

# BEAVER

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NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS STUDENTS' UNION

No. 111 OCTOBER 28th, 1971

## Fists fly in the L.S.E. Union Council

# COUNCILLORS COWED BY VIOLENCE

**THE L.S.E. Union's Deputy President, Trevor Jones, went berserk and broke up the Council meeting on Wednesday, October 20th with his fists. Council's only reaction was to tuck its tail between its legs and go crawling back to him. "I was too scared to do anything," explained one of the officers present. "I think he must be psychotic."**

Jones came in at the beginning of the meeting, approached Academic Affairs V.P. Ian Morley, and asked him in an apparently calm tone of voice whether he would attempt to chair the meeting. When Morley answered "Yes," Jones turned around, picked up a metal chair and struck him with it without warning. He then walked round the table to the Senior Treasurer, Simon Rabinowitz, and asked: "Does anyone else have any objections? How about you, Jew-boy?"; without waiting for an answer, Jones struck him twice on the arm and chest.

At that point "Beaver" Editor John Stathatos approached the D.P. and attempted to restrain him. Once again without provocation, Jones turned on Stathatos with his fists. When in his turn the Welfare V.P. tried to separate the two, he too was attacked by the cursing and spitting D.P. Jones then ran out of the room, only to return a minute later and once more throw himself on Stathatos when the "Beaver" Editor questioned his competence to chair any meeting in his present state. Following these incidents, the council officers present decided to postpone the scheduled meeting for an hour-and-a-half in order to decide upon the measures to be taken.

It was obvious that the D.P. was either genuinely psychotic or else attempting a power-grab in the best fascist tradition—an interpretation not inconsistent with his past membership of the Monday Club. In either case, there was, on the face of it, no question but that he

## Houghton St. to be closed?

WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL is expected to agree to the closure of Houghton Street to traffic at its meeting on October 25th.

The Council's Highways and Planning Committees have decided to recommend the closure, after last year's demonstrations at the L.S.E., and a formal request to the council by the School.

If the recommendation is passed, Houghton Street should be closed by the end of the year.

should be removed from any post of authority and either committed or arrested.

As it happened, Jones was shown to be right in his evaluation of the union officer's character: overawed by his behaviour, scared witless by this interruption of routine bureaucracy, they finally took a half-hearted decision to resign by resolution (!) and walked timidly back to the council room.

When Jones came in, incredibly, no move was made to deny him the chair. The decision to resign - by resolution was brought up by a diffident Gen. Sec. some time later when he told the D.P.: "Forgetting what happened earlier, it was decided... that we should resign by resolution. Do you agree?" (!!) When asked by Jones for his reasons, he an-

swered: "Because some of the posts come up for re-election."

The only person to come out of it without a bright yellow streak painted down his back was Nick Spurrier, who not only recorded his objections to the chairman's behaviour, but spoke up in the Senior Treasurer's defence when this "officer" refused to defend himself against the D.P.'s insults.

All Spurrier got for his pains was the dead silence of Council and Jones' snarled: "I'm liable to lay one on you. I don't give a damn what any of you say. People like you are gutless and weak..."

How true, how true.

### STOP PRESS

At last Friday's Student Union meeting a censure motion was passed against the DP by a large majority.

## ANGELA'S SISTER STOPPED AT AIRPORT

MRS. FANIA JORDAN, the sister of Angela Davis, the American black revolutionary, was detained for more than three hours by immigration officials when she arrived in London on October 12th.

She came to raise funds for legal expenses for Angela's trial, which is due to start in November. Because of the delay, Mrs. Jordan was unable to attend a scheduled lunch-time meeting at the L.S.E., at which she was to speak.

At London Airport, her luggage and personal documents—including papers relating to her sister's trial—were searched. The official reason for the delay was that Mrs. Jordan and her friends were unable to say exactly where they would be staying.

But an organiser, apologising to the 130 students gathered at the L.S.E.'s Parish Hall, gave a different interpretation: "We were given a taste of freedom this morning," he said.

Angela Davis was arrested earlier this year on murder, kidnapping, and conspiracy charges. Black Power supporters and Angela's personal helpers claim the charges were brought for political reasons.

Next day, Mrs. Jordan spoke at a meeting of the London branch of the "Angela Davis Defence Committee." She read out a message from Angela, which referred to Attica as "My Lai revisited." A capacity audience clapped, cheered, and offered Black Power salutes when she had finished. A collection taken up to help with Angela's defence totalled £912.12.

### The crisis in accommodation

THE accommodation problem for students in London has been worse this year than ever before. This week "Beaver" examines the problem, and some of the inadequate measures taken by the authorities to reduce its dimensions.

On page 9, there's a report on 'University Village'—a concentration camp type set up in South East London.

On page 3, John Fisk, the Welfare Vice - President, gives his view of the problem.

## BLACK AND WHITE CLAY



Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) at the L.S.E.

**A POLICY of total separation as the solution to the American colour problem was advocated at the L.S.E. last week—by "the world's greatest athlete," Cassius Clay.**

Speaking to a capacity audience at the Old Theatre, Muhammad Ali said he was on a boxing tour of Europe and the Middle East. He was going to retire next year, he said, "after I take my title back from that ugly Joe Frazier," and then offered to answer questions.

Predictably, the first of these were about boxing and his 1970 bout with Frazier in particular. Asked whether he thought Frazier was a good boxer or not, he answered: "He's not scientific like myself. . . . Next time there will be no doubt. You know, I hit that man with everything but he still wouldn't fall. . . ." Muhammad was obviously puzzled about it.

The questions then extended to his political activities; and he handled each of them with the easy familiarity born of long experience.

On Black Power: "I don't know about a black power movement. I just know of a freedom movement. Everywhere."

On the future of integration in the U.S.: "We want total and complete separation. . . . We think we should now go and rule ourselves. We think we should be repaid for our four hundred years of labour."

On Islam: "Now that I'm a Muslim I have brothers all over the world. . . . The Chinese have Chinese names, the French have French names, but Negroes have

names like George Washington. I'm free. I'm Muhammad Ali."

On Malcolm X: "What he represented made him great. . . . After becoming so powerful, his head became big.

"He turned against Elijah Muhammed. . . . As soon as Jesus died, suddenly everyone loved Jesus. Soon as Malcolm died, everyone loved Malcolm. . . ."

At one point, a student asked in what way Muhammed's projected separate American Negro "country" would differ from a form of South African "Bantustan" and was booed by an overly partisan audience; he was promptly defended by the boxer (once again his experience in handling this kind of audience was apparent), who went on to explain he expected territorial concessions on the part of the U.S. government to be accompanied by financial concessions: "We shall be different from the African countries because we shall be repaid."

He went on to an emphatic condemnation of miscegenation, a condemnation based, as he demonstrated, not on prejudice but on racial pride; and he expected not only the Negro, but all races and nations to have that same pride: "English people should remain English. Their sons must be like them. No intelligent white man or woman would want a black child. . . . No prejudice; I just love myself, I don't hate nobody."



# LETTERS

## CAMLETT

### EDITORIAL The mongol in the market place

THE events of last week's council meeting (see story, page 1) are illuminating in more ways than one; they also have some rather sinister implications, going far beyond a simple student union squabble.

The behaviour of the deputy president is not really of any great importance: the neurotic and the barbarian will always be with us. What is of importance is the fact that there will, at times, also be people willing and even eager to be dominated by him.

#### CRUDE

Yet perhaps we should not be surprised at the sight of five students, the legally elected representatives of Union, reduced to fear and impotence by the crude ravings of a political bully-boy: all too many dictators have been buffoons with the gift of paralysing opposition with their ravings, and there was a smell of Anschluss in the air.

In any case the concept of political responsibility is one that has worn all too thin in our days, and guts are at a discount.

In a way, that is the liberal dilemma: what does one do with the Mongol in the marketplace?

The Mongol knows nothing and cares nothing for democracy or the rest of the town dweller's quaint conceits, and debates, constitutions and representations will amuse him hugely.

The crunch has come, and the burgher will have to stop playing at Neville Chamberlain or see his town come crashing round his ears.

Nor should we be surprised when the Mongol comes wrapped in the mantle of the New Left's politics; to shout and scream that one comes in the people's name is the easiest thing in the world, particularly if one emphasises that the "people" must have no other voice.

Your liberal today has trouble seeing facism when it stands before him, and hesitates to speak against it when it mouths the old familiar slogans.

To emphasise that freedom cannot be granted but only fought for is to repeat the oldest of old saws. It may be better to remember T. S. Eliot's injunction to work "with the trowel in one hand and the gun rather loose in the holster."

John C. Stathatos

Inter-Action Community Arts Co-operative needs people to work as volunteers during the vacations. Training, Bed and Board within the Co-operative. Chris Bailey, 156 Malden Road, London, N.W.5. 01-267 1422.

### UNION NEWS

THE first Union meetings of the year produced only three decisions, of which one can claim importance. John Blair was elected as independent chairman.

The motion for Union support "for the struggle of the Irish people against internment and British Imperialism" (brief summary only) with its attendant proposed amendments took up a great deal of time without accomplishing any more than a decision to lay the motion on the table. Other motions followed: For the postponement of the Presidential elections to coincide with those for the Vice-Presidents.

#### FLAT

For the use of the Director's Flat as temporary students' accommodation (Laid on the table until the Director can be present at a Union Meeting);

For the reaffiliation of L.S.E.S.U. with N.U.S. (Passed at the second meeting, since there was no quorum at the first when the time came for the vote to be taken).

The last motion requires amplification. Arguments for, as presented by David Wynn, proposer, included the changes in the N.U.S. since we were disaffiliated and the need for united action in the face of Government threats to student welfare. Arguments against centred on the bureaucratic nature of the N.U.S. and particularly on the question of funds.

However, after a speech from Ian Camlett on the irrelevance of the issue, the motion was passed thus: 106 For; 48 Against; 44 Abstentions. Mr. Blair's decision to limit the length of speeches to five minutes was a great help in keeping the second meeting short, and it came to a close after passing unopposed a motion proposing union payment of the cost of duplicating the new Soc. Soc. constitution.

#### NO HOPE

It was clear that there has been little learnt from last year as yet, and we must await the new constitution and the elections to find out whether we can hope for a new initiative or a further decline. Certainly if only 200 people thought these meetings important enough to attend there is little hope.

#### BEAVER

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DEAR EDITOR,

Ian Camlett has now gone, thank God! He was probably one of the most humorous Presidents L.S.E. Students' Union has ever had or is ever likely to get. No-one can help admire or appreciate his humour. He took over at the head of a tottering union and just like Nero, he played his own fiddle whilst all around him fell in ruin.

He sat amongst the rubble of poorly-attended Union Meetings (poorly attended quality as well as quantity wise) and he churned out joke after joke, wise-crack after wise-crack. He annihilated all opposition not that that was necessarily a bad thing. Some, perhaps all, that he ridiculed, discredited and destroyed, deserved it. However his merry onslaught destroyed all proposals, good and bad alike. Union Meetings became like TV's "Jokers' Wild"; like a comedy interlude to a dull and boring academic life.

Those who stood up and talked about Marx's concept of economic life, Lenin's contribution to revolutionary thought and their relevance to contemporary Britain were given the rough, witty and hilarious edge of our ex-President's tongue. Conservatives and Right-Wingers most of whom were unwilling to participate in Union Meetings anyway, had the last small remnants of their

public speakers humiliated and cut down by Camlett's funny face and his devastating mouth.

What of the middle ground, the moderates and the "silent majority." The latter were as ever silent if not in the majority and the moderates, well, they feared the funny man as much if not more than anyone else.

Who came out of the affair unscathed? The answer is simple—Camlett's merry band of ardent admirers. Those who clapped loudest. Laughed longest, those who regarded our beloved leader with so much esteem that a Feudal King would probably have been jealous. Camlett's loyal band of followers stuck to their name—they followed him literally everywhere. People who were so aware of their own insignificance and unimportance that they had to follow him around in that they would obtain some of his prestige. Poor, demented, mindless creatures. Yet Cam-

lett had other hangers-on, those who wanted to remain with the "in" crowd to further their own political and social careers. Far from being mindless this crowd knew exactly where their ambitions led them.

Camlett's purge has discredited many who deserved such a fate but others have been crushed who were innocent in all respects. However let's not be too hard on him. He destroyed much that needed destroying and on one or two occasions I actually saw him discuss something seriously for brief periods. However, Union cannot stand any more purges of any kind; the time has now come for it to live again. So much needs doing. The Bar needs drastic overhaul, the shop needs expanding along efficient lines, we need a Lodgings Bureau and most of all we need to fight the School effectively for Union autonomy. We had better forget the past and concentrate on the future.

JOHN FISK.

## Flying Buttress

### DARK. . DARK. . DARK. .

JIMI HENDRIX, they say, exploded: He had to, by all the laws he lived by. Whom the Groupies love, it seems, die young—and whom the gods wish to destroy they first blow their minds.

But is the cultural underground, herald of the great Alternative Society, about to explode also, before it has even been weaned? There are disturbing signs that it is not just the capitalist world or racist societies that bear within themselves the seeds of their own destruction. The wonderful world of pop, pot and porn. is also doomed.

#### ST. MICK

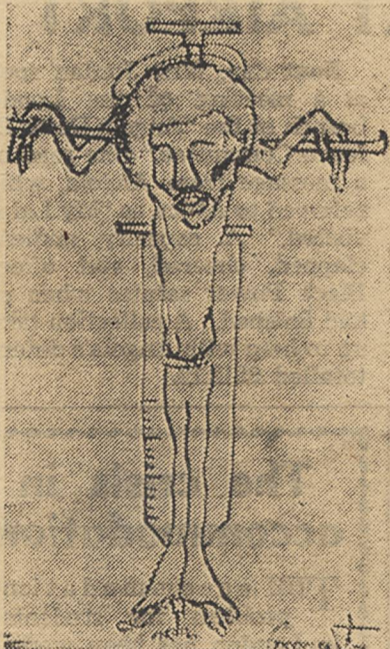
The thought came to me from a leader of one group, the Magna Carta, who was feeling the strain—the travail of the charts. He ticked them off on his fingers: Stones, savaged and victimised; Jagger made the St. Sebastian for his generation. Beatles, victims of their own success, torn apart by economic forces.

He told me of his visit to Scandinavia (to play, not join, the Longfordian Voyeurs): there, it seems, sex between humans is a bore nowadays and only sex with beasts holds any interest. The American scene has gone even more sour: if you're wise you steer clear—it's obligatory to carry with you the price of a fix (15 dollars) to hand over every time you get stuck up. Not that anyone's safe at home with the Groupies salivating outside your door.

And it's not just Western pop culture that feels threatened. North Africa, which has made such a lucrative living out of

the hash-markets, now feels its own culture disintegrating under the invasion. You can add to the catalogue yourself.

Did all this bend my footsteps to Trafalgar Square and the Gospel according to Mary, Mugg and Cliff? Frankly, no! Though I'm all for Celebration, and



FLYING BUTTRESS

Light is what we need. But if anything I suspect that the darker side, the shadow side, of the contemporary scene is a good deal darker and deserves analysis a good deal deeper than the rather simplistic niceness of middle-class Maries and their not-so-silent majorities will allow.

#### BALLS

There is for a start the weight of "emotional balls and bigotry" sustaining those raised right

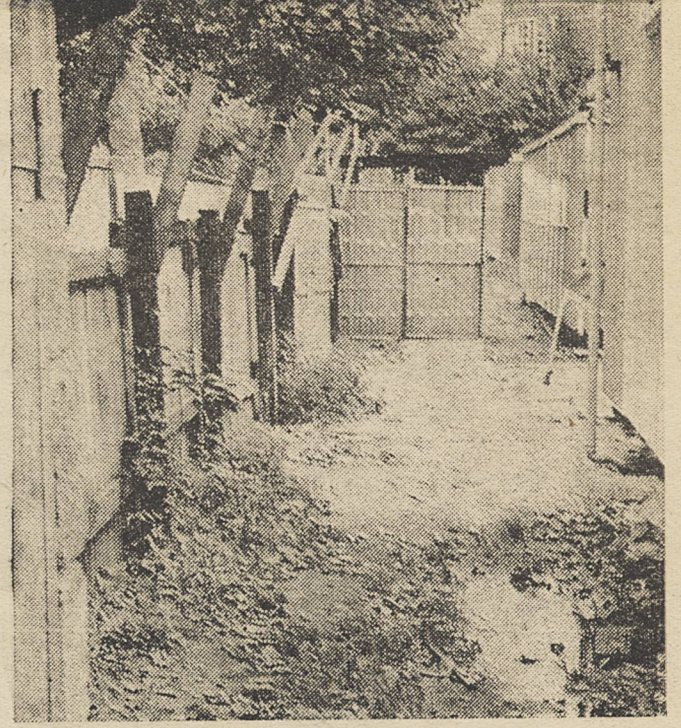
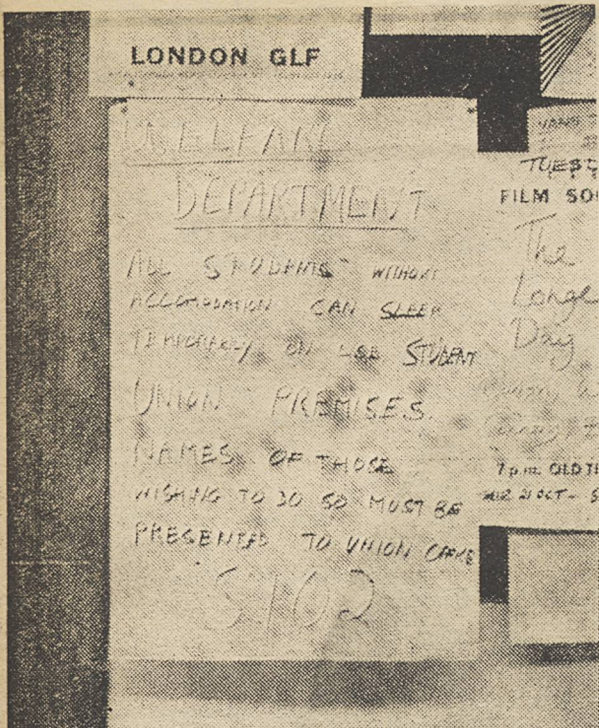
arms and the cries of "PORNOGRAPHY LEADS TO CRIME" (Traf. Sq.), or "BRING BACK THE HANGMAN" (Tory Con.). With all the bank balances and property interests, the forces of fear and insecurity, guilt and repression that we have seen before unleashed on Jews and Blacks, Catholics, Communists, homosexuals, and any convenient scapegoat minority that lies to hand.

Subtler, but perhaps more sinister because less understood, is the shadow side not of our capitalist system but of the pop scene itself. Here we are touching not just on ordinary human wickedness but on a quality of Evil with a capital "E." A renewed interest in mysticism, meditation and the transcendental (an interesting and promising development, implying a search for a deeper and less superficial dimension to life) is matched by a similar interest in diabolism and the occult which could be far more destructive than anything so far dreamed up by the Longford Commission.

Not new, you say. True. But what was once a minority obsession indulged by Sir Francis Dashwood and the Hellfire Club could under contemporary ad-mass conditions become a deadly threat. But perhaps you don't believe Evil exists? Or, if it does, that it's confined to economic systems, class-interests, Labour camps or Belfast detention centres? I wonder whether you have ever seen Paisley or Mosley in action, and seen the effects on their audiences?

The author of this article is the Anglican Chaplain at L.S.E.





# SUICIDE: FINAL SOLUTION

THE greatest problem facing the department at present is the lack of student accommodation. The University can offer 600 places in halls and flats for L.S.E. students. The University Lodgings Bureau will help another 500. This leaves 1,900 students to find accommodation privately.

They use expensive agencies, and check the Press every day for one flat vacancy.

In this situation many students will remain with their parents and commute over long distances.

For those with nowhere to go the situation is really grim. The misery which homeless students face are difficult to believe unless one has seen victims or been a victim oneself.

Sleeping on friends' floors is both unpleasant and not the best way to promote or sustain the friendship. Living rough means irregular meals, it has adverse effects on health and sleeping and has contributed to the rising suicide rate of students.

## RAT-RACE

When a student is preoccupied with finding accommodation in this "rat-race" city all other aspects of university life become lost. Lectures are missed but, more important, friends are lost and social life breaks down.

Many people are a whole term without accommodation. The

position is especially bad for graduate students.

The School has fewer than 100 rooms available for them and further there are only some 20 flats available for married students.

The Lodgings Bureau does all it can for graduates but manages to deal with only a hundred. This leaves 1,000 to fend for themselves. For married couples this may mean that families are split up.

## NEED

In the first week of term it would be easy to find 300 students still looking for accommodation. This should not, and must not become a problem which goes on and on, term after term.

We have approached the School concerning the problem and they have for the first time permitted students to sleep on Student Union premises when necessary. This still leaves the basic problem unsolved. More accommodation is needed for students. The School, however, will do no more than build one new Hall (the money for which was given to them by an anonymous benefactor).

Even after the completion of this Hall L.S.E. will be in the bottom five universities of the student housing league. At present L.S.E. provides less accommodation than any other major college or university in England.

### JOHN FISK Vice-President Welfare talks on Accommodation

After noting these facts one would expect that the authorities would be keen on helping but that is not the case.

When asked, the Director admitted that the situation was serious, but said that the School was concentrating on raising money for the new library (some £5½-6 million) and all else had to take second place.

It seems that he feels it is more important to house books than students.

## BUREAU

If the School will do nothing this leaves us with the University Lodgings Bureau. Unfortunately the Bureau is at the present time in a sad state. At its peak in 1965 it had some 14,000 addresses on its housing list. Today it has less than 3,000.

This is due to a number of factors. Increased competition with other bureaux and the famous "policy" (which prevents racial discrimination by landladies).

After consultation with the University Bureau it was decided that it would be a good idea for L.S.E. to establish its own Lodgings Bureau and that is what we are planning to do at the present time. I hope we can count on the support of all students in this venture.

## SERVICES

HEALTH.—The health facilities are flourishing. We have a G.P. in regular attendance, a nursing sister, a full-time dental service and a really good full-time psychiatrist. We have regular visits by a gynaecologist. Men can obtain contraceptives from the toilets in the basement of St. Clements.

REFECTORY.—Another black-spot; the food is unusually bad and we have been complaining about it for the past year. We have achieved nothing. The only thing I can suggest is that if the food is bad take it back and complain. It may be necessary to stage a boycott or some other form of mass protest.

## READERS FOR BLIND SOCIOLOGY STUDENT

Contact John Dowling, U/G pigeonholes or—  
Carr-Saunders Hall, 18-14 Fitzroy Street.  
Tel. 580-2936. Room 503.

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**The Listener** **BBC**

1A

## U/GRADUATES: MEET THE BOSS

ON October 13th "Beaver" interviewed the new Dean of Undergraduate Students, Kenneth Minogue. We knew little about him when we went in, and little more when we left.

"Reality is in many cases a boring thing." That was something he said that we agreed with. But here are some highlights from the interview. They might make reality more interesting.

### Minogue on staff-students assemblies

"I wouldn't agree that decision-making should rest with staff-student departmental assemblies... The level of argument amongst masses is much lower than the level of argument to be found among small committees..."

### On secret files

"This (the declassification of "academic" files) would constitute a pressure on tutors perhaps to pull their punches, and it would limit, I think, the freedom of headmasters to comment reasonably frankly about their students."



### MINOGUE—

If this is reality,  
Isn't it about  
Time for a change

### On students' right to reply (to comments made in files)

"The student doesn't have any right to reply, obviously..."

### On conflict of interest

"There is no essential conflict of interest between the school, which I take it exists to educate people in the best way, and students, who I presume just want to be educated in the best way."

### On Minogue

"The Dean must be in respect to students a soft, absorbent substance."

### On student militancy

"I don't have any more information than you do."

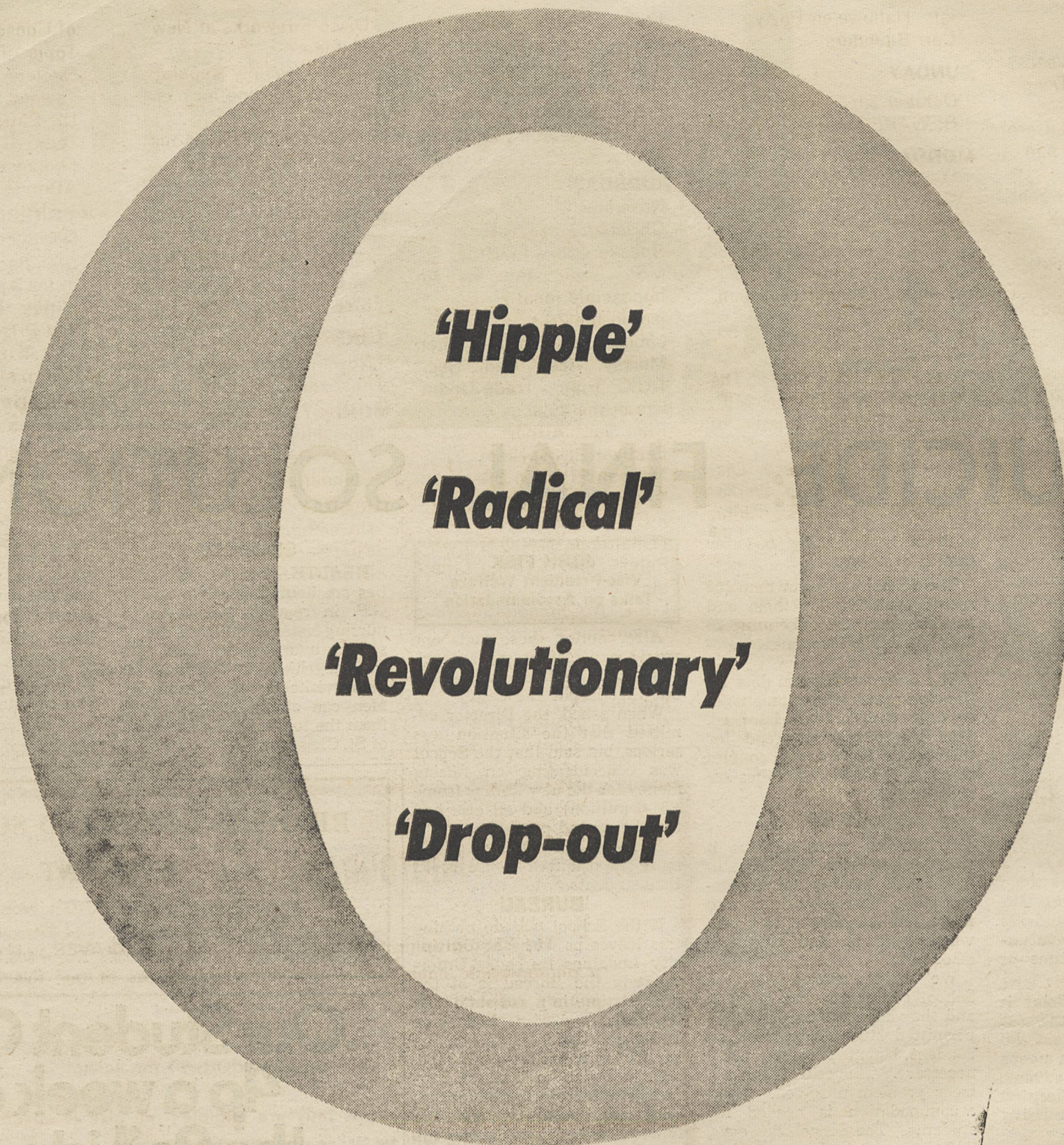
If you care to check on this last statement (the other seem to speak for themselves), here is the reference for his memorandum to the Select Committee on Education and Science—which is near the end of a very informative section on L.S.E., particularly useful to new students, who might want to check to see if your tutor gave any interesting evidence: British Parliamentary Papers, Select Committee on Education and Science, 1968-69, VIII, Student Relations, Vol. 4.

A friend put our thoughts about the interview in a far more concise, less mystifying way than we may have:—

"The purpose of bureaucracy is to obscure naked authority."

K. JINKS &  
J. SYDNOR





**'Hippie'**

**'Radical'**

**'Revolutionary'**

**'Drop-out'**

The swear words applied to students aren't even consistent. This term, in a weekly series starting on 10th October, The Observer writes about the student world as it really is. Not all roses.

First, Stephen Hatch, on the student housing crisis. Just how bad is it; why are so many hours spent room-hunting instead of studying; what is being done about it?

About the student unions, which are now becoming big business— who really runs them?

About the student press. How good is it; how soon will it go underground?

And so on. An article by the former N.U.S. President, Jack Straw— an admission of where he went wrong.

About the student rebels of 1968— where are they now, and what are they up to?

**THE OBSERVER**

writes about the life of a student  
the way it really is.



# CALENDAR

## THURSDAY

October 28 :  
Festival 71. Oz Discussion.  
Tony Palmer, Felix Dennis,  
John Mortimer.  
Film Soc. Bob and Carol  
and Ted and Alice. 7 p.m.  
Christians at L.S.E.  
Speaker : Father Lawrence.  
Topic : The Alternative  
Society.  
Labour Society : Speaker :  
Frank Allaun, M.P.  
Topic : Britain's Housing  
Tragedy.

## FRIDAY

October 29 :  
Con. Soc. Speaker: The Rt.  
Hon. Robert Carr, M.P. for  
Mitcham and Secretary of  
State for Employment.  
Topic : The Industrial Rela-  
tions Act and Beyond.  
1-2 p.m. Old Theatre.  
Festival 71. Bridge Tourna-  
ment. 1 p.m. Fun Music,  
etc. with **Thunderclap New-  
man** and **Ruskin Spear**.  
Tickets : 30p 7 p.m.

## SATURDAY

October 30 :  
Festival 71. Feed the Tour-

ists. Hallowe'en Party.  
Carr-Saunders.

## SUNDAY

October 31. Festival 71.  
**BEWARE!**

## MONDAY

November 1 :  
Festival 71. **DOUBLE  
BEWARE.**  
L.S.E. Meeting of Profes-  
sors of Economics. 2 p.m.  
Building Committee. 5 p.m.

## TUESDAY

November 2 :  
Con. Soc. Speaker : The  
Rt. Hon. John Peyton, M.P.  
for Yeovil and Minister of  
Transport Industries.  
Festival 71 : Debate, Dis-  
cussion : "Workers' Demo-  
cracy." Speakers : John  
Cousins (T.G.W.U.), Len  
Formby (D.A.T.A.),  
S. Gervasi.  
Film Soc. Oedipus Rex.  
L.S.E. Standing Committee  
5.45 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

November 3 :  
Festival 71. Women's Lib-

eration. Shirley Rowbottom  
Folk Rock Concert.  
Juliet Lawson, Johnston,  
Accrington Stanley.  
L.S.E. Academic Board :  
2 p.m. Research Committee  
4.30 p.m.

## THURSDAY

November 4 :  
Christian's at L.S.E.  
Speaker : Jeremy Bray,  
M.P. Topic : Integrity An  
Impossible Ideal ?  
ism in the 70's.  
Labour Soc. Speaker : Len  
Murray, Asst. Gen. Sec.,  
T.U.C. Topic : Trade Union-  
ism in the 70's.  
Film Soc.: Airport  
Festival 71. Speaker :  
Norman St. John Stevas,  
Andrew Neil (Chairman  
F.C.S.), Bob McKee  
(Chairman, N.A.O.S.),  
Peter Hain (Young Liber-  
als).  
L.S.E. Accommodation  
Committee 4 p.m.

## FRIDAY

November 5 :  
Festival 71.  
Raffle Draw, Jumble Sale,

Disco Fireworks at New  
Malden.  
Liberal Society Regular  
general meeting for mem-  
bers.  
L.S.E. Committee on the  
Welfare of Overseas  
Students : 2 p.m.

## SATURDAY

November 6 :  
Festival 71. Pop Concert  
with Steeleye Span and  
McKendree's Spring.

## SUNDAY

November 7 :  
Festival 71. Helpers' Party.

## MONDAY

November 8 :  
L.S.E. Refectory Advisory  
Committee. 4 p.m.

## TUESDAY

November 9 :  
Film Soc. The Marx  
Brothers Go West,  
Monkey Business.  
Liberal Society. Speaker :  
Guy Clutton Brock.  
Con. Soc. Speaker :  
Norman St. John Stevas,  
M.P. for Chelmsford and  
Hon. Sec. of the Federation

of Conservative Students.  
Topic : The Permissive  
Society.  
Tawney Society. Speaker :  
Dr. Patricia Knight.  
Topic : The 19th Century  
Feminist Movement and  
Attitudes to it.

## WEDNESDAY

November 10 :  
Standing Sub-Committee  
of the Appointments Com-  
mittee. L.S.E. Scholarship  
and Prizes Committee :  
11 a.m. Library Committee:  
4.30 p.m.

## THURSDAY

November 11 :  
Christians at L.S.E.  
Speaker : Lord Longford.  
Topic : Christian Attitudes  
to Censorship.  
Labour Soc. speaker : Sid  
Bidwell, M.P. Topic :  
Labour Party & Socialism.

## EVERY DAY

The Islamic Society.  
Daily Prayers: Room D105.  
Friday Prayers: Room D105  
Watch Prayer Board for  
Prayer timings.

## CLARE MARKET Review on Europe

"The economics of the Common Market is a puzzle to many people. They are increasingly aware that joining the Market will be a costly business for Britain, and that no clear benefits can be expected in compensation; but they find it difficult to escape the notion that somewhere, at the end of the Common Market rainbow, prosperity waits..."

—Peter Oppenheimer.

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## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The Photographic Society in association with BEAVER is organising a photographic competition with three first prizes of ten, five and two pounds respectively.

The competition is open to all students of the school.

Black and white prints only are eligible; no size is specified, but very small prints will be at an obvious disadvantage.

Prints should be handed in to the BEAVER offices or left at Union office, clearly marked "Photographic Competition," by November 25th at the latest.

## GAY LIBERATION Statement of aims

THE Gay Liberation Front is fighting the oppression of homosexual people. We are neither wicked sinners nor sordid criminals; we attack the journalists, bishops, politicians and psychiatrists who slander us.

We repudiate the liberal attitude of "Some of my best friends are homosexuals, so long as they don't try making a pass at me." We ARE different, we ARE a threat to family and society. We challenge the sexual stereotyping of women and men.

As homosexual men and women we seek a radical restructuring of society to end our oppression and that of all oppressed people.

We seek the liberation of les-

bians and male homosexuals from the feelings of guilt and self-loathing that distort our lives. We seek alternatives to the advertiser's world of sex-objects and sexual exploitation, and to the jealous and possessive relationships to which we are driven by insecurity. We demand freedom for homosexuals to meet with each other freely and without harassment.

L.S.E. G.L.F. meets Thursdays at 1 p.m. usually in room S.067. London G.L.F. meets Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m., All Saints' Hall, Powis Gardens, W.11. Phone the office (5 Caledonian Road, N.1—telephone 837 7174) for details of functional groups, women's groups, demonstrations, dances and discotheques.

**ROBERT MELLORS**  
(L.S.E. G.L.F.)

(Cert. 'X' (London) Cameo  
Victoria

ACCORDING to the publicity handout, this "fantasy sex film" constitutes Producer - Director R a d l e y Metzger's "greatest triumph to-date," which may be true if only because I don't think he can have made any worse films, ever.

## LIMP

This limp updating(?) of the Alexandre Dumas classic, "The Lady of the Camellias," stars, among others, the ex-wife of the son of the dictator Trujillo. I wouldn't mention this, but the

film company seem to think it may be a selling-point.

The story is set in Rome, "a lavish world inhabited by professional party-goers" where "the doomed courtesan" is "a fun-loving girl living off rich Italian noblemen who eventually falls in love with a handsome (sic) commoner."

The updating seems to consist of a transparent bed, plastic sheets, other modern furniture and lots of drugs. The drugs are to replace old-fashioned tuberculosis as a way of killing off the heroine, and their introduction gives rise to some memorably awful dialogue: "Don't get too high, the Duke will certainly be here in the morning..." and "Don't you

ever come down?" "Not if I can help it."

## LUMPS

Lumps of the original story and its atmosphere have been left in, which must explain such lines as "Go now, but in the meantime, take this red camellia." However, there is no more than a token attempt to provide a pedigree for what is in fact simply a titillation exercise including rather rushed oral-genital sex (face of passive partner visible); and one sequence where the need to conceal all sight of male pubic hair necessitates gymnastic manoeuvring which brought forth spontaneous applause and laughter at the Press show.

**MIKE MILLS.**

## THE FLOWER GIRL GETS HERS



# ARMAGEDDON

## GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

THE London School of Economics Ltd., like any company engaged in manufacturing, uses raw material, passing it through various processes over a three-year period, interspersed with grading and sampling tests till three years later the finished product rolls off the assembly line. Thus the B.Sc.(Econ.) has been the most popular line now for many years.

Don't fool yourself; you can't really dupe the system for if it was severely upset it would merely be changed. Three choices are open to you:

- (1) You can either go through the process and emerge proudly (though of course dialectically unaware) with its stamp;
- (2) You can throw a few spanners into the works
  - (a) conscientious liberal type; or
  - (b) Bourgeois Marxist variety;
- (3) Screw it up completely for a while and be rejected by it.

### BLACKBURN

One now carrying a famous epitaph is Robin Blackburn, or as he was later known (Blackburn bye bye).

At the L.S.E., being the happy jovial community it is, no expense is spared to keep its inmates amused. A special annual attraction is the ever popular "let's boycott Pt. 1 exam game," consisting of two players, us and them, with the winner . . . them!

The rules of the game are as follows; about a month before the part one exams when you're getting fairly worried about your chances of spending another glorious year here, you get together with a few friends and start a petition with the "subtly" hidden threat of a boycott. Now get some facts e.g.

- (a) that Pt. 1s have over a 95 per cent pass rate.
- (b) That they are merely a qualifying test which you quite rightly assumed you'd already taken ('A' levels).
- (c) That they greatly limit the variety of your first year and subsequent years because examinations presuppose certain limited

knowledge geared towards them.

- (d) That you've done no work and might fail, no, better forget (d).

### MARXISTS

Don't use your Marxists yet, keep these merry little chaps as your piece de resistance. With their fundamental understanding of the entire situation coupled with their soft spoken articulatory ability they should be kept well hidden (though spares are available if necessary) and used for more important things like tea making.

Having met and completely vanquished some of the academic anachronisms you will finally aspire to the dizzy heights of Martyrdom and Sanctity by leading your worshipping followers into and under the bird dropping palace of Alexandra (near Bounds Green) for your crucifixion.

Hoping that you, like myself and others last year, spend many happy hours of amusement and fun advising advisory committees to advise other advisory committees to remember to put the kettle on.

IAN MORLEY.

## CHARITY

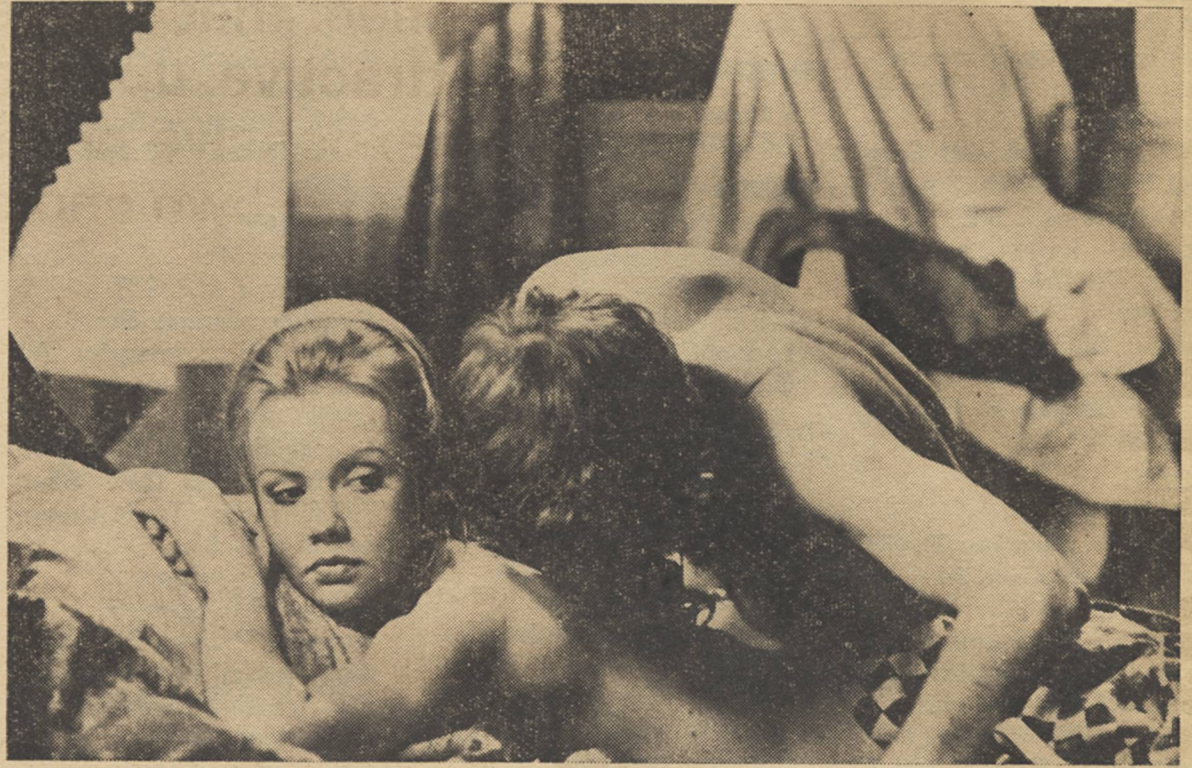
CHARITY organisations certainly owe a debt of gratitude to Til Uelenspiegel for trying to ransom a Vermeer against money for the Bangla Desh refugees. Obviously the masses and the "Evening Standard's" editors have reached saturation point on the "Starving Wog" story, even in full belly-bloated Technicolor.

Not to mention the "Bleeding Guerilla" and the "Plague-stricken Village" . . .

### SPECTACLE

What is obviously needed is a charity spectacular, with a Hijacked 747 for Wounded Viets, a Shotgun Killing of Five for the Calcutta Homeless, a House of Lords Sex-Scandal Spectacular for the Sudanese Ethiopians, the Rhodesian Blacks, the Haitian Democrats. And many, many more . . .

George Foy.



COURSE 132—PROF. WALTERS: METHODOLOGY OF COST BENEFIT STUDIES OF THE LOCATION OF AIRPORTS

## SHORTIES

ONE of the basic rules for students at L.S.E. is that in the third year you must drop everything and work. This has the effect of filling the library with row upon row of hopeful firsts staring at their books and daydreaming of pleasures to come. "I'm a third year" becomes the classic excuse for doing nothing, other than sitting in the library and feeling maudlin.

Since we are said to have come to the University to work, and once the thin political veneer is stripped off this will apply in nine out of ten cases: sitting, however, is not working.

There has to be at least one Ph.D. awaiting the person who makes an analysis of how much third year time is actually spent working, and how much goes towards building up a feeling of self-satisfaction.

After the fall of any empire, a great deal of general debris is left floating around. Such is the case with L.S.E. at the moment; following Camlett's short-lived reign, remnants of his fan club continue to drift from group to group hoping to find a new hero to latch on to. New idols, anybody?

J.A.

## NEW WAVE

CARRYING a couple of cases and a bottle of whiskey for the warden, I boldly step through the main entrance and into my exciting new life as a student. A copy of "Agitator" is promptly waving in my face; I drop my case to take it and the guy starts screaming "Fascist" at me, the case has just crushed his big toe . . . so what's the matter with just plain "ouch," huh?

Umpteen cigarettes later: sprawled in the Old Theatre, sleeping through a lecture on classes (whassat?) which precedes the real, live Union Meeting. The Union People climb onto the rostrum and start their ritual incantations; the words "class" and "bourgeoisie" bob up five dozen times in as many different contexts . . . maybe they were expecting some reaction, say a hall full of gaping, bemused admirers on an adrenalin jag, but most of us just sit and doze . . .

Somebody digs me in the ribs. "This school ought to be working class," the guy says.

"Yeah, when do classes begin?" my neighbour comments sadly.

That night I go through half the whiskey . . . maybe I could give the warden the other half.

Next day when an old friend said the Conservatives were not too bad, I screamed "Fascist" at him . . . It sort of just slipped out . . .

J.S.

## GREAVING

People who say that L.S.E. lacks a funny side are merely looking in the wrong places, such as in the pages of 'Beaver'. Good laughs can be found everywhere:—

In the last Union meeting where the two Soc Soc proposals on the agenda called for, respectively, support for the I.R.A. Provisional Wing and occupation of the Director's office. Also in Dr. Greaves "British Government: An Introduction to Politics" lectures. "I hope you are not getting confused."

No prizes for other finds.

G.F.

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GEORGE FOY



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# REVIEWS

REVIEWS REVIEWS REVIEWS

## ROBBINS CURE

**AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN ECONOMIST**  
Lord Robbins (Macmillan 1971, £4.50)

"There was an old Baron of note,  
Who felt he had reason to gloat.  
When disturbed by unrest,  
He fled to his nest  
And his autobiography wrote."

It used to be the custom to carry, in times of plague, pomanders filled with spices and herbs, the sweet odours from which took one's mind from the unpleasant realities of death, disease and bad drainage.

Lord Robbins, by his own admission, undertook the writing of this memoir largely as an antidote and a distraction during what he calls the "squalid happenings" of 1968 at L.S.E. when he witnessed "the reputation and decent order of an institution which I loved, being menaced by a handful of rebels, many of them from outside, some indeed from foreign parts, anxious to seize the place as a headquarters for general revolutionary activity."

Certainly the writing of this chronicle of his orderly progress from success to resounding success over some half century must have provided more than a little comfort. It also provides the opportunity to graciously thank helpful friends and to gently rebuke the few, obviously shortsighted critics of a "Liberal, liberal, Epicurean economist" to quote the *Times Lit. Supp.*

The reviewer cannot suppress feelings of remorse for being unable to regard this book in a kindly light, but the plain fact is that it is poorly written. If one could disregard the fact that its author would seem to have had considerable influence on public attitudes and expenditure in the arts and education, and on national economic strategy at particularly crucial

periods, then the meagre evidence of insight, and the self-justification and self-congratulation rampant herein could be discounted as of little importance to anyone, but such is not the case.

### PRIDE

The tone throughout is one of pride in the achievements of a secondary school-boy. The only reason he didn't go to public school was that his father had been exposed to unspecified temptations at his own unnamed alma mater.

Repeatedly there are references to the thrills of sharing the Common Rooms of Oxford and L.S.E. with the (other) great minds of his generation(s), but unfortunately the great mind's comments and reflections on important events since the 1914-18 War are no advertisement for the benefits of such experience.

The General Strike receives one mention—with reference to his own appointment to the staff at L.S.E. (Has he really been collected with the place for 45 years? Why?). The 1939-45 War elicits: "... in 1940 he (Hitler) gave us a clear alternative for action, either to win or to die—it was just as easy as that. I often think that some at least of the perplexities of the present younger generation arise from the absence of any such experience. Seldom in history has there been so colossal a simplification for so many."

His many public offices appear more or less as episodes in a one-man campaign for right-thinking in the face of widespread hostility. So almost singlehanded, he would seem to have saved L.S.E., the National Gallery, the Tate Gallery, L.S.E., the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, Higher Education, and latterly, again, L.S.E.

### TEARS

In all, I think the flavour of this remarkable 330-page volume is best captured in the following passage, concerning a visit to Paris circa

McCartney: "A pretty face may last a year or two, but pretty soon they'll see what you can do." The title track is a calm statement of his views on the ideal world, which contrasts with the driving demand of "Gimme Some Truth."

However, Lennon still seems rather confused within himself, asking "How can I go forward when I don't know which way I'm facing?" His only sanctuary seems to be his love for Yoko and "Oh Yoko" is a shining tribute to the person who has surely done most to bring out John Lennon's previously stifled talents.

All in all, another brilliant album, several steps forward from "Plastic Ono Band," which will be proved by his certain progression to the top of the charts.

**NIGEL WILKIE**

1920, during a period of personal indecision: "Here I would sit morning after morning, gazing in rapture at Cezanne's 'Vase Bleu' a revelation to me of the possibilities of conveying emotion through colour, or reading, often with tears in my ears (sic), the harrowing pages of Dostoevsky's 'Possessed,' which was my self-imposed literary assignment for the visit, or staring out over the Tuileries Gardens contemplating the pickle in which I found myself." I can't wait for the film.

**MIKE MILLS**

## WIFE'S EYE VIEW

"SEAN," by Eileen O'Casey (Published by Macmillan. £3.25).

There is no other playwright, alive or dead, who has managed to combine tragedy and comedy so well as Sean O'Casey. His characterisations of the Irish working-class during the "troubles" provides some of the finest theatre imaginable. O'Casey after all was one of them and understood their personal feelings and aspirations. In his youth he had been converted to the cause of socialism and a united Ireland independent of England and he remained true to both causes throughout his life.

### I.R.A.

With the helping hand of Lady Gregory, W. B. Yeats and the Abbey Theatre in Dublin he was transformed from an I.R.A. pamphleteer to a fine playwright with his first production of "The Shadow of a Gunman" in 1923. This was quickly followed by the successes of "Juno and the Paycock" and in 1926 "The Plough and the Stars."

Early in 1926 in New York, Eileen Carey, an English actress of Irish parentage, read "Juno and the Paycock" and was so overcome that she resolved to return immediately to London and meet the author. She did so and in 1927 married him.

### DEATH

Their marriage was to last until Sean's death in 1964 and it is this part of his life that Eileen O'Casey is chiefly concerned with in this biography. She recounts the times and experiences they had together and the many great artists who crossed their threshold to meet the famous Irish playwright. She also describes sensitively the tragic death from leukaemia of their son Niall whilst still a student at the L.S.E. and the terrible impact that it had upon Sean.

Indeed this entire biography is written with honesty and affection in a very easy and readable manner which provides many insights into the life and mind of one of Ireland's greatest playwrights.

**ROBIN C. WIDDISON**



Estelle Kohler (on right) getting the moral point of "OCCUPATIONS."

## OCCUPATIONS

THEATRE — The Place, Dukes Street

OCCUPATIONS, by Trevor Griffith, is one of three plays at "The Place" this season. Each experiment with the art of inspiring audience participation. For this purpose, "The Place" has had a redesigned interior, just for this season.

Set in Turin in the 1920s, "Occupations" tells of the co-operation between an executive of the Communist International, called Kabac (Patrick Stewart) and the brilliant dwarf Gramsci (Ben Kingsley).

Gramsci is interpreted superbly by Ben Kingsley who, with most of the rest of the cast, is a senior member of the Royal Shakespeare Company. He brings out the intellectual ability and rhetorical powers of Gramsci as well as the fatherly regard he had for the Turin Communist Party.

The highlight of the play is the re-creation of Gramsci's speeches, which roused the workers to do his bidding. Every effort is made to persuade the audience to join in the thunderous acclamations, but without success. My audience merely

clapped politely, throwing guarded looks around them to make sure that nobody was unduly embarrassed.

The nude scene (presumably obligatory for theatrical success), although a pleasant surprise, did not seem to be really relevant to the dramatic effect.

### MORAL

Trevor Griffith has incorporated a moral in the last scene of his play. Agelica (Estelle Kohler), dying from an overdose of cocaine, recalls in her hysteria some of the beauty of pre-revolution Russia. The point, presumably is that the Bolsheviks (and other revolutionaries for that matter) have a habit of crushing both good and bad in their political steamrollering.

"Occupations" is a good play, with a high standard of acting and some sound dramatic techniques (and some not-so-sound ones).

To achieve a measure of audience participation, the play needs an uninhibited audience. Without this, the play loses its point.

**ROBIN WIDDISON**

## LENNON IN KEY

DESPITE advance warning, John Lennon's new album "Imagine" will take most people by surprise. He has discarded the grating voice and honky-tonk piano backing; instead, he sings more melodiously, the piano and drums are more intricate, and the Plastic Ono Band is joined on most tracks by some of the finest artists in the land. Special mention should be made of the late King Curtis, who excels on "It's So Hard" and "I Don't Wanna Be A Soldier, Mama."

As for the content of the songs, "Imagine" shows John Lennon in a more subtle light than the pain and bitterness of "John Lennon/Plastic Ono Band." Only on "How Do You Sleep" does he bitch about Paul

## FILMS

"PRIVATE ROAD" (Notting Hill, Gaumont) is the story of a relationship between a young writer called Peter (Bruce Robinson), and Ann (Susan Penhaligon), the disillusioned daughter of a wealthy middle class businessman. Ann's affair with Peter begins as a snub to her parents, but matures into a fuller relationship by the end, culminating in marriage.

I suspect that the director has tried to convey his impression of the perfect anti-hero, and to achieve absolute realism on the screen. Indeed, the Central Office of Information could not have made a better job of producing such average characters in such typical situations. The climax of the film revolves

around the loss of Ann's baby. This may be taken as an indication of the level of drama in this film.

If this has been the intention of the director, then I feel that he has been successful. If not, then the film disappears under a sea of clichés. Judge for yourself.

Technically, there is a fair amount that can be said for the use of dialogue and photography. The dialogue is often amusing, but in essence, is subordinate to the theme of realism, and the characters manage to produce a series of banal statements, far removed from the "Goodnight sweet prince" mold.

The photography ranges from

## PRIVATE ROAD

conventionally dull to conventionally brilliant. Composition is carefully controlled most of the time, and the effect is pleasing. Note the whole sequence of shots taken in the wilds of the South-West of England, particularly the distance shots, and the use of sunlight over the lake. Colour is skilfully, rather than lavishly used throughout the film.

My overall impression is that "Private Road" is a film worth going to see, both from a technical point of view, and as a representation of the latest step in the never-ending search for the mythical anti-hero.

**ROBIN C. WIDDISON**

## DAYS AND NIGHTS IN THE FOREST

(Paris Pullman)

Director: Satyajit Ray

RAY'S film is a carefully observed study of modern Indian society. Centred on Calcutta, it is the story of four young men who go from the city by car to spend five days' holiday in the forest. Their attitudes to the people they meet there and to each other are carefully drawn and finely balanced. It is essentially a realist film.

They finally meet two young women from a middle-class family also on holiday from Calcutta and romance develops with two of the men bringing some unusual complications and drama.

The third man falls in love with a village girl and gets robbed by her boyfriend. This event has the highest dramatic change and, typical of Indian films, has a far greater impact than the action alone would warrant.

Ray has not lost the mysticism of old India, nor misjudged the natural acting abilities of his cast. Photography is superb, carefully chosen for effect. The music, Ray's own, is light and adds unobtrusively to the total naturalness of his creation.

The programme is preceded by a short film on Bangla Desh. There are three shows nightly at 3.30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. Monday through to Friday.

**SUSAN TRAILL**



# ISLANDS

To have read "Islands" by Edward Braithwaite is to have travelled through the concentrated ritual and colour of the Caribbean, and to have suffered the torment of a mind in doubt and to have been the incidence of great experience.

The volume consists of five sections, echoing the indiscriminate but dedicative pastimes and ritual of the restless Afro-Caribbean mind. The poetry of the primary sections lie complementary to the latter sections. They tend to assess in pattern the fragmentary observations of the poet, as such they are the mirror to his pattern patience and insight.

In the first half again, the message lies under a forceful rhythm and constantly reminding us of the sinister voodoo ritualism embedded in the Caribbean mind, the poet's fascination and cynicism of the subject affirms itself. It is with special reference to the first three sections, that I advise Braithwaite-ites and 'nons' alike to study the subjects. Slowly and assuredly through "Islands" the poet illuminates the Word . . . he had earlier groped for, and with greater confidence in his beliefs and art creates in section 4, the great of this age. Here an old fisherman spins the net of the world, the gods walk the earth in hand with men and the haunted voice cries, "It is not enough" . . . a despairing "Wolf" to our tightly-held values.

Technical and verbal, stylistic barriers offer up to this crafts-

man even greater chance to expose with scientific thoroughness the "uncreated conscience" of his race. Conscious of and incisive to himself and men, Edward Braithwaite has written a volume of living spectacle and tepid ritualism in which only doubt instils the tongue with cruelty. as such . . .

*"Today god came to church,  
like an lame old man upon a  
crutch."*

On to this plain the poet hurls a storm of tidy passionate gutterings of emotions, and here builds a poem—"Islands," a work of such dedication and intent should hold a like audience.

DAVID BURN

## HOMECOMING

*And so without my cloth,  
shoulders uncovered  
to this new doubt*

*and desert I return  
expecting nothing;  
my name burnt out,*

*a cinder on my shoulder.  
No clan or kinsman turns  
my self respect*

*into a claw, a tooth,  
a dagger; even my skin  
now sheds its shame;*

*like a snake  
the eyes do not wink  
away; whips do not flinch*

*from what they will destroy  
strips, strips of flesh, flash  
of the black forked tongue*

*licking these scars,  
this-salt red liquor,  
beaten labour.*

*The jaws of the shackles,  
clanking bulldog,  
grapple the starved ankles;*

*walking bone  
without flesh  
cannot travel too far.*

*So the stars  
remain my master's  
property; moon is a bone*

*to howl at; clinks  
of dew in the grass  
is the nearest we will get to god.*

*Shackles shackles  
are my peace, are my home,  
are my evening song;*

*the hog eats  
our honour for dinner;  
the caged cat's fever hides our  
fears*

*though its slit eyes hate  
us; for like him we have no  
name*

*to call us home, no turbulence  
to bring us soft-  
ly past these bars to miracle, to  
god,*

*to unexpected lover.  
[Reprinted with the permission of  
Oxford University Press (c)1969].*

# CAMP PROFITEER

University Village, a temporary accommodation camp on John Ruskin Street, S.E.5, is one of the few alternatives a homeless student in London has to a night on Victoria Embankment or the Student Union linoleum.

Even so, it leaves much to be desired. The "Village" is a collection of 30 to 40 prefabricated huts trapped in a disused lot between three massive rows of five-storey council blocks and the pre-war squalor behind.

From the street, one's first view is of a long, grey, corrugated tin fence topped by barbed wire and a sign announcing simply "Dog Patrol." Inside, the concentration-camp effect is if anything accentuated by a few forlorn flowerbeds and trees or a common-room labelled Lido; the grounds are littered with pebbles, bricks and the odd broken toilet seat, and the clay has an impermeability that will, with a few hours of rain, turn the encampment into a lake overnight.

The accommodations themselves are about 25ft. by 8ft. in aluminium and plywood painted blue and grey, and have been constructed by patently over-paid workers.

There are, in all, four beds, one table, two chairs, a closet and a lampbulb to what are euphemistically labelled "chalets"—euphemistically, that is, if one refers to the construction

itself but not if one has in mind the alpine climate evoked by the term.

The thin-walled huts have absolutely no heating, and one might as well sleep outside for all the warmth they provide.

Five woollen blankets are often insufficient to stay warm through the night, and in any case the "chalet" is still a minimum of twenty cold yards from the three huts that house w.c., showers and washing facilities.

The encampment was originally designed to house up to two hundred students over the summer months, and was perfectly suitable housing back in August. When the University of London, on an afterthought, contacted the managing firm, Howard Club Ltd., and asked whether they would postpone the closing date (Sept. 15th) in order to accommodate U.L.'s homeless students, the managers welcomed the idea of prolonging that one to two hundred pounds a day and graciously consented. But one does tend to find the charge of £1 per day rather steep in October, despite the fact that the breakfast it includes does provide the peanut butter essential to satisfying the American clientele.

There is an advantage in the fact that these practically airtight "chalets" would certainly survive any winter floods.

Since this particular area is six feet below the level of the Thames, this is indeed a reassuring fact.

GEORGE FOY.

ADS

ADS

ADS

## UNION BOOK

The L.S.E. Union Handbook has finally come out. As nobody else showed much enthusiasm for the project, it seems to have degenerated into a Socialist Society benefit.

The attitudes are tiresomely familiar, with the usual repetition of clichés; there is little compunction about filling it with blatant plugs for SocSoc. (On Union publications: *Agitator* . . . is a lively 16-page magazine produced by members of the Socialist Society. Normally very good with superb graphics . . .).

Worth browsing through for the occasional pearl ("A happy sex life makes a happy student . . ."), but a bit embarrassing.

## BEAVER NEEDS HELP

We need reporters, reviewers, sub-editors, cartoonists and photographers urgently.

Please come by the

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ATTENTION

L.S.E. FESTIVAL 71

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# TO HANG OR NOT TO HANG

IT is becoming painfully evident that there is a growing backlash to the increase in crime, and in particular of violent crime, in this country. As ever it takes the form of a harking back to "hanging." Capital punishment is, to me, a barbaric form of retribution and deterrent, and should have no place in a civilised society.

However, the case against hanging, and the provision of an effective alternative, has yet to be made. The facts are that no-one knows the alternatives; and the need for those alternatives is particularly pressing today, even if only to counter the backlash, which is emotional and often ill-informed.

The present penal system has manifestly failed. Our prisons are overcrowded, and are merely able to act in a custodial capacity. Building more prisons and improving conditions is expensive and provides no answers.

I believe that judges and magistrates should have a

greater knowledge of the penal system and more discretion in sentencing, bearing in mind the individual criminal. There should be more constructive alternatives to detention. Parole, probation, heavy fines and reparations to victims on the part of those who have profited by their crimes, would be more effective in many cases than imprisonment, and would reduce the pressure on the prisons. Too many crimes are by young people who need guidance and assistance. With a more effective Probation Service many first-offenders would never become recidivists. Urgent attention should be given to the Probation Service—to providing an adequate pay structure and ensuring expansion.

A revision of the suspended sentence system should be made. Courts should be given absolute discretion. Today the mandatory suspended sentence has actually increased the prison population. Magistrates have often given heavier suspended sentences in the hope that they would deter and never be served, instead of a lesser and more effective sentence—probation, fine, or short prison sentence. Forty per cent of suspended sentences are

actually served—not the intention of the original court.

The bail system should be overhauled. Far too many, by definition, innocent people are in our prisons with detrimental effects to themselves and their families.

The police should be obliged to give reasons for opposing bail—the possibility of the accused's "disappearing," committing a further offence, or interfering with witnesses.

The actual objectives of prisons should be reform, detention, deterrence and retribution.

A considerable proportion of our prison population could, with adequate attention, be reformed, and would never commit another crime. Retraining in special establishments should be considered. The Evesham experiment—a factory within a prison—with pay, holidays, etc.—is a valuable although limited step in the right direction. Self-respect and a sense of purpose should replace the all too frequent fatalistic sense of time-serving.

Unfortunately a considerable minority in the prisons are

hopeless, and often violent recidivists. The prison system should provide a secure detention, probably on the lines of the Mountbatten Report, in order to protect society.

## THUGS

Retribution, an unpleasant aspect, is a manifestation of "crime doesn't pay." The thugs who beat up an old age pensioner for her savings, etc., often deserve repayment in terms of hardship, loss of liberty, and forced compensation for their misdeeds.

Deterrence is a major role of prisons, especially in the case of an intelligent criminal in search of the quick profit. Given that the above objects must be attained there is no case for making prisons highly comfortable places. As long as we cannot find funds for, for example, the improvement of mental hospitals, there is no case for spending millions of pounds on providing amenities for prisoners.

## POLICE

The call for a return to capital punishment for the murder of policemen is discriminatory. No police murderer has gone undetected during the last 30

years, in itself a deterrent. The essential answer to the increase in crime is to improve the detection rate, which is far too low. This would make retribution on the individual criminal increasingly likely. To improve the detection rate there must be an increase in the strength and efficiency of the police—brought about by better pay and conditions and improved techniques.

They must give more attention to the prevention of crime and reforms must be made to lighten the load on them.

Lastly and most difficult, public attitudes must change. We must come to understand the difficult position of the police, as executors of the law and protectors of society.

They deserve our assistance in working for a more law-abiding and crime-free society. I know nothing more dangerous and depressing than the alienation of our police from society. Without our assistance, and adequate reform, the backlash will gather force, and we will look back with longing and a sense of loss to a more tolerant society.

**JACQUES ARNOLD**

Chairman,  
L.S.E. Con. Soc.

## STEELEYE SPAN

November 6th—L.S.E.

TRENDS come and go and groups go with them; fortunately still surviving from the electric folk shield are Steeleye Span who are due to play here on November 6th. During their short history they have gone from strength to strength, and although they went through a number of changes in their personell a year ago, the present line-up has stayed together and progressed rapidly in expertise.

The Steeleye really couldn't fail; every member of the band was well established in folk circles long before Steeleye was formed by former Fairport's bass Jugger Hutchings. Their only change made by the members was the use of electric; the band's material was traditional folk. Their first L.P., recorded when Gay and Terry Woods were in the band, had little impact but did include "The Blacksmith," a song which Steeleye still perform.

Gay and Terry left, and were replaced by Martin Carthy and violinist Peter Knights. It is Carthy who has made the biggest impact in the band and at last he has received the recog-

nition he so rightly deserves. Anyone who attended the Lincoln Festival will no doubt remember Martin's session with Dave Swarbrick when they had the difficult task of following Buffy Saint Marie and were not overshadowed at all by what was the cream of contemporary folk.

### HARMONY

Completing the line-up are Tim Hart and Maddy Prior who must have played nearly every folk club in Britain. Maddy shares most of his vocals with Martin but the marvellous harmony is fully revealed on the unaccompanied songs which are Steeleye's speciality and a great favourite with audiences. Also popular with audiences is the group's only diversion from the traditional idiom, their unaccompanied version of Buddy Holly's "Rave On!"

November 6th will be Steeleye Span's second appearance at L.S.E. and I know they are looking forward to playing here very much. Perhaps a listen to their second L.P. is the best recommendation.

M. KERSH.

## Hollies

TO most people the thought of buying an L.P. by the Hollies must seem as likely as buying Vera Lynn's "Greatest Hits." Certainly this record marks a complete change in musical style with the Hollies seemingly rejecting their previous narrow style. The main feature of their chart successes was the harmony work, which is now taken one stage further and shows the influence of Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young.

Included in the L.P. are two "protest songs"—"You know the Score" and "Promised Land." Lyrically the Hollies still have a long way to go, but maybe this isn't important now, because all the tracks are really well arranged.

Certainly people will be wondering why the Hollies should be entering a field of music which they have previously shown no inclination towards. This record is no invasion, but perhaps an extension of the potential that was evident a long time ago; when appraised on its own, "Distant Light" stands out as a very worthwhile effort.

standard line of albums put out by new artists. The tracks are generally short, with a "sweet" appeal, emphasised by flute and strings worked in behind Bohn's acoustic guitar and deep melodious voice. "Picallilli Lady" has been released as a single and seems to have found favour with some D.J.s. It's encouraging to see established bands using their position to find and help competent musicians who are otherwise unnoticed, but I cannot see "Purple" having the same initial success that "Island" had, though enough air-play should bring about more support than Billy Preston and Mary Hopkins brought to "Apple".

NIGEL WILKIE

## TRAVEL TO U.S.A.

**B.O.A.C.** has recently negotiated the following concession for students:

**New Student Fare**—for bona-fide students between 12 and 26.

Proof of eligibility—form A.4357 must be produced. This can be obtained from B.O.A.C. or travel agent.

These fares are effective immediately and apply between:

London  
Glasgow  
Edinburgh  
Manchester  
Birmingham  
and New York  
also  
London  
Glasgow  
and Boston

**Fares**  
£87.50 return during High Season—July 1st to September 30th.  
£70.20 return during remainder of year.  
(Half of each fare would apply if journey made out-

ward in High Season and return in low season, or vice versa).

**Bookings** can be made through B.O.A.C. or travel agent—and are made within 72 hours.

Tickets are valid for one year—but first leg of journey must commence by March 1st, 1972.

Normal baggage allowance of 44lb.

There is also a special **YOUTH FARE** for those aged between 15 and 25, who do not qualify as a student (i.e. husband, wife, children, friend of the student).

Routes as above—fares also as above, but the following are high season dates when the higher fare would apply:

July 10th-August 31st.  
December 15th-January 6th.  
March 21st-March 31st.

To qualify for the special Youth Fare it is only necessary to produce a passport—no other documents required.

Bookings can be made direct with B.O.A.C. or travel agent.

## MILLENIUM

No. 2

Including student articles on:

Ethnic Integration in Israel  
South Africa and the World Court  
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Available end of October.

Union 20p

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## PURPLE FRUIT

DEEP PURPLE at present have two new ventures about to bear fruit: a new album, "Gemini Suite", and a new record label, "Purple Records." Initially there are four albums on the new label, the other three being by McIver Hine, Curtiss Muldoon and Buddy Bohn.

"Pick up a Bone," by Rupert Hine and David McIver, is by the most striking of the three, and therefore probably the least likely to make the charts. The emphasis is on folk, with a vast array of session players helping to put over the varied musical styles at Hine's disposal, whilst Hine himself does ample justice

to McIver's deep and intricate lyrics.

Like McIver Hine, Dave Curtiss and Clive Muldoon present their own compositions. The emphasis is still on acoustic guitar, but a whining electric guitar and some brass are cleverly worked in to provide a much funkier sound. Some of the tracks are very commercial, whilst the best tracks, such as "Man from Afghanistan," will almost certainly be banned by Auntie Beeb—unfortunately, for this album could do very well given air-play.

### SWEET

"A Drop in the Ocean," by Buddy Bohn, is more in the



# THE ATHLETIC UNION PAGE

## STROLLING TO PARIS

THE pre-season trials have been very encouraging and we expect to enjoy a successful season. There was considerable enthusiasm among freshers and they claim six first team places against Surrey in the persons of Kettle, Varley, Horsthuis A. (he's not as stupid as his brother)—we thrashed Surrey. Thus the team has a good blend of experience and youth (someone told me to say that).

The second team, under the incomparable leadership of Steve Baumgartner (Taff's note: "That's the biggest load of bull-shit I've ever read"), also looks strong. Unfortunately, Monsieur le Capitaine has injured himself whilst training (or so he claims!!!!), and will be out for three weeks.

The infamous Strollers are still around and look to have a stronger side than usual. They are still a breeding ground for filth and corruption and need a captain to maintain this high standard.

Read our next report to find out about our exploits at Oxford, Warwick and gay but "never the same again" Paris.

IWAN MORGAN

### Alleged obituary

The A.U. are very sad to announce the unexpected loss of our president, John D. Burnside. He was a much-loved, talented first year student last year who made his presence felt on the Rugby Club and Athletic Union.

HE BOUGHT IT IN THE UNDERPASS.

Please send all condolences and flowers to:  
Flat 5-5, Fitzroy St. flats,  
Fitzroy Street,  
W.C.1.

### VACANCY

THE Athletic Union has a vacancy for a part-time secretary. The job consists of some typing, answering the telephone, and general administrative work.

The hours are 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 10.00 p.m. to 12.00 p.m. on a Wednesday. Wage is negotiable, depending on ability.

Anybody interested come to S110 and ask for Keith Turner.

### SIMMONDS

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## THE SILENT DUSK



A K-8 high performance glider coming into Lasham airfield at dusk. This type of glider is capable of soaring flights of over seven hours at a stretch when thermaling conditions will allow it in the summer. Most members of the LSE Gliding Club find themselves qualified to operate a similar glider after a winter's training at the Club's operational centre at Lasham, an hour's drive from London, in Hampshire. Basic training consists of three to four hours in the Falke, a motorised glider which takes off and gains height under its own power before switching the engine off and converting to a regular glider. This system, only recently introduced in England, allows the time required for familiarisation and basic training to be cut by at least half.

Pupils then go on to the K-13 tandem glider, flying with an instructor, and are generally competent to solo after about 30 launches, in the course of which they are taught how to deal with cable breaks, stalls and spins. After the A and B ratings, single-seater K-8's come next and go on to longer soaring flights.

## X-COUNTRY SUPERMEN

WHO is that extraordinary being who combines the genius of an Einstein, the strength of a Hercules, the determination of a Genghis Khan, and the glamour of a Rudolf Valentino?

Who is that marvellous man, whose fame is setting the whole world alight (Taff's note: "It can't be Andy Crompton?"). Who else but the L.S.E. X-Country Club runner.

Braving the snarling traffic of Victoria Embankment, the treacherous man-eating quagmires of Hampstead Heath, and the ferocious beasts of Richmond Park, the L.S.E. superheroes have blazed their way to glory. From the heights of the Post Office Tower to the depths of the Three Tuns, the name "X-COUNTRY CLUB" is spoken with awe and veneration.

Last year these mighty men of steel fought their way with amazing skill and determination to the U.L.U. Championship Cup, the G.P.O. Tower Trophy, the Crown Jewels, the Lincoln's Inn Pancake Trophy and the L.S.E. Club of the Year Award.

This year the now legendary team will set off on a new campaign of glory, blazing a trail from Leicester to Brighton Pier and Canterbury, with daring forays abroad to South Wales, Isle of Man and Dythcleys.

And if this were not enough,

during the summer the hardy Harriers turn to athletics. L.S.E., the only College club with enough stamina and talent to turn out beardless, grease-pole climbers, shot-putters and rock-bun gobblers, competes in the tough strength-sapping 50 Counties League.

If you're a man both staunch and true,

A hurdler or a harrier too, The Cross-Country Club is just for you.

ANDY CROMPTON

### CLIMBING CLUB

WELL, you've seen L.S.E. and parts of London and it's getting a little boring so you want to get away for a weekend.

Join the Climbing Club. Weekend trips are arranged frequently to North Wales, Derbyshire and the Lakes. There will be a week in Cornwall this Easter, the weather is hot and the beer is cheap. At Christmas a meet may be fixed for Scotland, possibly Skye. Last year the Athletic Union subsidised expeditions to Spain and the Lafoten Islands.

The standard of members varies from the novice to the expert, and hence everyone is welcome, man or woman. Basic equipment is supplied, so if you are interested, see me or put a note on the board.

BRYAN SMITH.

## A message from your leader

YOU'VE been in London for a fortnight, been thrown out of most pubs, strip clubs, and Chinese restaurants and you're now getting cheesed off with the place.

You fancy doing something completely different but your grant has run out and you can't afford it. Come to see us.

We do everything from canoeing through to gliding, with a few horses slung in the middle for flavour. Ever fancied sailing, or judo, even (if you're a masochist) cross country running? If so come to the Athletic Union, S110, and we'll help you out.

All our clubs concentrate on beginners because the experts now are last year's beginners. Everything is cheap, costing 25p per club for a whole year.

The significance of sport is that it gives you a break from L.S.E. and there is the prospect of travelling throughout Europe for next to nothing.

The most important aspect of the Athletic Union is the opportunity to develop a good social life outside of L.S.E.

Our office is on the first floor above the bar.

K. TURNER,  
Acting President.

### BADMINTON CLUB

For those that were in any doubt, the Badminton Club is alive and well and can be found in the L.S.E. gym, dressed for battle, on Wednesday afternoons and on Fridays from 4 until 8. Membership is again thriving, with places in the two men's teams, the mixed and the ladies' teams to be fought for throughout the season.

COLIN SPEAKMAN

### NOTICE

Nominations for the post of Treasurer of the Athletic Union open on Monday, October 25th, and close on Friday, October 29th. The election will take place on Tuesday, November 2nd, from 12 to 2 and 5 to 6.30, in the Concourse area.

Anybody interested should submit their names to Athletic Union Office, S110.

## WOMEN

ARE YOU FAT? TIRED OUT OR AT A LOOSE END?

WE CAN SOLVE ALL YOUR PROBLEMS.

The Athletic Union intends, after the success of last year, to restart Keep Fit classes. Unfortunately, the women who worked so hard to keep the club alive have now left us for better things. In order to begin these classes we must have 15-20 regular attendants. If you are regular and want to keep fit come along to the Athletic Union, S110, and we will help you out.



Neil Lockwood leads the first pitch on a 300 ft. slab of the Anglesey Cliffs, Gogarth.



STUDENTS COMPLAIN ABOUT PART I EXAMS

# CONDITIONS SLAMMED

**AT the end of last term, Part 1 students were complaining bitterly about the conditions under which they had to sit their examinations at the Alexandra Palace in North London.**

Complaints were numerous, but by far the most serious concerned the lack of travelling facilities. No extra buses were laid on, and students travelling from Finsbury Park tube station found long queues for a bus service which at the best of times is notoriously unreliable. The situation became even worse after the examinations with thousands of students attempting to board buses at the same time.

The result of this confusion was that many students were late in arriving at Alexandra Palace through no fault of their own. Not just L.S.E. students were involved, but many other London University students.

One student travelling from Croydon was forced to begin his journey before 7.30 a.m. in order to travel through the peak hour rush and arrive before 10.00 a.m.

## BUSES

There were also complaints about the lunchtime bus service; students were unable to catch buses home for lunch and return in time for the afternoon session.

One student who waited for half an hour in the pouring rain for a bus eventually gave up and returned to Alexandra Palace, where he found that the queue for the food shop was a hundred yards long.

After an hour's wait he received some food—ten minutes before the start of the afternoon exam. "Some students," he said, "did not get any food."

## FOOD

Other complaints about the food were the fact that just two women were serving and only cold meat pies, chocolate biscuits and tea was available. This

## ECONOMIC SURVIVAL

**DOCTOR N. KALDOR**, distinguished economist and professor at King's College, Cambridge, gave a Grimshaw Club sponsored speech in the O.T. on Friday, October 18th dealing with Britain's entry into the E.E.C.

In his speech the learned Doctor put forth the view that a community made up of such disparate economic and monetary entities as the E.E.C. had to choose between evolution towards complete economic, monetary and political union, which would appear unlikely in view of the nationalistic attitude of its less affluent members, and regression towards a species of mere E.F.T.A. free-trade association.

Membership in this free-trade area would on the whole benefit Britain's economy but would at the same time only afford so many more opportunities of negating all the social reforms of the welfare state by turning British economy back into the "survival of the fittest" cut-throat capitalism of the Victorian era with all its inherent social injustices.

G.J.F.

one shop was expected to cater for around 4,000 students.

Girls spoke of the poor toilet facilities and queues yards long. Conditions in the boys' toilets were also bad, with no soap or handtowels.

The Examination Hall itself was freezing; the rain leaked through the roof on to the floor. Pigeons flew around the large hall crapping over exam. papers whilst anyone wanting to go to the toilet faced a quarter-mile trek on a stony floor with the sound of their footsteps disturbing everyone.

Complaints are numerous and it would certainly appear that Part 1 students are justified in being angry at the conditions in which they are expected to concentrate and pass examinations.

Obviously there are difficulties in arranging for thousands of students to sit exams, but putting everyone into the same hall is a ridiculous idea. Perhaps next year they might consider Wembley Stadium!

# DEVLIN AT LSE



**BERNADETTE DEVLIN** as well as John Gray and Eamonn McCann of the Anti-Internment League spoke to a packed audience in the Old Theatre last Wednesday.

The meeting followed closely the news that 400 students at Queen's University, Belfast, had occupied part of their college to protect Mr. Tomias MacGiolla, President of the political wing of the Official I.R.A., from a detachment of British troops and Special Branch policemen who were seeking his arrest (his presence in Northern Ireland being a crime under the Official Powers Act).

Miss Devlin spoke of the need for similarly radical student action in this country to protest against the internment of Opposition leaders in Northern Ireland and against the situation in Northern Ireland generally.

It was pointed out that L.S.E. students had a fine record of concern and action over many distant issues such as Vietnam but that once the situation was closer to home the student movement as such had done little to show evidence of its solidarity with the oppressed people of Northern Ireland.

All three speakers discussed the consistency of the British Press in failing to make evident the true situation in Ulster as well as the stark human tragedy of internment, clearly illustrated by many named individuals who have in fact been in prison many times over the past, without ever having been brought to trial, for daring to oppose the reactionary policies of the Stormont Government and now of the British Government itself.

As was pointed out by John Gray such policies have as their fundamental objective the policy of divide and rule. Only by fully taking the side of the Stormont Government could Britain and the British ruling class specifically maintain its supremacy over the province.

Thus the British Press have consistently portrayed all the internees as "mad gunmen," the ruthless assassins of women and young children, they have rarely mentioned the thirty thousand people in the province who have indicated their opposition to the conditions which rule their lives through 100 per cent solidarity in rent and rate strikes, they did not reveal the facts concerning the torture of internees by the British authorities until the middle of October even though the documented evidence of such atrocities had been in their hands since August 20th.

All three speakers stressed the important role of the I.R.A. in defending the working-class areas from the British troops who had previously stood back when these areas were under Protestant attack, thus belying their official position in the Province as "peace keepers".

It is because the British troops have acted so consistently to maintain the repressive Faulkner regime that the armed self-defence of the Catholic areas by the I.R.A. has become necessary.

The mood of the lunch-time meeting was a militant one and it is to be hoped that L.S.E. students will give evidence of their displayed convictions by supporting the Queen's University students and by marching in solidarity with the Anti-Internment League on October 31st.

ANDY JACKSON

## ALL-NIGHTER

**A LARGE** crowd turned out on Friday, October 8th for the all-night concert, probably the most important social events at L.S.E. in many years; six hundred of them were actually L.S.E. students.

The entire affair was a massive success both for the audience and the artists.

Barclay James Harvest played one of the best sets ever at L.S.E. without being the least bit overshadowed by Procul Harum who are now giant-killers in America.

Perhaps more important was the success of the fringe acts. Andy Roberts and Mike Absalom achieved a perfect rapport with their audience; likewise the Incubus Theatre Group performed brilliantly and found communication very easy.

Unfortunately the size of the Old Board Room restricted the number present, and many people were unable to get in.

This was the first all-nighter for years, and it is to be hoped we shall not have too long to wait before the next one.

## NEW BEAVER EDITOR

**THE** L.S.E. Union Council has appointed Miss Maggie Wellings to be the editor of "Beaver" from its next issue.

She was chosen from five candidates. The other four, including the present editor, John Stathatos, were appointed associate editors, but Stathatos has

not accepted the appointment.

Miss Wellings is a former editor of "Agitator," the Soc-Soc publication, and is still a member of that organisation. The three remaining associate editors are also Soc-Soc members.

## NO PHONE

**HUNDREDS** of students were seriously inconvenienced during the first week of term by the annual L.S.E. telephone crisis. Three of the School's seven public phones were out of order by the third day, and the 3,000 students who were forced to share the four that worked waited for up to 20 minutes to use them.

During the Summer vacation the School had an extra phone installed (they asked the G.P.O. for two) but four phones working instead of three, is hardly an adequate solution to the problem.

Many students rely on the phones to make accommodation inquiries and other urgent calls, especially in the early part of the year. When is the School going to take this problem seriously, and exert some real pressure on the G.P.O.?

J.P.



SUPPORT FOR FESTIVAL '71 — MUHAMMED ALI at L.S.E. (See Page 1)