

BEAVER

BRITISH LIBRARY OF POLITICAL & ECONOMIC SCIENCE
N58
18 JUN 1990

NEWSPAPER of the LSE STUDENTS' UNION

No. 153 SEPTEMBER 29th, 1976 FREE



THE BEAVER EXPLOSION STARTS HERE!

STRUGGLE ALL YOU WISH FOOL!

BUT IF I CAN'T DESTROY YOU --

-- MY DEADLY CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE WILL!

HERO

ACCOUNTING
LECTURES
GRUPE
STAIRS
RECREATION
REFECTORY

LSE

THE MONSTER'S STEEL JAWS SPELL

PEACOCK

Let us eat and drink for tomorrow . . .

REVISED REVIVERS

STUDENTS returning after the summer vacation will find a transformation in the School's catering arrangements. A new bar is being provided and pizzas and hamburgers have a special place in the new arrangements.

What is behind the changes? The Refectory Advisory Committee, which consists of representatives of all groups within the School, has been conscious for some time of discontent with some parts of the catering service. The Committee has also been very worried by the large losses incurred in School restaurants. So, for the past 18 months, a thorough review has been going on which culminated in the spring of this year in a market research survey. Ten per cent of students and staff of the School were interviewed to see what they thought about the existing arrangements and also about the Committee's ideas for replacing them with something new.

Fears were confirmed and it was obvious that most people thought the main Refectory on the third floor to be particularly unsatisfactory in most respects. Other restaurants came better out of the survey, but the case for substantial change was clear.

Of the new ideas it seemed that pizzas, hamburgers and a new licensed bar would be very popular. Information about what is being offered in the new restaurants has been widely distributed and so I shall only briefly summarise what is now offered. The emphasis has changed very much towards snack-type meals.

The Pizzaburger on the third floor, as its name suggests, offers pizzas and hamburgers. The Brunch Bowl on the same floor serves breakfasts, beverages throughout the day and then at lunchtime, salads, sandwiches, rolls and hot snacks. Next door to the Brunch Bowl is the Beavers' Retreat, the new bar where drinks are at slightly below pub prices. Real ale is going to be a feature of this bar and

reasonably-priced wines will also be on sale, including full bottles. It is hoped that this bar will provide a valuable addition to the life of the School and be a place where staff and students can mix. The Robinson Room remains as the one restaurant open to everybody which serves conventional meals. This has always been a popular restaurant and used to be open in the evenings. Many people were disappointed when the evening meal was discontinued a couple of years ago. It will now once again be open until 7 pm.

The Brunch Bowl, as well as serving different food, is being refurbished and redecorated and divided into sections to make it a more attractive restaurant.

Very few items have been increased in price and in general the aim has been to leave prices as they were last year. To a certain extent the level of prices is determined by the number of customers who eat in the restaurants. It is hoped that the restaurants will all prove popular and so help to keep the prices down.

The changes reflect the wishes of members expressed through the market survey and also through their representatives on the Refectory Advisory Committee. The Students' Union has five representatives on the Committee, which will be keeping a close watch on how the arrangements work. The expected mixture of problems and delays has caused some headaches over the summer, but although some of the restaurants will not be open quite as soon as we had hoped it looks as though all restaurants will be functioning near the beginning of term. Please be prepared for some teething troubles and give Committee members any comments or suggestions you may have.

TONY FLOWERDEW
Chairman of the Refectory
Advisory Committee.

F.U.N.E.M.N.X.?

IN an attempt to combat increasing trading losses, the School has devised a catering scheme which it is hoped will even threaten the MacDonald enterprises! From an emphasis on full meals which dominated the refectory and Robinson Room, the Refectory Advisory Committee have turned their hopes to snacks, salads and sandwiches, in particular American-style eating, featuring hamburgers and pizzas in the Old Snack Bar, now transformed to the "Pizzaburger".

The School, however, has not forgotten those of you who yearn for the three course, English lunch. This will be provided in the Robinson Room, once the haunt of post-graduates and richer undergraduates, situated on the 2nd Floor of the Main Building. One major drawback is that between 12 and 2 pm there is a minimum charge of 34p.

In the same mood of transformation, the Refectory is to become the Brunch Bowl. Here the offerings are light meals, including quiche (i.e. ham and egg pie), pies and sausages. Snacks will be served during the remainder of the day. Breakfast will make an appearance between 9 and 10 a.m. In the immediate vicinity a pub atmosphere complete with ploughman's lunches will be provided by the Beavers' Retreat. A full range of drinks will

be stocked, including "real ales" e.g. Youngs, Shepherd Neame, and wines.

These new services represent an attempt by the School to emulate the profit-making enterprises run by the Students' Union, namely Florries and the Three Tuns Bar. However the major advantage of the SU's catering services is generally considered to be the substantially lower price and it remains to be seen whether the School's new schemes will be any competition for this overriding consideration for the majority of students.

CATERING SERVICES

School: Robinson Room, 2nd Floor Main Building; 12-2 pm, 2.45-4.30 p.m., 4.45-7 pm.

Pizzaburger, 3rd Floor Main Building, 11 am-5.30 pm.

Brunch Bowl, 3rd Floor Main Building, 9 am-4.30 pm.

Beavers Retreat, 3rd Floor Main Building (through Brunch Bowl); 12-2 pm; 5-9 pm.

Students' Union: Florries Snack-bar, First Floor St Clement's Building, 9 am-4.30 pm.

The Three Tuns Bar, Basement, St. Clement's Building, 12-2.30 pm, 5.30-10.30 pm.

Three Tuns Bar

THE "Three Tuns" is charmingly situated next to the boilerhouse in the St Clement's Basement and is in proximity to the TV Room and the Snooker Room. The bar is blessed with an atmosphere akin to a mixture of British Home Stores and a Blackpool Arcade—with two Football Tables, Pinball, Pool, Jukebox, Darts, Dominoes and Cards. Nevertheless, it is the "official" drinking centre for the plebian element of the college and as the Students' Union Bar it is a source of income for the student body together with Florries and the Union Shop.

By popular demand "The Three Tuns" will open for an extra half hour at lunchtime this year. It is also hoped that by the second week in October (with the co-operation of ENTS and the School) we will be able to open later on Friday nights and regularly feature groups and discos on this evening. Opening times this year are 12-2.30 pm and 5.30-10.30 pm Monday to Fridays.

This year during term time there

TED CATER

FLORRIES FOR FUN

NO student should miss out on the joys of eating in Florries, the Students' Union Snack Bar. Under the cheerful and efficient management of Joan Howell, Florries offers the hungry student a wide variety of sandwiches and freshly, well filled rolls at the amazing price of 8p. In addition to the "old dependable", hot pies and pasties, the Snack Bar is introducing hot dogs with real sausages! Don't hesitate to pop in for a refreshing cup of tea or coffee, 5p and 6p

respectively, which Joan will ensure is made as you like it. Florries also caters for the sweet-toothed amongst you, with an extensive range of cakes and sweets, and those of you addicted to the evil weed.

Florries is not merely an eating place, it also represents the training ground for many a budding student politician. Here you may catch rumours of the latest Broad Left alliance, watch the Anarchist

plotting the downfall of the Student Union Executive, or read the latest edition of the Beaver Daily News skilfully camouflaged by coffee and tea stains, not to mention cake crumbs.

Florries, named after the previous manageress who still provides invaluable assistance for Joan Howell, is not to be missed by those of you requiring a very reasonably priced lunch or the stimulating conversations of intellectuals or union hacks.



Institute of Jewish Studies

* MODERN HEBREW

7 levels ranging from beginners to advanced. Every Thursday at 6.00 p.m.

* JEWISH THOUGHT

Jewish thinking on contemporary issues. Weekly sessions.

* ARAB AND JEWISH NATIONALISM

A comparative study of the development of two of the most important movements in world politics. Tuesday evenings.

* HISTORY OF ZIONIST THOUGHT

From the early Zionist thinkers to modern times. Wednesday evenings.

* PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF JUDAISM

A course for anyone wanting to know what the Jewish religion is all about. Day to be announced.

* MYSTICISM AND CHASSIDUT

An introductory course in Kabbalah and other related topics. Tuesday evenings.

* A BIRDS EYE VIEW OF JEWISH HISTORY

An introductory course looking at the most significant periods in the history of the Jewish people. Evening to be confirmed.

* AN INTRODUCTION TO TALMUD

A course for complete beginners (minimal Hebrew required), devoting some time to the social and political background of the period. Tuesday evenings.

* TALMUD

In-depth studies of the analytic structure of the Talmud. Wednesday evenings.

* ISRAELI SOCIETY

An analysis of social, economic and political issues in Israel today.

Enrolment sessions will be held on the 5th, 6th & 7th October between 12 & 2.00 pm & 6 & 10 pm in Hillel House, 1/2 Endsleigh Street, WC1 (next door the N.U.S.) nearest buses: 73, 14, 30 nearest tube: Euston (Victoria & Northern Lines), Euston Square (Metropolitan & Circle Lines).

Further courses will be arranged if there is sufficient demand. Contact the Secretary, I.J.S. c/o Hillel House, with your suggestions.

Your Union Shop

WHETHER you're a keen Socialist, a hip funlover, or just a hardworking student, your every daily need is catered for as much as possible in the Union Shop. Inside this friendly, full shop (by the pigeonholes in St. Clement's Building) you may browse through posters, cards, tee-shirts, secondhand books and records, or you can buy emergency supplies of food and chemist items, smoking equipment or rubbers.

Whether you are interested in these samples of our range or not, you must equip yourself from our stationery supplies . . .

files, writing pads, typing paper, pens, desk outfits, diaries, etc.—all these and many more are sold here at rock-bottom prices, undercutting W. H. Smiths and all leading stores.

Cheapness apart, having covered staff and other costs, any surplus the shop might make gives the students extra funds. So don't delay, come and see what we've got in store for you!

P.S.—Any student with a van who can spare an afternoon a week to help with supplies should contact Kate, the shop manageress.

Union news and views

COMMITTED TO COMMITTEES?

IT may surprise those LSE students who are aware of this venerable institution's "radical" reputation or its "fabian" traditions, to discover that students have no representatives on any of the School's decision making committees. In this article I won't go into the structure of the School's "administrative machine" but a guide can be obtained from the Union offices. However a glance at the "School Calendar" (look under Committee Members) shows how stacked in favour of the hierarchy are any important committees.

What have the students been offered?

In 1968-69 following the great "liberalisation" programme of many Universities the Court of Governors offered the students representation on a number of School Committees, including the theoretically "governing body" the Court of Governors.

Of course, the places offered to the students (who comprise over 80 per cent of those at LSE) were

such as to make sure they were in a tiny minority on any important committee (e.g. six places on the Court of Governors, which has about eighty others).

Unfortunately the "generous" offer of this self-appointed body did not end there; as they were to determine both the method of selection and insisted on non-accountability of representatives so that those elected had only a very restricted right of report back to the Students' Union and could not be either removed or mandated by the UGM.

The rationale behind dictating the method of selection of student members (we can hardly call them representatives) was to "involve students in the process of government" while the other restrictions are based on the view that as "juniors" students cannot be trusted on many important boards, and cannot possibly have any contribution to make and (surprise, surprise) the School is a "Unitary

Society" with all its members dedicated to the free pursuit of learning (including the cleaning staff) so that sectional interests such as those of the students should not really exist at all and certainly shouldn't be allowed to reach the hallowed atmosphere of School Committees, all of whose members are not answerable to any one.

The School's thinking is most charitably seen as facile because it is well known that in the past students have had disputes with the administration about such basic issues as Union autonomy (in 1972 the School froze our funds), while at present we disagree about how to resist the present Government's plans to carve up education, how to oppose increases in tuition fees etc. Equally important but rather more in the long term the Students' Union has ideas about the role of higher education and the position of the LSE in society quite at variance with Ralf Dahrendorf's elitist "Centre of Excellence" (which

in any case hardly accords with most students' experiences).

Even more difficult to understand is the notion of "individuals" given that even the most cursory glance at school committees show that an attempt has been made in almost all the committees to obtain some sort of representation based on an academic/administrative and senior/junior division with the purely academic committees divided by departments (although as I've said all oligarchically stacked). Indeed, if students are not representatives why bother to have them at all, or elect them by ballot which takes time and money.

The Students' Union takes both a more consistent and I would argue more sophisticated approach to the problem. We argue that the students at LSE all have a right to voice an effective opinion about their work situation, and the only strength they have is collective, so that the UGM is the correct body both to elect and mandate representatives. The Union believes that

it is right that in an institution which admits only adults that all members should have the opportunity to make decisions, and not just a small self-appointed elite. Furthermore as a matter of principle the Students' Union maintains that it is entitled to decide for itself how its representatives are elected and how they are to be held responsible for their actions and other parties should not challenge the students' autonomy on such matters.

In closing I would like to suggest that you discuss the matter with your Tutor, and with the Students' Union Executive. The issue will come up for discussion at one of the early UGM's and we must all consider ways to bring the issue to a satisfactory conclusion (we've been waiting nine years). Personally I believe the ACADEMIC Board offers the best chance of success, but it is for the Union to decide (as always by majority decision).

John Cruse

A peacock-eyed view

AS freshers you'll find the Students' Union, particularly its governing body, the Executive, thrust down your throats. All individuals like to make a personal impression and a post on the Exec does help you to that. A post will also enable you to get a better grab at jobs when you are thrown into the big world outside. However, it is interesting to see what real function the Exec has and how its members justify their existence (as members) other than in the terms above—which none will admit.

First of all the Exec is voted in *en masse* so the posts are shared rather arbitrarily—God help the one who gets Graduates this year. Any of the responsibilities can be dodged—ask Mungo Deans who was responsible for Publications last year. If you can't dodge the job (perhaps you've got a conscience), they can catch resnegitis which tends to decimate the Exec ranks after the first term.

The Executive should meet regularly but last year only half the meetings took place and these were sparsely attended. Only one person never missed an Exec meeting.

Next, looking at the subjects discussed in these meetings, the most discussed subject was the Executive. Then there was the staff, one of whose roles is helping the Exec, and the Constitution, which again

concerns the Exec. True, Union finances were carefully examined, but this was the work of the Senior Treasurer. It would be interesting to find out how much the ex-Exec knows about last year's changes in Union finances.

One of the big issues of last year was the Overseas Students' Campaign against discriminatory fees. This grew up outside the Exec who certainly played a very minor role in it.

The Executive sees itself as a co-ordinator, an initiator and a controller; it is not any of these. Beneath the Exec is a vast number of students who are capable of spontaneous (e.g. Overseas Students' Campaign) or sustained organisation (e.g. Beaver). The Exec rarely pays a positive contribution to any of these.

The Exec exists for itself. I don't mean the hard-working members (especially Welfare) who could do their work as individuals, but the Exec as an institution. Take an Exec election hustling; this is close to the reality of the Exec—its personalities, egos, animosities, neuroses; politics in other words. The real functions are usurped—Welfare, Beaver, Ents, and campaigns could be more effectively run without an Executive.

PEACOCK

S.S.C.s

IN spite of the lack of representation on School committees, there is one area of committee work in which the students could have influence if properly organised—Staff-Student Committees.

Each academic department should possess one on which staff and students sit to discuss matters arising within the department, both of an academic and social nature. However, the importance of these bodies is controlled largely by the interest the students show in them. Indeed, some have failed to function because it has not been possible to persuade students to take part. This is one which has faced the Statistics Department which now wants students' views as to the creation of a new constitution aimed at attracting greater involvement.

With the fact that it is one area in which students can make their views known to the School, it becomes crucial that students are aware of their Department's election arrangements to ensure full representation. In general, each committee consists of two representatives from each undergraduate year, a postgraduate and members of the staff. However, there may be exceptions, as for instance the Government Department Committee which is open to all members and which merely elects two students as secretaries, and the Sociology Department which has representatives from both degree courses.

Another important contribution which these committees make is to send representatives to the Undergraduate Studies Committee, one School committee on which the Union has taken its places due to parity with staff, in spite of the fact that elections are on a departmental basis. Under the careful management of an efficient Academic Affairs Officer this committee can make its collective views known on a wide variety of academic questions and issues, including the Library for which a separate sub-committee has been set up.

As with everything else within the LSE, the effectiveness of these committees depends on participation. So keep looking on the back page of Beaver where the dates of meetings are printed, and become involved.

UNION MEETINGS

THE Union General Meeting (U.G.M.) is the sovereign body of the Students' Union because it is the collective and democratic focus of the Union. All students, part and full-time, undergraduate and postgraduate, are entitled to attend, present motions and vote. The Committees of Union are dependent on U.G.M. to formulate the policy to be carried out by them.

Unfortunately the operation of U.G.M. can often appear too formal, ritualistic, or haphazard to new members of Union, so that only those "in the know" are able to get their views heard (and may use the process to gain tactical advantages over opponents).

The procedures of Union Meetings are laid down in Part Two of the Constitution and Standing Orders, but these are difficult to understand unless you already have a mental picture of U.G.M.

At the first U.G.M. you will be given a "Guide to the U.G.M." which tries to explain events, but we should not allow procedures to override purpose.

The business dealt with at any ordinary meeting is varied but always includes reports from Union officials and questions to them, followed by motions which determine Union policy. Any two members can submit motions for discussion

(ask the General Secretary for advice on how to word motions), while most motions require a simple majority of those present and voting, occasionally a two-third majority is required, for Finance motions and Constitutional amendments.

A frequent criticism of U.G.M.s is that they do not reflect the real feelings of L.S.E. students but in fact neither the issues discussed nor the Union's approach to them are pre-ordained for the coming year; the U.G.M. will act as a focus for students only if the mass of students are prepared to be involved in a campaigning Union (which requires both time and effort), otherwise the U.G.M. becomes merely a debating chamber, in which most students lose interest.

It is worth stressing that it is for you to determine the future of your Union, both by the demands you make of it and how you make them, as the Union cannot be any stronger than you are prepared to make it.

At the first U.G.M. ask the chairperson to explain anything you do not understand, question the speakers during and after debate, tell the Executive members what you want done and make the "machine" responsive to your needs.

Hardship funds

MOST students at L.S.E. experience "problems" with their finances, as the grant gets spread very thinly near the end of each term (and the Government's new regulations on Supplementary Benefits will aggravate the problem), but the Students Hardship Funds are aimed at particular groups who find themselves in a desperate situation.

The largest fund is the Overseas Students' Fund (£4,200), which is available to pay all or part of the registration fees of some foreign students, for those not receiving an award, either from their government or a private firm, can easily find themselves faced with repatriation because registration has lapsed. All those who wish to apply should do so by the third week of term.

Because of our system of charging a fee to all students to join the Students' Union we have a Union Fee Fund (£625) and any student who is not having the fee paid by a "Grant Body" (such as local authorities) is entitled to apply. As this fund is being run for the first time please apply as soon as possible.

The third Union fund is the Pregnancy Fund, and is intended to help those who become pregnant to have a real choice about their future.

Applications to all these funds are treated in the strictest confidence and all discussions with applicants are closed meetings. The minutes will not refer to any individual either by name or in any way that could make her/him identifiable.

Anyone who wants to apply for any of these funds, or would like to know more about them, or discuss their finances and prospects, should see either the Senior Treasurer (John Cruse) or the Welfare Officer (Elana Ehrlich); again all conversations are strictly confidential.

THE WOMEN'S PAGE

THE various subtle (but occasionally very blatant) ways in which sexism infiltrates all areas of our lives is apparent even at LSE. Even in our studies it exists, often thinly concealed behind a veneer of objectivity in our courses, and lip-service to the "Women's Rights" aspect of the Women's Liberation movement.

The structure of the institution itself reflects the position of women in society as a whole. A look at the "Analysis of Regular and Occasional Students" in the School Calendar reveals a marked imbalance in the proportion of male to female students. (No prizes for guessing which is the higher percentage). Higher up the academic ladder the rungs occupied by women become even fewer. Less than one in five of the full-time academic and research staff are women.

The masculine bias of the structure, and indeed the academic system, is matched by the orientation of many of the courses. Ideas of the "natural" position and role of women are often assumed in the course content and even more often in the way in which it is conducted.

A lecture theatre may seem an unusual environment for the "rugby club" variety of sexism but it is sometimes indulged in by those academics who seem to feel a need to be "one of the lads". Dr Badcock's first-year sociology lectures last year furnished many examples of this kind of approach, which excludes women from participation between lecturer and students and reduces our role in the course to that of a butt for the lecturer's particular brand of machismo humour.

Women who have encroached too far upon male territory may be attacked in a most subjective fashion (supposedly LSE's sin of sins) as "battle-axes" for instances (scholarly analysis of Dame Evelyn Sharp in a first-year Politics and Government lecture).

More "gentlemanly" tutors often adopt a protective attitude towards their women students. They may automatically glance at the women present to see if a point has been taken.

The existence of these attitudes is not affected

in any real way by the comparative youth of one's fellow students, especially in the social side of LSE life. It is frustrating, to put it mildly, to be asked, "Do you want to dance?" at a hall disco, when you are quite obviously and happily bopping away with a group of people or a female friend. The word "dancing" seems to mean in many male minds a vine-like entwinement around a member of the opposite sex, preferably making some attempt at a rotating motion. The usual gropers, pesterers and would-be supermen avidly assessing the new year's talent are as much in evidence as at any local dance-hall or commercial disco. This situation is obviously worsened by the male/female ratio.

The question of what to do about all this is not an easy one to answer. As women students it is obviously up to us to challenge invalid assumptions and attitudes in our courses, but it is often impossible to force oneself to stand up in front of two hundred or so people and make what some might consider a trivial point. We need to support each other and not act as individuals in an isolated position. LSE Women's Group has tried to provide a basis for both support and campaigning activities.

As for the social question, apart from confronting sexism from a secure position, which a support group can provide, it is essential to have an occasional escape from the situations themselves. The social activities of the Women's Group, discos, wine and cheese parties, or just booze-ups down the bar are intended to go at least some way towards fulfilling this need.

One example of the success which a campaigning Women's Group can achieve is the existence of the LSE nursery. Inadequate it may be, but a nursery nonetheless. It was opened in February 1976 after a struggle by the Women's Group and the Union which culminated in an occupation. Anyone wanting information about the nursery should consult the Union Handbook.

The Nursery Action Committee will be continuing to meet and campaign throughout the coming year for the improvement of the nursery to bring it more into line with the needs of students and staff.

FEMINIST SEMINAR

IN various discussions between women at the LSE the need has been expressed for a sympathetic forum in which feminist issues may be seriously discussed.

Until very recently, the significance of the specific experience of women has been denigrated within the Social Sciences, a reflection of their social subordination. The role of women in the productive process, in the economic and ideological maintenance and transformation of contemporary social forms, is a comparatively neglected area.

In social history and labour history women are treated as a passive and marginal group and there are few attempts even by socialist historians to provide a differential class analysis of their specific experience and real activity. In many contemporary sociological studies, the one sphere in which they are located is the domestic one and in this the treatment is entirely disproportionate and rarely integrated with other aspects of the social structure. Explanations of women's motivations are equally superficial, generally founded within deterministic, ahistorical, biological and psychoanalytic models.

Both the neglect and stereotyping of women in these areas are being radically criticised by the Women's Movement and there is now a growing interest in the area of "women's studies" at all levels. But we feel that, although certainly an improvement on the vacuum existing previously, the constitution of token causes and unrelated references to women within current causes are inadequate. There is instead a great need for a systematic exploration and dis-

ussion of areas of feminist theory which are now being opened up.

At graduate level in the LSE a number of women who have experienced traditional male dominated first degree courses and who are now attempting research with a feminist orientation are proposing to establish a feminist graduate seminar.

Women researching within a feminist perspective have to confront specific academic problems in addition to their initial lack of experience of rigorous work in this area, in particular the very justification of the theoretical viability of this perspective and the identification and conceptualisation of substantive material.

It is hoped that the establishment of a feminist graduate seminar will provide a collective basis for the discussion of shared problems, a possibility of inter-disciplinary study through the presentation of papers relating to specific areas of research, an opportunity to counteract the competitive individualism and isolation of the research itself.

A meeting has already been arranged for women on a London University-wide basis for October 13th. If there are any women interested in forming, at least casually, a specifically LSE seminar, please come either to this meeting or to the earlier Women's Group meeting on Tuesday, October 5th. The need for such a seminar is very real but the proposals for its structure which have been outlined are very tentative; the actual form and direction it takes will depend on the emphases and needs of the participants themselves.

THE Student Health Service, which is to be found at the top of Connaught House, is one of the best in London. It can provide a wide range of facilities, not least of which is the gynaecological service. The gynaecologist visits twice a week; in order to see her simply make an appointment with the receptionist. Advice and help about contraception and any related problems are provided in a sympathetic atmosphere, the staff are understanding and approachable. Unfortunately and understandably this is a very popular service and waiting-lists tend to be long, so don't hesitate, go now!

HOMOSEXUALITY

ONE of the problems of growing up is establishing your own identity or sense of who you are. If you do something, you like to know if anyone else has done it and what they feel about it. Unfortunately, sex and especially homosexuality, is a difficult subject to discuss with parents and friends, who often discourage discussion of the subject.

If you listen to what people say about homosexuality you will hear queer terms like "queer", "poof", "fairy", "dyke", or simply "one of them", said sneeringly. All these words show contempt for gay people and are only used by people who know nothing about homosexuality. This is why we as homosexual people have chosen the word gay to describe ourselves.

People obviously develop in

different ways. There is no evidence of any physical difference between gay people and heterosexuals but there is a difference in the way we are treated. Psychiatrists treat being gay as a condition for which a cure must be found; who would dream of curing heterosexuals! Many religious teachings, Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, Islam, condemn gayness and cause guilt and shame to gay people who believe in them.

Thus we as gay people are now rejecting society's views on us and are forming our own self-supporting groups, one of which exists at LSE—the LSE Gay Culture Society. We are a group of gay, bisexual and heterosexual people who hold meetings, discussions and socials in an attempt to support each other as gay people in this college. **WANDA GOLDWAG**

Right to Choose: Choose to Fight

A CRUCIAL factor in the struggle for liberation is the right of women to control their own fertility. The call for free contraception and abortion constitutes one of the Six Demands of the Women's Movement. It is recognised as essential to women's social and economic emancipation by elements in both the parliamentary and extra-parliamentary parties and resolutions supporting it have been passed by the TUC.

Despite this wide ranging support, it is a right which has suffered a substantial onslaught during the past eighteen months. The importance of social as well as medical grounds for the termination of pregnancy were legally recognised in the 1967 Abortion Act and it is these limited provisions which are gradually being eroded. Despite the fall of the James White Amendment Bill and the Report of the Lane Commission that on the whole the Act was working as intended, a Select Committee was established to investigate alleged abuses. This has now reported twice, each time proposing further restrictions on the availability of legal abortion. Its most recent report recommends a more stringent control of the client services, intimidating both doctor and patient and providing the police with unprecedented powers of investigation of confidential records.

A further recommendation is that the upper limit for legal termination should be lowered despite the fact that very few are carried out after the twentieth week and that measures such as menstrual extraction, D and C's, and probably even the coil be defined as early terminations and subject to bureaucratic control, making women more vulnerable to bureaucratic delay in a situation in which the time factor is vital. Consequently the Select Committee is promoting the very abuses it attacks; by restricting the facilities of the National Health Service, already weakened by government cuts, women are forced back into the private sector. If the charitable clinics are

destroyed, the growth of exorbitant fee-charging clinics is promoted or alternatively new victims are provided for backstreet abortionists.

The National Abortion Campaign was formed eighteen months ago to confront this attack, to fight for adequate legislation and the provision of necessary facilities. It consists of many women with very different political backgrounds but all of whom support the fundamental right of any woman to decide whether or not to have a child. Whilst contraception and education is inadequate this will be a persistent dilemma. Large numbers of groups have formed spontaneously throughout the country, working around local conditions and involving local women. The LSE group was active in various areas last year, petitioning, leafletting, fund-raising. All these groups, along with many supporters from the Labour Movement, political parties and other organisations came together in two huge demonstrations in June and April.

But it is not enough just to take to the streets; we need to be positive about our own aims and to be prepared to fight for them on a daily basis. The anti-abortion forces have been mobilising since

the 1967 Act was passed and they will continue to attack its provisions until it is entirely subverted and destroyed. It is an immediate and ongoing threat by organisations with great resources behind them. We have only ourselves to rely on. To counteract this attack we need to organise actively ourselves; it is of no use just standing on the sidelines nor in union meetings making sympathetic noises. The right of self-determination, the rejection of Church and State Control, is not just a metaphysical issue but one with very real implications and very practical needs. Therefore, support NAC actively, join your local group, fund-raise, educate, agitate and fight for a woman's right to choose.

★ ★ ★

The National Abortion Campaign is holding a national Day School for its supporters to discuss the fundamental issues of the campaign, including: positive legislation, ethical questions, facilities etc. Discussion on the mobilisation for the "National Tribunal on Women's Abortion Rights" (to be held 29th January, 1977) is also scheduled.

10-6.00 34-36 Bedford Sq, WC1
Registration 50p.
Creche provided.

N.A.C. on the march.



C. DAVIES (Report)

EARLHAM STREET

DOTTED all over London are streets which are ostensibly the same as many others, yet they can contain hidden delights that are well worth delving into. Earlham Street is one example, stretching between Cambridge Circus and the Japanese Water Garden in Covent Garden. It runs across the famous Seven Dials and for a street that is outside the fashionable, frequented areas of London it has something to delight every personal taste.

British Crafts Centre

At the lower end of the street and opposite each other stand the British Crafts Centre and the Artists' Market. The former exists to promote and sell the work of British craftsmen and is a non-profit making body financed by subscriptions of its members, commission on the sales of work and by a government grant received through the Crafts Advisory Committee. Displays are changing continually—the exhibition floor being at ground level with a representative selection of craftsmen's work on sale in the basement. Crafts, design and art are all blended into often fine and always interesting examples of work with silver and jewellery, glass, ceramics,

furniture, woodwork, textiles, book-binding, embroidery and calligraphy.

Exhibitions are shown monthly, the next being one of ceramics by Dave Cohen from October 1st to 22nd. All craftsmen wishing to have their work shown have to pass before a selection committee. This is necessary because the unfortunate situation exists that there is much talent but very little opening for it to be shown to a wide audience. However the BCC is one outlet and well worth visiting.

Open Monday-Friday 10-5.30 pm
Saturday 10-1.00 pm

Artists' market

The Artists Market is in Earlham Street only until the end of October. Since July it has had two sessions of Contemporary British Artists, both painters and sculptors and a session to pay homage to four recently deceased artists—LS Lowry, Roger Hilton, Mark Tobey, and John Tunnard. At the moment there is an extremely interesting exhibition of artists from France, either having been born there or having settled there. This will be followed by a third session of contemporary British painters and sculptors.

The idea behind the Artists' Market is that it offers the opportunity for serious artists to exhibit and sell their work in Central London—many for the first time. It presents an artist and anyone interested in art with an open forum for free communication without the vagaries of bureaucratic and economic pressures which unfortunately are ever present in the art world.

The response to the exhibitions has been great which is very gratifying for all concerned and shows that there is need for a place such as this. There is no doubt that the programmes are varied enough for everyone to gain from visiting them and anybody who has thought that modern art is no longer exciting will have that view rectified on entering the Artists' Market. The ladies there are both friendly and informative and are most willing to discuss the paintings or sculptures on exhibition. One is very aware of the enthusiasm behind the project and it is one that deserves full support.

Women only

Further along is an old, dilapidated-looking house that seems on its last legs. It contains a mysterious women's group and in the course of my research for this article I ventured inside, disregarding the foreboding sign which read "This house is for women only." This was a great mistake because the first person I came across met me with a very disapproving stare and I was made to feel that I was committing sacrilege by walking on hallowed

ground. However, like all cub reporters, I returned the stare with a nonchalant air of innocence and glibly asked for some information, knowing that it would be well received and digested by LSE students, who show a very active interest in all things feminist, and thinking that organisations like this are always interested in a free piece of publicity. This was my second mistake (the first being to enter the place at all) and proved to be an erroneous assumption as far as the quest and desire for publicity went.

I was told that males were not allowed in anyway and that no information might be divulged to them. If I would like to send someone of the opposite sex along, she would be given all the details she might like. I pointed out that we had copy dates to meet, no woman was available at this particular time in the holidays, and that she could easily furnish me with the same information. I was then told that the venture was run as a collective and that she alone could not speak on behalf of the organisation. I ventured the proposal that all I wanted was information about the organisation, not policy statements, and they were matters of fact. This was not received any better so I then made my third mistake—I said, most foolishly as it transpired, "I'll try and send a female." Perhaps irritation and frustration at having made so little progress caused me to make such an unfortunate choice of words. If I had blasphemed in a church full of Jesus Freaks I could not have hoped for a more outraged reaction nor the feeling that I had committed the sin of sins. The word, I was told firmly, was not

"female" but "woman" and I knew I had blown any chance I might ever have had of getting what I wanted. The interview was over, every contour on her face said, and having the bitter taste of defeat in my mouth I retraced my steps to the safety of the street. Anyway, the place exists if anyone should want to go to it—women will probably be made welcome and hopefully will receive more from a visit than I did.

The Cambridge

On the corner of Seven Dials and Earlham Street, is the Cambridge Theatre which until recently has been presenting Chekov's "The Three Sisters" with Janet Suzman. This has finished now so you can't see that. What you can see is "Anastasia," a play by Marcelle Maurette and Guy Bolton and stars Nyree Dawn Porter, Elspeth March and Peter Wyngarde.

Water garden

At the opposite end from the Cambridge is the Japanese Water Garden, which looks very out of place amongst the decimated ruins of Covent Garden buildings. All it comprises is a large grassy area, interspersed with seats, small lakes, and trees. At the time of the recent Covent Garden festival it was colourfully decorated but now only a few remnants of these persist. It is a nice place to escape to from the hectic city and university life—a veritable oasis.

A.C.

Take your political pick

HERE at LSE we have political groups to suit everyone's taste, if student politics are your inclination. Even if they are not, this will not stop anyone or combination or even all of the above trying to grab you and extract a subscription from you. As no political group can get money from the Union for their own purposes, these subscriptions are subsistence funds and can mean life and death for a group of politicians, whatever their shade of opinion. At the one end of the financial scale we have the relatively affluent Broad Left and not surprisingly the Conservatives, whereas at the other end we have the IMG and the Anarchists (the latter logically enough, barely existing anyway) each of whom have strengthened their unity by their paucity.

On the other hand you might be grabbed by one of the political groups because they want to change your political views or foster them in allegiance with like-minded individuals. So before you take the momentous decision of either parting with cash, or openly declaring for all to see which side of the fence you will stand, here is a brief synopsis for each group including information on background and past record.

BROAD LEFT is not totally distinct from the Labour Club as many of its members join both. The force to be reckoned with on the Left and aims to appeal to a broad number because of its aggregate and leftist sympathisers. Whether what is expounded shows its wide view-

points is arguable, but last year there were many internal rifts. Unfortunately (for everyone else), these were not widely publicised and the Broad Left counted on showing a collective front, which brings to mind whether its membership is motivated very strongly by individual political conscience or whether desire for power in the Union is thought to be worth more. As mentioned before, more affluent than most, the Broad Left plead poverty at every turn and with justification because it is the most active group and this means a greater pressure on funds. It will be interesting to see how the Broad Left carries on this year with the loss of Paul Cockerell, the leading light of the alliance and somewhat of a mentor for John Cruse. United effort against them could be their downfall as they are often scared to be the political force they undoubtedly are, although only on a knife-edge which could turn against them as easily as for them.

IMG (International Marxists Group) kept a very low profile last year and does not have a massive membership. It lacks, apart from numbers, powerful speakers and personalities and any coherent public view of matters. However, when it makes its views known it proves to be revolutionary in outlook but again rarely offers any ideas into how the revolution should be brought about. IMG members regularly appear at Union meetings and in Houghton Street selling newspapers but its numerical strength, or rather lack of it perhaps due to

its extreme views or lack of sufficient funds to publicise its cause, makes it the lesser Leftist group but an interesting one all the same.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.—An enigmatic group to say the least. Although they expound that they want a Union of the streets and on the streets, they are conspicuous at Union meetings by being the best and probably the most expensively dressed, although, of course, the two are not synonymous. They tend to be very dogmatic and vociferous and were the main instrument of the campaign trying to save the seemingly doomed language department. They obviously want to appeal to the grass roots and make the IS cause their cause, speaking in plain words with an emphasis on direct action. However, the highlight of last year as far as the IS were concerned was a pamphlet war with Ralf Dahrendorf, which ranged from the libellous to the hilarious. Littered with classical references and carefully constructed but obscure arguments, the pamphlets were anything but accessible and will have done little good for an IS group who want to show an image for action not words. Again they lack personalities but they have surprising numerical support, a fact brought home by Roger Galloway's election to the Executive, although preceding this they seemed to have severed all links with the Union in disgust at its ineffectuality.

CONSERVATIVES. They have a strength rivalling the Broad Left, although each will deny that the

other is much of a force. Their strength is not surprising as they hold a virtual monopoly on the Right. Their true might is evidenced by the fact that although playing a minor role in Union affairs they can always count on a solid vote in elections and support on matters outside actual Union meetings. There are obviously a lot of people at LSE who are Conservatives, much to the chagrin of the Left, and although they do not often make their allegiance known there is no doubt that the Conservatives could be the major political force at LSE if only they could mobilise more effectively. In Ross Gravel they have an astute chairman who is one of the few intelligent political figures in a Union sadly lacking in anything but idiots.

LIBERALS. The Liberals are, as the time-worn phrase goes, conspicuous only by their absence. They did have a prospective figurehead in Julian Ingram but he soon lost interest in LSE Liberals (perhaps it was vice-versa) and he struck out on his own encountering no little success by doing so. There is some doubt as to even the existence of a Liberal Group within LSE and so they can be written off as a negligible force.

ANARCHISTS. As far as can be ascertained, there are two Anarchist Groups at LSE, each barely aware of the other's existence. Naturally neither is a recognised group, having no rigidity, meeting when the fancy takes them and generally trying to declare war on the Union. After their first few weeks' experi-

ence of LSE student politics, many freshers might revert to the Anarchists as the only viable alternative to the crap everyone else is talking. But be warned—they are elusive and some might say exclusive groups and have never achieved anything discernible, although they may argue that non-participation can be as damaging as active work.

LABOUR. Not really an active entity as such, although at the Executive elections last term Sheree Dodd stood and was elected as the "unofficial" Labour Club candidate. The Labour Club has probably the most interesting meetings and speakers and many of its members crop up in the leftist groups, particularly the Broad Left. However, they never really come together in Union meetings under the Labour banner, because their chairman seems to have disappeared from the face of the earth; even if he is lost be sure that the Club will function again in the forthcoming months.

INDEPENDENTS. These deserve a mention as they riddle the Executive and in most cases the title is a definite misnomer. It has been a recent trend to use the term since the demise of the Conservatives as a major political force at LSE. Most Independents are on the right and hope to use this title to camouflage their true position and show that they have a broader appeal. It has been a successful ploy in most cases but do not expect "independent" to be "independent" of partisan concerns. They are Tories (with perhaps one exception) in all but name.

A.C.

THE DAHRENDORF

THE interview below was the product of a half hour meeting between the Director and two members of the Beaver staff: Anton Chapman and Peacock. The questions were asked by Peacock and were intended to provide a very general framework for Professor Dahrendorf's views on the LSE.

Doubtless there were questions not asked and of course there were questions unanswered, but the interview was not an interrogation and besides we ran out of tape. We found the Director relatively courteous, even if he did talk to the taperecorder rather than us. We calculated his watch to be worth roughly four months' grant.

HOW do you see the role of Director?

I've never really thought much about the theory of what I'm doing: I'm doing the things which I suppose come to me as they would have come to my predecessors. The Director, I suppose, is the person who everyone can turn to if everything else fails, the Director is the one person who does not belong to any one group. I am responsible for all of them and answerable to all of them. The Director of LSE doesn't run the place but he is the person people turn to when they have grievances and when they want initiatives and when they want things to move. This is a job one has to learn but it takes a long time to find out the ins and outs of an institution which is proud of its tradition like LSE. The Director sits on and chairs committees and meets with the students' union and otherwise, and meets the staff and tries to think of the future of this institution which in my view has a future, even if the next few years are not likely to be easy.

I am interested in coping with the problems which I have and in doing it above all with the intention of not only being on speaking terms but actually talking to everybody within the school and making sure that there is communication. I don't regard the LSE as an institution where formal and stilted contacts between groups make an awful lot of sense and I therefore try to do my job in a rational way by giving reasons for decisions and talking to everybody involved.

Don't you think that there are problems in communication with the student bodies and that perhaps your emphasis is concentrated on the administration? When you talk at the Freshers' Conference there is a joke that this is the last time you will be seen all year.

It is bound to look that way because there are 3,400 students and also administrators and students come and go, they are not here five days a week from nine to five, the administrators are and very few are on committees so that one doesn't meet them in the normal course of things. I should have thought that a fair number of students have a chance to see me and I have a chance to see a fair number of students in the course of a year. Indeed the temptation is great to see too much of the Executive and to see too little of any others. I have never tried to circumvent the Executive, I accept the organisation of students. I find it quite rewarding to go to the Halls of Residence and meet students there, or to go to departmental parties and indeed I have now decided to teach a bit starting in January which I hope will establish another kind of contact, an academic one; there will always be limitation to that and therefore there will always be complaints.

A recent Sunday Times article talked about the "jaded reputation of the LSE"; do you see it as jaded and if so what are you planning to do about it?

That is a question you'll have to ask of that reporter. I have not written that nor would I have written that. The reputation of the LSE

is great and I would feel proud if I were to manage to keep it up. It has a remarkable reputation outside Britain which is often not realised due to the fact that LSE has always attracted critical minds, people who don't just take things but think about them and who continue to be critical minds throughout their lives.

You don't think that in the eyes of the wider public LSE is not associated with "critical minds" but with troublemakers?

I have never seen any reason to go around apologising for LSE, yet I don't believe in using methods to change things which in my experience have in the end resulted in not changing things because they have built up more resistance than readiness to change. But I repeat I have never had any reason to apologise for LSE and I am proud about it. Obviously quite a few members of the school do not like to think back to the troubles in '68, '69, '70; those were years in which in London as in Berkeley, Paris and Heidelberg in Berlin, and Florence and Copenhagen, students found that the traditional and rational methods of making their views heard were not getting them anywhere and LSE has been through its own period of problems but it has coped with them in a remarkable fashion and there again whatever the image it has in some people's eyes I am quite happy to defend the school.

It has coped with them by removing the abuses or letting the anger subside?

It has removed some abuses. There are some aspects of it which have still not led to a conclusion, I think. We have had some discussion in the past about the offer of student participation on the school committees which was a result to some extent of what happened in '68 and later; students have so far rejected this offer on a number of grounds—because they wanted more seats and because there was some discussion on the method of election. I would be very pleased if we got somewhere in this respect because I think part of the problem of communication which you mentioned earlier arises from the fact that there are no students present on many occasions and we would have solved some of the problems if we had got somewhere in this respect. I still hope that students are going to accept this offer and make it the beginning of formal co-operation as well as the many informal ways which we've got.

The offer was that six student representatives be elected to the Court of Governors, by the students, not the Students' Union. The election would be organised by the Students' Union. The proposal furthermore said, and I think this is the most important aspect that there should be regular meetings between the standing committee and the student governors. Then there are the academic committees, and the main committee growing out of the Academic Board is the General Purposes Committee which again has a very general remit, discusses all questions arising within the school and part of the offer is membership for several students to the GPC. Here there is some discussion about the electoral system because the proposal was that student members to the GPC should be elected by departmental groups rather than the student



PROFESSOR RALF DAHRENDORF

body in general. In no case is there any question of school approval of elected candidates but the question raised by the Students' Union is first whether it shouldn't be in all cases an election from the student body and secondly the question of which I'm afraid I hold very strong views, whether it should be a secret election or an election at a Students' Union meeting and there we feel that the principles which apply incidentally to all other members of committees should apply here with a general and secret election.

How do you see the role of LSE in society?

This is not easy to answer and I'll tell you why it is not easy to answer. It raises the whole fundamental question of social science's values, that is the logic of scientific discovery and the ethics of scientific behaviour or whatever you want to call it. LSE is a university, it is a scientific institution; Sidney Webb thought about it, founded it, he used, of course, money that was left for Fabian purposes but he said that no sensible, practical purpose could be served by an institution which was partisan. And he wanted an institution which looked at problems in an impartial way and was scientific in the sense that it was not geared to any one type of solution: he wanted a free, independent scientific organisation. Now that has been true to the present day and the first answer I would give to your question is that LSE could not possibly serve any useful purpose if it wasn't independent of impartial interests or extraneous purposes. Second point is that being an institution which is concerned with social science, LSE has obviously got something to do with problems which are real for people outside. And I am quite interested in the ways in which the LSE might make sure that these real problems are perceived as such without detracting from its independence. Now there is not an awful lot that one needs to do about it—there are many lecturers and obviously many students in the school who are well aware of these problems and who introduce them into the teaching and into non-academic activities but if even more could be done to develop the sensitivity of LSE for the burning issues of the world in which we are living I would be very happy to do that.

The third point is, of course, that LSE can provide a forum for discussing questions which are not strictly academic but which require knowledge of the social sciences if we want to lead them to satisfactory solutions. Now this is done by public lectures and discussions and by student societies and this is also done by academic discussions and I have regularly held discussions, over dinner, in fact, and here I am trying to get practitioners—entrepreneurs, trade unionists, politicians of all parties, journalists

DORF TAPES

gether with academics to make sure this con-
it is made. What it all adds up to—I don't
w. I don't believe that LSE can change the
ld nor do I believe that LSE should, but I
believe that LSE should be an instrument
dealing with important issues of the day in
ashion which is sufficiently remote from parti-
concerns to allow a scholarly approach, at
same time with a view to making sure that
know what matters, and that is the life
ances of people.

**Do you think that the financing of LSE does
to reduce its non-partisan nature?**

I don't think so; I have recently seen in a
ing article in "The Times," in fact an article
out the Independent University of Bucking-
m the statement that this IUB was not going
take public money in order to preserve its
pendence and it appeared that the leader
ter in "The Times" agreed with this, that by
ng public money one lost one's independ-
ce. I think that is not the tradition in the
ocratic countries, indeed I would tend to
nk that the opposite is more likely to be true;
is public money at least in this country does
involve strings which would impede a non-
rtisan academic approach to things whereas
e-public money might well do so. I don't
nk this method of finance raises any prob-
s—it is the amount of money which raises
blems.

**Are there any departments which are in
nger of being cut back this year or closed
the language department?**

What is happening in the department of
guage studies is not really correctly described
the word closed. It has been a small and
er heterogeneous department with a few
ple doing linguistics and it was felt by many
the school that linguistics should be closely
ociated with other subjects in which language

is a matter of interest: anthropology, sociology,
psychology, philosophy and there are a few
people there who are concerned with teaching
languages. Now the teaching of languages is of
interest at LSE in connection again with other
subjects; we have a new degree in French Stud-
ies which combines language, history, political
theory, political institutions, etc. I think that
the teaching of languages in the philological
sense is not the sort of thing that LSE is likely
to do as well as other institutions. We have no
intention whatsoever of "cutting back" any
areas, on the contrary I would hope that we may
be able to develop one or two of them. I am
thinking for example of demography which is an
immensely important subject. We have done
quite a lot there in the past and will continue
to do it but if anything I would like to see fur-
ther developments and this is true in other
areas as well. The case you mention is in any
case a special one.

**You mention in your supplement to circular
No. 6 that the LSE reserves seem to be increased
by £150,000, while the Court of Governors have
refused to agree the reserve section of the Stu-
dents' Union budget. The Union has three trad-
ing activities and reserves of £10,000; is this
enough for three trading activities?**

That is a play on the word reserves. What
has happened to the LSE budget is that we de-
cided to make savings with a view to not run-
ning a deficit and we were successful but we
also had to keep in mind in making them that
there would be salary increases for which we
need money and as you know we have cash limit
grants now and we had to keep in mind that
this was the last year of a quinquennium in
which for equalisation purposes we were sup-
posed to have a certain amount on top of what
we needed for everyday business. It wasn't an
awful lot and it is desperately necessary for
the wholly justified salary increases. In other

words our reserves are small. Now as far as the Students' Union
thing is concerned this is a rather interesting and difficult point.
The question was not whether reserves which were there should
be spent but whether there should be a deliberate long-term policy
to build up reserves of a considerable order of magnitude. Here we
run into a problem which I will put to you quite plainly and that
is economically it makes sense to think of the Students' Union at
least in the same terms as the School and therefore to think in
terms of building up reserves. Practically it is extremely difficult
because of the problem of the continuity of the administration of
the Students' Union. When I say the administration I don't mean
the administrators who are there permanently, but I mean the
fact that it is very difficult to rely on a continuing policy in the
Students' Union which the representatives of the Students' Union
would be first to admit. And therefore these reserves may turn
out to be not reserves at all and it seems to me that the Court of
Governors was right in suggesting that the proposals which had
been made and would have involved an even higher Students'
Union contribution could not be guaranteed in the sense of
accountability to a sufficient extent to be acceptable. It seems to
me quite clear that the Students' Union too must be able to plan
ahead and you can't plan ahead if you don't have reserves to a
certain extent. In fact the Students' Union has, I think, done
reasonably well and I hope will continue to do so.

**Have you any desire to increase the proportion of post-graduate
students?**

I don't think it has ever been my proposal or the proposal of
the School while I was here to increase the proportion of post-
graduates. When we made our quinquennial submission last year,
we worked on the assumption that the proportion of post-graduates
would remain roughly the same. There is no proposal for any
major change in it. What I would like to increase is the proportion
of post-experienced students. We already have a considerable num-
ber of post-experienced students in the region of 20 per cent who
have at least two years of practical experience. But I feel that
LSE may well be a model of offering courses for people who come
after job experience.

Senior Treasurer replies

**The Director is the one person
who does not belong to any one
group; I am responsible for all of
them and answerable to all of
them.**

The Director was appointed by
the Court of Governors, to whom he
is answerable to, the Court of
Governors (the ruling body of the
School) which is a self-appointed
body, and which does not have
representatives of the students
as members. Perhaps as
Professor Dahrendorf later
wrote, he doesn't meet students
in the normal course of things",
has slipped his mind that he is
not answerable to the
students for his actions, even
though he is to the academic and ad-
ministrative staff.

**LSE has always attracted criti-
cal minds, people who do not just
accept things, but think about them,
and who continue to be criti-
cal minds throughout their lives".**

LSE may well attract minds that
questioning; indeed when I
came to LSE I think the
greatest disappointment I ex-
perienced was in coming to terms
with the way subjects were actually
taught, and the issues that were
raised. However, my experience
is not general, and I leave it
to the readers to decide this time
of year how far the academic
establishment has encouraged them
to be "critical".

**I would be very pleased if we
could get somewhere in this re-
spect (on student participation on
committees) . . . and I still hope
that students are going to accept this
situation.**

LSE administration, following the
example of other institutions, in 1968-
1969, offered the students partici-
pation on some school committees;
though not on the two most im-
portant ones: the Standing Com-
mittee of the Court of Governors
and the Academic Board. The Stu-
dents' Union's objections were
many; in the first place we were
only going to be a very small mi-
nority on any committee, we were
to be excluded from many discus-
sions etc. (objections we still have,
but which are no longer pre-con-
ditions of the places we have been
offered). More importantly, the
School insists that the method of
election should not be the responsi-
bility of the Students' Union;
indeed where they are departmental
they would be organised by the
Administration. Perhaps most
crucial is the School's insistence
that students, once elected, should
be accountable to no one, so that,
for example, the Students' Union
General Meeting would not be able
to mandate them. Quite obviously
what the Administration is offer-
ing is not student representatives
and such an offer cannot possibly
give the majority of students any
voice in the many decisions made
by the School which affect them.
Furthermore, all that Professor
Dahrendorf is doing at the present
time by way of "negotiating" is to
repeat the same position as the
School first formulated in 1968-9
before Student Union autonomy
had been agreed.

**"LSE has obviously got some-
thing to do with problems which
are real for people outside".**

LSE obviously ought to have
something to offer towards solving
the problems of contemporary soc-

ety, but it is difficult to see how
the present academic structure
makes any such contribution pos-
sible. A clear indication of this
is shown by the only gesture which
Professor Dahrendorf makes to-
wards this is his dinners with
business people and Trade Union-
ists, to which, as far as I am aware,
students are not invited. While it
is true that many LSE Societies
organise public meetings which
often stimulate vital political and
social discussions, the Administra-
tion prevents any political society
at LSE receiving money from the
Students' Union, so that both the
variety and quantity of such
meetings are obviously curtailed.
Once more LSE Administration is
shown to be far more backward
than many other University Ad-
ministrations in this respect.

**"What is happening in the
Language Department is not really
correctly described by the word
'closed'."**

True enough; Language will still
be taught as a subsidiary option
within other departments, but an
entire linguistics course has been
cut. When the Director spoke to a
Union Meeting last year he
seemed uncertain how much money
would be saved, but now we know
that the course was stopped simply
because it was not a "social
science", even if it did meet a
need and had a good reputation
amongst academics.

**"Economically it makes sense to
think of the Students' Union at
least in the same terms as the
School".**

The decision of the Court of



JOHN CRUSE

Governors not to accept Students'
Union budget which were intended
to be reserves is difficult to under-
stand in any terms, particularly as
they are quite aware of our finan-
cial situation and have indeed
offered to loan the Students' Union
money to get us over our present
cash crisis. What makes the Direc-
tor's statement even more difficult
to understand is that they have
also refused to accept the esti-
mate of current expenditure and
awarded us a per capita fee which
means we must reduce planned ex-
penditure by about £5,500 in the
current year. This hardly puts us
in a position to add to our re-
serves. Remembering that the
School froze our funds in 1971-2 and
that Student Unions throughout the
country have had their income stop-
ped when they were in dispute
with their administration, I can-
not help but think that while the
Board of Governors' position does

not make "economic" sense, it may
make "political" sense.

One of the major problems which
faces LSE, despite its compactness,
is the communication gap which
exists throughout the School. It
stems partly from the fact that
LSE is in the centre of London and
is a "nine to five" institution for
most students. However, it also
stems from internal structural prob-
lems which prevent the existence
of adequate channels of communi-
cation. This is perhaps most glaringly
obvious in the student-
administration relationship, since
students never have the opportunity
to ensure that their views on the
purpose and future of LSE have
an effective hearing, but it also
pervades all academic/social rela-
tionships within LSE. In particular
most academics, at least in prac-
tice if not in intention, perpetuate
the teacher-pupil, active-passive
role with their students, so that
important issues cannot be raised
and fundamental questions posed.

However, the problem certainly
doesn't end there since most stud-
ents take very little active interest
in any of the facets of student life,
but remain content to be "consum-
ers", attending Ents concerts, read-
ing Beaver, looking at accommoda-
tion files, listening to public speak-
ers etc. This "passive" syndrome
will certainly be self-perpetuating if
students allow the Director, myself
or anyone else to continue to for-
mulate opinions in a vacuum, in
which no feedback is attempted,
resulting in the views expressed
being totally unrepresentative of
their ideas.

One important vehicle to change
this syndrome is Beaver, yet, as the
Union Handbook makes clear, there
are many others. If they are in-
adequate then change them, because
only determined efforts will make
LSE an institution which contains
active and critical minds.

JOHN CRUSE

APARTHEID : ON THE BRINK

WAKE UP! — THINK! The children of South Africa are being murdered, shot, tortured, detained and arrested by the brutal forces of violence—the South African police and army. They are the true products of a system which “educates them for ignorance,” which deprives them of elementary human rights, which harasses them from the day they are born until the day they die and they have taken on apartheid and its system of violence and institutionalised genocide, condemned internationally, prepared to die for their freedom.

instruction at a university or other place of higher education or technical training.” Given the nature of non-white education, where twice as much is spent on white education as is spent on African, Coloured, and Asian education combined, and where of the total African school population only 0.43 per cent ever reach matric, let alone pass the exams, the number of protestors that can be referred to as students is negligible. To call these children and youths, students, no matter their maturity—which is certainly evident by their action—is to attempt to cover up the brutality and vileness of a regime, which shoots down its opposition no matter what its age.

STRIKES

Despite the regime's attempts to divide and segregate the people, the African youth's resistance has been massively supported by their coloured (people of mixed race) counterparts, uniting the oppressed masses against the monster that is apartheid. In consequence of the resistance, the education system has become inoperable and the regime has been forced to close many of the schools and universities indefinitely.

Simultaneously mass strikes have been called and overwhelmingly responded to, hence in Johannesburg on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of September, the strike rate of success was estimated at 75 per cent in a city in which Hippo personnel carriers, dogs, armed police and paramilitary units, British Landrovers and French helicopters all combined in an attempt to restore “law and order” to the “disturbed” townships of Soweto. On the Thursday and Friday of the same week effective strikes were carried out in Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

The media, both South African and Western, have attempted to distort and misrepresent the situation. Hence, for example, they refer to the youth as students, a concept defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as a “person who is undergoing a course of study or

MASS ARRESTS

No longer does it suffice to detail (indefinitely if so desired) or arrest those pinpointed as ringleaders in order to contain the situation—now the regime has been forced to conduct mass arrests. For example on the 11th September about 400 school pupils were rounded up by the police after alleged illegal meetings in Port Elizabeth, or at Paterson High School in the coloured suburb of Schauder where 250 pupils who refused to go into classes “were arrested and loaded into riot trucks” and taken to the police station. The examples of such incidents are endless and ever-mounting.

U.S. INTERVENTION

Against this backcloth of rejection and resistance, the great peacemaker—Dr Kissinger and Mr Vorster, discuss the question of peace in Southern Africa with particular reference to Namibia, occupied by South African forces, and Rhodesia, an extreme white minority regime patterned on that of South Africa. Our memory is not short that we can forget the reasons for US intervention in South East Asia. Were not the reasons advanced those of maintaining peace and preventing the advance of Communism?

Are we to allow the same forces to commit Africa to a war of genocide and depravity



as that conducted by the US in Vietnam? Clearly Kissinger (of Chile fame) is no peacemaker and neither can the self-declared supporter of Hitler, Mr Vorster, be considered a man of peace. Their aim is to maintain Western colonial and neo-colonial power in Africa, to continue to exploit the masses in the interest of superprofit.

The people of South Africa are not fooled by Vorster's little game as was clearly indicated by the massive demonstrations which met a closely guarded Dr Kissinger when he arrived in South Africa.

In our campaigns of solidarity and support for the people of South Africa, it is to the demands and programme of the

African National Congress of South Africa that we must look and rally round as the authentic voice of the people.

It is time to act—the anti-apartheid movement needs your support and participation to end British collaboration with the Vorster regime.

Act Now!

STONEHOUSE SAGA SEQUEL

IT may not be another Watergate, it may even be out of date, but for your edification Beaver presents its own contribution to the Stonehouse saga.

During the Bangladesh Civil War (1971) many people of Bangladesh origin in this country felt that they should contribute in some material way towards the emancipation of their country. A Bangladesh Fund was set up and donations were soon flooding in from all round the country. Contributions, one might add, sometimes made at great individual hardship to the donor. The three trustees for the fund were Chief Justice Chowdhry, the Right Honourable John Stonehouse, MP and Alderman Donald Chesworth, pillars of society to a man.

Gradually disquiet began to grow about the fund. In September 1972 when the accounts were finally published these doubts became cer-

tainties. Money which had been handed in from branches of the fund (with receipts to prove it) did not appear in the accounts. For example, the headquarters of the fund was known to have collected large sums of money through its own initiatives yet no money from them could be found in the accounts.

The scale of the discrepancies was enormous. Fazlul Huq, the legal adviser to the Immigrants' Welfare Association, estimates that over one million pounds was collected yet only £376,568 was transferred to the Government of Bangladesh. At a minimum there is an unaccounted-for half a million pounds.

It was not just the fund which gave rise to concern. Mr Stonehouse (sorry, he would still be the Right Honourable John Stonehouse MP then) was authorised by the

Bangladesh Government to produce two series of stamps for them. Using his experience as Postmaster General, Stonehouse produced the series extremely rapidly and a grand sum of £450.13 was handed over to the Bangladesh Government. The philatelic world was quite delighted and the stamps have since doubled in value. The Bangladesh Government were less delighted and they are still carrying out an investigation into the affair. It is not known how many stamps actually were printed but the ones known about should have realised over £30,000.

Stamp collectors may not have been complaining (though they might if this market is flooded with “discovered” Bangladesh Independence stamps) but the subscribers to the Bangladesh Fund were. Investigations into the gaps in the accounts were begun by the police.

However, investigations came up against a brick wall, a political

sort of brick wall, namely diplomatic pressure and immunity. It was a wall imposed by the Bangladesh High Commission; not only did they withhold certain documents but it is also thought that they exerted pressure in a successful attempt to call off the investigation. As Stonehouse relates in his book (“Death of an Idealist”) that facing charges he approached the proper authorities in the British Government and failing here he went to the Bangladesh High Commissioner. As a result he was informed by a Detective Inspector Grant that “it had been decided not to proceed in the matter.” In the words of Mr Stonehouse (“Death of an Idealist”, pp.195-196) “I was saved by Bangladesh. My own England had seemed to want to destroy me.”

Why should Bangladesh wish to save him? After all, the milling half-million was destined for them.

A possible answer comes through looking at the career of one of the trustees: Chief Justice Abu Syed Chowdhry. He subsequently became the first President of Bangladesh. He managed to survive the annihilation of Sheikh Mujibar Rahman, with the accession of the Jatyo Sanajtantrik Dal (Radical Socialist Party). His survival was reputed to be due to strong foreign connections, and he is now thought to be living in England.

Incidentally both Mr Stonehouse and Donald Chesworth (ex-GLC and last heard of as the Labour consultant to the Government of Mauritius, where Stonehouse wished to join him) are both ex-LSE students. These two trustees of the Bangladesh Fund were very active in the National Association of Labour Students. Could the present LSE Labour Club executive be featuring in the pages of Beaver in a few years' time?

PEACOCK

How the troubles were fought

THE troubles at the LSE are often mentioned but do many students know what actually happened? In ensuing issues of Beaver a review of the troubles will be presented for your edification. It will become apparent that Beaver itself was a force throughout.

This issue covers the period of 1966-67, leading up to the first occupation. The era begins with the appointment of a new Director in June, 1966—Dr Walter Adams. He had been principal of University College Rhodesia, at the time of UDI and it was felt that he had not fought Ian Smith's racist policies at all (UCR students had been imprisoned without any resistance from Walter Adams).

Agitator, the Socialist Society magazine, carried a report on Dr Adams and reaction to the appointment can be gauged by the fact that this issue sold out almost immediately. The President of the Union, David Adelstein, was mandated to write a letter to The Times in reply to a letter by the Chairman of the Court of Governors which had defended the appointment. Unfortunately this was a "serious offence" to the School and he was asked to appear before the Disciplinary Board. The Chairman of the Court of Governors had stated in his letter to The Times that the appointment of the Director was nothing to do with the Union and hence students. It was this thinking that was rejected by a minority of more militant students.

A boycott was called for the day that Adelstein met the Board. This proved to be 80 per cent effective and although Adelstein was found guilty, he was not punished. Meanwhile, action against Dr Adams grew and a meeting was called to discuss the appointment in the Old Theatre for January 31st, 1967. The administration was becoming quite scared about the agitation and the threats of

direct action: posters advertising the meeting were taken down and eventually it was decided to ban the meeting. Students were electrified by this action and saw it as an attack on free speech. After all, the meeting had been called to discuss the appointment.

On the day of the banned meeting about five hundred students gathered outside the Old Theatre. The entrance was blocked by the administration. The students were in a quandary as to whether they should hold the meeting in the Three Tuns or whether to force their way into the Old Theatre. Adelstein took a vote which came down in favour of entering the Old Theatre.

The students were by this time becoming more angry and there was much pushing and shoving. At this point a porter collapsed and while he was being carried to a nearby room a number of students entered the Theatre. Adelstein asked the Director, Sir Sydney Caine, who had arrived on the scene, what would happen to the students already inside.

He replied that no action would be taken against the individual students involved and he repeated this promise that there would be no recriminations to a crowd of 100 in the Old Theatre. He then announced that the porter had died and everyone left. A few moments later in the Three Tuns where some students had gone, Sir Sydney declared: "No student shall blame himself as no-one is responsible." In an atmosphere of gloom and tears the School closed.

However, students did blame themselves and a pamphlet war began between those backing the Council and those demanding mass resignations. A hundred and twenty-four members of the staff signed a statement condemning the action of the

students and the Academic Board called for mass expulsions. Although a counter petition was circulated amongst the staff backing the right for the students to hold the meeting, a committee of enquiry was set up. This recommended that six student representatives be called before the Board of Discipline; this decision was given directly to the Press and the Union was not told until the following day who the six were. After many delays in announcing the verdicts, four were acquitted and Adelstein and Marshal Bloom, the President of the Graduate Association, were suspended until the summer.

A Union meeting was immediately called and a mass boycott was called. Dr Ralph Milliband, a member of staff, called the decision of the Board of Discipline "outrageous". A sit-in began immediately with four or five hundred packing the main entrance, leaving clear a small passage for those who wished to get in and out.

An attempt was made to occupy Connaught House but the police were called and the students were removed, offering no resistance. Telegrams of support flooded in from all over the country and the story was front-page news in all the national dailies. The strike and boycott was about 75 per cent successful each day and although the Press was approached by the School for prints of photographs so that students could be identified, this request was refused. There was some harassment by the School which included locking back the main doors in order to freeze the occupiers, but this was soon dropped.

However, the occupiers were fatigued and depressed at the lack of results for their concerted effort.

It was at this point that Mr Harry Kidd, the School Secretary, delivered his no-compro-

mise statement which outraged the students. Michael Zander said: "Just when progress looked possible, Mr Kidd and his wretched little statement has put the whole thing in jeopardy." He went on to say that the boycott and sit-in "is the best thing that has happened to LSE for I don't know how long."

However, negotiations did progress and by a very small majority the sit-in was called

off, after earnest requests from professors. In spite of the narrowness of the majority, the minority agreed to fall in with the declared wishes. So after eight day and eight nights at the pre-arranged time of 5 pm the students themselves ended the sit-in. It had been the longest in a university anywhere as well as the first in England.

After long negotiations an amnesty was declared on April 14th, 1967.



'... Pour encourager les autres'

AS you probably know the Republic of Eire has deemed it necessary, in the interests of law and order, to sentence Noel and Marie Murray to death. At the moment the two are languishing in solitary confinement, suspended between execution and reprieve.

The trial (if it can be called that) was conducted by the Special Criminal Court, a Tribunal of three Judges—with no jury. This Special Court is special in more ways than one. One Judge has heard a case against Noel before, which is usually considered prejudicial, and the Defence was not given an opportunity to present a case, indeed the accused spent most of their trial in the cells.

The evidence against the Murrays hinges on the verbal confessions. Noel's confession was that he agreed with anything Marie might say (hardly a confession). Marie's confession, she claims, was made while Noel was being tortured. The Garda had threatened to kill them and dump the bodies (nobody knew they were in the Police station at the time). Ronan Stenson (who faces the same charges) is now in a military hospital after a nervous breakdown and although no independent medical assessment was allowed, an army doctor admitted that his injuries were consistent with being severely beaten up. It seems that at one time he was suspended by his hair while being assaulted.

There are other distinctly odd aspects of the case. The accused faced a number of minor charges together with the capital murder charge, something highly unusual. Then there is the ballistics evidence which states that the bullet which killed Garda Reynolds is consistent with having been fired from the gun found in Noel's flat. Ballistics evidence is usually more concrete than that. Also the money from the robbery (which led to the murder) was never recovered.

The method of detection is also highly suspect. On the day of the murder the Dublin "Evening Herald" ran headlines that Reynolds had been killed by Anarchists, but no evidence was offered. The Police and Anarchists in Dublin are in a state of conflict, or at least the Police think they are, and a series of raids

was carried out against Anarchists and their sympathisers. The Police seemed to have suspected the Murrays for several other robberies. Noel had previously jumped bail but the choice of Marie seems to resemble that of Ian Purdie (who was acquitted at the Angry Brigade trials). That is she was suspected for other offences, and when Police called she was unavailable, hence confirming their suspicions (to them).

The final appeal will be heard on November 1st and will probably be rejected. After all the Special Criminal Court was set up to deal with terrorists. The Eire Government can now prove themselves to be tough on terrorists without actually having to deal with the real terrorists. The hangings will take place between November 10th-18th and there is an International Day of Solidarity on Friday, October 8th

There have been no hangings in Eire for over 20 years but the customary reprieves are usually granted quite soon after sentence. The power of reprieve lies in the hands of the Eire Cabinet, five of whom are members of Amnesty International (who are against capital punishment). If the Murrays are hanged it is questionable where that leaves the Cabinet's principles.

The murder of Garda Reynolds was a particularly nasty murder, he was off duty and out for a drive with his family. But acts of panic cannot be considered as acts of brutality in the same way as the systematic torture and execution of the Murrays.

In the present state of relations between the Police and Anarchists in Dublin the robbery could have been carried out by Anarchists. Bank-robbing has a long tradition in the political violence of Ireland. The Police and Anarchists are at war. However, the torture and premeditated double murder carried out by the Irish Police do not make them the noble defenders of order as some would have us believe.

VICTORY TO THE DUBLIN ANARCHISTS

PEACOCK.

WHERE IT'S AT . . .

FROM personal experience — one year spent living in London—locating the vast array of concert venues, record shops, ticket agencies and associated literature can prove to be both an expensive and time consuming task. Hopefully the following guide will assist the student who misses the security once provided by his local record shop, radio station, Top Rank, Town Hall, news-stand or general information grapevine and who aims to enjoy music during those rare moments which can crop up in between the endless stream of lectures, classes and essays. In this piece at least, the bias towards rock music will soon be apparent. Time and space permitting, recommendations in the field of classical music, theatre, cinema, Soho, etc. will no doubt be given an airing in Beaver.

Should a night exist when LSE Ents take a well deserved rest then it might prove worthwhile to consult the following publications which contain "What's On" guides:

The weekly music press: New Musical Express, Melody Maker, and Sounds, of which the former is usually the most accurate.

TIME OUT—extremely comprehensive and informative, particularly regarding ticket availability and prices.

EVENING STANDARD — notably the Friday issue.

SENNET—your very own London student paper, has an entertainment guide called **OCTOPUS** which has proved to be as untogether as Syd Barrett's last few years on this planet (too subtle?—Ed.)

Useful broadcasts are also issued free by London Theatre Bookings and NUS Ents.

VENUES

On to the actual concert venues. They range from the converted beer cellar to the simulated aircraft hangar, from the "free" to the "60p per compulsory drink" touch establishment where the roadie is about the only person likely to know or care about the name of the band on stage. (You're not in Los Angeles now—Ed.) I've made one basic assumption that virtually all concerts finish before the departure of the relevant last bus or train home to most points within at least 15 miles of Central London.

HAMMERSMITH ODEON: Queen Caroline St., W.6, Hammersmith 748-4081. Technically still a cinema, it became London's main rock venue following the closure of the Rainbow. With a capacity of around 3,500, it can seem cold and lack any real atmosphere. Before you go inside check out the pub opposite. As is often the case, there is no re-admission once you are inside the theatre. Concerts may be announced on a board in the

foyer before being publicised in the national press.

NEW VICTORIA: Wilton Rd. 834-0671. Literally yards from Victoria Station. A comfortable, modern theatre frequently used to present one-off concerts by international acts in the form of media orientated preludes to subsequent mopping-up national tours (Wow!—Ed.) Lousy bar plus extra-officious security and bouncers, i.e. cameras, tape recorders and enjoyment are often frowned upon!! The only theatre willing to put up with the Bay City Rollers . . . !

ROUNDHOUSE: Chalk Farm Road, N.W.1. Chalk Farm tube or 68 bus. 01-267 2564. An atmospheric converted railway shed. Remnants of the tarnished golden age of British psychedelia can be found lurking in the peripheral alcoves. On stage every Sunday, packages of three interesting bands are usually on view for fairly low ticket prices. Excellent food and ice cream on sale inside.

MARQUEE CLUB: 90 Wardour St., W.1. Tube, Piccadilly Circus or Leicester Square. 437 6603. Not too far from deepest Soho. A legendary establishment which on your first visit might well evoke some of the atmosphere of an early Who, Bluestreakers or Yardbirds gig. I rarely feel like scrawling "Angus is God" on the nearest wall outside though (Angus is the satchel-toting schoolboy punk guitarist with AC/DC who recently broke the mythical Marquee house record). Despite the Club title no membership is required. Student discount but fairly expensive bar, no air conditioning, free admission before 8 p.m. with the appropriate coupon on Saturdays and Sundays. Music lovers, don't frequent the first bar one reaches upon entry, but if you want to practise posing . . . !!

NASHVILLE: adjacent West Kensington Tube. 01-603 6071 — The best and most comfortable of the pub/club venues where it is possible to really enjoy a good band and a decent pint with change from the proverbial pound. Admission is often free midweek.

HOPE & ANCHOR: 207 Upper St., N.1. 01-359 4510 Highbury and Islington tube. Hopefully its financial difficulties will have been overcome by the time you read this. An invaluable venue since the likes of the Feelgoods, Kokomo, Ace and the Kursaal Players all had residencies here before the media had fully exploited the pub rock phenomenon. Offers a good value night out but can get so crowded that raising a drink to one's lips becomes a monumental effort.

100 CLUB: Oxford St. Tottenham Court Road Tube. 01-636 0933. Essentially a jazz/blues club but offers rock or soul nights, a late bar plus student discounts. Check out the notorious Sex Pistols there at your own risk.

RONNIE SCOTT'S CLUB: 47 Frith St., W.1 Leicester Square

tube. 01-439 0747. Downstairs is primarily a high class jazz club whilst the more disco-orientated "Upstairs" is free to NUS members on Mondays to Wednesdays when some reasonable bands are on view. Open and licensed until 3.00 a.m., but be prepared to dip into your grant when thirst gets the better of you.

There are a number of smaller and less-frequently used theatres which are excellent for the more obscure and cult-orientated bands.

VICTORIA PALACE: Victoria St., S.W.1. 834 1317.

THEATRE ROYAL: Drury Lane, W.C.2. 836 8108.

NEW LONDON THEATRE: Drury Lane. 405 072.

LYCEUM: Strand 836 3715.

The list can be augmented by the South Bank Arts complex, Charing Cross or Waterloo tubes.

The beginning of the tax year means it's time to boost the supergroups' egos, dust off the binoculars, delve deep into your pocket and then truck on out to the chosen metal box/stadium/aircraft hanger in order to thrill to the antics of the Stones, ELP, Led Zeppelin . . . Hence you may like to know that Earls Court holds around 18,000 (Earls Court tube), Wembley Empire Pool about half as many (Wembley Park tube) and Olympia (Kensington tube) too many fans as well. In complete contrast keep an eye open for the occasional FREE Hyde Park concerts.

A rather unique folk club can be found down in the Crypt of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. You will not find any bar but you can hardly miss the amazing light show operated by a disabled sailor and his parrot. The list is virtually endless but I've tried to include the most well-known venues, those which offer a wide variety or good value, and particularly those which are easily accessible.

Tickets

Obtaining tickets is another area in which both time and money can be saved. LSE Ents usually hears of particularly tasty, in-demand concerts in advance of the general public and could maybe negotiate advantageous block bookings in the future. As an alternative to visiting or writing to the relevant box offices, theatre booking agencies often prove useful and in addition invariably hold the best located blocks of seats. Expect a service charge of 20 per cent (30p minimum).

LONDON THEATRE BOOKINGS, 96 Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1. 439 3371.

PREMIER BOX OFFICE, 188 Shaftesbury Ave, W.1 240 0771.

Branches of Virgin and Harlequin Records occasionally sell tickets with no extra service charge. NUS Travel based at Victoria and Euston Road, sell tickets for college promotions

in the London area and they demand a 10p per ticket surcharge. At certain clubs and colleges a valid NUS card will entitle you to small discounts.

Ticket touting has recently spread to the gullible West End cinema queues and is a phenomenon I would like to delve into at a later date. The motley Ents crew will doubtless offer advice on this and other problems such as seating plans and ticket pricing structures. Drop by the Ents Room too if you are interested in lowering the price of blank tapes (e.g. TDK or BASF Super C90's) via a bulk purchase. Estuary Audio at Highbury Corner, N.5, offer excellent discounts and a five-year replacement guarantee on any cassette.

Record shops

A consequence of the high street record retailers' war against prices has been the ease with which substantial discounts can be obtained on "top fifty" albums. For bargains of interest to the collector or shopper who is after more obscure material, I can recommend the following:

VIRGIN, MARBLE ARCH — Open late and on Sundays. — Great for imports and deletion bargains. Facilities for "no obligation" headphones listening to selected albums, interesting video selection, along with various music publications.

VIRGIN WAREHOUSE: New Oxford St. Houses the usual Virgin stock along with a wide selection of deletion/cut-out bargains.

TAPE REVOLUTION: Tottenham Court Road, W.1. Carries a comprehensive stock of current records and tapes plus a permanent sale rack.

CHEAPO-CHEAPO: 53 Rupert St., W.1. A source of many secondhand bargains—but remember that condition is directly linked to price and that the assistants don't like people who haggle over the latter.

ROCK ON: 3 Kentish Town, N.W.1 and Soho Market, W.C.2. Collectors' haunts which also supply a good selection of fanzines and records by smaller and supposedly hip labels (i.e., the current wave of punk releases).

REVOLVER RECORDS: 18 Newport Court, WC2.

LSE Ents have maintained a very good relationship with Revolver since an LSE graduate, Tim Oake was a major factor in the shop's success and growing reputation. Its slightly inaccessible basement premises are still worth a regular visit. Tim now runs a record stall in nearby Soho Market. Absolute gems can be found for £1.50 in the "reviews" racks and Tim is an invaluable source of information and recommendations regarding new releases and worthwhile concerts.

Lastly, don't neglect your very own Union Shop. It provides a useful buying and selling service for secondhand

albums and tapes. For obvious reasons I'd rather give recommendations about the availability of bootleg and pirate recordings in the privacy of the Ents room; another reason for dropping by S118 any weekday lunchtime. Ents has been wrongly labelled as a clique in the past, the door is as open as any union door can be and refreshments for the mind and body are often available. We would really appreciate more feedback, suggestions, criticism etc.

Local radio

Among the more interesting London based radio programmes are two from BBC **RADIO LONDON** (206 medium wave or 94.9 VHF)—Breakthrough, Mondays 8.30-10.00 pm is a rock, chat community magazine show; Honky Tonk, run by Charlie Gillett 12.00-1.30 pm every Sunday extends John Peel's format with the rock 'n' roll, R'n'B, soul, blues, gospel, cajun areas of music.

From the commercial 24 hour station **CAPITAL RADIO** (194 medium wave or 95.8 VHF) Nicky Horne pumps out a predictable two hours of rock from 9.00-11.00 pm every weekday and also on weekdays is "London Today" (7.00-7.30 pm) which usually offers a "What's On" guide.

Incidentally Capital Radio operates from Euston Tower, hence residents at Carr-Saunders and Passfield are well placed to cash in on the offers of freebies to the first callers to the station foyer.

Given the right compere it is easy to become addicted to a diet of phone-ins/chat shows which now flood the late night air waves. True spontaneity has sadly been lost since ten second bleeping out margins were imposed.

I've deliberately avoided recommending jazz clubs, hot soul dives, Brixton reggae haunts where life insurance isn't necessary and West End discos since these are best dealt with in separate articles. On a broader final note why not spread the word around via Beaver should you discover a particularly fine record shop, restaurant, pub or whatever.

ANDY CORNWELL

ENTS

require

D.J.'s (good pay and promotional prospects)

Lighting Technicians

Treasurer

Catering: Bar and Door Staff

Secretary

Advertising Manager

Absolutely no experience necessary—only enthusiasm, some intelligence and an open mind.

ENTSNEWS

Film Soc. Proudly presents . . .

THIS year's LSE Film Society season entitled "Movies from the mid '70s" is indeed the best modern season in the UK. Films to be screened range from "Rollerball" and "Tommy" through "Towering Inferno" and "Chinatown" to the latest international releases like "The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser."

The enjoyment of this fantastic season is heightened by the remarkably low cost of a season ticket—a mere £2 which is less than going to see two of the films in the commercial cinema. Season ticket holders are also invited to the enormous end of term parties held by the Film Society and benefit from associate membership of the National Film Theatre.

This incredible season at unbelievably low price has been achieved through special advance bulk booking with the distributors—some of the films have been booked 18 months before their LSE playdate.

Even so, this represents a massive investment, with film costs alone totalling well over two thousand pounds. However, it was felt worthwhile to speculate such a large sum in order to bring the very best of the current Anglo-American film scene to the LSE at a price students can actually afford.

Season tickets together with fully illustrated 24-page booklets will be available during Freshers' week from the Concourse area. The programme booklet has full details of all films being screened during the season and includes a picture and brief synopsis of each film.

Golden oldies

PICKWICK RECORDS have recently issued a new series of golden oldie double albums. Admittedly they appear to be composed of two of their £1 label records with the order of the tracks slightly altered, and they carry only five tracks on each side (normal oldie compilations usually carry 10) but they do only cost £1.99, which is less than the cost of even the cheapest full price single album.

The two I received were: "The Bill Haley Collection" and "The Jerry Lee Lewis Collection," both of which carried some good original rock and roll standards together with some more unusual material.

The Lewis album was processed stereo but the Haley Collection was composed of later stereo material. There are many other interesting titles in the series and at a mere £1.99, they deserve further investigation.

Bell have now re-released all the Gary Glitter and Glitter Band chart singles in two albums called "The Glitter Band's Greatest Hits" and "Gary Glitter's Greatest Hits." Although not perhaps intended for quiet personal listening, they do make excellent music for parties and late night rave-ups.

EMI have revamped the Beachboys and the Beatles for two new compilations — "Beachboys' Greatest Hits" and "Beatles' Rock 'n' Rolling Greats". However, they are not willing to send review copies and so I cannot really comment — an attack of the blue meenies?

night, e.g. films, further bands, spot prizes. Subsidised ticket price for freshers is £1 in advance or on the door—if you can buy a ticket in advance it will save queuing.

City Boy, the headline act, are being hailed as the new 10cc by Phonogram records and consequently are having large sums of money spent on them.

For once the record company's optimism appears to be justified. They've had a couple of minor hit singles in Britain, appeared on Top of the Pops and their first album has charted in the United States. With a new album scheduled for release in the winter and a projected major tour, City Boy look like they are set for a big break-

through. More relevant they really are tremendous live performers with a sophisticated stage show.

Plummet Airlines: Originally patroned by Malcom Moreley of 'Man,' they are at present trying to get a recording contract with moral support from the Hope and Anchor, London's most active pub-rock pioneer. A group of strong good-time, part country, part r and b musicians headed by a charismatic lead vocalist, something of a fusion of Roger Chapman of Family and Ray Dorset of Mungo Jerry (remember them).

Razorbacks: I don't know anything about them. Andy Cornwell says they are half punk, half human and very lively. Apparently their vocalist just walked out on them.

Max Steuer and Black Cat: Max is professor of Economics at LSE and plays bass guitar. Made their starring debut at a Passfield Hall party last year but this could be the big break they're looking for. It could be the Hammersmith Odeon next week, Max. They do a good rendition of Jefferson Airplane's White Rabbit. SINGALONG-AMAX!

Further recommendations would be superfluous since all good music boils down to the basics of feel and energy and these will be in ample evidence on October 9th.

Tickets: £1.00 from the Union shop.

Many thanks to the excellent magazine "Liquorice" for invaluable references.

DEAF SCHOOL will be playing in the OLD THEATRE on Friday, 15th October. If ever there's a saviour/great white hope for British rock music who are certain to move on to bigger things than DEAF SCHOOL certainly fit the bill. Whether or not the nine piece band really do project something original or whether they are just cashing in on the demand for revivalist/kitsch/pseudo Hollywood but still essentially 1970's decadence, is debatable.

Warner Brothers have given vast financial backing and the music business in general have solidly supported them, maybe overdoing the Roxy Music/Bryan Ferry comparisons in the process. Potentially a historic concert so make sure that you are one of the enthralled participants by purchasing an advance ticket for £1.00 from the Union Shop.

You'll justly feel smug when the 9 o'clock News headlines for October 1984 proclaim . . . "Deaf School today finally agreed to open the LSE's new Strand House Astrodome just for old time's sake and as a big 'thank you' to all those perceptive students who made their concert in the Old Theatre such a memorable event. The nation mourned those halcyon days when tickets were just one pound, when if a secretary's name was Cheryl then you knew she could type and when if Mike and Andy were at the helm you could rely on the concert being pretty amazing . . . !"

Lastly keep a look out for FREE ENTS. LUNCHTIME CONCERTS: A.F.T. (Charisma's only new signing in the last three years. They debuted at this year's Reading Festival).

* Monday, 4th October:
BAR SOCIAL. 3 TUNS BAR.
Friday, October 8th:
THE FUNKIES . . . the name says it all.

CITY BOY: LIVE AT 10.00



he had unwittingly paid for Mick Jagger's overdue library books, plus his subscription to the Icelandic Gay Soc. were at the back of his mind as he accumulated the mere one pound needed to secure a ticket. Living on nervous energy he was euphoric at the prospect of seeing MIKE CHAPMAN and KEVIN COYNE in 'the OLD THEATRE, on October 9th!

Yes indeed, the LSE's Old Theatre should provide a near perfect venue when MIKE CHAPMAN with special guest KEVIN COYNE appear on Saturday, October 9th, at 7.30 p.m. Both artists have each amassed strong followings throughout much of Europe and recently made headlining appearances at prestigious London theatres, backed by highly respected musicians.

Further similarities include attitudes to the music-making process and the fact that each has paid many years of dues around the motorways, clubs, colleges and bars of Britain, competing with the attractions and distractions of alcohol. Mike and Kevin have each released seven albums, though the all too important "hit single" has eluded them both, thanks, largely to the BBC's playlist policy.

Contrasts begin with abilities as musicians. Kevin Coyne's highly effective but somewhat limited blues-based guitar playing differs

from Mike Chapman's ease and dexterity on the instrument which carried him out of the folk circuit from his home town of Hull (Mick Ronson and all that) peaking recently with a major appearance at this year's Cambridge Festival.

I really envy anyone who has ever seen Kevin Coyne perform live! Personally, I'd love to relive the moment I first saw him entertain but move an audience emotionally with an intensity maybe only equalled by Neil Young, Roy Harper, Van Morrison and John Martyn. The best introduction to his recorded work would be his long-deleted "Case-History" album which is a highly disturbing outburst on John Peel's now defunct Dandelion label, or via "Marjory Razorblade" released by the company who rescued him in 1973, Virgin Records. Vocally his power and range are staggering and have drawn comparisons with Captain Beefheart, Joe Cocker and chain saws!

Attempting to convey the stark realism of Coyne's subject matter is extremely difficult. He tends to write and sing about the kind of sensitive observations and root emotions that most people would rather not think about (mental institutions, numerous prejudices, etc.—years of social and psychiatric work provided the insight, understanding and motivation) or wish that they could have thought of or got to grips with themselves (battered babies, Eastbourne ladies, fat girls, old soldiers, parental relationships and what family love really means).

This gig should be subsidised by the LSE's Sociology and Psychology departments, perhaps eliminating embarrassed silences in classes and lectures for good. One way or the other, Kevin always produces a positive reaction; indifference is rare.

Last year he appeared in a television play and more recently he has written songs for a Snoo Wilson play based on the Kray Twins. His appearance at the LSE interrupts work on a Kenneth Tynan musical and the assembly of a novel, and will mark a one-off concert which Kevin himself chose to take part in.

NME's very own Charles Shaar Murray rated a recent Michael Chapman gig as being second only to a triumphant Wallers concert.



See Deaf School on 15th October.

ONE of the occupational hazards of working for ENTS is frequent attacks of third degree brain damage. For example, a week ago the Steve Gibbons band, one of the headline acts and pivotal to the All-night Concert, decided to become unavailable, i.e. in technical terms they bloody well blew the gig out. I was left to find a replacement in two days before the advertising deadline. This was an almost impossible task.

The more or less formalised bill and approximate playing times:

9 p.m. Doors open. Disco begins in Refectory (3rd floor). Bar and Pizzaburger open. Late licence until 2 a.m.

9.30 p.m. Plummet Airlines in Refectory until 10.30 p.m.

10 p.m. CITY BOY in Old Theatre until 11.30 p.m.

11.30 p.m. Razorbacks in Refectory until 12.30 a.m.

12.30 a.m. Your guess is as good as mine in Old Theatre until 2 a.m.

1.30 a.m. Max Steuer Band in Refectory until 3 a.m.

3 a.m. Disco until 6 a.m. (approx).

There may well be other odd attractions thrown in on the

JOHN "DAM" BEAVER staggered from his first ever lecture at the LSE leaving a trail of reading lists sufficient to exhaust every social sciences library in existence.

Totally disillusioned at the prospect of having to spend a year justifying the need to study sociology, John collapsed in a heap against the wall of the Old Theatre. He was scarcely aware of the speed with which a devoted member of the Ent's crew deposited 40 staples in a prominent poster on the notice board opposite. Such was his disbelief at the poster's proclamation that John accosted passing students and demanded to know if this was some kind of joke. Not even the solitary porter noticed John scream as the truth was revealed. . . Finally it all made sense. The starry-eyed and laughing queue he'd seen forming outside the Union shop two days earlier were hoping to get tickets before the national press got wind of the concert and before hoards of ticket-hungry fans descended on the Ent's room.

Forgetting to breathe, John raced for a taxi hoping to make Passfield Hall in time for the evening meal (a mistake he would never make again). He scraped together the remainder of the term's grant. The £80 donation he had made to the Chile campaign, the £143 7s. 6d.

Overseas students unite!

OVER one-third of LSE students are from abroad. Many of us are tired of the discrimination and racism which confronts us when we get here. Even the School itself is far from being an oasis of liberalism, since it has chosen to perpetuate the unjust system of discriminatory fees.

Commonwealth students (the majority) are subject to stringent immigration controls and an increasing degree of racial hostility in everyday life, especially from the police, the immigration authorities, the fascist political parties and the House of Lords.

Students from outside the Commonwealth and the EEC are considered "aliens", and must report within seven days of arrival to the police. There they are issued with little grey booklets which must be carried around at all times in order to produce if "required to do so by any Police or Immigration Officer". Complete with photograph and personal details, it is reminiscent of a South African pass book.

The Labour government's shabby approach to the country's economic crisis has promoted the discontent of workers, and has attempted to pass the blame for the crisis on to immigrant workers. Scapegoatism and racism are rampant, and we cannot simply stand aloof in an academic ivory tower.

For we are not immune. The crisis in financing higher education has turned us into scapegoats too. Regardless of the contribution of overseas students to the research activities of British universities, regardless of the fact that our presence helps keep certain academics employed, we are ourselves objects of British discrimination.

This year overseas students at LSE and across the country stopped being aloof. The announcement of an enormous

fees increase prompted us to organise together to reject discrimination and racism.

We immediately launched a campaign to resist the increases. This campaign was led by OSAC—the Overseas Student Action Committee—which intends continuing the struggle even more effectively and vigilantly over the coming year. OSAC is open to all and urges you to attend our meetings and support our campaign.

What can you do? OSAC has organised a full programme for the first few days of term, where you can meet other committed overseas students and contribute your ideas and energies to the campaign. On Monday 4th and Tuesday, 5th October, there is an OSAC Information Bureau in S100a (1st floor, St Clement's Building) where you can get in touch, bring

problems, and find campaign information.

Other meetings include a school reception for O/S students, an OSAC meeting on Discrimination and Racism in Britain and an OSAC International Evening. Watch noticeboards and Daily Beaver for venues and times.

It is imperative that if we are to succeed in our campaign that we achieve the united support of all overseas students at LSE. Whether you are from abroad or British, you are affected. We hope you will do your utmost amongst your friends, in your national society, or your political grouping to publicise the issue and obtain support. Attend our meetings. We have a hard campaign ahead, but united and resolute we can certainly achieve our aims. **Join us.**



PRISONERS' RIGHTS

UNIVERSITY College London Union are holding a conference on prisoners' rights, taking place on Friday, October 15th, in the Collegiate Theatre, 15 Gordon Street, WC1H 0AH.

This conference is primarily directed at students and its objective in relation to them is summarised in the motions on prisoners' rights passed at various NUS Conferences, i.e., to actively support prison reform groups and to bring an awareness to the student body of prison conditions. The conference is free and all are invited to attend. The list of speakers is very comprehensive and includes Robert Kilroy Smith, M.P.; John Platt-Mills, Q.C.; Lord Gifford, Q.C.; David Offenbach, solicitor; Prof. Cohen, Essex University; Prof. P. Taylor, York University; Prof. Rose of the Open University; George Taylor, chairman of the Planning Committee, London Borough of Islington, representatives of the Conservative and Liberal parties, as well as a large number of people involved with all aspects of the prison world and, of course, PROP and RAP. Clement Freud, Liberal M.P., will also speak.

The reason for holding this conference can be clearly seen from the following currently accepted processes of Her Majesty's prisons:

- (1) All mail is censored. Home Office statement, January 9th, 1976: "Prisoners who write letters with inaccuracies are advised to re-write them on an acceptable basis."
- (2) All communications with the outside world are at the sole discretion of the Prison Governor.
- (3) Prisoners do not have any legal rights: any complaints about conditions, medical facilities or maltreatment are dealt with impartially—by the Prison Governor.
- (4) Any disciplinary matter is dealt with impartially as above—in the spirit of such fairness the prisoner is allowed no legal aid, advice or appeal.
- (5) Any issue of parole or remission is decided at first instance by the penal establishment.

There are many well documented cases of individual and mass acts of brutality on the part of the prison authorities to inmates. It is a conservatively fair comment to state that there

is little the prison authorities cannot do in contravention to the law that exists for all except those within, and in contravention to the Convention on Human Rights.

This situation has continued in days of Acts opposing racial and sexual discrimination owing to the obvious isolation of the prison community. Now prisoners are beginning to find a voice, but that voice can be aided by all those who believe that everyone is entitled to basic human and constitutional rights.

PHIL ENGELMAN
(President, UCL)

PAST

Thanks, Sheree, for all of last year's good work.

Thanks also to all those who helped on the paper last year and are not returning this year. A special thanks to Nikki Tait, without her and Sheree no Beavers would have been produced last year.

PRESENT



This BEAVER was produced by Anton Chapman, Sheree Dodd, Peacock, Nigel Simms—for Tea and Sympathy, Andy Cornwell, John Cruse, Wanda Goldwag, and Cheryl.

FUTURE

Anyone wishing to help in any way with Beaver and Daily News please come along to the Publications Committee meeting on Tuesday at 1.00 p.m. in Room S116, or just drop in at any time.

Absolutely no experience necessary although we do have a shortage of typists, other than the two-fingered variety.

Invitation to post-graduates

THE most ignored and least organised "minority" at LSE is, in fact, the post-graduates (who represent 47 per cent of the student body). There are a number of reasons for this: many are part-time, many have developed social ties outside LSE, and quite a number are only here for a year. Nevertheless, in the past, conditions have been quite different, and could be so again.

All students new to London, and even those only new to LSE, face great problems, especially socially, since London can be a very lonely place. However, for postgraduates this initial problem is compounded since they do not have a "freshers" type introduction and their courses are often very unstructured, so they may only rarely meet fellow students.

In addition, the orientation of many societies is geared to new undergraduates rather than post-graduates—not consciously, I hasten to add—but because those running the societies are themselves usually undergraduates.

The academic life of postgrads is also less organised. They have no official structure of academic representation within departments, even though one would presume that they have perhaps more to offer academically.

The Students' Union is aware of some of the problems, although still searching for solutions, but as an important start, there will be an

informal "Cheese and Wine Party" in the Postgraduate Common Room on Monday, October 4th, from 6-8 p.m. for post-graduates, during which the Union Executive members present would like to discuss ways of stimulating post-graduates to organise themselves.

If you are a postgraduate and want to meet others, do come to the gathering—Drinks are free.

JOHN CRUSE.

Election call

AT the beginning of each academic year it is necessary to elect a whole new Constitution Committee (seven members) and part of the Finance Committee (the four Junior Treasurers). If you are interested in considering either of the two committees, briefly outlined in the Union Handbook, then see the Senior Treasurer who has a report on last year's Committees which he would be happy to discuss with you.

In addition, due to a resignation, there is one vacant place on the Union Executive; for more information see the General Secretary, who would enjoy showing you her report and explaining both the vacant position and the Executive in general.

Student discount scheme

For the first time NUS is offering to its members a discount scheme, called the Student Discount Scheme. For two pounds you will receive a card and a handbook. The scheme will enable you to receive up to 10% discount on many High Street names selling such goods as foods, clothes, stationery and records. You will also receive some vouchers (e.g., for money off drink) and a list of all student discounts.

Famous names included in the scheme are W. H. Smiths, Virgin Records and Ryman's. It must be mentioned that these discounts are the result purely of a concern for students on the part of the respective companies. Base commercial motives have absolutely no part to play in the scheme.

Classified

Volunteers are required for reading to the blind. Also people for Niteline. They will be organised after student timetables are finished. For further information see Elana in Room S100. Please watch for further announcements in Daily Beaver and on noticeboards.

FOR SALE—Hash Cookbooks. This is definitely a limited offer, available only from the Beaver Office (S116). Cost: a mere 20p. Sorry only one per customer.

FOR SALE—Brown Paper, ideal for impoverished Societies. Due to bulk purchase we are able to offer it at 80p a ream. There is a discount for large sales.—Apply to BEAVER in S116.

ANYONE wishing to advertise in these columns can do so for FREE. Bring your classifieds to the BEAVER Office.