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BEAVER

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

MARCH 17th, 1955

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SIR DAVID'S POOR RELATIONS

OPEN LETTER TO N.U.S.

Dear Mr. Coplestone,

I have been reading the material that your Executive has placed before the Minister of Education in connection with his review of the scale of grant awards.

Permit me, as the person who at the last Council moved the resolution which directed the Executive to take up the case of students nationally with Sir David Eccles, to make some comments on the way your Executive have gone about their task. They have stated our case in a Memoranda, and I must say at the outset that I was dismayed when I read this document.

It lacks force in argument, it is inconsistent and badly constructed—but these things could be tolerated, did it not fall so far short of its main purpose—to bring out the real and the worsening economic position of students. Had we not a right to expect that in this most important document, which bears directly and indirectly on the future size of 30,000-40,000 grant currently held in this country, that a true and live picture of student existence should have been drawn. Full attention should have been drawn to such outstanding features as the dependence of eight out of ten students on vacation earnings, the reliance—often humiliating—upon parents' aid, and all the other consequences of student community whose standards have been falling in an almost unchecked descent for the last six years. There is a wealth of testimony against the government's six year grant freeze, and its parallel policy of breaking down the position, achieved by 1949, where nearly every student had the same basic maintenance grant—and a more adequate grant than has been achieved before or since.

Your executive, Mr. Coplestone, has taken only a peep at this reality, and perhaps intimidated by the challenge that it threw up before them they all but turned their backs on it and produced a memoranda that falls short of the mark. The fall in the value of the State scale in real terms has been at least 34%, that is about 7/- in the £ for nearly all the students in my college who receive the State scale or its near equivalent. The cost of food alone, according to the official index, has risen by 40% since 1951, yet you, Mr. President, produce, with this powerful case for an increase before you, a submission on our behalf that would not bring the smallest frown to the urbane countenance of Sir David Eccles.

Let us assume, to take the most kindly view of things, that Sir David responds in full to the claim of the N.U.S. What would be the effect on our grants?

A student living at Passfield Hall—the L.S.E. Hostel—whose grant at present is lagging 29.5% in value behind the 1949 level, would get an increase of £34 if the claim of the N.U.S. is fully conceded, but leaving his grant still 17.5% behind the rise in the cost of living since 1949.

The student living in lodgings would be receiving a grant 18% less in value than the 1949 figure.

The student living at home who would get the biggest increase on the N.U.S. claim, would be 9% worse off than in 1949.

continued on page 2, column 3

THE TREASURER'S PROBLEM

The human mind has several facets; to develop or attempt to develop just a few would be alien to fundamentals of modern university education. Our Students' Union has attempted to make up for the cultural and social facets of its members, an inevitable result of courses in Economics, Politics and allied subjects. A very satisfactory sign of the success of the multifarious activities of the Union is, in fact, the ever-increasing financial demands of the various societies and organisations.

But what are these demands to be met with? This year, for instance, even in spite of bringing interest on investments and the Ents. Com. profit into account (raising the total expendable income to £1,599), several of our activities are finding an undue and discouraging shortage of funds.

A case for increased expenditure, it is obvious, is easy to make; but is it justifiable? I think it is. Take *Beaver*, for instance. When the decriers of *Beaver* have done their worst and cynics have curled their lips up to their brows, it still remains an indubitable fact that a non-existent *Beaver* is far worse than a *Beaver* with plenty of scope for improvement. And it is equally evident that continuity and improvement in quality in any organisation lacking in funds would probably defeat superhuman ability. Compare our subsidy of £92 to the £333 that another College in this University can afford its newspaper.

Our Film Society is probably the best organised and successful among the social activities of this Union. But while the Film Society in another College gets a pat on the back by a leading newspaper for their own productions, our Film Society can do nothing on those lines but twiddle their thumbs (and probably curse the Senior Treasurer) for a total lack of funds to organise a Film Unit.

What about the administrative office of the Union itself? The same person who attends to typing has to act as inquiry officer, tend the duplicating work, attend to the smooth running of the Office, and as if this is not enough, face the tom-fool repartee of the unemployed member passing the time of the day. A certain College can employ a full staff of a book-keeper, a typist, and a third person as a Permanent Secretary who gives efficient service corresponding to her high pay and the superannuation benefits she gets.

The above are only a few instances of the glaring consequences of our financial stringency.

Compare to our *per capita* expenditure the following figures of other Unions (heads like athletic activities and house expenses, which certain unions incur and we do not, have been eliminated for comparative purposes):—

L.S.E.	12 0
U.C., London	£1 18 6
Bristol Varsity	£4 0 0
Manchester Men's	£3 0 0
U.C., Exeter	£3 10 0

(figures by courtesy of the Senior Treasurer)

I hope this serves to awaken the general body of members to the urgent need for a greater grant from the School.

SUBHASH KAMERKAR.

S.P.Q.L.

THOUGHTS ON AN EDITOR

"A would-be satirist, a hired buffoon, A monthly scribbler of some low Lampon, Condemn'd to drudge, the meanest of the mean, And furnish falsehoods for a magazine."—Byron.

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JAZZ BAND BALL

We were convinced that the clarion trumpet call would at last bring the twilight people scuttling from their holes in the darker corners of the Old Building, but it seems that we were mistaken. The Bohemians of Houghton Street did not join the evergreen throng of earnest young men and women for the Jazz Band Ball. It was only by extreme good fortune that we ourselves made the chance acquaintance of a girl who had become an existentialist after a day trip to Boulogne.

The circle of jivers as more and more became adventurous enough to try their hand, and the subsequent twistings and turnings and falling in coils were certainly pretty to watch. Although none of them seemed polished enough to apply the more advanced Hip-throw and half-Armstrongs, they were zestful and sincere, even if at times the resemblance to Cornish wrestling was at times alarming.

The musicians seemed altogether too clean and well dressed for a Jazz Band Ball. Three members of the group even sported some kind of plum-coloured uniform; perhaps they play for Billy Cotton during the day-time. Whatever the case there is no doubt that they were brothers under their sheepskins and music fairly ripped through the Refectory. This may be yet another misconception, but we had always imagined that hot music flourishes most exotically underground, below the Plimsoll Line of our normal wash-a-day world in cellars and the larger London sewers; alas, we were again disenchanted! Alex Welsh and his band fitted easily into the faintly blue upper atmosphere and played us all out of ourselves.

Everyone thought it a huge success; the net profits were quite reasonable, and taking the practical view I suppose this is what really matters.

D. FEWTRILL.

IRELAND FOR EVER

Ireland, for ever equated with bogs, navvies, "blarney", and perpetual pregnancy, is considered with love and sympathy by those who know her and her history. Yes! History provides the answer to why my native land is as she is to-day—nationalistic, inhibited, and dying.

On March 17th, to some Irishmen like myself, the shamrock—reputed to be St. Patrick's "Ace in the hole" when he was attempting to explain the Blessed Trinity to the ancient Irish Kings—is symbolic of the unity in the Irish in their ability to express "inner" self; their intelligence sensitive to humanity—and its problems; and their desire for the absolute in knowledge and in love.

To others, St. Patrick's Day is the day on which to drown homesickness and hereditary nostalgia for the Emerald Isle, with Guinness or Jameson's whiskey, in New York, London, or—of course—Liverpool.

Perhaps I shall suffer a like homesickness, but I hope to remain conscious long enough to explain—that James Joyce, W. B. Yeats, G.B.S., are no more English than was T. S. Elliott. LEN CROSBY.

Union To-night!

Thursday night is Union night, and this evening the first motion is that "This Union, feeling that the spurious reputation of the Boat Club is completely ill-founded and unjustified, and grossly over-estimates their meagre capabilities and the extent of their purile activities, calls upon the Boat Club to either justify their reputation, or to admit their incompetence and return to the river".

The second motion states that "This Union regrets the recent visits, late at night, of the Archbishop of Canterbury to Buckingham Palace".

ALL ARE WELCOME!

OPERA AT L.S.E.

L.S.E.'s first-ever full-scale opera in the Old Theatre on Friday, March 18th, at 5 p.m., when the Music Society will be giving a full concert performance of Donizetti's "L'Elisir d'Amore".

The leading solo part in this ambitious work will be taken by Donald Watt, a lecturer in the college, and, although it is hoped that some singers from the Glyndebourne Opera Company will also be taking part, most of the choir will be composed of L.S.E. students and staff.

Finding the scores for the production gave the musicians some trouble; apparently some were eventually acquired from Covent Garden, where they had been transcribed by hand in 1860 for the only presentation ever to be given there. Additional dialogue is being written and spoken by Walter Goldstein and Derek Howard.

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POLECONIC POST

To the Editor of *Beaver*.

Sir,
I would like to draw your attention to a notice on the Labour Society notice board advertising the recent "Laski Memorial Debate" in which Mr. T. E. Utley, a guest of the Union, was described as "the Conservative excuse for an intellectual".

Mr. Utley has been blind since the age of nine. He has had a tremendous struggle against his affliction; a struggle from which he has emerged victorious.

I do not wish to justify or criticise his position as one of the leading theoreticians of the Conservative Party. Mr. Utley graduated from Cambridge with a first class honours degree and is now a leader writer for *The Times* and *The Spectator*.

Such a cheap smear as appeared on the Labour Society notice board would perhaps be expected at a street corner meeting but not in a University. Those who saw Mr. Utley mount the platform and deliver his speech will agree that such remarks are to be deplored.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM T. GOODING.

* * * *

"U.N." AND "WORLD GOVERNMENT."

To the Editor of *Beaver*.

Dear Sir,
We notice in your last issue, under the heading "The United Nations Society", some remarks concerning our Society. As your correspondent remarked, the United Nations Society has recently been very successful. To some extent, our memberships are complementary and there is a certain overlapping in our respective ideals.

We felt that it was only fair to give them a chance by being less active ourselves, and we rejoice that they made such good use of their opportunity, for we believe in co-operation, not only on the international plane, but also between Societies. We have now decided to become more active, but no doubt the remarks of your correspondent are, if not of present, at least of historic interest.

Yours faithfully,
THE SECRETARY,
WORLD GOVERNMENT SOCIETY.

DO NOT FORGET ! ! !
MASS X-RAY
MARCH 17th and 18th

(continued from previous column)

our neighbours and investigate their points of view.

To-day Nature offers us her alternatives with a choice which is clearer than ever before—the loss more certain, the positive gain more sure. "I call heaven and earth to record this day against you that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live."

Humanity has staked its very life upon its ability to find peaceful uses for its new power. People everywhere are longing for the men who can demonstrate that "we are all of one flesh". Our delegates have a great opportunity to prove "our" sincerity to their Chinese hosts. This must be their solemn resolve.

cont. from column 2, page 1

Is this keeping up with the rising cost of living? Reflect further, Mr. Copplestone, that these increases you hope to secure will have to bear the strain of any further rises in the cost of living that take place before the next revision in 1958!

But if we leave the kindly view to one side and take a draught of realism, you would think the N.U.S. either a body of innocents or a company union. Surely you are aware that it is an elementary rule of collective bargaining to ask for more than you hope to receive. What new psychology is this that believes it is a good thing to ask for only half, or less in some cases, of what our actual needs dictate—and are we, the receivers of the grants, expected to applaud? We leave that to Sir David.

The N.U.S. is not a company union, and so I ask how is it that such a position as this can arise? Your general lack of understanding of these problems is appreciated, but did you give careful study to the survey of student expenditure that you tackled on the memoranda? This survey is based on the returns made by a few University authorities; the information that could be provided by the student is spurned—it "would be unreliable because of a probable tendency to exaggerate". The average student certainly would exaggerate if we are to "consider a student who dresses as the average person, does not smoke or drink and who indulges in no luxury at all". If, as our norm, you are such an admirable creature as this, Mr. Copplestone, then your needs may indeed be covered by the meagre sums calculated in this survey. I must say that the students of my college do smoke, and drink, and go to the pictures occasionally and even have a holiday, perhaps, in the summer, and surely it is no social sin to expect the State to recognise this in a practical way, since it is a normal balanced mind that the Universities should be aiming to turn out after three years' study.

Now, mark you, if you think I am distorting the facts, take another look at the table on page 7 of the survey from which you calculated the percentages I referred to earlier, and which you put before Sir David as the desired increases. Compare these figures of so-called expenditure in 1955 with those of the present scale drawn up in 1952 and note the difference.

	N.U.S. Survey 1955	State Scale 1952	State Scale 1949
London			
Hostels	270	254	241
Lodgings	241	246	241
Home	199	180	180

The result is plain for all to see. The student living in lodgings is, according to the survey, supposed to be spending less than his present grant, and in fact the amount given corresponds exactly to the amount of his grant in 1949, when the cost of living index was 109 as compared with 146 to-day! Yet more revolutionary the student at home is spending considerably less than he received in 1949. If you say, "but we admit that the survey figures miss a lot of items out," then I ask of what value is the survey for calculating a claim of increased student expenditure, and isn't it precisely because you accepted these figures as valid that you arrived at the low figures that you have now advanced to Sir David as the students' claim for an increase.

To bring a breath of reality into the discussion let me refer you to a survey done by the Statistical Department of this College, which you will find in your files. They show that in 1949 the student was spending approximately £34 more than his grant: in 1953 the figure was even higher. Surely, how much

Points of Information

by THE PRESIDENT

"Responsibility" and "irresponsibility" are much abused words in almost any organisation. The former is often the convenient standby of the complacent bureaucrat, devoted to a "do-nothing" policy and a "don't rock the boat" philosophy. The latter is his favourite charge against anyone with a more constructive approach. The result of this successful confusion in terms is usually either a victory for the bureaucrat or for the genuinely irresponsible group who capitalise on his obvious distortion.

None of this, however, should hide the fact that the words do have a real meaning. A working definition of "responsibility", for example, is "the extent to which a principle or action can be pressed without undermining an organisation's capacity for effective future action". Admittedly this is a subjective and elastic criterion, and it is only natural that people in different positions should sincerely differ in their interpretations.

In the case of the Union, for instance, the School Authorities seem primarily interested in ensuring that nothing is done by what, they insist, is an involuntary, unrepresentative body, that could conceivably hurt, or be twisted to hurt, the School's reputation as they see it.

The Union member, on the other hand, or rather, the member who comes to Union Meetings and is convinced that most of his colleagues could also if they really wanted to do so—generally considers the Union his proper vehicle for any matter he considers to be of student concern—often regardless of whether the Union can do anything about it—while there are those on both sides of the house who seem unable to differentiate

(cont. from foot of previous column)

higher it would be in 1955! These figures refute the N.U.S. survey, and do you not agree that they correspond to the expenditure of any reasonable student? Obviously you can't spend what you haven't got.

However, please note, Mr. Copplestone, and I make this point very carefully, that even if your survey had been realistic, those few minutes' simple arithmetical calculations you did on the survey figures to arrive at your percentage claim was a completely unsound way of calculating the claim you were to make. A grants claim, like a wage claim, is for money you have not received, and therefore a calculation on expenditure over a period of a few years will not give you the correct figure. An expenditure survey is useful in showing the trend and the distribution of a student's expenditure, but it has no use beyond this. The only guide you have got in making a claim is the cost of living index. It is an unpardonable omission that you never once mentioned the cost of living index—why? Must the N.U.S. be the only organisation which does not take into account the general rise in the cost of living? The Ministry of Education might not like the implications of an appeal to the cost of living index, seeing as how they have kept grants more or less stationary over the last six years. But then, in whose interests has the Ministry been acting: certainly not in the student's interest, and certainly not in the public interest. Pardon my etiquette if I quote the *Daily Telegraph* at you—"Can we afford to be so parsimonious?"

between "student" and "political" concern.

Union Council is caught between the two. On the one hand, it is elected by, and must consider itself responsible to, a far larger and more representative group than ordinarily attends Union Meetings, and also must negotiate with the School Authorities who alone can supply the Union grant and many other things we require. On the other hand, it is charged with implementing the expressed wishes of a weekly general meeting, however unrepresentative, so long as it is quorate with 60 members, and to do so within the restrictions laid down by the School Authorities.

Hence Council's particular responsibility, as a both representative and executive group, to give a constructive lead to the Union not only in initiating actions to fulfil the Union's constitutional purpose, but also in discouraging actions which, however much they may appeal to some members on emotional or political grounds, fall outside that legitimate purpose and had restriction-conscious School Authorities grist for their mill that grinds exceeding fine.

The dilemma and the duty of Council are well illustrated by recent Union resolutions and their relation to School Regulation 8, which literally prohibits the Union or any officer or member from "sending resolutions to individuals without the Directors permission". One resolution seeks, through the Unions intervention, to secure from the Iraqi government authorities the restoration of the grants of one Union member and nine other Iraqi students, whose grants were, in Union's view, cancelled on the basis of unsubstantiated charges that would seem trivial and unjust even if they proved true. Obviously the implementation of Union's laudible intention requires the private communication of the text or substance of the resolution to the Iraqi authorities who alone can reinstate the grants and who are reasonably likely to do so if they gather British student opinion condemns the cancellation. To say that sending the resolution to the Iraqi authorities would violate Rule 8 would be tantamount to saying that it is all right for Union to discuss a matter that falls within the scope of the Constitution (approved by the Board of Governors) but it must not attempt to implement its decision. Here, then, a responsible Council clearly must do its best to seek to fulfil Union's mandate, and where "irresponsible" they would be making a mockery of the Union which (as they like to stress) they created and finance.

"Beaver" Wonders . . .

- If the N.U.T. have paid any election expenses lately?
- Why Lab. Soc. didn't challenge the D.P. Election?
- If the Rationalist Society really adopted Ian Finch: if not, who did?
- Just how many pieces in the Revue did Mr. Chapman write?
- If the Revue is on the Index (see Song of Solomon VII)?
- If Geoffrey Stern has been elected Horror Comic 1955?
- What can we say about the President this week?
- What is Rule 8?
- If Ibsen edits Sennet?
- Errata—For "Song of Solomon" read "Proverbs".

Quo Vadis?

L.S.E. has always been renowned for its spirit of academic liberalism, and in sending Joe Mensah and Ashok Desai as its representatives to The People's Republic of China it has once again underlined its capacity for unbiased judgement. They are, we believe, the first students from a British University to be invited there since the revolution, and their visit is of unparalleled importance to all students in a world bedevilled by rumour and half blinded with fear.

During the past ten years east and west have slowly but surely drifted apart. The wartime alliances are all but forgotten. Nowhere is it thought respectable to recall them to the public memory. It seems incredible that such a situation could have come about.

August, 1945, saw the Second World War pass into history. Two victories militarily more complete and geographically more extensive than any recorded in history had combined to leave the world a blank slate, ready for the tool of the engraver to mark out a new heritage, and confront the United Nations with the soul testing responsibility of power unlimited. How absolute is this power and how gigantic their responsibility has been underlined by the recent Hydrogen Bomb tests at Bikini and in the Soviet Union. A veritable revolution in human affairs has occurred, confronting the world with stark and urgent problems, on which it behoves each one of us to search our consciences and make up our minds. With the obliteration of Hiroshima the world set course for better or worse into uncharted seas. There can be no turning back. The defeat of Germany and Japan in 1945 was in grim reality "the last victory". Let us not delude ourselves: no country can now look forward to victory as the prize of a successful campaign. The outbreak of another World War spells the ruination of us all. The powers of destruction have now gone far beyond the possibility of effective defence. Either we solve our differences peacefully or civilization as we know it perishes.

Mensah and Desai are in an almost unique position. They are going to a great country with a golden future as the guests of a government supported student organisation. They will be shown the many achievements of a new regime, and exchange with the Chinese all our hopes for the future. But these hopes, woven in the sunbeams of peace, can be annihilated in the shadow of war.

Only in a spirit of friendship, and with the willingness to live and let live, can we hope for an enduring peace. It is conceivable that the ideological conflict now taking place will defy solution and may even be replaced by other problems which we cannot now foresee. We may never solve some of the problems of the world, but we should at least try to understand the difficulties of

Round the Parties

No. 2 THE LABOUR SOCIETY

The Labour Society contains a politically heterogeneous group of individuals—from Dennis Greenstreet to Eric Thompson, Margaret Jenkins to Ruth Nixon, Wally Goldstein to Jimmy Jupp. However, there is a clear distinction between those prominent members of the school who are active and those whose membership is wholly passive.

"The Labour Society is the largest and most active political society and has a wide range of activities which can appeal to many groups"—thus writes the Chairman of the Labour Society in the last issue of *Beaver*. It is still true that Lab. Soc. could not help being anything but the largest political society. It has been a little smug about this achievement over the years. It does not appear to have embarked on any new project in its activities for a long number of years. There is little record of its ever attempting to produce new ideas or do much constructive political thinking. On the credit scale it has provided a remarkable selection of speakers.

However, this term the range from which it selects its speakers seems uninspiring (the Socialist Society often shows more imagination) at a time when there is such increased activity in the other political societies.

The Labour Society has held an important part in the national Labour Students' Association, providing many of its officers and national executive—such as Tom Sloan and Chris Rowlands.

If the Labour Society is to maintain its position inside L.S.E. and if it is to productively sow its ideas on the virgin soil that is the political mind of many undergraduates it will need a more vigorous and imaginative leadership than the Labour Society has had for two or three years.

It certainly looks as though it has the people to do this; the old firm of Jimmy Jupp, Brian Van Arkardie, has gone into retirement, and a new committee has just taken office. It is thought that this is the best committee Lab. Soc. has had for many a long year. Members like Jim Sharpe and Peter Fletcher are obviously going to make their mark, whilst the three Nigerian first-year members, Rodi Okorududu, Kwesi Hackman and Sid Kolo, have already proved their worth at many discussion groups and visits. With Tobey Dawson as

the traditional representative of the Canadian C.C.F., Janie Pratt and Shirmey Livingstone to provide the other female interest, and Ian Fulton and Mike Dagenhart as old experienced hands. The key to the success or failure of this committee will be the Chairman, David Rubinstein. Energetic and enthusiastic, but with only a term and a half's experience at L.S.E., he probably realizes the difficulties involved.

This session has seen the end of an era—that of Lab. Soc.'s dominance of the Union. The period of this rule should not be allowed to pass without some assessment of the achievement or otherwise, although this is not the place for it. Just at this time, the Society has once again taken to official intervention in the Union elections, an experiment which may well be soon ended. This intervention is not itself very important—it seems to be a distinction of tactics rather than principle. All the political societies now participate in Union elections, openly or otherwise—so this is a problem of political societies in general, rather than of Lab. Soc. in particular. This decline in Lab. Soc.'s position in the Union will force the Labourites to establish their case on merit and will be an incentive to produce good Labour speakers on the floor of the Union. An automatic majority must have been pleasant but was never healthy for Lab. Soc.

The future of Lab. Soc. will affect both the character of the students and the vitality of its leadership in the future. It is unlikely to be split by present national differences in the Labour Party. It can expect to find a continued interest in L.S.E. without the same ease of preaching to the converted. Socialism is probably still on the defensive—but the *Clare Market Revue*, this issue, has seen what might well be the first thrust of an intellectual counter-attack. If the leading members of Lab. Soc. throw complacency overboard it will add an increasing positive contribution to the political life of L.S.E.

Random Harvest

The China tour election, which induced one of the highest Union polls in recent years, demonstrated the good sense of L.S.E.'s electorate. Mr. Mensah, an African, and Mr. Desai, an Indian, were chosen from a field packed full of worthy and capable candidates. Their observations made in China should prove intensely interesting when they report back to Union next term. Both delegates are from under-developed areas of the world, and their attitude towards China's contemporary problems, economic and social, should indicate an expertness and sympathy not always characteristic of Western tourists in the Far East.

The annual Revue, "Fast and Loose", was a dismal affair. For two long hours on Monday and Tuesday of last week the Old Theatre was transformed into a particularly low quality Corn Exchange. Mr. Sparrow and his talentless performers failed, not so much because of their inherent limitations but because the producer never perceived that these limitations were inherent. The Revue lacked restraint and therefore sophistication, and most of the cast perpetrated the cardinal error of attempting to compete with the spontaneous humour emanating from the gallery. The incessant bombardment of the stage with

toilet paper was an eloquent hint to all concerned in the production that it badly needed cleaning up.

Unqualified congratulations to Mr. Claudio Veliz and the editorial staff of C.M.R. This term's issue, which was sold out within a few hours, was a journalistic necklace of literary pearls. Most of the contributions attained a degree of poignancy and relevance hardly commensurate with the low level of intellectual activity characteristic of present-day L.S.E. C.M.R. in 1955 may do something to raise that standard.

The Debating Society held its A.G.M. on Wednesday of last week. Few of the major posts were contested. John Hipkin will assume office as President of the Society at the beginning of next term. I understand that he intends to persuade his new committee to invite Sir Oswald Moseley to be the Society's first guest speaker during his term of office. His intention to invite this well-known British fascist is motivated by his extreme disappointment at the Liberals' "betrayal" of liberal ideas last term. You may remember that they withdrew an invitation to Sir Oswald Moseley because of the immense wave of popular feeling this aroused at L.S.E. against this decision.

The State of The Union

The results of the elections for Deputy-President and General Secretary have surprised few informed observers. The closeness of both results was unusual however, and it was a relief that no challenge was made and no recount demanded.

There seems to be more doubt about the Vice-Presidential elections, though, and the regulation stopping Societies from taking an active part in the elections has been declared illegal by the Constitution Committee. It is to be expected that the other political societies will follow Lab. Soc.'s example and adopt official candidates—a practice forbidden by the Union some four years ago, but now generally accepted as inevitable. As things stand, however, the three elected Standing Officers of the next Council will represent each of the three strongest political groups in the Union. This week's political surprise has, in fact, been Miss Ruth Nixon's decision to join the national Communist Party. This will doubtless result in a large percentage increase in the membership of Com. Soc.—but we understand that Miss Nixon is still a member of Lab. Soc. and voted at its last General Meeting.

The President's campaign for brighter Union Meetings is to be further implemented by an application of the serial story technique. The last Meeting finished with a member of the Union about to move him out of the Chair in an

attempt to reverse his decision to rule a motion out of order. His decision, which has Council backing, concerns a motion by which the Union would express "its concern at the sentence imposed on one of its former members, Mr. Paul Sweezy, for contempt of court in the State of New Hampshire, U.S.A.", and the President refused to accept it for three reasons. The first was based on the School Regulation 8, which states that "no member of the School may, without permission of the Director, use the name and/or address of the School, or the title of a body or society incorporating the name of the School, when sending resolutions to individuals or organisations . . . It is immaterial whether action is taken by a member on his own behalf or for any union . . ." This would, doubtless, make the motion of little use if passed (for the President is apparently aware that the Director would not give his permission in this case) but it is difficult to see why it makes the motion out of order.

The President's other reasons were more substantial. There is first the Standing Order defining Private Business as that "dealing with the administration of the Union and Union policy in student matters"; but this might be suspended—though, as it does not relate to procedure, this may not be possible. In any case, however, there is the section of the Constitution dealing with the objects of the

Union: "to promote the welfare and the corporate and social life of the students; and, through the Union Council, to represent the students in all matters relevant thereto except those relating to Athletics". It seems impossible to get round this, and doubtless the Deputy President would think twice before over-ruling the President, even if the latter was moved out of the Chair.

It is to be hoped that the motion will not be discussed, for once the scope of the Union's Private Business is widened so far there will be little that we will not soon be discussing—possibly, even, the Union may be regretting the rejection of former members by the British electorate in a few months!

The next instalment of this fascinating struggle will take place to-night, but one thing we will not have to face is the set of Constitutional Amendments which have been on the Agenda for the last four months. Only one has obtained the required two-thirds majority, but this was the most important, and Mr. Thompson must feel that his patience has had some reward!

Another veteran, the motion to set up a Committee to guard our mascot, had also been passed. The Captain of Boats has been added to the *ex-officio* members, and the Committee is to be entitled "The Union Jack Club". We seem to have heard that name somewhere before!

the
problem
of
packing
the
goaf



Discuss economic aspects of this. Discuss facial sutures in trilobites. Give an account of Klein's representation of the lines of S_4 and the points of S_6 . Compare the significance of the avamatic works of Hauptmann and those of Brecht. Explain the marginal productivity theory of Wages. Characterise the art of Caravaggio.

You can't know everything

but it helps if you read **THE OBSERVER** every Sunday

SOCCER CLUB

SUCCESS IN U.C. TOURNAMENT

League Position

L.S.E.'s defeat of Imperial College by 5 goals to 2 on Wednesday, 2nd of March, must rank as one of the major achievements of the season. I.C. have lost only two games in the league this season, both defeats being suffered at the hands of L.S.E. This victory gives the 1st XI an excellent chance of topping the premier division for the second season in succession, providing that the key game against U.C. (also close challengers for the title) can be won. The 2nd XI are assured a position in the first three places of the Second Division, while the 3rd XI will finish approximately halfway in Division III.

U.L. Six-a-Sides

The annual "Six-a-Side" tournament was held at Mootspur Park on Saturday, March 5th. L.S.E. entered four teams which experienced varying fortune. The tournament was divided into two sections: a winners' tournament, and a losers' tournament—the latter being a competition between all the teams knocked out in the first round of the competition proper. The L.S.E. "A" and "B" teams were both eliminated in the second round, due mainly to their inexperience at this type of soccer, which obviously calls for a different method of play to that of the normal game. The L.S.E. "C" and "D" teams, however, both of which entered the losers' competition, showed more adaptability as the tournament progressed; and by a combination of keen enthusiasm and grand team

spirit succeeded in reaching the semi-final, where unfortunately they were drawn in opposition to each other. The result of a keen, if sometimes amusing, game was a win for the "C" team by 14 points to 1 (4 points are awarded for a goal, 1 point for a corner). In the final against Queen Mary College all the members of the side excelled themselves and the team won convincingly by 16 points to 6, giving L.S.E. the distinction of being first holders of the Losers' Trophy.

Visit to Paris

The week-end of 11th to 15th of March will provide for many members of the Club the highlight of the season, for on this week-end a party of members are the guests of their Parisian counterparts: the soccer club of Hautes Etudes Commerciales. Two or three matches have been arranged during the visit (to many of the party this is a minor detail) and it seems certain that every member of the party will have a grand time in the "Gay City". By the time *Beaver* is published we shall have learnt exactly what form this ambiguous "grand time" took.

FLICKING THROUGH

Have you ever contemplated seriously the sanguinary sports? Would you delight in inflicting on your fellow human beings a shattered sternum or a cracked coccyx? Does the thought of a resuscitation of medieval practices comparable in their stark savagery with cock-fighting or bear baiting send the hormones rattling through your veins stimulating your primitive instincts?

If not, there is no future for you in Hockey.

Pray, gentle reader, do not infer from this that the aforementioned sporting activity constitutes cruelty organised on a recreational basis. Any accidents occurring are merely by-products of a central process involving the manoeuvring of a round, white, and very hard object into swathes of receptive netting. This has always been the major part of L.S.E. hockey policy. That it has been fulfilled so incompletely is due in no small part to a dearth of players willing to risk their all in joyful or joyless battle. It is sincerely hoped that next season a superabundance of unmarred males and eager females will enlist.

T.R.K.

RUGBY CLUB

HARD LUCK IN LAST GAMES

L.S.E. v. U.C.

In a fine game at Berrylands U.C. deservedly beat L.S.E.—although the margin of defeat might well have been smaller. Play was very even throughout despite the fact that the U.C. back division showed greater purpose and penetration in attack. Their heavy pack, however, was very well held in the line-outs and tight, where Dwyer hooked brilliantly to secure a more than fair share of the ball.

The *Beaver* "eight" had probably their best game of the season; they were quick in the loose and produced some very dangerous rushes. Unfortunately the ball was a little slow in coming out to the L.S.E. three-quarters, and as a result the team was three points down at half time, when two or three tries might have been scored. The U.C. score was a grand try scored by their left-wing after play had been cleverly switched from the right-hand side of the field to the left.

The second half of the game followed much the same pattern. Territorially L.S.E. held their own, but U.C. always looked the more dangerous when attacking. Midway through the second half U.C. scored from a penalty given to them

near the post and to finish matters their centre scored an opportunistic drop-goal a few minutes before the final whistle.

Saint Mary's v. L.S.E.

In the last match of the season L.S.E. were defeated at the hands of St. Mary's College by a try and a penalty goal to nil.

St. Mary's, with the exception of a good full-back, were not strong outside the scrum, but their forwards were a very formidable combination—their foot rushes in particular were very difficult to stop. Indeed, they succeeded in subduing the L.S.E. back to an extent which no other side has achieved this season.

During the first half play was very even, the only score being a penalty awarded to St. Mary's. With the wind behind them, L.S.E. seemed likely to score on many occasions, but were unable to get the final touchdown. In the second half the "saints" gradually got on top, and deservedly scored a try (a gift given to them by an L.S.E. miskick). They continued to look dangerous (literally so) but the final whistle blew without final addition to the score.

BOAT CLUB NEWS

Should you happen to be outside the Festival Hall this afternoon at 4 o'clock you will, if you are very lucky, see your 1st, 2nd and 3rd "Eights" arrive exhausted at the landing stage after a long and wearisome row from Chiswick.

Again, should you on Friday morning be crossing Waterloo Bridge on your way to this noble pile between Houghton St. and Clare Market, you might catch sight of your 1st, 2nd and 3rd "Eights" embarking en route for Chiswick.

By now you should have realised that the Boat Club is in training. A delicately drawn up schedule has been functioning for the whole term in order to bring all crews to the peak of their performance, for your especial delight, when they compete in the annual "Head of the River" race. You are expected to be in your places on both sides of Hammersmith Bridge in the early afternoon, certainly not later than 2.30 p.m. Here you may obtain an excellent view of the race and a grand position from which to cheer your crews. Such prominent figures of L.S.E. life as Messrs. Weinberg,

Groom, Freeman, Charlie, Babiak, Sparrow, Sweet, and other active Boat Club fans, will be there to usher you to your places and act as cheer leaders.

Identification

Be sure that you only cheer the crews which you have come to support, however, and not by inadvertent mistaken identity induce some otherwise forgotten crew to improve their time by ten or more seconds. Recognition of your crews will be facilitated by consulting a programme indicating the numbers of your "Eights" and also those of the other 250. Identification of your "Eights" will be further aided by the fact that all boats carry their numbers prominently displayed fore and aft (note clever use of nautical jargon). When the 250th boat has passed beneath you, then is the time to move on to the pleasant Boat House on Chiswick Strand. Here you may congratulate your crews on their fine performances and avail yourselves of the liberal quantities of all manner of refreshments which are provided at the Boat House (unfortunately *not free* of charge).

The Great Myth

"The time has come . . . to talk of many things" and no doubt you, too, like the walrus, and the "Beaver", have noticed of late the great use and exploitation which is being made of the Boat Club myth—a myth which has been so painstakingly and calculatedly inculcated into the folklore of the L.S.E.

It might even have occurred to you, as it occurs to me, that there is a distinct possibility that certain misguided people on the outer fringes of the Boat Club might see in the myth a chance to exalt their own interests, by using the weight of the Boat Club name to boost the pressure of their own. You need not fear the worst, however, for this potential exploitation of irresponsibility is doomed to defeat—because irresponsibility has to be adopted wholeheartedly, and carried to its logical conclusion (expulsion from Hustings, or the wrecking of a Revue). Recent experience seems to indicate that the Boat Club proper does not avail itself of those opportunities to make a nuisance of itself, thoroughly as it might.

DENNIS BIZERAY.

ATHLETIC UNION v PORTERS

HARD FIGHT FOR BLOTTO CUP

On Saturday, the 5th of March, the Annual Soccer and Darts Matches were held between the Athletic Union and members of the Administrative Staff and Porters of the School, in competition for the highly-prized Blotto Cup.

For the second successive season the cup was won by the A.U., who, after a drawn soccer match, managed to win the darts match.

In spite of a biting wind and the discomfort of intermittent showers of sleet, two almost complete sides took the field. Almost complete, that is, since a member of the A.U. heirarchy possessing a car of high snob-value had unwisely deemed himself capable of reaching Berrylands without direction, and, as had been predicted, he failed to arrive in time. The play, cheered on by two spectators and a hopeful Arsenal scout, moved in exciting fashion from one end of the field to the other. The Athletic Union opened the scoring and were soon a few goals up. Such an advantage was immediately judged unfair by the referee (that great altruist, Alf.) and, with his assistance, the Staff soon made up the arrears. At half time the A.U. team was leading 4-3.

Stan Weinberg

As the second half was about to begin the afore-mentioned A.U. official arrived to find that his place in the side had been taken by the President of the S.U. Despite complete ignorance of "the peculiar game of Soccer", as he termed it, Mr. Weinberg entered completely into the spirit of the game and was the architect of many a clever move on the A.U. right wing. The final score, after a grand and amusing match, was justly 5-5.

Refreshed and nourished after consuming an excellent Berrylands

tea, both teams retired to the bar—the usual retreat on such occasions—where they were joined by the Rugby Club. Soon tankards were filling merrily and, in the presence of a large crowd of spectators, the all important darts match began. After a tense and hard struggle the Students won the day. It was fitting that the esteemed President, i.e., that of the Athletic Union, the chief organiser of the function, finally clinched the game for the students by landing a magnificent "double top".

Pleasant Evening

The remainder of the evening took the form of a most pleasant dance. Many students were invited from the various training Colleges and those who made the trek to the wilds of Berrylands were well rewarded. The Athletic Union is to be congratulated on its organisation of this activity, and its success in making the occasion such a pleasant one. The Porters and Staff should also be highly congratulated on their fine sportsmanship and excellent company. The only disappointing feature of the day was the lack of support from the students of L.S.E. Such support is absolutely essential if the event is to be an outstanding success each year.

A.U. APPEAL WEEK

Films of the 1936, 1948 and 1952 Olympic Games will be shown in the Old Theatre TO-DAY at 4.15 p.m. You are well advised to take advantage of an opportunity which may not come your way again.

WOMEN'S BOAT CLUB

Racing an VIII for the first time in its history the Women's Boat Club won their first heat by 2 lengths, only to be beaten in the final by Q.M.C. after a very fine race.

The Novice IV lost their heat to Q.M.C. but beat Bedford by a length. The major criticism of our Novices is their lack of stamina and racing ability, which is not surprising in view of the difficulty experienced in getting a crew and keeping it together. All the clubs have been badly handicapped this term by the appalling weather, which caused much illness among crews and considerable delay in practice. Saturday's efforts, however, promise well for the future.

Tooley Inspires

The L.S.E. VIII rowed better than it had ever done in practice—thanks largely to Paddy Tooley, who was stroking in a race for the first time. She was ably backed up by the rest of her crew consisting of a novice, four juniors, and two seniors. The rowing was most encouraging and it is hoped that next term, bringing better weather, will also bring much more practice and hard work. Only if this occurs can the standard of rowing be pushed higher and higher.

It should be mentioned that the incompetence of the L.S.E. coxs-

(continued from column 1)

wain forced the VIII to row an extra two miles on Saturday. On reaching Chiswick Bridge it was found impossible to turn and start the race without hitting the bridge. Consequently, the VIII had to return to the Boat House to replace a broken blade, row up the course, and finally row the race. What the crew said about this is unmentionable—though carefully recorded by the Men's Boat Club! However, a good day's sport was had by all.

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SPORTS RESULTS

RUGBY	
Mar. 2nd	1st XV v U.C. Lost 0-9
Mar. 5th	"A" XV v King's "A" Won 8-3
Mar. 9th	1st XV v St. Mary's College Lost 0-6
SOCCER	
Mar. 2nd	1st XL v I.C. Won 5-3
	2nd XI v C.E.M. Won 4-3
Mar. 9th	1st XI v U.C. Lost 5-2

WATER POLO	
Mar. 8th	v St. Thomas' Hospital Won 2-0
Mar. 10th	v Chelsea Poly. Won 12-3
MEN'S HOCKEY	
Mar. 11th	1st XI v King's College Lost 1-5
BOAT CLUB	
Mar. 12th	Reading "Head of River"
	L.S.E. VIII gained 27th position. 1st of all U.L. crews