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BEAVER

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

NOVEMBER 3rd, 1955

THREEPENCE

IT'S THE POOR WHAT PAYS

STOP PRESS

Will you be dancing by the river on Friday, December 9th?

Yes, at the Royal Festival Hall, where the Entertainments Committee are presenting the Jubilee Commemoration Ball and Nat Temple, with the help of his Orchestra, will provide the music. 37/6 is the price of a DOUBLE ticket, which includes buffet and, for the first time, *breakfast* . . . Tickets are going quickly, so don't be left out! Our Nadia will give us a cabaret and many stars will be among the guests.

You haven't all that money . . . then reserve your ticket the Easy Payment Way, with 10/- down and three instalments at *no extra cost*. The final date for the last payment is definitely December 2nd, 1955, and Thursdays are Easy Payment Days (1 to 2 p.m., 4.15 to 6 p.m.).

GENERAL MEETING OF LIB. SOC.

The General Meeting of the Liberal Society, held last week, proved a great success.

After considerable discussion it was agreed to invite DON SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA to be Hon. President of the Society.

Don Salvador de Madariaga is President of Honour of the Liberal International and a former Spanish Ambassador. He has been invited to address the Union on November 17th, and he is giving an address: "The Cold War: a new campaign".

Why do our refectory prices compare so unfavourably with prices elsewhere? The excuses passed on by Union officers are only adding to the rising indignation. The facts are plain; meals are cheaper outside L.S.E. and students cannot afford fancy prices.

Most students have not the time to go outside for lunch but they should not be asked to pay for the convenience of eating here; prices should be lower, not higher. The last issue of "Beaver" carried some comparisons of prices. It must be emphasised that the 2/11½ quoted for the Refectory meal is in respect of the cheapest dish.

A lunch which includes meat jumps to the sum of 3/5 (2/9 was the price quoted for a three-course, substantial lunch in a nearby café). The local eating places not only expect to make a profit, but they have to pay the high rents of the district.

Compared with those of profit-making places outside this area, the Refectory charges are sheer fantasy.

Hollow Men

The standard of the food is generally in keeping with what one can expect from this type of catering. But the prices and the quantity per portion would cause a strike in the least militant of works canteens. Students, especially those not on grants, have far less money than workers. Why should we be subjected to this gross imposition? Has somebody evolved a theory that an empty stomach is conducive to study?

Cheese and Beer

Two fairly minor complaints indicate other sources of irritation. Last term the Refectory stall was selling cheese retail. As "Beaver" staff soon realised, a portion of this and a loaf of bread from the same stall made a lunch. Apparently this was realised elsewhere; this cheese was removed from sale and a large number of requests have failed to bring it back.

The draught bitter sold in the bar at the dances is dearer, not cheaper than outside.

Faith

Last year the Council presented a three-point policy: subsidy, a set, one-priced meal and the possibility of bringing in an outside caterer. All of these have been rejected. It is difficult to tell how far the reasons given for the refusals were justified. The school looked into these suggestions and the results, already reported in Union, seem to justify their non-acceptance. But how much students can really get

to know about the inner workings is a very tricky matter.

Hope

Many students have become resigned to what they feel is a very bad state of affairs. They have seen repeated efforts come to nothing.

The lack of success, however, is due to the people, who have the power, being convinced that there is no real cause for complaint. This is the one real obstacle to reform.

It is our job to convince them by all the means in our power just how wrong things are. The rumbles of discontent grow day by day; they must become articulate.

Charity

Students, quite rightly, expect help with the necessities of life. In this case, however, they would be better off if they were paying the "economic" price. We are not begging for charity, but we are demanding a square deal.



MISS FRESHER?

No. 2 in the contest is

Miss Gillian Owen, reading for a Social Science Certificate.

We have seen many pretty Freshers wandering around college. We are wondering why the packs of wolves regularly in attendance have not submitted more photographs.

PRESIDENT RESIGNS

COUNCIL PROBES DEBATES SOCIETY

John Hipkin, who was last term elected President of the Debating Society, has resigned following criticisms of the management of the society and an enquiry into its affairs by Union Council.

The first indication that all was not well with the society came last month, when Council proposed a cut in their grant from £15 to £5. During the discussion it was revealed that only 14 members had been recruited and that no report had been made to the Union Treasurer on the spending of last year's money. The Deputy President and Senior Treasurer were appointed to conduct an enquiry and report to Council this week.

Mr. John Hipkin was last year a prominent speaker in Union Debates, winning the Annual Beveridge Award for the best debater in the Union. He appeared during the Budget Meeting but left before the discussion on the society began.

A programme of activities has now been prepared by Mr. Clifford Ward and includes the Annual

Inter-Varsity Debate between the Presidents of the Oxford and Cambridge Unions, on Tuesday, November 8th, at 4.15 p.m.

ROLAND FREEMAN.

World University Service

Since L.S.E. is quite an international place, it is not surprising to find various international organisations about clamouring for student support, and helping confuse the freshers.

But one organisation has remained rather quiet this year, so far, and that's World University Service. Perhaps that's because WUS is not political, it is not trying to influence anyone's ideas, and it has no axe to grind. Based on an idea that the students and faculty of Universities everywhere

have certain interests in common, WUS seeks to further University contacts between countries, and to raise funds among students; to be used to aid newer and poorer student communities in other parts of the world. This is not charity, but mutual help. Universities which have no money can perhaps give in other ways; such as being hosts to an international seminar, as was the University of Patna, India, in 1953.

continued at column 3



Miss M. SYKES, star of the Liberal Society film showing November 10th.

Beaver

Bigger and Better "Beaver". Material wanted for the next issue. This must reach the Editor by Tuesday, November 8th. Write, you clots, write!

OVERSEAS STUDENTS

The Committee members will be in the Union Offices on Tuesdays from 4.30 to 5.30 p.m. and on Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m., to help any student.

If you are unable to call on them personally during these times, you are requested to contact them via pigeon holes (Main Building or Three Tuns).

Students who wish to attend "Asian Club" meetings (B.B.C. Overseas Programme) should contact me.

DUDLEY FERNANDO,
Overseas Students' Officer.

continued from column 5

During International Students' Week, 14th to 19th November, L.S.E. will be hearing more about WUS. The WUS Committee will be selling flags, collecting money, and posting more information about WUS work. Let's support one of the organisations at L.S.E. which actually does something besides talk.

CONGRATULATIONS

Successful Liaison

The wedding took place at Christchurch, New Malden, on October 29th, of "Bert" Harpum, 2nd year B.Sc. Econ., the Evening Students' Liaison Officer, to Shirley Ann

Lewis, who was at Furzedown Training College 1950-52. The honeymoon is being spent at Lyndhurst. The couple met at an L.S.E. Dance!!!

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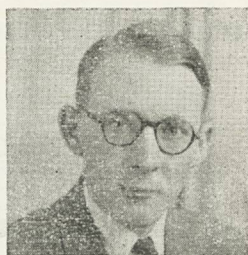
HUSTINGS I HAVE

KNOWN

If the Union is as I suggested last time "the best show in Town" you are shortly to witness one of its most entertaining performances; the Vice-Presidential Elections.

Although of course, the choice of three members to sit on Council, and to head the main departments of the Union (Social, Welfare and External Affairs) is no light matter, the campaigns generally aim at a humorous approach. In the end however in spite of all blandishments—and drinks in the bar—it is Union or pre-University experience that carries most weight with the electorate.

Previous elections show that surprise is the most important factor in publicity. For example the Boat Club once brought a hooter into the Hustings meeting, having already achieved notoriety on an



earlier occasion by nominating 24 candidates (the entire Club) and then withdrawing 23 at the last moment.

Votemanship

Terence Groome, who founded the Annual Terence Groome Prize for the Union's best filibusterer (and is now believed to be languishing in the Coldstream Guards, circulated in advance a copy of his speech unknown to the candidate he was proposing. It contained the words "loud applause," "ironic laughter," "jeers," "all stand, pro-

longed ovation"—and the audience obliged with gusto!
Another striking campaign employed the Union Jack as its symbol and preceded the entry of its candidate into the Old Theatre with a vast flag "borrowed" from a public building. Streamers, of both decorative and functional variety were prominent at question time.

Last year was particularly lively. Officially adopted Labour Society candidates competed against rival slogans such as "Kick the Reds out of the Union," Returning Officers resigned on allegations of partiality (a not uncommon charge) while broadsheets and badges, posters and promises circulated and multiplied *ad nauseam*. Thus the gentleman who announced that he was standing "just for the hell of it" got 70 votes.

Of all the anecdotes in recent years I prefer the story of the 1951 election before the days when a personal introduction to the Union was required. A Candidate was proposed by two well-known Union figures and a formidable list of qualifications and an appealing photograph were posted, while appropriate apologies for his temporary illness were made at the Hustings (general sympathy for the sick gentleman who clearly had worked himself to death's door for the love of the Union and his fellow men), together with a keen canvassing drive, secured his triumphant election.

At this stage the Union had the uncomfortable experience of being told that their new "Vice-President" did not in fact exist. Ah! those were the days!

A GOOD BUY

Copies of the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Union are now on sale at 3d. each from the Union Stall 1-2 p.m. and at Union Meetings.

A thorough revision of the Constitution took place last year and several loopholes were carefully blocked.

For example, the old practice of moving frivolous Urgency Motions

early in the meeting to hold up essential business is now made less easy by the new rule that such motions can only be taken at the end of item 8 of the agenda if urgency has been granted.

Noteworthy too is the step taken to protect newly appointed Union Officials from the embarrassment of discussion on the wisdom of Council's choice.

QUOTE NOTES

"Oh! I thought Passfield was the married quarters for L.S.E."—Fresher (female), living in Bloomsbury.

"Of course, we were pretty short of talent when we appointed you."—General Secretary to Malcolm Ross.

"The sexes will be segregated for administrative purposes only."—Rear-Commodore, Sailing Club.

"Remember, the sea is no-man's land."—Dr. Schwarzenberger, (U.C.).

"How do you cope with nineteen men?"—Jane, new to Sailing Club.

"I understand that the record library has now been dropped."—Subhash.

BEAVER CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- Across
- Little underground railway; pixie working on tick (9)
 - The little man himself (5)
 - Holmes was the master here (6)
 - Divisions (naval) and . . . (8)
 - This is easy to see through (6 and 4)
 - A Manx port (4)
 - Tom Green (anag.) (8)
 - He will be made an M.D. soon (6)
 - Were you bad Richard? Did you . . . ? (6)
 - She is not worshipped (8)
 - Sues (anag.) (4)
 - Tall boy and poet (10)
 - Buy 'em beer (8)
 - But . . . came their none (6)
 - This snowman would soon be caught out at cricket (5)
 - Voluble wheelwrights? (9)

- Down
- A right royal nobleman (7)
 - He is no Cavalier (8)
 - Not knowhow (2 and 3)
 - Biting (7)
 - French dog in a recess (5)
 - Windows in Cornwall (7)
 - A bloody fairy tale (8)
 - To kiss (8)
 - These people seem to produce honest catalogues (9)
 - Middle Eastern version of Iron Curtain? (7)
 - The President's idea of a widow? (7)
 - He's no Slovak (8)
 - Everyone wishes to at some time (5)
 - Often found in a hip-pocket (5)

POST BAG

Sir,
It was gratifying to note in the last issue that fame had reached me after two years spent in the Union—as often boring as exciting! However, there are inconsistencies in the various remarks about me: I would be interested to learn which of them is correct. I won't say, because I believe in the old imperialist adage "Divide et Impera." This will, of course, further my sinister designs and hinder the incautious from "raising their legs" (are they, then, dogs, Sir?) when their hopes are raised.

The article on Com. Soc. states that I am now "key man down among the Bolshies." (Incidentally the same paragraph states that I got a first in Logic. This is not so: my tutor tells me I got a "near-First!" I fear that my Marxist education was not complete enough for a First at that time.) The next paragraph states that I form part of a triumvirate with Ruth Nixon and Dennis Greenstreet. In another article, however, it is said that Ruth Nixon is now chief spokesman for Com. Soc.! Who, in fact, is the key? I find it confusing not to know who my leader is! Is it myself, Ruth, or has it been Dennis all the time?

Finally, I am distressed to see that the President thinks I almost committed an ideological error, and that A. Politicus has heard rumours of my lapsing from orthodoxy. Do tell me where I went astray, for I am most anxious not to forfeit my seat in heaven! Or perhaps Beaver simply couldn't reconcile the Bogeyman idea of a Communist with the Communist in the flesh? I recall that my esteemed antagonist, Mr. Hipkin, once called me "Flexible." I suppose the Beaver writer was trying to say the same thing. I only wish to point out that the flexible bow can be a powerful weapon in the proper hands!

With Bolshevik greetings,
MARSHALL (Bogeyman) HARRIS.

BEAVER

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
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N.S.U. HOSTEL APPEAL

For over seven years the N.U.S. hostel in London has served students well. But the lease at Tavistock Square expires in June, 1956, and the N.U.S. has launched a £30,000 Appeal for funds to open a new and better centre. Single and double study bedrooms for the resident student, dormitory accommodation for the student in transit, self-help kitchen for the economical, extensive baggage space for the wealthy.

These, then, are the brief outlines of the target for the N.U.S. Hostel Appeal.

The Appeal will be launched on a national scale in February of next year, but the N.U.S. have asked Student Unions to launch individual appeals within their own colleges.

In reply to this request the L.S.E. were the first college to plan any campaign. This will take the form of an N.U.S. Hostel Appeal Week during the latter part of this term. To help run this appeal a Hostel

Appeal Sub-Committee is to be formed and anybody who is interested should contact D. C. Gill through the pigeon holes.

The national appeal is to be directed at all sections of the British public, for we believe that student welfare is of general interest. But we can only honestly broaden the appeal if we have the wholehearted support of the student community. Various highlights are promised during this appeal, including a charity concert to be given by Irene Scharrer at the Royal Festival Hall on December 4th.

Many similar appeals have come to grief in the past because of apathy and general lack of support. People have just not felt the need to contribute to appeals which did not seem to affect them directly, but the provision of a new hostel is of vital importance to us all, so at least we should be sure that in this case the all too prevalent "I couldn't care less" mentality will not be to the fore.

Sir,
Our attention has been drawn to passages in the 20th Oct. issue of Beaver in which it is alleged that the L.S.E. Socialist Society is composed of "fellow travellers" and that there is little difference between the aims and ideology of Soc. Soc. and Com. Soc."

Soc. Soc. has, of course, no aims or ideology in the sense implied. The Society contains all shades of opinion: Fabians, Left Social Democrats, Catholics, Pacifists, Neo-Trotskyists, Stalinists and even two people who, last year, were members of the Conservative Society. If we do (quite unintentionally) "fellow travel" with anybody, it is with Lab. Soc. to which the majority of our members belong. And, surely, the fact that we have provided platforms for such speakers as Isaac Deutscher, F. A. Ridley and Jock Haston should prove to anyone of normal intelligence that the Society is not a "front" for anyone.

The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of Soc. Soc. are firmly opposed to Stalinism and believe that the future of Socialism in Britain lies with the Labour Party. But we also believe, just as firmly, that if effective discussion of socialist principles and tactics is to take place inside the L.S.E. Left, it can only do so inside a student organisation where all sections of opinion—including the Stalinists—have spokesmen of ability to put forward their case.

We, therefore, request that you withdraw the inaccurate and misleading statements made about the Society and request an apology to be made in the next issue of "Beaver."

Yours faithfully,
J. H. BOLTON, Secretary
U. K. HACKMAN, Treasurer
P. W. REED, Chairman

Sir,
Your correspondent, "A. Politicus" seems to be unaware of the work done by Michael Anderson, President of the Conservative Society.

May I point out that since he took over its leadership last Christmas, the Society has shown a remarkable increase in strength and influence. Many of us remember that he took office at a difficult time.

Apart from his political activities in the Conservative Society he has often spoken from the floor of the Union and to-night (5.45 p.m.) will be seconding the Rt. Hon. Henry Brooke, M.P., in the "No Confidence Motion" debate.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM T. GOODIN

Leonard Lyle
86 Kingsway, W.C.2
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Round the Parties

No. 5 THE PASSFIELD PARTY

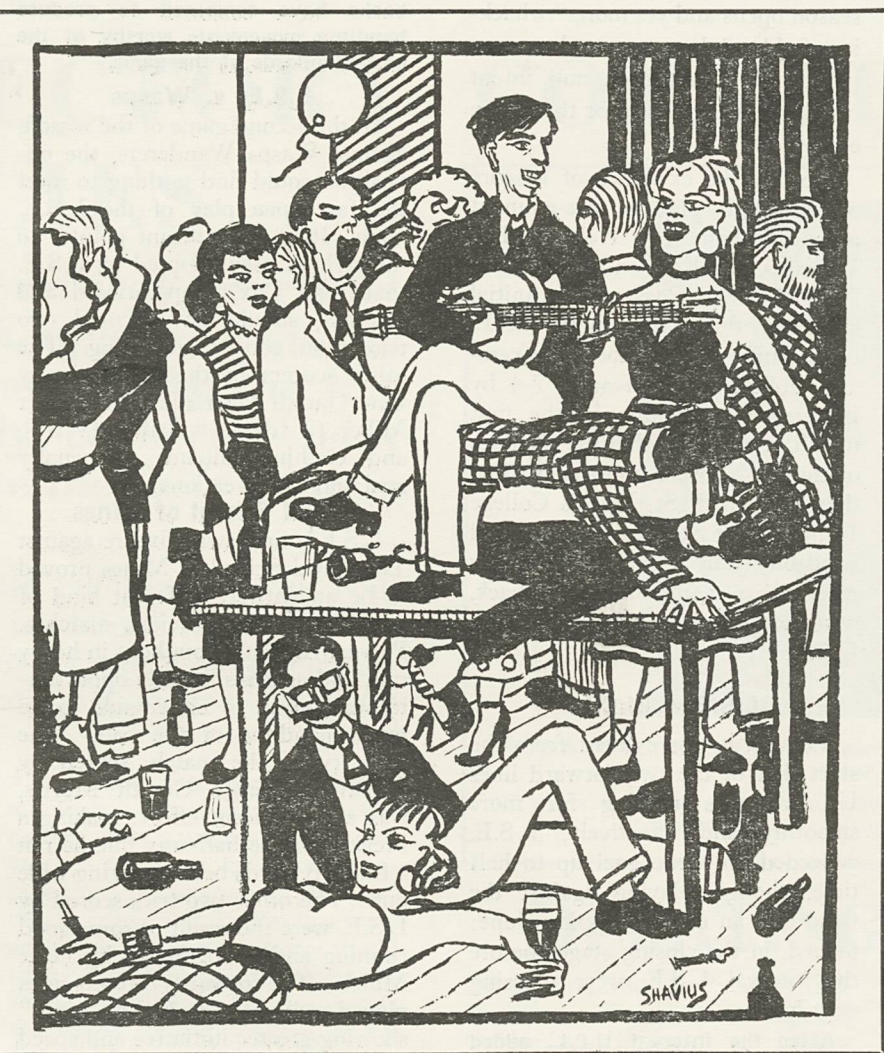
The time was nine, the event a Passfield Party. In a fit of gaiety I'd accepted a resident's invitation to attend that great event. My mother had warned me about the facts of life but I'd thought that most of them were in prison. The moment I entered that door, I knew I was wrong. An unescorted woman provoked interest, but interest wasn't the only feature of the looks cast at me by a dozen or so leering individuals who lounged about the entrance hall.

In the space of five seconds a dozen pairs of eyes had noted vital statistics, colour of hair, eyes, etc. Ellis Island all over again I thought. Having deposited personal belongings, I entered the dance. A pipe-smoking individual sidled up, suggested we smooched, squeezed the breath out of me for ten minutes, told me the dance would "heat up" at 10 o'clock and then disappeared. By this time I had begun to doubt. Feeling a little thirsty I followed the notices directing me to the French Bar. My progress was arrested at the foot of the stairs by the sight of two individuals wrestling to a mixture of grunts and Irish oaths. Circumnavigation completed I entered the bar, the atmosphere embraced me, at least that was the excuse given to me by a bespectacled American. Having bought my own drink, it occurred to me that the language spoken here was decidedly stronger than French!

Seeking peace I went along to one of the study-rooms for a quiet smoke and was surprised to find it in darkness. A scholarly voice informed me that he was getting on with a different piece of work and begged for solitude—the sound of a female voice screaming "don't touch me, you beast" lent wings to my feet.

By now the Buffet was open, and a voice with a faint Welsh accent could be heard, proclaiming against people who stubbed their cigarettes in saucers "that decent people had to drink out of." The sincerity impressed me. The dancing continued. My partners varied but all suggested that we should see the painting in the lounge! It had "heated up." This view was supported by the fact that many lads were displaying the latest in Selfridges natty shirts as they danced.

By this time the strain was beginning to tell, and I was getting fed up of cross examinations and bear hugs. I muttered a prayer of thanks to my Judo instructor as I type who insisted on showing scrum



tacted a stomach throw on a Rugby tactics

The Cabaret defies description. Although may I say that its charm lay in the spontaneity of the outbursts from certain members of the audience. Bearing in mind the elegant floor shows of the Cafe de Paris, I attempted a mental comparison—and failed miserably.

Thoughtfully I ran home. If ever I wrote a book of my experiences it would make Augustine's Confessions look like "Noddy in Toyland." The following week I learned that I was forestalled. Someone had stolen the housebook and sold it to the "Reveille" for a small fortune.

HONOR BRIGHT.

SPOTLIGHT ON Ken Pearmain

After pushing open the door of the Three Tuns Club, and fighting one's way to a point of vantage, it is usual to see the rugged countenance of the Deputy President of the Union reflecting on the ills of the college while he thoughtfully puffs at his pipe which at regular intervals he removes from his mouth in order to consume vast quantities of Charlie's best.

To those of you who don't know Ken Pearmain this description might convey the wrong impression, but just to quell those fears let's get a few hard facts.

Ken Pearmain is a third-year student taking the B.Sc. (Econ.) course, and is specialising, as he says, proudly, in the one subject nobody else seems to study at the London School of Economics, i.e., Economics.

Since he came up to the L.S.E. two years ago Ken has steadily advanced up the Union scale. Appointed Chairman of the Entertainments Committee in his first year he stood during the Vice-Presidential Elections in the summer of 1954 when he was elected in the third place, narrowly beating John Hipkin with 93 votes to Hipkin's 82. With this experience as Entertainments Committee Chairman behind him Ken launched out into the duties of Social Vice-President. He was primarily responsible for the running of dances in the college.

Did we say dances? Senior members of the School have called them other things! Last year's Commemoration Ball at the Royal Festival Hall was one of his particular babies.

Big Brother

It was only natural that one with such a vast experience of Union work, who had been a member of the Council during the Presidency of John Martyn and Bob Weinberg, should at the last election seek higher office.

Fortune smiled kindly and despite the determined opposition of Martin O'Regan and Douglas Talintyre (and the support of the L.S.E. Labour Society), Ken was elected Deputy President.

With added responsibility Ken seemed to thrive, and was the Union Officer who worked most closely with Dudley Fernando in arranging the recent Freshers' Conference, which without doubt was the best arranged so far.

So much then for Union activi-

ties of the Deputy President. Though perhaps they have only been sketched in roughly, anybody who really wants to see him in action has only to attend the Union on Thursday or observe at Council meetings to see for himself.

Stool Pigeon

What then of the unofficial side of his activities. Questions have often been asked as to whether Ken ever does any work. Without doubt that question must be answered in the affirmative. But when and where is another question. Perhaps it is in the proverbial Flat that Ken shares with several other people. That several, of course, includes Robin Fox, and anybody who really wants to get the "low-down" on Ken should just buy Robin a drink in the bar to lubricate his larynx.



What has this student body achieved? We have achieved a well-inform-

How many students belong to UNSA here in Great Britain?

A difficult question, Malcolm, because we have three types of membership. There are UNSA societies which come into our category of individual membership; then there are international societies which are affiliated, and finally there are Union affiliates such as the Leeds University Students' Union. However leaving out these big affiliates I think a conservative estimate of our membership in the 60 branches throughout Britain would be 3,500 students. Of course, we also have national student organisations which are affiliated—for instance F.U.C.U.A., N.A.L.S.O., the Liberals; West Indian Students' Union; Liberean Students' Union, and so on.

BAN THE H-BOMB!

On the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the UN the Editor of "Beaver" interviewed the President of UNSA.

ed nucleus of students on UN matters in particular, and also international affairs in general. We have given considerable help to the United Nations Association in practical projects such as the UN Children's Emergency Fund campaign and we plan to give it much support in its future campaigns to clear up the refugee problem in Europe and for more technical assistance to under developed territories. Being very much part of UNA, and not an independent although sympathetic body as are some of the Student political organisations, we are able to play a big part in forming UNA policy. We have established quite a name for ourselves in this sphere. Two motions which we put up to the Annual General Council of UNA on Technical Assistance, and a halt in Hydrogen bomb tests were both passed. Other motions which our representatives put forward on various national committees of UNA quite often meet with a favourable response. As to the effect of past UNSA members upon the world, many have gone into a variety of jobs in the international sphere, ranging from the UN itself to the Foreign Office and Parliament.

What is UNSA organising in London this academic year?

All sorts of things. For example, there's to be a rally which the Soviet Ambassador has agreed to address at Bedford College at the end of the term, or there's the speakers team of which members will be performing in Hyde Park. Then there is the Annual General Conference of the movement to be held in January based on Campbell Hall, and a conference on topical international problems to be held early next term. But most important of all are the various branch programmes.

Is UNSA the only student organisation of its kind?

No, we belong to the International Student Movement for the United Nations, which is made up of the UNSAs from all over the world. This year its President is British. ISMUN is dominated by no "ism" nor by any blocs. All genuine UNSAs are welcome to its membership, and there are more joining each year. It acts as a co-ordinating body and organises summer schools and seminars of its own—there is to be one in Cambridge

next spring. Under its auspices, several UNSAs are organising discussion programmes on Technical Assistance, and they will be contributing to a report which it hopes to bring out as a result.

Does UNSA help international understanding? If so, how?

I think it does. One of the most important ways is by the contribution overseas students make to most of our discussions. It is here that we can see international problems as others see them. There are also speakers from overseas and much literature which we circulate. Not to be forgotten are the social activities our old International Dance Festival or our various international socials and dances—the next is to be on November 12th. There is also our annual and very successful International Summer University—the last had 26 nations represented.

What do you feel is UNSA's most important responsibility?

Those of us who are students today will be in positions of responsibility where we can lead and influence public opinion to-morrow. We must be well informed and prepared to take on that responsibility.

Do you need new members?

Thanks for that question, Malcolm. Yes. Apathy is our greatest enemy and apathy is dangerous. Opposition is natural and healthy and it results in keenness in an organisation. Where apathy reigns there is danger. No British government can be permitted to stop pressing for the development of the UN and the specialised agencies. To be certain of this a well-informed public opinion is needed, and as UNA is the main pressure group in this sphere it gives a special welcome to students—for they will lead public opinion to-morrow. If any overseas or British student is interested in international affairs, not just the UN, or if any student feels he has an international conscience at all, he will find a place in UNSA. There he will be able to increase his store of knowledge, discuss with people of all national and political backgrounds and keep a critical eye on international affairs and the UN. The subscription at L.S.E. is only 2/6d.!

FRANK A. JUDD.

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