

just the same as it used to send us into the garage, or prairie, so many years ago.

The newspaper boy was shouting his head off as usual, "Read all about it! Read all about it! Trouble in Northern Ireland grows stronger!"

I wouldn't have bought the "Echo" if it wasn't for the fact that I had no customers.

"Over 'ere Kid," I shouted. Then "Ta", as I exchanged three pence for the paper. Then it hit me, in large black and white headlines:

"Three killed in Northern Ireland Blast. East Anglia regiment lose sergeant".

I expected what I got as I read through the names of the lost, and found his; he in the army to protect people like me—the banana man. I sank slowly down onto my cold wooden stool, yet as I sank I noticed the bold slogan in blood red on a yellow background displayed on the walls of "St. Michael's Square Methodist Church":

"He who lives by the sword,
Dies by the sword".

(P. BURMAN (3K).

A DIFFERENT DEATH

Death can be insanity:
For insanity is the death of reason.

A human mind, the complex organism, collapses; the filing cabinets and pigeon holes topple in shrieking disorder.

A mind reasons its way to a logical conclusion, new knowledge is assimilated, previous ideas adapted to meet a changing situation. Its meaning has to be understood, its full import registered. The greatest of computers such as Ernie; computers of 25,000 digits or so, are as a child's toy compared with the human brain—until the brain collapses, overburdened, in a chaotic welter of half-formed ideas.

It collapses because it can no longer grasp the magnitude of that with which it is confronted; because things outside its comprehension intrude.

A brain that has only seen happiness and satisfaction is sent reeling by a confrontation with terror, suppression, sadism, starvation, hypocrisy, torture and degradation in stunned, dazed, disbelief, in the face of the enormity of it all; like a punch-drunk boxer, tottering from the ring of life.

For the passing of a mind is like the passing of a body, the death of the mind renders the body useless, as does physical death.

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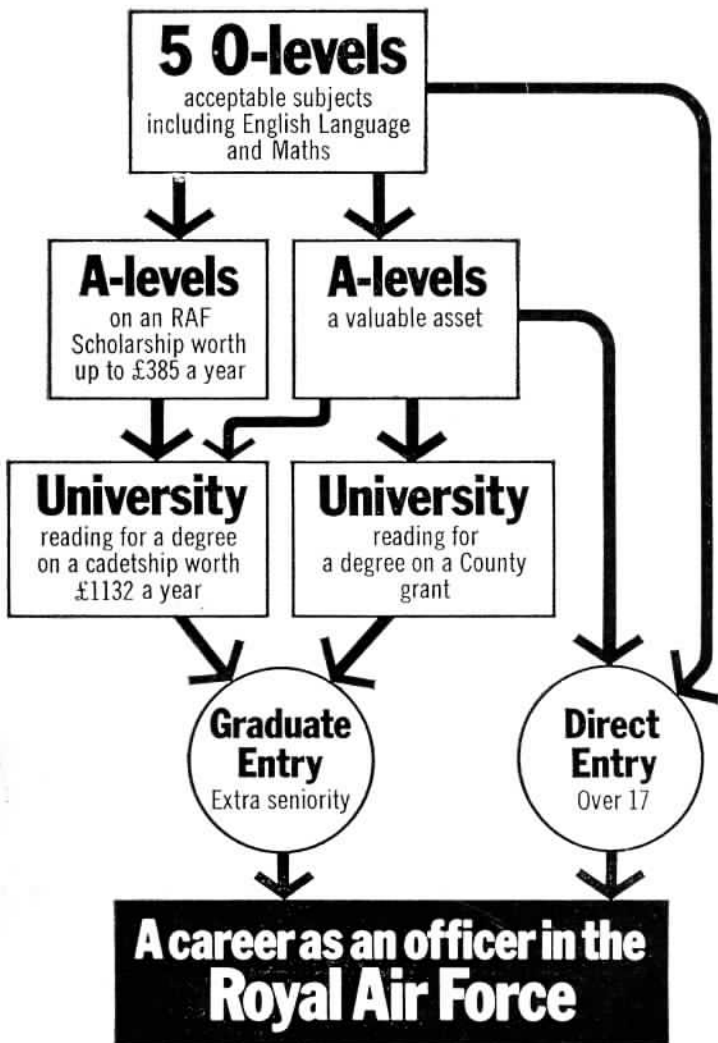
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Bob Vineer joined us straight from school, when he was 18. "I'd just taken my GCE's," he says, "I wanted a job that offered security and the chance to get ahead so I chose the Midland."

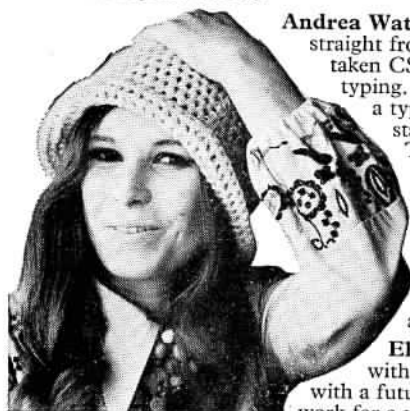
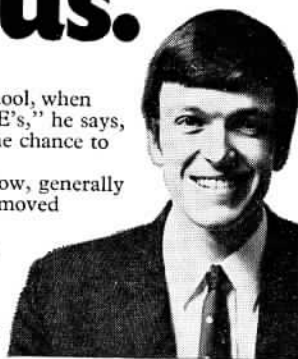
"My work there began as a junior clerk, you know, generally learning the business. But after four months, I moved on to higher things—as a cashier."

"After a while at that, 18 months or so, I did a spell on control work."

"Now at 21, I'm working in the branch's foreign and securities section."

"What do I like about my job? Oh, the variety, meeting people—the money's good as well."

"My prospects? I hope to be in management within ten years, but that depends on me."



Andrea Waters joined the Midland Bank at 16, straight from school. "Why? Oh, I'd just taken CSE's and one of my passes was in typing. The Midland offered me a job as a typist, so, I took it. As it happens, I started in Head Office as a junior."

"That was a year ago, and since then I've moved on to more responsible work in the same department."

"What do I like about the job? Well, the money's good for my age, I like the people, but mostly I suppose, I enjoy the work."

"There isn't much more you could ask from a job, really is there?"

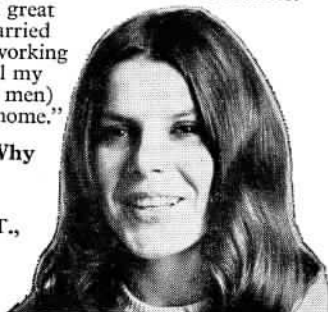
Elizabeth Stevens. "I left school with six 'O' levels—looking for a career, with a future. I joined the Midland, did junior work for a year, then moved on to the counter."

"I pretty soon got to know everyone—they're a great crowd, really friendly people. I plan to get married before very long, but I'll probably carry on working here afterwards—it'd be a shame to leave all my friends. I get a good wage (equal pay with the men) and this is coming in very handy in setting up a home."

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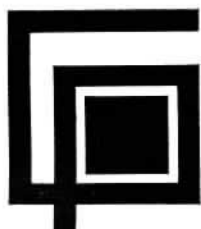
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