BEAVER

NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS STUDENTS' UNION

The Economist

Look at it another way



Dominic Freely, David Morris, and Bruce the Beaver (or is it?) head for France in their quest for the Beaujolais Noureau

INSIDE

Letters	page 2
Matthew Price at the Union	page 3
Newsp	age 3, 4&5
London Markets	page 6&7
Societies and Things	page 8
The Future of the Left	page 10
London Arts	page 11
Sport	page 12
Crossword	page 12
Houghton Street Harry	page 12

A review Harold Evan's book



The real Bruce in Himalayas after 'deep distress'

It was conclusively confirmed today that the so-called mascot going on the Beaujolais race with Dominic Freely is a clone. Our real Bruce the Beaver was secretly jetted to the Himalayas for a rehabilitation period following the LSE elections.

sources in the Guys and Dolls Hospital, who recommended the treatment, Bruce was deeply distressed as a consequence of spending the past fortnight in the London Dungeons on the infamous 'stretcher". Apparently, the purpose of the exercise had been to make Bruce taller and thinner so that, after he had been duly de-stuffed, John Donkersley could have slipped into his skin before infiltrating the highly exclusive Administration Committee. How the mighty have fallen.

In a last desparate bid to make his way into the Academic clique, JD finally convinced Debbi Hindson to try Bruce on instead. That did it. Poor Bruce literally split his sides, and not from laughter. He was whizzed to the Emergency Ward of Guys and Dolls right away to have all his stitches replaced.

What some people will do to. get on a Committee! What really bothered Bruce was that he knew he could understand

as JD, but our Senior Treasurer would not have it. On top of everything, JD had to be treated for severe shock and closed his office on Monday when he heard that Bruce had not even been elected. Take heart, though: the receptionist at the Yogi camp interrupted his meditation this morning to inform us that Bruce's spirits are higher since he was promised plastic surgery to have the stretch marks removed. "It's the least they could do," Bruce apparently pined. "I haven't had this much to put up with since the seventies. garbage collectors on Monday were none too pleased either; black plastic bags, which Beaver had discovered to have been full of rags used to fabricate the new clone, were piled sky high by the back entrance of the Old Building.

Look out for a proposed UGM motion to have the official LSE mascot converted into an inflatable giraffe . .

BOVVER AT THE LYCEUM

In the last issue of London Student a report was published about a 1st year student at QMC who was attacked by an unidentified group of assailants near his hall of residence at the Isle of Dogs. On Thursday October 27, Ashley Hyett, a first year geography student at LSE was the victim of an apparently vicious attack at the Freshers' Hop held at the Lyceum. A few days after the attack, Ashley talked of his frightening experience to Beaver.

On the morning of the Hop, Ashley went to the Lyceum to purchase a ticket. He was told to come back in the evening as there were plenty of tickets available. That evening, he arrived at the Lyceum at 10.00pm, and was told that he should have bought the ticket in the morning. Feeling justifiably annoyed, Ashley asked to see the manager. The bouncer at the door refused to comply. Ashley repeated his request several times. Seeing that he wasn't going to leave without seeing the manager, the bouncer started to push Ashley around. He attempted to resist, but with no success. Instead, he was hit several times and dragged into the Lyceum. The doors were locked leaving his companions waiting anxiously outside.

Inside, three of four more people, ends of the bouncer, joined in the melée and took Ashley to the '1st Aid Room' where he was 'worked over' and fell unconscious. Ashley later commented, rather ironically, "There wasn't a band-aid in sight."

He regained consciousness after water was thrown on his face. He was again asked to leave, but insisted on seeing the manager. At this point, he was taken upstairs to see the manager who was accompanied by a 'batman'. Ashley told the manager what happened, to which he replied, "I heard you went nutty, and attacked one of my bouncers". He added that he had three witnesses to support this claim. Ashley replied bluntly, "Rub-The manager then enquired menacingly, "Are you calling me rubbish?' Ashley said that he wasn't and that the story given to the

manager by the bouncers was untrue. The manager shrugged his shoulders and smiled as if meaning 'tough luck', and then asked him to leave. He was bundled along the corridor but broke free. Ashley was immediately set upon by the bouncers and taken for a second time to the '1st Aid Room'.

The police arrived shortly after and immediately asked for an ambulance. By now, he was feeling dizzy and could not walk. The ambulance took him to St. Thomas's Hospital where he was x-rayed and closely watched throughout the night.

Next morning, Ashley could not see properly as his eyes were swollen; his nose and face were numb, and had a bad headache. Furthermore, he had a persistent pain at the back of his neck, where his hair had been pulled out the previous night.

Ashley has seen the police, and therefore has gone through the tiring experience of giving statements and having photographs taken. Moreover, through the auspices of the Welfare Office, Ashley has been in contact with a solicitor and says "I will go for civil action anywhere", to sue for criminal damage. The manager of the Lyceum was unavailable for comment.

Ashley was quite obviously upset after this unnerving incident. He did not go to the LSE for 3 days and is still troubled by pains, saying gloomily "I can't get up St. Clements building when the lifts are out of order."

Ashley asks witnesses to telephone 761 5246

Rajat Kohli

BEAVER

An Editor

We at Beaver have lessons to learn from The Fate Of Harold Evans at The Times. The traumatic morale crisis at The Times was said to be due to his style of editorship. He was an editor who tried to do every job in the place. He interfered with writers, photography, printers, and layout. He was seen to be around 24 hours a day struggling with print schedules, subbing pages, and generally doing everyone's job for them. Do we have an editor like that?

An LSE Newspaper

At the Guardian/NUS Student Media Conference last week, Neil Stewart, the president of NUS, highlighted the invaluable role a college newspaper has to play. He pointed out that it is the one thing in a college with which everyone identifies. More people will read it than do a particular course, play sport, do drama, sing, or take part in any society or political club. A newspaper is therefore a fundamental part of college life.

With its unusual mix of post-graduate and overseas students, LSE is like nowhere else. It has often been called unfriendly and uncommunicative. The Sunday Times described LSE as "little more than a block of offices off Fleet Street", and it can be intimidating, even to those who have been here for some time.

In such a place, the role of a newspaper, given Neil Stewart's definition, is even more important. It should help bridge the gap between the different people here, and help them to understand one another better. LSE ought to be a great centre of international understanding and cooperation, yet a depressingly small percentage of home students can honestly say that they have made lasting friendships abroad through the college. Given that LSE supplies a disproportionate number of recruits to governments all around the world, such friendships could do much in the fight against racism and global instability.

As a correspondent points out in this issue, students who do not get involved have themselves to blame. Nevertheless, if the awareness of all students could be dramatically increased, it could only be to the good. A larger, more regular student newspaper would help achieve this. As Alan Peakall discusses elsewhere, the manner in which increased resources could be made available to Beaver is open to much debate. However, the fundamental importance of placing high priority on a good newspaper should not be in doubt, if the idealism which students often claim to have is to be translated into reality.

BEAVER STAFF

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Oxfam volunteers.

This is a letter addressed to those students at your college who have not yet committed themselves to joining one of the thirty or more societies in the frenzy of extra-mural activity that marked the beginning of the new year. To those of you who are not yet fully booked, please consider the following paragraphs.

Oxfam has recently launched a campaign network called OXFAM 2000 which we hope will attract support amongst students. The object of Oxfam 2000 is to draw attention to reconneibilities in the Third World. We wish to change attitudes and practices in this country which exacerbate problems in developing countries and to press our government for more effective aid programmes.

Many campaigns are currently underway and we need as many supporters for them as possible.

Campaigns against the sale of harmful or useless drugs to developing countries by certain western pharmaceutical companies.

For the promotion of useful, low-cost, generic drugs.

Campaign on broader development issues, such as the need for a 'global' effort to attack poverty and its causes.

For more information write to A Speedie, OXFAM 2000, Oxfam House, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ (To subscribe to Oxfam 2000 costs £ annually)

Yours sincerely Chris Elven (Campaigns Volunteer)

Political Beaver?

Having read the letters page of your latest edition I felt compelled to write to you. The last two copies of Beaver contained some 14 letters, of which 11 were written by an assortment of political megahacks who were attempting to use this newspaper as platform for their own political views. The writers came from various parts of the political spectrum (left, right and centre) and used the letters column as a slanging match against their opponents. This kind of behaviour is detrimental and undesirable, since it prevents other Beaver readers (the ordinary students ie. non-hacks) from expressing their sincere views on the various interesting articles

appearing in the paper. The

Beaver collective should in future make a conscious effort to print less letters written by well-known political activists and instead publish genuine correspondence from ordinary students.

The politicisation of Beaver has proliferated so much that it now has a 'non-political' editorial column; this kind of conduct, emulating the gutter press, reflects the sad decline of Beaver's professional standards. Beaver, however, has a talented production team and can remedy its problems by maintaining a strong nonpolitical line and also by refraining from publishing

Mann Kee Li

Overseas Student Affairs Officer)

Letters

LSE etiquette

Dear Reader,

As a hopeful graduate at the London School of Economics, before I go I would like to give you a word of advice. You may find it difficult contemplating taking advice from someone who types so badly, alas, one tends to forget how to do these things over time. Anyway the advice is this - Never ever go in the 'Three Tuns' Bar, keep right away from Florries unless you're looking for food poisoning, and avoid the Brunch Bowl if you pride yourself of having good taste in people, food or bomb

This is not an advert for King's, nor is it an attempt by Ralf to encourage a livelier attendance at the library, LSE's pride and joy! No it's realization (at the last minute) that paper cup conversation and Salmonella is not in any way conducive to satisfactory exam results. Having spent the last three(?) years doing exactly what I'm warning you against, I speak from experience, not from the

back of a high horse! The only form of ascension I know is the uncomfortable and pointed seat of my 'bumkiller byke' oops! I mean bike. You may be wondering why I am going to the trouble of giving you this advice. You are right to - Am I seriously concerned about the prospects of my peers! Or is my fear for the local authorities who are wasting good taxpayers money on Levi-clad layabouts. No it is neither of these reasons, but the reason of a true student (I bet you thought a 'true student' was one who worked in the library all day or milk bottle base spectacles) This reason is of course is that I am simply fascinated by this typewriter and just want an excuse to use it. I'm a Sociologist major and a potential social dropout: Thank you for your time. You may now rejoin the queue, but remember to miss your tutorial or you'll having nothing to talk about for the next few

Sabita Kumari-Dass

The sisters right.

An open letter to Alison Rankin Ladies against the Women's

Dear Ms Rankin,

We are alarmed at your bitter disapproval of the Women's centre. We are also shocked at the underhand way in which you have tried to denigrate the centre, presumably as a springboard to your own political aspirations.

You must have a very false impression of the Centre. We can only conclude that you have never visited it. If you had, you would be aware that many women use the Centre, that all women are welcome, and that the atmosphere is open and receptive. The Women's Centre provides a forum for the discussion of women's situation. We invite you and the Ladies Against the Women's Room to speak to us in the Centre. We are sure that this would give you and your sisters the chance to see for yourselves how the Centre is used and by whom. It would also give us the possibility to gain a better understanding of your position.

Who knows, Ms Rankin, you may find support from within the Women's Centre. Whatever the case, we think we can guarantee you a warm and lively response.

In sisterhood The Women of the Women's Centre.

'Paranoid' Reagan shocks Americans

There were two American invasions last week - the United States military forces were involved in one, I was involved in the other. The first, as the world knows, was America's flagrant violation of internatinal law in carrying out its invasion of the sovereign state of Grenada. The second was the invasion of a wellstocked newsagent on the Aldwych which was carried out by a number of shocked and incredulous Americans. The Americans were not alone in their scramble for details of this latest blunder of American foreign policy, but most of us agreed with the condemnations expressed by our colleagues from all over the world.

I am part of what I think is an ever-growing section of the American public which is disgusted with many of the policies of the present U.S. Administration, particularly its apparent commitment to military solutions (whether overt or covert) rather than diplomacy. The Reagan Administration's paranoid anti-communism and its willingness to exert its military strength in areas of "vital" interest with little regard to international law or opinion has contributed to increased anti-Americanism throughout the world. In this case, Reagan's simplistic justifications of his action to remove the "virus of Marxism" from Grenada not only fall far short of convincing any rational and objective human being that the invasion was reasonable, but also sets a dangerous precedent in terms of the use of force to restore "freedom and democracy" in states where the government has deviated from what Washington deems acceptable. In light of the narrow-minded foreign policy of the current U.S. Administration, it is embarrassing to be an American.

Sincerely, Sally Donnelly MSc. Soviet Politics

Hindsight_

In my last letter, I quoted Philip Groves as saying that all campaigns, be they about education, welfare or International Affairs, were "political campaigns against the wishes and issues of many students" This should in fact have read "against the interests and wishes of many students".

I hope that Philip is finally satisfied with this clarification.

> Yours, Debbi Hindson General Secretary

BRITISH LI 'Unity in Action from LSM

Sir, am writing to explain Student Movement and Peoples Democratic Front in the recent debating Society on the motion "This House believes that to Prepare for War is the best means of Defence" After speaking to oppose the motion, LSM and PDF made it clear that they were not prepared to debate such a motion and called on the students to leave the debate and continue discussions on how to oppose the war preparations. LSM felt that such an openly reactionary and warmongering motion could not go unopposed but at the same time we strongly believed that the idea of preparing for war is not one which should be debated. The opposition to war today is such that even Thatcher and Reagan are forced to clothe their warmongering in the language of "peace" and would doubtless deny that what they are doing is preparing for war.

To debate such a motion is to give currency and respectability to the idea of preparing for war, that to prepare to launch the world into a horrifying, catastrophic Third World War is justifiable and open to debate. How can students sit around debating such a possibility in an intellectualist way as if somehow we're immune from the danger of war? The warmakers would love to weaken the anti-war movement by keeping students out of it, by isolating us in an "ivory tower". Students are playing an active and vital role in the anti-war movement and this needs to be developed, not only by taking part in demonstrations but by raising the level of discussion and debate in the colleges on how to stop the war preparations, how to avert the danger of war and how to enure a genuine and lasting peace.

These are questions vital for all students to take up, regardless of political affiliation and within this broad anti-war movement problems such as what is the source of war, what tactics should be used, what demands should be fought for, and how to ensure genuine defence and sovereignty for the British people - all these problems can be thrashed out within the antiwar movement itself. The essential slogan for the movement is "Unity in Action to Avert the Danger of War" and for students this includes not allowing our colleges and universities to be used as centres for war propaganda, war research, "strategic studies" and so on. Rather, we should covert our colleges into centres which serve the struggle

Yours faithfully, Karen Inwood London Student Movement

Patel patronised

In your last issue of Beaver, Debbi Hindson is reported to have expressed the view that Dr Patel's appointment as the Director may have been made to appease the feelings of overseas students on the issue of overseas students' fees.

It seems to me that it is being suggested that Dr Patel's appointment was not made on the basis of competitive merit but rather on the belief of the Court of Governors that this would appease overseas students.

Firstly, our present director is as much overseas as Dr Patel will be, both by being foreign nationals. So how can the replacement of one foreigner by another do anything to give appeasement greater

foreign students? Secondly, it must be pointed out that the bulk of the overseas students at the LSE are not in fact Indian but Malay-

sian, Chinese, US citizens, Latin American and European. How would an Indian director appease these any more than a European director has been doing?

The truth of the matter is that those overseas students whose fees are under dispute need to be "appeased" by giving them their correct and lawful fee status, and not by appointing this director or that.

The appointment of Dr Patel shows that LSE is truly international and barriers of nationality, race and colour do not af-

Some people waste their time by opposing anything and everything for the sake of opposing - and when they cannot find good enough reasons for opposing, they invent them. I hope that our General Secretary is not one of these.

Greeta G. Kingdon An Overseas Student

Flower Committee actions 'disquieting'

In view of the recent criticism levelled at certain members of the Flower Committee for their failure to comply with the Union mandate to attend the Soviet Jewry Demonstration, I found their absence from the recent Grenada demonstration somewhat disquieting.

The excuses put forward at the November 4th UGM were like Geoffrey Howe on a bad day. I look forward to hearing their latest efforts; especially those of the newest member of the executive who so tact-

fully avoided complying with her very first Union Mandate.

With the current display of particular officers, how can people, especially those in their first year, have any confidence in individuals who are seen not to be carrying out Union policy?

Surely it is time for those concerned to prove their worth instead of operating a cosy clique; otherwise they should be prepared to step down in favour of those who do put the Union first. Yours sincerely

Simon Ellis

A racist replies.

We feel the letter you published in the last issue of Beaver, which began "What a piece of racist trash!", was racist itself in intent, implying that no Indian is allowed to have his name published in its

"full ethnic entirety" Yours ethnically, Rajat Sunil Anshum Dilip Yashpal Mohinder Sandeep Kirti Kapil Kohli and Jock.

The Beaver Collective has agreed that the letters pages are of great importance as a forum for open discussion free from the hysteria of the UGM. Our policy is therefore to publish all letters. Due to the huge number received, this has not been possible, and any not included will appear in the next issue. The deadline for letters is Tuesday 22 November at 1.00pm.

'Iceberg Situation' delays tart-up

Most people will have noticed that since the beginning of this term things have not been quite as they should be in Houghton Street. To be more precise, that once uncluttered thoroughfare has been turned into a fully-fledged building site causing a considerable amount of inconvenience for all, who have to struggle through it many times a day.

All of this disruption is not, as has been suggested, preparation for the arrival of Cruise Missiles, not even the building of water troughs for LSE race horses. Ironically enough, it is part of a plan to beautify Houghton Street, by installing granite benches and flower beds. Few people would disagree with such a worthy object, but the timing could hardly have been worse, adding to the already considerable confusion of the start of term.

The project was originally scheduled to be completed during the summer, but has suffered a series of delays since its inception. The proof getting planning permission itself took over a year, despite the fact that there was no opposition. A whole series of bodies including the Westminster Council The City Engineer and of course the School had to give their formal approval. The cleaning of the school buildings (paid for by the same anonymous donor who is paying for the Houghton St. scheme) which took place last year was actuan after-thought, conceived as a result of the plans for Houghton St. The architect, who was commissioned to design the new development thought the dirty buildings would ruin the effect of his work and suggested that they be cleaned. In the event the cleaning actually took place over a year before the building work began.

The most serious delays have been due to what the architect has described as the "iceberg situation" under Houghton Street. This refers to the fact that there are at least ten different services including



View from the Bridge

gas, electricity and sewers running under the street, which were affected by the work. Of course the original plans took this into account. What they did not take into account was that the maps supplied by the various authorities where their cables, and tunnels lay, would be inaccurate. This has apparently been the source of most of the delay as even a minor inaccuracy can cause much time to be lost in such heavy work. Other factors which have slowed progress have been a sudden decision by the Gas Board to take this opportunity to do maintenance work to their pipeline and the unforseen need to dig a new drainage channel and a telecommunications duct connecting the school buildings (something which the school had previously lacked)

The attitude of the school authorities to the delays has been aptly described as "philosophical". They are unwilling to make any comment about the situation, especially since it is a project which they have had little direct control over except to give their approval. They are clearly unhappy about the dis-

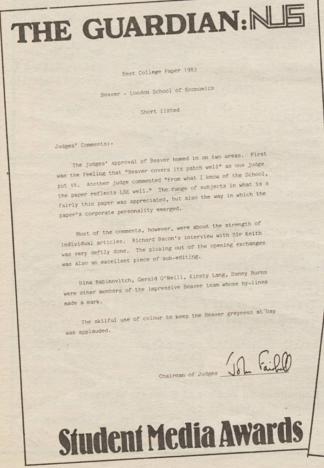
ruption, but are not likely to complain too loudly, when they are getting the whole thing done for nothing. Also there is no question of the project going over budget and leaving the school to pay the excess. No final cost has been projected yet but the anonymous donor will meet whatever figure is eventually arrived at.

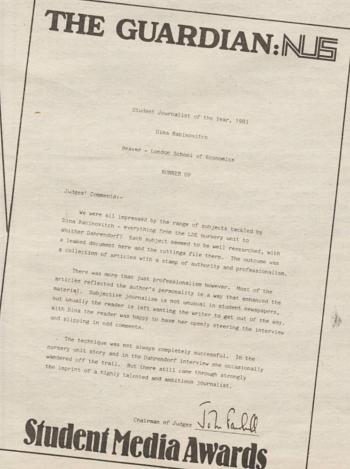
The architect has now given us assurances that the work will be completed by the end of November. Perhaps then we can judge whether it was worth all the hassle.

David Gibson.

Best College Newspaper and Student Journalist of the Year 1983

Rabinovitch is runner-up - Beaver is short-listed





Matthew Price at the Union

The left's in-growing toe nail



The sleeping Union suddenly woke up with a jolt two weeks ago when the (thus far) smooth-running broad left alliance tripped over its own toes. Firstly, there was the Grenada motion, which seemed to be following the normal plot Americanism with some libertarian rhetoric. It was beautifully-finished off by the Tories' prime suicide jockey, Simon Brewer, whose distress was not that the Americans had landed, but that they had beaten us to it. Possibly a Union mandate that during the next American invasion, Mr Brewer, complete with white carnation, should be the first to hit the beach, would not go amiss. All relaxed for T Ozane's summation when came the words 'and should not interfere with any regime whether communist or fascist'. The broad grin of the broad left which had made the Labour Club look like a Cheshire cat for the previous few weeks, disappeared. One could hear the show's producers shouting 'Cut', 'Take two and 'Who wrote the script?' but unfortunately there are no second chances for live acts.

Even worse was to come. What ever one thinks about the 'Bacon incident', it is the culmination of some bad trends both in Beaver and in the Union. The image of Beaver has become far too closely associated with Richard Bacon, whether by accident or design. (If it is true that he told The Times that he was 'the' Beaver editor then it is purely by design). Richard's ambition is so naked that one is surprised he hasn't been arrested for indecent exposure. While James McCallum (present co-editor) and myself (ex- co-editor), on becoming involved in Beaver, wandered from the Labour Club into the political wilderness (admittedly as much by disposition as circumstance), by carrying on his active political role, Richard has made stopping Beaver like stopping Richard Bacon the Conservative careerist, and as a result its support has been embarrassingly solid from Tories and 'independents'. Beaver should not only be the balanced selection of viewpoints that it is, but it should also be seen as such by the rest of the Union, and Richard should choose between his politcal career and *Beaver*, at least while he is editor.

As for Pat Hayes' contribution, probably the only truthful part of it was when he gave his name to the Union secretary. Pat is apparently out of favour at the Court of Queen Debbi and King John, and his attempts to become, once again, one of the leading vestal virgins of the Labour Club, drive him from the extreme to the obscene. This is just part of the hard left's ethos that Manliness is next to Leftiness and therefore next to Godliness. Probably the most appropriate summation of Mr Hayes conduct was given by Mr Michael Foot, when referring to that other political 'out' Dr David Owen. He said 'Men who try to be macho normally



Naked Ambition

The contrast with the next Union meeting could not have been greater. Ace Kelly from the Stoke Newington defence committee showed up most of the Union speakers for the amateurs they are. During the opposition speech he showed more sorrow than anger, as the opposing speaker claimed that any black could make it if they wanted to and he did not believe in positive discrimination. Why then had he been chosen as a black to speak against the motion?

Before this there was the most amazing stab in the back that the Union has seen since the Mumford Affair. Services Officer Maria Lewis could be heard to cry 'You too, Brutus!' as sponsor of the Soviet Jewry motion, Robert Shrimsley, lunged into her with all the subtlety of a Daily Mail editorial. Ms Lewis is looking more and more like a lost sheep amongst political wolves, and her bleating on about not knowing where Hyde Park was made Mr Shrimsley decide she was not a sheep but a sacrificial lamb

The Guardian/NUS Student Media Awards

The awards were presented at a ceremony held at the NUS Student Media Conference in the City University. A total of thirteen magazines and newspapers were in competition for the prizes in each of the four different categories, including Beaver, in two of them. The standards of the entries this year were said to be higher than ever before, and this was reflected in the quality of the winning entries. Mancunion won Best Newspaper (for which Beaver was shortlisted), Fuse from North London Polytechnic won Best Magazine and also jointly with Sheffield City Press from Sheffield Polytechnic, the Best Use of Graphic Material award. Dina Rabinovitch of Beaver was joint runner-up for Student Journalist of the Year, which

was won by David Sharrock of Cambridge's *Stop Press* newspaper.

The awards were presented by Peter Preston, the Guardian's editor, and John Fairhall, editor of Education Guardian and Chairman of the Judges. When asked what specific qualities, if any, the judges sought in a campus newspaper, John Fairhall replied 'cartoons'. A balance in reporting between college affairs and outside events if also of interest to the judges, as is well organised presentation throughout the newspaper. Next year Beaver will hopefully fulfill all these requirements and more besides, and go on to win. All the same, it is an achievement to be shortlisted in the top eight.

Lucy Cohen

BEAVER 200 DIARY

Point of information. The authorities at the Sorbonne have spent the last 15 years removing cobblestones from the Paris streets, to prevent their use as offensive weapons. The authorities here at LSE have spent most of the Summer and all of the Autumn providing us with an oncampus supply of the aforementioned missiles. Do they think that student militantism is a thing of the past, or are they merely being

The prize for the loudest heckling at the Halloween "Three Tuns" event goes to former Ents supremo and Wurzil diehard, Steve Virgin. Unfortunately, his largely incoherent jeering did not go down too well with the alternative 'comedians', "Skint Video's" supporters, who were to be seen in earnest conversation with Virgin and Co. in and around the gentlemen's convenience. A very serious looking Virgin and friend were seen leaving the Tuns by the rear exit.

It appears that the ailment afflicting the UGM is spreading. At a recent Passfield Hall Society meeting points of order and information rained like paper planes upon an impassioned crowd. Mark Watts, the secretary, even faced a motion of no confidence in his chairing of the meeting. The cause of this? A

This was all the result of a Committee motion to fell one of the three trees at the rear of the Hall, to facilitate improvements to the garden. Sanity is not totally lost however. The Society did manage to agree to move the telephones without even a vote being taken

Oh, and by the way - the tree won a reprieve.

I feel that I am now in a position to answer that age-old question 'When is an Independent not an independent'?" Firstly, in the words of Andrew

Cooper - "I'm a Social Democrat at the weekend, a Conservative on Monday, and and Independent for the rest of the

Secondly, Simon Taylor, who has stood in various elections as an Independent, has, upon losing, re-joined the FCS. He has openly admitted - "I get more right wing every day. Does this help clarify the situa-

Strange plans of future electoral behaviour have been arriving in the Beaver Penthouse suite. John Tomaney, an aspiring General Secretary from the Labour Club, was heard to declare that he will vote Conservative at the next General Election. Is he returning to his monetarist roots, or is this part of a campaign to infiltrate the right? The Revolution moves in mysterious ways, its wonders to per-

Overheard in the Beaver's Retreat, before the Great Liberal Debate on the Future of the Left:

Quoth Mr Livingstone, "I went to see Danton the other evening, and enjoyed it immensely. I identified with Robespierre throughout. But I don't want a revolution, I just want the Terror afterwards!"

Westfield College Union Society seems to have a well developed sense of proportion when it comes to student politics. Two weeks ago its UGM passed the following motion by a thumping majority. - WCUS INSTRUCTS: That the President of the Union should stand up immediately before the termination of each UGM and enunciate clearly "I am a bloody fool. 'Ferret'

Letters continued

Tebbit may spoil ACARF week____

Having been slightly involved with A.C.A.R.F., I was angered to learn that the Federation of Conservative Students had moved their speaker meeting with Norman Tebbit from November 14 to November 28, the first day of the Anti-Racism Week at LSE. This will mean that the Anti-Racism Week will now effectively start on Tuesday November 29. There is no point in A.C.A.R.F. arranging a speaker on the Monday, since anyone interested in political problems and political action is likely to attend the Tebbit meeting. Not only will the Anti-Racism Week start late because of this meeting, but it will also start from a position of much lower profile, in spite of the spread Beaver is devoting to the Week. It had been hoped that leading up to the Week it would be possible to increase students' awareness of racism. However, the controversy that the Tebbit meeting is likely to cause amongst students can only distract attention from the Anti Racism

Since the Anti-Racism Week was fixed at the beginning of term, and has been announced in Union meetings, one must question the motives of the FCS in rearranging the meeting for this particular week. It is unlikely that it is a deliberate attempt

to sabotage the Anti-Racism Week, however there are specific advantages for the Tories in organising the Tebbit meeting during this week. With many active members of the Left committee to organise the Week, there will be less opportunities for the organisation of demonstrations against the Tebbit meeting. Similarly. with the commitment to raise students' awareness of racism, the Left cannot embark on a large campaign to highlight the large-scale abuses instigated by Tebbit during his period at the Department of Employment, of students' rights to a job and a future, and the exploitative nature of his Youth Training Scheme. Any such campaign would further distract attention from the Anti-Racism Week.

While we recognise that the FCS could not absolutely dictate to Tebbit when he should come to speak here, since he purports to be a busy man, they could have easily informed him that this week was inconvenient, since they have known of the Anti-Racism Week since the beginning of term. One can only conclude that there is a sickening lack of interest in the problems of racism among the executive of the FCS at LSE.

> Yours Rob Aitken

London Student the coffin at the end of the tunnel?

Question: What do an unconstitutional election, a lack of advertising, an annual deficit of between ten and fifteen thousand pounds, and no effective control by it's finances, have in common.

The answer, for which no prizes will be awarded, is London Student newspaper. At last Tuesday's ULU General Union Council, delegates were informed that the losses of the newspaper showed no sign of abating, and that unless a significant improvement in finances was shown by issue eight, it will be shut down.

London Student is well used to facing these threats. Only last year it survived an attempt to have it closed down, when the then Vice-President Louise Barnes told GUC delegates about mounting debts, unpaid bills and there being no sign of any improvement in the future. At the time, alarmed delegates voted to give London Student a stay of execution, in the hope that things would improve. Now however, they are beginning to see that very little has changed since then. It is true that cheques are being dealt with far more quickly, and that the financial machinery is on a far sounder footing; yet the money is still going out just as fast with hardly any money coming in. London Student takes up an enormous chunk of the University of London Union budget, and many people are beginning to feel that the money could be better

London Student's problems do not stop there however. It blames its present position on a lack of advertising. It cannot be any surprise that reputable firms do not advertise in a newspaper which prints features and headlines like "PLO, IRA . . . one struggle". With the editorial policy unlikely to change, one can only assume that the level of advertising will remain at its present nearzero level. The financial problems of London Student are insoluble and they do not look like just going away.

The situation is not even that simple. For the running of

London Student is done by the London Student Management Committee. However the last few times that it met, it was inquorate, and consequently the day to day running of London Student was left to two or three people who have proved themselves incapable.

Last week the paper reached a new low when the elections for editor were declared to be unconstitutional. The management committee, which had set a date for the elections, then postponed them and put them forward a week. By this move, they invalidated the only nomination for the post of editor. The 'successful candi-- Michael George of King's College - had already told his department tutor that he had got the job and would be taking a year off to fill this sabbatical post. In a reign even shorter than Harold Evans at The Times, he was deposed by the end of the day, by Chris Ward, the present editor. The principal reason for his objection was that Mr George was a member of King's Conservatives, and would thus end the Marxist slant that Mr Ward had so carefully created.

The election was declared unconstitutional, because by moving forward the date of the election, Mr George's nomination was in one day before it needed to be.

Naturally, the longer the trouble over the appointment of an editor carries on, the less are the chances of finding anyone capable of running it efficiently. London Student's future hangs in a very precarious balance. Lack of finance, editor and advertising, are slowly destroying it. It is now in danger of losing the only thing it has left - the support of its sponsors. The LSE pays a subscription for London Student - this was recently raised to keep it going. But now, colleges are realising that it cannot be saved, and will continue to lose the Union more and more money. For London Student now, all that is visible is the coffin at the end of the

Robert Shrimsley

Prentice sees no hope for Labour

Last Monday, Reg Prentice, the former Labour cabinet minster who joined the Conservative Party in 1977, addressed a crowded meeting in S78.

Despite the new volatility in British voting patterns, and the consequent difficulties of any sort of prediction, he made "an informed guess" that the Labour Party did not have a future, and spent much of his talk justifying this position. The Labour Party, he claimed, had fulfilled much of its purpose by 1950 - the basis for a planned economy and the beginnings of de-imperialisation. Mr Prentice revealed his true colours when he lamented the untimely death of Hugh Gaitskell, saying that "things would have been very different had he lived." By the 1970s, Prentice added, the party was set on a course further and further to the left. This reached a climax by 1976, when Labour's conference programme - widespread nationalisation and state control, unilateral disarmament, and the replacement of the House of Lords by a single chamber was fairly set.

His main reason for guessing that Labour was finished was that "most people in Britain reject dogmatic socialism and one-sided disarmament". He would not accept that the arrival of a new attractive leader for Labour could make any difference in the long term. "The hard left has already got too many policy proposals through". He did grant Mr Kinnock that "he'd make a good Lord Mayor of Cardiff"

Most questioning was

rather tame and it is a pity the left did not turn up in larger numbers. Although they probably hold him in total contempt it would certainly have livened things up. He suggested that the left's present view of himself and the SDP as traitors was unwarranted. "Since the war" he said, "15 people who were Labour cabinet ministers have left the party. Instead of blaming them, the left should honestly ask themselves, 'Can it be anything to do with us?" Mr Prentice said that most of the bitterness over his defection had dissolved. He admitted that he would be "quite happy" in the SDP, but said that when he had first suggested spliting from Labour in 1976, David Owen and Shirley Williams had not been interested. He was ready to blame the moderate wing of the party "for not fighting their corner hard enough," added that he had tried to for five years. His conclusion was that "The job of leading the modern Labour Party is not humanly possible.

On industrial relations, he said he hoped to see the eventual breaking down of the links between Labour and the unions, saying that unions should have the independence to attack or support any government of any persuasion. His Gaitskellite romanticism showed itself once again in an anecdote towards the end. In the early sixties, Prentice was having a drink with the then Labour leader in his rooms at the House of Commons: "People will accuse me of trying to split the Labour Party" Gaitskell sighed. "I only wish I could." Richard Bacon

PAUL CAIRNS

Paul Cairns died suddenly on Friday 4th November. The tragedy occurred while he was sparring at Karate practice; he declared he was feeling

unwell then collapsed and lost consciousness. Attempts were made to resuscitate him, but he died in Bart's hospital at about 8.00 pm. His death has been put down to heart failure; he had a heart condition

Paul was in his third year at LSE, where he was studying

since an early age.

Social Science and Administration. A collection in Rosebery Hall, where he was residing, yielded £47 and this, coupled with £50 from the Hall Society, enabled two representatives to travel to the funeral with a

Two representatives from his faculty also made the journey to Glasgow, his home town, where he was cremated on Wednesday 9th November.

Paul Cairns was twenty years old.

The experience of racism

I do not want to make this a personal attack against the gentleman who spoke up against the Colin Roach motion in UGM of 3 November 1983. Rather, I want to use this opportunity to challenge what he said.

As an Asian, he claimed that because he had not personally experienced racism, that it does not exist, and this is reflected by the fact that he has managed to get to LSE.

I am also and Asian at LSE, but I can claim that personally I have experienced racism, which in itself suggests that such a phenomenon does exist. Because I am at LSE does not means that it has not been difficult to get here or that I have not experienced racism in the education

I have also experienced racism in my private life, just walking in the street, and through attacks by callers at home. My father experienced racism in work and in attempting to find work. When he first arrived in Britain, he was a qualified teacher, but no school or college would employ him. Instead, he had to work as a milkman, a postman, a railway guard, a bus conductor, etc. He eventually settled down to repairing televisions and radios.

On the wider level, the experience of racism varies for individuals, depending on their circumstances. The existence of racism cannot be easily dismissed just because one has not personally confronted it overtly. Racism can be covert and in many cases, not even recognised.

Nevertheless, one cannot ignore the fact that racism has been institutionalised, intellectualised, and made official through immigration laws and the exploitation of blacks in Britain and abroad. Perhaps the gentleman may come to discover racism after he attempts to find work.

The gentleman who said that white people who attempt to help black people are just "patronising". Personally, I am grateful for as much help as possible from any racial group who is prepared to work to eradicate injustice and ignorance, who continue to accept or condone this racist society. Yes, in response to this gentleman's remark that black people can be as good as white people, I think that black and brown people are as good as white people. This is why black and white alike should unite to struggle for racial equality.

Hannana Siddiqui

Results of elections of 3 November 1983. (Main Committees) Flower Committee By-Election (SU Exec.) Labour Club

NUS Christmas Conference Delegates:

Kevin Cooper Debbi Hindson Hannana Siddiqui Simon Taylor Observers: Stephen Haffner

Sheree Folkson

Labour Club Labour Club Labour Club Independent Elected Stage 1 Elected Stage 5 Elected Stage 5

Freedom for

Elected Stage 10

Elected Stage 3

Soviet Jewry Conservative Liberal Alliance

Elected Stage 11 Elected Stage 11 Elected Stage 11

ULUGUC Elizabeth Albright

Mark Hoban

Stewart John Taylor

Adrian Cohen Mike Commins Debbi Hindson Philip Klapwijk Robert Shrimsley John Tomaney

Labour Club Psychedelic Action Elected unopposed Labour Club Conservative Conservative

Labour Club

Labour Club

Court of Governors

Dominic Freely Richard Dunn Carol Atack John Tomaney Kirsty Lang

Elected Stage 8 Conservative Indep. Student Labour Club Labour Club Socialist Feminist

Elected Stage 8 Elected Stage 8 Elected Stage 9 Elected Stage 9

Elected Stage 1

General Purposes Committee

Indep. Student Sally Elvidge John Donkersley Labour Club Joao Cravinho Labour Club Philip Groves

Elected Stage 1 Elected Stage 1 Conservative Elected Stage 4

Committee on Welfare of Overseas Students

George R. Binette Labour Club Alexis Bisticas Labour Club L. W. Ong

Elected unopposed

Indep. Overseas

Patel was "the most exceptional candidate"

Following our report of the appointment of Dr I. G. Patel there has been some criticism, not, we should say, of the appointment, but of our report. We have since tried to answer the question – why Dr. Patel.

When such an appointment is on the horizon, the Board of Governors receive a series of nominations or recommendations of likely candidates. The Selection Committee also canvases the Alumnus Society and senior academics to get as broad a view as possible. This year the list was extensive and included a dozen different nationalities.

Proposed by B.K. Nehru

From the original list, a shortlist is prepared; this time it included at least one other foreign candidate. It would appear, incidentally, that anyone who actually applies himself, not having the political acumen to get someone to nominate him, is not considered to have the nouse to be Director of the LSE. Dr. Patel was proposed by Mr B.K. Nehru, who is the President of the Indian Friends of the LSE. The Selection Committee of the Board of Governors did not consider that a direct connection with the School in the past was essential in a director. We were told that the earlier close relationship of Professor Dahrendorf and his predecessors with the LSE were largely coincidental. There was only one person on the shortlist who was an LSE graduate.

Not a Second Choice

There can be no doubt of Dr. Patel's exceptional qualities, nor of his suitability for the post of Director of LSE. Mr P.F. Dawson, Dean of the Graduate School and a mem-

ber of the Selection Committee, tells us that he was "simply the best candidate on a shortlist of very exceptionally able candidates." It has been said of his time at Cambridge that he was "the most outstanding undergraduate of his generation" and "the most able research student they had known". Dr Dawson added emphatically that Dr Patel was not a second choice as reported in the Financial Times.

A Good Listener

Dr. Patel was a late entrant to the field and was proposed just before the Summer Vacation. Ironically, he is older at 58 than the 'ideal' of the Selection Committee. They were looking for someone in his late forties or early fifties, but Dr. Patel was so impressive that they overlooked this factor. Mr Dawson said that Dr. Patel will be in a position to state views which will have to be taken seriously. He will not be predictable in his opinions as is the case with many established British academics. "He is a good listener" and having listened, "he will consider carefully and always come up with his own conclusions." This appointment will emphasise the international nature of the LSE

We look forward to meeting Dr. Patel and seeking his views on many subjects concerning the School and its students, in particular, the issue of overseas student fees and grants. Beaver will be pursuing this topic in the coming months.

As an Indian Civil Servant said in London last week, "The LSE is one of the few institutions in the world which could or would make such an appointment." In the meantime, we all wish him well in his term of office as Director of the School.

Return to Earth

A worm looked up and said: "I grieve . ."

—And added with some hesitation— " . . . I did not as a man believe The theory of reincarnation."

© N. Racine-Jaques, 1983



More havoc in Houghton Street

Finance

The NUS has taken immediate action in the hope of ensuring that any student seriously affected financially will not go penniless. NUS has asked all the major banks to students to open accounts without a grant cheque and to authorise overdrafts. In reply to this a spokesman from one of the clearing banks said "In cases of delayed LEA grants, we would naturally give sympathetic treatment" and advised and advised students to consult their own account-holding branch.

The LSE is equipped to deal with problems of delayed grants. Those students who are facing financial difficulties can obtain advice from Felicity Criddle, the welfare Officer, in rooms E294 and E295 in the East Building (next to the Accommodation Office).

Of the estimated 235,000 undergraduate students attending universities this year, a large proportion are still waiting anxiously for their grants to arrive

University students will be forced to wait till well into November for their grants, according to a spokesman for Croydon Council, whilst polytechnic students are dealt with first. The Inner London Education Authority, like many other local authorities, say that they have too few full time staff to deal with the work-

Delays reflect not only the inefficiency of local authorities, but also that of Central Government. The Gov'ts late announcement of this year's grant regulations has been given as the reason for much of the delay. The Dept. of Education and Science blames the DHSS for the length of time-they spent on their part of the

Law department smoking ban

At the first staff-student committee meeting of the Law Department this term (held 25th October), the radical proposal was made by Eugene Lai that smoking should be prohibited in both law classes and lectures. An impromptu vote revealed almost unanimous support for the idea of banning smoking in classes, from smokers and nonsmokers collectively.

Most smokers present were considerate, appreciating the fact that what they find a pleasure can be a source of irritation and discomfort to others. As regards the question of no smoking in lectures, an alternative system of designating one side of the room "non-smoking" was more palatable to some smokers. It was suggested that cigarette fumes caused less discomfort in a lecture hall than in the small confines of a classroom, although the validity of this argument may be disputed; as one non-smoker put it "it doesn't make much difference if you're sitting next to a smoker". The "division" system would go far to remedy the non-smokers' present grievances and remains perhaps a more feasible alternative to an all-out ban.

Some smokers commented that they would prefer those objeting to their habit to speak up – they would then oblige by putting out their cigarette. What they fail to realise, however, is that many nonsmokers are too shy to voice their objection, afraid of generating offence and hostility in their fellow students. They opt instead to suffer in silence. Admittedly, they may justifiably be blamed for their pre-

dicament; but the "predicament remains neverthless and it surely warrants sympathy rather than indifference.

The general feeling at the meeting seemed to be that the banning of smoking in classes and at least the imposition of segregation in lectures would be a sensible move and would not really injure smokers. The discomfort and feeling of awkwardness experienced by many non-smokers would be eliminated and as one smoker "It is not pointed out unreasonable to suggest someone should refrain for one hour.

Towards the end of November, a second formal vote on the motion will be taken to which all Law students will be invited, as indeed was the case in the initial meeting. If the non-smokers' cause triumphs again and the recommendations mentioned are implemented, the repercussions could be great. Class teachers and lecturers would of course have to comply in the same way as students. Non-smokers from all faculties would no doubt begin pressing for the same arrangements in their departments - indeed, there is already a first year movement evolving in the Department of Social Sciences and Administration currently aiming to establish "No smoking" signs in the Old Theatre. Speculators might even foresee non-smokers achieving their ultimate goal in the future - a universal policy of no smoking in lectures and classes encompassing all the faculties.

Sylvia Krugly

Wine Society planned

Why wine? The answer is obvious. Not only is wine a gift of the gods, but it tasts a lot better than the coffee at Florries. How much better? Clearly that is quite another queston and requires some empirical study. In the interests of science a group of high- and otherwise-minded students have proposed a new society — The Wine Appreciation Society.

The charter states, "The object of the society shall be simply to broaden the scopen of students' knowledge and appreciation of wine". To achieve this noble goal, weekly wine-tastings are planned, with occasional guest lecturers, and the possibility of a spring field trip to the wine producing regions of France is under consideration. The wines tasted will be reviewed in Beaver in a new wine column, giving the widest possible exposure to the fascinating world of wine.

Should you be interested in joining the society look for signs posted around LSE giving date, time, and location of the first organizational meeting. Wine will probably not be served.

Speaker's Corner

If you find one Sunday that you have more time to spare than money to spend you may consider a visit to 'speakers corner'. It was there, amongst the hot dog stands, that I was priveleged to witness the practical application of that ideal that we hold so close to our hearts, freedom of speech. Although most speakers appeared to be social drop-outs nursing fanatical loves and hates I did not allow this to detract from the constitutional significance.

Indeed all was not gloom and in this small corner of a Bosch painting a Methodist minister, erudite and articulate, was able to hold at bay an inpending state of Original Sin. "Christian Socialism", he said, "was our only escape from the dead end into which we had been driven by the destructive forces of competitive capitalism." The standard of heckling was not so high and included the question "Who did the washing up after the last supper?"

Other speakers who merit mention only as a warning to prospective audiences, included a man wearing devil's horns and a halo (which seemed to exemplify his schizophrenic nature). Spitting as he spoke, he demanded an end to immigration. Answering an accusation of racism he suggested that I go off and read Marx's writings on the Jewish question.

I shall finish this account with an anecdote which is arguably symbolic of the hypocrisy existing within all political persuasions. A young Tory rose to speak, calling for a return to the values of the Victorian age (perhaps he included poverty amongst these). His criticism of contemporary society fell mainly upon pornography (an industry controlled by capitalists of Tory persuasion) and homosexuality. Having violently denounced a gay man in the audience they both went off together to what sounded like the 'Stallion Club'? The audience was baffled

Was the trip worth it? It was interesting, sometimes amusing, but for those in search of serious political discussion, I suggest you try elsewhere. R.B.Harwood.

LSE FRIEND OF SRI LANKA presents 'Cultural Extravaganza'

in aid of July riot refugees

– Kandiyan and Bharathanatiyam
dancing

- Sri Lankan dinner

- Disco
- Raffle

plus bar throughout evening
 Friday 18 November at 7.30pm in the Haldane Room
 Tickets from stall in Old Building 12.30-2pm
 Monday 14th onwards.

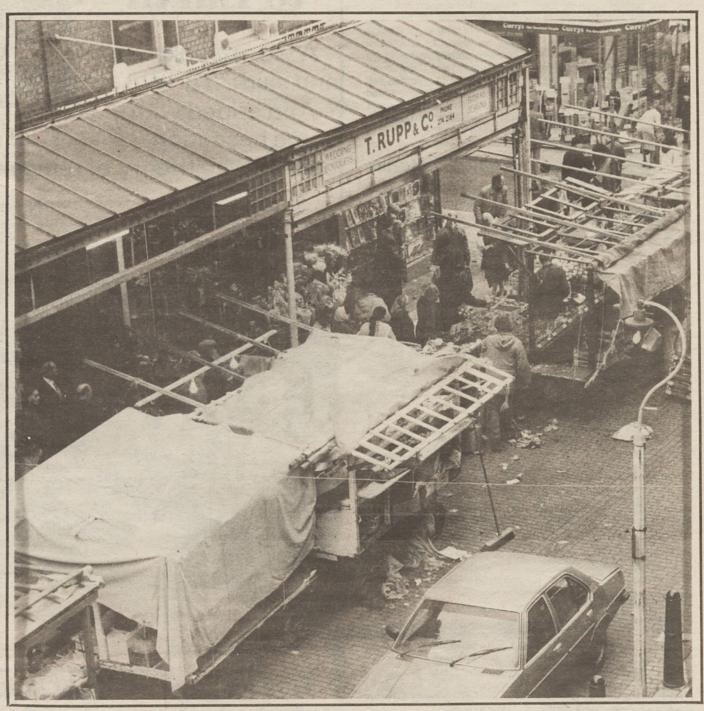
TRIP TO RUSSIA

Chai Lieven, Government Department lecturer in Russian government, and Howard White are organising a trip to Leningrad and Moscow for 7 days, leaving on 26 March.

Fine hotels, food and guides (Lieven and White). All welcome. Contact Chai Lieven in L202.

LONDON MARKETS

Those of you who are new to London (and probably many of you who aren't) may not yet have discovered that London is simply littered with street markets. Most areas have small local markets selling mainly fresh food and household goods. These are not worth crossing London to visit, but it is worth finding out if you have one near you as they are genuinely cheaper than shops and the experience beats standing in a supermarket queue any day. There are the famous ones that people tend to have heard of even if they haven't actually been there - Petticoat Lane, Camden Lock, Portobello Road and the Jubilee Market in Covent Garden. All but the first of these are well-known tourist haunts, but they are still a lot of fun to visit at weekends and if the prices are a bit steep, well, most people only go to look anyway and just seeing what is going on is an entertainment in itself. There are many specialist markets selling clothes, plants, antiques, pets (members of the animal rights group might wish to investigate Club Row in Bethnal Green), jewellery, crafts and coins, to name just a few. In short, whatever you like spending your money on (none of us has much these days so shopping in markets where possible makes even more sense) and whether you like buying, browsing or just watching the world go by, street markets have something to offer to everyone.





Petticoat Lane

Open: Sunday morning only. Location: Middlesex St, Goulston St, Bell Lane, Cobb St, Leydon St. Wentworth St. Toynbee St and Old Castle St. Tube: Aldgate (Metropolitan/ Circle), Aldgate East (Metropolitan/District)

Bus: lots Petticoat Lane is one of London's best known markets and has been there for some 200 years. Confusion may arise because on street maps, Petticoat Lane is marked as Middlesex St; it was rechristened by the Victorians, who throught petticoat a 'rude' word. "The Lane" as it is known locally, is probably the largest street market in London and is always crammed full of people, many, if not most of them, native East Enders The streets are dingy and delapidated and if you look up from the seething mass of people buying and selling to the grimy bricks and gaping windows above, you get a sharp sense of contrast between the lively commercial activity being carried on, against a classic background of urban decay.

Traditionally the centre of the rag-trade, Petticoat Lane is still mainly a clothes market and sells new rather than second hand clothes. A lot of the stuff is trendy, nasty and not necessarily cheaper than elsewhere, since many of the shop and stalls are run by West End dealers, but if you are on the look-out for a leather or sheepskin jacket, it is well worth trying the Leather and Sheepskin discount centre or the covered Sunday market, both at the far end of Petticoat Lane itself. In the covered Sunday market, prices are not marked up and if you are skilled in the art of

bargaining, I am pretty sure you don't have to end up paying the price first quoted.

Other goodies on offer include a fairly decent selection of reasonably priced boots and shoes (you have to be prepared to look around) and lots of gloves, socks and hats. Records and tapes are marginally cheaper than record shops, although if your tastes are unconventional, you can pick them up for as little as £2.99. There are large quantities of assorted bags, handbags and baskets, cheap jewelry and one very good stall selling incense and joss sticks. In fact, you can buy most things in Petticoat Lane, but a certain amount of patience and tenacity is required (a sharp pair of elbows is also an asset) to search out the worthwhile buys from among much that is uninspiring.

Refreshment in The Lane is only available for those with strong stomachs, as it consists of a choice between evilsmelling hot dogs in lurid shades on pink and orange and a range of equally pink and orange shellfish at one of the traditional whelk and jellied eel stalls - those with hangovers are strongly advised to steer clear. For those seeking liquid refreshment, pubs are in plentiful supply, but most are not very appetising. My favourite is the Jack the Ripper on the corner of Commercial St and Flower and Dean St behind Spitalfields Market. It is cosy and unpretentious, has original Victorian picture tiles on the wall and convincingly faked extracts from old newspapers reporting the 'orrible murders of Jack the Ripper, all of whose victims were discovered in the area around the

Camden Lock

Open: 10 - 6 Saturday and Sunday.
Location: West side of Chalk Farm Road, between the canal and the railway viaduct.
Tube: Camden Town

(Northern)

Bus: 3 24 31 53 68 74 Camden Lock presents a complete constrast to Petticoat Lane, in setting, clientele and type of goods on sale. Situated on a disused timber wharf beside the Regent Canal, the market began life in the early '70's with the restoration of the old warehouse to provide workshops for artists and craft workers. The site is divided into two parts, the actual market with about 200 stalls standing on waste ground beside the road and the craft workshops clustered round the picturesque cobbled wharf. Trade is orientated towards trendy youth and tourists rather than catering for local needs and prices, predictably, are not cheap. A distinction should be made however, between the craft workshops where the prices are way out of reach for the average student (and the average working person too) and the market, where most, if not all the merchandise is quite reason-

The range of crafts on display is impressive; pottery, leather work, silk painting, cane work, cabinet making, bead work, jewellery and much more. A lot of it struck me as pretty but not very original, but perhaps the point is that craft products have become desperately fashionable and fashion always tends towards standardisation. Further chic is provided by

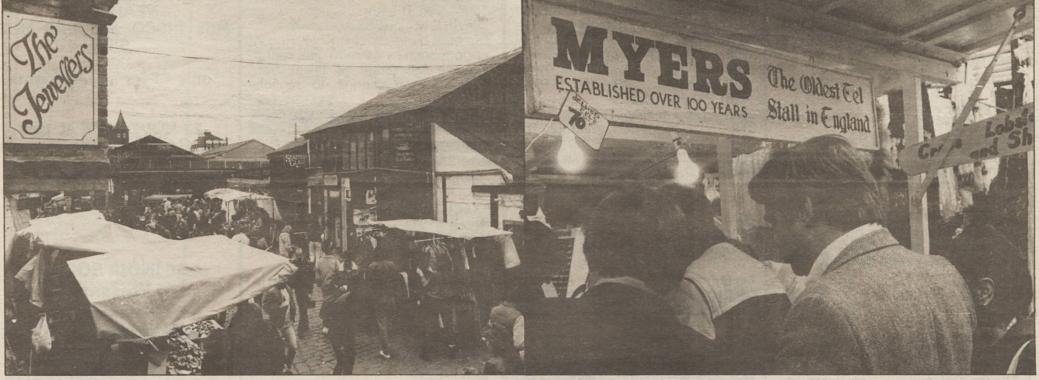
Dingwall's Dance Hall and Cararet – they often have great acts, the trick is managing to get a ticket – and rather "good" restaurants such as Le Routier and Lock, Stock and Barrel.

Don't despair, however, there is more to Camden Lock than posh nosh and arty crafts. Less expensive entertainments include canal cruises, a puppet theatre, a punk Punch and Judy Show and a varied assortment of buskers. If you feel hungry and can't afford Le Routier (you usually have to book anyway), your nose should lead you to the outside kitchen where an enormous cauldron of chilli bubbles constantly and is served with pitta bread and a choice of interesting salads. Another stall sells pies made with whole wheat flour! A far cry from the hot dogs of Petticoat Lane.

You can find just about every style in the market; gear, retro, punk, ethnic, hippie – a dying breed but not yet dead. Even those already dead are apparently catered for by an emporium called "Beasts – Clothes for the Living Dead" – I didn't investigate too closely. Oriental carpets, antique toys, old bottles, herbs and spices, house plants, exploding chestnuts, the list of attractions is endless.

There is also lots going on outside the Lock, with shops, resturants and 'cafs' staying open on Sunday and spill-over markets growing up like mushrooms on every street corner and piece of waste ground. Anyone who likes ice-cream, please note, Marine lces just up the road, opposite the Roundhouse, has some of the best Italian ice-cream in London.





Brixton

Open: 8.30 - 5.30 Monday - Saturday (half day closing, Wednesday)

Location: Electric Avenue, Atlantic Road, Brixton Station Road, Market Row, Electric Lane.

Tube: Brixton (Victoria) Bus: 2 3 35 37 50 95 etc.

Brixton is a fair distance from LSE and in deciding whether or not to make the trip, it should be borne in mind that this is a local functional type of market. It is not as large or varied as Petticoat Lane and doesn't have the trendy appeal of Camden Lock, but it does have its own very distinctive atmosphere and it does sell wonderful food. It is almost worth the journey just to see the wall painting on the end of a house in Atlantic Rd: the work of Brixton CND, it shows a giant skeleton in Yankee dress and flying the Stars and Stripes, bestriding London while, from a spot which is clearly meant to be Brixton, a mushroom cloud rises.

Brixton still figures in many people's minds as the scene of the 1981 so-called 'race riots' and names such as Electric Avenue and Atlantic Road, leading to Railton Road, conjure up images of violence. Although precious little has been done since those days to improve the position of the West Indian Community in Brixton, the market today is peaceful and the atmosphere friendly.

Anyone who loves food (one of my many weaknesses) should go to Brixton for the sheer sensual and aesthetic pleasure of looking at stall after stall of tempting and exotic things to eat. Unless you are African or West Indian you probably won't know what many of the things are, let alone how to cook or eat them - be courageous! Experiment! Try some bright pink pigs' tails or a shark steak, plaintains, sweet potatoes or uglis. For the faint-hearted, there are also all the more traditional fresh ingredients of English and European cooking. Many of the best food stalls are to be found in the covered arcades which run under the railway

The main attraction of Brixton market, apart from the food and the reggae music, is the second hand clothes section, which runs down Brixton Station Road. A lot of the things are modern cast-offs —



crimplene dresses and other things too naff to mention and the rest consists of an assortment of styles, perhaps not quite stylish enough to be dignified with the name "retro". Having painted this depressing picture, however, a closer inspection revealed a number of potentially desirable and very cheap items, particularly men's jackets and overcoats. So I conclude that it is worth a try for assiduous bargain hunters.

Leather Lane

Open: 10.30 – 2 Monday Friday

Location: Runs between Holborn and Clerkenwell Road. Tube: Chancery Lane or Farringdon.

Leather Lane is within easy walking distance of the LSE (across Lincoln's Inn Fields, turn right into Holborn and left just past the Prudential Assurance Building).

It is a very old street and there has been a market there since the 17th century, although most of the buildings are now Victorian. This is a really useful market as it sells just about everything, serving

local residents and at lunch times, crowded with office workers. The Lane runs parellel to Hatton Garden, one of the gem centres of the world. I say this, not because I think you are all going to spend your grants on diamonds, but the sight of window after window filled with wicked glittering stones is fascinating. It is also one of the orthodox Jewish areas in London and you can eat really excellent Jewish food in unpretentious little cafes and restaurants like the Nosherie.

Leather Lane is particularly good for clothes, new but cheap. For example, Levi leans at £11.99 and Lee Cooper cords at £9.95. There are lots of shirts (one stall sells men's shirts for £4.99), sweatshirts and pullovers. Socks galore, 4 pairs for £1, gloves and hats. There is also a wide range of D.I.Y. and electrical equipment, tools and bike accessories, records and paperback books. One of the nicest stalls sells all kinds of cane bags and baskets, including some very original rafia Gladstone bags at £3.80.

I could go on, but I won't - go there and see for

Eleanor Edwards

CIETIES & THIN

MON Nov 14

CATHOLIC SOC

1pm - S67 REGULAR SOC MEETING. All welcome.

LSE CHAPLAINCY

12.10 - Chaplain's office: MIDDAY PRAYER

GAY SOC

1pm - E298: REGULAR OPEN HOUR

GRADUATE OFFICER

1pm - E197

REGULAR OPEN HOUR LABOUR CLUB

1pm - A40:

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

LSE LIBERALS 1pm - A282

REGULAR MEETING. All welcome

DRAMA SOC

8pm - A45: "SKIRMISHES". See ad.

TUE Nov 15

BAHAI SOC

1pm - S78: REGULAR SOC MEETING. All wel-

LSE CHAPLAINCY

1.05 - Graham Wallas Rm: "CUBA – THE CHURCH AFTER THE REVOLUTION", by John Reardon, Church and Society Dept, URC.

DEBATING SOC

1pm – A698: "This house believes that the use of animals for medical research is morally wrong", speakers from the National Vivisection Society and Imperial Cancer Research.

LIBERAL SOC 1pm - New Theatre: **ROY JENKINS**

STUDENT ENTS

1pm - C018 OPEN ELECTIONS for the 1984 RAG CHAIRPERSON. People wishing to stand should contact Dave Bull, Social Secretary, in E206. All welcome.

CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

5.30pm - Vera Antsey Rm: "CAREERS IN COMMODITY TRAIN-ING", a presentation by Cargill UK.

FILM SOC

7pm - Old Theatre 'AI NO CORRIDA" (1976)

With Eiko Matsuda and Tatsuya Fuji. A film about two lovers who play out their sexual passions to a tragic end. Director Nagisa Oshima pursues his obsessions with sex and death in a repressive society to a climax in this, "the film that leaves nothing to the imagination." This film is still banned in Japan and has only limited club screenings in the West.

WED Nov 16

ASSOCIATE CTTEE AGAINST RACISM AND FASCISM 1pm - A344:

REGULAR MEETING

CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

2pm - E304: "WORKING WITH COMPUTERS", an informal talk by a computer consultant with a general discussion

EXECUTIVE CTTEE

afterwards.

2pm - E191: REGULAR MEETING

OVERSEAS STUDENT ACTION CTTEE

1pm - E195: MEETING to elect an overseas stu-

dent for the Student Support Committee which deals with awards loans, scholarships, bursaries and fee waivers.

PHOTOSOC

1pm - tba: GENERAL MEETING.

WED Nov 16 cont'd

WOMEN'S OFFICER

1pm - E298: REGULAR OPEN HOUR

CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

5.30pm – Graham Wallas Rm: CAREERS IN ADVERTISING: a recent graduate, now an Account Executive from J Walker Thompson, will be coming to talk about his work in advertising and to give a video presentation.

DRAMA SOC

6pm - C108: WORKSHOP - improvisation, exercises, etc. A lot of fun. Everyone welcome.

THU Nov 17

BUNAC 12.45 - outside OT:

STALL - come and find out about working in the USA this summer. Information on the most exciting and cost-effective way to see the States.

AIESEC LSE

4pm - tba: REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING

ATHLETIC UNION

4pm – East Building Gym: REGULAR OPEN BASKETBALL HOUR. Women and men welcome.

FILM SOC

7pm – Old Theatre: "SOMEWHERE IN TIME"

With Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour. Directed by Jeannot Szwarc. Beautiful screen adaptation of Richard Matheson's book about a playwright who investigates the facts about a mysterious old lady who presents him with an antique gold watch, shortly before dying, with the words, "Come back to me."

PUBLIC LECTURE

5pm - Old Theatre: "Do political parties matter? The impact of parties on policy out-come", by Professor Dr. Klaus von Beyme, President of the International Political Science Association. The chair will be taken by Prof. G. W. Jones.

PSYCHOLOGY SOC

6.30pm - S221 "ACUPUNCTURES", by Dr. Cohen, acupuncturist.

FRI Nov 18

LSE CHAPLAINCY

1.10 – A612: HOLY COMMUNION

SUNDAY

DEBATING SOC

OUTING TO SPEAKERS CORNER. Anyone wanting to attend for an afternoon of humorous entertainment, as well as practical experience of public speaking, please meet underneath Marble Arch at 2.30. All subjects welcome for oration, and hecklers definitely wanted.

MON Nov 21

CATHOLIC SOC

1pm - S67 REGULAR SOC MEETING. All wel-

LSE CHAPLAINCY

12.10 - Chaplain's Office: MIDDAY PRAYER

GAY SOC 1pm - E298

REGULAR OPEN HOUR

GRADUATE OFFICER 1pm - E197 REGULAR OPEN HOUR

LABOUR CLUB

1pm - A40: REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

LSE LIBERALS 1pm - A282: REGULAR MEETING

CAREERS ADVISORY SERVICE

5.30 - S017: APPLICATIONS AND INTERVIEWS:

LSE Careers advisers, Michael Tiley, and Shiona Llewellyn, will give a video presentation on interview techniques. Opportunity for discussion afterwards.

TUE Nov 22

BAHAI SOC

1pm - S78: REGULAR SOC MEETING. All welcome.

LSE CHAPLAINCY

1.05 - Graham Wallas Rm:
"POVERTY IN MRS. THATCHER'S
BRITAIN", by Davis Piachaud, Lecturer, LSE Department of Social Science and Administration.

DEBATING SOC

1pm - A698: "This house believes that anything the state can do, the market does better." Libertarian Alliance and Liberals arguing it out. Speeches from the floor welcome.

HISTORY SOC

tba - New Theatre: Prof. M S Anderson will present a lecture on "Peter The Great"

MUSIC SOC

1pm - Shaw Library: CONCERT: Handel, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Richardson; by Stephen Glaister (oboe) Justin Jones (violin) and Valerie Pardon (piano). All

welcome. **FILM SOC**

7pm - Old Theatre:

"DIVINE MADNESS"
Directed by Michael Ritchie. Record performance by Bette Midler, capturing the full range of talent from stand-up comedienne to raunchy singer.

WED Nov 23

ASSOCIATE CTTEE AGAINST RACISM AND FASCISM

1pm - A344: REGULAR MEETING

EXECUTIVE CTTEE

2pm – E191: REGULAR MEETING

THINK TANK 1pm - E295:

INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUP on how to survive at LSE: dealing with work, exams, accommodation, part-time study and more! All wel-

WOMEN'S OFFICER

1pm – E298: REGULAR OPEN HOUR

DRAMA SOC

6pm - C018: WORKSHOP - improvisations, exercises, etc. A lot of fun. Everyone welcome.

THU Nov 24

BUNAC

12.45 - outside Old Theatre: STALL - come and find out about working in the USA this summer. Lots of exciting and cost-effective way to see the States.

AIESEC - LSE 4pm - tba:

REGULAR CTTEE MEETING

ATHLETICS UNION

4pm - East Building Gym: Regular OPEN BASKETBALL HOUR. Women and men welcome.

FILM SOC

7pm - Old Theatre: "TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD" (1963). With Gregory Peck and Mary Bodham. Classic film based on the brilliant novel by Harper Lee about a lawyer in a small southern town who defends a black man accused of murder. Excellent atmosphere and performances.

FRI Nov 25

LSE CHAPLAINCY

1.10 A612: HOLY COMMUNION

ECONOMICS SOC

1pm - S75

Prof M DESAI, "Is there a Socialist Economic Policy?" Everyone welcome. The Economics Soc apologize for the cancellation of the last meeting, which was due to illness of Prof Desai.

LSE SOCIETY LECTURE

5.30pm - Old Theatre H E Dr. J. M. A. H. LUNS, Secretary General of NATO and Honorary fellow of the LSE, on "NATO and its Problems" reception 6.30-8pm by ticket (£3.50 + sae) from Mrs B. Asherson, 21, Harley St., London

STUDENT ENTS

"YANKSGIVING": American Night Special - details tba.

SAT

TURF SOC

W1N 1DA.

Trip to Hennessey Gold Cup at Newbury. All those interested contact Martin Graham in Passfield Hall.

ROSEBERRY HALL - 8pm 90 Roseberry Avenue, EC1 Two Live bands: THE ALCHEMISTS YEAH JAZZ Plus DISCO and BAR SUB-SIDY

only £1 for non-residents

23 NOVEMBER at 1pm The Government Society presents: HAROLD EVANS Room to be announced.

> LSE INDIA SOCIETY **Presents** 'Diwali Nite'

on Thursday, 17 November 1983 in the Old Theatre Featuring: Talented singer "MOHAMMAD

RAZA" and party Also featuring - TRADITIONAL **DANCES** An Indian Meal included

TICKETS: £2 members £2.50 non-members Available from committee members or F4/5 (Fitzroy Flats) and at the door

Wed 30 Nov A45 and A85 2-6pm THE LSE DEBATING

COMPETITION Sponsored by Jameson's Irish Whiskey

All students eligible to enter contact Debating Soc via pigeon holes.

Reception provided courtesy of Jameson's, after final motion:

"This House believes that you have never had it so good" Lots of prizes, including best speech from the floor.

'The Battle for Bermondsey'

Peter Tatchell's book 'The Battle for Bermondsey' is his explanation of Labour's worst by-election defeat in history. He attributes it primarily to media vilification, aided and abetted by the Labour party hierarchy. He acknowledges the role played by years of right-wing Labour rule, and remains completely committed to the principles and policies of the new Labour left, on which he campaigned.

As a Liberal who was active in the by-election campaign, and the months leading up to it, I found this book depressing and misleading. Misleading, because of the snide little inaccuracies and omissions: Simon Hughes was not a hastily drafted-in outsider. Liberals constantly condemned the press smears made against Tatchell. His account of Liberal community politics reads like a parody. His account of his dealings with the Press Council is obscure. What is really depressing is that Peter Tatchell shows no understanding of all the other, equally important reasons why he lost this supposedly rock solid Labour seat. That, for example, the local council (Southwark), which had fallen completely under the control of like-thinking socialist councillors, was deeply, bitterly, unpopular. That there are four thousand empty council houses, and a massive waiting list. That the Labour campaign was astonishingly badly organised. For Bermondsey, after decades of one-party Labour rule, socialism is not the answer - it is the problem. Peter Tatchell's 'Grass roots

community socialism' never had a chance in Bermondsey. As he muses at the end of his book, why did the Liberals do even better in the general election in June than they did in the by-election in February? Maybe a community-based movement is growing in Bermondsey. If so, it is not socialism, but Liberalism.

Edward Lucas

SHORT TERM JOB? –
OWN HOURS, in October, November time. If
you have a suit, charm
and a car contact PETER
GOULD c/o Bristol
Polytechnic Students'
Union, Cold Harbour
Lane, Bristol BS6.

American student volunteers wanted to help produce magazine for young Americans in London.
Ring James Tuck on 01-727 3255.

POST GRAD SEEKS
ROOM (FLOOR SPACE)
FOR ONE OR TWO
NIGHTS A WEEK. I don't
want to live in London
but need a place to stay
when here. Please phone
02273 63323 and leave a
message for Mary.

Vostok

Societies who have forthcoming events related to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union should advertise in 'Vostok'. Contact the editor via the societies pigeon hole outside Florries (still labelled Polish Soc!).

BAD TIMES FOR THE PRESS

"Early in 1982, ten months after he had taken over *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, Rupert Murdoch went to see the Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher. They had a problem: it was me." Thus, Harold Evans, in the best tradition of journalism, grabs his readers in the first paragraph of 'Good Times, Bad Times' (Weidenfield and Nicolson £11.95).

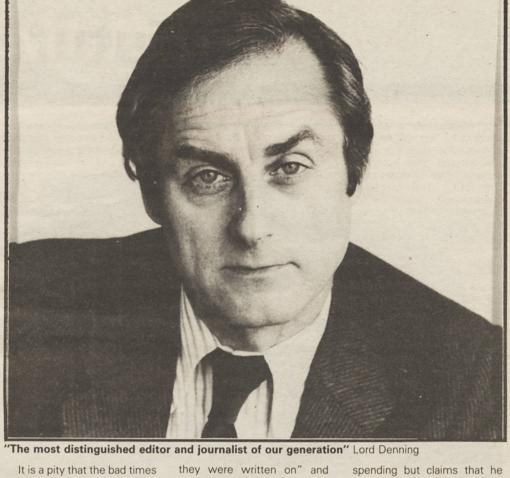
He continues with colourful descriptions of the people and events of his 16 years of the good times and the bad times with Times Newspapers from 1966 to 1982.

Harold Evans is the campaigning journalist par excellence. He has led some of the most significant press crusades of our age. The posthumous pardon of Timothy Evans, who was wrongfully convicted and hanged, led eventually to the abolition of hanging. The persuasion of the shareholders of Distillers Co. to vote £20m compensation to Thalidomide victims rather than the £2m proposed by the company was a result of The Sunday Times campaign. The Philby exposure and the Crossman Diaries were published in the face of extreme pressure from The Faceless Ones in Whitehall.

Mr Evans has devoted himself to the proposition that the press is there to challenge the extensions of corporate and executive powers which pro-

duce an erosion of human rights. His challenge of the conventions of government secrecy in publishing the Crossman Diaries makes riveting reading. All the more so in that, having blown a hole in the Thirty-year rule on publishing Cabinet secrets he was criticised by, of all people, political journalists. In his book Mr Evans tells of his 14 years' editorship of The Sunday Times and of his battles with Rupert Murdoch which ended his 12 month reign as editor of The Times.

The early chapters on The Crossman Diaries, the DC10 disaster, Philby and the Thalidomide case are exciting accounts of journalistic endeavour and would make good plots for a TV series. They are examples of the achievements of a free press and underline the point that he makes in the rest of the book. By simply telling of the good times he underlines the dangers of the situation which arose in the bad times.



take up the greater part of the book. The story of the acquisition of Times Newspapers Ltd. by Rupert Murdoch News Enterprises is sordid. The fact that one proprietor can command a daily readership of 40% and a Sunday readership of 48% of the national press cannot be in the best interests of anyone, except for Rupert Murdoch. Mr Evans accuses John Biffen of 'misleading Parliament' and of losing £4.6m from the balance sheet in order to save Mr Murdoch the ordeal of a Monopolies Commission enquiry. He accuses Mr Murdoch, Margaret Thatcher and Cecil Parkinson of plotting his removal as editor of The Times because he was not towing the Party line. He quotes Murdoch as saying that his (Murdoch's) written undertakings to Parliament were not worth the paper they were written on" and goes on to point out that every one of those undertakings were broken. He cites occasions when severe pressure was brought both on himself and *The Sunday Times* editor to support and not criticise the Conservative government.

At his press conference to launch 'Good Times, Bad Times', Mr Evans said that he could see the effect of these pressures since he left *The Times*. The economics leaders, for example, are now being written by someone brought in from the City who is not even on the staff of the paper, and who unstiltingly pushes the monetarist line.

Evans denied feeling bitter about being forced to leave *The Times*, but a feeling of bitterness comes through towards the end of the book. He was not without his critics. He is accused of over-

was never given a budget. It is said that his style of editorship, so acclaimed at The Sunday Times, did not suit a daily paper with more pressing deadlines, since his style was allegedly more towards developing a story; and that he tried to do every job in the paper. This certainly created problems. The damaging rift between factions within the paper must have been due to bad leadership somewhere. The press have not on the whole been kind to Harold Evans and his book. That may say more about the press than about the book. Newspapers do have political bias. That is barely laudable but it is better to realise the fact. At least, after reading Mr Evans' book, we know where we stand with The Times now.

lain Crawford

Should someone be paid to write this dross?

One of the main topics of conversation among the Beaver collective during the run-up to the abortive "'phone" debate centred on the amount of time and effort it was possible to invest in the production of a better Beaver (or even a Beaver at all) and still get a degree. Wouldn't it be a nice idea if the editor was a sabbatical position?

any suggestion that the proposers of the idea were speaking out of self-interest in that, were the idea adopted, one of them would be well placed to be the first recipient of the Union's largesse, what advantages could be obtained by Beaver, the Union, or even the editor from its being a sabbatical position?

The benefit to Beaver would be that someone would be in a position to be available all the time, and know exactly what the state of play was on any article or issue, and chase people up who had promised features or articles which had not appeared as copy deadline loomed. Beaver might then come out on time! Once this problem has been overcome. we might then progress to a weekly Beaver - I am sure the talent and subject matter can be found within the LSE to provide sufficient material. A sabbatical editor would also have the time to drum up more advertising. For the newspaper of a college whose students are largely self-

financing, and thus likely to (I would not say that they all do) have more money (and certainly more future influence) than the average U.K. grant aided student, the amount of advertising in Beaver is pathetic. I am sure local businesses would be more than ready to take space at Beaver's very modest rates. National businesses too, could be expected to take space, as they have a vested interest in getting your limited trade or attention now in the very real expectation of keeping it when you leave and become a captain of industry or pillar of society. Indeed, it was argued that a properly-managed Beaver could be totally selffinancing through advertising. With a sabbatical as well as printing costs to cover this might be a little optimistic, but there is reason to believe that a sabbatical editor could at least pay for themselves through advertising, and also bring about a better product.

The quality of that product, does, of course, matter. The publications of the Students' Union are a permanent record of who was there, what they thought, what they did at any point in the history of the student body. They are also the mouthpiece of the students, either individually or collectively, both to one another and to the outside world. Student societies are by nature insular — anything which happens in the UGM or the Three

Tuns which might not reflect well on the image of the individual or the student body as a whole is unlikely to go further than that room - but do need to present a public face from time to time. That public face, in the case of the LSE, will be mandated pronouncements of the General Secretary, the SU handbook and Beaver. It is unlikely that a full-time editor would make much difference to the breadth of content of Beaver, (indeed it might have the opposite effect), although it could improve the quality by correcting the English or punc-This leads me to propose a

change of emphasis. Rather than an editor as such, if there were to be a further sabbatical they should be more concerned with the production side than with editorial content. Editorial decisions - what is fit to print, whether a particular point of view should grace the pages of the Students' Union's mouthpiece would remain with the overall collective, as now. Seen in this new guise of publications manager, the sabbatical could also take responsibility for production of the Students' Union handbook, making this both more comprehensive (they would have the time as well as the responsibility to chase up societies etc. for their contributions) and, with more advertising here as well and a glossier production, even more profitable to the Union in terms of both £ and public

relations. But do we need another sabbatical? Could not all the improvements outlined above be achieved now by better organisation of the volunteer talent already available and the existing sabbaticals and administrative staff? Might the new sabbatical, whether titled Publications Manager or Editor, become the de-facto editor of Beaver, expected to produce the whole thing themselves, reporting, layout, graphics, aided only by the occasional article or letter from those with a personal or political axe to grind? Such a situation would result in a worse product than we have now, editorially reflecting the views of one person, rather than the whole student body, and furthermore someone who is being paid by the student body to hold and publish those views!

This disadvantage - the apathy that sets in when there is someone else available to do the work - is particularly relevant when we consider how this person will be chosen. Clearly the Students Union will not be laying out £5000 + (no matter how much it believes it will get this money back in increased advertising revenue) without a say in who gets that money. The position has to be the subject of an annual election, like the Flower committee (and have a seat on it?) rather than the current drawing of the short straw by the presed volunteers of the Beaver collective. This lays the position open to becoming a political appointment, the various political groupings in the Union being able to put up their candidate (with a large block vote following) regardless of whether they have any experience of, or aptitude for, the job. Without some fairly unacceptable provisos in the constitution to allow only (and who decides who is 'qualified"?), however, this is a risk which is inherent in a sabbatical editor. The risk of Beaver going the way of our Fleet St elders, with editors/ managers appointed for their political beliefs rather than their journalistic competence is a real one, perhaps the price we must pay for a glossier, more professional Beaver.

The foregoing is intended neither as a manifesto for or against a Publications Sabbatical, although it will probably be seen as such in some quarters. I intended merely to open public debate on another direction in which the SU might reasonably consider spending its money apart from (in addition to ?) the "Edan-RepSec", a racehorse or a Nursery Trust Fund. My own personal view is that a full time publications production manager could be very useful indeed, but that the editor should remain the student body. I am of course, open to contradiction, and throw the question open to you all.

Alan Peakall

The Future of the Left

Last week's debate on the future of the left was more of a discussion than the stark confrontation that everyone expected. Ken Livingstone of the GLC, and Michael Meadowcroft, Liberal MP for Leeds West gave their respective views of the state of politics in Britain, and where it is all going to lead in the future.

Livingstone opened the debate with a brief outline of the historical background to the current problems facing the Labour Party; the British.

working class he said, had been bought off by the precepts of imperialism, exemplified in modern times in the almost unqualified support granted to Thatcher during last year's Falkland Campaign. The 'total bankruptcy of ideas' contained in the old guard of Wilson, Callaghan and their supporters is only now being replaced by a stronger, more truly socialist style of politics which the present establishment will do its best to discredit and prevent from gaining any real power base in politics;

Michael Meadowcroft - The Liberal Tendency

this is because any radical change will threaten their preeminence in the present social order, and as Livingstone rightly points out, this they do not want. Livingstone does not believe that the future of the left lies in an alliance of any kind with the Liberal party. This is not because there is no mutual idenification between the two parties, but because it would be the more populist, rightwing elements within the two parties which would take precendence over the more radical elements. A repeat of the Lib/Lab pact of 1977 to 1979 would be politically disastrous for the left.

Meadowcroft openly concurred with this view. He recognised the tendency within the alliance to feel more instinctual sympathy with the rightwing elements in British politics and made it clear that he wished to disassociate himself from that as far as he possibly could. The body of his discussion however, was more based on where policy was wrong, and where he believed it should be changed, and how this should be done. He criticised the tendency that exists on the left of the Labour party to run away with minority issues at the expense of a more popular approach with broader appeal. The present electoral system, he continued, forces the formation of mass parties which in the case of the Labour party causes ideological conflict and a lack of discipline which reflects badly on the movement as a whole; furthermore, simple plurality encouraged people to vote negatively, a practice that is not designed to improve the current feeling of political stagnation in Britain. Meadowcroft feels that the way forward for the left lies mainly in pragmatic considerations. The emphasis placed by the Labour party on issues such as unemployment, housing, the workplace and roads, cuts out

the more obvious factors like work, homes for people, the community and the neighbourhood, and transport and communications. Meadowcroft then went on to say that there were three movements currently at work in politics that would help to challenge the existing order and make a pathway for the left. Firstly, he spoke again of the movement currently clamouring for electoral reform; secondly, he cited the resurgence of the ecology parties throughout Europe and the new interest in environmental issues that it engendered, and finally he mentioned the women's liberation movement as a strong and important force in politics that is essential for the future success of the left.

Both men agreed that there is a future for the left in Britain. In his summing up, Ken Livingstone spoke for both of them when he said that support for the Conservative party is falling all the time and has been ever since the 1930's. The continuing economic distortions being wrought in Britain by the Conservative government, and the appalling effects that they are having will ultimately secure the future for the left.

future for the left. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the whole event was its civility. Both men seemed to appreciate their differences and to really listen to what the other was saying, a rare occurrence in political discussions. To any person who harbours in them any concept of an essentially libertarian nature, much of what they said seemed not only perfectly reasonable but also good sense. It is very difficult to say which of them is more correct however, since it would be perfectly possible to agree absolutely with everything that they said, and not contradict oneself. It would probably be best to say that like them, I believe that there is a future for the left in this country, and that it will be possible to secure it without the revolution that so many people seem to dread. Like Livingstone I believe that it is not possible to impose socialism gradually from the centre, by appealing solely to populist elements in society, but like Meadowcroft I believe there is a danger in over-emphasising ideological concepts like unemployment at the expense of that presently elusive commodity - work. I also believe that the danger presented by

the obsession with minority issues will in the long term, if allowed to continue unabated, confine the politics of the left to an almost powerless minority in British public life. But the most important factor in securing a future of the left can be summed up in two words, which embody completely in them what is contained in the above discussion - that the future of the left lies in mass support for the movement, and that everything that has to be accomplished can only be done with that support.

Lucy Cohen



Ken Livingstone – Hero of the London Labour Party

Parklands, Sloanes and lobotomies —

a weekend in Cambridge

Naturally, I went northwards stuffed full of preconceptions. I mean, there I was, a member of the most radical college/university in the country, going to the fenland poly, the home of the public school G&T set. I think that I over compensated though; my Belstaff looks like a pincushion after the onslaught of "radical" badges. So what were my first impressions of the actual place?

Being the social climber that I

am, I couldn't resist a visit to

Jesus College, Cambridge a

fortnight or so ago. The attrac-

tions of the place were too

much for me; the Backs, King's

College Chapel, Trinity Street,

Heffer's and of course, HRH,

the Prince Edward.

The first thing I noticed as I stepped off the bus was how bloody cold it was – there is nothing between Cambridge and the Arctic but some very flat country and and awful lot North Sea. The next thing I noticed was the huge amounts of greenery and the land-scaped parklands that are ubiquitously dotted over this small town. Imagine, if you will, the LSE transferred to Hampton Court and you would have a fair idea of what Jesus is like.

Luckily, I was not there as a member of the sub-species of Homo Sapiens known as Homo Sapiens Tourista (this

start, they were all on bicycles sub-species, whether of Orien-- with a little imagination you tal, American, or European could picture them as updated background can normally be centaurs, for bike never left unrecognised by their plentiful dergrad. Second, they all SLRs slung randomly round seemed to be a bit more studitheir necks, their totally spuri-"Cambridge/Oxford ous than your common or University" /London garden LSE student. Perhaps my point of view is biased sweatshirts, and their obvious and touching dedication to the here; as a first year historian godess Excursion); I was there anyone carrying a book, let as an insider. You see, (he alone reading one would seem industrious in the extreme to says, preparing to name drop) my girlfriend is at Jesus and on the same staircase as Eddybabe - impressed? No, I don't

blame you. This gave me an

ideal opportunity to wander at

will through the streets to see

if Cambridge is really inhabited

by chinless wonders, Hooray

Henrys and intelligent Sloanes.

My surprise was great when I

discovered that "they" looked

just like "us". Well, perhaps

not exactly the same. For a

However, at the Cambridge Union on Friday night a new aspect of the University was brought to my attention. A note of explanation here; the CU is a completely different institution from the LSE/NUS students' union. It is, in effect, a private members club – primarily a debating society – but with a film society, a library, snooker tables and such like. The

Cambridge Students Union is a poorly supported and practically ignored organization. With a student population of some 12-14,000 students there are two sabaticals (Ah! Utopia). A recent meeting called to discuss student loans was attended by 50 people. At the Union debating societyit was the "funny" debate. Dai Llewllyn and Dr. Rob Buckman (amongst other notables) were invited to discuss the motion: 'This house would prefer a full bottle in front of it than a fullfrontal lobotomy"

The evening was presided over by Julian Lloyd, the personification of pomposity, and it must be said that he was surrounded by like souls. It is telling that the CU voted for the operation, although, in many cases, it was an unnecessary afterthought.

The CU apart, my weekend in Cambridge was strangely disappointing for somebody expecting a totally different breed of university and student. There was (and is) only noteworthy for its normality. As for the undergrads I met, despite being cocooned by the beauty, the seclusion and the mystique, they are a group of "fun-loving-good-humoured" people – just like the average first year at the LSE really.

Justin Anthony

LSE SKI CLUB

The Ski Club is organising two trips this year over the Christmas vacation and early in the Spring term. All students are welcome, as are friends or relations from outside LSE. If you are interested please get in touch as soon as possible by phoning 722 2760 or 435 8830.

DETAILS

1. Tignes – leaves Dec 30 1 week £139 includes travel and accommodation, lift pass.

2. Meribel – leaves Jan 27 1 week £115 includes travel and accommodation.

In addition, London University Ski Team is looking for experienced racers (slalom and giant slalom) to compete in the English University Ski Championships. For information get in touch with Chris Franklin via UL Ski Club, University of London Union, Malet Street, London WC1.

The London Arts

May Days . . . entertaining but has 'monumental mistakes'

The Festival Hall and National Theatre sitting on the South Bank. Exhibitions in foyers, split-level bars; white floors, white walls, white chrome, white light. Same view of the Thames, same majestic air. Palaces of culture: come along, in twentieth century free-thought Britain anyone can enjoy an exhorbitant coffee in the afternoon and the colour-supplement heroes in the evening performance. Big, stylish, proud, cold, daunting institutions.

And now there's the new clone. Five minutes from St. Pauls, in the city, on the site they still call Cripples Gate; The Barbican. Exhibitions in foyers, split-level everything; chrome, brick, concrete, carpet, parquet, glass and plastic. Throw your head back, look around and you can't tell floors from ceiling. Outside; the terraces, waterways, benches, statues, cafes, fountains and forests of flats. No danger of getting lost. Yellow painted lines guide visitors around the grounds. Anyone can come to this architect's orgasm and gaze, like shepherded tourists on cut-price tickets, at peoplepage wonders on top of their cultural Everest.

The tickets were ready and waiting, plucked from their envelopes by staff so polite and correct it hurt. I bought a drink at the elegant bar from an elegant mauve and light blue uniform with Princess Diana hair. A woman beside me lit a cigarette. Middleaged, American and heavily jewelled. She sucked her fag then dropped it. International king-size caked in Mary Quant red lipstick. A brown uniform on a brown person quietly wiped her ashtray and shyly placed it back.

A superb place for artists to do their superb thing. Stimulate and inspire, stir the richness of British life. Like the French Academy telling French people what French words mean, exactly. This is the Barbican anyone-can-walk-around gift from state to people. the artists and administrators probably like having the public in their cultural stately home; provided they don't stray through the doors marked private. The planners of revolutions probably want people in their history-grasping eruptions. But the institutions and administrators both come first, and the people are made to fit.

Is this what David Edgar is trying to say in three hours of May Days; socialist celebrations, new springs, distress calls, May Days? It's definitely about socialism, certainly not about the socialism-is-whatthe-Labour-Party-says-it-is type of socialism. But Stalin's socialism in the Stalinist empire and Trotskyist socialism in Britain. Reds in the thirties who didn't go to Trinity or Spain; the Purges, Czechos-Iovakia, Hungary, Vietnam, the Sixties, and Greenham Common.

An occupying Russian allows a protesting Hungarian to go free. The Hungarian gets

to Britain and joins a right wing pressure group. The Russian goes to a concentration camp, presumably for freeing the Hungarian. Eventually he's released and comes to London, but declines to join the

Martin Glass. Undergraduate communist, then writer for Socialist Vanguard. Forced out of the party, he heads rightward, always one step behind the tutor who didn't go to Spain, and left the party while Glass was at his most youthfully enthusiatic.

Some of this is very good, quite a lot is awful. The best is the humour. I enjoyed some real laughter. Edgar hits some ironic points with force and wit. He is very good at creating characters. Individually, their personalities and speeches are convincing and carefully crafted. Like Glass's mother; archetypal, timid, blinkered middle class, trying every year to make her family into a Christmas card.

But even at this level Edgar makes some monumental mistakes. "Let's go and fuck, alright?" says one revolutionary to another. Unrepresentative, unnecessary, objectionable, the significance is all

So too is what I, at least, saw as the main theme of the play. Both the once-obedient Russian soldier and the onceloyal British Trotskyist, are disillusioned by the refusal of their creed to acknowledge human nature, fallibility and emotion. The refusal that ultimately led to Stalin's grotesque socialist mutant.

The Russian experience of socialism was Stalin and Stalinism. A historical fact of enormous significance. The British lunatic fringe was just a lunatic fringe of almost no significance. Edgar's direct comparison of the two is silly to the point of insulting and a gross distortion of historical experience. British socialism has its loonies but mostly it has and some very real achievments; voted for by people who thought it was good for them and who were probably

A line at the end nearly pulled the play around for me. An ex-girl friend, now come to Greenham, turns to Glass, now Sunday Times columnist, I misquote "Sometimes you look about and see the world is terribly and demonstrably wrong, and you can't help feeling you were put here to put it right. You never really felt that did you?" But many people have felt that, and the choice before them wasn't just violent revolutionism or cynical collaboration.

To describe this play as an examination of the socialist ideal is as patronising, pretentious and elitist as the Barbican itself. I'm not sure what it is. It is certainly entertaining. certainly it made me sit down and write about it. Certainly more people will go to the Barbican and see the play than will read this.

Paul Houghton



The Farmer's Boys. Middlesex

It strikes me as very odd that success has so far eluded Norwich's Farmer's Boys. Last year's darlings of the independent scene, they recently signed to EMI, who have done seemingly everything to push them into the charts; from hay-specked T-shirts to pigshaped picture discs. Indeed the new big money was much in evidence at Friday night's gig; 'gone is the tinny drum machine to be replaced by banks of synthesizers and a ludicrously over-stagey light-

The key to enjoyment with the Farmer's Boys always was their ham and inept rustic charm by despite their newfound wealth this still shines through. Their songs are still silly but passionate; they remain amusing throughout. Baz, the frontman, is a master of these events, cracking jokes at the expense of both the band and, more predominately, the audience. He still plays the cheapest of Casio keyboards propped on top of an ironing board. It seemed only right that the tape recorder playing the drum tapes should break down during the performance.

Charming ineptitude, a concept first exploited by the Buzzcocks, is enjoying a wellearned revival in the form of the Smiths and the Farmer's Boys. The latter now have the technology, only time would appear to be against them. They have released five singles and not had one hit.

James Bailey

Beaver Choice

For all those aspiring megatrendies at a loss for what to impress their friends with next - ie with a 'Have you seen . . . ', knowing full well that they haven't, then here are two options this week.

Firstly, there is Tarkovsky's new film Nostaliga (to be reviewed in the next issue), which is showing at the Lumiere in St Martin's Lane. the sublime and the ridiculous. While visually stunning, its drawback is that it is slow to the point of no longer being a motion picture. Only for seasoned tren-

Rather more lively is Victoria Wood's Lucky Bag at the Kings Head in Islington. This is a definite must for those determined to move beyond the realms of Channel 4 - and see Ms Wood live!

Victoria Wood's mix of songs and sketches in a One woman show with no man in it is extremely funny and well worth the trek up north. Mixing pathos and laughter is Ms Wood's strength and her appeal is both warm and broad; which means that even if you aren't thirty-five, macrobiotic and still wearing a day-glo pink jumpsuit, you may still enjoy it.

Tim Judah

Lindsay Kemp at Sadlers Wells Facade/Nijinsky the Fool

It is the eve of the First World War, and a large family group is enjoying a picnic on the sea-front at Brighton Beach. Through a series of dances and set-pieces each ending in a tableau, the merrymakers play out the last few moments of their era before it is lost forever in the advent of war.

Set to music by Sir William Walton and the poems of Edith Sitwell, it makes for an elegant diversion, very striking to look at, with amusing back cloths depicting scenes and personalities from both Victorian and Edwardian times. The rhythm for the movement is taken entirely from the spoken words, the music providing an added texture to the piece.

It is unfortunate that most of the verse is lost in the loud volume of the music, and much of the wealth of detail available to the eye is lost as so much seems to be going on. Despite this, the overall tone of Facade is very lightweight; interesting enough, but without much substance.

Facade may be light-weight, but Nijinsky the Fool suffers from taking itself far too seriously. Kemp has attempted to take as his base Nijinsky's madness, and starting from this, he illustrates the point by turning the great Russian dancer into a small, plump balding man, unable to move or think by himself.

The Fool is controlled by a magician in evening dress with talcum powder hanging in a great cloud about his person, while around and about dan-

cers and puppets mock the Fool, and Petroushka looks on, occasionally breaking into a dance, only to be cast aside. Kemp obviously enjoys being centre stage in the action, but it is plain that he finds it difficult to move smoothly, and looks fat and ungainly beside his company.

The overall atmosphere of the piece is both pretentious and pedestrian, the smell of talcum powder overwhelming, and not one new idea to be seen anywhere.

Lindsay Kemp may once have been a great innovator, but sadly that would appear to be all behind him.

Lucy Cohen

The Smiths North East London Poly

One day the Smiths are going to be more massive than their own egos. Everything about them expresses a sheer joy and spirit of youth. The most recent ludicrous comparison of their music is that it represents a cross between the Buzzcocks and the Byrds. To a degree this is true, but the Smiths seem much, much more. Morrissey poses awfully throughout, flowers are thrown in all directions, the atmosphere is one of fun and self-mockery, the songs sing of vague sexual deviation. Typical lines are: "I dreamt about you last night and I fell out of bed twice", or alternatively "though people see no worth in you -I do." The Smiths are totally irresistable; I don't think I've ever seen a group I want so much to be utterly successful. James Bailey.

BEAVER SPORT

Badminton court re-opens

Monday 8th November saw the opening, or rather reopening of a Badminton court at the LSE after a delay of nearly 20 years. The new court, which is in the basement of the Old Building, was originally a Badminton court in the dim and distant past, but was converted to storage space for books before the new library was built. The fact that the school has made this space available at all, even after this long time is due in large part tot he persistence of Dr. Bob Entall.

Dr. Entall, who is retiring this year after 22 years as Chairman of the Athletics Committee, has been rewarded in part for all his efforts by seeing the opening of this much needed facility. The Athletic Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Entall for all his work on behalf of the students of LSE both present and for the past twenty years.

The court can be booked a week in advance for 1 hour sessions, as with the Squash court; both players names and AU numbers must be inserted on thebooking sheet. Both players must be members of the Badminton Club. The court will be kept locked in-between sessions and the key can be obtained from the Main Porters Lodge in return for a Badminton Club membership card.

R. Dahill

LSE golf riding high

The L.S.E Golf Team has had its best season in many years, registering its first win for as long as anyone can remember. In the first match of the season against Surrey we managed a draw with the top half of the team looking extremely strong. This was quickly consolidated with a win against Kent, again the top three winning with Russell Prior extending his unbeaten run to nearly two years. Paul Marshall registered a 9 and 8 win almost unknown in the annals of matchplay history. Undoubtedly much of the acclaim for the teams improvement is due to having the British Universities champion Gorni Nielson and ex-Eton Captain Juan Marquez (both 3 handicappers). A draw or a win against Sussex this week will ensure qualification to the

minute try

RUGBY

A last minute try from Surrey University's scrum half deprived L.S.E. of a deserved victory in the U.A.U. Championships. Unfortunately L.S.E.'s defences proved as unreliable as their promises of reports to *Beaver*. Howard Clegg and Dave Conway were L.S.E.'s scorers in a game which once again showed our Rugby Club's inability to turn considerable potential into good results.

Saturday 6th November LSE XI vs St. George's XI

Saturday brought LSE's first victory of the season and what a victory it was! The scoreline you ask - 14 goals to nil - no joke, but if LSE had taken heed of Melanie Robert's frustrated crie de coeur, "Stop messin' about LSE", it could have been more. Caroline Shields was the top scorer with seven, with Helen Taylor and Debbie Holdgate getting three apiece and Pat Miller missing a dozen. In the UAU matches against Surrey and Kent, LSE suffered two defeats 5-0 and 1-0 respectively, with the scorelines not reflecting the true balance of play

Julie Oldroyd

Houghton Street Harry



The current racing season has been reduced to a farce by the refusal of the Gods to give us any rain. Subsequently, the more conscientious in the training profession have been unwilling to risk their animals on a rock hard ground. Before going on to give you a long list of future winners, I implore you to pray for rain every night before going to bed.

GRATIFICATION, having

GRATIFICATION, having failed to win a race before being tipped in *Beaver*, has now won twice, and should extend that run this week. Jenny Pitman's LADYCROSS will have no problem in winning at Devon and Exeter on Tuesday. At Kempton on

Wednesday, FLOYD has a live each way chance although SOCIETY BOY should emerge triumphant. I cannot see NOR-TON CROSS failing to win on the same day at Kelso. At Ascot on Friday, CAPTAIN DYNAMO, who has suddenly been transformed from a mediocre donkey into a racehorse, may win again. The following day at Ayr will be notable for RICHDEE's first win of the season, providing THE MIGHTY MAC decides to run elsewhere. If you are feeling avaricious, and want even more winners, VOICE OF PROGRESS, who won brilliantly at Newbury will win again, LENEY DUAL and HOMESON should achieve similar accolades and Paul Burgoyne's RIDGEWAY GIRL could give him a real winner.

Looking ahead to Saturday week, the season's top race takes place at Newbury. As I told you in this term's first Beaver, RIGHTHAND MAN, in spite of coming from Yorkshire, should not be troubled in winning the Hennessy Gold Cup.

OF SHEETS

RESULTS

Football

1st XI v Westmin. Hsp.D 1–1

2nd XI v A.E.C.I L 0–8

3rd XI v SSEES I W 3–1

4th XI v KCH III W 5–2

5th XI v Westmin. Hsp. II

Rugby UAU 1st XV v Surrey L 9–12 Ladies Hockey

1st XI v St. George's W 14-0 UAU 1st XI v Surrey L 0-5 v Kent L 0-1

Men's Hockey 1st XI v Holloway

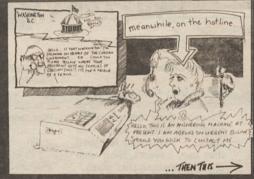
W 3-2

State of the World cartoons

No. 3

By George









THE ECONOMISTS' BOOKSHOP CROSSWORD

SPECIALISTS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES



The Economists' Bookshop are awarding £10 worth of books for the first correct answer to the Beaver Crossword. They will need a letter from us confirming the winner so if you want books get your entry in soon!

CLUES: Across

7 Cry for help, usually

the first (3,3) **9** Greeting of French absent from hermitage (8)

10 White father followed by the French (4)11 Insincere – like a

Kissagram (10)

12 James Brown getting

cross and almost macho in

cross and almost macho in French

river (3,7)

14 The place to see, say

4)

(4) 15 Direct after wearing -

that is cricket! (8,7)

18 ET goes back by ship for Hardy heroine (4)

20 Nat's crisis is solved he loves himself (10)22 Another mistake by the close fielder? (6,4)

24 Everything with your first friend (4)25 Learner in peculiar

way to kill (8)
26 Some request a term for the class (6)

Down

1 Friend with one for building (6)

2 The democratic way in mid-term (2,8)

3 Confused hippy lost longer and found in the supermarket

(8,7)
4 U2 guitarist in accepted gesture – it's borderline (4)

5 Material to look for business, say (6)
6 Can't Rico change to a

drug? (8)

8 Utopian horse confused in Russian

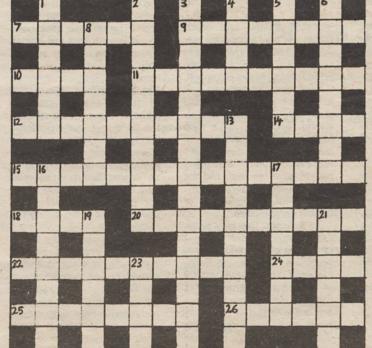
revolution (7)

13 Motor piece removed, possibly by D.H. Lawrence

(6,4) **16** Awards – ten found out in the papers (8)

17 As a singer Mr O'Connor is incapable (7) 19 For a catch-phrase the new goal is between the

poles (6)
21 Gesture returned like instrument (6)
23 Flat excavations (4)



Solution from last issue Across: 7 Grenada, 10 Banana republics, 11 Chieftain, 12 Usage, 15 Message, 16 Toddler, 18 Aside,

20 Eschewing, 23 Pressing

problem, 25 Claimed, 26

Incants.
Down: 1 Breathless, 2
Sneakers, 3 Advantage, 4
Bonus, 5 X-films, 6 Marc, 9
Jedi, 13 Greenbelts, 14
Bothering, 17 Downbeat,
19+8 Dustin Hoffman, 21
Saga, 22 Rider, 24 Role.

Mike Hutchinson