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BEAVER

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

DECEMBER 1st, 1955

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BOYCOTT: ACTION STATIONS

STOP PRESS

BOYCOTT!

Friday is "B" Day

The Union's boycott of the Refectory takes place to-morrow. Friday, December 2nd, is your chance to show your discontent.

Do not use the Refectory.

Persuade your friends not to use it.

YOURS IS THE DECISION.

It is understood that the Court of Governors, while not accepting the Union's report for a representative on the Court, have agreed to informal meetings between Union officers and members of the Standing Committee of the Governors to discuss general problems of concern to the Union. A statement will be made at to-night's Union meeting (4.15 p.m.).

It has been reported that Jill Baker has broken a tooth on a Refectory scone.

THE FINAL MISS FRESHER



MISS JANE MULLINS closes our present series of Fresher's photographs.

We leave readers to judge who is the prettiest.

"Diwali" Collects For Flood Victims

The Old Theatre wore a festive appearance on Friday, 11th November, when the India Society celebrated Diwali, the great Indian "festival of lights", with a programme of Indian songs and dances. The highlights of the programme were a dance solo by Amala, the partner of the famous Indian classical dancer, Ram Gopal, and a tableau depicting Indian village life in song and dance, put up by the London Majlis. After the show, suppers of rice and Indian curries (cooked by members of the Society) were served in Mrs. Popper's, and proved to be quite popular. The programme was put on in aid of flood relief—northern India this year has had some of the worst floods of recent history—and gross takings through the sale of tickets and food, and through donations amounted to over £65.

Following the acceptance of the Boycott Amendment, Peter Fletcher has sent us the following review of the battle so far. The Boycott Committee, selected last Friday, is under the Chairmanship of the Deputy President and consists of Messrs. Peter Fletcher, Robin Fox, John Grieve, Miss Ruth Nixon, Messrs. David Rubinstein and Jim Sharpe.

The most significant fact about the debate that took place on the proposal that a token boycott of the Refectory should be held was the complete absence of any praise for present Refectory services. The two sessions at which the issue was discussed were the best attended Private Business meetings of the Union held for over a year: it is necessary to refer back to the debate last year, when the proposal that Sir Oswald Mosley should speak at the school was discussed, to recall an issue that attracted so large and representative a meeting. Yet no speaker had a kind word to say for the Refectory.

Although the decision to hold a boycott was eventually taken by an overwhelming majority, there were three main objections voiced by the spokesmen of the minority that warrant careful consideration. These were: that to hold a boycott would embarrass our negotiators on the Refectory Committee and place them in an intolerable position; that the time was inopportune and that we should at least wait until the results of the questionnaire were published; that a successful boycott could not be held anyway.

The implication of the first objection appears to be that the "official" side on the Refectory Committee cannot be expected to negotiate under duress; but would not a token boycott merely enable our representatives to negotiate from strength? One of the disabilities under which our representatives labour—as was shown by the Welfare Vice-President's article in the last issue of *Beaver*—is that the School authorities refuse to believe that there is a considerable body of discontent with the Refectory. What better way could there be of testing and revealing the extent of this discontent than by holding a boycott? Students will not be persuaded to suffer the inconvenience involved unless they feel strongly on the matter.

The second objection flows naturally, for in the Questionnaire it will be argued, we surely have a better way of dealing with our problem, and one that will more accurately summarise the nature of our discontent. This is a false notion, based on an unjustifiable faith in the value of the kind of statistics that can be compiled from the questionnaire. The daily record of expenditure on food for example will be useless as a means of ascertaining the relative value of meals bought, as no indication was sought as to the quantity or quality of the food obtained. We were asked, it is true, whether we considered that we received better or less value for money in the Refectory, but the mere aggregation of a large number of "less" replies will be of little

significance statistically, and will be a much less potent weapon than an effective boycott that summarises the same sentiment.

Can a boycott, then, succeed? The answer to this question lies mainly with those who ask it. Surely, our policy must be to make it succeed: we cannot even contemplate failure. If we were to forego action except when success was assured, we should do very little. Our cause is just and may be expressed in simple terms: that we should be able to purchase an adequate meal at a price as reasonable as that we pay in unsubsidised canteens and Refectories elsewhere in London. A boycott is the best means of supporting our cause at the present time because it is the only effective way of demonstrating the real depth of our discontent: and the absence of conclusive evidence on this point is one of the main impediments to improvement.

Thus the boycott, now decided upon, must be successful; and when the time comes to rally to our cause, and back up our words with deeds, let all those who share the discontent—whether they supported the proposal to hold a boycott or not—participate in the demonstration.

PETER FLETCHER.

TAPED

Hustings speeches were not inspired (the triumvirate elected will not include a Mark Antony) but perhaps this was due to nerves and the tape-recorder. More than one candidate will blush to hear himself on record. We were deprived of hearing Mr. Talintyre, but his proposer, Mr. McNeal, did him proud. Indeed, if we are to take the proposal speeches to heart it seems we cannot do without any of the ten gentlemen who wish to serve us. Only Mr. Maddox, in introducing Mr. Boulter, suggested that we may have been looking for the lesser of 10 evils.

Altruism Unlimited

Of the administrative ability, loyalty, honesty, integrity, experience, commonsense and inspiration with which these ten candidates are obviously blessed, and the burning desire to serve the Union which prompted them to stand, we have no doubt. After all, ten proposers and nine candidates can't be wrong. However, we were, we must confess, gratified to hear one candidate admit that the taste of success and importance of this office were also attractions. (No one, however, promised to join the Foreign Legion if unsuccessful—disappointing.)

But who gets the prizes when the shouting has died down? For quick



There was a packed house for last week's boycott debate.

UNION TO MEET ON FRIDAYS

Union Council have decided as an experiment to call all Union Meetings next term on Friday at 4.15 p.m.

In spite of one of the most ambitious Public Business programmes organised in recent years, there has been little support from Union members, particularly when the public meetings began at 7.30. Two years ago the Old Theatre would have been packed for Salvador de Madariaga or MacQueen Pope (the most amusing lecturer heard here for years, but this year an audience of 100 was exceptional).

Friday meetings at 4.15 p.m. have the advantage of eliminating competition from classes and lectures and other Society events; and will normally fill in the gaps between the end of the week's work and the ever popular, crowded Friday night Socials in the Three Tuns.

The first meeting in Lent will remain on Thursday, January 12th,

riposte and refusal to be daunted—Comrade David Jones. For colour, fresher John Goss who appeared sporting white carnation and declaimed fortissimo "the Refectory Boycott must succeed". He almost convinced us it was original thought and the most important announcement since the victory of Waterloo. For serious speech and platform poise—David Rubinstein. And a special award to the Independent "Con. Soc." candidate, John Browne, whose colours apparently have no connection with I.R.A. A pity this; T.N.T. in the Three Tuns is rather intriguing.

Odds On

Question time disappointed but produced a preference among our candidates for Welfare V.P. of six out of nine, with two for External Affairs and only Cyril for Social (continued next column)

at 6 p.m., since it was booked before the switch was decided upon. At 7.30 Ex-Superintendent Robert Fabian, of Scotland Yard, will speak on "London's Underworld". Mr. Kenneth Younger, M.P., has agreed to take part in a symposium on "Youth Astray" and Dr. Shepherd, Harwell atom-physicist and Chairman of the Inter-Planetary Society, will speak on the "Prospects of Space Travel" on May 11th at 6 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY MARKS

If you haven't got that ticket yet
You ought to be ashamed;
If you don't look out you'll miss
the chance
To join our fun and games.
You know what I'm referring to,
You apathetic lot;
So get round there at dinner-time
And buy one on the spot.
For those who haven't yet been
told,
We're soon to have a Ball;
It's going to be a slap-up do
At the Royal Festival Hall.
Nat's Orchestra, a Cabaret,
And dancing thro' the night;
At breakfast we shall greet the
dawn;
Come on, don't miss that sight.
P.J.H.

(continued from previous column)

V.P. We hope you got in, Mr. Trup. Your courage is commendable.

And finally, to the gentleman who assured us he had great experience in student affairs, and the other who informed us that he did not wish to solve our marriage problems, may *Beaver* offer the hospitality of its columns. Between you, you should have no difficulty in continuing the work of the late Charity Brown.

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BUSINESS AS USUAL!

by the President

It was clearly too good to last! The uncanny atmosphere of the first six weeks of term, so incredibly peaceful as to culminate in a cancelled meeting owing to lack of business, has been rudely shattered in one hectic week by a censure motion, a refectory boycott and a motion to abolish the Constitution altogether!

Union temperature first began to rise with the startling decision to reverse a ten-year old policy (support for I.U.S.) and back instead the International Student Conference as "the best means for achieving world student unity". Then at two packed meetings of the Union on the Refectory problem it became clear that there was no widespread knowledge, still less appreciation, of the work done by Council members during their first few months of office. It is worth therefore recalling a few of the outstanding achievements.

Organisation

When the present Council took over, the administration of the Union was, according to the Annual Report published in June, almost "chaotic"—a classic of understatement. Within a few days a letter arrived turning down the application for higher Union grant until 1957. Swift action by Council resulted in an agreement which gave the Union a full-time highly qualified Secretary Shorthand-Typist and a part-time Copy-Typist for the same annual charge as had been required for one inexperienced and



largely unqualified Secretary the previous year. As a result the administration has worked with remarkable efficiency, and all Union officials and all Societies have benefited immensely from it.

Further, last term a motion was passed that a representative of the students should sit on the Board of Governors. This month a deputation of Union Councillors met the Chairman of the Governors. We were most cordially received and congratulated on the way we had put our case.

On the Refectory Committee, from which, as a result of the boycott motion, we have of course withdrawn, much valuable work was done and in particular a threatened price increase this term averted. The Receiving Counter was a student suggestion and is saving at least £400 this year—more than the whole annual loss on the Refectory.

Clams in Committee

Outside L.S.E., where our Union has generally in the past been regarded as an "enfant terrible" (and more "enfant" than "terrible") and in consequence has been either ignored or misrepresented, the

clouds of suspicion and antagonism have cleared in a remarkably short time. The effect of our decision to support the International Student Conference (as do the great majority of British Student Unions), helped immeasurably to improve our position and I believe that at N.U.S. Council next April, if present tactics are continued, we may have a still greater success. In the University of London Union, the governing body, Presidents' Council was notable for the number of resolutions put forward by L.S.E. which were usually defeated and sometimes even failed to get a seconder from among the other forty Presidents! This year U.L.U.'s President actually had to call upon us to speak in a highly confused discussion on U.L.U./N.U.S. relations. The motion, which L.S.E. subsequently proposed, was then carried by a large majority.

In these ways and many others Council has made great progress, most of which is quickly taken for granted. As in political life, anyone entering student affairs who expects gratitude for voluntary work is a fool. Nevertheless, when censure motions involving the resignation of the entire Council are put down for the slightest of reasons, and when Council advice on such momentous matters as the abandoning of normal negotiating machinery for direct action, is completely disregarded, it is time that some of the less dramatic, but practical and eminently worthwhile aspects of Council's work should be more widely known.

POST BAG

"Expostulation and Reply"

Shame Sir!

Dear Editor,

It was with mixed feelings of surprise and disgust that I read the misrepresentations of Mr. Mitchell's article in your last issue, as he gloated over the Union's decision to mandate its delegates at N.U.S. Council to support a motion declaring that "Council re-affirms its opinion that the International Student Conference is the best medium for achieving one world student community". It is significant that this article was accompanied by the same sort of hysteria that intruded upon the Union meeting.

What Mr. Mitchell failed to mention was that the decision was taken in a hurried manner, without, as the President himself admitted, the thorough discussion of policy which the problem deserved, since it involved a radical alteration of previous policy.

Mr. Moran, who was responsible for springing the amendment unexpectedly on the Union, relied on blaring out the magic words, "Communist dominated", with excessive steam and no logical argument, to sway opinion against I.U.S. Does Mr. Mitchell's jubilation rest on such a shoddy foundation? Mr. Moran, whom we are told in the same issue, is experiencing some difficulty in keeping together the tatters of the Free Europe Society, would do well to refrain from slapping his smear brush indiscriminately about in the Union.

After this phoney triumph, many of us look forward to a full, substantial debate on this aspect of our policy, on a level which will allow rationality to take precedence over wild intoxication. Then we will see who are the true "addicts" to which Mr. Mitchell refers. How can he, with any honesty, claim that a student body which excludes such vast areas as the U.S.S.R. and China is "representative of students

of the world"?

Mr. Mitchell would have real justification to rumble with glee if we could see in Union an internal reflection of the "Geneva Spirit"—an approach based upon a recognition of what does exist, and a willingness to co-operate and compromise.

Yours, etc. OLGA MILLER.

Editor's Note

Because this is the last issue this term and in fact until the second half of January, we have given an opportunity to people attacked in the above letter to reply to the allegations in this same issue.

Oh! Madam

Sir,

The grape vine informs me that I am even more unpopular on the "left" than usual just at present, not that that in itself worries me, but the reason, which I gather is to appear in an article or letter to *Beaver* in your next edition, is that as a result of a small contribution of mine to a major change in Union policy recently, coupled with the fortunes of a Society of which I have the honour to be President, it is felt in certain quarters that my attentions would be better directed to running the Free Europe Society than to playing a part in Union.

This point of view deserves all the publicity it can get, if only because it typifies the unsporting, un-British, "can you take it" attitude which is characteristic of the Reds and fellow-travellers in this Union, whenever an attempt of theirs to impose their party line upon Union is defeated. Had I been willing to offer incense before the idol of I.U.S., I doubt if anyone would have questioned my right to do so.

Other members of Union are no doubt aware of other examples of the left's inability to take defeat with good grace. Probably the outstanding recent example is the refusal last year of a more than

usually full Union meeting to tolerate the attempt of the then ruling clique to get rid of a popular and efficient Editor of *Beaver* and appoint a political stooge in his place. This was followed by an emotional complaint from a member of the Communist Society about "packed" Union meetings. As any L.S.E. student has a right to attend Union meetings, one can only assume that the objection was that this particular meeting was not weighted as heavily in favour of the left as was customary at the time.

Another disturbing facet of the left's behaviour is the readiness to about turn without scruple on Union policy for the sake of political advantage. Normally when they expect to command a majority of the miserable fraction of members who attend Union meetings, the left are the champions of the ultimate authority of the Union meeting. When, however, as in the dispute over the Editorship of *Beaver*, it would appear that Council rather than Union are likely to give them what they want, they become the champions of Council's right to take action without "interference" from Union.

The current concern of the left is obviously the outcome of panic at

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"Outside Interference"

A Beaver may be a very ferocious little animal when roused. Despite our size we are prepared to do battle with the *Daily Telegraph*. Last Thursday and Friday that paper published two very misleading articles which are an unforgivable affront to the Union of this college. The first article was not only calculated to hinder Union policy by suggesting that we have nothing to complain about in the refectory service, but also included a statement which was obviously meant to appear as coming from a member of Union Council. This statement was very detrimental to the Union's case, and coupled with the article on Friday, casts very grave doubts on the members of Council.

It is perfectly obvious to all members of the college that Union Council has backed Union's decision to hold a boycott of the Refectory from the moment it was taken, and to state, as does the second article in the *Daily Telegraph* on Friday, that it only reluctantly decided on Thursday evening that it must support the boycott, is to imply that the members of this college in general, and those attending Union meetings in particular, are a set of irresponsible adolescents. This paper only reports our activities when it is possible to imply this conclusion in their reports.

The *Daily Telegraph* does not report our other, more serious activities at all. But they cannot in all fairness be held fully to blame for this, because, whereas under the School's rules we are not allowed to make unauthorised official statements to the press—and anyway we do not wish to have the privacy of

our meetings continually invaded by the national press—there is nothing to stop some member of the college privately phoning a newspaper, giving them an account of some activity within the college and a totally unauthorised invitation to attend Union meetings. That is what has happened over the Refectory boycott, and it is true that the two reporters at the Union meeting left as soon as it was pointed out to them that they had no right to be there, and had no official invitation to attend. We would be far more grateful to them for doing so, were it not for the work of one of them—which appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* the next day.

These leakages of information to the press via members of the Union are not in the best interests of the college, and so of those who make them. The person or persons concerned should develop a more responsible attitude towards L.S.E. and its position in society.

And now a word about the change in Editorship. It is with some trepidation that I approach the Editorial Chair, when I consider the excellent work done by my predecessor, Malcolm Ross. He produced some seven issues, many of them under very difficult conditions, and it is a wonder that he did not collapse from over-work long ago. Malcolm's Editorship saw a great improvement in the appearance of *Beaver*, an increase in circulation of 15% and the first ever six-page issue. He has built up a very efficient and hard working staff, and I hope that, with their help and your contributions, I will be able to preserve and improve the already high standard of *Beaver*.

the prospect of further defeats. Where, we may ask, do the democratic element go from here? What this Union needs is the emergence of a genuinely democratic Socialist group, not afraid to be outspoken in its opposition to the more irresponsible left wingers. It may be, of course, that there is no *raison d'être* for such a group, due to the flourishing state of the Liberal Society as a home for all shades of Radical and Progressive opinion not willing to be compromised by association with Bolshevism. Nevertheless, I would love to meet a few Socialists who can see through I.U.S.

Finally, Sir, I would point out that the extent of the success of the extreme left is in inverse proportion to the percentage of members of the Union who attend its meetings. For this reason, all members of the Union should regard it as a duty to attend, and to exert themselves to prevent Union being dominated by any one group, left, right or centre.

Yours, etc., JOHN P. MORAN.

Geneva Spirit

Sir,

Unlike Miss Olga Miller, I experienced no surprise upon reading her letter on the I.U.S.-I.S.C. affair. In the usual Communist manner she opens her letter with a smear attack upon the person against whom it is directed.

Of course, what Miss Miller means when she says that the decision was "taken in a hurried man-

ner" was that the Communists and Socialists were, as I suggested last time, caught unprepared. Obviously the party whips slipped up, so that just for once our resident Reds and "fellow-travellers" did not "pack" the meeting. Well, whose fault is that? The fact remains that the decision was taken by a fully quorate meeting—over one hundred people were present—which showed what its real feelings were. As she says, the words "Communist dominated" swayed opinion; in other words, as is obviously the case with most people, the meeting was not in favour of associating with Communist totalitarianism. Is that what you *really* meant to say, Olga?

Naturally, I was prepared for misquotation of my article. I did not say that I.S.C. is "representative of students of the world"—which would imply all students what in fact I did say was that I.S.C. is "widely representative of the students of the world", which is a little different, if you see what I mean. In fact, I.S.C. has three times as many National Unions as I.U.S. By the way, I liked the quip about the "Geneva Spirit"; as the gentle Russians have shown in the last month, the only Geneva spirit that the West will find of use is a good Cherry Brandy!

One final point; I will admit I did do an injustice to I.U.S. in my last article. I credited it with "twenty-five or so" National Unions: in fact, of course, it has no less than *sixteen*. My apologies, Com. Soc.: love and kisses to you all.
PETER MITCHELL.

THE HOUSING COMMITTEE

There are certain aspects of the work done by the Students' Union which, if not entirely unknown to students, at most appear to be relegated to their sub-conscious by the majority. One of these seems to be the service which is provided by the Housing Committee: the comparatively little use which is made of this service, and, it must be admitted, its rather limited scope of usefulness at present, have given rise to some expressions of doubt as to the wisdom of its retention. Is there in fact a need at L.S.E. for any kind of lodgings advisory service? Can we do anything that the University of London Lodgings Bureau cannot do better?

We certainly cannot hope, and indeed have no wish, to compete with the University Bureau. Apart from the fact that this would involve a great deal of unnecessary duplication of work, it is obvious that no part-time Student Committee could carry out this work with anything like the thoroughness which a full-time staff makes possible. Further, the comprehensive inspection programme which is fundamental to the efficiency of the University Bureau would be far too costly both in time and money for L.S.E. to emulate.

Personal Service

We on the Housing Committee (both of us) think that something can be done in the provision of a rather more personal service. That is, we would like to be able to offer something to any student who cared to consult us, with the knowledge that what we have to offer is in every case personally recommended by an L.S.E. student. This is not an ambitious aim, but we believe that it would be appreciated, particularly by those students who, for some reason or other, have to hunt around for new accommodation in the middle of a busy term; and, above all, by overseas students, who often come up against restrictions of the kind of which the colour bar is the most obvious example. We could perform a very useful service if we had a register of digs which we could confidently recommend to such, or indeed, any L.S.E. students.

You Can Help

There is one obstacle. We must have the information. We believe that many students from time to time come to know of suitable vacancies but don't do anything about it. If such students informed us of any available accommodation of which they had experience of knowledge, we could do a lot more to help those whose lodgings are unsuitable.

Fraternities in American Universities

In a large number of American colleges and universities the fraternity or sorority is the centre of social and other activity outside the classroom. Many of the smaller colleges have as high as 90% membership in these organisations.

The role of the fraternity varies from campus to campus depending on school policy towards them. In some cases students actually live in the fraternity or chapter house while at the other extreme the student merely goes there for social activities, meetings, inter-fraternity sports and the like.

The fraternity system is a rather old one in America and in its history has had many fluctuations in prestige before the public eye. Many of the chapters are national in character, having central offices to handle finances, publicity, membership policies, and similar matters that attach themselves to organisations of this type. The more highly centralized fraternities have special universal ceremonies for acceptance of the new member into the fold; constitutions outlining membership policy, house government, and respective rolls of the local and



ACHTUNG!

Fortunately, the photographer was standing at a safe distance (on the steps of Cologne Cathedral in fact) when Cologne Station was undergoing renovations this summer.

This is the second photograph taken by a student of the School and the Editor hopes that the coming vac. will produce a good crop of pictures of interest for next term's *Beaver*.

In short, then, if we are to provide a worthwhile service, we need your co-operation. If you know of a vacancy which you can recommend as suitable for an L.S.E. student, and it is difficult to think of anything that would not suit some L.S.E. student — the Housing Officer will be pleased to hear from you: the more details and comment the better. Incidentally, any particularly bad experiences of un-

Joe was a true son of America. Born of old colonial stock, he thought it not unnatural that he should help to complete the education of the mother country by taking a one-year course at L.S.E. He was real proud of having the opportunity of giving his English cousins a chance of seeing what one hundred and fifty years of democratic tradi-

savoury lodgings will also be gratefully noted. We realise that L.S.E. students very early in their life here, build up an effective resistance to the constant appeals to which they are subjected, but we hope at least that an enlightened self-interest may prompt some response from students who may themselves sometime derive some benefit from the service we want to provide.

WYNNE JONES,
Housing Officer.

education. The large membership in fraternities and sororities to-day speaks in itself of their popularity arising from their success as social organizations benefiting the school, and thereby the student, by providing the means for a well-rounded education.

As suggested above, the fraternity or sorority idea does not stand unquestioned. The presence of discrimination is a serious threat to the national character and even to the existence of the embodiment of these ideas as they now stand. High initiation fees have often been deliberately set to prevent a certain class of students from joining a particular fraternity or sorority, thus providing another form of discrimination. Initiation pranks and fraternity activities have often been in bad taste and have led to bad relations between the college and the public. The fraternity and sorority are becoming more and more conscious of these problems, with definite progress being made towards their removal. If such progress continues, these organizations stand to become even more popular and respected both within the scholastic world and without.

JEROME GRACEY.

JOE'S BOYS

tion could make a man. Yes, he was real proud, was Joe.

Joe, unfortunately, had been reared on the legend of the phlegmatic, conservative Englishman. "Back home we know how to live", said Joe. He soon had friends among these reserved, aloof people; friends for whom he bought drinks in the bar; friends that he rashly invited to his home. Poor Joe, he really liked his little flat. "It sure is pretty smart," he is reported to have said. "Why don't you fellows come around some time for a drink. Give the place the once over. No?" We replied, politely, demurely, condescendingly. We would certainly accept Mr. S... 's kind invitation. He could expect us... any time. He was looking forward to having us, was Joe. Perhaps he had failed to notice the sadistic glint in our eyes as we noted down his address. One hundred and fifty years of progressive, democratic tradition had evidently given Joe the impression that even we of the Old Country were human beings.

Joe certainly had a nice place. We remarked loudly on the nicety of it as we arrived in several taxis in the early hours of the morning. Some stepped out, most fell out, one at least was carried out. Yes, Joe's party started with a bang and that was on the door of the house.

The landlord failed gallantly to repel the invasion and a flood of phlegmatic Englishmen did a charge up the stairs to Joe's flat. Nothing like it had been seen since Bunker Hill. I must say Joe took it like a gentleman. Obviously trying desperately to equate the situation with what he had been taught about English standards of politeness, he invited us in to have a drink. We accepted. We drank; heartily and often. The party began.

Joe, who has, strangely enough, a peculiarly English sense of humour at times, remarked above the noise, "Well, you might have

capitulated at Yorktown but you're sure making up for it now". What he didn't know was that several more adventurous members of the party were playing havoc with the internal relations of the house by invading neighbouring rooms in search of a gramophone. The course of their expedition could be roughly gauged by following the screams and shouts of protest that issued forth at intervals from the adjacent bedrooms. They found a gramophone.

The landlord had by now stood as much as any landlord usually stands, and more. "Get out", he yelled, "get out, all of you, I mean ALL!!!" Joe was hurt and embarrassed. "How can I face that guy tomorrow?" he said desperately. We appealed to Joe's business acumen. "Leave now and pay no back rent", we suggested. Joe warmed to the idea. It was evidently in accord with transatlantic business ethics.

We prepared to leave, restraining one of the more violent of us from hurling an atrocious china dog through the window. The gramophone was playing a record of Basin Street Blues and somehow the needle stuck.

We tumbled out into the street, and above the background of the landlord's curses, the last thing we heard was the plaintive whine of "Mississippi, mississippi, mississippi, mississippi".

Joe spent an uncomfortable night on the floor of our flat. He didn't complain. The legend dies hard with Joe. From the strange glances he kept casting in our direction I judged that he regarded the episode as a strained attempt on our part to live life the American way and so please him.

Perhaps Joe is more of a gentleman than we are, but his offers of hospitality are no longer so liberal. In fact, no one seems to know where Joe lives now.

ROBIN FOX.

FENNER BROCKWAY

Fenner Brockway is one of the most popular and well-respected figures in the Labour movement. This was made apparent by the warm welcome given to him at an open meeting of the Labour Society held last Friday under the Chairmanship of David Rubinstein.

Having specialised in Colonial problems and freshly returned from Africa, Mr. Brockway was well qualified to speak on the subject of "The Colonial Revolution".

The Race Problem

A wide yet intimate knowledge of this topic was well demonstrated by the speaker, who illustrated his speech with points showing the problems of the African continent, many of which he had encountered in his own experience. Among these points was the illustration of the Kenya white settler who had refused to travel in the same plane as the speaker due to the latter's sympathies with the aspirations of the African peoples. The dangerous situation in Kenya, the potential menace of Central Africa, presented

the critical problems of race relations, whereas in West Africa, where this problem was not so acute, and where the path of self-government was smoother, there still existed the danger of foreign exploitation.

While admitting his shame at having been a member of the government which expelled Seretse Khama, Mr. Brockway put forward a plea for better mutual understanding and co-operation between the African and the European, which left the audience in no doubt as to his sincerity.

Questions

After the speech, questions were asked by the meeting, consisting as it did of large numbers of Colonial and Commonwealth students. This enabled Mr. Brockway to face, and answer criticism, and to elaborate in more detail some of the matters he had mentioned in general terms. He also answered a question on Cyprus, and re-affirmed the Labour Party's attitude of support towards the Cypriot's desire for self-determination.

J. KENTON.

Leonard Lyle

86 Kingsway, W.C.2
Holborn 2240

BLAZERS BADGES
Outfitters to L. S. E.

THE GORILLA'S TAIL

By Moloch

Whanne that novembre withe his gloomy days
Throws darkness in amongst the summer haze,
Then wenden many students to London
In search of knowledge; truth; is everichon.
This terme was come into my hostelrye
Sundry folke, y-falle in compagnye.
Alle wished for their brains the best to yield
Eche wanted funne, so comme he to Passfield.
I wolde telle yow of four of these
And of their great and mighty entreprise,
To Ormskirke ridden hem in pilgrimage
Full fetisly; and without devout visage.
Eche was y-bent toward the politic
Sauf one; y-clepen Frere Kappestick.
In gouns it was suggested that they go
The mighty Roland, stood and cryed "No!
Whanne pushed about like this, no one behaves,
And Fremmen never, never will be slaves."
Thenne followed hasty speche, and oathes availed
Until that sober judge, Pere Bill prevailed.

"Ye goon to Ormskirke, God yow speede;
With this advice do I give yow the lead
Just were yon gouns, and if yow do, I'll swere
We'll be the only ones thatte were hem there."
His handes clasped faire and fetisly,
He spake this good advice ful solempne.
"Holde up your handes, withouten moore speche
On this point decision we must reche."

So with the swerde of Roland beten doun
It was decreed that eche should were a gown.
Sir Paisye and his Squir; a yonge ladde
To weren gouns were verrey, verrey gladde;
To weren gouns in tavernes of the toun,
To them was, in itself, quite champioun.
Frere Kappesticke, in his gown, could speke of helle
And soond as loude as doth the chapel belle.

And so hem rode, hir duty not to shirke,
And shone brighte in conference at Ormskirke.

MOLOCH.



SIR DAVID ECCLES

During the Union public business meeting to-night at 5.45 p.m., Sir David Eccles, the Minister of Education, will speak on the Government's Education Policy.

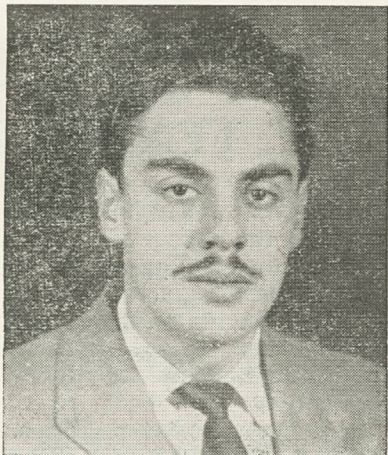
This is a great opportunity for members of the Union to tackle a responsible Minister on a topic of vital interest to all students. Besides grants, such questions as the school leaving age, teachers' pay and superannuation, and the school building programme are relevant. Be sure to attend and ask your questions as pointedly as possible.

SPOTLIGHT On Lionel Simons

During the Summer Vacation the Union Offices had one permanent inhabitant. No, it was not the Union cat or, indeed, the tame mice of the Welfare Vice-President. It was the Union A.I.E.S.E.C. Officer, one Lionel Simons, and it is on him that Spotlight turns this week.

Lionel was appointed A.I.E.S.E.C. officer (AIESEC, in case you don't know, stands for Association International des Etudiantes en Sciences Economiques et Commerciales—try saying it after an evening in Charlie's bar) at the end of the summer Term, in succession to Charles Pitt, and has done much to enhance the reputation of his organisation. He is President of British AIESEC, which co-ordinates the work of the various AIESEC Committees in British Universities, and together with Charles Pitt represented them at the last Conference, which was held at Rotterdam. During the Summer Vac. our bearded Lionel—he had a really wonderful growth then, but now, alas, he has shaved it off—why nobody can discover—was in the Union nearly every day helping out the foreign students, who come over here to London on AIESEC Traineeships.

Apart from this work, what else does Lionel do? Last year he was elected President of the Athletics Union, a full-time job on its own. It is here that probably most students meet this "He-man" from Golders Green. Not only is he "the big white chief" of the A.U., but he also takes a very active interest in the Athletic Club—it is said that sometimes he even dons running shorts!! As President of the A.U., Lionel was responsible for the "Open Day" held last term at Malden. It was the most enterprising one held to date, and was opened by Lord Beveridge.



Jeezers

It is at night that Lionel really comes into his own. A keen follower of really "hot" music, he has a free entry ticket to all the Jazz Clubs in London—just another job for the AIESEC Officer. Perhaps that's where he met the young lady from Copenhagen! I wonder if any L.S.E. poet could complete a limerick with that as a first line?

Anyway, she's returned to Denmark now. Probably Lionel has shaved his beard just to fool the Police, when enquiries are made.

He seems to have had a very varied career at the School. Very keen on the theatre, he took an active part in the Dramatic Society's activities in his first year, and took part in their One Act Play Festival in the Lent Term, 1954. He tried very hard to get on the first German Tour, but in that was unsuccessful.

A specialist in Industry and Trade, he is now in his third year of the B.Sc. (Econ.) course. Lionel seems to take academic work in his stride, although whether Sir Arnold thinks so is another matter.

Creepers

One of his latest acquisitions is a car, an Austin 7 Special, which he

purchased from Peter Mitchell, the Social Vice-President (and potential Stirling Moss of L.S.E.) just before the end of the last term. It has been suggested that this might have been a philanthropic gesture on his part. Anyway, Peter Mitchell went to Finland on the proceeds! Now I hear the crown wheel and pinion have broken; more expense for Lionel, and who should he get to repair it but Peter Mitchell!

Next Summer Lionel hopes to get a "plum" AIESEC Traineeship in the United States. He certainly deserves it, but unfortunately it takes him even further away from "the gayest spot in Scandinavia" and even his Austin 7 wont get him that far!

AUTOLYCUS.

FOR SALE

One medium-sized black beard

Genuine Hair

To fit any chin

Or would exchange for set of

Austin 7 piston rings

Apply Box No. 7691, *Beaver*

QUOTE NOTES

"In a dinghy it's pure sailing. In larger boats there's time for other things." Denise Terrett.

"I love mothering things." Jill Beeching.

"The pay of chorus girls was so poor, they had to resort to immorality to earn a decent living." Law Tutor.

"Most of the pleasures in this life are either illegal, immoral or fattening." Sir Miles Thomas.

"Every article I've written for *Beaver* has been ignominiously thrown out." John Sidle.

"I'm always fond of alliteratives. It's the primitive man in me." Professor Manning.

"Now you appreciate what Polyandry means." Shavius to Fresheuse recovering from bottle party.

"THEM" AT L.S.E.

Following a recent disclosure in "Sennet" of the diabolical machinations of Them at U.C.L., the "Beaver" Special Security Branch conducted an immediate spot check on its own territory.

The Chief of the S.S. Branch, after comparing the results of the spot check with S.S. files on recent L.S.E. movements, discovered evidence of Their depradations in this sector also.

At L.S.E. a working party of Them installed Themselves deep down in the ventilation system of the Old Theatre. During one lecture students sitting in the back row downstairs heard the final sentences of a doubtful story immediately preceding hoarse laughter, roaring out of a ventilation outlet as if from a loudspeaker. This was followed by a frienzied cacophony of noise recognised by L.S.E. Jazz Band fans as caused by hammers, saws, and rasp files vigorously applied to the walls of the air ducts which acted as admirable amplifiers. At another lecture a member the S.S. was ordered back-stage to quell a riot among what later proved to have been more of Them.

Oakeshott Whittington

They also spirited a black cat from a back alley off the Strand and pushed the haughty creature through the Stage Door of the Old Theatre, just after Prof. Oakeshott had gone in. Several times, when he mentioned the Delphic Oracle, and each time he interrupted his lecture for the sounds of Them to recede, this cat stopped rubbing itself against the august professor's corduroy trousers or halted its stalk across the stage to yawn irreverently behind a languid paw. That cat turned out to be very unfriendly. Members of the S.S. asked it quite politely at the Three Tuns Bar and in the lift to leave the building before any trouble started but were met by an indignant refusal. It was to be regretted that this cat, contrary to the L.S.E. rules of entry (scrutiny of the Registrar's files revealed that it had not passed the B.Sc. (Econ.) Prelim., hung around the School for a long time, attending lectures and Union meetings.

When the World University Service publicity streamer was put up in the Main Hall, students were distressed to find that They had introduced into the wording the exhortation "help students to help Themselves". S.S. interpretation elicited two insidious meanings: canvassing fifth-column support for Them, and an iniquitous attempt to cause an epidemic of severe

kleptomaniacs at L.S.E.

Chicanery

One direct result of the spot check was that at 4.21 p.m. three days later, that enthusiastic Special Agent, Brian Morgan-Edwards, crept in with a captured Them document containing a list of disreputable activities as follows:—

- Immersion of sleeping or laxative tablets in lecturers' water carafes.
- Insertion in unsuspecting students' briefcases of alarm clocks each timed to go off at 15 minute intervals.
- Release at lectures of two distinct types of balloon: Mk. I—tied neck; covered with ribald captions. Mk. II—loose neck; to rocket across theatre towards lecturer, venting disturbing noise.
- Frustrating the attempt of the S.S. to instal a penny-in-the-slot telescope on the balcony of the Old Theatre for students at Prof. Allen's Statistical Sources lectures to discern his microscopic tables on the blackboard.

S.S. counter-agents in the course of duty brought several suspected representatives of Them under close surveillance. These were detected at a lecture one afternoon on the bench under the windows of the New Theatre. Scrutiny of Their movements revealed Them to be in a horizontal position on the bench. Some were fast asleep with Their heads on Their books. Others with eyes screwed up by smoke, either conferred loudly through tight lips from which dangled and bobbed fuming Woodbines, or were engrossed in disgraceful Them publications.

S.S. proudly announce that this infiltration was immediately arrested and Them finally annihilated. *Beaver* readers may have implicit faith in the ability of the S.S. to contend with any similar contingencies in the future.

"Us."

LATEST OPINIONS ON THE COLD WAR

WAR

Following his recent unusually blunt article in the "Manchester Guardian", L.S.E. had the privilege of hearing Don Salvador de Madariaga address the Union Meeting on Thurs., Nov. 7th, speaking on the ever topical subject, "The Cold War, a new campaign."

Soviet Strength

As promised in the last issue of *Beaver*, he adopted his own expert and individual approach to the much discussed question; an approach which is based on a wealth of experience in the international arena. In no uncertain terms he criticised both the West and the

East, emphatically insisting on the fundamental weakness of the Western Nations, trying to combat an opponent whose whole system represents one of strength.

He holds the view that the one lasting objective of the Soviet Union is World Socialism, and all their activities, however conciliatory they appear, are aimed at the fulfilling of this policy. Don Salvador pointed out that the entire Soviet system is designed to create strength by unity, of political opinions, speech, beliefs and allegiance.

Western Weakness

Contrasting the position of the nations in the West, he emphasised their weakness which results from no common faith or understanding in their ultimate goal. Giving his verdict on the Geneva Conference, Don Salvador put forward his idea that this has been only part of a mass propaganda drive over the past years, baiting the West with fruitless "Peace Motives" and aimed at further dis-unity amongst their opponents.

His address was received with much enthusiasm by an appreciative audience, which, however, did not make the most of the opportunity offered by Question time. This consisted to a large extent of "red herring" speeches.

SHIRLEY SMITH.

From Success To Success

Once again the Dramatic Society can vaunt the garlands of victory—once more its members can patrol the School secure in a warm glow of self-satisfaction, for, on the first night of the London University Drama Society One-Act Play Festival, our entry, "No Man's Land", triumphed over those of two other Colleges.

This play, with a small cast of seasoned members of the Society, was produced by Yvonne Bromley—a first year student—and its setting managed and designed by two more talented first year students, Dulcie Grey and Audrey Chaney (the fresher pin-up of the last edition—*Editor*).

Bristol Forsooth!

After this, our first success of this academic year, we aspire to yet greater heights, to the N.U.S. Drama Festival at Bristol, which is sponsored by the *Sunday Times*. What more august and solemn aspiration could there be? Here we hope to present, if selected by the adjudicator who is visiting the School shortly, an expurgated edition of "Macbeth" (this is one of the tragedies of Shakespeare). This production is destined, when it reaches Bristol, to be included under the experimental section of the Festival, and anyone who has been frightened from the library by huge cries and screams emanating from the depths of the school, will no doubt agree that the rehearsals at least sound different from the more pedestrian productions of Shakespeare at the Old Vic.

Shady Business

The main event of the Dramatic Society year at L.S.E. will be the Oration Day production on December 7th, 8th and 9th (Oration Day) of "NIGHT MUST FALL", by Emlyn Williams.

"Night Must Fall" is a thriller set in a bungalow in Epping Forest where Mrs. Bramson (played by Cecelia Smith) and her niece, Olivia Grayne (Jean Elding) live alone with Mrs. Terence, the Housekeeper (Peggy Owen), and Dora Parkoe, the Maid (Gillian Owen). Police Inspector Belsize, of Scotland Yard, is played by Tom Dale and others taking part include Michael Bernstein, Tony Battishell, Geoffrey Burgess and Elizabeth Crooke.

Israel-Arab Relations

On 17th Nov., Mr. Gershon Avner, Counsellor to the Israeli Embassy, and Mr. Bishr, attaché to the Egyptian Embassy, talked to International Forum on "Israel-Arab Relations".

Mr. Avner, speaking first, explained how the Jews, a persecuted and suffering people throughout history, had turned to Palestine after the war as their historical home, and in 1948, when the British withdrew, they set up the state of Israel, which was recognised by the United Nations. It was then that the Arab states attacked, calling their people living in Israel to evacuate the country.

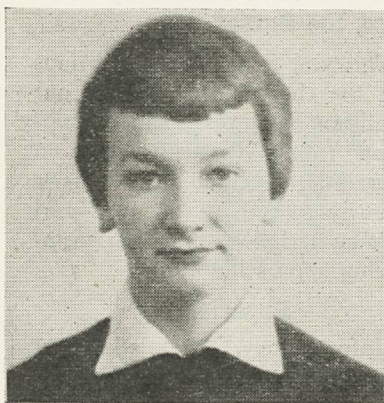
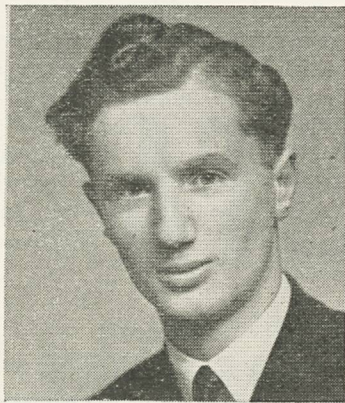
The Arab states, having been defeated, the Israelis opened their doors to all Jews throughout the world, and now only desired to be allowed to live in peace in their newly founded state.

Mr. Bishr then followed by explaining that it was all very well to talk of the Jews as a persecuted people, but they had always received equal rights in the Arab states, yet they had come and taken by force the homes of one million Arab people. The land belonged to the Arabs, it was their property, and were willing to wait a hundred years to see that "justice should be done" and the Arab refugees returned to their rightful home.

One questioner put his finger on the problem when he asked the speakers to recognise the fact that both the Israelis and the Arabs had a claim, in their own eyes, to the same piece of land, and that they must try to work out a solution on that basis.

It might be suggested that arms are not the solution. The solution to the problem of the Arab refugees is not to create a Jewish refugee problem. If both sides were willing to give way to settle the dispute, the Jews might make it their responsibility to compensate the Arab people living in the desert, and the Arabs, seeing their people justly compensated, might be willing to bury the hatchet, rather than demanding their pound of flesh.

HONOR KIBBLEWHITE
(Sec. International Forum).



Jean Elding, Peggy Owen, Tom Dale and Tony Battishell.

STATE OF THE UNION

The major event of the last week has been the decision by the Union that negotiations with the School must be supplemented by

direct action. The most important manifestation of this was, of course, the decision to boycott the Refectory now that our INTEL scheme has been rejected and the School's only alternative found to be a questionnaire which could not get even a 30% response rate.

A lesser, though not unimportant, example of the new feeling has been the Council decision to back Mr. Harpum's motion to rescind the Union's present Constitution and Standing Orders. Attempts to amend them to give the Union more power in its own house having failed, this seems to be the only way to draw the School's attention forcibly to our dissatisfaction with our dependence upon it.

Tradition

In the meantime, tradition takes its gentle course in this most tradition-ridden of all Unions. Last week we had the annual Michaelmas Term Censure Motion. The grounds are always good; an attempt to make the motion milder always fails; and the motion is always defeated. Surely even Mr. Thompson must realise that the procedure is immutable by now! The only variation anyone could think up this year was the Deputy President's bright idea to strengthen Council's hand by not allowing Mr. Thompson the usual right to

sum up; and, in view of this, it is hardly surprising the Abstentions had it, with the No's not far behind and the Aye's not in the running.

Presidential Prospects

The more naive among the Freshers will probably imagine that now the Vice-Presidential Elections are over we shall have a rest from electioneering. Not a bit of it! The candidates for next term's Presidential Stakes are already being groomed for office. Numerous possibilities are being discussed at the moment; but, if we exclude the inponderabilities of independent candidatures, there will probably be only two candidates from the "Big Battalions." In the circumstances, it is still early to specify who these two will be, but they will probably be selected from: Peter Mitchell and Graham Gooding; Tom Dale and Eric Thompson; and Peter Fletcher and Jim Sharpe—to choose just two from each of the main groups. If one of these groups (Lab. Soc., Lib. Soc., and Con. Soc.) decides to back a candidate from another group, then that candidate will almost certainly win, as the parties are evenly balanced—earlier this term figures were approximately of this order: Con. Soc., 110; Lab. Soc., 90; Lib. Soc., 70.

Hustings Promises

The Hustings promise that intrigued us most was made by David Jones, who declared that when he was elected he would give the Union something to talk about every week. Well, what about it, David?

A POLITICUS.

A PLEA FOR TOLERANCE

There is a fragile line between intolerance and hate; and a strong gravitation from hate to extermination.

The Second World War was fought on this issue. The hate fostered by the Fascists was the tool with which they led their people to destroy and oppress millions by the most horrific means ever devised in human history or fantasy.

The legacy of the war is something which still invades our lives and feelings. Our understanding or rights and duties is coloured by it. Our economy still bears its imprint. Our world still lives in its aftermath.

There is no gulf separating this generation from those who went through the war. Many of them were our fathers and elder brothers. Many of us learned our lessons in air-raid shelters and slept our nights out to the echo of bombs and gunfire. Let us never forget the results of intolerance.

I.U.S. is Born

During and after the war students who had fought or supported the anti-Fascist camp came together to form a world student organisation, dedicated to the democratic ideals of anti-Fascism, co-operation between different social systems and the prevention of alienation and war. On this foundation the International Union of Students arose.

But developments were not what were hoped for. The air of the world became once more poisoned by intolerance. With the Cold War reaching its peak, the I.U.S. started to split; the National Students' Association of the U.S.A. withdrew, and N.U.S. Executive followed in 1952 (although total severance of contact was not accepted by N.U.S. members).

Intolerance begets intolerance, and both sides in the controversy showed it. I am not concerned here to establish the parenthood of the Cold War Caliban—we have our different opinions. But I want to remind students of their heritage, and of the outcome of intolerance 22 years ago, in 1933.

Better Relations

To-day we are regaining our senses. Governments cease to accuse each other of aggressive intentions, representatives of different

social systems meet together to settle differences (not always succeeding overnight, but clearing the atmosphere none the less), members of different social systems meet freely and admire each other's achievements unreservedly. Given time and continued goodwill, given our determination that this thing should be continued, we can move forward to a time when the ideals of 1945 are once again respectable.

In such a new situation, we students are obliged to play our part to safeguard our future against the fruits of intolerance, and to ensure co-operation—realising the difficulties in our way, but above all, realising the necessity. In this respect, we have an obligation to bring about a reconciliation between students of East and West, to end a division whose roots, I believe, have been very deep among students.

Students' Re-union?

Our Union has always been glad to meet students of I.U.S. member organisations. Our Union has an outstanding record of friendship with students of the East. I be-

lieve, in our own interests, and for the sake of our consciences (so that we be not accused by those who come after us, as others were by those who fought in the 1930's and 1940's) that we must now devote ourselves, in a sincere, patient, and practical way to ending the present division of students and bringing about, once again, one world student community; doing so on the basis of existing student organisations, recognising tolerantly that each has its own supporters and that neither need be asked to renounce its own loyalties entirely.

I believe that the proposed Conference of Co-operation, recognising, as it does, the parallel existence of C.O.S.E.C. and I.S.C. on the one hand, and I.U.S. on the other, is such a practical and sincere proposal. I believe that it should now be examined carefully, free from accusations, recriminations, and slogans, as a possible first step to reconciliation, and as an act of tolerance in itself.

In the words of the I.U.S. executive report this summer, we shall thereby "be able to remove the barriers of prejudice and past disagreements, and in this way create the condition for the re-establishment of the unity of the international student movement."

MARSHALL HARRIS,
I.U.S. Officer.

LIBERAL SOCIETY

Chairman: Bill Capstick
Vice-Chairman: Tom Dale
Secretary: Bob Asher

TO-DAY, Thurs., Dec. 1st—

DISCUSSION GROUP

1.10 p.m. Room 301

SIR OSCAR HOBSON

(City Editor, *News Chronicle*, member of Liberal Party Council)

on

"If a Liberal were Chancellor of the Exchequer"

Open to all

Thurs., Dec. 8th, 4.30 p.m.
ANY QUESTIONS?

Team:

DERYCK ABEL, B.A.
(Directing Secretary of Free Trade Union, former L.S.E. student)
G. GRANVILLE SLACK, B.A., LL.M.
(Vice-Chairman Liberal Party Executive)

AIR VICE-MARSHAL DONALD BENNETT, C.B., D.S.O. (Liberal Party Council) and

A LIBERAL PEER
Question Master: Tom Dale.

THREE TUNS CLUB

XMAS ORDERS

should be placed NOW

Tariff

Wines, white or red, from 6/6

Gin, per bottle 32/-

Whisky, per bottle 35/-

Magnun Merrydown 7/6

All beers and wines at reduced prices

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Commem. Ball tip—

Take a Hip ½-bottle and save money on the Q.T.

: : :

Xmas Parties arranged and catered for at home and in the *Three Tuns* (3 floors).

