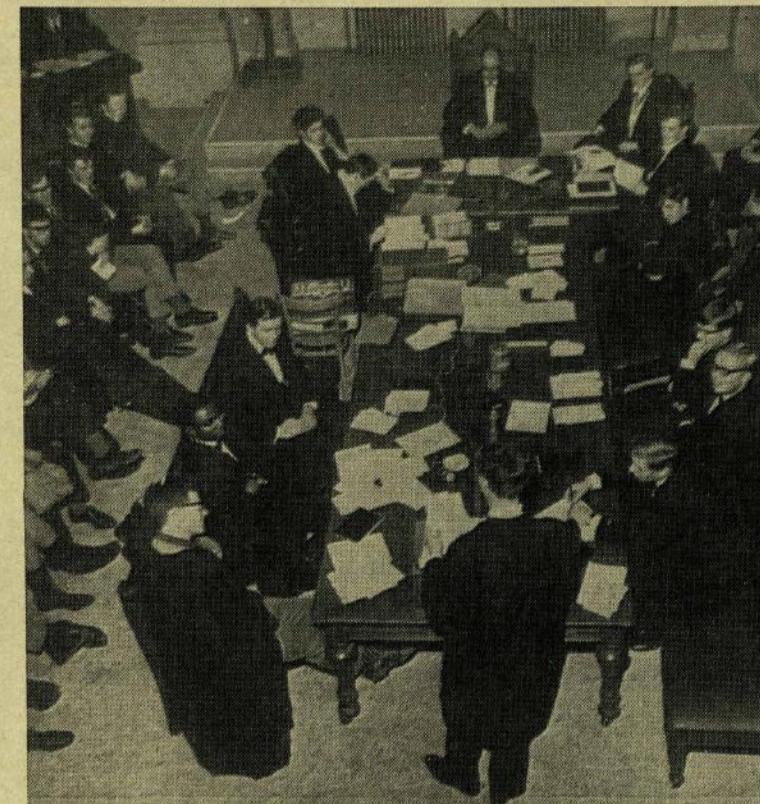
The hall fills up quickly and promptly at 8.15 and one of the College porters strides in the door, grabs the handle for support and yells at the top of his voice: "Gentlemen, you Chaaaiirrrmaan for this evening, Mr. X." The House rises in a billow of gowns and applauds him to the Chair. The minutes of the previous meeting are read, approved and signed, the motion for the evening is announced and then the serious business of the College Historical Society is under way.

The Hist owes much of its atmosphere and flavour to the eccentricities of a few characters who manage to dominate the audience not only with the way they say it and with what they do

as they say it. There is the member who winds his gown around himself as if it were a Roman toga, and capers up and down the floor as he speaks. He shoots out accusing fingers whenever he makes a point, flings his arms up to heaven in search of Divine inspiration, drops his voice to a husky whisper as he asks the House in confidence if it realises that Jack Lynch is a crypto-Communist, and then lifts everyone out of their seats as he commands them in a trumpet roar to vote on his side of the motion or perish.

Then there is the fellow with a stammer who ties himself up in Yoga knots trying to get his words out. The House is sympathetic and he knows it. Sometimes he stutters intentionally, playing for laughs, and sometimes in the middle of a ringing appeal for solidarity with the oppressed Methodists of the Gobi Desert he gets stuck. His cheeks start pumping like bellows, his eyes screw up, he turns a pimpled puce and eventually gives up in disgust and sits down to thunderous applause.

Of course it is not enough simply to stand up and make a speech. One has to be able to deal with the hecklers, a sadistic band who spend their time roaring out "Shame" in two-part harmony, "Rubbish," "What about Russia?" or "Northern Bigot." Some of the best laughs, though, are in the off-the-cuff remarks tossed out by some anonymous wag at the back of the hall. If you can deal with



"... a long, wide, heavy, oak table littered with ashtrays, notes, books, water carafes and tape-recorders."

the Hist hecklers, coping with back-bench Labourites in the Dáil will be child's play. The only time the hecklers are silenced is when either they get out of hand and are fined 1d. or 3d. for disorderly behaviours, or when a new member is giving his maiden speech.

There is a very strict code of etiquette and transgression results in fines ranging from ½d. up to 5/- for serious offences. One must bow to the Chair whenever one crosses the House, officers of the society must always be referred to by their title and not by their names, one must wear a gown unless one is a visitor, one must never refer to the rivals' society, the Philosophical Society, by name, and so on. One picks up a lot of

superficially trivial tradition in two centuries, but tradition, nevertheless, which add a lot to the proceedings.

Hist debates wind up about midnight. Officially, that is. In fact many of the members go back to each other's rooms for tea and cakes, and to finish the debate. Undoubtedly there will be a great deal of change when the women come in. Whether or not it will be for the better is debatable, which is only to be expected. One thing is certain—the atmosphere will be a very different one and one against which a large number of hearty misogynists have struggled for the last three or four years.

John Armstrong.

—Courtesy Irish Press

Ford puts its graduates in the driving seat

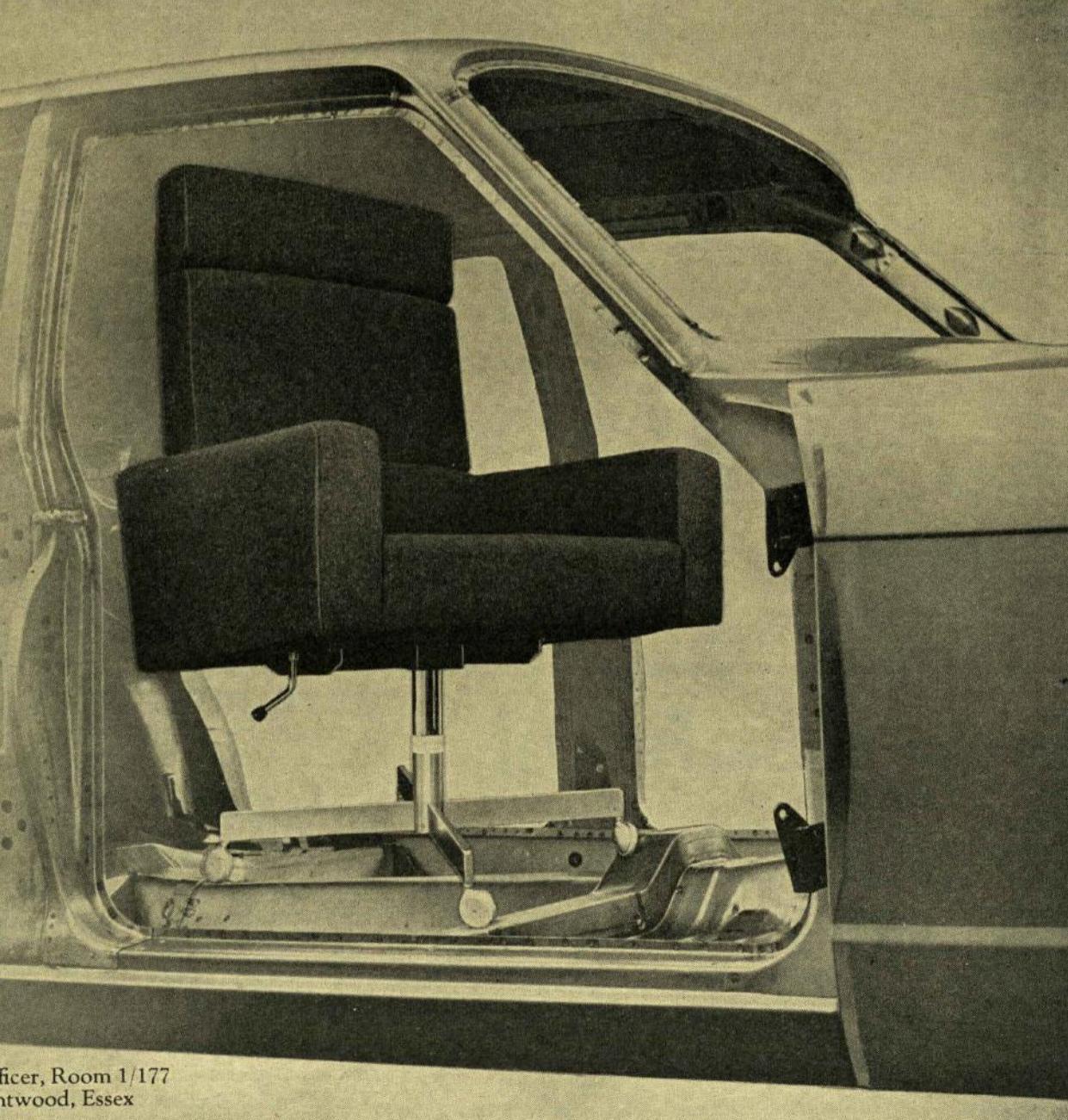
You have spent the last 17 or so years of your life in the process of "learning". We do not believe that the process stops now, and we feel sure that you agree with us. We do believe, however, that it is time you had a chance to put your knowledge to the test. So our initial induction period consists of showing you what we do and why. We shall then put you in a job which we feel will match your abilities and reflect your own inclinations. It will certainly give you real responsibility.

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★ News Feature-Civil Rights March

DERRY-BOUND MARCH ANGERS ULSTER

I joined the march on the Antrim Road on its way out of Belfast, and was surprised at the jeering which greeted the marchers from those in the front rank, until I realised that these were Major Bunting and his supporters.

They soon left, however, and we marched on. We arrived in Antrim town, to find the bridge blocked by a large number of police, a few followers of Paisley and a Lambeg drum.

Despite our efforts we could not push through, and spent the rest of the day blocking the traffic and being man-handled by the riot squad.

After nightfall our resolve weakened and we accepted a lift in police tenders to the Hibernian Hall near Randalstown where we spent the night.

There the marchers decided that the next day would be spent in an attempt to travel through Randalstown. We spent an uncomfortable night in the hall harassed by frequent bomb scares.

The next day we could not get through at Randalstown, but Catholic supporters of the march offered us lifts and, chased by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, we arrived in Toome, the first Nationalist town on our route.

Going over the bridge there the Queen's Republican Club unfurled its banner and sang "Roddy McCorley" to the loud cheers of the crowd.

We lunched on soup and oranges and then marched to Golladuff, a village outside Maghera, after three re-routes and one brush with extremists. There we were told of a hostile armed mob which the police had allowed to assemble outside Maghera. Remembering that it was a non-violent march, we piled into cars and drove on to the hall, on the far side of Maghera. We spent the night, guarded by twenty stout Republicans armed with shot-guns.

In the morning the R.U.C. would not let us go through Maghera, so we trudged over the Glenshane Pass and into Dungiven, where we were joined by a large number of young local people.

Outside the town police blocked the road we wanted to travel. After one of the marchers had informed the rest that there were in fact four Paisleyites on the road, we voted to go through the 100 odd police and we did this without a struggle.

Some pepper was thrown; it affected more marchers than police. After this incident, the marchers made their way uninterrupted to the village of Claudy, ten miles from Derry, where the group spent the night.

We woke on Saturday morning tired and footsore and, after a brief breakfast, stumbled out on to the road. At Cumber cross-roads we were told that we could expect a few stone-throwing Paisley supporters. In fact the first barrage of stones was followed by the advance of a group of men with pick-stakes and iron bars. The front of the march proceeded unscathed, the rear broke away into the fields and marchers were chased down into the river, then collected together and beaten. Those who escaped formed up again and continued the march to Derry.

On the outskirts of Derry we were greeted by a hail of broken bottles and stones. Everyone was hit. Further on, rocks started coming over the roof tops, but we survived this to reach a large welcoming crowd in Guildhall Square, where we sang the "International" with clenched fists.

Dublin Music Festival

A series of lively lunch time and evening concerts of 20th century music was held in the Exam Hall last week.

It was described as a model, peaceful, well performed and admirably organised festival by the *Times* critic, Felix Aprahamian.

Professor Boydell, one of the main organisers, acclaimed the festival a great success and hopes to hold a similar event next year.

The backbone of the festival were the Radio Telefis Eireann players, who performed brilliantly in several of the concerts. The Gabrieli Ensemble, the visiting celebrities, added variety and flavour and were especially praised in their opening concert on Sunday.

On Thursday afternoon, Charles Lynch repeated James Wilson's *Thermagistris*, which he has previously played in London.

The festival's title has been fulfilled literally, for the two daily events have neither been exclusively experimental or conventional programmes. Instead the new has been successfully mingled with the not-quite-so-new.



Ciaran McKeown, who was elected President of U.S.I. at the conference held last week.

SYNGE PAPERS BOUGHT

Trinity paid £50,000 for the bulk of the John Millington Synge papers in the face of foreign competition. The College could not get State assistance and had to sell items to pay for the collection. The papers represent 75 per cent. of the Synge manuscript material. A research scholar commented that the price had been high, but expected that the opportunity for a detailed textual examination would be rewarding and shed light upon little known aspects of Synge's work.

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Late News

300 UCD students protested last night at the imprisonment of Mr. Dennis Bennhy, a caravan dweller, who had tried to move into vacant flats. A protest meeting was held at the GPO at 8.00 p.m.

Trinity News

Student Protest

While appearing generally out of sympathy will all who took part in the Belfast to Derry Civil Rights march two weeks ago, Capt. O'Neill had particularly strong words for those students who participated and, it would seem, for students in general.

It was high time, he said, that they returned to their studies "for which they have the support of the taxpayer." He went on to speak of their arrogance towards those who had "built up the facilities they enjoy," and suggested that they knew little about society.

This part of O'Neill's speech is important, for it raises the whole question of the student's place in society. The viewpoint he expressed—one which has been widely adopted by those who attack student involvement in politics—has two relevant implications.

It suggests firstly that if a student has a grant he owes a debt to society over and above that of an ordinary citizen. Secondly, it suggests that students, as "junior citizens," have neither the right nor the qualifications to involve themselves in political affairs. This is a misguided notion.

Students have no responsibility whatsoever to the taxpayer. The idea that, because they are engaged in full-time studies they should be set apart from the remainder of society is to be rejected. The studies of students are as much productive as is the labour of a factory worker. The student, therefore, should be similarly free and independent.

Students are equally qualified, and probably better qualified, than other members of society when it comes to involving themselves in political affairs. They are as mature as their contemporaries who may have been at work for severally years, and beyond this they have read, by virtue of their studies, more deeply and have considered more seriously many of the political issues which concern them.

Students are also in a better position to apply moral judgments to the conduct of public affairs. For while adults, in their attitudes to say, apartheid, or in the case of Northern Ireland, civil rights, set their moral concerns against what they believe to be vital economic considerations, students will judge the situations in a purely moral light.

The case of Ulster is a good example to illustrate this reality. Both the young and the old can see the blatant injustices that exist there. But while the elder generation have, for the most part, decided out of convenience to live with these injustices, the young, and particularly students, have decided to act. It is the same throughout the world.

Not only have students the right to make positive protests against the restrictions which they believe to be invalid, but they are also in many cases in a much better position to do so. The sentiments expressed by Capt. O'Neill are themselves arrogant, and they should be rejected.

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