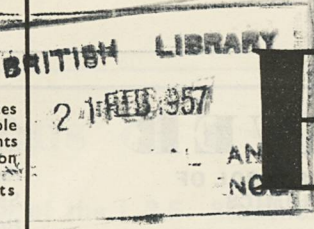


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BEAVER

NEWSPAPER OF THE STUDENTS' UNION, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

FEBRUARY 21st, 1957

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LET'S TREAT IT MORE SERIOUSLY: *Hustings tomorrow*

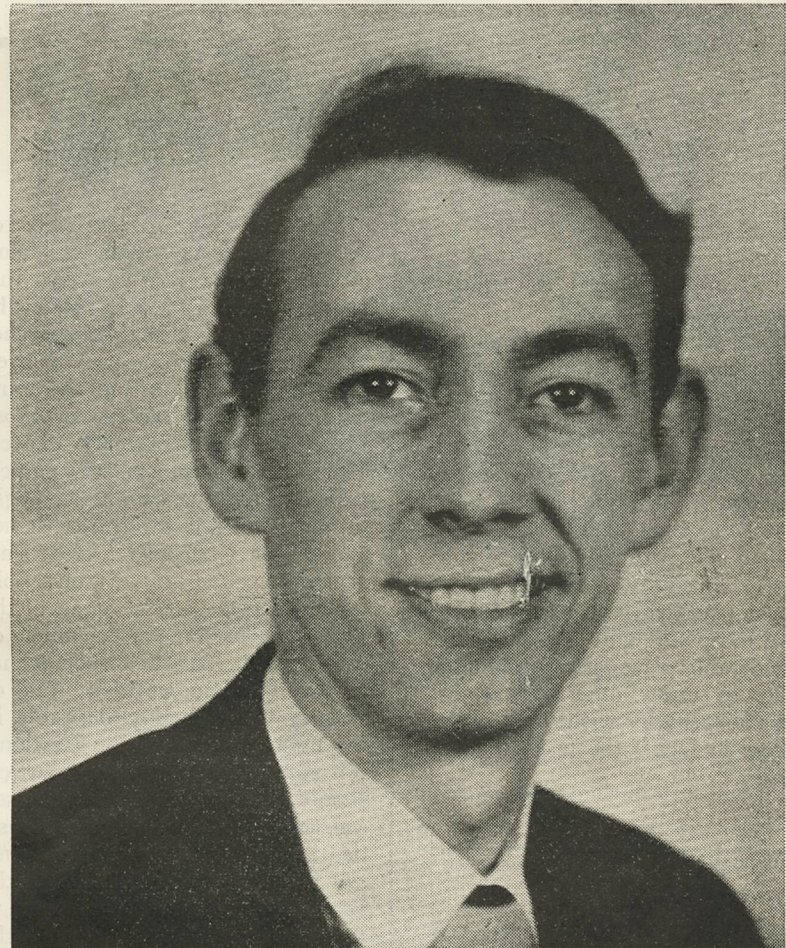
The Presidential Hustings of the 8th were criticised by many as being slightly too over-bearing on those who were subjected to its rigours. The candidates, it is claimed, were not given a very fair hearing, and their policies were stormed out of existence by the barrage of airborne flour bags and toilet rolls!

The Hustings, which will be taking place tomorrow evening for Deputy-President and General Secretary, will provide a chance for yet more humour, but moderation is hoped for; not only for the candidates concerned, but for the sake of those who have to clean up afterwards. The cost to the Union for the labour involved two weeks ago in cleaning up the floury mess should not be repeated.

By the time this appears in print the nominations for both posts of D.P. and Gen. Sec. will be widely known. At the time of writing it appears as if the post of D.P. will be quite highly contested by two notable personalities, a certain G. S-e-n promises to add flavour to the polling, although that, as always, is at present unofficial until the Returning Officer makes it public. As far as the post of Gen. Sec. goes, the battle appears to present little controversy at the moment, although anything can and may well happen.

Polling days for D.P./Gen. Sec. are Monday and Tuesday, 25th and 26th February. The Vice-Presidential elections follow in a fortnight's time.

PRESIDENT-ELECT



JACK MADDOX

Mr. John Maddox was declared President Elect on the night of Tuesday, 12th February, 1957. He had a clear majority vote over Mr. Subhash Kamerkar of 59 votes. The exact voting figures were:

Mr. John Hipkin	....	....	199
Mr. Subhash Kamerkar	....	....	245
Mr. Jack Maddox	....	....	312
Mr. Oswald Pike	....	....	54

Six votes were invalid.

There being no overall majority the votes of Mr. Pike and Mr. Hipkin were distributed according to the second preference. The final result was: Mr. Maddox 402 votes, Mr. Kamerkar 343 votes. 65 votes were of no further preference.

Jack Maddox will take over his Presidential duties at the end of the Summer Term.

REFECTORY BLAST

Prices still too high

by Peter K. Hall

Charity, it is said, begins at home; Economics, apparently, does not. Week after week, teachers and students endure (unless they are masochists) a succession of paranoiac graphs, curves that curl on to nowhere, and expressions that do violence to the English tongue: examining every conceivable and inconceivable case, till even pure theory becomes a meaningless mess of chalky lines. While their colleagues lose themselves in this blackboard jungle, the specialists in Industry and Trade seek homely illustrations in electronics; and are only surpassed in their zeal to find an economic problem by the International Economists.

retained their classical belief in the efficacy of natural laws.

Committee Farce

But what about the Economy committee? In 8 months it has solidly achieved an arrangement with an accountant which has to date been potential rather than actual, the appointment of a Chairman, the resignation of the Chairman and the appointment of his successor. Never in the history of economics have so many done so little in such a long time.

Meanwhile, prices remain high and the prospect of profits to reduce them is precarious. Surely the time has come for action!

P. K. HALL.

Meanwhile, seemingly unaware, they daily eat in an economic problem—the Refectory.

Boycott Improvement

True, since 1955—the time of the Boycott—there has been some improvement in the food and dining conditions and two minor price concessions. But this has been due, not to the economists, but to the efforts of the Stewardess.

Despite high prices and continual losses, it was not until after the publication of a student survey of London refectories that the School recognised the existence of an economic problem. Then the student proposal to set up an Economy committee was accepted.

Unfortunately, some three months after the survey had been published, the almost unprecedented occurred—the Refectory made a profit. The normal £3/400 loss was transformed into a £400 profit, mainly as a result of reducing the summer loss from £1,000 to £63.

Since then the economists have

WEEK-END SCHOOL

So enthusiastic has been the response to the coming week-end school that only six places now remain for males. On the female side there are a few more places available. All readers who value the subtle blending of the academic and the sensual, and this surely should be the aim of all undergraduates, are advised to book immediately; a 10/- deposit secures a place.

The Bar Management Committee are working in close collaboration with the Week-end School Committee so that a reasonable supply of cheap liquor will be available.

Ents. Comm. will be in charge of the Saturday Dance and the Friday Social. A special warning has been sent out to all the local bourgeoisie for this annual excursion of L.S.E. to Surrey Hills and a glittering array of academic stall will be on hand.

FREE EUROPE SOCIETY REBORN

A meeting was held last week in order to resurrect the Free Europe Society. Its aims will be to promote interest in a United Europe and to change the peculiar state of affairs whereby the Europeans are almost the only Geographical Group not represented at L.S.E. by a Union Society. There was only a small attendance at this initial meeting, but a working committee was appointed and hopes to begin recruiting activities soon.

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THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Presidential Hustings are always lively and entertaining and those held recently were no exception. It seems, in fact, that Hustings become more rowdy each year. I remember two years ago, when Roland Freeman, Brian Van Arcadie and Vernon Waughrey were candidates, that Hustings were—by today's standards—quite a mild affair. All speakers were listened to attentively; all, however, were subject to witty interruptions—but not a single "bog-roll" was aimed, and the question period that followed saw keen competition among the audience to subject the candidates to the "third degree."

Last year, when I faced the ordeal of Hustings myself, its nature had already changed. The intervention of John Hipkin as a last minute "independent" candidate had injected life into what otherwise promised to be a dull campaign between two "orthodox" candidates—Bill Capstick and myself. Students came to Hustings expecting fun and were not disappointed. Ironically, John had the best hearing of the three of us; Bill and I had a struggle against terrific odds to get ourselves heard—but at least we were not subject to a barrage of missiles.

This year, of course, the change went even further, and nothing I could offer by way of description could hope to do justice to the barracking, flour bags, bog-rolls, fireworks, and even stink-bombs that turned Hustings into a circus. I must say that, this time, I think the deterioration went too far. A tremendous mess was caused in the Old Theatre, which has proved expensive to clean up (and the Students' Union has to foot the bill); and I fear that if there is any repetition the School Authorities

may not allow the Old Theatre to be used for Hustings—for, after all, a great deal of money has been spent in recent years on re-decorating and renovating it.

Changed Spirit

My main concern, however, is with the changed spirit abroad in L.S.E. that these hectic Hustings seem to typify. It is significant the Presidential elections this year have been characterised by two other features: the complete absence of political candidates and the (I think, consequent) absence of any serious questions at Hustings. So long as candidates (and the President for that matter) were convenient "Aunt Sally's" at which all and sundry could hurl missiles and abuse, interest in the proceedings was maintained. But having prevented most candidates from making any serious contribution, when question-time came round—traditionally the *real* ordeal to which candidates were subject—interest lagged, the audience disintegrated and hardly a serious question was put. John Hipkin's description of Hustings as juvenile was quite justified, even if he did put this view with his usual tact.

Our Responsibility

Now, I enjoy a humorous occasion as much as anyone: in fact, I must admit that I found Hustings very, very amusing, even though I was at the receiving end. But when the laughter has died down, we have always at L.S.E. been left with the serious matters to face up to—and hitherto, we have never shirked this responsibility. We have a tradition as a responsible, adult body; different from many other student bodies, partly because of the subjects we study, and partly because of the great variety of age, social backgrounds and nationality among our members. This great tradition has been upheld mainly by the political groups among students at

the school. It has fallen to them to provide most of the leaders of the Union, both on the platform and on the floor; they have been the centres of organized activity that have served to crystallise the issues of domestic and wider concern to students, and have thereby raised the level of Union deliberations and activity; their influence and enterprise have been a continuous sign that students are treating serious matters in a serious manner. It is a tribute to their role that a decline in their influence should be accompanied by a deterioration in the general level of the conduct of Union affairs.

I have not the space to enquire into the reasons for this change, and I have not dwelt on the shortcomings of the "politicos"—and there are many—since there is no shortage of critics who take every opportunity to fill this deficiency. But there will be wide agreement that the Union has fallen on bad days—especially among those whose experience goes back two or three years—and its new President will be confronted with a challenge which will make great demands on his talents, when he takes over in July. Jack Maddox brings many assets to his new office. He is, rightly, one of the most popular students in the school; the Jazz Society, which has grown enormously under his influence, is a tribute to his tenacity and skill; and his long experience of L.S.E. (he is now in his fourth year) will prove of great value to the Union when he takes office. He is the recipient of a great honour and heir to a distinguished office. Both because of the respect and affection that I have for the tradition he has been called upon to uphold, and because of the considerable personal regard that I—like so many others—have for Jack himself, I wish him every success in facing the tasks that lie ahead.

SPOTLIGHT ON JOHN PERROW

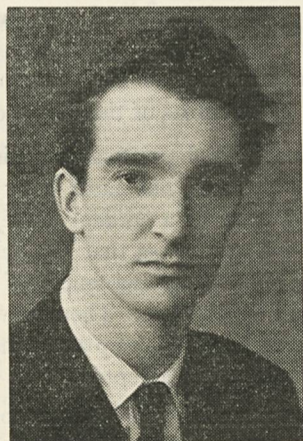
It has sometimes been said of Athletic Union officials that their favourite pastime is passing the buck and that they are the Students' Union's poor relations. Indeed, in its keenness to keep to the straight and narrow and avoid trouble this has sometimes unfortunately been the case.

However, for the last year things have moved along fairly smoothly, if not with clock-like precision, and from its ranks has risen the new President Elect, John Perrow, known mainly in Athletic Union circles for efficiency and willingness to stand for principle, rather than to smooth over troubled waters.

His election, an exciting enough event, where in the count the lead changed hands several times, resulted in his being elected by 7 votes. The issues on which the election was contested were not of an exciting nature, indeed John had previously incurred the wrath of certain elements by his insistence on keeping to an official A.U. policy, but apart from this it was mainly a matter of personality, the other candidate being John Goss.

Fees Fanatic

Unlike the Students' Union no hustings take place, the candidates are saved the ensuing awkward situation of making promises which are difficult to keep. John, however, has certain fixed ideas as to how the



organisation over which he will preside will run. One of the points on which he intends to tighten up is the paying of the yearly subscription. At present many elusive characters enjoy the facilities in their first term only to forgo their obligation of the nominal fee and depart in the second term. He is quite serious when saying that in future if club secretaries and treasurers do not tighten up, then the passing of their budgets might prove an embarrassing affair.

The old chestnut of L.S.E. and Berrylands, the sports day buses, have had poor support in the past, due to their impracticability or the apathy of participants. Next year, however, John intends running a regular service to and from Berry-

lands for the whole of the Christmas term, and is quite prepared to risk a loss to give this experiment a good try. He is convinced that once these facilities are regular they would soon become a habit, for in the past people have not had enough faith to fix their arrangements to the bus departures.

Improvement this Year

He has been fortunate in many respects. In the first place, the present President, John Elliott, has organised the A.U. machine into a far smoother organisation than when he took over, and secondly, the A.U. are to receive a far greater financial allowance from the school itself.

It is from the improved financial angle that much of the good can be done. The many invitations that clubs have had for expensive tours abroad can now receive just consideration, and John hopes to be able to instigate some rota systems over a number of years to try and expand the interests of the clubs as far as possible. The only ventures of this kind so far are the Rugby and Soccer trips to H.E.C. in Paris on the alternative year basis. Offers for further excursions have come to some clubs from Holland, but at present the precarious financial position has held up definite arrangements.

Dances at Malden?

Perhaps one of the interesting novelties that might prove successful is John's idea of holding joint

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and Maureen Brodie

ON DROPPING A CLANG

It is with some regret that we must admit we did, to use the words of Mr. Kamerkar, drop rather a nasty clang in our last issue. The usual political flavour attached to Presidential Elections was completely lost this year, and the votes went to a personality that claims to be of no violent political affiliations. This

is, we still maintain, an exception to the rule. Last year the political feeling was apparently much more acute. This year would have been, to all intents and purposes, reasonably political, had it not been for the late starter who entered into the race to the surprise of many of us, and who subsequently won the race by a good length of neck.

POST BAG

Biased Beaver?

Sir,

It is interesting to watch the reaction of various people as Union elections come round again this year. Unknown faces appear in the most unexpected places; speeches are made by unusual people in even more unusual veins, and the spirit of goodwill is given off by those from whom one normally expects nothing more than a cursory glance. In short, aspiring candidates begin to push themselves. This is, if not a desirable tendency, then at least a natural one. But I must hold forth when the official organ of the Union is used as a channel of propaganda. An article such as that in your last issue entitled "Full of Promise" was highly desirable in the light of forthcoming elections, but surely, Sir, that sort of article should have come from an unbiased source! For a prospective Presidential candidate to secure for himself a second page headline on the very subject of elections seems to represent a gross lacking by the Editor of *Beaver* of that one quality which marks all good Editors—*independence of outlook*. And what, Sir, has happened to the President's column? Are we to assume it has been taken over by he, who, in official circles, seems to be regarded as President Elect? If these comments cannot be satis-

factorily repudiated by you, Sir, then the charge is indeed grave.

By way of conclusion, I think your whole attitude to this question of political prejudice is amply summed up by the last sentence of your Leader—you say, "Finally ask yourself the biggest question: what are his politics?" Your conception of the Union, Sir, seems so grossly erroneous that I suggest that in future you leave articles of this nature to the Sports Editor, whose mind may function a little more clearly whilst covering his open-air functions.

I remain, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

LESLIE R. DIGHTON.

(In reply to Mr. Dighton's well-intentioned letter, we give three answers: (1) The printing of "Full of Promise" was not in any way intended as a plug for any so-called "Official favourite." Mr. Kamerkar gave us a well-balanced preview of likely candidates for the forthcoming elections. If the small-minded politicians of this College wish to attach any hidden meaning behind our attitude towards this, then I advise them to voice their feelings in the public atmosphere of the Union meetings. (2) It so happens that this year was an exception in the political atmosphere attached to the Presidential Elections. For once it was a Personality Contest. Whether or not the Editor was wrong in his assumptions concerning Union politics is now quite irrelevant. (3) We are pleased to say that the President has found time to continue his column on this page. The last issue did not carry his normal feature due to the exigencies of academic studies. He has directed us to channel all such future complaints regarding such matters through Union meetings. EDITOR.)

Regents Park Plea

Sir,

May we, the staff of our college newspaper, the *Bedford News*, beg your co-operation in enlivening it? We are hoping to run a feature on "What is Right or Wrong with Bedford College," and we feel that outside opinions are necessary, as it is always hard to judge oneself.

Accordingly, we should be very grateful to learn the views of your College on this matter, before 25th February, please, to facilitate publication. All advice will be gratefully acknowledged, may even be taken.

Yours faithfully,

pp. MARGARET ASHTON.

(*Bedford News* Editor).

(Please direct your views on the above subject direct to Miss Ashton—EDITOR.)

Reflections of a Returning Officer

According to the Constitution of the L.S.E. Students' Union, the organisation of and the responsibility for an election lies with the Returning Officer. From the experiences I had during the campaign and the elections—I have most definitely gained the impression that too much is left to the discretion of the man who happens to have been picked for this job.

There is a tendency for candidates to hand in their nominations on the very last moment. In principle, there is no objection against this, but this time there were two nominations made up in a rather incorrect manner.

The Proxy Question

One of the objects of the system of proxy voting was to eliminate as much as possible any chance of fraudulent or quasi-fraudulent actions. There are two alternatives in proxy voting: either one allows people to come along to the ballot-box with a letter stating that an elector is ill and that he wants someone else to vote in his place (or something similar) or a rule is made about receiving applications before a certain hour on a day before the actual elections are being held.

The latter method makes it impossible for the one or two people who fall ill between this proxy-deadline and the elections to use their vote—and this is indeed, in principle, a serious disadvantage. But on the other hand, if the former method is adopted the door is opened for proxy voting, which cannot be investigated by the Returning Officer and might thus not be proved bona fide. Here it becomes a matter of either upholding a principle to its possibly disastrous consequences, or accepting what might be called a necessary evil.

Should it be considered right or wrong that a candidate enlists the help of the committee of a society in order to profit of certain facilities available to this society? Do members of this Union condone the projection of election slides during a film show? Can it be considered a fair practice towards the other candidates who do not, perhaps, have the necessary friends on the committee and, similarly, can it be considered a fair practice towards the members of the society who might not want to support the candidate concerned?

Matter of Principle

A last point on which I consider a pronouncement of Union indispensable is the recurring instance of individual bookings of the Old Theatre under some "false flag." There seems to be no certainty on this matter whatsoever—for apart from a rather lost "protest question" the matter was not raised

during the one individual campaign meeting in the past election. On the other hand the other candidates assumed, apparently, that this practice was, if not against the letter of the law, certainly against its spirit and no other attempt to get the Old Theatre was made. It

seems to me that there is a matter of principle involved here: either we allow candidates to organise meetings of their own, and then it is still an open question whether these meetings could be held on the actual polling days, or we stick to the idea that the Hustings are the only instance of mass meeting. There is something to be said for both views, but we should definitely make up our minds.

It is clear and honest elections that we all want.

EMANUEL DE KADT.

BEAUTY PARLOUR



No. 2—MISS JUDY FAIRSTON

Following on our new "cheese-cake" series, we have further pleasure in introducing to you our second customer in the Beauty Parlour, Miss Judith Fairston. Before coming to L.S.E. Judy was a schoolgirl in Hampstead Garden Suburbs, where she has her home. Last summer she spent her summer vacation in South Africa, but nevertheless decided to return to England in time for her first term at L.S.E. last October. Miss Fairston is now studying for a B.A. (Soc.) degree.

Judy will be making her debut with the Dramatic Society in the name part of "Cecile" by Jean Anouilh (see page 5). This will be the English Premiere performance.

What Judy's plans are for the future we do not know, but we can be sure they will be interesting.

L.S.E. HUNGARIAN ENGAGED

The engagement took place at Passfield Hall on Saturday, 16th February, of Andras Mozes and Julia Raba. Andras, who is waiting to begin full-time studies at L.S.E. in October, was re-united with his fiancée a month ago. Julia left Hungary some time after Andras, and through the help of the United Nations Association, managed to find Andras in London. They have known each other since they were seven years old, and now celebrate their engagement in England. Both escaped from Budapest during the revolution in December.

POLITICAL VIEWPOINT

Events at the U.N. are of particular interest at the time of writing, while the fateful debate on whether sanctions are to be applied against Israel continues, not merely because it seems likely that whatever settlement is reached in the Middle East will have some impact on the lives of millions in the region itself and on many countries outside it, but also because it is an almost classical illustration of the way in which in the future the U.N. can assist in the reconciliation of deeply conflicting interests and ambitions.

Many stringent criticisms have been expressed recently of the U.N. action in the Middle East. Israel, it is said, was in breach of the U.N. Charter and the 1949 Armistice agreement with Egypt, but had nevertheless received a great deal of provocation over a long period. To insist that Israel should withdraw from Sharm-el-Sheikh and the Gaza Strip, will leave Egypt free to resume the blockade of the Gulf of Aqaba, while the 250,000 Arab refugees in the Gaza Strip will undoubtedly celebrate their regained freedom by renewed and more violent raids into Israeli territory. Equally there is as yet no guarantee that goods and ships destined for Israel will be allowed through the Suez Canal when it is re-opened. Is it not then mere hypocrisy for the U.N. to discuss the application of sanctions against Israel, its own creation, when it has done nothing to prevent the Russian rape of Hungary; is content merely to reaffirm its previous attitude on Kashmir; and does not attempt to obtain any guarantees from Egypt that it will allow free passage to Israeli ships in the Gulf of Aqaba and the Suez Canal (which are both included in the 1949 Armistice agreements), and will co-operate in a constructive solution of the plight of the Arab refugees in the Gaza Strip?

Subject to Bargaining

The answer is clearly that hypocr-

isly is irrelevant. While the U.N. has independent international personality in international law, it is quite clearly in all its activities the pawn of its masters, its 80 member-countries, and its activities will thus reflect their collective wisdom, or unwisdom. So long as the foreign policies of these countries are based on the protection of vital economic, strategic and other interests, so long will the U.N. be bound to reflect their highest common factor. While the U.N. may achieve even greater things in the fields not closely related to economic continuity and security against aggression, in these latter two fields any modification of the status quo will inevitably be the subject of bargaining even fiercer than that which trade unions engage in. Indeed, it is difficult to see what other considerations can guide Foreign Ministers. While Sir Anthony Eden was able to play a role of detachment in the Indo-China settlement in 1954 because British interests were not involved, his actions over Suez last November were less than reasonable because British interests were deeply involved.

Impotence

Hence the U.N. is unlikely ever to maintain the high moral standard which seems to be expected from it. As long as the balance of power is the basis on which it rests, it will continue to reflect that balance and any changes in it. While the Secretary-General of the U.N. is undoubtedly correct in pressing for the Israeli withdrawal in accordance with the requirements of international law, it will be the balance between the complex of competing interests in the Middle East which will ultimately decide whether the withdrawal is to be enforced, and on what terms, if any. Meanwhile those millions whom the decision will affect can only wait and watch in impotence. This, if less exciting, is surely better than a shooting war.

SELENE.

FOR THE RECORD

Although by now the hustings for the presidential elections are old news we feel it is important that there should appear in *Beaver*, as the official organ of L.S.E. Union, a report firstly of what the candidates said they would do for the Union; and secondly, that we should state that whilst it is expected that the Hustings should be lively, it was all too obvious that the last two candidates were unable to make a proper impression or to obtain a fair discussion of their programmes owing to a barrage of flour bags and pepper.

In their turn, each candidate battled to forward his policy Subhash Kamerkar, apparently, wanted lessons in Yoga, but in his own words he "dropped a clang," by maintaining that what the Union needed was more beurocracy. Then came Jack Maddox, whose American proposer was delightfully able to beat hecklers at their own game. Jack's policy was: "more Union Public Business, examinations in September for

those who fail in June, and a better social life at L.S.E."

Uproar

He was followed by Ossie Pike who, despite flour bags and toilet rolls, showed his good nature by maintaining a smile throughout. His policy of "I want a nurse at night," television and more telephones provoked some excitement. Too much excitement, perhaps—for the next and last candidate, John Hipkin, intent on taking the meeting seriously, refused to outline his policy above the uproar.

The President is elected, the hustings are a rather old memory; but at least there remains a record of what the candidates, the President Elect included, said they would do for us. There also remains the hope that what was promised will not be forgotten.

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BLAZERS BADGES

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Continuing Frank Judd's account of his trip behind the Bamboo Curtain at the end of last year

MY REPORT ON CHINA No. 2

It is interesting to compare the Chinese industrial revolution with our own. It is obvious that in China the change is more ordered than it was in Britain. Whatever the political implications we must note the high place given to education in these rapid changes.

A system is being rapidly developed which provides ample facilities for expanding the individual's technical as well as general knowledge, not only at the schools and universities, but also in the factory itself. To take another example, it is certain that more attention is paid to a reasonable housing programme than was the case in our own industrial areas. It is not just the social planning which is striking. The great amount of common sense behind the industrialisation itself is evident. China is fortunate in this respect in having no manpower problem and rather than rush ahead introducing much capital machinery in the initial stages, the authorities prefer to make use of the unlimited manpower. Thus one does not see cranes on the building sites but a ramp on the scaffolding with an endless line of men ascending and descending. Similarly, on any development scheme there will be few lorries in evidence but instead long lines of men with their mules and basket-like carts. Where the efficiency of one man can be increased by a simple measure it will have been taken. For example, all the mule cart drivers have been issued with a pair of rubber tyres which increase the efficiency of the cart by perhaps 100% on the rough roads and also help to preserve the surfaces.

Such policies ensure that the widest possible section of the population benefits to some small extent from the progress even if its rate is somewhat retarded. Rickshaws have been abolished as the result of a decree which stated that it was degrading for one man to pull another solely by his own efforts. However, there are still many thousands of "pedicabs". Official policy is also to ban these, but if this were done in one blow there would be too many unemployed to be absorbed into other industries at once. Therefore a scheme has been devised whereby the issuing of spare parts is prohibited, and despite the almost limitless initiative and resourcefulness of the luckless drivers the cabs are forced

off the road one by one, thus rendering the unemployment problem more easy to solve. This, too, is evidence of the planners' good sense.

Against all this must be set the shoddiness of much of the work, particularly, alas, the housing, with its bad plumbing and finishing. This certainly results simply from a lack of experience and time should show improvements.

Range of Production

The range of production is greater than one might expect. When I visited Canton the National Export Exhibition was in full swing, with thousands of exhibits ranging from foodstuffs to heavy industrial goods. In my hotel I found British businessmen amazed at what China could already produce although the quality was not yet always of the highest standard. Doubtless the exhibition reflected what Chinese industry could produce rather than what it could afford to export, for obviously with her fast developing economy the country can absorb all the home-produced capital goods and many more besides.

Until recently there has been a big political snag in China's industrialisation. She has relied upon the U.S.S.R. and the satellites not only for the capital investment but also for spare parts and replacements. This lack of economic independence was naturally accompanied by a lack of political independence and it is certainly significant that much attention is now being paid to the development of these primary industries. In Manchuria, at the nation's first automobile factory which was built entirely by the Russians, I found that the production of replacements for the factory's intricate machinery was already under way.

The experts insisted that Britain has much to offer China and of this I am convinced. However, it is not so clear what China has to offer in return except limited supplies of minerals and hogs' bristles! Indirect trade might be the answer, and it is noteworthy that West Germany, which was not a signatory of the trade embargo and which has no diplomatic relations whatever with China, has at least twice the volume of trade that more cautious Britain enjoys. British businessmen were gnashing their teeth at the opportunities we had been forced to ignore.

(To be concluded.)

THE U.N. — IS IT WORTHWHILE?

By William Crampton, Chairman United Nations Society

Last week I went to a meeting at the British Council hostel in Knightsbridge, at which three eminent politicians spoke on this subject. One of these was Nigel Nicholson, the Tory M.P. who rebelled against his Party Whip on the Suez issue. The U.N., he said, is all right so far as it goes, but until it is stronger and can protect this country's interest more, he is putting his faith in the old system of power-politics.

An almost identical opinion was expressed by Richard Crossland, the Labour *enfant terrible*, when he spoke at L.S.E. a week later.

So I find failure to the Left of me, failure to the Right of me, but I am left with the consolation that in its Specialised Agencies the U.N. is doing a wonderful job. This much was confirmed by Arthur Blenkinsop, M.P., who spoke at a U.N. Society meeting at the School earlier this term. He is Vice-Chairman of the U.K. branch of the World Health Organisation.

Now, it would take too long to put down all the reasons why I

think the U.N. is of some use in resolving political disputes as well as in overcoming yaws or combating locusts, but I will just say two things. Firstly, the reason why it can stamp out yaws and destroy locusts is because its members want it; they have a vested interest in its success. The U.N. will never succeed in anything unless its members want it to. Secondly, people make an awful blunder when they speak of the U.N. as being something distinct from its members—an amorphous "They" that becomes the scapegoat for our own failings. U.N. is not They but Us; when it fails it is because We have failed, when it succeeds its success is Ours. If people were to talk of the "Eighty Nations" instead of the "United Nations," this fallacy might be avoided.

The United Nations Society survived the recent storms simply because there were enough people in it who recognised these two things. The only hope of world peace being attained through the U.N. organisation lies in everybody recognising them and working with them.

CONFIDENTIALLY . . . by Satiricus

Too Noisy

While Hustings were fun, they could have been a lot funnier—and, incidentally, more valuable in enabling us to assess the candidate's worth—had the audience's exuberance been a little modified. It's not long before the humour of flour-bags and other missiles wears thin, and one soon tires of hearing just a big noise. The best moments came from repartee from floor to platform and vice-versa, yet opportunities were strictly limited by the fact that for long periods no one could make themselves heard.

Ossie Pike suffered most from the din, for during the course of his 8 minutes the only part of his V.H.F. transmission which could be picked up was something about wanting a nurse at night and a T.V. Ossie had a lot to give us, but we hardly heard a word. Surely he should have been allowed to outline his plan for slashing food prices, etc., etc.

The best speeches came, perhaps surprisingly, not from candidates, but from two proposers, Geoff. Stern and the American gentleman who supported Jack Maddox. Both were in excellent form in their contrasting methods of approach.

Hipkin's Meeting

John Hipkin's meeting the following Monday had an atmosphere of tension which was in sharp contrast to the pantomime atmosphere of the Hustings. At this meeting

not only was Hipkin given a fair hearing, but also there was ample opportunity for serious and pertinent questions, something in which Hustings failed lamentably. It was good to hear Peter Fletcher come out of his shell. Freshers had got the impression that he was a competent President, but no more. On this occasion his excellent speech made his election completely intelligible, although by its very nature the Presidency seems subsequently to have put a gag upon him. Which raises the vexing question of whether your President should be an administrator or an orator, or even if he can simultaneously be both.

Foster's Fanship

One of the men mainly responsible for Subhash's campaign was Terry Foster. It was his car which was so richly decorated, and he it was who livened up the plane trees of Kingsway. However, those who know him will find it hard to believe that he was the one who abducted the captivating Lalume from the Stoll theatre. One of his brighter ideas which wasn't realised was to use a portable stamp "Now go and vote for Subhash" beneath "L.C.C. Property."

Top People

There are several well-tried advertising techniques. We are all familiar, for instance, with the pseudo-scientific type which informs us that the new chemical wonder such-and-such has revolutionised a particular product. Common also is the catch-word principle

of if-you-tell-em-something-often-enough-they'll-eventually-believe-it.

One generally accepts these advertisements as pretty harmless and amusing. The type I do not like, however, is the one that relies purely and simply on the snob-appeal technique. You know the type: "9 out of 10 film stars use X". I would add that it doesn't seem to make them look any cleaner than the rest of us who use Y. Recently, you will have noticed, *The Times* has gone in for this method in a big way. Since they are probably worried by the relative increase in sales of *The Guardian*, I suppose it's to be expected. However, I wonder how understanding of human nature are these advertising psychologists. When I read that Top People take *The Times*, or that the Duchess of Blank uses A's bath salts, I immediately take an instinctive aversion to that product. I would, finally, point out that you have to be one of the Top People (in the sense of having an unearned income) to have time to read *The Times*.

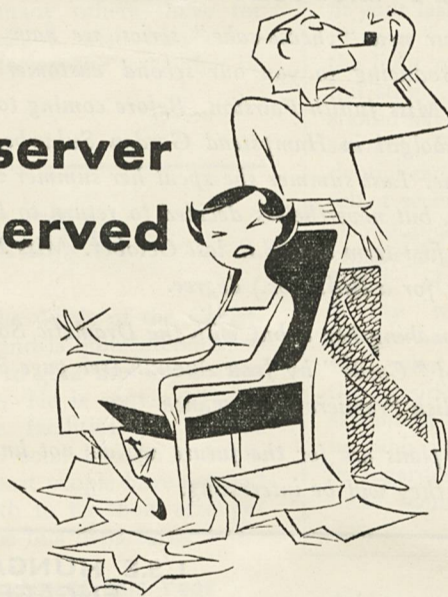
The Price of Fame

Those who scan the columns of the popular press will not have missed the story of Dapper Sidney Cain—he often calls himself "Sir" Sidney—who was jailed for six months at Guernsey recently.

This I take to be quite a compliment to our Director, for it is not until people start impersonating you that you can really claim to be famous.

This entry, submitted by Brian Jones, of Brasenose College, Oxford, was awarded the first prize of £100 in the Observer's recent Copywriting Contest for Students.

the Observer observed



SHE (finally): . . . and anyway I detest the Sunday papers.

HE: So do I. I read The Observer.

SHE (logically): The Observer is a newspaper. It appears on Sundays.

HE: It looks like a newspaper. But if you mean that it's mere hebdomadal hackery, a professional effusion along party lines, I assure you it's anything but. The Editor reads it on Sunday to see if his writers agree with him. And there's always Paul Jennings.

SHE (suddenly): What about Ken Tynan?

HE: So you do read it then?

SHE (resentfully): I do not. Only C. A. Lejeune on films and perhaps Richardson on TV.

HE: Not even the Notebook or the Profile?

SHE (apologetically): Well, yes, and now and then the news, when I get hold of it in the Common Room. The trouble is its circulation seems to have doubled since the war, but our powers-that-be haven't taken in more copies.

HE: That's precisely why I have one on order. And I can ruminate over it from Sunday to Thursday.

SHE (pensively): But then there's the vac.

HE: Mother found out about the Cookery article by Syllabub, and someone told Father about the rigger reports, so . . . Where are you going?

SHE (decidedly): Can you lend me fourpence?

fourpence
every
Sunday



PIG ACROSS PARIS

La Traversee de Paris (A)

Academy Cinema

With the crashing thud of Nazi jackboots, and the hurried, worried, resentfully suppressed Parisians, Claude Autant-Lara gives us in "La Traversee de Paris" a wonderfully realistic, yet unsentimental, portrayal of Occupied France.

For his star performers, Autant-Lara could hardly have chosen a better duette than Jean Gabin (a very different Gabin) and Bourvil. The latter won for himself the Venice Prize for the Best Actor last year, for his performance as the little man who always gets the dirty end of the stick. Gabin, who plays the adventurous artist, gives a sparkle to his characterisation of the brain behind the plot, a sparkle to which he adds a contagious humour.

The story is simple: it is centred around these two characters who undertake the transportation of a dismembered pig-cum-pork in four black market suitcases from one end of Paris to the other. Bourvil, the little man, is the black marketeers' tool who falls by chance of domestic subtleties into the company of the artist Gabin. The way in which he contracts with his newly found accomplice into the transportation of the Black Market pig across Paris is handled with pathos, humour and immense excitement. The subsequent story follows in the same vein; the script, based on the novel by Marcel Ayme, is outstanding in its realistic approach and detail. The lives of the subjected Parisians is painted with amazing dexterity and

precision, yet it never falls foul to sentimentality. It is real, persuasive and pathetically humorous. The story seems to carry one into the very heart of Paris in the 40's and one shares in the humour and the misery of those who suffered the war of nerves. At every corner stands an agent de police, or a Gestapo jack-boot. In every domestic scene the nervous tension of suspicion and fear finally breaks down under the prepondering influence of the calm, confident, arrogantly humorous attacks of the pug-nosed artist, Gabin.

It becomes boring after a while to persistently praise a film, and to recommend one's readers to "see it"; on the first count I have one adverse criticism, it was not long enough, I was left wanting more; on the second count, if you do not like hackneyed, cliched "war" films, with Good and Bad vividly portrayed to no constructive end, then please see "La Traversee de Paris," it has none of these disadvantages, it is good meat for healthy, humorous appetites.

The Red Balloon is in the same programme, and is also French. A delightful film, which captures the imagination and holds you spell-bound for the twenty-five minutes of its duration. The colour is magical, the camera technique captivating and the story simple yet heart-warming.

Congratulations to the French cinema for this excellent representation of their present productions.

A remarkably large audience was recently rewarded with a convincing production of Jean-Paul Sartre's "Huis Clos," a choice of play which represents a further break from the conservative attitude of the Dramatic Society, previously welcomed in these columns.

The plot concerns three people who meet after their deaths in hell. Each expects the first person who appears to be the Torturer, but looks in vain for the manacles and red-hot irons, for torture there is indeed, but not of the kind visualised.

Inez a lesbian, Garcin a cowardly newspaper editor, and Estelle, a nymphomaniac, are confined together, and the inherent defect of each of them becomes a form of torture for the others—the lesbian desires the nymphomaniac, who in turn wants the cowardly editor: he, however, is only interested in convincing the lesbian that he is not a coward.

"Veterans" Excel

Joan Budgen and Bill Baron

'HUIS CLOS'

play Inez and Garcin and though both are veterans of the L.S.E. stage, neither has ever given us a better performance.

The abhorrence with which normal people regard sexual perversion is apt to confuse a criticism of the portrayal of a pervert, yet in spite of this, Joan proved herself to be a fine actress by simulating so successfully emotions which she could not know. She contrasted well her hate for Garcin with her tender feelings for Estelle—all this in the beautiful rich voice which has never failed to fascinate the writer.

The weakness of Garcin was more readily comprehensible. Bill Baron gave a sensitive rendering of a man torn by self doubt, which is at first hidden behind a façade of assurance, but which crumbles beneath the penetrating insight of Inez. Bill has what may be called, for want of a better phrase, a "schauspielatiger Sinn"—he can establish very quickly the character he is playing, rather than the initial acceptance of that character.

First Appearance

The third major role, Estelle, was played by Isobel Allen, a welcome newcomer to the Society, who gave an intelligent, if not inspired performance. Apart from a noticeable posture consciousness, which will disappear with more experience, she displayed several good facets of ability. Though such a comparison is doubtless unfair, her character was the least convincing of the three—one found oneself looking at Isobel rather than Estelle, though this can probably be explained on other grounds. Lest this appraisal seems too harsh, it must be said that this was a first appearance, with which she may be well satisfied.

Glyn Roberts was responsible for a smooth production and also ably took the part of the valet. One would like to see Glyn given a meatier role: he showed his prowess in "Blood Wedding," and ever since has been condemned to waiter-like characters. Praise once again on a brave choice and polished execution. D.S.M.

The Saga of 'Square' Deal

When Simon Deal was accepted at the London School of Success his family were overjoyed. Simon was to be taught how to be strong and powerful, he was to escape from the mire.

But the throbbing metropolis proved perplexing to this simple country boy. The professors had such clever ideas. To be a success like them was obviously no easy matter. Simon's attempts to become "young, vital and hard boiled" were abortive. His contemporaries named him "Square" Deal. At the end of the year the professors, under the Chairmanship of Sir Henry Loot, unanimously elected him "The student

least likely to succeed in Business." The graduate who won that most coveted award, "Mr. Potential Business 1984," immediately joined the academic staff.

Returning to his bleak Northern hamlet, Simon became an undertaker's assistant. But business was slow for the market was very scattered. One dark February day a black suited gentleman came down from the big city (Barnsley) and told Simon that a distant aunt had left him a small holding of land some miles away up on the moor. The gentleman (everyone is a gentleman to an undertaker's assistant) said that he could sell the plot for "a few bob more than it

was worth." But stubbornly Simon refused. At last he "belonged."

Yes indeed, the Metropolis had taught him something.

Ten years later Squaregas Natural Lemonade was a best-seller in the L.S.B. Refectory. The Yorkshire Moor had yielded to the world its first natural gassy water. Deal became a household word. The Square had arrived.

But not only was Simon destined to become a great industrialist, but he was also to be famous as a benefactor to the L.S.B. One morning he received a letter from none other than Mr. Potential Business 1984 (it was now January, 1985) asking him to come down and deliver the Loot Memorial Lecture entitled "My Success Story." The lecture was introduced by numerous professors who made frequent references to "their great friend Simon." This pleased "Square," he never realised he had made so many friends at the L.S.B. So instead of giving a lecture he announced that he would build an everlasting Squaregas fountain in the School. There were hysterical cheers—an emergency meeting of the Students' Union unanimously elected Simon an honorary past President . . . the tycoon had returned to his spiritual home.

Accounting Society

Over eighty students attended the inaugural meeting of the Accounting Society on 11th February. A constitution was somewhat laboriously adopted but due to the approach of tea the executive committee was elected with much greater expedition.

The society is an entirely new faculty society specialising in a field previously only inadequately covered by other societies. It's aims are to further the interest in Accounting in the School and to promote closer social contact between accounting students. With approximately only three girls taking Accounting this latter aim must be somewhat limited in scope.

The society will also maintain close contact with Accounting students in other English Universities through the recently formed National Association of University Accounting Students, in the foundation of which L.S.E. played a leading part; and with external professional bodies such as The Institute of Chartered Accountants.

All persons interested in either Accountancy or Accounting are urged to join; the subscription is a mere bagatelle—less than a good seat at the cinema; or at least to attend the meetings which are to be held later this term.

JOHN FLOWER.

MUSIC SOCIETY ON THE MARCH

Auditions and first readings are under way for the production of L.S.E.'s own opera. The libretto has been written by Raymond Chapman and is a version of Goldsmith's play "She Stoops to Conquer" under the imposing title of "The Happy Deception." The music is being written by a composition staff which comprises Norman McCleod, Alan Peacock and Geoff. (who's-this-guy-Beethoven) St**n. The Opera will be staged at the end of this term and, it is feared, will be supported by

the Orchestra under the baton of Geoff. (who's-this-guy-Toscanini) St**n. Mr. St**n assures us that the Opera is light in character, although he claims that the harmony has a modern flavour. Perhaps after Mr. Hopkins' talk we shall be able to understand it.

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presents

The delightful Russian Version in colour of Shakespeare's
"TWELFTH NIGHT"

also

Warsaw Remains

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Painting the Chinese Landscape

MONDAY, 4th MARCH OLD THEATRE 6.30 p.m.

THREE TUNS
(in the Union Building)
THE STUDENTS' OWN BAR

Eat at Charlie's

Take your lunch in the

THREE TUNS

Rolls and hot dogs

and

a large selection of beers, wines
and spirits to wash them down

PARTIES CATERED FOR

L.S.E. DRAMATIC SOCIETY

presents

A Great Double Bill

English Premiere

CECILE or School for Fathers

by Jean Anouilh

THE BROWNING VERSION

by Terence Rattigan

MARCH 5th, 6th, 7th

OLD THEATRE

Tickets 3/,-, 2/- and 1/6

L.S.E. BEAT CARDIFF

L.S.E. SOCCER CLUB

On Saturday, 9th February, our Soccer teams played Cardiff University. The first team game was closer than the final score, a win to L.S.E. of 3-0, might lead one to imagine. There were four Welsh Universities players in the Cardiff team, of which the centre-half especially played a good game. The opposing forwards always looked strong and, had not Thorn in goal played one of the best games I have seen from him, the score would have been very different.

His daring pick-ups from the feet of the Cardiff forwards were exceptionally good. In front of him the defence, as a whole, was not quite in top form in the first half, when the Welshmen played better football. However, our boys tackled very hard, whilst the inside forwards were always ready to help when danger threatened. The half-time score was 0-0.

Corner Scores

In the second half L.S.E. were on top against a team which played almost frantically to even the score. This was after Mellor on the right wing flabbergasted the defenders, by scoring directly from a corner with an in-swinger. Two more goals clinched the match, from Goodman and Cohm, who, with Pete Howarth, worked very hard and played good games. In the last few minutes the half-back line, led by Captain Strutt, who played brilliantly, successfully held Cardiff at bay.

Second Team do Well

The second team won 3-1 against Cardiff second. Here, Jo Bailey, the captain, played a great game. Bill Burrige also claims that he played a good game but Mick Wright playing behind him reports that only his own brilliance in blotting out both the opposing right wing and inside-right enabled Bill to distribute the ball unhindered. Altogether I must say that the team played well but a little more work by the forwards would have secured more goals. In the first team the forwards, the outside-right and the inside-left especially came back to help the defence to collect passes instead of clearances and to feed the other forwards. Furthermore, intelligent use of open spaces might lead to more goals.

Titbit

On Wednesday the second team, playing more like the first team, with the exception, so I am told, of the right-back, who preferred to play for the opposing team, collected a cricket score against the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, 11-2.

We must sadly relate the execution of 10 of the naval team by hanging and of the eleventh by the electric chair, since he was a baseball playing Yank. Their defence had played hard but with our block-busting ex-Army and Air Force types, they could only go down with their flag flying.

SCOUT AND GUIDE CLUB A.G.M.

The Scout and Guide Club held its Annual General Meeting on January 29th. The new committee elected consists of: Chairman, John Flower; Secretary, Janis Hills; and Treasurer, Alan Anderson. The programme for the rest of the session was discussed, and it was brought up that the club did not pay enough attention to outdoor activities, which are the essence of Scouting. A hike in the Chilterns has therefore been arranged, and plans are being made for a summer week-end camp to remove those post-Part I blues. Regular discussion groups are a feature of our indoor activities, and the next one with "Should there be closer co-operation between the Scout and Guide Movements?" as its subject, should prove interesting.

JANIS HILLS.

HOCKEY Paradise Regained

The 1st XI's turn of fortune must seem like a fairy tale to our thousands of supporters, for after a disastrous start to the term, Beaver has won three of its last four matches, whilst netting 15 goals again 2. Val Rudolph, who has taken over at centre-forward, put up an all-time record by scoring nine goals in two games. The jaunt to Cambridge, where we met Fitzwilliam House, resulted in a 1-0 win and a thick coating of mud for all concerned. The pitch, while fairly level, was exasperatingly sticky and in consequence the game was rather scrappy. Trying desperately to play their usual short passing game, the forwards took the honours of an exhausting first half.

While most of the Cambridge attacks broke up around the L.S.E. twenty-five line, obvious cracks were evident in their defence; and it was through one of these that Peter Charles scored the only goal midway through the first half. If the match was to be judged on a points system, the many short corners that Cambridge were awarded in the second half, might have won them the game. They

A.U. ELECTIONS

President Elect:

J. PERROW

Vice-Presidents:

J. G. GOSS

J. PAUL

General Secretary:

T. V. DAVIES

Asst. Gen. Secretary:

DAVID GOODMAN

Senior Treasurer:

IAN CARR

Junior Treasurer:

R. DAW

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Last January found six members of the L.S.E.M.C. in a coach heading for the mountains of North Wales, the latter eventually being reached at 3 a.m. local time. The Saturday dawned cloudy and chilly and it was with heavy hearts that the six set off through the frost and mist for the Carnedd. The weary slopes of Pen Lithrig were conquered and the six recompensed by a glimpse of the sun above them. A further hour's climb along a ridge to Carnedd Llewelyn brought the full joy of winter sunshine. The party was now well above the clouds and remained so until sunset. Visibility was nil looking down into the valleys, but the Snowdon block six miles away and Cadar Idris 30 miles away, stood out in the brilliant sunshine. A further walk along a ridge to Carnedd Dafyd was accomplished before the party headed into the dusk of the valley. The steep slopes were traversed rapidly, to the detriment of the ladies' jeans. Tyn-y-Shanty was reached after dark after a successful climb of some 13-14 miles. There was another successful expedition after dinner, as far as the tavern in Capel Curig.

The party arose bright and early on the Sabbath at usual Sabbath rising time. Hence little was done before lunch but for some rock climbing by certain vigorous elements of our party on the rocks to

pressed for almost the entire thirty-five minutes and yet could not get more than one or two clear shots at goal.

Who Said It?

In the last issue of this paper, some incompetent critic wrote that no one could score goals and that there were gaps in the defence: let us hope that he is now eating his words! All the players tired in the closing stages as the mud became heavier and muddier; but the cry was "hold out," and that we did. Anyone who bet heavily on us in the pools must thank Charles for scoring—and about time too—Dick Aspa for stopping innumerable corners with his shin-bone, Brian Corbishly for managing to stay with us for a whole game, the tireless work of Peter Bennellick and, of course, our enthusiastic supporters' club—who took the time off for a look round the town . . . ah well! Resting on laurels, however, is a risky occupation and any improvements which have come during the term will have to be further polished if the opposition at the Lowestoft Festival is to be made aware of our presence. E.J.R.

Rugby Club Disorganised Through Illness

Saturday, 9th, was an unfortunate day for the first XV. They fielded a side weakened, especially in the three-quarters, by the absence of Cory Morris, the Captain, John Owen and Brian Marks. Thus weakened they faced a strong Westminster XV, which the previous Wednesday had knocked U.C. out of the Cup.

Nevertheless, L.S.E. were in an attacking position for the early part of the first half, but slowly superior speed and fitness began to tell, and Westminster went over for two tries towards the end of the first half. Both were due to lamentable defensive errors.

In this respect the threes were particularly weak throughout the game. Admittedly they were up against a faster and bigger opposition, but this is no excuse for allowing the opposing centres to break through as often as they did. The chief fault was the bad lining up. Against a fast, strong three-quarter line, such as Westminster,

in defence, the threes must move up quickly and as a single line. This they failed to do and often in the second half two L.S.E. centres and a winger were faced with four fast attacking Westminster three-quarters, when the opposing outside-left escaped from the open side wing forward. Neither the stand-off nor the back row were covering across quickly enough to meet such a contingency.

In the second half, L.S.E. saw less of the ball from the scrums and line-outs, but this was accentuated by the fact that the Westminster centres were breaking through the L.S.E. line almost at will. The poor tackling of almost the whole of the side was revealed in this half. This is true to a limited extent of the forwards as well as the threes.

This half produced the only L.S.E. score, a kick ahead was fielded by the Westminster full-back, but he was tackled in possession by Malcolm Schofield, who passed out for Viv Davies to drive over in the corner. These two players are by far the most mobile of the forwards but often do not receive sufficient support.

Teamwork Lacking

On the whole, however, the forwards played hard and won an even share of the ball, in the first half; but unfortunately they tend to play as individuals rather than a pack. Mike Maud, at full-back, had a rough time but fielded and kicked well. Dave Wrightsen, playing his first game for the first XV, played steadily in the first half. He moves up on the ball very quickly but this was often a disadvantage in the prevailing conditions—the wet, muddy ball being difficult to handle.

With several hard games ahead, the team must recover the form it reached at the end of last term if it is to win these matches.

QUOTE NOTES

"Now here's a proof so easy that if you forget it you'll remember it."—Dr. Mishan.

* * * *

Charlie serving drinks to Jack Maddox's jubilant supporters: "Shall I tell you when your grant finishes, Mr. Maddox?"

* * * *

"Women is a consumer good, a wife is a producer good."—Economics tutor.

* * * *

"The pursuit of the unattainable by the unpredictable."—Post-grad. spokesman.

* * * *

"I will not use my discretion indiscriminately."—Returning Officer.

* * * *

Thought for the day: Peter Fletcher's, "something to do with the Union isn't he?"—Overheard.

* * * *

Professor Smellie—"Anything I might say will be out of date as soon as I might have said it."

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