

CHEAPER EATING AT L.S.E.?**'STOP VAC (SUBSIDISED) MEALS'****Says Sander Rubin**
(Former 'Beaver' Editor)

There are perennial complaints about prices in the L.S.E. Refectory. It is virtually inevitable that students, as everyone else, will complain about the high cost of food, but where students

depend upon an organization, such as the School, for many of their meals, there is always the additional feeling that someone in the organisation is "doing them."

Mrs. Ellis, the Refectory Administrator, is always the first for any complaints. Last year, however, she appeared before a Union meeting and, in the face of a barrage of questions, defended her policies to the satisfaction of the meeting. Union acquitted her of any mismanagement. Certainly minor points of dissatisfaction arise from time to time, but these are invariably ironed-out between Mrs. Ellis and the Refectory Committee in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

FIVE MONTHS

Nevertheless, the meals at our Refectory cost more than those at a number of other schools in London. If it is not mismanagement, what is it? The fact is that those schools which have cheaper meals close their refectories during vacation. The fact is that our Refectory loses large amounts of money in the five vacation months and makes a corresponding profit in the seven term-time months. The many who eat at the Refectory during the term subsidize the few who eat during the vacations.

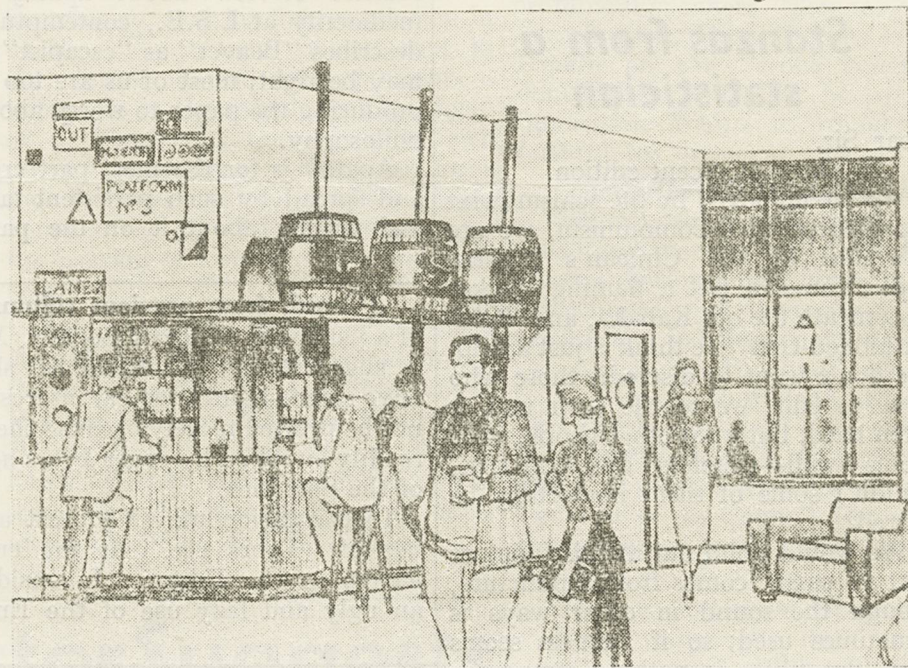
Mrs. Ellis has nothing to do with the decision to keep the Refectory open during vacations, nor has the Refectory Committee. Both of them would like to see it close during at least part of the off-season. Responsibility for the year-round operation lies with the School Administration, who control the L.S.E. Club. This club is the top management of the Refectory. It hires Mrs. Ellis, and she must operate the Refectory in accordance with its policies. She makes every effort to minimize the unavoidable loss
(Cont. Page 3, Column One)

**TORY DEBATER TO
PIERCE IRON CURTAIN****"Beaver" Reporter**

Mr. John Hipkin, one of the most forceful and frequent speakers in Union meetings was recently chosen by Union Council from a long list of applicants to represent the Union at the Karl Marx Institute of Economics in Bulgaria. Educated at Surbiton Grammar School, John Hipkin came to L.S.E. last October to read for B.Sc. (Econ), specialising in Economic History. He is a prominent member of the Debating and Conservative Societies.

Mr. Hipkin told our reporter that this would be his first visit to the continent. He said, "It would of course be presumptuous to suggest that any one person can in himself represent an institution like L.S.E.; but I shall try to indicate the general trend of student opinion here."

An account of his experiences will be published in the next edition of "Beaver."

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AND INSPECT HIS STOCK****AT****16, FLEET STREET, E.C.4.****Book Tokens Welcomed.****SHAPE OF DRINKS TO COME!**

The scheme for the new bar on the ground floor of the Three Tuns is now well advanced. The view of the bar illustrated above shows that the present partition will be moved to form a smaller vestibule at right angles to the old one. The telephone box will be placed in the entrance. Construction is estimated to cost £1,200 and will be undertaken during the Easter vacation. The bar is expected to be opened during the "Going Down" celebrations in June.

**BEVERLY BAXTER'S
ADVICE TO YOUNG
JOURNALISTS****by John Dunkley**

'The terrific fight for circulation is hurting the newspapers of this country a great deal. There is too much sensationalism, too much salaciousness, and too much triviality.'

All these factors, said Mr. Beverley Baxter, M.P., a former editor of the Daily Express and Sunday Express, speaking at L.S.E. Conservative Society's lunch-hour forum, denoted a weakening of standards. Public taste to-day was probably lower than it had been for some time. The newspapers did not necessarily create that taste, but they were reflecting it.

Idealism is at a discount just now, he declared. 'I think the newspapers need some new men—young men—not just journalists, but leaders in journalism.'

Increasing competition was giving wider scope for ability. If a paper had something to sell it should make up its mind what that something was, and should not expect the public to find out.

"BELIEVE IN YOURSELF"

Mr. Baxter, who gave an amusing account of the way he broke into journalism and of his earlier meetings with Lord Beaverbrook, had some advice for prospective journalists.

'One of the first requisites of the writer is that he should be a reader. Unless you are responsive to style in others you will never find your own style. You must realise that writing—and this applies to newspaper writing too—consists of sound design, and of architecture, before you become concerned with the meaning at all,' he said.

'Believe in yourself, and, if you can, find your man of destiny. In every successful life there is always someone who helps you in your first steps. Broaden your acquaintance, have confidence in yourself, and seize the moment when it comes.'

PALLY BALLY**By Our Motoring Correspondent**

Miles of clearly marged route and lucid directions proclaimed what seemed to be just another rally. But this rally was somehow different—not because of the quiet efficiency of the marshals, nor the fine condition of the sleek modern cars, nor anything of this sort, but because just a few hundred yards down the road a strangely assorted group of vehicles was gathered at the start of the L.S.E. Motor Club's inaugural outing.

However inconspicuous the start, this rally was soon brought to the notice of an otherwise peaceful Sunday countryside. Farm labourers were dragged from their feather beds to dig cars from the crops. Housewives anticipating a fate worse than death were disappointed to find that the desperate youth at the door wanted only

They Pay You For It Now!

A couple required to act as a young couple do! Two weeks in March, to be free any time of the day. Pay: £10 0. 0. p.w. Should be drama students, the boy taller than the girl—photogenic—URGENT. From NUS Vac Work) Bulletin N. 15.

a potato, thank you very much. A lorry driver was relieved to find that the Sunbeam-Talbot wrapped round his bonnet had not scratched the paintwork, though it was rather bent itself. British Railways are supplementing their services after the unprecedented number of enquiries about the Portsmouth train. The suspicions of many were confirmed by the sight of London University students crawling about the Oxford gutters, but they were only looking for bus tickets and college notepaper. Harry Ferguson was pleased to hear that his tractors can go where Ford V.8's cannot, though the Ford was only using two wheels. We were pleased to hear that the rally was won by that funny blue 1925 Austin with the yellow seats—the one held together by string and entered by a bloke called Clarke and his friend from U.C.

EARLY ELECTION**—Bevanite M.P.****MRS. BARBARA CASTLE, M.P.**
(Photo by courtesy "Daily Herald")**By WENDY YATES**

Mrs. Barbara Castle, prominent Bevanite M.P., recently addressed an open meeting on "The Economic Fiasco of Toryism". She said that the terms of trade had changed in our favour and that this had benefited the Government. In view of the increase in shareholders dividends it was surprising that there had not been more wage demands from the workers to off-set rising food prices. Mrs. Castle forecast a General Election in the near future, because the Tories would wish to avoid the consequences of the economic risks they were piling up.

On defence she commended the change of outlook in the Labour Party which had led Mr. Attlee to oppose the vast spending on weapons which would soon be obsolete. America was reducing her own armaments expenditure, while we, by maintaining the two year minimum for national service were labouring under greater difficulties than any other country.

Answering questions from Dan Greenwood and John Hipkin, Mrs. Castle explained her opposition to the "Black Pact". She said that we had no right to use our imperial power to obtain markets for our goods; but that we ought to raise wages and standards of living in the colonies so that it would not be necessary for coloured people to buy the products of sweated labour. She complained that Japan was prevented from exporting to China, her natural market, because of American pressure, and she deplored the "distortion of the world economy" which was now taking place, owing to the ban on exports of "strategic" materials to Communist countries.

The speaker, who is M.P. for Blackburn, pleaded for an extension of trade, and said that, given fair competition the British exporting industries could hold their own with other countries.

BEAVER

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A WORD IN YOUR EAR

from the Editor

Psychologists will probably seize upon the fact that the first issue of "Beaver" for which I am responsible publishes prominently on the front page a picture of a bar. Drawing the appropriate conclusions readers can confidently expect in future a more stimulating and intoxicating brew for their threepence.

Naturally we shall not be without our critics. One familiar Jeremian who wails through the pages of Clare Market Review about apathy and mediocrity at L.S.E., contemptuously describes "Beaver" as "escapist". He may be right; most of us are too busy producing the paper to worry about its philosophy.

Apathy is for the most part created and spread by such persistent talking and writing about it on the part of

older students of the school that all but the strongest minded fresher is rapidly hypnotised by the very sound of the word. "Beaver" will have none of it. We are escapist and proud of it (whatever it means).

One word more. "Beaver" has no official politics. We will print news of any L.S.E. activity (well almost any) which is of general interest and we will entertain no complaints from societies who send us nothing but expect their functions to be reported just the same. Signed articles will get priority over anonymous work, and the more controversial the material the better we shall like it.

News, gossip, ideas, scandal — the editorial ear is open to it all. And of course you will always know where to find me. There's a picture of it on the front page.



THE EDITORIAL FACE . . .

(Photo by courtesy Metropolitan Police and Prison Commissioners). 'X' certificate—not to be shown to any child under sixteen.

Letters to the Editor

Stanzas from a statistician

Dear Sir,
Re your recent edition.
We are unmoved by the schism twixt the Church and Communism, we are left cold by the Chilean's Russian trip. You can put a flaming cracker underneath the old Kabaka, and "Old-Fashioned-Girl" we think is just a drip. We don't want to discredit those who have to edit, we realise their task is often hard; but what other people write seems—well—tasteless, dull and trite; couldn't some of them immortally be barred?

We would point out at this juncture that a "pssst" comes from a puncture, though the sound in other ways is sometimes used; so if Tactless seems quite flat, there is nothing strange in that, and we in fact are not at all amused.

Did they get the cup from uncle to hand it on to Dunkle or pinch it from a jeweller after dark? Did the scullers or the eights cross the country jump the gates and run in record time around Hyde Park? The Liberals, we surmise, will wear trousers not just ties when they send their Party party to Peek Freans. And about this Squash club scandal, did she beat him with the handle? Oh we do enjoy these quaint domestic scenes.

Yours etc.,
HOMESCEDASTIC,
Room 315.
(You can call me sceda stic for short.)

Still more chivalry

Dear Sir,
Mr. Ray Newbigin's letter in your last issue implied that he did not understand the difference between women being treated as the equals of men and being treated in the same way as men. Perhaps he is unacquainted with biological differences which make this impossible.

A male bird displays a bright plumage to attract his mate—men show off their finer graces.

Mr. Newbigin would do well to consider that there is now a surplus of men to women in the population.

Yours etc.,
LYNNE GLANVILLE.

(This correspondence is now closed. We note that on this occasion the lady had the last word.—Ed.)

Mr. Babiak's critique

Dear Sir,
There are a number of points in your recent issues that call for comment.

I must first protest at the use of pseudonyms by your writers and correspondents. I should have thought that at L.S.E. at least one could have said what one thinks without hiding one's name. I suspect that your 'A-Political Correspondent' and 'Neutral Observer' are neither 'A-Political' nor 'Neutral', though 'Tactless' is appropriately named even if his articles are unnecessary.

Perhaps the use of a pseudonym saves the writer from facing the facts. With regard to the Vice-Presidential Elections, for example, I would point out that Ray Newbigin did not stand for the External Affairs Vice-Presidency; he merely stood in an election for three Vice-Presidents. Possibly Ray was under the same delusion as your correspondent, but can it be that he tried a little too hard for that office?

I also object to being told twice in one article to watch the notice-board
(Contd. next column)

(Contd. from previous column)

of a particular Political Society. Might I suggest that photographs should have some slightly topical interest and not be printed merely because they are readily supplied by eager Press agents of the Societies.

In conclusion may I protest at the use of "Yours etc." at the end of letters to the Editor. I consider it an ugly and lazy use of the English

(Contd. from previous column)

'yellow Press' or if it is making a facetious attempt to imitate them.

We would urge "Beaver" to adopt a less exaggerated style to combine interest with a more mature outlook.

Yours etc.,
WENDY YATES
LESLEY JACKSON.

(If we have indeed sunk to the standards of the 'yellow press' we offer our earnest apologies. Perhaps it was mere association of ideas—"Beaver" is prepared on Union paper—Ed.)

Criticising 'criticus'

Dear Sir,
I have been told that "Criticus" whose tilt at "Crossroads" and myself in your last issue is also "Tacitus", who writes the enjoyable little adjoining column called "Pssst". This does not surprise me. The quality of thought is similar, the style identical.

Because I stated that a depression is inevitable in the U.S.A. Criticus accuses me of "whipping the horse of Capitalism as it existed a century ago". He may not remember poor Mr. Hoover's speech in 1928 when he said that "every American would have a chicken in his pot". Mr. Hoover, however, did have the excuse that "The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money" was not around. If Criticus thinks that 25 per cent. of the American National Income can be devoted to capital investment

(Contd. from column 3)

for much longer—no one can stop him. Whether or not it is a religious dogma to suggest that the "fundamental causes of war are economic" depends upon what one means by "religious dogma". To take one example: If it is "religious dogma" to state that the Nazi Party was financed by German Capitalists who saw in them a way of solving their problems of surplus production through rearmament—well, maybe Socialism could be called a "religious dogma". I suggest, however, that if Criticus hopes to get a Ph.D. he had better dust out some of those mental recesses.

Criticus' statement "Scientific Socialism" (in case he didn't realise, this is a tautology—G.B.) is no more scientific than "Christian Socialism" is, to say the least, a little odd coming from one who attends a school of social science.

It is a pity too that Criticus' criticism of June Shale's article on McCarthyism should have come out so soon after "l'affaire Stevens". But one cannot expect a non-scientific social scientist to predict very much.

Finally, if Criticus thinks that he has left us Socialists at the crossroads, I trust he won't think me paternal if I suggest that he may come to a few more crossroads in the very long life which lies ahead of him—if he does, let us know.

Yours etc.,
GORDON BRIDGER.

Bernard Braden and his creditors

Monday, 1st March 1954.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Thank you very much for your note of January 28th and I am sorry not to have replied earlier. When one is working on a production to open in the West-End, all the days seem to be too short, and one's correspondence gets a month or so in arrears. The same thing is true of creditors, of course, but they keep sending reminders, so they have to be dealt with first.

I am delighted to enclose a photograph of Miss Kelly, who actually is not nearly as attractive as I am, but for some reason takes a much better picture.

We have obviously missed the issue that you had in mind, since the deadline was February 9th, but if you still want to do something about it I am always ready and willing to meet a girl reporter. If you, or she, would like to telephone me here sometime this week, we can arrange to get together.

Sincerely,
BERNARD BRADEN.

("Beaver" reporter Christine Merritt and Bernard Braden will be 'getting together' this week. An unexpurgated account of the interview—and Miss Kelly's photograph—will appear in our next issue. Order your copy now!—Ed.)

language and I know I did not end my last letter to you like that. While I could find much more to criticise, I will leave it for the present in the hope that the above may provide food for thought.

May I then beg to remain, as always,

Yours sincerely,
HARVEY BABIAK.

Insult to L.S.E.

Dear Sir,

From the three editions of "Beaver" published since the beginning of this session, there would seem to be a regrettable attitude towards reporting.

We realise that certain tactics must be adopted to maintain the circulation of "Beaver", but surely it is an insult to the intelligence of L.S.E. students to indulge in the sensational type of headlines and reporting to be found particularly on the front page.

We wonder if "Beaver" is unconsciously adopting the policies of the
(Contd. next column)

Sporting Letters From Sporting people

Dear Sir,—

May I enquire through your columns what is happening to the Boat Club? That aristocratic institution seems to be degenerating very quickly. For instance, there have been no reports in your columns about its activities, and its much advertised dance was a worse flop than the A.U. Ball, especially when it lost to the infant Rugby Club by two and a half points.

Where is the spirit of the Club? There is a friendly fraternisation between the men and the women, but nothing else. One of the flourishing romances has died, as reported in your last issue.

Admittedly, people are as unpunctual as ever, but why did a certain first team boat member refuse to pay the penalty imposed on him under the half pint rule?

There have been two new recruits this week — to row? No. To search for birds (feathered) in the islands etc.

Wake up Boat Club, or else next year the Cross-Country Club will not win a cup for you all at all.

Yours etc.,
S. T. R. OKEANDBOW

Ed.—The reason why the activities of the Boat Club have not received much space in "Beaver" is that its officials have not sent in any copy since time immemorial.

Point of information. The Boat Club victories are due partly to the Cross-Country Club and partly to the Sport's Editor .)

Dear Sir,

I heartily endorse the complaint of "Frustrated Sailor," having suffered the same treatment at the hands of the Sailing Club myself. I have discussed the matter with various members of the School, and am now firmly convinced that the Sailing Club is for the use of friends and relatives of the "Heirarchy" only.

Apart from all other considerations many students come to L.S.E. looking for the provision of facilities that are far too expensive and exclusive outside. To reserve any of the clubs for the use of those with "previous experience," is in direct opposition to the policy that University clubs should have. I strongly urge the President of the A.U. to examine closely the position in order to take the necessary remedies.

Yours etc.,
SUZANNE BRILLIANT

Dear Sir,

Will you please let your readers know the name of the person who was vicious enough to write, and coward enough not to sign, the remarks about Alan Robertson in your issue of 2nd March

It is apparently necessary to point out to you that personal remarks of this nature are vile in any publication, and ought to be unthinkable in one originating in a University.

Yours etc.,
C. JARRET

(The article stated that Alan Robertson conducted the most vigorous campaign. It also said that one student was heard to remark that L.S.E. doesn't like the so-called "bouncy" type.—Sports Ed.)

Psst. . . .

SO THEY CAN'T "PAC" UP!

When some members of one of our smaller political societies suggested recently that the group should wind up owing to lack of support they encountered, I hear, an unusual obstacle. The necessary winding-up resolution would require a special general meeting; but there were not enough members to provide a quorum! So the society continues to pursue its essentially peaceful course.

"GARDEZ L'EAU!"

Did you hear about the rugger club member who, last week, was challenged to drink three jugs of water in the Refectory in as many minutes did so—and failed to reach the end of the corridor in time?

GOING, GOING—GONG!

When L.S.E.'s mascot "Beaver" was appropriated by Imperial College recently, a small suicide party made an abortive effort to recapture it. Before conceding defeat they managed to collect a fine gong which they placed in a waiting taxi. Someone, however, inadvertently paid off the taxi-driver who drove away with the gong. "Beaver" has since been returned (via L.T. Lost Property). Anyone heard of the gong?

SHAW'S CORNER

I hear that the Shaw Library pro-

by Tactless

vides the best evening's entertainment in L.S.E. nowadays. Most popular attraction: "From Here to Maternity".

"HIP-HIP- . . . !"

BEAVER'S Moscow correspondent writes: There is widespread pleasure in the Kremlin at the broadminded conduct of a recent addition to the ranks of the Commissars of L.S.E.'s Conservative Society. He has been seen enjoying himself at the Soviet Embassy and is shortly to pay an official visit to our side of the "Iron Curtain". It is expected here that the official announcement of his conversion to the Only True Ideology will be made soon.

BITTER SWEET?

BEAVER is still curious to find out why the NUS officer, who is appointed by Council, was not selected by Council to go with the L.S.E. Delegation to the Easter NUS Council meeting.

IN THE "NEVER-NEVER LAND"?

We would like to know if there is any truth in the reports we hear that a Conservative, with Liberal support is making a concerted effort to subvert the political allegiance of a certain attractive feminine dignity of the Labour Society.

'The Exalted Valley'

reviewed by Andrew Mays

The Church of St. Thomas, Regent Street, was the scene of a production of an original play by Raymond Chapman the weekend of March 6th. "The Exalted Valley", of primarily religious interest was the responsibility of the Passfield Theatre Group.

With more than a passing nod in the direction of Eliot and Fry, "The Exalted Valley" related the life story of a pastor of some slight tendency to the martyr-complex, his struggles with worldly expediency and doubt of his vocation, and his final resolution in death. The action concentrated in the church chancel with spotlights a la theatre in the round, took the form of flashbacks in the minds of two minor characters. The reviewer found the reiterated parallels drawn between the life of Father Simon and the passion of Christ in poor taste, at best.

Francis Macmahon played the lacerated Father Simon. The remainder of the cast included: Alec MacGuire, Meegan Hudson, Graham Dickinson, Brian Hockey, Brian Moore, Dolina Elsey, Wendy Davis, and Tony Wilson. The play was produced by Raymond Chapman and Ken Bales.

THE STATE OF THE UNION

By Our A-Political Correspondent

In a desperate effort to stimulate interest in Union business the Thursday meeting has shifted to Room 8. Here the seats are arranged quasi-Parliamentary fashion, with Council members on both sides of a long centre table.

The immediate result was inevitable. The Tories, who form a sort of unofficial Opposition, grouped themselves together on one side with their prominent speakers—Terence Groome, Alan Tyrrell, Mike Thomas and John Hipkin on the "front bench". No doubt they will soon be appointing Opposition Whips to round up the faithful for divisions.

GOLDSTEIN'S LAMENT

Certainly they were much encouraged (and secretly surprised) recently when a motion moved by Alan Tyrrell regretting Union Council's "unenterprising and indifferent attitude to Private and Public Business" was passed by 45 votes to 30 with 15 abstentions. This had been widely—and erroneously—advertised as a censure motion, which, if passed, would involve the resignation of the Council. Consequently there was a larger attendance than usual.

The speeches were far from being "almost universally dull and insincere" to quote Walter Goldstein's lament in this term's C.M.R. Bob Johnson, for example, held the floor, and his audience, for no less than twenty-five minutes in a devastating and at times brilliantly irrelevant denunciation of the Council—punctuated by laughter from all sides of the house.

COUNCIL'S "STAR TURN"

Tony Pagan, Social Vice-President, quietly explained the many difficulties in arranging for prominent people to speak; but the debate revealed a good deal of concern about the dwindling attendances at meetings and the poor quality of some recent speakers. Replying for the Council, Bob Weinburg, genial ex-President of Yale, made a spirited rejoinder to the charges of incompetence. He is clearly the Council's "star turn" for awkward situations; but on this occasion the tide was running too strongly against him and the motion was carried amid prolonged applause.

The ascendancy of "politicism" in the Union this term is easy to criticise; but it is evidently creating more interest in Private sessions. The week following the above debate was remarkable for a relatively large audience during a discussion on grants which rapidly declined to no more than a dozen when Public Business commenced. This contrasts sharply with booming attendances reported by the political societies. Some hard thinking needs to be done by Union Council if the Summer term programme is to have any prospects of success.

DEBATING SOCIETY

Future Programme: Debating Tournament, finals tonight, Room 8 L.S.E. v U.C. v Lampeter v Birmingham; Motion: "This House prefers Brighton to Gretna Green," Monday 3rd May.

Refectory Prices

(Contd. from front page)

incurred during low-volume operation, but to eliminate the loss is an impossible task. Under the conditions imposed by the Administration, the Refectory simply cannot be run economically both in term time and out.

A SUBSIDY

What are the reasons for operating the Refectory in the five lean months of the year? The Administration points to the fact that at least some Academic and Administrative Staff, users of the library, and occasional short-course students are at the School at all months of the year, and it feels obliged to provide eating facilities for them.

Why it feels obliged to supply these meals below cost, at the expense of the full-time students, is not at all clear.

If the Refectory were permitted to close during the vacations, the savings would not become apparent immediately. At first there would be a period of reorganization which might last as long as a year or two. After the terms of employment of all the Refectory help had been adapted to the new conditions, however, a considerable amount would be saved.

Indeed, if the Refectory were permitted to close for only one month out of the year, so that all employees' vacations could be taken at the same time, there would not only be a very significant reduction in the wages bill, but fuel, light, and cleaning costs would be saved.

Longer periods of closing would give less than a proportional increase in savings, but when nearly half the yearly operations are at a non-economic volume of business it is certainly time for the responsible officials to consider every means of reducing the burden on the students who are paying for the losses.

FAME AND THE SPUR

There's an honoured sage whose's known as Brian

Who is alas damn near to dyun,
This liberal soul is sore afflicted
Because to rank the lad's addicted.
Of Union, Lib. Soc., Lib Fed. fame,
In U.L.U. now he seeks the same.
He sits and ponders with a frown
Behind his pipe and copious gown,
Yet o'er the chains of office trips
To fall on W.U.S. and Newport lips.

His love is scorned,

His rank suborned,

But yet he sits aloof and smokes,
And stoicly, a Liberal, chokes.

"ELSIE"

(And this is to certify that the above poem has been passed for publication by the official Union Censor, i.e., the Deputy President.—Ed.)

Liberal Director Suggests New Name for Party

On March 4th, the Director-General of the Liberal Party, Mr. H. F. P. Harris, spoke at a Discussion Group meeting on the future of Liberalism.

He began by saying how much he valued the inquiring spirit of Liberalism. There were more Liberals in the country than actually voted Liberal, but only a relatively small minority were prepared to come forward and help in furthering their beliefs. He disagreed with the suggestion that Liberals should form a Movement (to influence other Parties) rather than a political Party.

The Liberal Party must stress its moral convictions on the rights of the individual, and base its policy on principles rather than on expediency.

He considered that the Labour Party had failed to take the chance offered to it in 1945; he felt the chance of the Liberal Party might come somewhere around 1960. He did not think that the Party would gain many recruits from splits in the other Parties, partly because of the distinctive policy of the Liberals.

Answering questions, he declared himself against changing the Party's name to 'Radical'; he suggested that a title such as "New Liberal Party" would be preferable.



MR. H. F. HARRIS

Formerly head of Pitman's Colleges, Mr. Harris became Director-General of the Liberal Party in March, 1953. He holds degrees in Commerce, Economics and Mechanical Engineering, and has studied at Leeds, London and Oxford Universities.

Doing London

Angels in Love

reviewed by Robin Fox

Sex, it seems, has at last become a safe subject for the stage. We come to expect it of West End productions, humorous or profound. "Angels in Love", which starts with the promising situation of Little Lord Fauntleroy growing up and marrying without any knowledge of the facts of life, somehow fails to make the best of its opportunity to exploit the subject.

The story itself is thin and has to be helped out by contrivances which might have been witty had they not been so obvious. The lengthy satires on Victorian proposals and tea parties were amusing things in themselves, but failed to blend successfully with the general theme.

One was always conscious of the padding employed to help out the 'mistaken identity' plot which develops when a friend of the family is observed attempting to imitate his innocent lordship. Several jokes were over-elaborated, the audience having seen and laughed when the narrative was only partly delivered.

(Contd. next column)

Despite these handicaps the cast managed to make the play almost convincing; honours going to Miss Barbara Kelly, who, although a somewhat energetic "Dearest" carried the part with characteristic charm. Bernard Braden, who directed, gave the play life enough to keep our interest for two hours with an idea which, after all, had only enough relevant material for a one-act farce.

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WHAT PRICE THE AU NOW?

Athletic Union A.G.M. Fiasco

By C. Ian Jackson

The Annual General Meeting of the Athletic Union was held in Room 8 on Friday, February 26th. "Beaver's" reporter, while not a member himself was drawn by the plea chalked outside, "Do make an effort to attend", away from his tea and into the meeting.

Once inside, it appeared that most people had made the other choice for the lecture theatre was almost deserted. However your reporter accepted a copy of the retiring President's report and waited until 4.15 when the meeting was due to be opened.

At that time (when the meeting was NOT opened), 66% of those present were officers of the Union. The other three seemed a little bewildered to find that they were not the only ones there as each had presumed expected. At 4.20 p.m. the President asked those present to persuade some more people to come in, apparently irrespective of whether they were A.U. members or not. The Vice-President, who adorns a similar position in the Students Union, disappeared for the same purpose into the Library.

At 4.23 p.m. the President smiled — wanly.

At 4.25 p.m. the President declared the meeting open. One gentleman in a desire to be helpful, challenged the quorum. The count revealed that 35 members were present, five more being needed.

At 4.29 p.m. the necessary members had been collected, and the meeting made up for lost time by passing over Minutes and Questions arising even faster than the Student's Union.

ON WITH THE MOCKERY

The next item on the agenda was the retiring President's report. Mr. Henderson corrected a few typographical errors, and added that the various constituent clubs had already overspent by £55 on the supplementary estimates which had been voted at the Budget meeting last term. At the end of his report, which was accepted unanimously, there were 43 members present including the incoming Officers.

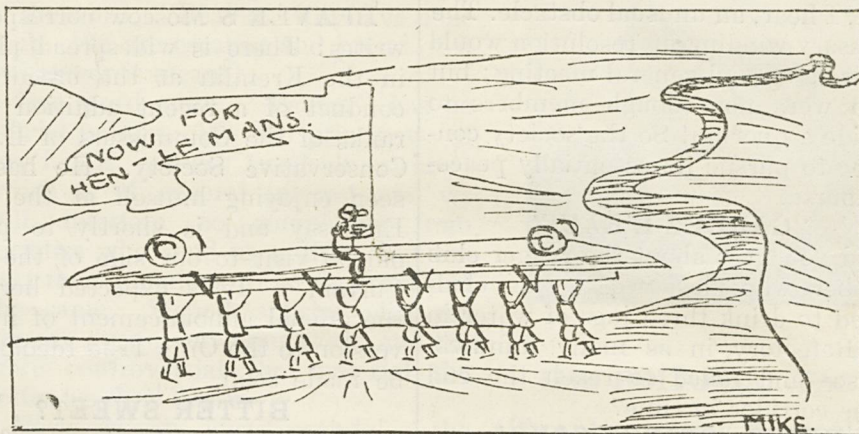
It is interesting to note that the report shows that the membership of the Athletic Union is 500. It is even more interesting to find that the School makes a grant to the Athletic Union of twelve shillings for each of the 2,187 students at the School.

The meeting continued in the normal fashion. The Secretary's report was accepted with two abstentions, one of whom was a person to whom Secretary's reports will be no novelty, the retiring president who was made a life member: Their the meeting reached the last item on its agenda. Here the Vice-president inquired what the Athletic Union proposed to do about the recovery of Beaver, since it was through the negligence of a constituent club that it was lost. The new President claimed that the custody still remained the responsibility of the Student's Union, although he hoped that members of the Athletic Union would assist in his recovery. One could not avoid the impression that he treated the affair as beneath the notice of a President.

FATJOUS A.U. ATTITUDE

The picture which the Athletic Union presents today cannot be allowed to continue. It is no use, for instance, the President complaining that "it is hard to see how the present membership can be substantially increased with the limited funds at our disposal" when the School is subsidising the Athletic Union by £1,260 on the basis of a potential membership of 2,100 while the actual membership is one-quarter of this number. Either the amount provided by the School is too small for five hundred people (one hesitates to calculate what it would have to be if everyone were members), or the Athletic Union is not managing its funds in the best way. When one sees that £167 was allotted to one club for an item of equipment—admittedly the basic item—which will only last for six years, one is drawn towards the latter conclusion. However, all criticism should not be destructive, and we would be pleased to hear why our feeling that it is time the A.U. was made once more a part of the Student's Union is a bad one.

Did you spot last month's deliberate mistake?



I WAS A DICTATOR

RON HENDERSON'S ASTOUNDING CONFESSION



Your correspondent has a misleading idea of the ideal A.U. May I enlighten him? The A.U. pretends to be nothing more than administrative. It endeavours to do a maximum of work in the minimum of time, in co-operation with all clubs. General meetings are a democratic formality and only hinder the Executive. Social functions are for all students; their failure reflects on the School as a whole. Elections are "fixed"; and the entire machine is efficiently totalitarian; why should it be otherwise? Only "Beaver" appears to worry.

Yours etc.,

RON HENDERSON.
(Ex-President of the A.U.)

(Ed.—Not only "Beaver", Mr. Henderson but all L.S.E. is worried.)

TO PROVE HE WAS NOT SUCH A BAD GUY

Few people who have met Ron can fail to have been impressed by the ex A.U. President with his easy manner and versatile sense of humour.

He is working in his third year for the B.Sc. (Econ) and specialises in International Relations. A native of Southend, he has spent most of his time in London during the past few years, where he seems to have succeeded in leading the full University life, combining work and sport with social activities.

Ron has packed action into his twenty-four years. After leaving school he served with the R.A.F. where he was well grounded in the pay branch of the service.

Having been demobbed he worked with an oil company before seeking wider horizons by embarking on this academic course.

His sporting activities at L.S.E. have been centred round the Hockey Club of which he is a past secretary and a regular playing member in the

1st XI.

During his term as President he worked very hard for the interests of the Athletic Union. He concentrated on the difficult task of supporting the individual Clubs with their own activities and at the same time encouraging Clubs to play a full part in the functions of the Union as a composite body.

Much attention has been devoted to the activities at Malden, where the excellent facilities are seldom used to full advantage. He also aimed to maintain and improve the close relations between the School and A.U. upon which much depends.

Ron's knowledge of the Constitution may not rival that of his predecessor, Keith Burlye, but in committee the President was seen at his best. Patience is one virtue he seems to possess and he will need it if he fulfills an aspiration to follow a teaching career.

Ron has done well for the A.U. and we wish him the best of luck.

TABLE TENNIS TRIUMPHS

L.S.E. was well represented this year in the University Table Tennis Championships. Apart from Burbridge and Griffiths, the two seeded players, four others won their groups and entered the first round proper. The successful players were Ajay, Madge, Yakil and Flude. Cooklin failed to reach the initial stage having lost narrowly in a very difficult group.

Both Burbridge and Griffiths reached the last eight in the singles event, the latter eliminating Greenberry, the 1951 University champion, before reaching the quarter-final stage, only to be beaten by Darlington (U.C.), the number one seed.

L.S.E.'s successes were even more pronounced in the doubles event. Here again the two seeded players were featured. Burbridge, partnered by Cox (U.C.), reached the Final after a good 21—16; 18—21; 21—14 win over Griffiths and Darlington (U.C.) in the semi-final. The winning

(Contd. at foot of next column)

WHICH WAY TO HEAVEN?

Seven churches in seven hours—a new feat for the Y.H.A. Club. The occasion was a Sunday ramble, memorable not only for the ancient churches of Essex, but also for the many ploughed fields traversed. One fair maiden failed to retain contact with her shoes in the mud—but chivalry is not dead in the Y.H.A. Club and she was gallantly rescued from her unhappy plight!

Chores a Chalden hostel recalled visions of L.S.E. at work in the Member's kitchen there the place was certainly unrecognisable after we had finished with it. Efforts to follow the Pilgrims' Way on this week-end were nearly frustrated. We feel sure that it would provide good practice for would-be winners of obstacle races.

(Contd. from last column)

pair eventually lost at 18 in the third game in the Final—a very creditable performance indeed.

The Boat Club's policy of a 'round the river' run seems to be paying dividends at last. Having beaten Cambridge Hare and Hounds, we suggest that they either take Oxford's place on April 10th or exhume the remains of Cambridge; returning them, via L.T. Lost Property, to Fenners immediately for reconstruction and rehabilitation.

It is, of course, common knowledge that wealthy members of the Boat Club own "buggies", and it has been suggested that they may have used some of the enormous profits from their last dance to buy an old, somewhat decrepit B.R.M. This situation probably accounts for their remarkable ability to win the Hyde Park Relay in record time. This, without the use of blades, except those borrowed from the Fencing Club, which facilitate the puncturing of opponent's tyres.

Their astounding ability to field two teams confirms the opinion that there is very little likelihood of them emulating Oxford's 1952 performance, when the "Dark Blues" sunk their winnings on the Wrong Hare, and the Cambridge Hounds beat them by twelve lengths.

There is, however, a strong possibility of them getting bogged down on the tow-path. If they continue their strenuous efforts, they may end up like "Uncle Dunkle"—double purple.

The Conquest of Snowdon

Blizzard Hits Climbers

On Saturday, 28th February, the Mountaineering Club left Perry Pass to climb Snowdon, accompanied by twenty members of the University Club. After taking the salute as the London regiment marched past—en route for the Pygtrack and Crib Goch—the L.S.E. rope detached itself and wound its way up Lleiwedd. The ridge was climbed in just over an hour in the face of a blizzard. The severity of the weather conditions naturally intensified with altitude, and lulls became not infrequent. Snowdon's summit was reached in "ninth circle" conditions. Wind force achieved a climax more reminiscent of Ben Nevis as it drove powder snow into deep drifts. Against this continuous snow blast which encrusted clothing, hair and eyebrows, the party decided that the only conceivable route off was down the Llanberis track. Progressing slowly the party was forced to a standstill as eyelashes froze together (a phenomenon not usually reckoned with in Wales) but fortunately there was nothing to see, only a swirling mass of white nothingness. Nor did the track exist, being buried under several feet of snow and occasionally forming a wind blown crest—which reminded the party that it was uncomfortably near the precipice of Crib y Disgwl to the right, and the sheer drop of Clogwyn d'ur Arddu to the left. The passage was made successfully.