



BEAVER

RED

FASCISTS?

YAHOO TO YOU TOO!



Crucified—but by whom?

HOMELESS

At the end of the Easter vacation three students were evicted from the Carr-Saunders complex by a joint decision of Ed Kuska, Bill Bishop and Alan Sked, after a long series of meetings, appeals for clemency, and administrative procrastination.

The three, all residents of M 2/8, were Adam Robinson, Mike Longthorne and Pravin Mirchandani. They stand accused of making a noise, with one incident involving speakers placed to broadcast music out into the street as the key offence. The fact that this incident took place during the vacation itself appears to make no difference to the authorities, who insist that the eviction is their response to a long series of complaints from other students, of which the speaker incident was only one. The incident itself was immediately followed by the confiscation of the amplifier and speakers involved, in the absence of any residents of the flat.

But the key issue seems to be an additional punishment which the administration have imposed. All three offenders are resigned to eviction, and accept that it is a harsh, but not unjustifiable punishment. It is accompanied, however, by a total ban on their entering any part of the complex before September 1979. In the case of two of the evicted residents, Adam and Mike, this means being forced to give up jobs in the Carr-Saunders kitchen, thus not only losing their accommodation, but also a significant proportion of their income for the coming term.

Informed sources around the complex seem to think that the evictions, and the added ban, are due to other factors than simply the noise which the offenders admit to having caused. They have, it is thought, established a reputation with the administration which means that incidents in which they are not involved are also laid at their door. And Saunders has, this year, seen some extremely violent scenes which may have predisposed the administration to take a hard line with those offenders who not only admit guilt, but have attracted hostility from other student residents. Those who hold this view point to the fact that the desires of the studios have already been satisfied by the eviction, and to the nature of the offences with which M 2/8 are charged, none of which have involved any violence.

WILL RICHARDSON.

THE invitation extended to Sir Keith Joseph (Conservative Industry spokesman and head of policy and research) by the LSE Conservative Society to come and address an open meeting on April 25th and the subsequent Executive decision to deny him a platform would seem to have caused some minor stir both within the LSE and without.

Indeed, the Daily Mail editorial for the day following observed that Sir Keith had been "denied a platform by the student yahoos of the London School of Economics. Unheard he is condemned as a 'racist' and a 'fascist'. Verily, these are the new barbarians. Deaf to reason, frightened of free speech. Savagely intolerant. And, most grotesque of all, sponsored by the ratepayers."

Some analysis of the events preceding the decision to deny Sir Keith a platform would not be unhelpful in ascertaining whether we are really as wicked at LSE as the Press have indicated. So far as is known, only the Evening Standard was present at the meeting attended by Sir Keith!

(Doubtless this was written whilst the writer was basking in the last rays of the summer sun as they descended over Houghton Street, calming his profound sense of shock?)

It appears that on the morning of the 24th Richard Shackleton (ConSoc secretary) presented himself at the Union Office and requested security for the Joseph visit. The School was informed and took note of the fears expressed by Shackleton. It is thought that the ConSoc contacted the School directly and were informed that the police would not be allowed into the New Theatre (venue of the meeting). Shackleton once more requested security from the Union. He was told that the Theatre was booked with the School through the Union and thus it was the responsibility of the Union to ensure that there was no trouble. He was informed that the Union Executive would try to meet that afternoon. No quorum could be found so an informal Executive meeting was held. This was followed by another meeting on the 25th when all but three Executive members were present.

It was noted that Union policy stated that there was no platform allowed for racists and fascists and that policy stated that immigration controls were racist. Given that it was considered that the Conservative Party leadership's recent stand on immigration was in conflict with the policy of the Union, it was felt necessary and desirable to request Sir Keith to clarify his position by issuing a statement outlining his views. The LSE ConSoc Secretary was asked to inform Sir Keith that the Union wished him to make a statement. No statement was forthcoming so the Executive prepared a short statement which they considered would show that Sir Keith was not in favour of immigration controls. It read: "I oppose restrictions on the freedom of movement across national boundaries and attempts to enforce such restrictions which infringe on the freedom of the individual."

Sir Keith arrived at LSE and proceeded to the New Theatre. Whilst in Houghton Street he was in the presence of about thirty students, mostly Tories, Executive members, and Beaver Collective members. Also present were possibly as many as four Maoists, one of whom said to Sir Keith that he considered him racist and that he should not speak. The exchange was as amicable as could be expected.

Once inside Julian Ingram, on the Executive's behalf, informed Sir Keith that the Executive needed him to sign the prepared statement. This Sir Keith declined to do, later quoted as saying: "It was a clog on free speech and I would not accept such a clog."

Why did Sir Keith not issue his own statement? Surely he could show he was neither racist nor fascist. Why was he surprised at being presented with a statement by the Union? The answer to these questions is simple. It is thought that the messages transmitted by LSE Tories to Central Office were not relayed by one D. Wilks, National Chairperson of the Federation of Conservative Students (FCS) to Sir Keith.

Shackleton had said Sir Keith would not come if he felt unable to make his own statement or unable to sign the Union one! So what motive could Wilks and others, if they did fail to ensure adequate communications, have? Surely it is not possible that it was the intention of the FCS to get Sir Keith banned in the hope of discrediting the "no platform" policy. Another unlikely possibility is that if Sir Keith knew nothing of the Union's desires confusion may have arisen and he may have spoken. Nevertheless, Wilks *et al* were not slow to drum up Press coverage, most of which was a forage of twisted facts and lies, once Sir Keith was prevented from speaking.

Another Conservative speaker, John Moore, MP, was hurriedly booked for 26th, presumably to see if he too would be asked to sign a statement. However, it was decided that this was an attempt by FCS nationally to bring about confrontation and only damage to the student movement could result from rising to the bait. An emergency union meeting was arranged by the Executive for 27th to clarify union policy. At this meeting Trevor Phillips, who has had the audacity to call us "anarchistic and undemocratic", spoke in broad support of a motion proposed by Daud Khan and Abhai Desai which allows for a Union meeting to decide who is racist and fascist, notes that not all immigration controls are racist, that it is important to fight racism from whichever quarter it comes, and that membership of a major party does not preclude one from being racist.

Mr Christopher Faulkner, an Executive member elected on an FCS ticket, has been sacked by LSE ConSoc for voting with regard to Union policy. He said: "The FCS is being totally hypocritical again. On the one hand they complain if the Left do not implement Union decisions yet complain that I implemented this policy. FCS tried to interpose party line between my duties as an Executive member and the interests of my constituents." Chris said he stood by a saying of Churchill's, and took it as his basic reference, that the priorities were country, constituency, then party. At the emergency UGM LSE FCS voted to remain a clause in the motion which could, if necessary, mean the exclusion of members of major political parties. So, just how deep is their interest in maintaining free speech for those working within the democratic system?

Whilst it is acknowledged that several entities may have been trying to make political capital, some even suggest J. Ingram, and, given the lack of credibility the FCS has acquired as a result of its rather strange dealings, it seems clear that someone somewhere has had rings run around them by someone but no-one is confident whom.

BRUCE FELL.

ENTERTAINMENTS

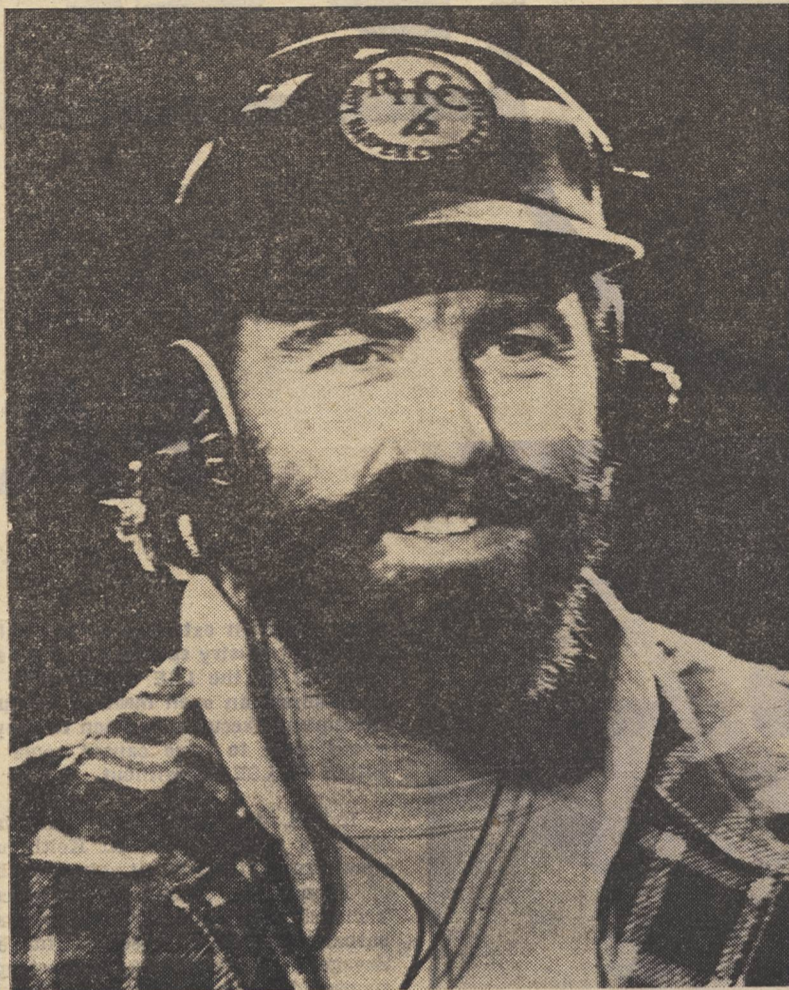
ROY HARPER

The major attraction in the Old Theatre this term must be the return of **ROY HARPER** and Andy Roberts after their very successful gig last term, which we hope you all enjoyed. Roy Harper actually turned down the possibility of playing two nights at Hammersmith Odeon to play at the LSE, which he considers has a "nice, homely atmosphere, more congenial for good music."

This major coup by your new Social Sec. means that for two nights, May 10th and 11th, you can hear two differing sides of Harper's music. On Wednesday night the set will cover the earlier works of his career, the night after will be his later compositions. For all you Harper fans these are probably the only gigs where if you have a favourite period, you will be able to hear your music.

You will also be pleased to know that there will be a new album by Harper available soon. This will be a compilation album of acoustic sounds, 1966-78.

Doors open 7.30 pm both nights. Tickets are priced at £1.50, available soon from Ents (S118) and the Union Shop.



Roy Harper — May 10th and 11th

B. & E.

THE B and E representative has three roles on the Ents committee in view of the support the committee receives from the Union.

One, to ensure that Ents has sufficient competent members to run its day-to-day business.

Two, to ensure that Ents is using the money voted to it in a responsible manner.

Three, to ensure that Ents is providing a reasonable service within the financial limitations imposed on it.

How does the B and E representative deal with any aberrations from these criteria?

Firstly he brings them to the attention of the Ents committee. Secondly to the attention of the Executive and the Union Floor. Finally the Ents rep. ensures that he remains sufficiently popular with the Committee to receive free admission to all Ents functions.

C. FAULKNER
B and E Rep.

The future of Ents

THERE are some people in the LSE who do not even realise an entertainments committee exists so this is particularly intended as an introduction to the running of the committee.

The committee consists of students who voluntarily give up a lot of their time to provide entertainment for you. At present many students are sacrificing good grades in their exams as the amount of effort required to run the entertainments is enormous. The situation should be far easier when the sabbatical ents post commences and things look bright for next year.

One problem, however, is the fact that I am new to the post of social secretary and fairly inexperienced compared with previous social secretaries. This problem should not be insurmountable though, due to increased time available to me on commencement of the sabbatical post.

We will be planning a fresher's week extravaganza in the next couple of months, so if you could make a valuable contribution your help would be greatly appreciated. It is a great ambition of mine to put on a better freshers' ball than the last one—quite a task! Any bands that you have seen who you think would go down well, let me know, remembering our financial restrictions. Yes, Pink Floyd, Led Zep, and the Clash are really great bands but hardly within our budget.

Helpers are wanted to help run Ents and any assistance will be gratefully accepted. See you at the Roy Harper gig.

STEVE
Social Sec.

Conference

THE social Sec's Conference at Loughborough University was the first to be held outside London for some time.

After the problems of actually finding Loughborough, let alone the University, the conference turned out to be a very thought-provoking and interesting discussion on the problems of providing entertainment for students.

Certain facts stick out prominently in one's mind like the statement from the Social Secretary at Newcastle, how when he put on a punk gig and had one security officer with a fractured skull, two with severe abrasions to the skin and one who had his shirt ripped off his back, and then he said that "it was a quiet gig, other than that!" Memories of Sham 69 sprang to mind.

We were disappointed to find that the King's contingent did not turn up. It was rumoured that they know-it-all, but I am sure they are much more modest than that.

Five bands provided their services for our entertainment mainly methinks to get bookings. The Tourists, who have played at LSE, played yet another 'tight' set but were overshadowed by the Scottish band Cado Belle, who turned out to be a very proficient band with an excellent lead guitarist. The cries of "more, more" were only stopped when it was announced that the neighbours had complained about the noise and lateness of the show.

Certain amounts of information and experience about booking bands, how to chat-up record companies to get them to pay for gigs, how not to sign a contract and what clauses to look for in the smallest print and being the most insidious.

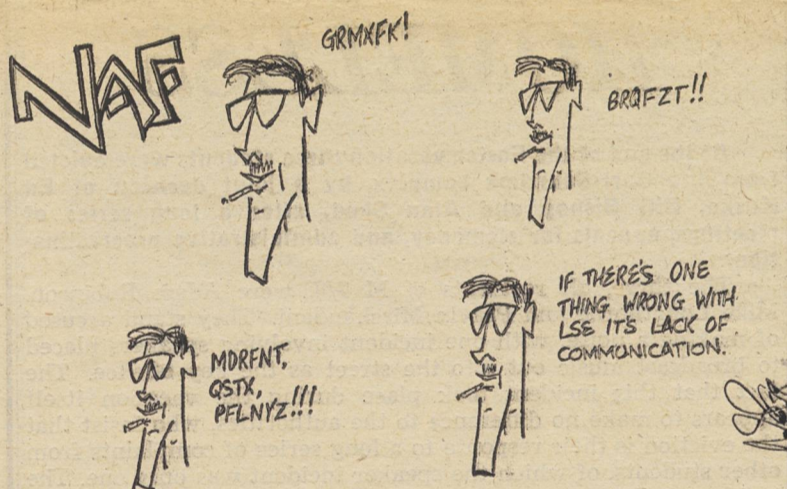
These problems should now present no pitfalls to your experienced Social Sec. (who is at this moment having a nervous breakdown on the floor).

Sounds an exciting conference, doesn't it? It is a good thing the food was good.

Gerry BSM.



It's the grip that counts.



New bar

We were asked to write an article on the new Saunders ale bar. However we're lazy sods, so why don't you come and see for yourself.

Anyway, we would like to extend our hearty thanks and a pint of frothy porter to the following without whom this project would never have got off the counter:

Rich, Alf, Bob, Bob, Pete, Brian, Chris, Jeff, Ed, John, George, Al, Eddie, Eddie, Bill and of course Mr Humphrey Smith, son of Sam (sic) for his marvellous Tadcaster ales, and Mr Samuel Whitbread for his equally exciting Marlow bitter.

We would also like to thank Victor Vindaloo and Arthur Rancid for their extremely useful and constructive criticism—and anybody and everybody else.

See you all tomorrow night.
Mark, Martin, Steve

AGM of the Three Tuns will take place in the Three Tuns Bar on Tuesday, 9th May, at 3.45 p.m. All are welcome to attend. This is your chance to decide about drinks stocked, prices, etc.



Photos courtesy of C. Blackburn

The Anti-Anti-Anti-Nazi League

WE would like to reply to Peacock's article about the Anti-Nazi League, which appeared before the holidays. He attacks the A.N.L. for trying to gain a responsible image. We are not in business to gain any particular image, but to fight the National Front and like-minded organisations. We do believe, however, that the best way to gain mass support is by presenting a sensible face to the world. This cannot be achieved by disorganised individuals feebly protesting about the rise of the 'Front.' If the National Front were a loose, disorganised collection of individuals, they wouldn't be a threat, but rather an ineffective, pathetic group of lunatics.

Peacock implies that the A.N.L. is a front for the S.W.P. This is manifestly untrue. Whilst we agree that members of the S.W.P. are taking an active interest, rightly so, in the work of the A.N.L. there are many members from other political parties, as well as those with no political persuasions at all, except a hatred of fascism. If you look at our list of sponsors, you will see that they range from such people as our own beloved "Ralf Dahrendorf" to Warren Mitchell and Brian Clough. All well-known Trotskyists, of course!!

The £1 that we ask for, is a donation for our fighting fund because unfortunately we have no money. If you pay this £1, you are not obliged or even asked to subscribe to any particular political doctrine. You are not even asked to fight for socialism or even anarchism. You are merely asked to oppose the Nazis. Of course, if you do oppose Nazism but will not join the A.N.L. because you feel it is an S.W.P. front, then it is likely to become an S.W.P. front!

You can come to our meetings, even if you haven't paid your £1. We need people and enthusiasm, not dogma. But £1 is surely a small enough price to pay to fight the 'Front.'

The important thing about opposing the 'Front' is not how we fight or who leads the fight, it is beating them. They must be completely destroyed as a party, and their vile beliefs shown up

Spurs against Nazis

ON April 22nd a group of Anti-Nazi League Supporters distributed leaflets at White Hart Lane before the Spurs v Sunderland match. The leaflet was designed to launch "Spurs against Nazis," an organisation affiliated to the ANL, aiming to alert football supporters to the evils of racism.

Now, many people will undoubtedly feel that there is enough trouble at football matches without politics — and introducing politics will only make things worse. But politics is already there — the Nazis have had a presence on the terraces for a long time. Whenever a visiting team appears at White Hart Lane with a black player, the small band of National Front supporters start up their racist hooting and animal noises. This not only insults black players, but also intimidates the growing number of black Tottenham fans.

So the leafleting was an important move to check the spread of racism at Spurs matches. On the

for the filth and lies that they are.

The main interest of the A.N.L. is anti-fascist propaganda. We wish to educate the majority of people as to the real aims and objectives of the National Front, which are the imposition of a totalitarian state and the subjugation of the mass of the people. We are hardly helped in this endeavour, which is difficult enough anyway, by snide attacks in the Beaver. If he disagrees with our policies or the way our organisation is organised, why does he not attend meetings to express his opinions?

Possibly the most frightening aspect of the N.F. is the attraction they seem to hold among certain sections of young people, which is why we sell flashy yellow badges and posters, etc. (which Mr Peacock has also ridiculed us for). We shall refrain from making any comments about his combat jacket. These posters and badges are a striking and easily understood (not to say sartorially elegant), method of getting our message over. People who would not necessarily march or actively support us, will wear a badge or display posters to demonstrate their sympathies. This will help draw more attention to our cause among the young and/or non-political sectors of our society who would not perhaps take notice of other forms of anti-Nazi information.

We believe that an organisation like the A.N.L. is the most effective way of combating fascism and racism. The established political parties cannot do this as effectively because it is their own failures, whilst in power, and their adherence to their own party interests, which is a factor in the rise of the Front.

It is because of people's disillusionment with the major parties, which makes the Front so attractive to them. But a multi-party opposition to the Front may well be the most realistic way of mobilising forces against them. Don't believe the scurrilous attack on the A.N.L. in this paper. JOIN US.

ANDY RAFFELL
CHRISTINA O'LEARY

whole the leaflet was widely read and well received by Spurs supporters.

However, the exercise was not without its dangers. Whilst I was leafleting, with Martin Peacock and Carol Saunders (who had taken time off revision to jeer at Spurs), I was approached by a gang of Nazis who tried to intimidate us. They accused us of using "their" streets to spread our Communist propaganda. When I replied that this was necessary since they were using our football ground to spread their racist filth, they screwed up some of the leaflets and spat at the rest. But in the end they moved on, realising that the vast majority of supporters had reacted favourably, and that the ANL had scored a success.

Unfortunately, Spurs were not so successful, losing their first home game this season. I blame it all on Martin.

ED WALKER

In case you haven't noticed
we have kidnapped your

GENERAL
PRESIDENT
SECRETARY

We will make castanets out of
his testicles unless your union buys

100 of our Rag Mags

(i.e. £25 in used notes).

For details ring 261 1525.

Love + Kisses S. B. P. S. U.

Printed & Published by S.B.P.S.U.T.U.

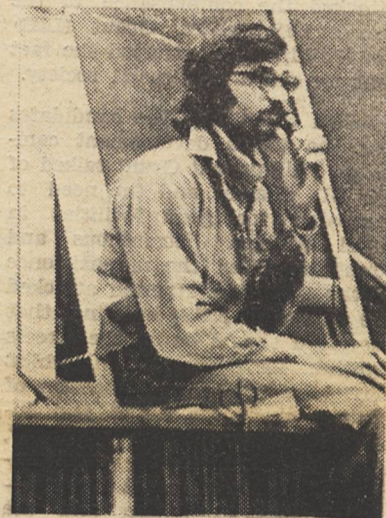
Khan's kidnap

This is the ransom note we received the day South Bank Poly kidnapped our beloved general Secretary Daud Khan. They demanded £25 in return for 100 of their rag mags, but when Daud found that they were sexist and racist, we had to say no.

So Daud had to stay, and we began planning an Entebbe-style raid on Wandsworth. Certain parties proposed swapping

Julian Ingram for Daud, but unfortunately he was away fighting for the liberal cause in Lambeth. Daud bravely held out under intolerable conditions, demonstrating that ordinary LSE students everywhere refuse to be terrorised by those who seek ruthlessly to undermine our hard-won freedoms. This show of bravery was too much even for his pitiless, dry-eyed captors and in the end they had to let him go.

So LSE got back their General Secretary and the South Bank Poly Latin American beat swing band has a brand new shiny set of castanets.



ED WALKER

Poster competition

The Union needs a new poster for publicising its events in the coming year and we are running a competition for the best design and layout.

All entries must be on A4 sheets of paper and the design should cover the entire sheet. The poster must have LSE Students' Union as its heading and include space for the date, place, time and agenda of the meeting. Besides an acknowledgment the winning entrant will also receive a bottle of whisky.

All entries to be handed into the Beaver office.

"I'M OUT OF TROTSKYISM AND INTO FOOTBALL HOOLIGANISM."



UNDER INSTRUCTION FROM ED WALKER

Accommodation procedure for current students

SINGLE STUDENTS' ROOMS

Those seeking single or double rooms for September/October should make an appointment in late May/early June allowing themselves a few free days to look at accommodation. (Flats for one person, i.e. room and kitchen or more, are included here, but they are very difficult to find and expensive). A retaining fee **does not** have to be paid for this type of accommodation when it is booked in advance. After the end of term priority is given to students who will be **new** to London and current students who have not found accommodation by then cannot be guaranteed help, although they may still apply in writing.

SINGLE STUDENTS' FLATS

Any accommodation larger than one room with cooking facilities is considered a flat. Only very few owners of such property will take a booking for the next session without charging full rent during the vacation. Unless the group is able to pay rent from late June/early July it is unlikely that a flat will be found before the end of term, but enquiries can be made from late May onwards. Otherwise the search should start about four weeks before the rent can be paid and the earlier in September this is the better. It is advisable to allow at least a few days to find a flat; in September it is often possible to book temporary accommodation in the Halls of Residence.

MARRIED STUDENTS

Current students requiring accommodation for a couple or family are advised to try and find it in July or August rather than leave it until September. It is generally fruitless to start looking more than four weeks before the rent can first be paid. Addresses cannot be sent out of London and the mailing list service is generally suspended in late July.

NB—The Accommodation Office is normally closed on August Bank Holiday Monday and Tuesday.

The Accommodation office address is:
University of London Accommodation Office,
University of London Union,
Malet Street, London WC1E 7HY.

Alternatively, see Elana in the Welfare Office, S100.

TREVOR'S TEA-PARTY

BUN-FIGHT AT NUS CONFERENCE

Well, I'm amazed, sitting in my five-star hotel—double bed, colour TV, carpet-up-to-the-knees, personal bathroom—is this what being a student is all about? Julian ('it's because I'm a candidate') Ingram takes it all in his stride and the Blackpool Conference opens in style.

Electioneering is the name of the game. With a President and Executive to elect, the party hacks have a field-day, manipulating the backroom scene. But the scene is undoubtedly stolen by a group of unknown loonies from Bristol who call themselves the Epicurean Hedonists.

President

THE hustings got off to a good start with the Epicurean, Hamel-Smith arriving on stage wearing a flat cap, a swimsuit, a tie and dark glasses.

Asked how candidates felt about the unity against racialism campaign, Hannah (Cocktail Party) replied that "The only way to take racism seriously was to assassinate racists". Hamel-Smith discussed the shame of black people in his home country, Trinidad. Archer (SSA) and Strouthous (NOISS) attacked the complaisance of the Broad Left, whilst Grant (LIB) and Phillips (BL) stressed the fact that we are a multiracial society.

Asked about how the candidates saw the Union development campaign, Phillips and Grant talked of the UD Charter and the need to campaign for good facilities in small colleges. Strouthous and Archer attacked the non-existence of the campaign. Hannah attacked the elitism of NUS, insisting that every kid should be on the streets fighting for their rights, whilst Hamel-Smith had "no intention of beating about the bush" and intended "to ignore the question", turning instead to the most important events of recent history — the French Revolution and the sacking of the Captain of the West Indies Cricket team. Longworth stressed the need for continuity in the campaign.

Asked about student union autonomy, there were the usual arguments for (Phillips, Longworth, Grant) and against (Strouthous, Archer) public accountability. Hannah expressed a desire to end the 30 mph speed limit whilst Hamel-Smith stated that as

VICE-PRESIDENTS ELECTED
WELFARE: DOWNIE (SSA)
SERVICES: CONLAN (BL)
EDUCATION:
METAGGART (BL)
AREAS: CONNOR (BL)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION
Elected (in order)
RAMONE (BL)
STACK (SWP)
GRANT (LIB)
ARCHER (SSA)

he had predicted, the French Revolution was of especial relevance. Revolutionary aims had been for liberty, equality and fraternity, he asserted. But then the liberals had arrived. The people had got a sort of liberty then the liberals sold out the campaign. Next the ultra-left had arrived — then they had sold out the campaign. He ended on a note of hysteria, condemning "wishy-washy Trots" and urging the furtherance of revolutionary aims.

Asked how candidates saw the progression of the HE sector in the next few years, Strouthous urged that the fight must begin now, whilst Phillips, Grant and Longworth spoke of the need for democratic planning. Hannah believed that we must threaten the Government — with guns if necessary. Hamel-Smith began by quoting Shakespeare to the effect that the candidates were all talking bullshit, then showed Conference his alternatives. "You could all go back and say we are going to continue in the same boring old way. Or you could go back and say 'We've ignored our mandates and set up a whole new organisation'. He urged Conference to do the latter.

ELECTED: TREVOR PHILLIPS

National Treasurer

WE were all agog for this one, with our own Julian Ingram standing with the best of them.

The candidates were asked why they were standing and what experience they had. Stack (NOISS) with two years as a trainee accountant felt that nevertheless the decisions were political. Ingram (Lib) stressed the need for NUS to set itself straight financially as its priority. Soubry (FCS) claimed not to be financially stupid (like the Exec), while Cooper believed that only she fully understood the need for financial stability. Davis (SSA) wanted more contact with ordinary students whilst Barnes (E-H) wanted the salary and wanted to gamble with NUS money. He suggested, for example, that instead of fooling about with Disinvestment, NUS should buy Barclays Bank. (Barnes' manifesto had stated that he believed in budgetary control and would certainly

"buy a budgie to assist him in his duty" if elected).

Asked about NUS subscriptions, most of the candidates disagreed with the sliding scale (Soubry, Davis, Stack). Cooper felt it must stay and Ingram disagreed with the minimum and maximum rate. Barnes, on the other hand, wanted NUS to set up a gambling casino in every union.

Candidates disagreed over the main obstacle to be overcome in the next two years. Davis and Soubry saw the main problem as that of services. Stack saw the Tories and Barnes the Broad Left as the major problem. Ingram emphasised the report on union Finances and Cooper the huge building loan for alterations to NUS HQ.

ELECTED COOPER.

DOWN WITH NICE NORMAL INTERESTING PEOPLE

EPIC

Executive Officers

After a lot of withdrawals, seven people continued to stand. Each was allowed a short speech.

Campbell (SSA), Stack (NOISS) and Thompson (CP-Marxist-Leninist) all stressed the need for Left-wing action and condemned the Broad Left. Dixon (BL) and Andrews (Lib) stressed the problems of racism and union democracy. Bayliss (FCS) pleaded that the Right should have a voice within NUS. Hamel-Smith (E-H) launched a moving speech, likening NUS to the "hollow, stuffed men" of the T. S. Eliot poem—afraid of doing either good or evil, but waiting for the divine intervention. He urged delegates not to divide but to tear themselves apart. He asked them to look into their souls and ask themselves honestly, "Are we willing to let this lunatic make trouble in our Union?"

ELECTED (IN ORDER)
DIXON (BL)
BAYLIS (FCS)
CAMPBELL (SSA)

National Secretary

THE hustings got off to a good start with Hensley (EH) blowing bubbles across the stage.

The candidates were asked if NUS should intervene in the democratic practices of its local unions. Alexander (NOISS) and Talbot (SSA) thought it should in cases of racism, Melia (FCS) deplored the lack of democracy at union-level as did Aaronovitch (BL) who spoke of "bizarre practices". Hensley thanked the questioner for a nice question with lots of words in it and agreed that Aaronovitch knew a lot about "bizarre practices". Aaronovitch, he claimed, smoked cigars like a winner — "he thinks he's Red Rum." He accused the Broad Left of being "a load of rotativists".

Asked about field officers and area organisers there was general agreement that area links were important. Hensley, addressing delegates as "fellow hacks" stated that as Epicureans were pro-pleasure, fields were obviously very important. Alexander amused Conference by holding up a hydrangea and

likening it to the BL as it turns blue in alkaline soil and red in acid soil. Aaronovitch agreed this was "the acid test".

Turning to racialism, all candidates were pro-unity but Talbot and Alexander stressed the need to "fight the Tories first". Hensley spoke of the Broad Left's "unity in inaction" campaign and urged people not to vote for him as it had come to his attention that Epicurean transfers were going to the Broad Left.

ELECTED — AARONOVITCH.

The Motions



NANCE — Second amendment passed, accepting public accountability but stressing the need to change the law with regard to the limits on union spending. Amendments merely accepting public accountability and those wanting to ignore it entirely both fell.

FE AND UNION DEVELOPMENT — Main motion, stressing the need to fight for FE funds and recognising that lobbies of parliament are useless, was passed. It was amended to include acceptance of the need for a UD Charter, as a framework to work from.

EDUCATION — Main motion was passed. It included a very long and well-thought-out list of demands. It was amended to include the provision of equal rights for part-time students within NUS. Amendments linking the attack on education as part of the fight against cuts, all fell, as did a Tory amendment which sought to gear education to the needs of industry.

SOUTH AFRICA — Main motion was passed, expressing support for all wings of the Patriotic Front and condemned the so-called "internal" settlement. Amendments stressing support only for the armed struggle and a Tory amendment seeking a peaceful settlement in order to stop the advance of Russian Imperialism, all fell.

IMMIGRATION — Amendment one passed, accepting the need for immigration controls but attacking the racist way they are used and attacking Margaret Thatcher's policies in particular. Amendment 2 which rejected all immigration controls as racist, fell.

IRELAND — Amendment 2 was passed, believing that the main aim in Ireland should be Peace, expressing support for the peace people. The amendment calling for Troops Out and supporting the IRA, fell.

TUITION FEES AND QUOTAS — No policy was passed yet again. The main motion calling quotas and the high level of tuition fees overseas students as well as a Tory amendment which attacked only the Quota system, both fell.

carol saunders

Deputy President

ONCE more the candidates were subjected to rigorous questioning.

The candidates were asked about how NUS should treat Northern Ireland. Durkin (SWP) favoured troops out. Whilst Christie (BL) and Hayhoe (FCS) and Harris (Lib) expressed support for the present NUS campaign. Campbell (SSA) believed in self-determination for the Irish people, whilst Elbourne (E-H) ignored the question and spoke instead of the 4th Round FA Cup Match between Bristol Rovers and Southampton stating that "We pissed all over them—we won 2-nil!!"

Asked about where NUS's international priorities should be only Campbell suggested a priority — the Middle East. Elbourne on the other hand was more concerned that Rovers should win the European cup and described Tottenham as "useless".

Candidates, asked about their views on the level of tuition fees, all expressed their condemnation. Elbourne however returned to his football stories to explain his metaphor. In case Conference had not already guessed, he said, Bristol Rovers stood for the Epicureans, Southampton for the Government and Tottenham for the Broad Left.

ELECTED: STUART CHRISTIE.

Yes folks! You paid for all this

UNION AUTONOMY AND FI-



RODENT

N-BOMB AT LSE?

"PROFESSOR D'S" MACABRE PLAN EXPOSED

Union sketch

DEAR EDITORS,—I may as well confess I haven't been to any union meetings recently and haven't a clue about what's going on (not that I do even when I do go). However, I imagine it's much the same as usual, and as I get a thrill from seeing my name in print please publish this article—except this first paragraph of course! (Sorry, we're putting this in too—got to fill space somehow.—Eds.).

The meeting of September 26th started off with a motion from George Throbbis (Tory) who wanted a constitutional amendment passed requiring that 3,000 students be present at Union meetings in order for them to be quorate. This was stren-

uously opposed by Ken Luggs (Trot) who said that such a policy, if adopted, "would make the fascist junta of West Germany seem like a vicarage tea-party, complete with delectable portions of golden deep-fried Kentucky fried chicken, Colonel Saunders style." (Glad you managed to get that in.—Ed.).

At this point, perhaps inevitably, ex-Governor Bruce Fell bellowed that strange-sounding war-cry: "QUORUM." The five other people present looked rather furtive as Will Richardson, great, glorious and correct Chairperson pronounced the meeting to be in an "inquorate situation," whereupon the "masses" departed. **James Gausсен.**

THE revelation that the neutron bomb might be used for "disciplinary purposes" at LSE has caused uproar among the student population.

The "advantage" of the neutron bomb, it is claimed by its proponents on the Courts of Governors and elsewhere, is that it would exterminate students while leaving the School's buildings intact.

At a hastily-convened union meeting, Mr Roger Galloway described the news as "fuckin' scandalous" and said the idea originated from the dreaded "Professor D", whom he proceeded to name. (Although Beaver is too cowardly to name "Professor D", we understand that, far from being the "distinguished academic" of mythology, he is a sociologist, currently presiding over an obscure college in central London).

Even some Tories are shocked by the proposals. Mr Richard "Grocer" Shackleton commented: "An ordinary H-bomb would be far more effective, and would have the advantage of destroying the simply

frightful ugly old buildings whilst simultaneously getting rid of the Left-wing militants and trouble-makers."

However, many senior politicians and academics have come out strongly in favour of the Bomb. Dr Rhodes Boyson, for instance, said that LSE students had, by banning Sir Keith Joseph from speaking to them, "made Adolf Hitler seem like a Liberal," and added that "gas chambers are too good for them."

Doubtless the issue will be hotly debated for the next few weeks. What we on Rodent say is, the neutron bomb is a natural consequence of our unjust, authoritarian, neo-fascist, consumerised society, and that only when the revolution comes will we have a society free from neutron bombs, fascists, poverty, war, jelly babies and other curses on what is laughingly called our "civilisation".

CAROL SAUNDERS

ENTERTAINMENTS

Ludvig von Beethoven : Symphony number five

This is the fifth of Beethoven's albums, and I'm afraid it's not much improvement on the other four. Basically, this guy uses the well-worn technique of adding orchestration to his music. I'm afraid the result is sheer slush. The vocals are completely drowned by the strings, which also kill off what was already an almost inaudible bassline. There is a complete lack of tightness about the whole thing. It is supposed to be a concept album, but the result is very repetitive. I doubt if we'll see any great chart action, which in any case is totally irrelevant as all the charts are rigged by the capitalist robber-barons like EMI who send me all these free albums so I suppose I'd better recommend you to buy it even though Beethoven is a first-class wimp.

ENTS NEWS

You may have heard that the Beatles have reunited. In fact, they offered to give a gig at LSE, but we rejected them—they're just boring old farts, and they're not trendy enough for incredibly "in" people like me. Anyway, we've got a huge assortment of great nonentities to play at LSE, we being the only people idiotic enough to take them. The Bores, the Pseuds and Loadshit are just a few of the great bands who'll be coming, i.e. saying they will and then cancelling it all at the last minute leaving us (i.e. you) to foot the bill. Anyway, there's no need to spout any more of the familiar clichés, as you've read them all several times before.

ANDY CORNYDRIVEL

ALL GAUSSEN GARBAGE

THE annual award for the "Most Boring Column in the student press" has gone to Mr James Gausсен (sic) self-styled "humorist" in the Beaver newspaper.

Despite strong competition, Mr Gausсен won because, as the presenter of the award put it, "the essence of boringness is repetitiveness and in this art Mr Gausсен is in a class of his own. For sheer predictability in the usage of tired old gags, pathetic and snide innuendo, incomprehensible and obscure "jokes" about people no-one has ever heard of, Mr Gausсен wins this award hands down."

Mr Gausсен was later reported to be "delighted" by the award. He pledged to his reader (J. Gausсен, no relation): "The Big Yawn will continue. My column will continue as always, complete with atrocious grammar, unfunny jokes and funny misprints (which no-one notices anyway)."

N.B.—Ingredients for All Gausсен Gaiters: Hacks, Rog Galloway, Bruce Fell (et al), jelly babies, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Kurt Klappholz, bores... all the usual rubbish. Fling together at random: call it "satire."

Jonathon Richmond

Opera

I SOMETIMES wonder why I go to the trouble of producing these brilliant articles for a bunch of Philistine students who are more interested in Punk Rock (Frank Sinatra, Buddy Holly and all those other current ravers) than in my beautiful, divine, illiterate ramblings about weird pointless plots which nobody would be able to understand even if they weren't in German. Still, I get free tickets so I can't complain too much.

One particularly beautiful opera I went to recently was at Covent Garden. There, amongst all the fruit and veg outside the Tube station, were the cast. Unfortunately none of them could sing, but that is a minor criticism. Sucking my icily and ducking the rotten food that was being inexplicably hurled at the performers, I suddenly realised that this was what the Good Life was all about.



NIPPLE—Lecherous University

A proposal that bad lecturers should have their hands cut off, and that they should be hanged, drawn and quartered if their politics displease their students, is being mooted, and a motion is shortly to be discussed at the Union Meeting. Sounds like a good idea, eh Kurt?

RECTUM—North East Neasden Poly

Students have occupied the Director's private lavatory in protest against the colour of the Poly's bogpaper. They want the present green variety to be replaced by what the local Socialist Workers' Party leader, Ron Groggs, has described as "a more inspirational colour which will cause the broad mass of students to wake up and realise" (etc.) He doesn't specify the colour. Red, perhaps?

LE TURD—Banal University

All 16 pages of this issue are totally blank—nothing has happened recently. Sometimes wish we could say the same of LSE...

Carol Saunders.

Athletic Union

SORRY, folks, there's not gonna be any AU news this week—because I'm filling up all the available space with a "funny"—i.e. the usual hotchpotch of sexist jokes and snide digs at the SWP whenever possible. If by any chance any space is left, don't worry! I've thrown away all the AU garbage, so I'll put in some stupid picture with an inept caption that no-one, including myself, can understand. Must rush off to an Executive meeting now, so perhaps someone can put in all the usual stuff—getting at "political hacks," etc., etc.

Guy "T.S." Elliott.

Fell down

It was with a profound sense of shock that I noticed it was pitch dark outside, and therefore it was impossible for the sun's rays (whether of the dying or glowing variety) to gleam/flicker hesitantly/penetrate the clouds feebly, over Houghton Street. Since this subject normally takes up half my article, what could I write instead? (Sorry, Bruce, I've run out of space anyway!—J.G.)

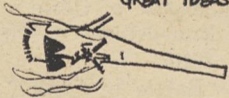
BRUCE FELL.

THAT'S ENAF



IT'S EASY DOING A REGULAR CARTOON

YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO BE ABLE TO DRAW WELL, OR HAVE GREAT IDEAS....



AND ALWAYS HAVE AN AMBIGUOUS UNFINISHED CONCLUSION FOR PSEUDS TO DROOL OVER....



PLUS A FEW MEANINGLESS RAMBLINGS....

JUST ANY FACE WILL DO.

Job's

UPRIGHT ORGAN OF ALL GAUSSEN GAITERS

'90% LIES, 10% TRUTH'

DISCOVERY

Berthed at Kings' Reach Victoria Embankment

THE future of Captain Scott's first exploration ship H.M.S. Discovery hangs in the balance. The Navy says it cannot afford to keep it, either as part of the Royal Naval Reserve or as a floating museum. Simon Marks boards the Discovery and looks into the ship's past.

Icy blizzards, gale-force winds and sub-zero temperatures — those are conditions that any Antarctic expedition must endure. Today's polar research teams of the Royal Navy have no fear of frostbite or starvation but at the turn of the century it was a different story.

Captain Robert Falcon Scott — the daredevil explorer of the Antarctic — led a crew of volunteer naval officers and scientists on his first polar expedition from Spithead in July 1901 aboard the H.M.S. Discovery.

Under sail the ship proved slow, rolled and steered badly in a heavy sea. All the same, the Discovery — probably the first purpose-built ice breaker in maritime history — was stiff and seaworthy.

But the expedition's stumbling block was its sledge teams. Scott's men were scantily clad, ill-equipped and under-nourished and because dogs were man's best friend, it was far nobler for men to drag the sledges!

Inexperience soon led to tragedy, when a sledging party was overtaken by a blizzard and one man fell over a precipice. Nevertheless, by 1903 and based in McMurdo Sound from where all Scott's future

treks would start, much scientific work had been done and a crew of men were trained for further work — though no one had learnt to manage the dogs!

As naturalist Peter Scott said in the introduction to his father's diary: "The epic story as told by my father in his diary found the following Spring in the tent where the party died must not be allowed to obscure the scientific value of the expedition."

It probably escapes most of the 250,000 visitors — mostly schoolboys — who clamber aboard the Discovery each year, that the ship had nothing whatever to do with Scott's last fatal struggle to the South Pole in 1912 on the Terra Nova.

Although beaten in the race to the Pole by Amundsen, Scott successfully led his four-man sledge team and achieved the goal that had eluded him since the first expedition was abandoned in 1903. Only on the way back to base, the party ran into a fierce blizzard and broke down. The remaining three men — Captain Scott, Dr Wilson and Lieutenant Bowers — died of starvation only 11 miles from a supply depot.

Until she was purchased by the Admiralty in 1955, Discovery had a long and chequered history, carrying munitions to Czarist Russia, researching into the habits of whales and finally as a drill ship for boy scouts!

And now she floats on Old Father Thames as a venue for ad-

mirals' cocktail parties and where schoolboys daydream about polar exploration and meeting the abominable snowman.

Her hull is rotting, the Navy cannot afford to refit her and there is talk of sheltering the ship as a centrepiece for a Scott Museum — no doubt in concrete inside a glass case!

The man at the helm is senior shipkeeper Edward Pyke who keeps the shine on the wardroom table every day. He said: "It's true she's getting on — 77 years now — but I would be sorry to see her go, as would many others."

"The only place she should be kept is right here, whatever needs doing down below."

A visit to the boat at her mooring at King's Reach on the Embankment is not a breathtaking experience, because the best parts — the ship's biscuits — are not open to the public. Only the wardroom and the adjoining officers' quarters are open to inspection but strangely the names of old salts — Hodgson, Bowers and, of course, Scott — above their cabins, bring life to the wardroom. The mahogany woodwork and dim lighting conjures up an image of swarthy, polo-necked sailors drinking rum and singing late into the night.

Of course, this does not do justice to the courage of Scott's Antarctic explorers but not many floating museums give the casual tourist such a sense of history. Long live the Discovery and God bless all who visit her and donate generously.

S. MARKS



Old Caledonia

There's one other steamship by Waterloo Bridge which is sure of having no cash-flow problems.

She's the pride of the Bass Charington line and for a slightly higher-than-average price you can drink and be merry on the P.S. Old Caledonia.

With a choice of bars below, astern or on deck, the stains of musak and hearty chat make for a calm, evening atmosphere.

Built in 1934, she was used for passenger services on the river Clyde until she was commissioned by the navy for mine-sweeping duties in 1939. The original name of Caledonia was changed to H.M.S. Goatfell to give her a new lease of life.

Strolling around her tidy decks and plush, upholstered bars, you would never imagine that she braved Nazi divebombers to help the Dunkirk evacuation in 1940.

Back in civvy street, so to speak, she continued cruising up the Clyde until Bass Charington bought the vessel in 1970 and made the alterations necessary for a floating pub and restaurant.

Just one last word of warning — decks are cleared 15 minutes before closing time so last orders must be rushed down.

S. MARKS.

HORACE HELPS HARD-UP NAVY

TORY GLC leader Mr Horace Cutler has announced that his council will help keep the Discovery afloat in London — providing a public appeal is launched.

He promised that County Hall will add £1 to every £4 raised by the public for a trust fund.

This was in response to a proposal from Tory GLC member Mr Roland Freeman for a maritime museum of the nation's great ships. Mr Freeman said: "We already have the Cutty Sark at Greenwich and HMS Belfast moored near Tower Bridge. It ought to be possible gradually to collect more of the famous ships of the past and put them on show in Dockland."

Part of the proceeds from the Council's municipal lottery could be used for schemes which would preserve the country's maritime heritage, he added.

But Mr Cutler said that the ship could not be saved entirely at the ratepayer's expense. If the GLC were alone responsible, there would have to be funds continually available for its upkeep. He said: "People should not get the idea that they can simply come to the GLC with a begging-bowl."

It is expected that a rescue appeal will soon begin, led by Sir Patrick Bayly, director of the Maritime

Trust which already administers the Cutty Sark and Sir Francis Chichester's Gipsy Moth at Greenwich.

A spokesman for the trust said: "We are looking into plans for saving the vessel and will put them to the Ministry of Defence in about six months. The cost of the scheme will probably be £500,000 — most of which we would hope to raise from public and private donations."

"No-one really knows what state the hull is in; we have done a preliminary survey but to see down below would involve raising the ship out of the water, and that costs money," the spokesman added.

A Royal Navy spokesman said: "An expensive refit plus annual maintenance costs can no longer be borne on pared-down Defence votes, but because of the Discovery's history, the Ministry of Defence, rather than scrap her, would happily give the ship to anyone who seemed capable of preserving her."

And he added: "The National Maritime Museum and the Maritime Trust have been consulted about HMS Discovery. There will continue discussions over proposals for the ship's future, but it may be some while before any announcements can be made."

S. MARKS

Careerist hack to hit LSE?

Another Beaver shock horror exclusive

HAMPSTEAD Labour Party's wonder-boy secretary 17-year-old Lucien Hudson hopes to come to the LSE in October.

Hailed by Camden politicians as the party's answer to William Haig, the precocious young Northerner who took the Tory Party conference by storm, Hudson is said to be the next PM but two — after Dr David Owen.

Although he is studying for 'A' levels — and even too young to vote — every ward in Hampstead has nominated him to be their youngest-ever party secretary. And although he has not definitely decided on a political career, it appears he will be moving on to the LSE political stage in October.

He said: "I have thought of taking a year off in between school and university but if I get the right

grades I'll probably be there in October."

As for his political stance he said: "I'm essentially a Tribunit and want true socialist policies. That means more public ownership and greater industrial democracy."

Hudson was elected secretary of Camden's Local Government Committee at the unripe age of 16 and is now chairman of the borough's Co-operative party which is "almost a full-time occupation".

Ironically, one of his major achievements was helping to formulate the party's manifesto for the council elections in May yet he is not old enough to stand himself.

Party work has not hampered his work so far but with exams looming in June he is thinking of taking on fewer commitments.

SERIES OF LATIN AMERICAN FILMS ORGANISED BY THE CHILE SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN AND THE LSE LATIN AMERICAN SOCIETY. TUESDAYS AT 7.00 P.M.

MAY 2nd—

Three Films by Santiago Alvarez (Cuba).
"L.B.J." "Hanoi Martez I/Diez."
"Hasta La Victoria Siempre."

MAY 9th

"Battle of Chile," Part One, "The Insurrection of the Bourgeoisie." Patricio Guzman (Chile-Cuba, 1973-5).

MAY 16th

"Battle of Chile," Part Two, "The Coup D'Etat"
Patricio Guzman (Chile-Cuba, 1973-5).

MAY 23rd

"The Cry of the People," Humberto Rios (Argentina '72).

MAY 30th

"The Jackal of Mahuelto," Littin (Chile).

JUNE 6th

"Argentina in the hour of the furnaces"
Part One: Neo-Colonialism and Violence."
Fernandone Solanas (Argentina 1968).

JUNE 13th—

"The blood of the Condor," Jorge Sanjines (Bolivia '69).

JUNE 20th

"Argentina in the hour of the furnaces"
Part Three: Violence and Liberation.
Fernando E. Solanas (Argentina 1968).

At NEW THEATRE, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, HOUGHTON STREET, W.C.2

Admission 40p

All welcome.

BEAVROCRACY

*It's thank you
and goodnight*

ALTHOUGH Martin and I discarded the work-box at the beginning of the year, I feel that this last issue should not go by without a vote of thanks to all those people who have made up the mythical Beaver collective.

Syrila and Simon both did a lot for Beaver during the Michaelmas term and Andrew Campbell, Tim Meyer and Andrew Evans were extremely helpful in providing photographs often at very short notice.

But the real stalwarts this year were Anton Chapman, who produced the Ents page for us every issue; Guy Elliot who dealt with (I choose the words advisedly) the AU page and made it gel despite his appalling layout; Jonathan Richmond, who had a tendency to get on everyone's nerves, especially on copy day, but who was still prepared to help whenever he was needed, and who tried desperately (and I hope not totally unsuccessfully) to raise the cultural level in the Beaver Office; Will Richardson, whose good humour and willingness to help have rescued us out of more crises than I care to remember; Bruce Fell, whose, shall we say, unique style has influenced us all and whose habit of dashing off only to reappear several hours

later with typed-up copy has been indispensable; Ed Walker, whose placidness and dogged determination in the face of hysteria have had a soothing effect on everyone else and whose ironical approach acted as the perfect foil to Martin, probably saving Beaver from some of his more extreme ideas.

Finally I must thank James Gausson. Not only has his humour kept us laughing all the way to St Pancras at midnight on a Thursday night, but he has also done most of the work. He has, as you have noticed, produced two regular columns about which I can only say people either hate them or love them madly. But apart from that he has done a considerable amount of unseen work, running the SPDS virtually single-handed—suffice it to say that 26 other colleges all know James's sense of humour as well as you do.

Above all these are the people who have stood calmly by until Martin and I have stopped screaming at each other late on a Thursday night, and with whom, somehow, we have scraped together some sort of an issue every fortnight.

I know it's a cliché but without them Beaver would never have happened.

CAROL SAUNDERS

Antidisinvestmentarianism

HAVE you heard calls recently to put another 80-100,000 British workers out of jobs? Further, have there also been calls to put large numbers of black South African workers out of work and effectively banish them to their "tribal homelands"? You may not think so, but this would be the practical effect of "disinvestment" in South Africa.

However, before extending this line of argument, it is as well to point out that "disinvestment" is not disinvestment at all. If, for example, the LSE were to decide to sell its assets in firms with a "South African connection" (this means ICI, Barclays, British Leyland [I should imagine they were sold long ago!] and numerous others) then these assets would be sold on the Stock Market.

There, other fat, profit-hungry capitalist pigs/prudent investors will buy them. Where is the disinvestment? There would only be true disinvestment if every shareholder investing in exclusively South African firms sold their assets. This will obviously not happen.

In 1976, Anglo-South African trading figures stood as follows: exports to SA: £645m; imports from SA (excluding gold): £612m. It takes little thought to work out the importance of this for employment in this country. What about South African employment? Unemployment there was said, off the cuff, to be fairly bad by their Embassy.

South Africa provides jobs for over a million workers from OUTSIDE the country apart from their own employment. Even 100,000 workers come to the gold mines from Mozambique. Again the consequences of disinvestment or even

economic sanctions should not bear contemplating.

Perhaps the most important point to realise is that the Black population would suffer first. Tens of thousands would become unemployed in the urban and township areas. South African society would become polarised, and worse than Soweto would inevitably follow. Some callous revolutionaries may encourage and savour this — with the bloodshed on both sides. Those with more genuine intentions would be wise to think again.

Indeed foreign business can exert pressure for social reform. Western companies can set examples with working conditions and Trade Union treatment. Barclays have been praised for their improvements in this field, eg the number of non-whites employed in clerical posts has gone up from 53 to 1,912 in 10 years. Shareholders in such companies can exert pressure. Disinvested asset owners cannot. Barclays have listened to the conceited Peter Hain at their AGM even though he was only a proxy.

One can advance more reasons against the badly-reasoned disinvestment argument — South Africa's pro-Western stance, its ties with this country, its possible nuclear weaponry, and definitely the hypocrisy of condemning it alone for breaches of human rights.

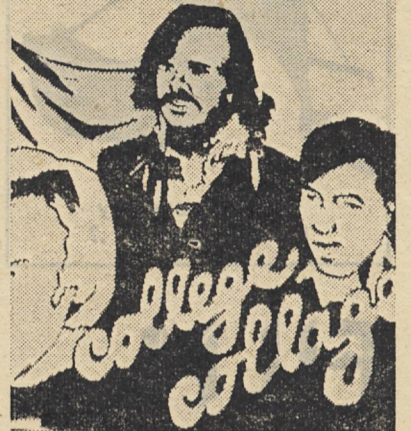
Disinvestment and sanctions are not the answer. Moral suasion, internal pressure and a booming market economy (which ignores the petty barriers of apartheid) are a better starting point for evolutionary change.

NICK WHITE

[The Beaver Collective wishes to reiterate that it prints any views not overtly fascist or racist.]

Hardship fund open

Self-financing students wishing to apply, please collect application forms Emma (S100a), Elana (S100) or Daud (S117) and hand in completed forms by Friday 5th May.



"LE NURB of Brunel University"

SIR KEITH JOSEPH, the "highly eminent Tory economist" spoke to packed audiences where he described his idea of an ideal society which seems to be a place where the most cunning have the right to survive, the less cunning have the right to work if they are lucky. It is a society split into haves and have nots, black and white, educated and not educated, etc., etc. What a pity that we never had the fun of hearing him ourselves.

FUSE, of North London Poly.

At a poorly attended UGM (I've heard that somewhere before) some 100 students 'elected' the unions NUS conference delegation. The political breakdown is as follows:

- 4 SSA
- 6 Broad Left
- 6 SWP
- 1 Independent

This is the first Broad Left majority since PNL opened in 1970. Is it any wonder that NUS elected such a mediocre executive?

KLAP of South Bank Poly

Klap, who kidnapped Daud Khan in the vacation as a rag week stunt, which failed when Daud refused to purchase the rag on grounds that it was racist and sexist, were delayed in producing their rag mag due to widescale apathy, that well-known disease which results in student mediocrity—it appears that their rag mag was postponed "due to lack of interest." Perhaps if they grew out of the whole "rag-mag student syndrome," they would not produce racist and sexist magazines or waste Daud's time.

POLYGON 60 of Birmingham Poly.

At the recent Poly elections the Tories have become the largest political grouping on next year's executive. They have captured the positions of General Secretary, External Relations Officer and Internal Relations Officer. FCS has some cheer despite their recent shenanigans here. There is an interesting letter also which brings out the attempt by Russian workers to form genuinely independent Trade Unions in the USSR and that this fight should be supported by all socialists who believe in the democratic right to organise in free and independent Trade Unions.

GUY ELLIOTT



Beaver's dynamic duo show the colours.

Sycophantic hack lashes out

A TRIBUTE TO PEACOCK

ALTHOUGH I was asked to write a "tribute" to Martin Peacock, I do not intend to indulge in an exercise of grovelling sycophancy. M. Peacock, for the uninformed, has been co-editor of Beaver for the last year, during which time I have developed a grudging respect for his ruthless methods and even his dotty politics.

Peacock has the wonderful gift of enormous enthusiasm and un-failing optimism, at least as far as Beaver is concerned. Unfortunately, these qualities, though doubtless most praiseworthy, often have the effect of increasing the general despondency and pessimism already prevalent in my nature.

My memories of the last year seem to consist of Grand Strategies, bold plans and brave visions. A weekly Beaver, 16 pages, chocked full of the most dynamic journalism around, presided over by a Sabbatical Communications Officer, free jelly babies for all... where are they now?

Worse still was when these great ideas occurred on copy day. An eight-pager is planned; we are working steadily; it should be done on time. Enter Peacock. "How about a ten-pager? A lot more copy is going to come in. General groans ensue.

Carol briefly resists; we soon submit. Worse is to come, however: two hours later Peacock is ringing the printers warning them of a 12-page issue. Panic is now rampant among all three of us; this gradually develops into a state of utter frenzy, culminating in its full glory

at ten minutes to midnight when Peacock, after facing a sustained barrage of unprintable language, finally admits that "Well, the Christian Union said they would give us those two pages by ten, but I suppose we may not be able to do it after all."

What makes the whole thing more galling is that he often has the effrontery to lie back calmly in the armchair telling us how to layout pages. Rather a hierarchical form of Anarchism, I feel.

Despite this protracted whine, however, I'd better concede that Peacock—and Carol for that matter—has presided over a lot of changes in Beaver, most of them for the better. Particularly worthy of mention are: the way he has fiddled the budget to get us back to fortnightly issues (don't tell Julian!); the Student Paper Distribution Scheme (which he has generously allowed me to take care of); a better (I think) standard of layout; a quicker and more efficient production job; and even, dare I say, a more lighthearted and irreverent tone to the paper generally. Looking back over our pages for the last year I think we can fairly claim to have kept our readers interested.

Above all, Beaver has been more exciting. Regular attempts by the political hacks to censure us; libel writs from NAFF; the desperate attempts to get the damned thing out on time; this is the stuff of which a student rag is made.

Well done, Martin.

JAMES GAUSSON.



Did someone say
Keith Joseph . . . ?

FILM

WILD, locker-room celebrations and late-night drinking bouts make Michael Ritchie's "Semi-Tough" no ordinary game of American football.

In a nutshell, it's about how two of the Miami team—Billy Clyde Puckett (Burt Reynolds) and Shake Tiller (cool Kris Kristofferson) change their images as football stars, for better or for worse.

Big Ed Bookman (Robert Preston) is the millionaire club owner who lectures his luscious daughter (Jill Clayburgh) that living with his star players is strange, but not sleeping with any of them is stranger!

When daughter Barbara Jane detects a change in Shake, he confides that he has found himself thanks to BEAT (Bismark Energy Attack Training)—a send-up of TM, EST and other devotional fads.

Billy Clyde, on the other hand, dictates his memoirs in the confines of the privy, and is later told by Big Ed to get into shape for the big Super Bowl game by attending the Clara Pelf Institute of Muscular Harmony.

But then Shake proposes to Barbara Jane who for all her willing, is a nervous and sensitive bride. Meanwhile Billy Clyde and Barbara have intimate conversations wondering why they never married.

The bride-to-be attempts a BEAT seminar so that she can share "it" in matrimony with Shake. She does not heed the warning of BEAT's dynamic leader Friedrich Bismark (Bert Convy) that 'mixed' marriages never work out.

Unknown to Barbara, Billy Clyde joins the whacky session and pretends to have found "it" while Barbara Jane broods over her aesthetic impotence.

Of course, the bumptious Billy has got the love bug but does not let on about this or his BEAT pretension.

Super Bowl day comes and Miami surges from behind to win since Billy Clyde and Shake are on the ball. BEAT seems the answer to everything, but when the wedding day comes, Shake is worried that Barbara Jane isn't a true convert and best man Billy encourages the bridegroom's doubts about Barbara Jane.

At the crucial moment, Shake cannot bring himself to say "I do" and as brutal brawls erupt at the altar, Billy Clyde and Barbara Jane head for the nearby beach hand-in-hand.

S. MARKS.

Reviews . . .

OPERA

Seduction in Drag

FOR many people Rossini means The Barber of Seville (except for gluttons for whom it means Tournadoes), but Rossini composed forty operas, of which "Count Ory," first performed twelve years after the Barber was one of his last, premiered in Paris in 1828, one of the only two French operas he composed.

The story concerns Adele, whose wary husband has left nothing to chance when he goes off to the Crusades, by locking her in a castle. Count Ory, in love with Adele, manages to get past the guards, however, first disguised as a hermit, then as a Mother Superior . . .

The present revival of Count Ory opens at ENO on May 11, and promises to be a good one with Jean Brecknock in the title role and Eiddwen-Harry, fresh from an exhilarating portrayal of Asteria in Handel's Tamerlano at Riverside Studios, as Adele. David Lloyd-Jones will conduct.

Much of Rossini remains to be discovered and I am also looking forward to the new ENO production of "The Thieving Magpie," due next season.

J. RICHMOND



A scene from Rossini's Count Ory.

THEATRE

Warehouse of Theatre

THE Warehouse might at first appear unlikely as a theatre. In an area of Covent Garden known more for vegetables than for culture, entrance is up a bare staircase, a single un-

shaded lightbulb hanging down for illumination, a sign exhorting the last person out to switch it off. There is no box-office as such, just a general office which seems to also to serve as a changing room, and the person selling tickets also sweeps the floor and stands at the entrance afterwards wishing the audience goodnight.

The playing space does indeed look like a warehouse, and the running costs are low. The plays put on there by the RSC are, however, of a very high standard, and in the close and personal environment of the theatre are all the more effective. I recently saw The Lorenzaccio Story there, and the evening gave me just as much pleasure as one spent in the great culture palaces of London—and the cost to students is only £1.00.

Good theatre at low cost is a lesson others, notably the National with their latest price increases imminent, need to learn.

Also at the Warehouse are The Dance of Death and 'Tis Pity She's a Whore.

CINEMA

Portobello Road's Electric Cinema

WHEN wandering amongst the fruit and veg stalls and antique markets of Portobello Road on a Saturday afternoon, don't be surprised if you suddenly come across a domed building with a grey facade, flashing lights, and a recess with film posters on view. For this rather unusual sight is the Electric Cinema, one of London's most adventurous and satisfying movie-houses.

Its strange exterior design is complemented by the interior; a barrel-vaunted auditorium with intricate woodcarving, gas lamps, and brightly painted walls. Opened in 1911, the building's décor has remained virtually unaltered ever since; it is the oldest purpose-built cinema in England, and has a preservation order on it.

But of course it is the films screened that matter most; and with an average of fifteen different feature-length films each week, there is something for everybody. Not only is there an incredible variety—from Keaton to Nicholson, Bergman to Third World, "Texas Chainsaw Massacre" to "Top Hat", Allman to Mizoguchi—but there are frequent showings of rarities; a double bill of 3-D features, Bunuel's surrealist classic "Un Chien Andalou" and Orson Welles' "Immortal Story", have all been seen in the last few weeks.

There have been distinguished British premieres too; amongst many others, George (Star Wars) Lucas' "THX 1138", Welles' "F for Fake", Alain Fournier's "The Wanderer" and Borowczyk's "Story of Sin", were all first seen by English audiences at the Electric.

Generally the programming is of a very high standard; intelligent double-bills featuring either the work of one director, actor, or writer or a subject treated in two differing ways, make up the majority of the evening performances;

while the matinees and late-shows change daily.

Furthermore customers' requests are sometimes even acted upon, something quite rare in London; and informative, almost encyclopaedic, programmes covering all the films shown over a two-month period are issued free at the cinema.

So if there's a film you've been waiting to see for years; or something you missed last month at the local Odeon; or if you just want a relaxed, enjoyable and intelligently different evening at the movies, without the stuffiness of the NFT, you could well find that the Electric could satisfy your needs.



More power to lay-out artists
in their efforts to fill up gaps
on the page.

FILM

Bertolucci's epic 1900

Still showing at the Classic Complex, Oxford Street, is Bertolucci's epic, 1900.

The plot is familiar: two boys, from totally different social backgrounds grow up together but inevitably adopt the roles and attitudes which society has ordained—so their bond of friendship is forever strained by social cleavage.

A hopelessly miscast Robert de Niro plays Alfredo, the heir to a prosperous estate in the rich agricultural province of Emilia, whilst the more convincing Gerard Depardieu plays the bastard born into a vast family of farmworkers. They grow up against the background of the emerging political movements of Fascism and Communism.

Unfortunately, the film well illustrates popular cinema's weakness as a medium for pushing a clear, yet at the same time convincing, political opinion. In many respects the film has the political sophistication of Star Wars. Virtually every peasant becomes a good, honest, upstanding Marxist-Leninist, whilst the only fascist portrayed in any depth, the local foreman Attila (no relation!) played by Donald Sutherland, manages to commit every bestiality from cruelty to cats to mass murder.

Nevertheless, the film met with some success in portraying the relationship between the propertied classes and fascism itself. De Niro despises the fascists for their inhumanity as well as their coarse table manners, and even feels some sympathy for the peasants' socialism. Yet the fascists do in the end protect his interests; therefore he will not turn them away.

Similarly, Attila himself only rose to power thanks to the landowners, but despises them as degenerate parasites to be brushed aside by the fascist revolution.

Bertolucci is too preoccupied with waving the red flag to reproduce the visual delight of Last Tango in Paris, but manages to demonstrate a warmth of feeling for his native Emilia. The film also has many well-created set-pieces, such as a peasants' dance, the funeral of three murdered labourers, and farm scenes such as the slaughtering of pigs.

The film ends with an important point: following the 1945 liberation, the peasants set up a popular court at which De Niro's crimes as padrone are read out. He is sentenced to death, but his childhood friend insists that, with the advent of communism "The padrone" is dead anyway, so Alfredo is free to live on. But when the American soldiers arrive and the partisans surrender their arms, Alfredo can say "Now you are disarmed—so the padrone lives on!"

Many students have felt that four pounds is an extortionate amount to charge for a film cut to two-thirds its original length. The film was advertised widely in the student press—why was no student discount offered?

E. J. WALKER

Aldwych Henry VI

WHAT happens when a king big enough to be the hero of Henry V dies leaving a baby boy on the throne of a feudal kingdom divided by an ambitious nobility and fighting for the definition of its territories in France? The answer might be covered by any of the L.S.E. academic departments, but if you want to find out in a way that will keep you awake, pop around to the Aldwych Theatre and see Will Shakespeare's scenario, a representation rather than a documentary, and embodying accuracies that history could never attain.

Alan Howard is perfect as the

good man almost literally born into a situation where goodness is not enough, and the production (with help from the programme, in this case worth the normally extortionate price of 40p) lays great emphasis on the problem of identity in kingship, and in the family. And it is in the portrayal of the dynastic rivalries (and therefore loyalties) of the period that this production really excels.

Julian Glover is an excellent Warwick, proudly wearing the title of king-maker in a situation where anyone else of note merely wants to be king, while York (Emrys James) displays all the attributes of earthly kingship, including, at times, a pride verging on lunacy.



Julian Glover (Warwick), Emrys James (York).

London Theatre

At first I found James' performance not quite right, he seemed too buffoonlike and vaulting to be a credible pretender. But this turns out to be part of the role, and for all the talk of his genealogy and his legitimate claim, when he and Henry actually confront one another it is a purely personal comparison that York makes:

"That head of thine doth not become a crown . . .
. . . That gold must round engirt these brows of mine."

A word should be said about the Jack Cade rebellion—and indeed it doesn't get much more than that, but what it does get, in part two, is superb. James Laurenson makes Cade less purely an idiot than might be inferred from a cold reading of the text, and more subtle than a simple rabble-rouser.

His claim to be a Mortimer sounds like the claim of a man who believes it, and the ambiguity is sustained throughout his time on stage. His death at the hands of Iden draws real sympathy from the audience, despite his attack on the gentry (the usual patrons of the Aldwych seem nearer to the court than the gutter):

"Tell Kent from me that she hath lost her best man, and exhort all the world to be



Helen Mirren (Margaret) and Alan Howard (Henry VI.)

cowards; for I, that never feared any man, am vanquished by famine, not by valour."

Not that I am suggesting that the part would appeal to any vulgar Marxist—but Laurenson's performance might well appeal to a sophisticated one.

There is much more worth seeing in this trilogy, but to tell it would take as long as to see. Student standby tickets should still be available, and you can spend the couple of hours waiting in the Three Tuns. Try not to drink small beer, or Jack Cade may have your head off.

WILL RICHARDSON

THE EASTER vacation has seen a couple of very good new plays finding their way on to the West End stage.

The most impressive of them is "Class Enemy," currently on at the Royal Court. The play is set in the classroom of a South London comprehensive where 5K hold out—5K being the school's problem class, whom staff would ignore forever if they could.

The play is frightening in its honesty about the educational lot of kids whom society has destined to "fail" before they even start. The writing by Nigel Williams is strong yet tender. The play is performed by teenagers from the Anna Scher Children's Theatre. Student standby tickets are available.

☆☆☆☆

The most successful playwright in terms of work produced on the West End stage in the last 10 years is undoubtedly Alan Ayckbourn, who has averaged one new play a year. His latest offering, "Ten Times Table" is a gem.

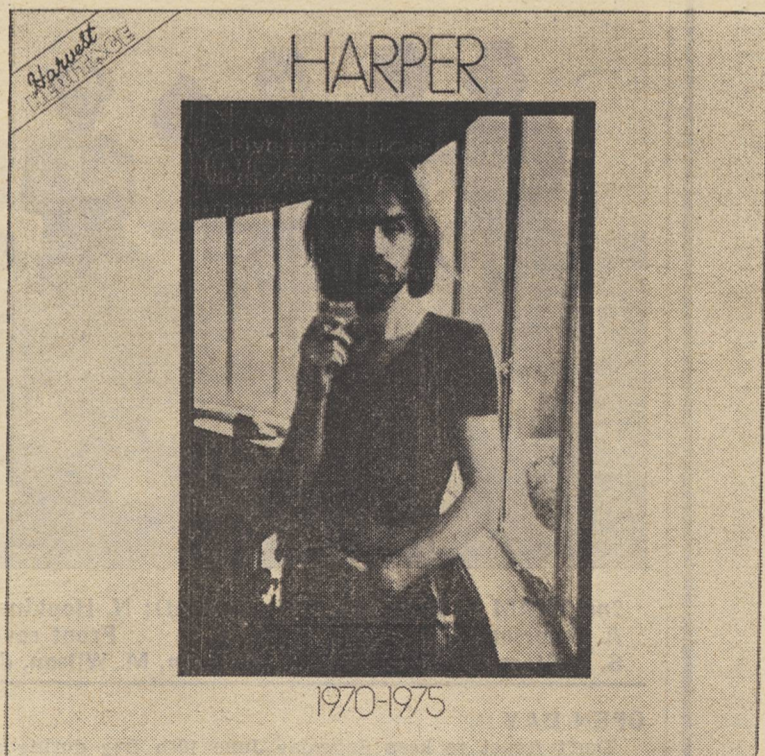
The action surrounds the activities of a group of local worthies who have formed themselves into a committee to organise and coordinate the celebrations of the anniversary of the Pendon Uprising. From such an apparently unfruitful source, Mr Ayckbourn has crafted a first-rate farce.

The characters include a local councillor for whom no trifle is too small, his totally lovable mother superbly played by Matyelok Gibbs, and Julia McKenzie who plays the wife of the committee chairman and is a first class bitch.

I wouldn't mind betting that this display will run for a year.

PAUL WILCE.

ROY HARPER OUT ON HIS OWN AGAIN



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BACK TO
REALITY

SHSM 2025





ATHLETIC UNION

IT'S GOODBYEE . . .

AS the skies opened and the rain poured from the clouds like the tears welling from the eyes of the assembled company, Victor Volume and Arthur Ramrod departed this world in a blaze of glory to sup for eternity in that great Bier Keller in the sky. The basic problem stemmed from the decision to have their mortal remains cremated—it took three days and four hundred firemen to extinguish the fire. Brewers of real ale and distillers throughout the country are now observing an official four weeks' mourning.

However, our special correspondent in spiritualism, I. Herda-Voice, reports that only yesterday a medium under Charing Cross Arches was able to contact them when his meths bottle started to move in an alarming fashion. Using his street chalks he recorded the following message:—

"Owing to the amount of stick that we delivered upon the heads of the bar staff in Carr-Saunders, we feel that we should commence by setting the record straight and pointing out that recent developments have allowed them to import a very reasonable pint of Marlowe Real Ale. Well done, chaps. At the same time even more far-reaching developments have been taking place in Passfield where £4,000 is being invested in bar modifications. This will allow regular supplies of real ale to be maintained by the bar-manager in there. The one disappointment with the hall bars this year is the retrogressive step taken by Rosebery in withdrawing real ale from their range. However, we should point out that this is entirely the

fault of the clientele and not the bar manager. We are afraid that the half of lager-and-lime set have taken over in Rosebery.

"Recently Arthur was forced to reside in the Beaver's Retreat for a couple of weeks and he reports that he was not overly impressed with the general standards up there. It was a brave move by the School to introduce a real ale bar but, unfortunately the beer up there all too often resembles a sliced loaf. Where the fault lies for this I wouldn't like to say but it would be nice to see an improvement in the way of clearer beer.

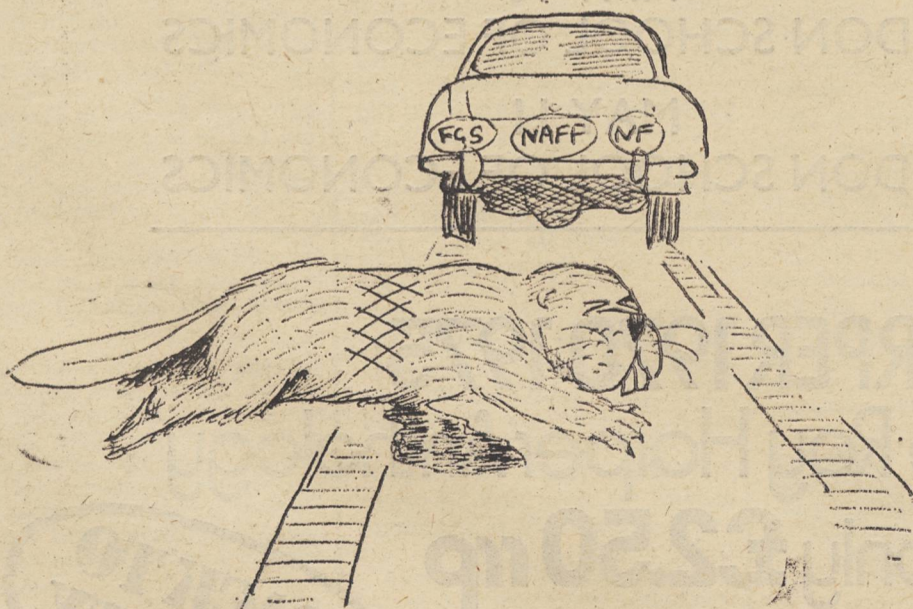
Our recent visit to Dublin was to prove a real success and a real revelation. Naturally, we expected, and got a long stream of absolutely superb Guinness—many English bar staff would do well to take lessons in pouring 'South African lager' from our friends in Dublin. However, we were also very impressed by their local bitter—Smithwicks; this is a very pleasant pint reminiscent of Braekspare's Special. Pubs in Dublin that we particularly recommend are the Lower Deck and Slattery's.

"Finally, we firmly recommend this place we are residing in at the moment; all the beer is hangover proof and the flow is non-stop. We look forward to seeing all you potential dipsos up here soon—so it's goodbye from him and it's goodbye from me. Good supping, chaps."

Victor Volume and Arthur Ramrod
—their final dispatch



"WE PUT THE CLOG IN HIS FREE SPEECH..."



"THEY WANT TO PUT THE WHEEL ON OUR FREE SPEECH"

CRICKET HOCKEY

OWING to inclement weather last Wednesday, the annual practice-cum-trial match had to be cancelled and has thus made the task of picking our in-form sides for the UAU a very difficult one. We have UAU matches this Wednesday, Friday and Sunday and if any players who have not yet shown interest in playing for the LSE could make an appearance at the AU office (Room E65—behind the Porters Lodge) this would be greatly appreciated.

On a brighter note, the club has only lost one first-team member from last year's side which recorded our only UAU success against Kent U. and so any additions to the side must increase our chances of qualifying for the divisional play-off. The 2nd XI, too, have three UAU fixtures on the same days as the 1st XI.

D. PHILPOTT
Cricket Club Capt.

THIS season has gone pretty well, the highlights being the probable promotion of the 1st XI from Division III of the UL League, and their victory over Sussex in the UAU competition. Unfortunately the 2nd XI collapsed after the UAU games, but lasted longer than members of the Athletic Committee expected!

Next year it is hoped to run two regular XIs, plus a mixed XI (and Ladies' XI with a better supply of players!), including Saturday games. The 2nd XI may be entered in the league, so perhaps two divisions will be tapped. With a fair-sized new intake and better weather, the future looks bright for LSE hockey.

Finally, mention must be made of the two award winners: "Player of the Year" Laurie Nichols; and "Clubman of the Year"—Tony Jordan.

A. C. JEBB
(Hon. Sec.)



1st TEAM — Back row (left to right): I. Morgan, S. Burrows, J. Brocklesby, A. Mackenzie, D. Finagan, D. Healey, S. Sagal. Front row (l. to r.): P. Linacre, S. Smith, R. Patterson, T. Roff, J. Lewis.



2nd TEAM — Back row (left to right): N. Hopkins, J. Clegg, A. Paterson, C. Pearman, J. Szego. Front row (l. to r.): S. Walters, G. Kaempfert, P. Jenneson, M. Wilson, J. Glennon.

OPEN DAY

Don't forget to keep Saturday June 10th free during exam revision because this sees the annual Open Day, soccer and tennis competitions, rugby game etc plus a disco and barbecue in the evening make for a great day out. Look out for posters around the place in the next couple of weeks giving further details.

D. PHILPOTT (Gen. Sec.)