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LIBRARY APPEAL SPECIAL



UNION NEWS



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

January 19th to February 16th

ON January 19th, 12 members of the Executive Committee were elected. Five members from JACOSS, Joint Action Committee of Overseas Students Societies, and six from the Socialist Society. The JACOSS-SOC SOC slate participated in the elections with a common and detailed programme of action.

January 26th. Maria Cadaxa, elected Secretary-General, resigned. Jacoss has now nominated Marcos Bachlitzanakis, President of the Helenic Society, for the post of General Secretary. Elections held together with members of the Constitutional Committee, Friday, 9th, at the Union Meeting. Dave Howarth resigned.

DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Putting the Union again in motion is going to take some time and quite some work. Our first decisions were to obtain information about every Union service and issue pending resolution. However, we also took the following decisions:—

Finance: Due to the freezing of our funds last year, it seems that the Union has not received the full grant for 1971-1972. There is also the next budget, 1972-73, to be negotiated. We ordered an interim audit, began to study a bargaining position for Union to adopt regarding the money owed, explored the extent of our legal rights about the latter, and then began to draw up plans for the next budget.

Allocation of tasks: All members of the Executive Committee have been allocated areas of responsibility. Hameed Haroon will be responsible for Publications, Elias Noujaim for Academic Affairs, Nick Kettle and Rex Osborn for External Affairs, Jane Ayton for Welfare, Carlos Michelson, Abe Oppel and John Carr (Senior Treasurer) for Finance, Joe Cummings for the Bar, Guillermo Kelley for Entertainments and Emmanuel Igwe for the Shop.

We support several students' campaigns: Thames Poly's campaigns for grants, N.U.S. campaign on the effect of V.A.T. on Students' Union funds, the Refectory boycott in support of the grants campaign, the Rent Strike at L.S.E. and finally, approved the nomination of four delegates to attend the Reading Conference on the Rent Strike and four delegates to the S.R.C.

Library Appeal: We gave qualified support to the appeal contingent upon a promise of

space in the new arrangement and the allocation of money to redecorate and make structural alterations. Our support is qualified also in view of the many issues pending between the Union and the School.

Overseas Students' Fees: Decided to approve an exploratory survey to find out the number of foreign students in need of a reduction of foreign fees, currently £250, per academic year.

The following motions have been approved at the last four Union meetings. Motions which were defeated are not included but can be obtained from the Union.

Union support for the Southern Africa Focus Week and the national liberation movements in that part of the Third World.

Ratification of Union policy on the Library Appeal (see above).

Ratification of financial policy with regard to money owed by the School to the Union.

... AND LAST FRIDAY
The Union meeting of Friday, 9th was quite productive. Several motions were carried.

We supported the Icelandic struggle for fishing rights, as well as the similar struggles of other countries (Chile, China, Peru etc.). The work-in of the Briant Colour Print workers also got substantial support. An open committee was immediately formed after listening to a representative of the workers.

Union also supported the A.S.T.S.M.-L.S. support committee regarding the grants campaign; Ken Muller and Elias Noujaim were elected as delegates. Consistent with the prevailing ideological and anti-imperialist mood of the Union, the Irish struggle was massively supported. A telegram is to be sent to Elisabeth McKee, first woman internee.

Activity on the Rent Strike continued. A motion was supported sending delegates to the Reading Rent Strike Conference (Tim Potter, Terry Burrell, Jerry Moore and Rex Osborn).

INTERVAL

Union internal matters also got their fair share of time. The

Constitutional Committee was elected: Tim Jones as Chairman, David Kenwyn as Secretary and as ordinary members James Banks, Val Davies, John Morton and Sue Williscroft. There is one more place to be filled and nominations are now open. The Bar Committee and the Finance Committee are now also in operation. Regarding the Bar, a motion was approved requesting a financial report for the next Union meeting.

Finally, the Executive Committee is now complete. Marcos Bachlitzanakis was elected (unopposed) Secretary General of the Union.

E.C. — resolution on publications policy

(a) To increase the political content and relevance of all publications of Union, generally and as a matter of principle.

(b) Beaver, the editor and staff, shall be free to publish whatever they see fit, but any person or institution who may feel concerned about a certain article or news item shall have the right of reply in the same issue and in a position of equal prominence to the article or news item in question.

(c) Daily current events news-sheet. Shall continue to be produced by Beaver office but with a disclaimer at the bottom saying comments not necessarily represent Union or E.C.'s opinion. Comments to be separate from facts.

(d) Union News — a fortnightly news-sheet shall have the following contents:

(1) A summary of any political developments during the past or future fortnight which the executive wishes to make known.

(2) A brief summary of E.C. decisions and/or resolutions if necessary.

(3) Motions approved at the Union meeting preceding the particular issue, in summary form.

(4) Motions pending debate and approval at the next Union meeting. The distribution of this news-sheet shall be made at least three days before a Union meeting and in a manner comparable to the distribution of BEAVER so as to assure the widest possible communication of Union affairs to all students.

Happy Wally

At the cocktail party given Thursday, the 8th, in honour of the Queen Mother and other millionaires who are going to contribute to the British Library Appeal, one noticeable for his absence was Digby Jacks, President of NUS. At the party, it is reported from reliable sources that the Director consumed his share of alcoholic beverages. It is also reported that he was very happy.

GOING GREAT GUNS

WELL, the campaign for Medical Aid for Vietnam is going quite well. To date we've raised £220. Another £110 will enable us to buy our electro-cardiograph. One thing about this campaign—it's been relatively painless. In order to raise the money, we've been prepared to lay on food, stars, home-made wine and what have you. When you approach people with a clear-cut idea, you always get a response.

Highlights of the campaign: a cheese and beer party run by Soc. Admin. raised £21, a source of alternative food during the refectory boycott brought in £8, and, of course, our poetry reading netted a cool £96. Thanks to everyone involved. Keep your eyes on the notice boards for further activities.

J.C.



PETER WALKER

PETER WALKER, whizz-kid millionaire Tory Cabinet Minister, has begun his ignoble demise. The Minister for Trade and Industry has condemned himself to that special room in Madame Tussaud's (or even a separate page of Burke's Peerage?) reserved for "going" men—that élite breed of politicians who see Britain's new empire, a never-ending economic boom and industrial Nirvana based on advanced technology and North Sea Gas, around the corner. We'll arrive in a few years time they said. By the 1980s Mr. Walker said at the LSE on February 7th.

BREAD TICKET

Mr. Walker outlined the troubles facing the American economy, a worsening energy crisis and the harmful effects to its balance of payments of Japanese competition on its domestic and world markets and then explained how Britain's relative economic position could only increase now that we are in the Common Market. This great trading block, rivaling the US in both industrial capacity and market size is our bread-ticket for the foreseeable future and providing that America does not succumb to the domestic political pressures for a new wave of protectionism both Britain and America's problems can be solved in a world (at least Western) context. Indeed, the restrictions on the expansion of American industry require such an international solution.

NORTH SEA CURE

The discovery of substantial reserves of oil and natural gas under the North Sea is now the cure-all of British decline. The provision of 50 per cent of our oil requirements will relieve one strain on our trade balance and providing that the reserves are substantial and not just subterranean there will be no stopping us. Industrial reorganisation and heavy investment in both the public and private sectors of industry to take full advantage of the situation is now in order; to wit the recently announced massive Government expenditure for the British Steel Corporation—or it just might solve the unemployment problem.

Peter Capel.

FLORRIE'S VIEW ON CANTEN BOYCOTTS

QUESTION: Sorry, Florrie, am I disturbing you?

ANSWER: What? Look at all these saucers, what do you think you're doing?

Q: I'm sorry, I just wanted to talk to you about the boycott of the refectory.

A: I've told you everything already.

Q: Not me.

A: I know, but I've told THEM. I mean look here, the boycott's nothing to do with me, see, that's your affair, but when they close the refectory it all falls on me, me and my staff. I've just got to shut, like today, I've got to shut the place so we can wash all the dishes again because there's no cups or saucers left—it's too big a load and it all falls on me.

Q: Do you think that if you were told a few hours ahead it might be different?

A: Yes, well they've told me they

would... I don't mind the boycott, it's nothing to do with me... I mean, I think it's silly, but I don't know anything about politics, really... I've never interfered with you... But when you boycott the refectory all the load falls on me, you see... But they said they would—that big Egyptian bloke, he came in and said; and Emma.

Q: So you should be able to cope.

A: If I get told ahead.

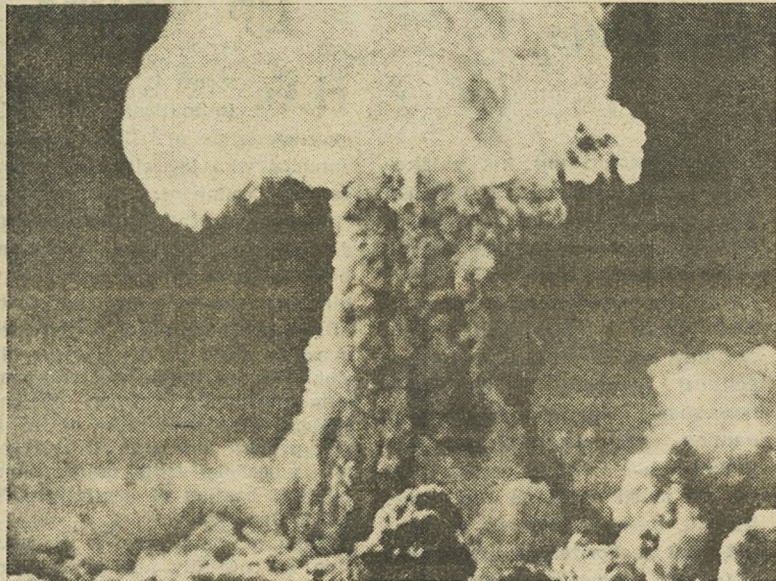
I left Florrie to her dishes. In case anyone hasn't noticed yet, it is Florrie's bar, not the Library or Connaught House which keeps this school together, and Florrie is grossly underpaid considering the work she does and has always done for the school, come occupation, fund freeze or tube strike. If L.S.E. is to go on, something must be done. E.C. take note?

G.F.

ARMAGEDDON

THE END OF THE WORLD...

A BEAVER EXCLUSIVE



This article was submitted by Jesus Christ who came into Beaver office last Thursday. **FRIENDS AND CHILDREN OF THE UNIVERSE**

WE have now reached an extremely difficult stage in our evolution. The planet is dying very quickly in its own pollution. We are using up all the food and oxygen.

I am Alpha and Omega saith the Lord our God who was, who is and who always will be. God wants everyone to enter the kingdom of Heaven, but to do that is a difficult task. We all have our cross to carry. To achieve the kingdom you are required to give up your material wealth and become meek and humble again but most of all keep faith with God.

The Western civilisation of the moment is living in a money-orientated capitalist system which is ripping the

earth apart. Be compassionate and love thy fellow man—not his money. It's people and relationships which are most important.

CANNABIS

There seems to me to be a gap between the older generation and the youth. Part of the reason for this is the misunderstanding about some of the drugs the young use. In particular I refer to the Cannabis plant. Cannabis is a plant which God has put on the planet for man to use and no government has the right to stop him from using it. It is my intention to demonstrate against the present laws in the Houses of Lords and Commons in about three weeks time.

The exact date will be revealed at a later date.

LOVE AND HARMONY TO ALL, JESUS CHRIST.

THE UNION APPEAL

TO the fanfare of trumpets a Market Research Company of great renown, who have been investigating public erogenous zones for the last ten years in special preparation for this project, launched on behalf of the LSE Union, its special Tit Appeal, which has as its end the expansion of all Union genitalia.

Past students, captains of industry, Prime Ministers and the President of the National Union of Students, were asked to donate relevant items to the Appeal, bravely launched in the face of great public criticism from the Left Tit, which feels that all advantages accrued by the Appeal will generate to the Right. To bear this view out, the Left Tit quoted numerous examples taken from the Tit Appeal Literature elaborating the business affiliations of Union Tits.

TIT

"No-one can deny the massive contribution to the city, to broadcasting, to government and to international capitalism of Union Tits," one brochure proudly proclaims.

A minority genital has pointed out that the emphasis on Centre Tits which can be found in the Tit Appeal will inevitably leave all normal tits out in the cold and fallen short of their targets.

The Prime Minister, however, has promised his support to either tit should the occasion arise.

A Queen, dressed in white tulle fringed with pink lace, and black bra and pants has offered whatever promises of action he can. At present the organisers say that they are trying to touch all past and present Union Tits for a hand-out.

It has been estimated that the Appeal will cost the Union twice as much as the value of the Tit for which the Appeal was launched.

"A NEW TIT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE GROWTH OF THE WHOLE ORGAN" is the slogan of the Union Tit Appeal and all are invited to contribute, however small.

J.B. & E.B.

RECEPTION — Lord Robbins

Lord Robbins and members of the Court of Governors of the London School of Economics & Political Science and Sir Walter Adams, Director, held a reception last night at the Mansion House attended by the Lord Mayor and the Sheriffs to launch an appeal for the British Library of Political & Economic Science. The guests included representatives of clearing banks, merchant banks, overseas banks, stockbrokers, City institutions, commodity markets, chartered accountants, solicitors, insurance companies, property companies, public companies, nationalised industries and the Press.

"There is no need for me to emphasise the importance of the role which the Library has played in the development of social and economic studies. Its continued growth and the expansion of its facilities are equally vital for the future of learning and research in this very special field."

—Sir Arnold Weinstock.

LEPANTO LIVES AGAIN...

Pale clerks queuing up to greet him, rank on rank, As bold Don Lionel comes marching to the Bank. Cash-tills ringing in the dreams of Unit Trust, As stockbrokers wonder why the market has gone bust. Strong bulls bellowing as the bears zoom far— Don Lion of L.S.E. is going to the war. Torchlight crimson on the Mansion House's drums: Then the pounds and the piastres, then the dollars and he comes! Don Lion laughing with his white man curled, Blazing out his message to the magnates of the world; Holding up the flag of Liberalism and L.S.E. Pleading for the cause of its world-famous Library. There's brave Sir Arnold Weinstock, best-beloved of Morning Star, (Don Lion of Houghton Street is marching to the war)— There's witty Bernard Levin ticker-taping through The Times, Weeping (all the way to Barclay's) over Communism's crimes; And there's Trendy Trudeau, breathing out Fraternité (But not a word from Jomo—where's that wily old Mzee?). Still we've got the sheriffs, bankers, Press and merchants on our side, And sure that Grand Alliance must avail to turn the tide. The Captains and the Kings of wealthy Britain's Industry Must strike a blow for learning and our great new Library. Vivat Shaviana, Webbibus Gloria! Don Lion of L.S.E. Will set his students free!

NOT SO CAPITAL!

THAT vigorous exponent of free enterprise, Peregrine Worsthorne, who puts forward his views every week in the "Sunday Telegraph," has suddenly changed his tune now that his landlord has given him notice to quit his luxury flat. "Now that I'm a victim of the very system I supported I see things in a different light," he said wryly!

A shock report on property developers has lashed out at five greedy men who have made £125 million out of property deals.

The five men named are Harry Hyams, owner of the controversial Centre Point office block; Robert Clark, director of Stock Conversion; Joseph Levy, chairman of Stock Conversion; Maurice Wohl, chairman of the United Real Property Trust; and Lord Samuel, chairman of Land Securities Investment Trust.

What naughty, greedy men you are!

GOOD TASTE

"Most people don't have a clue," says historian A. L. Rowse. "I should know, because I have rather good taste."

With only two weeks to go to the French elections, there has been a discreet withdrawal from Paris of Rear

Admiral Philippe de Gaulle, who so closely resembles his late father. While Philippe has no immediate political ambitions, there is a group of diehard fanatical followers of the late General who want to draft the 51-year-old Philippe as President.

From a leaflet explaining America's new social services system: "Under the new law the more you earn the higher your total income will be." Well, Howard Hughes won't mind that!

A new quiz for announcers is being sponsored by Michael Aspel, to see who can mispronounce the most place names. As most are antipodean, there should be a lot of contestants!

JEREMY CLIFT.

LSE IS TORY!

THE following article from a Library Appeal Handbook, plagiarised from the "Daily Telegraph", was not sent to the students of L.S.E. with the L.S.E. magazine, I can't think why; but to all the charitable—and less charitable—multi-million-pound organisations which might be expected to take an interest, indeed HAVE an interest, in the expansion of a highly sophisticated instrument of social research. And education of course. Naturally (Continued on Page Nine)



Count Dracula, B.Sc.

YOU CAN JOIN HIM IN A NEW VENTURE

It is my sanguine conviction that the BLPES project is in the truest vein of British learning—a look at some of the sponsors suffices to perceive this. A hearty, red-blooded enterprise such as this can only serve to aid in the expansion of the arteries of knowledge and research which are so vital to damming the hæmorrhages of ignorance and uncertainty, those forces which are threatening the life-blood of the world. In my opinion no single cause could inject a greater amount of new blood into this service which is so useful to British business and interests.

To all my colleagues, I again tender my whole-hearted support.

Count Dracula

- B.P. £10,000
- British Steel £10,000
- Rothschild (N.) £10,000
- Thomson Org. £10,000

The British Library of Political and Economic Science.

Edword Heath

Harold Wilson

Jeremy Thorpe

Nosferatu Castle, Transylvania.

"I hereby give my whole-hearted support to this project to which some of the bluest blood in the land has given its backing.

COMMENT

UNION OLIGARCHY

"If this Union Meeting is inoperative, don't anyone for GOD'S sake shout "Quorum": we have too much business to get through."—Hameed Haroon, Executive Committee Member, at Executive Meeting.

A hardly surprising statement from a member of a committee which was voted in at elections where:—

(1) 390 people out of almost 3,000 students voted;

(2) The ballot box was open for one-and-a-half hours in the late afternoon when a very high proportion of students were absent.



Anonymous executive committee member.

Looking at these facts can one help agreeing with Maria Cadaxa's judgment that the January elections were elitist? The usual argument, of course, for justifying this brand of elitist elections is that the people who vote are the ones who are interested. Admittedly, if everyone had been determined to vote they would have; on the other hand, the students' union is a supposedly democratic body which affects in some way all the students in L.S.E. To say that active interest in the goings-on of union is a necessary condition for participation in the representative process would be imposing what amounts to arbitrary political discrimination. Union only marginally affects the vital elements in our lives as human beings or students; active interest is therefore a little too much to expect. What is more, it is the duty of any democratic political body, involving as it does the use of power in the context of a given community, to make it easier for the members of that community to exercise their rights in controlling that power. This is done by making the process of casting a vote as simple as possible, i.e., a ballot-box open all day. This, in turn, can help fulfil another of Union's duties, which is to make people more aware of their part and their duty in the political process.

Democratic elections are the responsibility of the Union executive committee, NOT of the Union members. Or, in someone's words, "Dear E.C., ask not what the people can do for you; ask what you can do for the people." To blame Apathy with a big A is too easy.

This being said, I would like to add that the E.C., despite inevitable initial slowness, is doing a decent job in sizing up and taking action on the issues confronting them, in accordance with what is seen as the interests of the S.U. It's just a pity they haven't given a thought to obtaining some sort of popular mandate for their idea of Union interests by reforming the electoral system and calling new elections—or are they afraid, perchance, that this time they might not win? G.F.

GHOST OF ISSUES PAST

FEW people have time, energy, or inclination to dredge through back numbers of *Beaver*, but if they did they would find two issues in Union politics which crop up again and again, eerie cobwebs on the skeletons of dead union presidents. One involves the closure of Houghton St. to vehicular traffic other than emergency vehicles; the other concerns the banning, or at least the reform of Part I examinations of the Bsc.Econ.

HOUGHTON ST.

These issues are not dead, though they have been forgotten. The Houghton St. issue died, as an issue, when the school administration voiced support for it. But perhaps it might be possible to resuscitate this question which so directly concerns the well-being, and even the physical safety of everyone in the school. The value in closing Houghton St. is undeniable—SocSoc, ConSoc, and Lord Robbins all agree on it, and if that wasn't enough, the record of past pedestrian casualties in the street would surely clinch the matter. But, it would seem, the sempiternal adolescent aggressiveness of student politics makes these politics so negative that for the administration to agree with the union on something means that this something loses all interest for the union. Maybe, now, when the school are so hell-bent for money for the library they want to avoid any controversial issue at all costs, would be a good time to bring the issue back to life.

The second question, that of exam reform, died because (a)

the School, and University, administrations are virtually omnipotent in academic affairs, and (b) the student reform lobby lacked cohesion and continuity; principally because no union council ever spent enough time or energy to give the movement the necessary organisation for bringing pressure to bear, or for ensuring that the issue wouldn't die over summer. Summer is the built-in weakness of this issue because all the people who passed Part I in June suddenly lose interest then. But, to my mind, this is perhaps one of the most vital reforms the Union Exec. Committee could take up because the exam system is one of the most blatant injustices in the LSE system. Exams are useful for one thing; checking whether a certain minimum of facts and processes have been absorbed, full stop. For any other kind of assessment they are useless because different people react so differently to the strain of such an artificial test. The only fair assessment can come from a combined evaluation of exam results and the results of work (essays, tutorials, etc.) done throughout the year. This system has been adopted in some of the most rigid and alienating educational systems in the world, systems far worse than LSE's. Therefore, why not here?

So, before the present executive committee gets too firmly seated on whatever political bandwagon is now rolling around Trafalgar Square, perhaps they would give a thought to laying these two grinning skeletons in their own family cupboard.

NURSTORY

WORK has again started on this project, but we now need a lot of new information from the people who will eventually be using it. A new questionnaire is being made out which will differ from the one that was circulated some time ago. It is essential that numbers of children who will use it are worked out as soon as possible in order to establish:

(a) The number of staff to be employed;

(b) the quantity and type of equipment we need for the nursery, and,

(c) the most important point, what demand there will be for a nursery in the vacations.

RENT

This point is of the utmost importance because until (and if) we can get premises in L.S.E. we will have to pay rent for premises outside L.S.E. every week of the year and not just in term-time, and any staff employed (i.e. at least one

fully qualified child nurse) will be paid on a per annum salary basis. We would, therefore, be paying rent and salary when no income was coming in from fees paid by parents.

If anyone has any enquiries or suggestions, or would like to help in the project, they can get in touch with me (Welfare Officer, Executive Committee), via Union Office or in S114 where Welfare will be situated in future.

JANE AYTON.

Letters

The Union Publications Scandal

THERE is no doubt that the new Union Executive's policy of publishing a precis news-sheet account of its meetings is a useful and democratic innovation, which makes the members of the Executive much more liable to embarrassing questions in Union meetings. In view of the flimsy political unity within the JACOSS-Soc. Soc. coalition and the dubious political stances of some of the Union Executives, tough questioning of officers in Union meetings is a necessity. Students may realise that already one of the JACOSS candidates in the Union elections has been "assassinated" by his Soc. Soc. allies. This was John Stathatos, whose politics, presumably, were not far enough to the Left for Soc. Soc., and whose claim to represent the Hellenic Society appears to have been slightly fraudulent. Stathatos was duly "persuaded" by his fellow JACOSS candidates to stand in the election independently.

IMPOSTORS

It must be assumed that there are similar impostors in each wing of the Union coalition. Take, for example, Hameed Haroon, who is rumoured to have pretended, for some of his time at L.S.E., to be a Persian. It is alleged that he is the son of one of the Pakistani Cabinet Ministers, who bashed Bangla Desh; he has become the Executive member in charge of publications.

When the precis of Executive meetings was discussed, the question arose whether or not to include the names of officers next to the way in which they voted. The inclusion of names was passed by a narrow majority. Among those who objected was Hameed Haroon. We can only guess whether those who opposed this were intending, at some stage, to make unpopular votes in Executive meetings, which they did not wish to have published too widely. Hameed also objected to the critical nature of political comment directed at the Executive, in the daily news-sheet, put out after Maria Cadaxa's resignation.

When Haroon put his publications policy to the E.C. it included many sensible economic changes in format. However, hidden among these changes were two items. Firstly, the non-naming of voters in the precis information; and, secondly, the prohibition of further political comment in the daily news-sheet. The abandonment of naming was accepted on the grounds that a list of names takes up too much space on the paper. No E.C. member bothered to point out that a horizontal list, rather than the previous vertical list, would take up little room and cost no more. No doubt the increasingly controversial nature of E.C. affairs has scared the Executive off excess publicity. They justified their position by pointing out that the names of voters were freely available in the complete, but often elusive, minutes of E.C. meetings. The question of political comment in the daily news-sheet was fortunately



seriously considered and it was decided to allow the daily news-sheet to continue as before, but with a compromise in the form of a statement to be published in the news-sheet clarifying the E.C.'s refusal to accept responsibility for any political comment. Such a statement is quite meaningless and no guarantee against further attempts by Haroon to deny the freedom of the Press.

H.G.

the blatantly ridiculous. And as for being the son of a Cabinet Minister who backed Bangla Desh, could we possibly clarify the issue to being the nephew of an ex-Cabinet Minister who was against the fascist army intervention in East Pakistan.

COMMENT

Now on the matter of the publications policy. If H.G. really knows what he's talking about, the publications resolutions were moved by another member of the E.C. and I commented on what I thought about them. I further spoke on the question of the news-sheet—and Maria Cadaxa's resignation—as grossly misrepresented, which was later agreed upon by George Foy, editor of *Beaver*. In fact, all the E.C. did was to suggest to *Beaver* that the news-sheet attempt to separate political comment from political fact whenever possible. This was not held to be obligatory for the news-sheet staff. And as for the "complete but hard to find minutes of the E.C. meetings" H.G. might be pleased to note that they are pinned on the E.C. notice board in the foyer of St. Clement's building every week.

So, in future, when castrated eunuchs like H.G., of whom luckily we do not find many examples, thrust forward their ignorant comments in a supposedly biting style, I think it would be well for them to verify their nonsensical views beforehand.

HAMEED HAROON.

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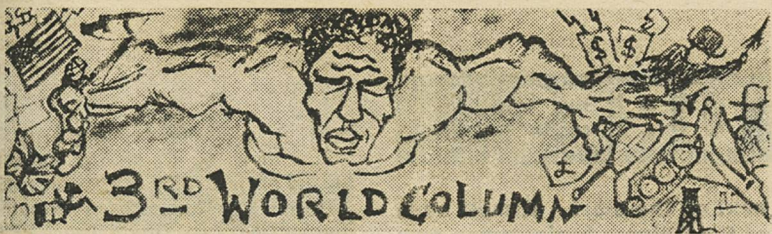
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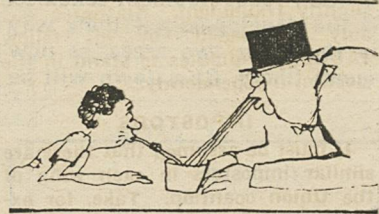


ECONOMICS OF TAPEWORM

ALTHOUGH statistics have almost become something of a cliché in the 'seventies, the fact remains that they can still, by shock tactics, bring to people's attention the basic realities of the situation.

To give an outline, on average an Indian has a daily intake of 1,900 calories compared to the 3,180 of the U.K. dweller. Annual incomes in the developed countries are 12 times higher than in the developing nations and by the end of the century are likely to be 18 times higher. It is also a proven fact that the sum spent by American women on cosmetics every year is greater than the combined annual budget of all African states who have become independent since the Second World War. Also, in the developed countries, a quarter of the world's population controls 90 per cent of the world's income, 90 per cent of its gold reserves, 95 per cent of its scientific capacity, 70 per cent of its meat and 80 per cent of its protein. In North, East and West Africa, nearly 80 per cent of the people are illiterate and more than half of the world's population over ten has never been to school.

In the medical field, Africa has 9,200 people for each doctor and South Asia 5,200 whereas developed countries average 750 people per practitioner. Infant



deaths too, per thousand live births are four times as high in the underdeveloped countries, with a hundred children being born every half minute—20 of which will die within the year and 60 of which will have no access to medical care during their childhood. Perhaps the most ironical statement was made by Ritchie Calder in "Common sense about a starving world" which informs us that, "a peasant in the tropics has to work a third of his life just to feed his tapeworm."

Sheffield 3WI.

A SUCCESS?

The Southern African Week :
Jan. 29th - Feb. 1st

Representatives of the Southern African Liberation movements showed how any British Government is committed to maintaining White Supremacy. EITHER you support the demands of the Southern African people OR you will be committed to the wrong side (J. Thorpe exposed himself obscenely on the question of investments).

Although meetings were unevenly attended the message was brought home and we now have the basis for an effective Anti-Apartheid Group. **SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE.**

John Carneson.

CEASEFIRE

By Adrian Mitchell

Dedicated to the work of Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam

The outside of my body was half-eaten by the fire which clings as tight as skin. The fire has turned some of my skin into black scab bits of roughness and some pale bits, smooth as plastic, which no one dares touch except me and the doctor.

Everyone who looks at me is scared. That's not because I want to hurt people but because so much of me looks like the meat of a monster.

I was walking to the market. Then I was screaming. They found me screaming. They put out the flames on my skin. They laid me on a stretcher and I cried: Not on my back! So they turned me over and I cried: Not on my front!

A doctor put a needle in my arm and my mind melted and I fell into a furnace of dreams of furnaces.

When I woke I was in a white hospital. Everything I wanted to say scared me and I did not want to scare the others in that white hospital, so I said nothing, I cried as quietly as I could.

Months passed over my head and bombers passed over my head and people came and said they were my parents and they found out the right places on my face where I could bear to be kissed.

And I pretended I could see them but I couldn't really look out of my eyes but only inwards, inwards into my head where the flames still clung and hurt.

And the voice of the flames said: You are meat. You are ugly meat. Your body cannot grow into loveliness. Nobody could love such ugly meat. Only ugly meat could love such ugly meat. Better be stewed for soup and eaten.

And months passed over my head and the bombers passed over my head and the voices of the flames began to flicker and I began to believe the people who said they were my parents were my parents.

And one day I threw myself forward so that I sat up in bed, for the first time, and hurled my arms around my mother. and however the skin on my chest howled out its pain I held her, I held her, I held her and knew she was my mother. And I forgot that I was monster meat and I knew she did not know that I was monster meat.

I held her, I held her.

And, sweet sun which blesses all the world— all the flames faded. The flames of my skin and the flames inside my head— and fell back on my pillow and I was flooded with love for my mother who did not know that I was monster meat.

And so, in the love-flood, I let go of my mother and fell back upon the pillow and I rolled my head to the left side and saw a child, or it might have been an old man, eating his rice with his only arm and I rolled my head to the right side and saw another child, or she might have been an old woman, who had no eyes, being fed through the arm from a tube from a red bottle— and I loved them, and, flooded with love I started to sing the song of the game I used to play with my friends in the long-ago days before the flames came:

One, one, I bounce the ball.
Once for the cobbler at the corner,
Two, two I bounce the ball.
Twice for the fisherman on the river.
Three, three, I bounce the ball.
Three times for my golden lover—

And had to stop singing.
Throat choked with vomit.

And then the flames exploded again all over my skin and then the flames exploded again inside my head and I burned, sweet sun, sweet mother, I burned.

Sweet sun, which blesses all the world, this was one of the people of Vietnam. Make him or her whatever age you like— he or she is dead.

The one-armed man or boy survives. The blind woman or girl whose body needs a change of blood each day survives.

I suppose we love each other. We're stupid if we don't. We have a choice— Either to choke to death on our own vomit or to become one with the sweet sun, which blesses all the world.

GULF KILLS

"Business has a responsibility to society that transcends the traditional business purpose of making money. The responsibility is to preserve the natural environment and to do whatever can be done to enhance the social environment."

LAUDIBLE sentiments from B. R. Dorsey, the President of GULF OIL. GULF'S involvement with Portugal in Angola suggests statements of this nature are designed primarily to undermine their critics and have no relation to their true policies.

GULF OIL is the sole concessionaire in Cabinda, a small enclave to the North of Angola on the West Coast of Africa under Portuguese control. By the end of 1971 GULF had invested between 150 and 200 million dollars to explore and exploit the oil deposits there. GULF estimates reserves of over 300 million tons of oil and their confidence is reflected in the investment of millions in the construction of a petroleum port, storage facilities and telephone communications within the Portuguese area. Cabinda is expected to become one of the four leading oil projects in Africa.

Portugal has negotiated advantageous terms for herself with GULF. The company pays surface rent and royalties and also contributes 50 per cent of its entire profits on the operation to the Portuguese. By the end of 1972 GULF had paid over 25 million dollars to Portugal, enough to finance 50 per cent of Portugal's African War effort. Oil is also an invaluable strategic asset.

PORTUGUESE ATROCITIES

Portugal itself is a police state and is notorious for the brutality and cruelty she uses in her attempts to continue to rule the three African colonial possessions, now "overseas provinces" from Lisbon. Censorship, prohibition of trade unions, the single-party system, pass-book laws, travel controls and extraordinary powers of the secret police effectively suppresses the political and econo-

mic aspirations of the Africans. Ninety per cent of the African majority still live on the land whilst the average land acreage occupied by the Europeans is 60 times that of the Africans.

FREEDOM

Whilst British and French colonies moved towards and gained independence, the peaceful protests of the people of Angola, Guinea and Mozambique were met with increasing resistance and violence. In Guinea in 1959 50 striking dockworkers were killed. In Angola in 1960, 30 were killed, 200 injured and two villages destroyed after a peaceful demonstration about the arrest of political dissidents.

At the moment the Portuguese have an estimated 150,000 troops in Africa and spends half her national budget for military purposes to preserve increasingly tenuous holds on her colonial possessions. The African Nationalists in each of the three territories control large areas in which they have introduced their own schools, health clinics, markets, local governments and other social systems which did not exist before and were actively discouraged by the Portuguese.

THE GULF ROLE

GULF supports the Portuguese policies morally and physically. They provide much of the finance that makes the war possible and they also attempt to portray the Portuguese regime in a favourable light as providing the "stable" political conditions without which they could not operate.

GULF oil tankers deliver oil to their refinery at Milford Haven from where it is distributed to their 300 garage outlets mainly in the South of England.

Portugal is consistently condemned for her continuing atrocities and vicious repression and exploitation of the African people. However, GULF who are helping and benefiting by Portugal's cruel policies are allowed to freely market their oil in this country.

GULF'S customers must be made aware that they are helping to subsidise Portugal's atrocities and the continued exploitation and repression of African peoples. To show support and solidarity with the African Freedom Fighters a Boycott of GULF oil is called for.

DPC.

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TODAY

**SPECULATOR
THE YEAR OF THE**

ON Sunday, February 4th, the Chinese community celebrated the first day of the Year of the Ox in the traditional manner with a Lion Dance and a lion tamer flown in from Hong Kong. The public festivities, organised by the Gerrard Street Chinese Community and the Architectural Association Festival Group, attracted large crowds of Chinese, Londoners and overseas tourists. However, there was much more to the occasion than an exercise in public relations.

The New Year celebrations began at the east end of Gerrard Street, the heart of London's Chinatown, with a five-minute fusillade of firecrackers designed to drive away all evil spirits; out of the thick blanket of smoke suddenly

SPECIAL FEATURES

emerged the Lion, whose enormous, richly decorated head must be newly constructed each year and brought to life with suitable ceremony.

Powered by between one and three men, it came surrounded by attendants and musicians. Still, at this stage of the ceremonies, a savage and unpredictable beast, it was coaxed by its Buddha-faced tamer through the thick crowds towards the first of the houses.

Each household must hang out of a window a line with red envelopes containing money tied to it, with a cabbage or lettuce head at the end representing the "sacred herbs."

At the end of the dance, the Lion would rear up, sometimes to a height of three or four meters, and devour the "sacred herbs" which turned it to a vegetarian.

Once the Lion has gone the round of houses in a neighbourhood, he is tamed and becomes the guardian spirit of the community for the rest of the year. It is considered something of a disgrace for a householder not to contribute within his means to this "pacification."

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Though it provided great pleasure to the many people present, the festival is not just an attraction. An integral part of Chinese life, it is a symbol of the strong community spirit which binds together expatriate Chinese, in London as elsewhere. Chinese immigrants have traditionally been one of the most homogeneous and united ethnic groups, with a strong sense of cultural unity. Since the early 1920s, Gerrard Street has been the focus of the Chinese community in England, 10,000 of which (about 20 per cent) live in the metropolitan area. It includes Chinese restaurants, doctors, solicitors, cinemas and specialist shops, as well as three Chinese primary schools. These facilities, particularly those dealing with entertainment, are, of course, available to non-Chinese and as such provide an essential facet of London life. This area, between Shaftesbury Avenue, Leicester Square and Wardour Street, has become a small Chinatown in the centre of the West End. Now, in common with most of London's communities, it is under increasing pressure from the GLC and creeping developers.

REDEVELOPMENT

This pressure is aggravated by Chinatown's position, between the Piccadilly and Covent Garden redevelopment schemes; if the developers get their way in the other two areas, as now seems likely, Chinatown will be

next on the block. Almost none of the Chinese businessmen own their leases. By far and away the greatest landowner in the area is the Stock Conversions and Investment Trust, followed by the GLC and the GPO with its Lisle Street telephone exchange. Pressure is on the tenants as plans are prepared for multi-storey car parks, offices and luxury flats. In their study of Gerrard Street, the Architectural Association have put things very clearly:

"In an area ripe for profitable speculative land development, a land holding company may acquire the leases on a number of properties in a block. By encouraging short-lease tenants and gradually allowing the condition of the properties to deteriorate, more of the other occupants of the block are forced to release their properties at lower values to the speculators."

This is precisely what Stock Conversion are up to; they have already acquired a block bounded by Shaftesbury Avenue, Gerrard Street, Wardour Street and Macklesfield Place.

MORE PRESSURE

Additional pressure is provided by the GPO's decision to expand within Gerrard Street and by Westminster City Council's plans to widen Shaftesbury Avenue to six lanes. Any lingering faith one may have had in the GLC's disinterested benevolence is dispelled by the news



TOMORROW

that they have just sold Cambridge Circus to the Town and City Property Company for £600,000. To quote the AA again: "This developer will build an office block one and a half times the size of Centre Point. The GLC did not take up the offer of half a million pounds from Camden Council, that would have frustrated the developer's plans." More Centre Points, that's what London needs.

A spokesman for the Chinese community has said they would be more than willing to spend money on development and decoration of their neighbourhood if only they could be given some sort of guaranteed tenure for a minimum of 20 years. This does not seem forthcoming. Make no mistake, the speculators are moving in for the kill all over, encouraged by the recent Dept. of the Environment decisions. If they get their way, the West End will end up covered by a concrete jungle of luxury flats, funny-money office blocks and hamburger joints. Roll on the year of the speculator . . .

John Stathatos

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STARRING CLINT ERETFMAD AS THE QUEEN MARY + TOPOL AS THE VIRGIN MARY + GLENDA JACKSON AS LORD LONGFORD + LYRICE BY SIR RETLAW SMADA - IT'S A RIP OFF - BEAVER + THIS DOES NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE S.U. OR CAROL NICKELSON!

**An exclusive
BEAVER interview
with John Cleese**

TO those Mirror-Beaver readers thirsting for the personal details, the colour of Mr. John Cleese's dressing-gown remains a tantalising mystery; also his views on the Pill, Women's Lib, Tutankhamun, and cancer research. However, unlike many of his ilk he is an extremely pleasant and friendly person to talk to. What was said at this excuse for an interview follows.

ON VIETNAM

Q. You're here for a poetry reading benefiting Medical Aid for Vietnam. That's almost a dead issue now but what are your views on the war and on American involvement in the war?

A. Well . . . I've never really met anyone who could give me a clear account of what actually was going on there. . . . I'm just glad it's ended, and the Americans are out.

ON MONTY PYTHON

Q. You've finished with Monty Python, I believe?

A. Well, for the moment—for the next 18 months or so, I hope. At the moment I'm doing some short, comic, training films on industrial management and the like. . . . I'm glad Monty Python's over. I was getting very bored with it. It's been going for three years and after that long it becomes like going to the office every day . . . when an essentially creative thing gets to be like going to the office it's finished.

Q. Do you regard Monty Python as having been a vehicle for social and political commentary?

A. Well, there was this aspect of course . . . But you see, when you sit down to write something funny, you can't sit down with the idea you're going to write a political commentary otherwise it becomes deadly dull—

Q. So your first object is always the comic angle, to make people laugh?

A. That's right.

ON COMEDY AND CENSORSHIP

Q. (from some anonymous fan). Some of your shows were censored, but don't you think that a lot of your skits COULD have hurt people?

A. Yes: but when you are trying to make people laugh you're almost bound to hurt someone. Why do you think Northern comedians are always cracking racist jokes, jokes which are definitely hurting someone?

Q. I would have said hurting people in a particular way was what comedy was all about.

A. Of course, I don't know of any genuinely funny comedian who doesn't hurt people. When they don't it's just a bore. When you get to the Bruce Forsyth stuff . . .

Q. What exactly was censored in Monty Python?

A. Well, a lot of that we played up deliberately, as a reaction—a reaction against Mary Whitehouse. We sent a letter to the newspapers saying Monty Python's getting censored and that sort of puts a pressure (hand gestures) which counteracts the pressure from Mary Whitehouse. . . . There was one of our animations they said was too violent. . . . Another skit which could have been interpreted as saying drugs were fun—it was on pot.

Q. Do you think there is a lot of censorship on the B.B.C.?
No answer.

GRANTS FIGHT

WHAT STUDENTS ARE DEMANDING

THE National Union of Students is campaigning for four major changes in the grants system, which it has put to the Government. They are:

(1) The abolition of discretionary awards.

According to the latest figures nearly 20,000 students, mainly in further education, began courses on which they were expected to eat substantially less, need far fewer clothes and books, and pay much less rent than other students.

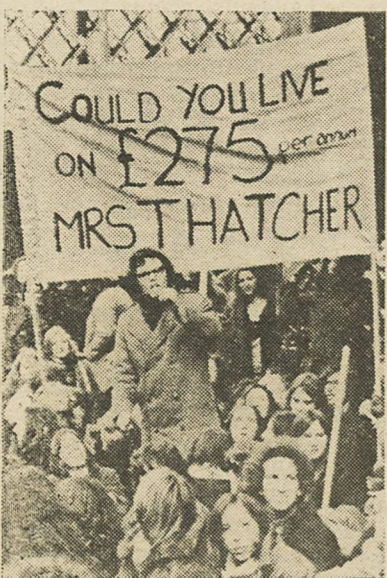
Discretion effectively gives a local authority the right to say no, however unfairly; and the right to say how small the grant should be, whatever hardship is caused.

(2) An overall increase in grants.

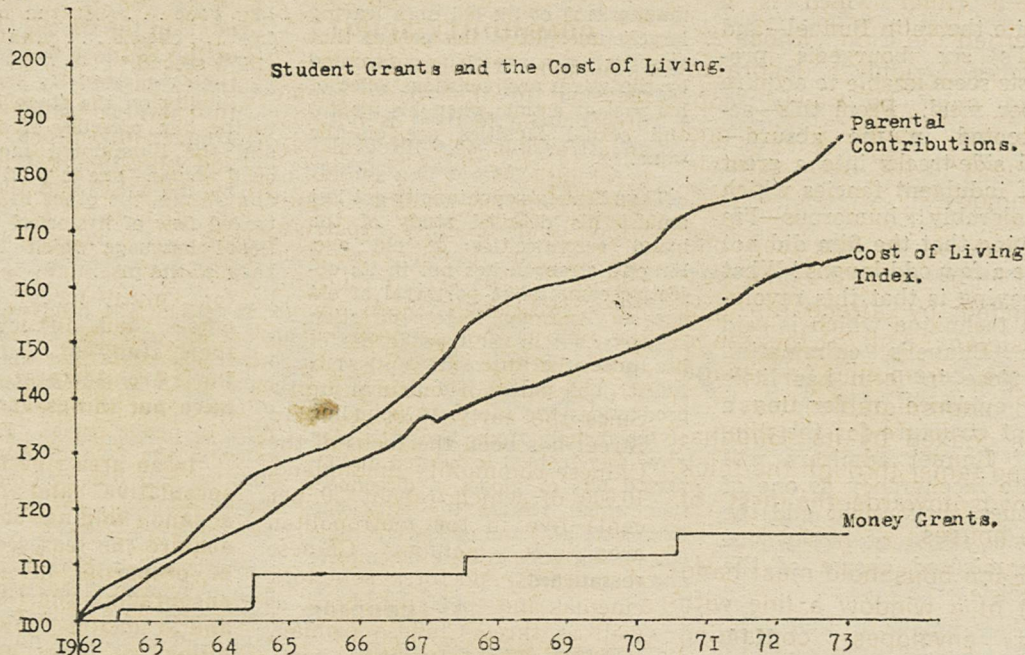
The value of student grants is less than it was in 1968. The standard of living of students has been systematically eroded by inflation.

The National Union of Students cannot allow its members' standard of living to decline any further. N.U.S. put in a claim to the Department of Education and Science for an immediate increase from £445 a year to £510 a year. Inflation during this year will mean that, for the academic year beginning in September, 1973, £510 will not do: grants will need to be in the region of £550 a year.

Postgraduate awards will have to be increased as well: a claim for postgraduates has also gone to the government.



...AND MORE SPECIAL FEATURES



WHERE'S OUR MONEY, MAGGIE?

(3) Full grants for married women students.

To have a chance of getting a full grant you must either be unmarried or male. Married women students have had no increase in their grants since 1965, and their maximum grant is £275 a year. A woman student can lose up to £205, or nearly 43 per cent of her grant, by getting married. Her grant will continue to be assessed on her parents' income — and will also be almost halved because she has a husband.

(4) An annual review of grants.

At present grants are reviewed by the Government every three years. This is one of the ways by which successive governments have been able to hold back expenditure on grants and keep down our standard of living.

An annual review related to a Student Cost Index (which will assess properly the increases in the costs which students have to bear) is the only way that our standard of living can be properly protected.

ALL OUT ON FEBRUARY 21st!

Students throughout England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland will bring their grants claim forcibly to

the notice of the Government on February 21st, with massive demonstrations in ten major cities. Such a show of strength, N.U.S. believes, will be worth more than 50 well-argued memoranda to the D.E.S., in the Government's present rigid frame of mind.

WHAT THE DIRECTOR THINKS

THE present student maintenance grant is totally inadequate. The provision in the 1970 arrangement for inflation was completely unrealistic and the Government should recognise this. Indeed, the system of grant allocation, as a whole, needs restructuring. The actual procedure is bad and needs to be revised.

I back wholeheartedly students' claims and especially the claims of married women, who are woefully neglected."

"What do you think of the methods being used to publicise the students' case?"

"The methods are stupid. Rent strikes and canteen boycotts are counter-productive. To blame the University for low grants is wholly unreasonable. Moreover, the people in halls are the privileged students. They enjoy a hidden subsidy, and the withholding of rent is an abuse of their elite position."

"What methods would you suggest should be used, therefore?"

"You should win friends and influence people. Negotiation, Diplomacy and Publicity are what will win your case. Rent strikes are just selfish."

JEREMY CLIFT.

in alertness and attitude. Similarly, candidates may choose different questions and papers vary from year to year. What, therefore, is the published evidence on reliability?

A classic in this field is the work of Hartog and Rhodes, but as early as 1888 an English statistician, Edgeworth, was reporting considerable divergences in English and mathematics essays, whilst in 1934 G. P. Williams reported that when almost a hundred teachers marked fifty mathematics essays, one of these received marks from 16 to 96 (out of 100) and another 26 to 92.

"The Marks of Examiners", by Hartog and Rhodes, reveals wide discrepancies in marking. On a mathematics paper consisting of twelve questions the averages from six markers were very close, but the ranges were very big, the lowest being a range of 17 out of a maximum of 300 and the highest 64, with an average range of 34.7.

R. R. Dale in "University Standards" suggests that examining in mathematics has difficulties peculiar to itself. Yet a marking experiment with history, using four university honours papers, also produced wide ranges. Marked with 24 grades, using Greek letters and signs, the average marking ranged over seven grades on the first paper, eleven on the second, ten on the third, and nine on the fourth.

PASS POLY

Not very much work has been done on variations in standards from year to year and subject to subject. But in Australia, Hohné came to the conclusion that "the failure rates did not vary concomitantly with improved student quality—i.e., that university examiners preferred to pass and fail almost identical proportions of students year after year rather than ascertaining the true calibre of the students and adjusting their fail rates accordingly". He felt that there were "fixed, deeply ingrained departmental pass policies" involved.

Obviously the validity of the examinations system is an extremely delicate and complex one. More than thirty years ago I. Kendal saw that "the problem of examinations strikes at the very roots of the whole meaning and significance of education in society... the essences of the problem is... the validity of education." Yet so long as exams remain so important, the modern emphasis on training for flexibility must be paralleled by flexibility in the use of diverse forms of assessment.

JEREMY CLIFT

EXAMS—WHY YOU MAY FAIL

ALL the experimental data has shown that for a particular performance expressed in terms of an exam script, assessment by different examiners produces marks with considerable variability such that in the determination of these marks the part played by the examiner can be greater than that of the performance of the examinee."

—H. Pieron, 1963, "Examens et Docimologie."

Examination qualifications are becoming increasingly important to students and employers alike, but the technique of examination assessment is both unreliable and unfair. In the process of marking, examiners themselves are likely to vary

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REVIEWS . . REVIEWS . . REVIEWS . . REVIEWS . . REVIEWS . .

Fellini's "Roma"

SPECTACULAR shots, and an amusing, almost Chaucerian view of life, characterise this film that has no story.

Not quite the masterpiece proclaimed by the "Evening Standard," "Fellini's Roma" has a schizophrenic character, never reconciling the rather romantic, though vulgar, quality of Mussolini's Rome, with the harsh realities of the Italy of the E.E.C. For Fellini here attempts a personal portrait of a city, both in modern times and during the war years.

FASCISM

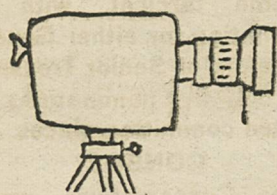
Fellini crosses the Rubicon at a time of increasingly popular fascism. The Duce is portrayed on every schoolroom wall. Yet we never really become involved in a war that enveloped the whole of Italy. Indeed there is only one rather poignant scene that is devoted to the subject. Instead we accompany the exceedingly handsome young man, whom Fellini has cast to portray himself in youth, to the music hall, luxurious brothels and an entanglement with a very attractive prostitute, the lodgings of Romans, and the free speech of their tables.

This is contrasted with modern Rome, the Rome of roadside whores, motorways, tourism, fallen aristocracy, writers, and free sex. We are taken to a fashion show of clerical vestments, and participate in the discovery of an ancient Roman villa, during excavations for an underpass. The shots of the frescoes are worth going to see in their own right.

TOURIST BOARD

The film ends with a magnificent tour of the city at night, accompanied by a horde of motor-cyclists. Our trip takes us past all the traditional sights of Rome, in a lively brochure-like package that leaves one feeling that perhaps the whole thing was sponsored by the Italian Tourist Board.

JEREMY CLIFT



The discrete charm of the bourgeoisie

(Bloomsbury Cinema)

LOUIS BUNUEL is one of those directors most people are in raptures about—and I'm not. That is perhaps because my experience of his films is limited to "Belle de Jour" which was reasonably well made in my opinion—and "The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie." The latter I saw at the 1972 London Film Festival and it evoked a certain amount of illogical wonder. Bunuel is accredited with wishing to make a total break with the bourgeois form of cinema and having made a masterpiece—something I'm inclined to disbelieve. The film involves the usual ritual of eating—a ritual which is a favourite theme in Bunuel—and Bunuel's six bourgeois protagonists seem unable to acquire a proper meal. From this—action rooted in the absurd—Bunuel side-tracks into a great deal of indulgent fancies which are tolerably humorous—I'm not saying that the film did not provide a few odd laughs! What I am saying is that this revolution in technique which is said to be Bunuel's culminating masterpiece in form has little visible evidence of forming a coherent structure for the film. And if Bunuel admirers will advocate incoherency as one of its virtues, they might add the additional slight of irrelevance to the misused charm of the bourgeoisie.

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H.H.



PLAYS NICE

"NICE," a new play by the Trinidadian playwright Mustapha Matura opens the new Ambiance season of lunchtime plays at the Almost Free. It is a monologue, with a prison setting, and in it the speaker recounts his experiences of both the white and black population in the first few months after his arrival in this country.

The hapless immigrant (excellently portrayed by Stephen Kalipha—a regular Ambiance player) survives for the first few months by being friendly. "When people are nice you must be nice back to them" and, much to his compatriot's indignation, gets on well within the white community with an income, albeit unknowingly to him, from the earnings of two white prostitutes. Eventually, inevitably yet unhappily, the speaker runs up against a colour-bar where he is refused service, a fight breaks out and the speaker ends up in prison. The play ends with him recognising and resolving to drop his old naivety and to adopt his friend's more hostile attitude when he is released. "Well boy I learnt my lesson. That's the last time I'll ever be nice to anybody again." However the play as a whole, although entertaining, is innocuous.

PETER CAPEL

KRAPP'S LAST TAPE

(Royal Court)

Albert Finney's sudden return to the London Theatre in E. A. Whitehead's "Alpha Beta" raised high expectations—and his touching performance as the distraught Liverpool middle-class husband who in his personal life moves from "one derelict sunset to another" was totally convincing.

But although Finney played Mr. Elliott to the hilt, his performance in Beckett's "Krapp's Last Tape" leaves much to be desired. Finney has played an old man before—

(Scrooge in "A Christmas Carol") and he unfortunately chooses to build Krapp's character on the frail mannerisms of an old man leaving largely unexplored the pathos that arises when a wretch is confronted by the warm and sensuous voice of his past at a time when his mental and sexual faculties are on the wane.

Thus Finney's spontaneity got lost amidst his detailed study of the bland eccentricities of old age. Krapp's strength lies not in its objective camera-like portrayal of old age as Anthony Page's direction suggests, but in the true pathos of life once the flush of youth has faded. This pathos had gone in the production—the incessant pounding of melancholy from Beckett's play gives way instead to filtered disconnected bits of gloom, a disconnection which strains the emotional flux of the play and makes one come out feeling only a little incomplete and dissatisfied.

DODRICE

NOT I

ON the other hand "Not I," the new Beckett play in the double bill was a brilliant tour de force by Billy Whitelaw. The play centres on the theme of death—not as a spiritual or intellectual idea—but in its pure emotive sense. Beckett indulges in one of the bouts of fancy we have all had as children—how in fact can the existence, vital and throbbing as it is in life, be reconciled to the non-existence of death?

The conclusion is that the dead body still vibrates with some

qualities of life. In "Not I" it is the mouth that assumes a life of its own. "Imagine . . . the whole body like gone . . . just the mouth . . . lips . . . cheeks . . . jaws . . . never still a second."

Visibility on the stage is reduced to the dim presence of an auditor and the illuminated mouth of a dead woman—one in total inactivity and silence, the other in an uncontrolled flow of hysterical and emotional language which forms the basis of the play.

It tells of the dead woman's life—one of unhappy communication, where she often had the desire to burst forth in an emotional excess of speech, her only means of release being a public urinal. How death came in the field of April flowers that we call life—and now there's non-existence. . . . What does this non-existence involve?

Words which have finally burst out in uncontrollable rhythm, accompanied by a dull roar in the skull and a buzzing in the ears. The entire body feels in fact intolerably dull and numb. But the mind—to whatever degree it functions—totally refuses to associate itself with this state of death.

It refers to the body as SHE, and whenever questioned replies "What? . . . No! . . . She . . ." Hence the title arising from this emotional crisis of identity—"Not I."

The play is truly brilliant. It unites form with emotion, with design, and in fact more than that with the language of the mind. "Not I" is the evolution of a startling new form in theatre that will radically alter the form of modern drama.



BOOKS

Alexander Solzhenitsyn: STORIES AND PROSE POEMS (Penguin, 30p).

SOLZHENITSYN'S principal short stories have been brought together in this volume, including *Matryona's House, For the Good of the Cause* and the chilling *An Incident at Krestetovka Station*, in which a man must die for not knowing that the city of Tsaritsyn has had its name changed to Stalingrad. Strongly recommended, particularly for those who have not yet read any of the author's longer works.

Bernard Malamud: THE MAGIC BARREL (Penguin, 30p).

A COLLECTION of short stories by the 1967 Pulitzer Prize winner. Probably the most brilliant of the specifically "Jewish" American writers. Malamud is a compassionate and poetic, at times almost surrealist recorder of human events and troubles. My particular favourite in this collection is *Angel Levine*, which tells how the aged Manishevitz calls on an angel of the Lord, only to find a large Negro wearing a derby in his kitchen. . . . "The tailor could not rid himself of the feeling that he was the butt of a joker. Is this what a Jewish angel looks like he asked himself? This I am not convinced." Read it for yourself.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ENTS: "IN CONCERT"

PERSONALLY, I find most solo singer-composers very boring, and I have not yet seen one in concert who did not make me wish they would hurry up and get off. Unfortunately, Linda Lewis is no exception. Her voice is very strange, to say the least, but when she tones it down it is really rather good. She also sounds much better with a backing band, as was evident at the R.F.H. when Family's Jim Cregan and a couple of other musicians took the stage with her.

Linda has a very predictable line in chat—"This is about a bloke I used to like" . . . type of thing, but her self-indulgence becomes, as with several other singers in the same mould, good music when treated correctly. Other than this, Linda is no better, and certainly no worse than her American contemporaries, and if you want to listen to her I suggest you get hold of her album, rather than see her in concert, especially as at present you can only see her on the same bill as an unbelievably poor Family line-up.

PATTO

Patto will never be a big name; their brand of music, which is a fusion of jazz and rock, simply could not appeal to more than a handful of people, though perhaps the ones who packed the Marquee the other night would disagree. The support act was Andromeda who, although beset by all sorts of problems with their P.A. played some fine boogie music and should eventually become very popular given the breaks. They were certainly far better than Patto, who did not live up to my expectations. The focal centrepiece is vocalist Mike Patto, but the real star of the band is ace guitarist Ollie Halsall. Sadly, Halsall's talent is wasted, and he plays a predominantly supporting role in a band whose music tends to drag too often in too many places, and rarely reaches any heights.



A couple of Sundays back the Edmonton Sundown staged a concert featuring several bands which have yet to achieve mass popularity.

Vying for the title of best band were Sharks and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band. The latter were the first act to appear, sometime in the middle of the afternoon, and although I missed some of their act I saw enough to convince me that they are very good indeed. They are an American group who, playing cajun and bluegrass music, are the U.S. equivalent of Britain's Fairport Convention and J.S.D. Band. Anyone who used to rock on with the Clampetts will definitely like the Nitties, possibly the best American country band of their kind.

SHARKS!

Sharks really are as good as all their excellent reviews say. After a rather dodgy start they eventually got into their stride despite amplification problems. Andy Fraser doubles on bass and piano, which was a pity because much of the drive was lost when he switched to the keyboard instrument. However, he proved what a truly great bassist he is when he reverted to it; Chris Spedding was quite extraordinary on guitar, and even drummer Marty Simon seems to be very good. Vocalist Snips is a real find, and by the end of the set Sharks were rocking along in fine style.

It is a pity that none of the other bands approached the level of these two. Snake Eye sound just like Wishbone Ash, but without their fluency and construction; anyway with Wishbone around who needs Snake Eye?

Roy Young Band certainly had their moments, and instrumentally and vocally they are very good. They did not seem to click somehow, however, and it was not until they began playing rock and roll that the audience finally warmed to them. On a good night they would be well worth watching I think.

Sam Apple Pie really are bad, the highlight of their otherwise very boring rhythm and blues act being when guitarist Snake Johnson played the William Tell Overture on his cheeks. Despite some nice guitar work this band really does not have anything to offer.

The J. Gails Band, by the way, appears to me to be grossly overrated.

DAVID FLEMING

(See page 12 for Coming Events).

Sociology

FOR many students coming to LSE "Sociology" has a certain mystique. It does not cover a given specific area of human activity like Economics or Politics or Law but promises in a way to give an overall analysis of how the whole thing fits together. Starting a course in Sociology is rather like initiation into a religion with its own peculiar language and way of looking at things. "Alienation," "anomie," "functionalism" and the rest have to become part of your everyday vocabulary. In fact "sociological theory" often becomes a metaphysical exercise of reanalysis of the founding-fathers: Marx, Weber, Durkheim, etc. This is separated off from the more mundane and empirical areas of "Social Structure of Modern Britain" which tends to be a rather superficial run-through of class, family, race, social mobility, bureaucracy, etc.—one or two lectures on each.

In fact this sort of division is not peculiar to Sociology. The Social Sciences are divided in an arbitrary and artificial way anyhow. How can you look at "economics" apart from a political, social and historical context. There are no such divisions of categories in real life. Then the specialists in each subject develop a vested interest in making their subject unintelligible to everyone else. This way they obtain a scarcity value as an export. Each department is organised in a hierarchical way. A sort of empire building process ensues, each sector trying to make out it is more important than the next. Thus Sociology can be turned into a series of specialities—

sociology of education, religion, industrial sociology and so on, each more rarified than the last.

CYNICISM

Sociology in a way promises to be a critical if not a subversive subject, which is what attracts many students to it. After three years of it I would say it induces not so much criticism as cynicism. That is not to say that it is simply "capitalist ideology" in the way that economics is. What it does rather

everything you say in class will be assessed does not exactly encourage independent thought. All such reforms in fact should be opposed, we do not want to be "continually assessed." At least the exam system is crude, blatant and visible. But in spite of cynical patronising academics and much pretentious writing, sociology can still be a useful basis for a critical understanding of society.

John Bradbrook.

"poverty," bad housing and inequalities in all areas in order to eventually produce material which will hopefully perhaps "stir the conscience of the nation"? Or is there still a lingering nostalgia for the Fabian idea (more like the early Robert Owen) that by a process of education, capitalism can be gradually permeated into a more humane, rational and equal society? Perhaps Social Administration is trying to be

have lived in that state described as disinterested servility." Perhaps this is a bit unfair on people in the department who are motivated by a genuine social concern and are trying to get to grips with real problems. A reformist social democratic outlook is perhaps preferable to the conservatism of economics or the cynicism of much sociology. But there is still a strong legacy of 19th century middle-class paternalism about social work. The idea of coming in from the outside to try and solve problems of the working class for them is still there, hence the strong resentment. There is still the insidious idea that being educated makes you somehow a superior person. What is not said in the department is that poverty and inequality are intrinsic in capitalism, and will only be changed by the conscious action of the working class. In a real sense a "Commitment to Welfare" ought to mean a commitment to socialism.

COURSE CRITICISM

is induce a feeling of aloof superiority looking down on all those poor humans with their strange ways (e.g. Bob McKenzie). Instead of an identification with the problems and struggles of humanity there is a rather phoney scientific detachment. In fact studying "sociology" is a highly frustrating experience as you touch on a wide range of fundamental social and political questions: the development of capitalism, alienation and the division of labour, the relations with the Third World, but you never really get to grips with them. In fact sociology as it is taught here has a way of disappearing like the grin on a Cheshire cat.

In response to criticism of the degree system, various forms of course units and other devices have been introduced. This is having the effect of limiting the freedom of intellectual activity and forcing students to have a more instrumental attitude. To know that every essay and

Social admin.

THE IDEOLOGY OF WELFARE

THIS year I have found myself almost by accident on the postgraduate Soc. Admin. diploma course. It is something to pass the time if you get a lousy degree and don't fancy being an alienated worker or more likely go on the dole. In many ways life in the department is fairly pleasant and easy-going and it is slightly more social than other L.S.E. departments.

But what exactly are we here for? Are we apprentice "social policemen" to man the weakening machinery of the welfare state and help paper over the cracks of society? Or are we here to survey, analyse and dissect facts and figures on

all these at once and not succeeding in any of them.

CHARITY

Perhaps it would be of interest to quote Richard Titmuss on the origins of the department: "We are here to commemorate the decision, taken in December 1912, probably in a yellow London fog, probably arranged beforehand by that skilled negotiator Sydney Webb, to establish a department of social science. It was not a move as some may have thought, to establish in Houghton Street a branch of the Labour Party. It was more like a takeover bid for the Charity Organisation Society, or in the struggle for power in the social work in those days (perhaps a little less muted than it is these days) an attempt by the Society to infiltrate the new London School of Economics." Need one say more?

"This has meant that for many years both staff and students

EXAMS

One last word on the examination question. It is a typical example of liberal reformism that when exams come under attack they are replaced by advanced notice essay or continuous assessment. As has been found out in the sociology department, this can be more alienating and a more effective form of social control. We must oppose all forms of assessment. Why should academics be allowed to continue in their role as St. Peter at the Pearly Gates sorting out the sheep from the goats? Education should be self-directed on what we want, not manipulated by an external authority. If something is worth knowing it should be known for its own sake, not out of a fear of failure.

J.B.

L.S.E. IS TORY

(Continued from Page Three)

Sir Walter, Lord Lionel and the Court of Governors wouldn't want potential donors—such as those he sought through adverts in "The Times", "Financial Times", and "Daily Telegraph"—to be getting the wrong idea. And what a wrong idea!

After all, students come and students go—and very few students come who first tell the interviewer they espouse Trotsky. But the research done by L.S.E. staff goes on for ever, and very useful it is too. God forbid that this correspondent should question the Academic Objectivity of L.S.E. staff, as they are all agreed that they are all unanimously objective. (Mr. Miliband, SIT DOWN!). A translation appears below.

"The L.S.E. was founded, at the end of the last century, by Sidney and Beatrice Webb . . .

. . . But their Socialist faith did not make them any less keen on academic objectivity; they wanted, and they got, a real academic college, not a party political institute. The first Director, W. A. Hewins, was a Tory economic historian and a supporter of Joseph Chamberlain.

. . . During the long reign of Harold Laski as Professor of Political Science the School did come to be widely regarded as a hotbed of Socialism. . . .

. . . Yet this reputation always owed much more to Laski's public activities than to anything taking place in the School itself. The School contained, for example, F. A. Hayek, the liberal economist. His long-term influence on the economic thinking of the Right has been much more profound and significant than any influence that Laski

may have had on the Left. Hayek is probably as widely read today as he has ever been . . .

. . . whereas Laski is hardly read at all. There is no doubt that Laski was an inspired, and inspiring, teacher of students, but his literary output consisted of a large number of badly-written books.

All this is not to say that the L.S.E. economics faculty is "Right-wing". But it has built up a tradition of objectivity and detachment from party politics.

. . . On the political science side, Laski's successor, now retired, was Michael Oakshott. He is a man of genuine academic distinction and conservative views.

L.S.E.'s second reputation, which is that of a centre of New Left disorder, developed in the later 1960s. The School's proximity to Fleet Street meant that incidents which, in a more remote college, would pass unnoticed, got the full treatment in the national Press and on television. Inevitably this fact encouraged those elements, to be found anywhere, who, for a mixture of psychological and ideological reasons, want to make trouble. Recently the School, in common with universities in Europe and the United States, has been more peaceful.

All the time, however, straightforward research and teaching have been going on unaffected either by a false public reputation for doctrinaire Leftism or by publicly exaggerated internal disorder. And the library—the British Library of Economic & Political Science—has been built up into one of the finest of its kind in the world."

. . . It would be a great pity if anybody was deterred from contributing—especially busi-

nessmen—because of the School's false political reputation. Our industrial, financial, and commercial life, politics and public administration all stand to gain, directly or indirectly, from the kind of research and reflection that takes place at L.S.E., and for which the library is an indispensable foundation.

TRANSLATION

Bankers, stockholders, investors, contractors, businessmen, Tories, rest assured! We at L.S.E. hereby unanimously disavow the slanderous, muck-raking allegations of venal journalists and tiny minority of outside agitators and Moscow-controlled socialist students—please! Your money is safe with us, for in the interests of democracy and order and this great British Corporation we at the BLPEP pledge to ensure the strictest academic integrity and intellectual impartiality for the glory of God and the service of Queen, country and the CBI.

Yours, L.R.

DIVIDED LEFT

TIM POTTER'S article on the Elections, which appeared in the last "Beaver" was representative of a series of "we support, but . . ." statements issued by the "International Socialists" and "International Marxist Group."

The Soc / Soc / JACOSS slate was given the backing of these principle groups, and then in the next breath it is accused of being an unprincipled and opportunist alliance. Is this really the political level of I.S. and I.M.G.?

The present situation at

L.S.E. is that no single left-wing group is both capable or willing to provide, from their own ranks, sufficient numbers to form an Executive Committee, nor if such a group did exist could it have any confidence in achieving electoral victory. Therefore, if we wish to have a left-wing Union Executive, which I.S./I.M.G. agree is good and necessary, this can only be achieved by an alliance of various groups and individuals—who inevitably will not be in total agreement.

UNITY

This does not mean that for the sake of a few votes you agree to ally with anyone at all, and simply adopt a programme midway between your two positions. But it does mean that when two groups with such fundamental agreements as Soc. Soc. and JACOSS both intend to fight elections, every effort should be made to forge unity rather than slit the left-wing support. This, in fact, was done, around a programme which in no way contradicted an earlier platform which both I.S. and I.M.G. had supported and indeed played an important role in creating.

One is entitled to ask what

would have been the outcome if the Soc. Soc./JACOSS negotiations had broken down, as they almost did after the walkout of I.S. and I.M.G.? What if this "artificial unity" had failed to materialise? The "revolutionary" conscience of the I.S./I.M.G. comrades may have remained pure and untarnished but the Union elections would have become farcical, with no nomination for either General Secretary or Senior Treasurer and only five nominations for the ten committee places.

CONSOC

The Conservatives would have been left as the only represented political force. Such elections could only have been a critical blow to the credibility of an already weak Union. Not only that, but the efforts needed to counter a revived Conservative influence would have been intolerable, as a diversion for socialists genuinely concerned to further the working class movement. Either I.S. were unable to foresee such developments or were prepared at least to tolerate them. Whichever is true remains a total condemnation of their position, a condemnation not reduced by their attempts to justify their stance.

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The appeal for the British Library of Political and Economic Science was launched publicly at the Mansion House on February 5th, in the presence of the Lord Mayor.

It was announced that private approaches had so far brought in donations and firm promises of £900,000. At the time of writing that figure has risen to approximately £1,100,000 and includes two major gifts which may not be recorded separately until formally announced by the donors.

The target for this part of the campaign is at least £2½ million.

LIBRARY APPEAL

NEGOTIATIONS between the School and W. H. Smith and Son had been proceeding quietly for several years before the joint announcement was made on 18th November, 1970, that L.S.E. had entered into a contract to purchase Strand House, Portugal Street, W.C.2 from Smiths between December 1973 and March 1975. There lies the explanation of the mysteriously large doors built into the north-east side of the new St. Clements Extension in the late sixties, giving on to the seemingly useless St. Clements Lane. The few people in the know had been "looking over into Naboth's vineyard" (the Director's description) for some time.

PROBLEM

What's the problem? There is little need here to go into tear-jerking prose about the frustrations of using BLPES. We all know them too well.

To L.S.E. students they mean having about one-eighth of the main collection on open shelves; the irritation of pouncing on a likely title in the catalogue and having to wait perhaps days, to see if it's really what you want; then finding somewhere to work.

In fact the present 960 seats in the Library provide a scholar to seat ratio as good or better than most university libraries around the country. But BLPES isn't just the L.S.E. Library. The collection is unique—40 per cent of its foreign items are not held by the British Museum—the 1969 Dainton Committee on the National Libraries described it as "the largest special library in London, and probably in the country," and to be "widely regarded as the world's most outstanding library in its field."

IMAGINE

Imagine a researcher, perhaps academic, perhaps on government or professional project, who has travelled half way round the world to consult BLPES—and about 1,000 such permits are issued each year. At present he arrives and we say "hello, here's your permit, there's the index, hope you can find a chair . . . no sorry, can't give you a permanent space—you must come early each day; there's nowhere to leave anything."

" . . . The Library's world-wide reputation for unrivalled resources in the area of the social sciences has been personally attested to me by many of my colleagues and students on this side of the Atlantic. . . ."—(Dr. Arthur Burns, Chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve System).

The School has lived with accommodation crises since 1895. The Library, founded by Sidney Webb, as a separate institution in 1896, had its first in the following year when it outgrew the space allotted in the lower floor of 10 Adelphi Terrace. When you think that, apart from other acquisitions, some 5,800 government and municipal reports from all over the world are received regularly together with 4,200 non-official periodicals; that last year the supply of U.S. federal documents alone weighed 2½ tons, you wonder if there can ever be an answer to the Library problem.

THE FINAL SOLUTION

But Strand House offers 158,000 sq. ft. of usable floor space—more than half as much again as the School's whole Houghton Street/Clare Market complex. It was built to take heavy floor weights. It's right next door. And we got it, building and site, for £3½ million (the District Valuer's figure) plus the cost of conversion.

IMMEDIATE TASK

It was a good and fair price. But we have still to raise the money. The whole project will cost some £4½ million. The Government, through the University Grants Committee has given £1.98 million—the cost of the building. The School's own target figure then is at least £2½ million for site and conversion. The "at least" recognises the fact that by the time we reach that stage, the cost of conversion work will no doubt have risen. And we must have £1.8 million at least by autumn 1973 to complete the purchase price.

Much has been done already this past eighteen

months. The Court of Governors set up a working party to co-ordinate the campaign. And Lord Robbins, as Chairman of the Appeal, has devoted his whole time to planning, travelling, visiting, speaking and writing in this country and abroad for the Library. Governors and members of the staff have been similarly involved. Among many with special roles, Professor Edey has acted as Appeal Co-ordinator, Professor Roberts has chaired the public-relations group.



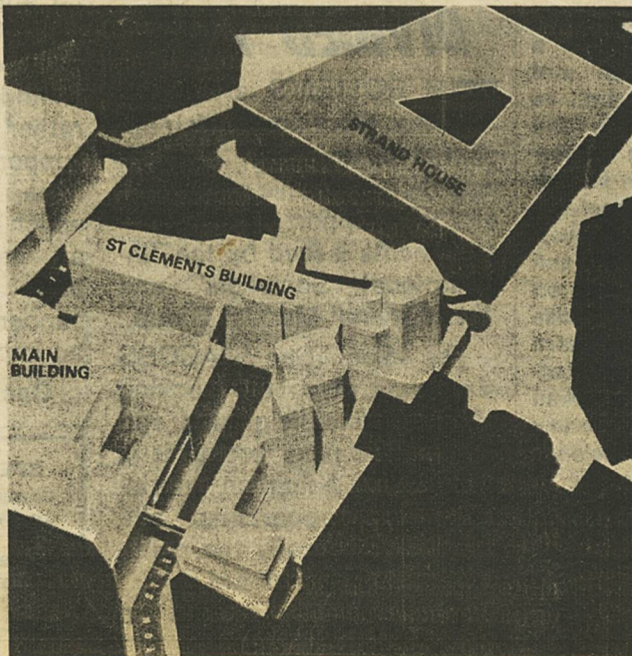
"WHY WE NEED STRAND HOUSE."

"I owe a great debt of gratitude to the Library for the way in which its exceptional store of knowledge and information has helped me from the time I was a student."—(The Hon. Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada).

The Prime Minister, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Thorpe have issued their joint statement on the national importance of the Library and the Appeal; H.M. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother has publicly stated her concern; Sir John Hicks, recent Nobel winner, has most generously donated the greater part of his prize money. A host of alumni—famous names around the world—have declared their support and paid tribute to BLPES.

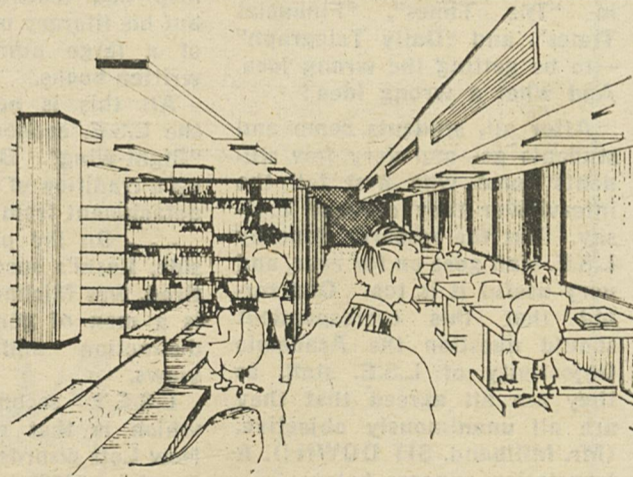
"It is the best library on economics and political science which I ever have come across."—(Dr. Otmar Emminger, Deputy Governor, Deutsche Bundesbank).

Where do we all come in though? The Union has recorded its qualified support for the Appeal—the qualification being that students get a fair share of the accommodation vacated by the Library in the main building. That's a reasonable statement and unlikely to cause controversy. In many universities of course, Unions have their own building. No-one will deny that at present LSE students suffer in terms of amenities from the accommodation shortage. Such needs are well up in the list of priorities post-move. (Though no doubt we shall all be reminded that alterations necessary to the main building will cost a lot of money too), Union should be preparing and presenting its proposals soon for discussion. And here's the rub in all this. Many of us, and certainly



most current students won't be around to benefit from the changes. But what an opportunity to be in on something with such far-reaching consequences. "At one stroke . . . transform the whole life of the School" to quote the Director again, from the special LSE Mag.

" . . . and I always found the Library most valuable. I even found there adequate information about Thailand and S.E. Asia . . . I have revisited it frequently even after I have become Governor of this Central Bank."—(Dr. Puey Ungphakorn, Governor, Bank of Thailand).



" . . . as a young postgraduate it did not take me long to discover the unique character of the Library. It combines historical and contemporary materials in social science; it also combines knowledge that is useful for the scholar as for the practical man of politics, political or economic affairs."—(Dr. Ralf Dahrendorf, European Economic Commission).

No-one ever imagined that current students would be able to contribute from their allowances. But it is amazing what has in fact been flowing in since the public launch—some in what must be sacrificial amounts from graduate and undergraduate students.

Those of us who can't give cash (though the very smallest amounts are gratefully received) can still help by talking about the project and the appeal. Show the L.S.E. Mag. to family and friends and anyone you think may be likely to help. (The Chairman has offered to change the name of the Library for anyone who produces £1 million!). If you have ideas or contacts which could lead to funds, let's hear about them.

SHIRLEY CHAPMAN.

ATHLETIC UNION PAGE

EDITORIAL

The case for subsidised sport

SOME weeks ago I was chatting with a member of the S.U. Executive Committee who was of the opinion that the annual grant of £4,000 to the A.U. was a misallocation of resources and could be more usefully used by society in the relief of poverty. And further, that the subsidisation of sport, in general, was itself a wrong conception of priorities.

Firstly, this is a non-argument, since it ignores what sport and universities are for. But secondly, and perhaps more persuasively, money for sport is, in fact an investment, rather than a subsidy. An investment not only in pleasure and fulfilment, but also in real money terms. Let me give you some figures.

In the financial year 1971-72, the central government received £156.3 million from Betting and Gaming tax and a further £42.5 million from purchase tax on toys and sports equipment. In return, it paid out, in direct aid some £6.4 million. Local authorities, in England, also paid out an estimated £25 million, of which £10 million came from the central government. And, being generous, a further £5 million was paid out by local authorities in Scotland and Wales, of which £2 million came from the central government. Similarly, £15 million was spent on sport in colleges, schools and universities—£6 million came from the central government. This makes the central government total an impressive £24.4 million—a clear profit of over £150 million. Can't be bad for a misallocation of resources!

* * * *

TICKETS are tight for the 1974 World Cup. The German hosts have decided to allocate only 20 per cent of the available match tickets to foreign fans, which means, upon rapid calculation, that Britons may have to share 730 tickets for each of the 38 matches to be played in nine German cities. This figure could double if a British team qualifies for Germany, but, at this stage, it is doubtful that as many as 1,000 fans will be certain to see their home side in action each match. A consortium of five travel firms in Britain are offering tours from five to 27 days, from £77 to as much as £500. Any offers?

* * * *

WITH this issue of "Beaver" comes the announcement that the A.U.'s application to join the Universities Athletics Union has been deferred until June. Why this is the case we do not know. Maybe it has been passed on for higher authority to decide, or maybe that stage on the agenda just wasn't reached at the meeting in January. What it does mean, however, is that all our canvassing for support will have to be repeated in May.

This will be by the new Executive who take office this month.

* * * *

AS far as this page is concerned, we would very much like to include articles and pictures of those less well known clubs in the A.U. The Athletics Union at L.S.E. supports a great many clubs and activities about which very little is known outside the A.U. and the small circle of accomplices who run the outfit and I am sure a little publicity would help to boost membership and stimulate interest.

JEREMY CLIFT.



IAN'S RUGBY COLUMN

TRUE to form, the Rugby Club has continued on its drunken way into the semi-finals of the U.L.U. Cup, after an exciting victory over Royal Free Hospital by 22-17. Other good victories have been recorded over London Scottish, Shoreditch, and Stanford University, California.

The 2nd XV have continued to drag themselves from the bar, and the addition of Ian "Buffoon" Barber, Jan Scott, Jim the Navy and Andy (Alma) Cogan have resulted in good victories at Old Paulines and Kings and a narrow defeat at Upminster.

On the social side, an outstandingly successful trip was taken to Maidenhead to play Stanford University, California, after which much beer was drunk with Fred "Al" Pryor, and Jim (J.J.) England outstanding in the great achievement of drinking the bar dry.

To the future, the dinner is to be soon, and games against Warwick University, the Sorbonne, Paris, Dartmouth College (U.S.A.) and Kings in the semi-final of the U.L.U. Cup.

IAN DIAMOND

BADMINTON SUCCESS

WITH promotion for all three teams at the end of last season, membership above the forty mark, and an encouraging team spirit, it is not surprising that the Badminton Club is enjoying another successful season.

The Men's 2nd team and the Mixed team are both top of their new divisions, the Men's 2nd team being unbeaten in five

games, and the Mixed having won six out of seven games to date. The ladies' team is occupying the same position(!) as that in which it finished last season—fourth out of nine teams in the only ladies' division.

The entry for the Club Tournament has been good, providing men's singles and doubles, ladies' singles, and mixed doubles.

Judo: low attendance

DESPITE considerable success in the U.L.U. gradings last December, in which all novices were upgraded to yellow or orange belt, attendance has fallen off this term, the club being left with a nucleus of yellow, orange, and green belts, who are best able to benefit from Dennis Logan's expert instruction.

Indeed, the club has never had enough members, or members with high enough grades, to be

able to arrange as many matches as it would like. "Because of this," said captain J. Gilbride, "we are unable to enter into national contests."

However, members of the L.S.E. club do take part in inter-university matches in the London University team. L.S.E. club members also benefit by being able to go along to other colleges in the area, as well as U.L.U., for extra instruction and practice.

TABLE TENNIS

It is hoped that there will be a trip to Bochum in Germany for the Table Tennis Club towards the end of term, when 10

members will represent the School against Bochum University. Last year the Germans came across to England to play.

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BRADFORD	1600	1800	£1.50
BRISTOL	1430	2015	£1.00
LEEDS	1600	1830	£1.50
LEICESTER	1400	2040	£1.00
LOUGHBOROUGH	1400	2015	£1.10
MANCHESTER	1630	1815	£1.50
NOTTINGHAM	1400	1945	£1.25
SHEFFIELD	1600	1910	£1.50
SALFORD	1630	1745	£1.50

THESE PROPOSALS CAN ONLY COME INTO BEING WITH YOUR SUPPORT. If you are interested in supporting these applications, please help by completing the coupon below and placing it in one of the large envelopes marked "EVAN EVANS TOURS" attached to college noticeboards IMMEDIATELY.

I am a full-time student and I am interested in the special weekend service to (please fill in town of interest to you) and would expect to use the service on occasion per term if granted.

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COLLEGE

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CLUB NEWS GLIDING

Imperial College has now agreed to the proposed link-up with the L.S.E. club for lectures on the theory of glider flight and allied subjects. These lectures will be held on Thursdays at I.C. Those club members wishing to go please meet at the notice boards in St. Clement's Building at 1700 hours.

JOHN MELDRUM.

* * *

A.G.M. 5.42p, 1-2 p.m., Friday, 23rd. Introducing the New Executive.

Motor sport

The Motor Sport Club held its first training session at the Crystal Palace skid-pan in January. Twelve of our members spent an entire Sunday flinging the instruction Ford Escorts over the greasy track backwards and sideways, but there were no casualties. We hope to arrange for a session at Brands Hatch this month. Furthermore our rallying Cooper-S should be ready in a couple of weeks and we can get started on competitions. Merry Xmas, Harredd Mamoon.

BOAT CLUB

Want to take it out on a piece of wool? It can be done. Without injury. You may even get a prize for it. The L.S.E. ROWING CLUB want women members for the coming season. We have a good lady coach who is prepared to train beginners and skilled alike. We row at either Kingston or Chiswick. Contact V. R. Vippon. U/G pigeon holes.

Y.C.L. HOLIDAY BUREAU

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UNION COLLAPSE

DRUNKEN DEADMAN WRECKS MEETING

IT is all so incredible, and yet so predictable. One of the graffiti writers at the loos would have put it this way: "The only intelligible thing about L.S.E. Union is that it is unintelligible!"

But yet it happened. At some point during the Union meeting of last Friday, Steve Deadman, allegedly an anarchist and rather obviously pissed, moved a motion of censure to the Union Executive Committee. Suddenly, political manifesto, ideologies, promises, etc., etc., went to pot. The motion was accepted in the agenda (two-thirds majority), moved up the agenda (another two-thirds majority), and then almost, just almost, carried.

How did all happen? Surrealism must be called in aid to explain although this writer was an eye-witness. It all started with the price of Ribena, would you believe it? Some Tory asked: "Why has the price not been reduced by a cup?" Presumably he meant, one cup! That was answered by Emmanuel Igwe, who is in charge of Florries, in barely audible voice.

Then it came, the moment of all the announcements: grants, boycotts, Briant Colour, release of a Colombian political prisoner. And then POW! "Our" Abe Oped raced

Mystery prevails at the meeting and everyone feels relieved at Abe's ill thought out resignation. Steve shouted at this moment: "They are resigning like flies!" And had another long swig at the bottle. Laughter, and another URGENT, EMERGENCY MOTION, right in the middle of questions to officers. Motion again moved, carried etc., etc.: (Support for the GAS STRIKE; we all support that).

Then questions continued. Carlos Michelsen, another of the "unknown" JACOSS members of the Executive, requested a report on the last two meetings "informally" held with the Director during this week. One meeting was on Tuesday this week. The entire Executive Committee (except for Carlos) went to chat up the Director, when we all know that it happened the other way around.

The other meeting was between (again) the Director and the Finance Committee treasurer. Then came the report about the meeting of the Executive with the Director and guess who replies: Joe again. "Union felt this and that, the Director agreed and offered this and that." And this was precisely the point at which the Union has been sold out so many times in the past in "informal," "unofficial," meetings, that it is disgraceful they still take place. This left a bad taste.

And then Steve Deadman, having finished the swigging, went to work. He presented the view that in spite of the political platform of the Executive was doing a bad job of it, and everyone seemed prepared to agree.

By this time ideology was as dead as a deadman, the Tories were having the biggest kick of their life, and—well, could you believe it? Someone called QUORUM!!!! Defeated by the Chairman (John Morton) who stated that standing orders had been suspended???

Finally, at last Elias Noujaim called the cry of the clans, long dead since Culloden, and the left moved out of the Old Theatre. Meeting adjourned.

HOLY SHIT MORE POWER

First, that the way the constitution is drawn up, anyone, sober or not, can totally wreck the Union, as Steve did. Second, the executive must be given more discretion in effecting its electoral programme. Implementation does not depend on the personalities or even capabilities of the particular individuals

in the Executive but rather on the discretion they can use to vote on behalf of the Union.

The decision-making discretion of the Executive is nil. All their decisions must be referred, under this Constitution, to the Union floor, and there you never have quorum anyway. So the reason why Steve Deadman almost wrecked the

Union is there. Union members EXPECT the Executive to be an Executive and the Constitution says clearly that it cannot. All decisions must be ratified. An impotent Executive leads to an impotent Union.

The chaos that exists is thus not based on personalities. The death of ideology seen at the Union meet-

ing today is not caused by so and so that resigned. It is total institutional failure caused by the ill-advised people that drew up the Constitution! And it must be changed.

C.M.

[The opinions in this or any report are not necessarily shared by "Beaver" or Union Officers.]

BRIANT AND FREEDOM

B.C.P. is probably the most modern, best designed and equipped Litho print works in London. Twenty months ago the works, situated on the Old Kent Road in South London, were bought up by a young Capitalist who already owned four other firms whose profits he used to buy a villa in Spain and other similar necessities.

An interesting financial empire: three of these firms allegedly consist of one disused office in a basement, although they are registered companies. Investigations into the activities of these companies by Labour Research and others have consistently turned up one thing: a blank.

BANKRUPTCY

The other firm is an advertising agency; during the year our young capitalist owned B.C.P. He instructed his Ad. agency to send all their work to Briant where he had it done at a third or less of the cost. This and a total neglect of any

management duties brought B.C.P. to bankruptcy and the liquidator was brought in. This meant redundancy for at least a third of the workers so on July 21st they decided to reject this decision and took over the plant.

Writs have since been served on the leaders of the work-in and from the 13th of this month they have been working under the threat of forcible eviction. If present negotiations for the plans purchase fail the police will be sent in without delay.

This must not happen. Briants is a living breathing example of the only way freedom can be achieved without reverting either to the Capitalist brand of economic fascism or to the Socialist brand of political fascism.

Only by direct workers' control of the economy can unemployment be countered and real freedom—for everyone—be achieved. Volunteers for the 24-hour picket at Briants please register, Room S118.

G. F.



BRING THE BOYS HOME

in Ireland. Desertions, difficult to enumerate with exactness, continue. At Colchester barracks increased breakdown in discipline has resulted in a shooting scene which caused damage to the administration block. Increasing numbers of soldiers returning from Ireland have been arrested on drugs charges. Most importantly, Army recruitment and re-enlistment figures have dropped seriously—now approximately thirty per cent below last year's corresponding figures.

The few of these events that have been covered by the London newspapers have been hidden away in a few lines on the back pages. They are getting front-page cover in Scotland however.

Demoralisation of the Army inevitably affects the mood of the British people as a whole. Respond-

ing to this change of mood, several Labour M.P.s have begun calling for the return of the troops. In Labour-controlled Merthyr, the Borough Council has barred both the British Army and the R.A.F. from holding recruiting drives in the town. As the American anti-war movement has shown, a "Bring the Boys Home" campaign could be in the short-term interests of the Irish people although the Anti-Internment League recognises that such a demand, based on a limited political perspective, cannot form the basis of a long-term solidarity movement. Such a movement must be based on the principal demand of the right of the Irish people to self-determination.

The two final discussions in this term's discussion series on the role of the British Army will be held on Monday, February 19th and Monday, March 5th at 5 p.m., Michael McGuire (People's Democracy) and Mike Heym (I.S.) being the respective discussion leaders.

JOIN THE L.S.E. ANTI-INTERNMENT LEAGUE.

THE sons of working-class families who have enlisted in the Army on leaving school as an only option to dreary unemployment and supplementary benefits, are apparently regretting their decision. Continuing distortions of the British Army Press Office and the British mass-media aside, they are getting fed up of working in the front lines of British imperialism in the north of Ireland. Much to the distress of the Cabinet and the senior Army command, demoralisation is reaching serious proportions among the troops.

DISSIDENTS

The following indicators, all occurring in recent months, point to the dimensions of this demoralisation. A unit in West Germany was only persuaded to serve a third term in Ireland after twenty-seven dissidents were bought-off (to keep unit discipline) by being given easy postings in Hong Kong. Also, thirty N.C.O.s and long-serving veterans of the 2nd Battalion of the Paras have bought themselves out of the Army to avoid further duty

EVENTS CALENDAR

Forthcoming Attractions:
Friday, Feb. 16th:—
UNDERGARRAGE, 1-2. O.T. Free.
Saturday, Feb. 24th:—
Arthur Brown's KINGDOM COME, with SATURNALIA, 7.45 p.m. 50p.
Friday, Mar. 2nd:—
HALF HUMAN BAND, 1-2. O.T. Free.
Saturday, Mar. 3rd:—
From the U.S.A., COUNTRY GAZETTE (ex-Flying Burrito Bros.), with BEES MAKE HONEY, 7.45 p.m. 50p.

Monday, Mar. 12th:—
BRIDGER, 1-2. O.T. Free.
Saturday, May 5th:—
BABE RUTH with GLENGOE, 7.45 p.m. 50p.
Saturday, May 19th:—
To be announced.
Saturday, June 2nd:—
U.S. bluesmen SONNY TERRY & BROWNIE MCGHEE plus support, 7.45 p.m. 60p.
Saturday, June 16th:—
The Sensational TOOBY A. NOWNSED.

Working on this issue were:—
J. Clift
P. Capel
G. Foy, ed.

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ABE ODEL

to the fore and announced his resignation from the Executive. Why? Well, apparently he disagrees with "some" members of the Executive whom he did not mention. Were they from JACOSS? No. Perhaps Joe Cummings? Perhaps.

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