

BEAVER

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STUDENT POWER STRIKES AGAIN



WHILE Tory Ministers may not know where they are going to get their next shovelful of coal from, the pot of activities in support of the miners is bubbling away quite briskly at the LSE.

Pickets from the School have been outside the gates at Battersea power station continuously since the call went out. The Industrial Relations Society raised £25 at a meeting held on February 8th addressed by the Industrial Officer of the NUM. Collections have been taken at Union meetings for the strike fund.

This is part of a nationwide movement of support for the miners. In a North-East mining village, the local barber is cutting miners' hair free for the duration of the strike. In another village, the baker is supplying bread at half-price. Ford's (of Dagenham) shop stewards have placed their office at the disposal of NUM pickets in Essex, and the canteen ladies are making food parcels for miners' families.

In order to further develop support for the miners, Union decided on February 11th:—

"This meeting of the Students' Union of the LSE expresses its support for the miners in their struggle for a decent living wage. We congratulate those of our members who have taken their place on the picket lines alongside the miners, and those who have donated to the miners' strike fund.

"In order to develop our support, and to involve more of our members, we resolve to 'adopt' a NUM branch for the duration of the strike.

"We nominate a member to take responsibility for initiating activity to this end.

"We further resolve to request the NUS to urge that all colleges adopt a branch of the NUM for the duration of the strike in order to give practical help from as many NUS members as possible to the miners."

This will give an opportunity to those who wish to support the miners to do so in a practical way. The idea of an outing for children of miners in Kent has met with an immediate response.

The Social Admin. people are having a cheese-and-wine lunch and it was suggested that the proceeds should go towards the outing. Passfield Hall are having a social on February 18th in support of the miners—watch for details.

The links that we will build in the course of this activity will, it is hoped, prove durable and may provide possibilities for further joint activity both during and after the strike.

Of course, much needs to be done to make the outing a success. We would like volunteers to help on March 4th—the day of the outing—and before. If anyone is prepared to make a donation or to offer prizes for draws, etc., would they please contact me via the U/G pigeonholes.

Above all, our greatest need is for money. Would it be asking too much for societies to set themselves a target of a few pounds that they can raise by their own activity?

J. CUMMINGS

MINERS' PICKETS STILL URGENTLY NEEDED FOR BATTERSEA P.S. SIGN ON IN S. 116

The picture above was taken in the OT during a power cut in the middle of Dr. Sealy's lecture on psychology.

FUNNY MONEY

IN one of those rare flashes of revolutionary optimism, "Beaver" determined to try to sort out the legal and financial proceedings Union has been involved in since U.D.I. a month ago.

From the morass of rumours, plans, and half-understood court orders, a fairly straightforward story emerges. The bank, it seems, hasn't a legal leg to stand on (though it does hold thousands of the School's pounds in its vaults). The question thus becomes, is the bank's continued withholding of the funds politically motivated? and if so, what could Union's next action be?

There follows, for historians and other interested parties, a

chronology of the crisis so far. This is the past; the future is up to **you!**

Friday, 14 Jan.: Union declares UDI.

Monday, 17 Jan.: Director informs National Westminster Bank of this action; the bank co-operatively freezes Union funds.

Friday, 21 Jan.: Union representatives, along with our solicitors, meet with a judge in chambers. Judge grants unconditional *ex parte* order on the bank to release £750 to Union (thus implying that the old Council are still legally signatories for the account).

Tuesday, 25 Jan.: Another hearing, this time both the bank and the School are represented. The previous order is increased to

£1,500. At the last minute, on the School's advice, the judge agrees to add the condition that the plaintiffs proceed with all reasonable expedition to hold elections under the existing Constitution.

Over the following week, most of the £1,500 was spent—£1,000 to cover wages through the end of February (the Director having long since rescinded his offer to pay staff wages) and the rest on equipment earlier voted by Union and on bills.

Since the court order had been given verbally (the exact wording and existence of the written version remains a minor mystery), this money had been spent *before* the condition—i.e. to hold elections—was realised. Thus members of the old Union Council could technically be in contempt of court—and this danger would be increased if they are seen to be not acting in good faith, such as publicly advocating

postponement of the old constitution elections, or proposing new constitution elections.

According to our solicitors, for Council to be found in contempt of court it would require an interested party (i.e. the bank or the School) to bring a charge before the court. Last week Union's solicitors sent a letter to the solicitors of both these parties, explaining that Union had decided to suspend any elections at this point, in view of the continuing negotiations, and thus there is no point in observing that part of the order.

The letter also pointed out to the bank that they have no grounds for continuing to withhold Union funds, since the court—by ordering the previous sums released—has in effect recognised the position of the old Council as legal signatories to the account. Thus, the next move is now up to the bank.

THE FACTS OF ULSTER

IT is difficult for people in Britain and especially in the LSE, to comprehend the background to Ulster politics. To talk in terms of "the evils of capitalism" and of well-reasoned arguments is to misunderstand the underlying malaise and tragedy of Ireland.

The malaise is, in one word, **Sectarianism**. On the one hand you have the original people of Ireland, who are mostly Roman Catholic, and on the other hand the descendants of the 17th century settlers, who are mostly Presbyterian, Methodist, and Church of Ireland—or Protestant.

These two communities have a long history of enmity. The Catholics wish to re-establish an independent Ireland, and the Protestants to maintain the Union.

The political twist emerged when the Liberals, under Gladstone, supported Home Rule to gain the Irish Parliamentary Vote, and Lord Randolph Churchill grabbed the "Orange Ticket" for the Conservatives. The Liberal connection has become of little relevance with the decline of the Liberal Party, but the Conservative connection unfortunately survives.

The Liberals tried to bring in Home Rule in 1914, and a virtual Protestant revolt ensued. This reaction made partition inevitable. The Protestant Province of Ulster remained in the UK, with a Provincial Parliament at Stormont.

The events of the Home Rule Question provide the background for the present problems of Ulster. Protestant fears of Catholic rule from Dublin changed to intransigence, and the determination to keep absolute control of Ulster. The voting system ensured this. Discrimination was rife.

The Catholics have been unable to take part in the political process, and the discrimination in employment has caused many to emigrate. Their loyalties have inevitably turned away from Stormont, and for some, turned to Dublin. This has provided a remarkably fertile breeding ground for the fanatical and brutal policies of the IRA.

Terrorist activities have occurred in spasms over the last 50 years. This is the latest. Unfortunately, this one has coincided with the upsurge of the Civil Rights Association, which was set up to campaign for some long-overdue reforms.

Captain O'Neill's government responded with the introduction of reforms. The extremist Protestant reaction has overthrown two successive Prime Ministers, but the reforms are going ahead. These reforms are far-reaching. They in-

clude the appointment of an Ombudsman, a Minister of Community Relations, a Commission for Complaints; the Incitement to Hatred Act; Central Housing Executive and housing allocation scheme; an anti-discrimination clause in Government contracts; and equality of employment.

Reforms of the police, franchise and local government have been introduced. Some of these reforms have, unfortunately, not yet been introduced, due to the civil unrest.

The escalation of confrontation is a typical Irish phenomenon, obstinacy and a lemming-like nature, being the basis. There are the two communities with the Army in the middle, trying to keep the peace. From being hailed as protectors they are now regarded as oppressors by a large section of the Catholic community. The escalation has led to Civil Disobedience on the one side and internment on the other.

The passions which ensued led to the disastrous events at Londonderry. The very people who called for a ban on marches, are themselves now marching. The security forces have the unenviable task of enforcing the law.

It is no use to recommend the withdrawal of the troops. The only reason the Protestant extremists are quiescent is that they view the Army as fighting their own battles. In a civil war the Protestants would sweep the Catholics before them due to their superior standards of training and discipline, without the impartial approach of the Army.

The moment of truth is upon us. The time is more than ripe for all sides to swallow their pride, and to meet together. A de-escalation could be brought about by an ensuing end to Civil Disobedience and to internment. With civil order returning the reforms could bite. The grievances of the Catholic community can be eliminated.

The British Government has guaranteed the reforms. The British Army can withdraw from Ulster, leaving the maintenance of public order to the police. The Army has done a magnificent job, in a role not designed for them.

This is a problem for Ulstermen. Our place in it is to press for reforms to bring Ulster up to standards insisted upon in Britain. We would be playing politics with people's lives to give support to either side in this unhappy sectarian struggle.

JACQUES ARNOLD,
President, L.S.E. Conservative Society.

Tale of Pseudo-Revolutionary

HAVE you ever felt that discos and parties are a drag, as you stand and attempt trivial conversation in spite of the music, wait for a guy to ask you to dance—if you are a girl—or look around for a bird you fancy—if you happen to be male?

At the last Passfield party a group of LSE Women's Liberationists and Gay Liberationists decided that there was no reason why people should feel obliged to dance in couples just because it's generally expected, so we went into the disco as a group and freaked-out in true anarchistic fashion until 1.30 a.m.

There were a few snide comments at the sight of men dancing with men, women dancing with women, and some general confusion caused by all those weirdos wheeling round in a circle, occasionally trying to entice others into their strange ritual. We tried not to obstruct anyone who didn't want to dance

with us, and on the whole the natives were friendly and co-operative rather than hostile.

We felt much less inhibited as a group than when restricted into conventional individual couples: we all had a great time and also struck a blow at trivial sexist discrimination.

However, as we were leaving, a slightly inebriated member of a well known Left Wing organisation came up to a group of Women's Lib girls and shouted in their faces:

"Women's Lib are a load of wankers."

Unfortunately for him he chose the wrong girls, because instead of cringing embarrassedly as girls usually do when faced with crude insults, they grabbed him and his crony by the sleeve and demanded to know just why he was insulting them.

Thereupon the crony of the guy with the big mouth, who shall re-

main nameless, made an utterly unprovoked and vicious physical assault on a Gay Liberation brother. He and his friend had to be forcibly dragged away by several other people—luckily before anybody was seriously hurt. (Account—AU page.)

This stupid incident is a reminder that some ostensibly Leftist liberated revolutionaries are merely over-grown school kids trying to appear trendy and Left-Wing to mask their own inadequacies.

If anybody has any valid moral or political objections to what the Women's Liberation and Gay Liberation are doing, we would like to hear about it in an articulate way, since talking over social problems is one of the main functions of our group.

We think we have a right to exist and a right to demand protection by the rest of the student body against the skinhead tactics of certain misguided adolescents.

A.W.

Wot's wrong with skinheads anyway? I've always thought Women's Lib were a load of prejudiced queers and A.W.'s article confirms this. Any more crap pulling down the skinhead movement will result in A.W. getting her face smashed in. B.B.



"Who are you calling a Wanker, Wanker."

THE WRONG END OF THE STICK

THE article in this edition of "Beaver" outlining the events at Passfield Hall on the night of January 28th/29th seems to have missed the whole point of what actually occurred. In fact and in interpretation the article is a mess.

The fact that a small incident has been blown up into a quasi-crusade, with promises from the Women's Lib and Gay Lib that the matter shall not rest until it has reached the supreme arbiters of fate in this institution, namely the Union meeting and Passfield House meeting, is a mistake which the aforementioned article exacerbates.

The Women's Lib/Gay Lib article mentions that a "slightly inebriated member of a well known left wing organisation" made the initial insult. This is wrong—I made it. Yes, "Je m'accuse!" The "attack" on the male member of the GLF it appears, from the article, was made by me: however the other person involved, Ian Reekie, did make a rush at the GLF man. Undeniably a flurry of blows ensued and the mêlée was stopped, not by several bystanders, but by me, having prevailed upon my friend to "cool it."

What the WLF/GLF account forgets or omits, is that the initial "violence" came from them. When confronted with my remark and having admitted I said it, I was struck by a WLF member, not "grabbed by the sleeve" as WLF puts it. During the ensuing argument it was noted that a GLF man was looking on appreciating the spectacle of "male chauvinist pigs" being taken to task by their equals and making judicious comments as well.

The perception of this provoked the "attack" on the GLF man. The WLF article makes no mention of the repeated hair-pulling, face-slapping and digging by them prior to the "attack" on the GLF man.

However, aside from factual errors the article fails to see:

- (1) That we were both drunk and hardly acting as we normally do;
- (2) That the manner in which the initial insult has escalated indicates intolerance and failure to allow latitude on the part of the WLF;
- (3) And that the whole incident

was regrettable and should have been forgotten.

Finally, I add that Ian Reekie and I affirm our belief that WLF and GLF are just movements. We would, however, stress that the insult which started the whole saga is equally as bad as the WLF labelling us "skinheads." If the WLF/GLF are as interested in social problems as they say, they should not use the skinhead syndrome as a term of approbrium. Apologies, if any, should therefore be due all round.

SAM HAZLEY.

THE issues of sexual liberation are very important, whereas the incidents argued at the L.S.E. are extremely trivial. One wonders why this is so—is it because, as some self-proclaimed sexists insist, the level of chauvinism is actually quite low in these halls? Or rather are the W.L. and G.L.F. people right when they accuse the rest of us of covering our well-earned guilt with protective jokes if not downright hostility?

"How can anyone take their ludicrously aggressive attacks seriously?" —the cynical and non-involved average student defends him/herself.

How can any socialistically conscious person fail to recognise the significance of continuing sexual oppression? —shout back the W.L.-ists and G.L.F.-ers.

So most of the "debate" occurs on a tactical level. Charges of adventurism and childishness (often, ironically, made by some of Soc.Soc.'s most vocal "action faction") are traded with insults of "sexist" and "trendy socialist."

What is missed in the uproar is the fact that the fight against sexual oppression is inextricably linked with the struggle for a socialist revolution.

This link is important, and not simply because on a tactical level the two groups could usefully support each other.

The two causes are politically connected, in purpose and in content: it is the same OPPRESSION THAT IS BEING FOUGHT ON BOTH FRONTS.

Neither the capitalist economic system, nor capitalist culture, can afford the introduction of true sexual equality (the reliance of capitalism on the primary economic unit of the nuclear family, the famous projection of repressed sexual energy into labour, the values of inequality and acceptance of authority structure into which the family conditions children, are a few examples).

On the other hand, true socialism is impossible without a concomitant process of sexual liberation (read or re-read Wilhelm Reich!). It is therefore vital to anyone committed to profoundly changing this society that the connections between the two areas be further explored. For a start, within the L.S.E. a strong relationship must be developed between those now fighting against sexism and those now fighting for socialism—and it must be developed not just in theory but in action!

L.J.

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STRATEGY FOR WORKERS' CONTROL

By workers' control, I mean the ideal of democratic self-management of all institutions of society by those who work in them.

In a complex technological society this cannot be reduced to a simplistic formula of workers taking over their factories and running them themselves, although this would have a crucial symbolic importance. But neither can it be reduced, in terms of 'human relations' reformism, to a low-level democratisation of the work process or, as a Galbraithian "countervailing power"—a check to the untrammelled power of Capital and the State.

There is a certain ambiguity in the term "control," implying a retrospective check on the actions of others. As Lewis Carroll said in "Alice in Wonderland"—"when I use a word I make it mean exactly what I want it to mean"—or something to that effect! So when I use the term **workers' control**, I mean the complete transformation of society so that people are in direct control of their own situation and that all questions of what is produced, how it is produced, and why it is produced can be democratically decided.

PANACEA

This may be said to be an impossible Utopian ideal given "human - nature - being - what-it-is," and with the complexities and institutional rigidities of the system. Nor can it be claimed that this is a panacea which will solve the problems facing humanity—obviously it is not; those problems are of an intractable and long-term character which cannot have a solution as such.

However, I would say that democratic social control over the world's resources is an urgent question which does have a bearing on the people of Calcutta, Santiago, or Harlem, and wherever else people face starvation, malnutrition and neglect.

The reaction of many people on the left has been to concentrate on rank and file industrial militancy and to hope to generalise it and give it a political direction. This is, in my view, a healthy reaction from the

bureaucratic politics of the Labour Party which is still theoretically tied to the state and the philosophy that "by tax adjustments we plan to introduce the promised land."

MILITANCY

The emphasis is increasingly that only by **direct action** by people at their place of work can they effectively challenge the power of capitalism. This kind of strategy has been fairly well analysed by André Gorz in his article **Work and Consumption** in "Towards Socialism." He spells out the interrelations between the nature of the modern work situation and the alienated and manipulated consumption in leisure time.

There is clearly a need for a new type of industrial militancy which does not just demand more money in order to keep place with inflation. There is a need to challenge both the control of work and the purpose of work in a modern technological society. There is the modern paradox that automation which could under a rational society be a means of liberation from unpleasant work, is inevitably seen as a threat to people's livelihoods which must be resisted.

There is the fact that governments have maintained relatively "full employment" by the creation of more and more socially unnecessary work, e.g. Concorde, space race, or the armed forces.

It is also true that an 8 to 10 per cent rate of inflation as well as increasing employment has become a fact of life of modern capitalism.

UNOFFICIAL

It is also true that this new type of industrial militancy is more than just a left-wing pipedream. Between 90 per cent and 95 per cent of strikes in recent years have been unofficial—that is, in defiance of the union bureaucracy. It is also true that over half of recent industrial disputes have been concerned with conditions of work—manning, speed-up, forced overtime, etc.—rather than with straight wage claims.

It is clear that many workers feel that another wage rise is no longer sufficient compensation for monotony, unpleasant conditions, and the

petty authority of management.

On matters of tactics as well, workers are beginning to learn a greater sophistication—the straightforward strike places the workers at a disadvantage for a number of reasons. The workers are dispersed and dependant on the capitalist media, and the strike becomes a test of who has got the greater financial reserves.

The **Solidarity** pamphlet "Strategy for the Industrial Struggle" analyses the various alternative tactics for struggle **inside** the factory, including the work-to-rule, informal resistance to production and the tactic of factory occupations. These tactics are important as they provide a more realistic and effective means in advanced technological industries and they also challenge the power of management at the point of production.

But it is questionable how far the adoption of new tactics will affect the running of a large sophisticated management. For instance, in the motor industry the workers are highly organised and militant and have used a whole variety of tactics, but the strength and financial reserves of management have been able to incorporate them in the "costs of production."

It is in fact necessary to transcend the whole framework of reference of capitalism today to be able

to challenge it. A modern firm is highly rational and efficient in its own terms (for the most part, anyway), with its aim of minimum costs, maximum profits, stability, and economic growth. As long as workers confine themselves basically to wage claims they are, in a sense, playing the capitalist game. They must learn to question the policies of management all along the line.

A good example of this was at the Bristol Siddley plants where the Wessex helicopters are being built to send to South Africa (and for the U.S. in Vietnam). The Anti-Apartheid Movement organised a meeting with workers and shop stewards in the plant to discuss the ethics of the deal with Vorster and what to do about it.

It is perhaps rather much to ask workers to accept voluntary unemployment for altruistic reasons, but at least this is a starting of a wider process of questioning.

Likewise, building workers at the Ivy Bridge site in 1969 were questioning the value of building empty office blocks such as Centre Point. This sort of political action relates the industrial struggle to a critique of the profit-orientated nature of society and its social effects.

In historical terms, the only real workers' control has come about in revolutionary situations, where there has been a more or less complete

breakdown of capitalist society. Real workers' self-management would imply the elimination of ruling classes throughout the world, and they are not going to agree to that voluntarily.

It is also true that in most instances workers' control has not collapsed through internal failure, but because of the superior force of the opposing power.

CROSS-HEAD

Thus the Paris Commune was suppressed after a bloody struggle, as was the 1905 revolution in Russia. The Russian Revolution of 1917 is another story—where the dictatorship of the proletariat became the dictatorship of the party, and the socialist democracy of the Factory Committees was suppressed by a bureaucratic centralised state.

It remains as a warning to all those who forget that "the emancipation of the working class is the task of the working class itself" and talk about the need for a "revolutionary party" to lead the masses.

However, we must not forget the heroism and sacrifice of the people of Spain in the Civil War, and the Hungarians in 1956—who were fighting for a libertarian socialist society without class or rank or party and where men would be able to really control their own lives.

JOHN BRADBROOK.



THE ALTERNATIVE PRESS —AN ALTERNATIVE?

LIKE, man, turn on to acid, fuck the nearest chick and the revolution's won.

What sort of political alternative is "Oz"? Their "philosophy" to the pub, getting married and the pub, getting married and playing bingo. Neither challenge the system and both make sure that nobody else does so.

Is the same old boring sex, violence and dope which sells "Oz" any different from the same old boring NUDE HOMOSEXUAL VICAR RAPES M.P.'s DAUGHTER IN DRUG ORGY which sells the "News of the World"?

"Oz" is boring, often illegible and over-priced. It helps boost the ego of the middle-class trendy or pseudo-trendy (what's the difference?) and walking through Kensington with a rolled-up copy of "Oz" is as good for the image as walking through the City with a copy of "The Times." What self-respecting weekend hippie/businessman would be without one (or the other)?

Ink was supposed to be an experiment to bridge the gap between the underground (so-called) and the straight Press. It

has succeeded in that it is readable, there is no trendy jargon and it does have some sort of political line even if it is only liberal. It tends to print the "other side" of the story, so maybe in this way "Ink" is alternative to the "Daily Express," for instance.

"Frenz" (the other "Ink" for grade 1 groovers) seems to have gone a bit further left lately—probably because of the "Oz" trial and hassles with the local pigs.

"Time Out" and "7 Days" look as if they're a booming business (does Beaverbrook own them?). There's certainly a market for these liberal rags and at 15-20p a time it's being well exploited.

"Well, man, it's a capitalist society and we've got to act like capitalists."

As a local anarchist recently said: "The Alternative Press is about as alternative as my arse, and they both produce the same sort of thing."

TREV.

TRIBUNAL FINDINGS ON DERRY

LORD WIDGERY'S report on the events of "Bloody Sunday" in Derry confirms what many people had suspected all along. At no time did the paratroopers fire a single shot and then only at those who they saw clearly to be armed. The unlucky 13 demonstrators were in fact, all members of the "provisional" wing of the I.R.A. who were murdered by the "official" wing of the I.R.A. in an attempt to discredit the paratroopers.

Lord Widgery scotched allegations that he was not entirely

impartial: "I am a highly respected member of the establishment," he said, "and have absolutely nothing against the Conservative Government, the Stormont Parliament or our gallant boys in the army."

"This was all an unfortunate accident," the report concluded, "and the sooner we forget about it the better."

Paratroopers last night denied that they practice religious discrimination in Northern Ireland. "It was just the same in Aden," said their spokesman, "they're all wogs to us."

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THERAPY MEANS CHANGE NOT ADJUSTMENT

Radical Psychiatry Manifesto

1. The practice of psychiatry has been usurped by the medical establishment. Political control of its public aspects has been seized by medicine and the language of soul healing has been infiltrated with is relevant medical concepts and terms.

Psychiatry must return to its non-

medical origins since most psychiatric conditions are in no way the province of medicine. All persons competent in soul healing should repudiate the use of medically derived words such as patient, illness, diagnosis, treatment. Medical psychiatrists' unique contribution to psychiatry is as experts on neuro-

logy and with much-needed additional work on drugs.

2. Extended individual psychotherapy is an elitist, outmoded, as well as non-productive form of psychiatric help. It concentrates the talents of a few on a few. It silently colludes with the notion that people's difficulties have their

source within them while implying that everything is well with the world.

It promotes oppression by shrouding its consequences with shame and secrecy. It further mystifies by attempting to pass as an ideal human relationship when it is, in fact, artificial in the extreme.

People's troubles have their source not within them but in their alienated relationships, in their exploitation, in polluted environments, in war, and in the profit motive. Psychiatry must be practised in groups. One-to-one contacts, of great value in crises, should become the exception rather than the rule.

The high ideal of *I-Thou* loving relationships should be pursued in the context of groups rather than the stilted consulting-room situation. Psychiatrists not proficient in group work are deficient in their training and should upgrade it.

Psychiatrists should encourage bilateral, open discussion and discourage secrecy and shame in relation to deviant behaviour and thoughts.

3. By remaining "neutral" in an oppressive situation, psychiatry, especially in the public sector, has become an enforcer of established values and laws. Adjustment to prevailing conditions is the avowed goal of most psychiatric treatment. Persons who deviate from the world's madness are given fraudulent diagnostic tests which generate diagnostic labels which lead to "treatment" which is, in fact, a series of graded repressive procedures such as "drug management," hospitalisation, shock therapy, perhaps lobotomy.

All these forms of "treatment"

are perversions of legitimate medical methods which have been put at the service of the establishment by the medical profession. Treatment is forced on persons who would, if left alone, not seek it.

Psychological tests and the diagnostic labels they generate, especially schizophrenia, must be disavowed as meaningless mystifications the real function of which is to distance psychiatrists from people and to insult people into conformity.

Medicine must cease making available drugs, hospitals, and other legitimate medical procedures for the purpose of overt or subtle law enforcement and must examine how drug companies are dictating treatment procedure through their advertising. Psychiatry must cease playing a part in the oppression of women by refusing to promote adjustment to their oppression.

All psychiatric help should be by contract—that is, people should choose when, what, and with whom they want to change. Psychiatrists should become advocates of the people, should refuse to participate in the pacification of the oppressed and should encourage people's struggles for liberation.

PSYCHIATRY MUST STOP ITS VAST MYSTIFICATION OF THE PEOPLE AND GET DOWN TO WORK!

Paranoia is a state of heightened awareness. Most people are persecuted beyond their wildest delusions. Those who feel at ease are insensitive.

Depression is the result of alienation of human from human.

Violent anger is a healthy reaction to oppression. Drug abuse is taught to children by their alcoholic, nicotinic, aspirinic elders.

Schizophrenia is an experience saner than "normality" in this mad world.

Psychiatrists are oppressed and alienated from the people. They destroy themselves oftener than any other group of people, and they suffer from frigidity, impotence, and madness just like those they help oppress.

Psychiatric deception of the oppressed is at the root of people's alienation.



"Repeat after me . . . Nobody is really trying to poison me."

EMERGENCY STATE OF EMERGENCY

THE Government in a snook move last night announced plans to ration the supply of electricity to four minutes per household and seven minutes per factory each day. By supplying a few consumers at a time right round the clock the Government hopes to maintain supplies for several months to come.

Mr. Heath, at a Monday Club dinner yesterday, appealed to miners (though none were thought to be present) to stop creating chaos in industry and to get back to work. "Every day they are on strike is

costing the country something in the region of £700,000,000," sobbed Mr. Heath. "Even when the miners have returned to work and industry is back to normal, the estimated rise in the birth-rate due to power cuts will have a disastrous effect on the social services. When will the miners stop being so pig-headed and realise that more is involved than their petty pride? They've got to put the interests of the nation before their own selfish desire to win at any cost. It's time they saw sense."

Mr. Heath went on to criticise those who have suggested that the Government increase their offer to the miners to settle the dispute. "We cannot retreat at this stage," he warned. "The miners must be

taught a lesson. If we agree to their demands we would be letting the nation down. The Government must put the national interest before their own natural sympathy with the miners. Besides, it would cost the country an additional £200,000 per year if this wage-claim were granted, and in view of the present state of the economy, we feel it would be totally unjustified to inflict such an extra burden on industry."

Mr. Heath agreed that the miners did a very unpleasant and dangerous job and that they had a strong claim. "But," he continued, "if we give way now we will be admitting defeat and that we, as reasonable men, could never do."

M.W.

SOCIETY AT WORK

THE massacre in Derry has reminded those of us who might have forgotten, of the final control mechanism that the rulers of our so-called democratic society possess.

The Civil Rights Association march expressed the total rejection by the Catholic community in the north of Ireland of the inhuman type of society which the system of monopoly capitalism necessitates. It revealed the

basic hypocrisy of our style of government—the pretence is that government represents the majority interest in Britain, but in fact it is the administrative organ of the property-owning class, which needs stability and a compliant work-force.

The popular movement in Ireland is directly antagonistic to these aims and required more than tokenist measures, such as increased social security benefits or building adventure playgrounds, to bring back a "normal?" situation.

In fact, as these social measures were shown to be ineffective, they were used **AGAINST** the people—for instance, the withdrawal of social security benefits in an attempt to smash the rent strike.

But the authoritarian system of Ulster invalidates any attempt at democratic solutions, so the army was sent in and re-defined the situation, bringing its own type of answer.

The only distinction between the controlling system of the North of Ireland and the rest of Britain is 50 miles of sea.

SOC. ADMIN. CO-OP.

CLASSIFIED

Socialists interested in forming a co-ownership housing association, apply Gillian Cronje, via U/G Pigeonholes, or 328-3069, evenings.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURE GROUP. A new society! Action, discussions and a very few lectures on ecology and its social implications throughout the world. Any ideas? Comments? Meetings 1 p.m., Wednesdays, S600 at present. Open to everyone. Please come.

FOURTH NUS / NEW STATESMAN STUDENT JOURNALISTS' COMPETITION

This Competition for student journalists and cartoonists will be judged in three categories:

1. A FEATURE ARTICLE OF ABOUT 1,500 WORDS.
2. A CARTOON.
3. A REVIEW OF ABOUT 1,000 WORDS.

Entrants should endeavour to produce an article made up of both reportage and comment on any political, social or economic theme, either drawn as far as possible from the student's own experience, or based on any book, film or television series on which he or she wishes to write.

Articles in the form of a profile of any individual (either from the world of education or elsewhere) will also be welcomed. At least one winning entry from each section will be paid for and published.

CLOSING DATE: APRIL 1st, 1972

For details see the

NEW STATESMAN

(FRIDAYS - 10p)

The education machine

EDUCATION (we are told) broadens the mind, enables us to achieve our full potential, and is generally a very good thing.

This being so, we heartily approve of it becoming compulsory and of everybody having as much of it as possible. That's why we are all here, of course.

But if this is true, why don't all the third world countries have as much of it as we do? Why is universal literacy not universal? Ostensibly the reasons are cost and shortage of resources in the under-developed countries, but isn't the reason more likely to be because they are underdeveloped and don't require a trained proletariat as yet, thank you very much?

Though laboured, the point I am trying to make is that it is no coincidence that the development of education has gone hand in hand with the development of capitalism.

Many people seem to conceive of the state as an impartial benevolent institution which intercedes between the exploiters and the workers, redistributing profits by financing schools, hospitals, etc. The fact that the hospitals turn out "healthy components" and the education system turns out trained manpower is seen as merely incidental to the real role of the state, which is to make everybody happy.

Although one can point out the links, socially, politically and economically between the state, the exploiting class, and the education system ad infinitum, and although these are accepted, people still tend to believe that the role of schools is to educate regardless of the pur-

pose that the institution is designed for.

Many parents support private education because it encourages initiative. Why then doesn't the public system also encourage initiative? Why instead does it stifle initiative by channelling it through set syllabuses within an authoritarian framework? The answer is because the private system is designed to produce the capitalist elite while the public one is designed to produce a proletariat.

Until one realises that state education is established and geared to turning out trained, technically competent and obedient manpower, one cannot rationalise such phenomena as learning by rote, exams and the authoritarian structure of schools and universities.

Socialist students spend a lot of time saying this, but most of them are busy cramming for exams so that they, too, can be exploited in a new and refined way. In a sense, the exploitation of one's intelligence is much more alienating than the exploitation of one's manual dexterity. The guy at Fords is not required to sell his soul to capitalism, only his time; he doesn't have to internalise its values in order to propagate them.

Advanced capitalism requires skilled manpower, so the state builds more universities and polytechnics, establishes the open university, creates more and more certificates, diplomas and degrees to test and categorise the product. Within the various categories the product becomes increasingly standardised and interchangeable. Obsolete parts are thrown on the scrapheap of unemployment, or occasionally melted down for recycling.

If efficiency is measured in terms of high productivity and a low rejection rate, then the education machine is very successful. And we, the new industrial proletariat, can hardly wait, it seems, to grab our degrees and join the queue.

F.W.

On the picket-lines

WE were first called down to the picket line by someone in the local Claimants' Union, and arrived to find only two miners, who had been there for 15 hours and had no idea when or if they would be relieved. The N.U.M. seems to have sorted themselves out a little since then, and the miners now operate on regular eight-hour shifts. The picket line has changed from one oil-in brazier with a circle of planks around it to stand on (much warmer than tarmac) to a large and increasing construction like a solid rabbit hutch (without the bars) with a fairly comfortable three-way bench surrounding the brazier, seating about eight at a squash. The pickets are usually well supplied with newspapers, buns dropped off by the baker, Thermos of coffee and tea from sympathisers, and potatoes and sausages to toast on the brazier.

When a lorry does arrive there is rarely a hassle. If the drivers are union members they go straight away if we don't want them in, and the few times anyone has rushed us with oil, the power workers inside have refused to unload it anyway. Unless there is a Government decision to use troops, the station will have to close as soon as the supplies now inside run out.

There has been very little trouble from the police, who sit all day in a panda car around the corner (we managed to smoke them out once, when we dumped the brazier!). The coppers simply maintain a petty level of hassling—"we'll get you for obstruction if you play football—you aren't kids now!" or to the students: "you don't look like a miner; how long have you been down in the pits then?" and occasionally try to hassle lorry drivers who are talking to us, pushing them to quick decisions to "go in or get out now, we don't want you blocking the road."

The miners on the picket see their position as explicitly political. A recurring theme is that it is the Government they're fighting, not just the Coal Board. They are all very cynical about the N.U.M.—"if you're fighting someone, you couldn't sit down and drink sherry with them."

There is a real fear that "Gormless" will sell out, and also a certainty that if he tried to, it would lead to much more direct militancy,

and possibly a refusal to accept the settlement.

They've been incredibly sympathetic to us as students, and in general when discussing things like our struggle against the L.S.E. authorities, or the demo on Derry. One brought up our help at a trades council meeting, and another was really annoyed that the Press wouldn't print his stories about our help, while, as he said, if he had told them we'd all been smoking dope on the picket lines we should have been news-worthy at once.

The power station itself is showing the effects of our actions. Of its four gigantic chimneys, only two are providing a feeble trickle of dirty smoke. We get frequent but varying reports on the state of the coal supplies from the power workers themselves—at present there is apparently only two days' supply left, but we thought that some days ago, too. Oil, machine oil, and chemicals seem likely to run out first.

The power workers themselves seem mainly very sympathetic, delivering Thermos flasks of coffee, sandwiches, and a regular copy of the "Morning Star." After the "settlement" of their wage-claim many more came over to talk to the pickets and said they felt the miners had been sold out by it as much as they had themselves.

In actively supporting the miners we are not just supporting a valid economic claim, but taking part in a political struggle—the same struggle that is being fought in Ireland, in workers fighting redundancies by occupations, in opposing the Government's role in Rhodesia, in the demands of immigrants for self-determination. The common element in all these struggles is the attempt of groups of people to begin demanding some say in the control of their own lives.

The student movement itself has progressed from abstract moral outrage over Vietnam to action against the capitalist conditioning duty perpetuated by their own institutions. At the same time, we are witnessing increases in militancy across broad sectors of society. As it is important to struggle at one's own place of work, it is also important to begin forming concrete links with groups engaged in similar struggles.

Not only is there a generic if unequal similarity in the things people are demanding, but in demanding management over our own lives we all face a common enemy. As long as we remain divided, authoritarian capitalism will continue.

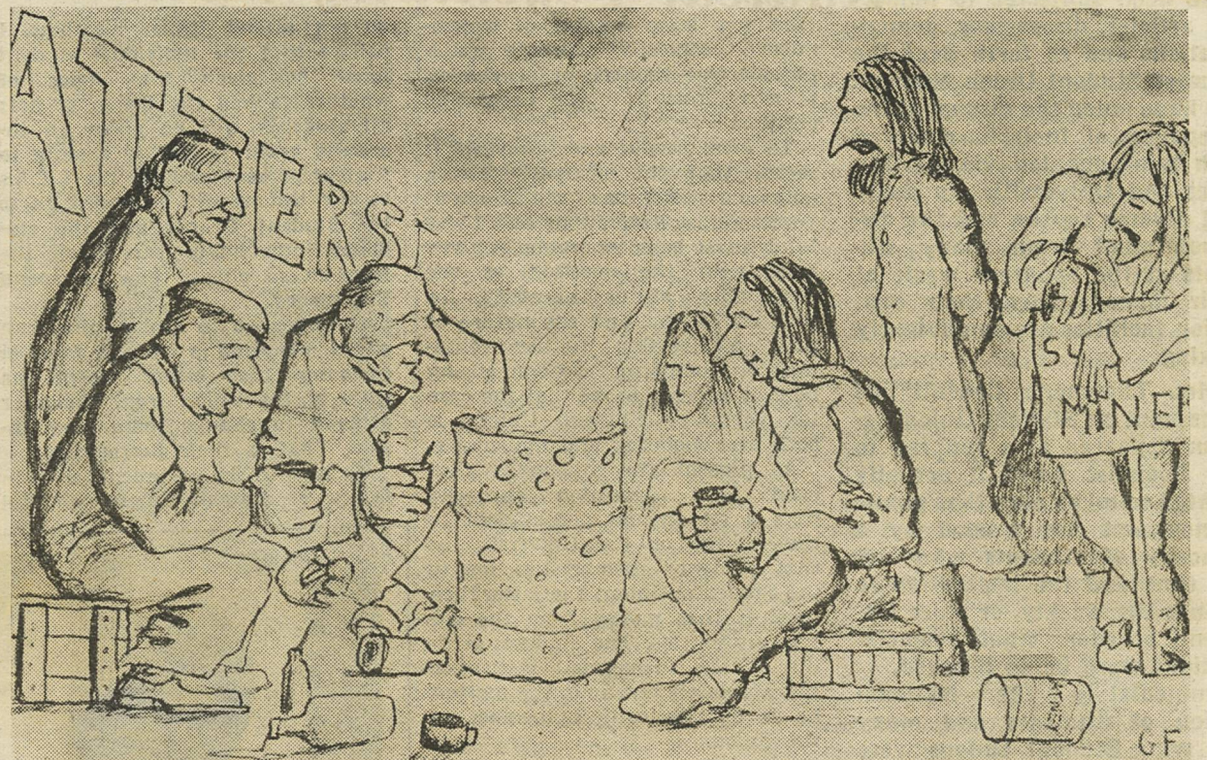
In 1926, students helped sell out the workers by providing scab labour that helped break the General Strike. Since then, revolutionary

students have been long on hyperbolic analyses of working-class struggle and short on actions to support this struggle. A complex of guilt and awkwardness on the students' part, and well-earned suspicion by workers, has deepened this gap.

Talking won't change it, but actions might. As the French discovered in 1968, students and workers can support each other with great validity and effect.

February, 1972 in Britain might not equal May, 1968 in France, but

solidarity (like revolution) is not something that comes in a flash. It is a human process, built of small actions and growing relationships, which if continued can begin to sprout the kinds of concrete trust and mutual support on which we hope to base the revolution.



Student: The surplus value of labour is the sum of Y squared raised to the power of YX squared.
Miner: It's a real education listening to you.

WHAT ARE WE PROTESTING ABOUT TODAY?

DEMONSTRATIONS are becoming the safety valve of the capitalist system. We will march for Vietnam, Bangladesh, South Africa, Rhodesia, Ireland, students, workers, unemployed and all oppressed peoples without prejudice.

But what is achieved? A large number of people spend several hours holding up traffic in solidarity with practically everyone. A few coppers are bashed, a few of us arrested. Liberals feel revolutionary, revolutionaries feel liberal. And the papers report: "Only 10,000 people marched in protest against Tory Government today."

Meanwhile, the system goes cheerfully on, grinding everybody under and pointing to their own tolerance in permitting such activity. But their indulgence doesn't cost them much; demonstrations free no prisoners—they are more likely to deflect action than to generate it.

If only 1 per cent of the people prepared to march in protest against the capitalist system were

prepared to undertake real activity (cf. Palestinian guerillas, I.R.A., A.N.C. and Weathermen) the chances of effecting a change would be innumerable greater. The energy that generates one march, if properly harnessed, would burn down 20 embassies.

To some extent, the realisation of the ineffectiveness of "peaceful protest" in Britain has resulted in more militancy among demonstra-

tors, more willingness to challenge the police and hence more arrests. But people still go home at the end of the day with the consciousness that they "have done their bit"—until the next demo.

So we dissipate our anger with a few hours of walking along the middle of a road, and the capitalist system breathes a sigh of relief when it's all over and sends in the street-cleaners to tidy up after us.

York militants smashed but fighting back

COMRADES in York have been having a rough time over the past couple of weeks. Thirty-seven students have been arrested on charges ranging from obstruction and assault to organisation of illegal demonstrations.

It's rather a complicated story. On Saturday, before the Derry massacre, 100 students held a demonstration outside Northern Command H.Q. (Army centre where troops go before they are sent to Northern Ireland); two students were arrested and the place was crawling with Special Branch men with cameras.

On the Sunday 13 people were massacred in Derry, and York students called a meeting on Monday at lunch-time; afterwards 200 students marched to the Army Careers Office in the city. Forty-one students were arrested by snatch squads—all of them had attended the Saturday demonstration. Police were seen consulting photographs before the arrests.

The only two black students on the demonstration were arrested and charged more heavily than the other students (assault and organisation of illegal demonstration). The police charged only 28 out of the 41 arrested.

The Union held a meeting on the Monday night which was attended by 700 students (there are 2,000 students at York) who voted for a two-day strike and planned another march to the Army office for the next day (Tuesday). This march was tight and well disciplined and

attended by 1,000 people including many faculty members. When it reached the Army office it was slowed down by the police and the whole of the front line, all IMG and IS members, were arrested by plain-clothes cops, again after consultation of photos.

The march then went to a piece of University property in the town and had a meeting. The Union President suggested that they march to the police station, which they did. It was again well disciplined, linked arms across and back, but the police still managed to arrest one student.

The Union had another meeting that night where they voted to have a teach-in on Ireland the next day and reversed previous Union policy of condemnation of the I.R.A.

A letter from a group of faculty members, including the Professor of the History Department, condemning the arrests, appeared in the "Grauniad" next day. Since then five more students, including the Union President, have been arrested on charges of organising illegal demonstrations. They all come up in court on February 28th, when the Union intends to hold a mass demonstration to the courtroom.

Quite an amazing story, but it's not that unusual. The organisers of the Derry marches in London and in Newry have been arrested on "conspiracy to riot" charges and vast numbers of miners have been arrested over the past few days. One-hundred and twenty people were arrested at the Battle of Downing Street (only about 60 were arrested in Grosvenor Square on October 27th, 1968). When they will hit L.S.E. we don't know, but now that police repression has got to this state we must expect anything. **FASCISM CREEPS ONWARDS!**



Its not really
a sell-out,
you know.

London School of Economics Conservative Society

Hon. President: The Rt. Hon. Sir Alec Douglas-Home, K.T., M.P.



In recent months both the general public and students have been subjected to numerous articles, discussions, demonstrations and so forth over the issue of Student Union finances. We have noted the disgust of the ratepayers at their hard-earned cash being donated, via the Colleges and Universities to many and diverse causes, and the disappointment from many students at the apparent waste of their money, when their own Union facilities are so obviously lacking.

Mrs. Thatcher's Consultative Document on Student Union Reform appeared as a red rag to the Socialist bull; it actually wanted to make sure that public money was not wasted by a minority of students who had the time and the inclination to endure the weekly, or more frequent, boredom when financial motions were being debated.

Immediately the National Union of Students and many left wing Student Unions were up in arms against the Government's obvious attack on their vested interests; the trouble, however, really came when both the University Authorities and the Federation of Conservative Students also came out against the main proposal advocated in the Consultative Document. The latter, a worthy body, came out in favour of another solution, that of the Registrar, but naturally the Left were still not appeased.

It seems to me, however, now that Mrs. Thatcher has shelved her plans for a year, that there remains time for us to consider the whole matter more carefully. The problem with Mrs. Thatcher's proposal in the last resort was that it alienated all the relevant bodies and was supported by none. The Registrar idea, while a much better proposition, still seems to many, in-

THE CASE FOR VOLUNTARY STUDENT UNIONS

cluding a large number of uncommitted (politically) students and a considerable number of academics, to start from a totally unrealistic position.

To these people, and to myself, it seems that the obvious starting point is not that the Student Unions must have funds and those funds must be accountable, but way back with the question of the desirability of or necessity for Student Unions, and the nature of their membership (either voluntary or compulsory). Commencing here, it appears to me that the case for voluntary Student Unions is both overwhelming and undeniable.

At present the system is that each local education authority pays a set amount per student to the College or the University as that student's membership fee to the Students' Union; the latter then receives that money from the college authorities. The student, arriving at the educational institution has absolutely no say in the matter; he is automatically a member of the Union.

As a Conservative, who believes that the individual should have freedom of choice, this is quite unacceptable; under a Government which has so often stated its adherence to the principle of freedom of choice for the individual, to disallow the student his freedom of choice in this sphere is hypocritical.

The main argument, however, against compulsory Union membership is bound up with the question of Student Union Finance. As each student has a share in the Union finances, he is forced to attend Union meetings, whether interested in Union or not, to ensure that his money is not being used to his detriment, nor misused on purposes for which it was not allocated. For a student uninterested in Union politics, and keen on academic study, this is both unfair and a waste of time and energy.

For this reason the vast majority of students throughout the country

do not attend Union meetings. I believe that the individual student must be given the choice of whether to join the Union or not; all students will be given an increased grant (a similar amount to that at present paid by the L.E.A.s to the Unions will be added on to the Student Grant) and the students individually can have the freedom to choose how to spend this money.

If interested in Union, they can pay a membership fee and join; in so doing they either accept the rules of the Union from choice or attempt to change them from inside. That is their prerogative.

To turn to the arguments used in favour of Student Unions, we find

them lacking in substance. The most usual is that the Union provides so much in the way of facilities for the student. In some cases this is true, but in many others, like at the London School of Economics, the Union provides little, and nothing that the School authorities do not or could not provide better.

Anyway, Unions run on a voluntary membership basis, like the famous Oxbridge Unions, have proved to be just as successful in providing facilities for those who desire them; also, where students are providing their own money for their subscription they take more care to ensure that such money is

not squandered or misspent.

If there is a need for a Union at a college, and the student body wants one, they are quite at liberty to establish one. It is a fallacy to believe that the present compulsory Student Unions provide that many facilities, and it must be remembered that much of the capital equipment of the Unions is provided by college authorities.

A second argument sometimes put forward in defence of compulsory Unions, is that they allow those interested to participate and it prevents them from causing the troubles of the type frequent in French and North American Colleges and Universities. This to me appears nonsensical; at the moment such people, usually on the Left, hold power and money completely out of proportion to that which their support would justify; such power and finance has been used all too often to the detriment of the majority of students. It is also the case that the whole University and College system is so different in these countries to our own that such comparison is unrealistic.

There is a further argument in defence of compulsory Union membership, that the position of Union clubs and societies would suffer. At present such clubs receive money from the Union, and they are solely dependent upon it for funds. I think this apparent problem could easily be overcome by each member on enrolment paying a membership subscription, and with the College Authorities paying for the capital equipment, as at present.

Under the current system there is a great deal of unfairness in the allocation of funds from Union to the individual societies; some with a favourable political bias (usually to the Left) receive money far in excess of their needs, while others get a mere pittance.

Under a voluntary membership scheme societies would either flourish or fail depending on the wishes or interests of the students in general, and there would be an end to the practice of societies asking for large grants from the Union to ensure they can afford enough drink for their end of term parties.

In conclusion, if Student Unions were to collapse, and they really need not if the students want them, who will mourn? Certainly the local education authorities and the ratepayers would be pleased for their money to go to the students individually, for there would be less misuse of public money. Certainly the majority of the students would be pleased; they would get their money and would be able to spend it as they think fit.

If the Student Unions do collapse, then it will prove that the mass of the students do not regard them as necessary and certainly not essential. Why should minority interest win the day? The Government would be well advised to think hard about this issue before finally deciding on their policy towards Student Unions, and remember the silent majority in the Colleges and Universities, not just the minorities, either on the Right or Left.

It is my belief, and all the evidence seems to prove, that this silent majority is not interested in Student Unions, and would welcome the membership of these to be of a voluntary nature.

DAVID A. EVENNETT,
Vice-Chairman,
L.S.E. Conservative Society.



We're open to argument, says Minister

At the invitation of Con-Soc, Mr. Van Straubenzee came to LSE on Friday, February 4th to speak on Student Union Reform. Considering how controversial the DES proposals are, the meeting was sparsely attended by only 130 people. There was a very noticeable gap on the left of the Old Theatre, Soc Soc being frightened away by the thought of reasoned argument.

The Minister in vain tried to convince a mildly hostile audience of the benefits of his proposals. The audience itself seemed to be split between the registrar, voluntary unions and the typical negative socialist approach to problems.

During question-time Van S. dealt a blow to those who claim the Tories are out to kill Unions. He pointed out that they could easily have done so when Kingston LEA found a legal loophole in Labour legislation through which they could avoid paying any money to Unions. Mrs. Thatcher immediately closed the loophole!

JOHN BLUNDELL (Chairman, LSE Con Soc)

Success comes to Soc.-Soc.

NEVER has the path of a conquering hero been more easy—success has been Soc Soc's fate during the past months. From an overwhelming vote in the Union elections, through a majority on all votes in Union, So. Soc. have been able to carry out their brilliant policies without electoral opposition.

We have now reached the heights of the Socialist nirvana. The great achievements of office can be enumerated.

The loss of finance for the Union—and its eventual bankruptcy, sooner rather than later.

The adoption of a Constitution which abolishes the ballot box. Elections by show of hands in a Union Meeting have been introduced as a step forward for democracy. Union, in its infinite wisdom, has ruled that even this is reactionary and has suspended all elections.

Support for tactics of repression of free speech. Bigoted, one-sided approach to all political subjects.

DESTRUCTION OF UNION

Soc. Soc. have achieved in their few months of office the greatest ambition of members of the Monday Club, they have nearly destroyed Union. No doubt they will bang the last nails into the coffin! They unilaterally adopted an admittedly faulty Constitution, and thus incurred suspension of all funds.

They tried to go to law for restitution and were unsuccessful. Their proposals, naturally accepted by Union, are to put pressure on the Bank and the Director. The power of the Union was amply demonstrated by the expiry and collapse of the occupation. That policy has the hallmark of success.

Meanwhile the Union is lurching through the final stages of bankruptcy. The permanent staff will,

therefore, soon be forced to leave, and all facilities will cease to exist. **SOC. SOC. APPROACH TO REAL DEMOCRACY**

Union has long had a tradition of secret balloted elections. The Soc. Soc. constitution abolishes this, and replaces it with elections by show of hands in a Union Meeting. This, of course, does not mean that there will be intimidation, miscounting, filibustering, etc. It never occurs in a Socialist community!

Power in the Union, according to this Socialist doctrine, must therefore pass from the entirety of members of Union, to those few who have the stamina to endure hours of boredom and repulsive mock-moralising in Union Meetings.

Even this new form of democracy is apparently superfluous. At the recent Union Meeting the suspension of elections was approved. This was supposed to be a snub to the High Court Judge who ordered that elections take place.

The arguments for suspension were ludicrous. A month ago the Soc. Soc. officers resigned amid all the glories of self-sacrifice. We are now told that they are still acting-officers, with all attendant rights and privileges. They argue that new elections cannot be held according to a strict interpretation of the **OLD CONSTITUTION**.

Of course, they only recognise the **NEW CONSTITUTION!** **THE JOYS OF UTTER CHAOS IN THE UNION**

Gleeful pronouncements succeed each other through the death-throes of Union. At one moment we are told that Constitutional Committee must rule on complaints. At the next we are told that all the members of that committee have resigned and no one can appoint new ones. We are told frequently that Soc. Soc.

officers have no mandate for this, that or the other. And yet concerted proposals emerge.

Amid great enthusiasm Union is asked to approve the spending of funds on a number of individuals' favourite causes; and on the sending of Union observers to the illegal march in Newry (as if there won't be enough reporters there already); while at the same time pleading there is no money for staff, facilities, and societies.

SOC. SOC. SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS OPPOSES FREE SPEECH

Last week some members of Soc. Soc. attempted unsuccessfully to overturn CON SOC's bookstall. The conviction, naturally, was that this would end all the wrongs in the world, and that truth would prevail. Bob Dent and Philippa Duggan both vociferously declare their support for this enlightened action.

The underlying, although probably unintentional, course of events, is obvious. Destroy the opposition to your views, and your views will prevail. If only one point of view is available, students will accept that view.

This alarming trend is disastrous. It shows a narrow and one-sided mind—one that can only absorb one view for fear of being contaminated by another. Soc. Soc. apparently fear any view opposed to their own. Surely students can make up their own minds based on the widest possible information. Their approach is an attack on **FREE SPEECH AND FREE THOUGHT**.

It is most ironic that Soc. Soc. spend an immense amount of time complaining about suppression—and yet when they have a majority they wholeheartedly support suppression. **THE ELEVENTH HOUR**

Union is probably now beyond the

point of recall. The rot has probably set in too far. In the last issue I proposed a policy for getting us extricated from this self-imposed morass—Union has rejected it.

The downward path of the Union could provide marvellous material for a book. The destructive process has unwittingly taken on the appearance of a Machiavellian plan: Union put in an impossible position, consequently deprived of funds, the constitution made inoperable, new elections impossible, the smothering of any opposition or new ideas.

Union will finally expire amid cries of "oppression, victimisation, and murder." Gone will be an institution which could have provided us with representation and the means of administering our collective amenities.

On the epitaph of Union: **DIED OF SUICIDE, BROUGHT ON BY DEPRESSION CAUSED BY BIGOTRY AND SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS.**

Our embarrassment will be complete when the School eventually sets up a new Union.

JACQUES ARNOLD

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80 PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1 Tel. 01-493 6321.

THE ATHLETIC UNION PAGE

ON A SLOW BOAT FROM CAMBRIDGE

THE Soccer Club's annual visit to Cambridge was this year, as in days of yore, the occasion of a great piss-up. On Saturday, January 29th we set sail bound for Cambridge with two teams the first XI to play St. John's and the second XI to play Downing College.

The trip up was marked by nothing special save Ian Reekie's vigorous and repeated attempts to throw up following a night of booze, debauchery and "queer bashing" at Passfield (see "Tale of a P-R," Page 2).

The two teams having split up to play their respective games, it was left to the first XI to get stuck into a great meal at St. John's. There in that cloistered tapestried hall an evil, a black obscene deed was perpetrated. Several members of the LSE first XI actually got up and walked over the plush oak varnished tables to get at their third course. The indignant atmosphere which this aroused had hardly cleared when it was time to play their game.

We kicked off and the game ensued at a vigorous pace with St. John's taking the lead when sub-



L.S.E. DYNAMOS 1971-72

Left to Right :

Back :

Kevin (Les) Atkinson, Nigel (Get your oar out) Hill, John "Flier" Fleming, Jim Callaghan, Howard (The Mouth) Grant, Antonio (Generalissimo).

Front :

The Ball, Jim "Hawkeye" Guest, Kevin Neald, Howie "Baby" Ratcliffe, Steve Matthews.

stitute goalkeeper Robin Williams grovelled and failed to hold a 25

yard free kick. We pounced back when flying Norseman Marius Har hammered a vicious shot into the corner. St. John's replied with another but tricky Rob Phillips put us on level terms at half-time.

The second half was ours with Paul Maguire sending us ahead and Thor's own son Marius scoring his second and our fourth to wrap up the game.

Repairing immediately to the bar it was learnt that the second XI had lost narrowly to Downing by 8 goals to 2, all this despite the valiant efforts of Persian gymnast star Hومان in goal and Paul Callaghan at centre half. As one disgruntled player said after the game, "Well, Sam, the referee was an Ulster Protestant and the linesman was from the Blind Institute."

The ups and downs of the day being forgotten, everyone settled down to a good booze up, the chief features of which were; Ned Szary's uninspiring comments as chairman (he's a Pole), my drunkenness, John Porteous' inability to count and Ian Reekie's state of inebriation.

The St. John's bar was treated to a few choruses of the "LSE song" and once again to the "chair on the chin" act of Norway's No. 1 Cabaret Star, Sir Douglas Hauge. The coach trip back produced a general sing song of great inventiveness, e.g. "there was Ray, Ray dyin' for a lay, in the store, etc., etc." and other such goodies. All in all, a good day's outing.

On the domestic scene, the first XI continued their Risorgimento with a 1-0 triumph over Thames; the second eleven beat arch rivals Goldsmiths 4-3—with Steve Lord being the star, scoring five (3 for us, 2 for them). The third eleven went down 5-1 to LC IV, while the fourth XI dropped 4-2 to London Hospital II.

Apart from the Club Dinner, the next social highlight will be the visit, at the end of term, of the University College of Rome Soccer team to play us. All first and second team players are urged to stay for a day or two after the end of term to enable us to play a strong team with reserves.

SAM HAZLEY

YET AGAIN

THE Rugby Club has undergone metamorphosis and has lately emerged with expeditionary overtones, undertaking journeys to Essex University and Christ's College, Cambridge, on consecutive week-ends.

Essex seemed more like the Arctic, with freezing winds blowing harshly across the pitch, as thirty brave lads took to the pitch to do battle. The home side evidently were used to these conditions and were well prepared, headbands being used primarily as earmuffs! The game was marred by slack refereeing, failure to notice offside at rucks and mauls especially, and consequently it appeared scrappy to the frost-bitten spectators. LSE on the whole played the better rugby, the backs running well and the back-row forwards being much quicker to the breakdown of play.

Eventually we ran out winners by 15-13, Essex being awarded a penalty try in the last minutes of the game to boost their score. The evening was passed in the usual pissy atmosphere.

Saturday, February 5th we visited Christ's, setting out at the unearthly hour of nine o'clock and reaching Cambridge at 11.30 but, yours truly being no navigator, it took us another 45 minutes to find the ground. Eventually we kicked off around 12.30, and the match gave glimpses of some good clean rugby skills. However, the opposition proved susceptible to tough play and the game was held up several times for treatment of minor injuries. Unfortunately, the Cambridge full-back split his head when colliding with John Horsthuis, and had to go off late in the second half. Christ's had a well-drilled pack and won the majority of the line-outs but our forwards' enthusiasm equally made up for this.

Christ's opened the scoring with a penalty, but we soon hit back with a try from Tony Horsthuis, converted by Chris Whelan, following a misunderstanding between the opposition scrum-half and fly-half. However, Christ's were soon back in the hunt, and a good blind-side ploy led to their winger scoring in a scissors move. Just before half-time "Shorty" Swinden capitalised on a bad mistake by Christ's at the rear of the line-out and plunged through the gap to score an unconverted try. So at half-time we found ourselves 10-7 in the lead.

In the second half we further increased our lead when our American "convert" Mead Cain boyed through a couple of tackles and found himself pulled over the line to score an unconverted try by Christ's players. Following this Christ's took advantage of a bad mistake by our backs, took possession from a second-phase ruck, and ran the ball along their backs for their winger to score in the corner. After this the game remained very much in midfield until the final whistle sounded with the score at LSE 14, Christ's 11. Delighted players afterwards were told that this was Christ's first defeat of the season.

Despite being beaten, the Cambridge lads proved very good hosts, enabling us to watch the Wales v Scotland international in the afternoon, and drinking with us in their local pub at night. Everyone was well pleased with their efforts to entertain us. Nicely inebriated, we returned from Cambridge at closing-time, with skipper Fred Marrow insisting that he be allowed to strip naked in the coach and then walk about the Cambridge countryside, displaying his genitals to all and sundry, and anyone who cared to come along—despite the desperate attempts of his colleagues to persuade him otherwise. By the time we reached London, this passion for exhibitionism had passed and Fred became his normal fully-clothed self again.

In between these escapades, the 1st XV did "battle" or "demo-practice" if you like with "L" Division of the highly-respected Metropolitan fuzz. Under a misapprehension that LSE rugger players were really a load of softies they took the pitch with a somewhat superior air—at half-time we were 28-3 up and in the second half relaxed and added only another 12 points. Final score: LSE 40 pts., "L" Division 6 pts.

Another reminder to all would be supporters that we play City of London Poly in the semi-final of the ULU Cup on Wednesday, February 16th—everyone most welcome to come along and enjoy themselves.

DAVE CLARKE

CALENDAR

Thursday, February 17th—
7 p.m.: B.U.N.A.C. Job Travel Forum, 404.
Friday, February 18th—
1 p.m.: Prayers, S.418.
1-2 p.m.: Legal Aid, S.101a.
Saturday, February 19th—
7 p.m.: Concert/Disco—Hendrix at Berkeley, Cat Mother.
Monday, February 21st—
1-2 p.m.: Legal Aid, S.101a.
6 p.m.: Marxist-Leninist Study, S.067.
7 p.m.: Con.Soc. debate 45.
Tuesday, February 22nd—
1 p.m.: Cath. Mass, S.100.
1 p.m.: Labour Soc., 300.
Film Soc.: "Ma Nuit Chez Maud."
Wednesday, February 23rd—
1 p.m.: Pakistan Soc., 45.

Thursday, February 24th—
12.10: C.N.D. Discussion, OT.
6.30: Film Soc., "Getting Straight," OT.
Friday, February 25th—
1 p.m.: Legal Aid, S.101a.
7.30: Concert—Gnidrilog, Forever, OT.
Saturday, February 26th—
3 p.m.: Islamic Soc., 45.
Monday, February 28th—
1-2 p.m.: Legal Aid, S.101a.
Tuesday, February 29th—
1 p.m.: Soc.Soc.—Paul Foot, Co18.
3 p.m.: Political Sociology, S.167.
4 p.m.: C.N.D. movie, OT.
6.30: Film Soc., "On Her Majesty's Secret Service," OT.

Merlin Book Club Selections for 1972

Socialist Register 1972
edited by Ralph Miliband and John Saville
Marx and Keynes
Limits of the Mixed Economy
Paul Mattick
Imperialism and World Economy
Bukharin
Isaac Deutscher: The Man and his Work
edited by David Horowitz
Lukács Concept of Dialectic
Istvan Mészáros

Also available
HISTORY AND CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS (Lukács)
MARX'S THEORY OF ALIENATION (Mészáros)
DECLINE OF WORKING CLASS POLITICS (Hindess)
ASPECTS OF HISTORY AND CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS (ed. Mészáros)

All the above may be bought by members at £1 per volume. Minimum subscription £3. (Allow postage of 10p per book).

Please send to: Merlin Book Club,
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The following:

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NAME
(BLOCK CAPITALS)

ADDRESS

BLOODY SATURDAY

THE newspapers named it "The Battle of Downing Street," and they weren't far wrong.

Saturday, February 5th Anti-Internment League march started off peacefully, headed by 13 black coffins carried by sombre Irishmen and led by an Irish piper.

It was a noisy march of about 10,000 people, and passed off without incident until we reached the top of Whitehall. There we moved to the right-hand side of the street (the side which Downing Street is on) but were forced back towards the left by police and horses.

After a bit of pushing and shoving the crowd settled down to hear the father of one of the Derry victims and the A.I.L. leaders who call for three minutes' silence in remembrance of the Derry 13. It was an impressive few minutes, complete silence except for the police radios and the horses' stamping and snorting.

Then the tension began to mount as the A.I.L. asked the police to let the coffins through the barricade to be placed on the steps of No. 10. The police refused even though the A.I.L. warned them that they would not be responsible for the consequences.

The refusal by the police to allow just the 13 coffins into Downing Street was obvious provocation, and the crowd began to yell "Take them through." The pushing and shoving began and within minutes the police had their truncheons out and the fighting started.

The national Press (only to be expected) said that the police horses only charged after the crowd had attacked them with bottles and rocks. I was right opposite Downing Street and no bottles or stones were thrown until the horses began to charge, and then only in self-defence to keep the horses from riding us down.

The tactics used by the mounted police were different and far more vicious than at Grosvenor Square in March 1969. Instead of keeping the horses in one line and forcing the crowd back slowly, they sent two or three at a time, galloping into the crowd and hitting out with batons in an attempt to terrify and scatter us. Several people were knocked to the ground and trampled, but worse was to come.

The police eventually split the march and cornered a few hundred of us in a street just opposite Downing Street. There were police buses parked there and in their shelter we saw police beating up demonstrators before putting them into buses to be taken to be charged.

I saw one incident which was one of the worst pieces of police brutality I've ever witnessed. Three policemen had a middle-aged man on the ground, they rolled him on to his stomach, pulled up his coat and shirt and gave him karate chops in his kidneys and kicked him repeatedly in the balls.

When some of us rushed over in a fury, about a dozen cops appeared from nowhere and formed a cordon around their colleagues and the victim.

They proceeded to push us up

against a wall where we were kicked and punched and I was lifted off my feet by my hair by a cop standing on a balustrade above me. We were then pushed and kicked down to the Embankment while the police carried on arresting and beating up our friends. Altogether 153 people were arrested (including three students from L.S.E.) and 90 people hurt.

The war is being brought back home—how soon before they use the troops on us here in London? How long before we see A.P.C.s, Saracens and machine guns on the streets. The lengths to which the system will go to defend itself are being seen in Derry and Belfast, and you can be sure that we shall see them here soon.

The state machine has no compassion or humanity, it is brutal, vicious and knows where its interest lies, and that interest is not with the people but with the ruling class. We must never forget that the police and the Army are the

traditional enemies of the working class.

APRIL 1914: Tonypandy—troops attack miners' strike.

1919: Glasgow — police used against General Strike.

1926: Troops and police used in a deliberate policy to break the General Strike.

1932-4: Police used frequently to attack hunger marches and marches of unemployed workers.

1934: Hyde Park—Police horses charged unemployed workers' rally.

1951: London—troops used to break Dock Strike.

1969: Belfast — troops move into Northern Ireland to prevent a breakdown of law and order.

November 1971: Mounted police used against T.U.C. unemployed march.

1972: Police used to break miners' pickets.

January 30th, 1972: Derry — 13 shot dead on peaceful march. Remember? P.M.D.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN NEWRY

WE take taxi to Newry, decide this is safest way to ensure not being turned back. There are over 40 roads into the town each with its own road block. Our road is controlled by the UDR. They order us out of car. UDR men politely but firmly point rifles at us, frisk us and search car for bombs and guns.

This is every-day life in Northern Ireland.

Frightening thing is the way the Newry citizens take it all for granted.

This is their town and they have to live with it every day. The effect of the occupation and repression has been to consolidate the population into a massive and determined civil resistance. We are witnessing the birth of a people.

Every council house has a poster stating "we are not paying rates or rents". The people have turned their back on Stormont, they say

"Stormont is finished". Perhaps most surprising — there is no hostility to the Protestants. The people are demanding elementary rights which can only be met by the overthrow of both Stormont and the Green Tory republic.

At 3 p.m. the march begins, headed by MPs and local dignitaries. Behind them is a solid phalanx of stewards. Behind follows 30,000-40,000 people.

Overheard are four Army helicopters. From one emerges a rich Oxford voice informing us "you are breaking the law and are subject to six months imprisonment". The crowd raises a brief ironic cheer. This is a silent, memorial march.

Before the first Army barricade the march is diverted by the stewards. They have abandoned their published route. They take us to the green. So we have had a mini-walk, restricted to the Catholic area. True we have all broken the law but hardly presented any threat to British imperialism. At the green there are speeches.

A frustrated Army has set up barricades throughout the town. It is dusk the troops turn off the street lighting. Citizens are prevented from entering their own streets. But we are elite, our Press cards get us through. Cars are forced to turn off their lights. Soldiers with rifles at the ready jump out of doorways screaming and swearing at people. The actually enjoy this.

At the Ardmore Hotel we attend a Press conference called by NICRA. The Press is bored. But the real reason for the march now emerges. A NICRA leader, after explaining how disciplined the march was, says "the ball is now in Heath's court". NICRA is exploiting the marchers to get a deal with Heath.

For revolutionaries the demands of the civil rights by the people are not something to be traded in at a London conference for a few useless concessions. Civil rights can only have meaning if they are related to a programme for a workers' republic for the whole of Ireland. This means the overthrow of Stormont and Lynch Green-Toryism. In England it means the overthrow of the Tory Government. We will never allow NICRA to use us to put pressure on Heath.

G.S.



"Bloody Sunday" — Running from CS gas through the Meenin Park Estate.

DO-IT-YOURSELF

OVER the last three years the department has instituted various reforms of the diploma courses, largely as the result of student pressure.

There are two diploma courses, one with a graduate entry, the other non-graduate with no formal entry requirements except an exam and interview.

The final exam system was changed after a long campaign in May 1970, formal papers were abolished, except in Economics, and advanced notice papers substituted. The economics teachers, who had claimed non-formal exams to be impractical, succumbed last year and all papers were available under

the reformed system. This involves four tutorial standard essays, to be written over eight weeks, questions being set with booklists.

Meanwhile, attempts were being made to bring about parity of representation on the staff meeting or to make the departmental general assembly the decision making body. Neither succeeded and a compromise was reached about a year ago to create two sub-committees with parity of representation (six staff, six students) to replace the teaching committee. The sub-committees (Branch III and Diploma) are mainly concerned with teaching and selection; their powers are uncertain and a veto appears to remain with the staff meeting and the convener.

Most reforms at present being instituted on the diploma courses concern the selection of students for the two year course. The entry appeared to be becoming very narrow; there being strong orientation towards social work; many people dropping out of university, then working for a year to come on the course. Relatively few were coming without qualifications and with an ordinary work experience, as the course originally intended. Last year, research showed the majority of the course to have 'A' levels and most to be middle class. A commitment to widen the course has been accepted.

The question was considered at a general meeting of the course and ideas forwarded to the sub-committee. The course is now being advertised in trade union journals and the entry exam is under review.

From next year the time out of education requirement will be

lengthened to two years and the sub-committee recommended the changing of interviewing panels to be two staff and one student. This has been experimentally instituted for both the one and two year diplomas, starting last Christmas, but the convener, and later the staff meeting, expressed doubts as to the maintenance of confidentiality, and student members of interviewing panels have not been able to see all relevant information, causing considerable difficulties for the student.

The question of confidentiality is one of responsibility of the student and following marked solidarity of all members of the sub-committee at the staff meeting, the principle of equal rights was established.

Negotiations with the higher academic corridors of power continue as someone senses some kind of threat. Teaching is under constant review with little change, block teaching of basic subjects is being tried on the one year course. Tutorials and the duty of the tutor has been considerably discussed at student meetings and the department has recently raised this with the academic board.

Any reforms instituted have to be seen within the context of the university; it remains to be seen whether in fact academics will be able to cope with a wider entry and it is possible that attempts could be made to turn workers into social workers rather than enabling people to develop their own ideas.

The other changes do nothing to shift any power within this institution, mainly causing the departmental machine to operate more efficiently with an exercise in consultation, totally in keeping with the social democratic principles of the department and thus participation.

B.A.

CON-SOC AGM

WHILST Union voted £250 to the N.U.M. during the late afternoon of Friday, January 28th, CON-SOC held its A.G.M. in the Old Board Room. Having unanimously reinstated The Rt. Hon. Sir Alec Douglas-Home, KT, M.P., as Hon. President of the Society, the meeting then proceeded to digest the Chairman's report.

Jacques gave a short summary of his year as Chairman and spoke of "our pressure for the closure of Houghton Street," the well attended meetings, especially those with Robert Carr, Chris Chataway and John Peyton, "and the visits to the House of Commons, I.T.V., the 'Times' and the 'Telegraph'." He went on to say that "I believe we have achieved much this year; the best evidence of this is that our membership has risen by over 50 per cent and we are now the largest CON-SOC in London University."

The meeting then debated three motions. The first concerned an anachronism in our constitution; unfortunately this now has to go before a non-existent Constitution Committee before coming into force. The second, proposed by Jacques, supported the proposal for a registrar of Unions.

It was argued that the registrar was the only way in which the misuse of public money could be halted. However, a number of members questioned the purpose of Unions, claiming that the answer lay in voluntary Unions and student loans. The motion was defeated by a narrow margin.

Amid loud cheers Jacques handed over and the new Committee took office. The meeting then adjourned to the residence of James Foreman-Peck, the celebrations (J.A.A. required!!!) going on to early morning.

JOHN BLUNDELL
(Chairman L.S.E. CON-SOC)

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR COMMON ROOM

OWING to the continued possibility of incursions by students into the S.C.R., your Committee feels that for the time being it will be wise to continue:

- (a) to open the S.C.R. only during the normal service periods: 10.30-11.30 for coffee 12.30 - 2.45 for lunch 3.30 - 4.45 for tea

and 5.30 - 7.00 when the bar reopens (probably next week: this depends upon recruitment of new staff)

(b) during these periods to keep open only the main entrance to the S.C.R. with porters in attendance.

(c) not to replace the pictures while there is some danger of vandalism.

We must all regret the inconvenience that this involves. Your Committee will continue to keep the situation under review.

ALAN STUART, Chairman.
ROGER ALFORD, Vice-Chairman.
Senior Common Room Committee.

To all non-members of the note and take appropriate action. Senior Common Room: Please