



OUR DEMANDS ARE:

- 1 No fee increases.
- 2 Reopen the Hardship Fund, especially to new students.
- 3 Registration on arrival;
No fines for postgrads.
- 4 Public assurance from Dahrendorf that fees will not go up next year.

FUND OPEN

Pay your fees into the Union Strike Fund

THE Fees Strike Fund is now open. All those who can pay them into the fund are urged to do so as soon as possible. The Office (S117) is open between 12-2 every day.

Anyone can withdraw at any time, but a large fund will give us some of the bargaining power required to force the School to consider our demands. Those who cannot pay into the fund because their cheques are made payable only to the LSE should withhold them.

People who cannot pay their fees immediately can obtain temporary registration cards from the registry. At the meeting with Dahrendorf and the Union Executive on Wednesday, October 5th, he stated that he would recommend that fines for late registration be removed. The mitigation of these two threats (i.e. no registration and fines) makes the position of students participating in the fees strike considerably stronger.

Application forms for the Hardship Fund are now available from the Union Office. We urge all students to apply for the Hardship Fund immediately.

OPEN LETTER TO MR ALCOCK in reply to his letter dated 27th September, 1977.

DEAR MR ALCOCK,—The points raised in your letter, copies of which were distributed around the School, have been passed on to OSAC, an open committee of the Union which has had a mandate for two years to "take any action" over the question of fees.

OSAC will be replying to this letter shortly; in the meantime I would like to answer some of the points myself.

On the question of publicity, sending letters to students' homes may sound fair but in practice this was far from adequate since at least one-third of students did not receive the letter due to changes of address.

Further, the 27th May is too close to exam time to rely on posters or articles in Beaver to reach students since most people study mainly at home at this time.

In your letter you state that the closing date for applications was not arbitrary, but no School Committee on which students are represented was consulted before the date was fixed. The Students' Union was not consulted either.

The above-mentioned matter was discussed at the meeting of the Committee for Overseas Students, but although the student members voiced their objections to the closing date, no alteration of date was considered. Further, at a GPC meeting on 7th July, 1977 it was said, and I quote from the minutes "it must be understood that little or no surplus funds will remain to help new students from the grant made by the Standing Committee." Yet, in your letter you said that applications to the Hardship Fund are still being considered. How are these two statements to be reconciled?

The OSAC statement about the threatening letters was made because a large number of students came to the Union expressing this opinion. Quite a few students came to see me personally and said they were considering dropping their application as a result.

In your letter you stated that there has been no change in the regulations for registration. However, last year, undergraduates were given registration cards on arrival and this year they are withheld until fees are paid.

Your statement that the School has never given information to the Home Office and that the School's guarantee was therefore unnecessary seems to echo similar statements made in the past concerning student campaign demands.

Yours sincerely,
Daud Khan.

STOP PRESS

Motion proposed by the Beaver Editors to disaffiliate from the London Student Organisation PASSED at Union meeting. Up the Revolution!

* * *

Dahrendorf refuses to give undertaking that there will be no further fee increases.

* * *

Executive pass Trading Staff salary increases (costing circa £2,000 p.a.) after hurried discussion and without due consultation with Finance Secretary on the effect of the increases.

See Page 10.

SANDWICH course students at Loughborough and Bath Universities who are due to spend the 77/78 session working in industry, are being told that a charge of £500 will be made during their year out of college. Previously no such charge had to be made at Loughborough and a charge of £53 had been made in Bath. It seems likely that other Universities and Polytechnics may also make such charges in the coming year.

Such charges are ridiculous because students doing industrial training usually do not spend more than 5-6 hours during the whole year receiving formal tuition in their college — they will be effectively paying tuition fees of about £100 per hour.

Minogue's blacklist

L.S.E. Government lecturer Kenneth Minogue has participated in a rabid McCarthyite report on higher education.

The report, ironically entitled "The Attack on Higher Education" is a twenty page scare about higher education. It is published by the Institute for the study of Conflict (a stable companion of the National Association For Freedom — of Grunwick's infamy) and descends upon us under the formal aegis of Professor Julius Gould of Nottingham University.

Gould's associates on the project are an interesting team: Brian Crozier, the I.S.C.'s Director, was involved in the controversial Forum World Features from 1965 until its demise after disclosures of C.I.A. links in 1975; Professor Edward Shils, a fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge University, was a director of the magazine Encounter, revealed in the sixties as funded by the C.I.A.'s "Congress for Cultural Freedom", which financed journals throughout the world, being founded in West Berlin in 1949 and operating until its cover was blown in 1967; Dr K. W. Watkins, another study group member, writes for the Aims of Industry and supplied information on "reds" in his department of Political Theory at Sheffield University for Lord Chalfont's Anglia TV production on the dangers of Marxism in Britain.

And then of course our own Kenneth Minogue, renowned in L.S.E. for his right-wing, anti-student beliefs and as among the team of twenty administration scabs who forcibly broke up last year's occupation of the Senior Common Room, their exclusive tea room, against the victimisation and jailing of North East London Polytechnic President and N.U.S. Executive member Andy Strouthous.

In their tirade against the Marxists, the I.S.C. attempts to "defend human reason against those who feel 'obliged' to criticise society."

But it is a shallow pretence. At least a third of its twenty pages compose names of left-wing academics who have spoken at various gatherings like the Communist University.

The purpose is plain. These men of tolerance and reason are hoping university administrators and others in the corridors of power will take note of the names, refuse jobs to those on the list and generally tighten up all round.

Over the years ahead the I.S.C. will be working hard to lengthen Gould's list of names.

And it won't just be Marxist academics who'll find their way on to it. Anyone with a genuinely inquiring and critical frame of mind will be a candidate.

Perhaps the greatest irony about this report is that it is entitled "The Attack on Higher Education". When the Labour Government is cutting education expenditure, raising fees, discriminating against overseas students and sacking the author's fellow academics, we are told that the real attack on higher education comes from those most prominent in fighting these measures. That is ludicrous. The real aim of this report is to ensure that vast government cuts in education are forced upon with as little trouble as possible.

No more obvious is this link than in the case of Kenneth Minogue. Not content with attacking students and forcibly breaking up Student Union occupations, he turns on his own colleagues.

Well, just as students will not accept the cuts and racist fees increases, neither will we accept the victimisation of radical staff. Perhaps the report should be called not "THE Attack on Higher Education" but "AN Attack on Higher Education".

Jim Gee
L.S.E. I.S. Society

Week of Action against Racism and Fascism

ENTSNEWS

NOW that Ent's has had time to recover from the success of the Freshers' Ball it's time to continue with this term's programme of fun.

In order to repay the generosity of the OTHER CINEMA to the LSE Student Union during the last "Fees Occupation", Ent's has offered to promote a benefit concert to aid the financial crisis currently threatening the Cinema's future. Set for Saturday, October 29th, the event will include the screening of several interesting films along with a musical bill that might include performances by X-Ray Specs, Kevin Coyne, the Tom Robinson Band, Slits and Steel Pulse. See publicity around the LSE for further details.

Planned for Saturday, November 5th in the Old Theatre is a bonfire night special featuring DAEVID ALLEN and PLANET GONG! The former leader of Gong and Soft Machine co-founder will be backed by Gilli Smyth (on space whisper) plus Here and Now. To complement the evening's entertainment will be an amazing multi-textured light show and as support act a relatively new band, THIS HEAT featuring Charles Bullen, Gareth Williams and Charlie Hayward, whose names will be familiar to those who remember early Gong line-ups and Phil Manzanera's band Quiet Sun. They perform an extraordinary form of contemporary music, comparable to perhaps Can or Henry Cow, which amidst New Wave fervour has been very favourably received on several recent sessions for the admirable John Peel radio programme. Meanwhile DAEVID ALLEN, despite his label

INFORMATION on ticket availability, the location of cheapest records shops and the various services offered by Ent's such as cheap bulk purchased blank cassettes and the Ent's disco hire service are always available in our office in S118 any lunchtime. If you already attend major London concerts and would like to earn £2 for a mere 10 minutes "leafletting" after the event (or if you'd like to see these concerts free in return for the same 10 minutes work) then call by the office and ask for myself or Mike Stubbs.

The new improved Ent's disco now delivers many hundreds of watts of undistorted stereophonic music and lights. It can be hired from £10 a night inclusive of DJ and records. More disco operators are always wanted and this can be a further source of income for interested students.

In order that Ent's can continue to function this year, an influx of new faces, ideas and enthusiasm is of course needed. Basically it's your interest that we seek although those with a knowledge of electronics, D-Jaying, stage lighting or publicity will be especially welcome! Last year's Ent's programme brought you John Martyn, Mud, Dave Edmunds, Rockpile, Deaf School, Arthur Brown, Kevin Coyne, Eberhard Weber etc not to mention over 30 free lunchtime concerts, bar, socials and two pioneering "legalisation of cannabis" benefit concerts in support of the "Release" campaign.

Without doubt LSE Ent's can still maintain an unrivalled position in the field of student Entertainment. We meet at 1 pm on Thursdays in S118 when your ideas and comments are welcome. As an open committee of the union there is no question of your having to "join" anything.

Hopefully this has made clearer the range of activities and services under the Ent's banner and the next year will see further diversifications and closer liaisons with other areas of the union.

Andy Cornwell,
Social Secretary

as a definitive stoned pot-head pixie freak, announced at an I.C.A. lecture his desire to turn the punk generation on to psychedelics. More details of DAEVID ALLEN'S stop off at the LSE on his "Floating Anarchy Tour" will appear in the next "Beaver". Due soon is his new album for Charlie Records entitled "Now Is The Happiest Time Of Your Life!"

All set for Saturday, November 12th in the Old Theatre is something of an Ent's exclusive: the sole London appearance of NEIL ARDLEY whose magnificent "Kaleidoscope of Rainbows" work won much praise from jazz critics and audiences alike. In the course of the evening he'll perform a solo electronics set and also give a unique lecture with assistance from several musicians and friends. Tickets for this event will be available soon from the Union Shop at the advance price of £1.

Adding further spice to the Ent's calendar will be THREE TUNS bar socials of the New Wave and Reggae variety. Also, I have been asked by Nickey Horne of Capital Radio's "Your Mother..." show if LSE Ent's are interested in playing host to the first outside broadcast of his new Saturday night programme. More details in a future "Entsnews".

The Harvey Goldsmith Organisation who promote numerous major national concert tours have decided to offer 10 per cent discount on tickets for their concerts. Hence all you need to get cheaper tickets to see BOB SEGER, YES and WISHBONE ASH at their imminent London concerts is a valid NUS card.



Tequila Blues Band in Three Tuns

The London Theatre

MOST students tend to think that theatre-going is not really the done thing for students. Apart from anything else, they would argue, it is so expensive as to be out of reach of the average student. This happily is nonsense. In my first year at L.S.E., I went to the theatre something like forty times and not once had to pay more than £1. O.K. prices have gone up, and today the figure might have to be £1.50 in some theatres.

For a start, several theatres offer student reductions. The National Theatre sells cheap seats from 8.30 in the morning for each of its three theatres, and any it has left over before a performance are sold to students at a standby price of £1 (75p for matinees). The nation's other large theatre company, the Royal Shakespeare Company, too has a standby system which means that in the last half hour students on showing a current student card can get the best seats left for £1 (70p for matinees). This goes not only for the R.S.C.'s London home, the Aldwych Theatre, but also for those other theatres showing R.S.C. productions, at present the Piccadilly and the Savoy.

Other theatres too offer reductions. The Shaw Theatre on Euston Road sells its £2.00 seats to students for 80p, while the Royal Court will sell any of its seats to students half-price.

Quite apart from student reductions most theatres have seats which they sell very cheaply—these being either in the balcony or upper circle or else at the back of the stalls. While obviously they are not great seats it does mean that you can actually get into a West End theatre production fairly cheaply. One or two other tips worth considering concern previews and matinees. Before a show officially "opens" it is normal for there to be several "previews".

It is normal for these shows to have reduced prices. Such performances can be regarded as being perfectly normal—the only thing differentiating them from others is that the press has at that stage not been invited to see the show.

Because matinees are very rarely full, theatres normally close off the highest reaches of its building. Thus if you go along and pay the cheapest price, you may find yourself sitting in a considerably more expensive seat in the back of the dress circle, or in the stalls. Thus I think it can be seen that without spending too much money it is possible to have a good evening out.

Theatre is a matter of personal choice, and the fact that one person has enjoyed a show is going to be no proof that someone else will. However, can I suggest a few plays to be getting along with. As far as musicals go "Chorus Line" at Drury Lane is worth seeing. It is now on its second cast. If you haven't seen "Jesus Christ Superstar" by all means go. For comedies I would suggest "Dirty Linen" at the Arts (immorality in high places), "Donkeys' Years" at the Globe (an Oxbridge reunion 20 years later); "Wild Oats" at the Piccadilly (an R.S.C. production) or "Once a Catholic" which has recently transferred to Wyndhams.

The Royal Shakespeare Company is going through a period in which it can do no wrong thus one can safely say anything at the Aldwych is worth going to see. However, if pressed I would pick "Comedy of Errors" and "Romeo and Juliet" out of its present repertoire. Of the other plays I have liked "Are you now or have you ever been" which is about the operations of the Un-American Activities Committee and in particular how it affected those engaged in showbusiness in Hollywood in the fifties and "The Old Country" which is about a former spy's existence in Moscow.

Paul Wilce



Album Reviews :

Grateful Dead : Terrapin

Station (Arista)

YET again the never-static Dead have, by using the services of an external producer, come up with a clean smooth and occasionally brilliant new album. A mature but revitalised band whose live appearances in this country are long overdue since everyone knows there's nothing quite like a Grateful Dead concert.

Burning Spear : "Dry and Heavy" (Island)

Surely one of reggae's finest bands led even more dominantly here by the totally convincing Winston Rodney. Basically another solid album the distinct Burning Spear feel. London concerts are still just a rumour.

Judging by various illicit tapes I've heard of the Sex Pistols, Clash and the Slits, all three bands will be delivering interesting new albums within the next few weeks!

Pirates : "Out of their Skulls" (Warners)

Johnny Kidd's original backing band are now back with a ven-

geance and are proving just how broad and meaningless the term "new wave" can be. Side one comes from a very "live" Nashville Rooms while side two provides ample evidence that the Pirates can still get a great rock 'n' roll sound from a studio. See them live at the ULU Ball this Saturday.

'Darts' Competition

YES, the DARTS vinyl debut—a limited edition 12in maxi-single on Magnet records—sounds almost as good as their performance in the Old Theatre. In a characteristic burst of generosity Ent's offers this desirable item to the first 10 people who can submit correct answers to the following questions (entries to S118 by Oct 14th):

- (1) Which Jimi Hendrix song did 90% inclusive perform at the Freshers Ball.
- (2) Which TV advertisement features the DARTS?
- (3) Did Ent's charge admission to see the free lunchtime concert with Alberto Y lost Trios Paranoias last March?

LSE ENTS DISCO HIRE SERVICE FROM £10 per night (inc. lights, DJ and records). For union societies and other interested parties, ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS S118 (Andy or Colin).

The London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London)



School Committees — Confidential not to be shown to students

IN the last issue of "Beaver", the General Secretary of the Students' Union described student representation on the School's Committees as "sham representation" and advocated reverting "to our pre-1976 position" of non-participation.

Significantly, however, in the same issue, the Director stated that "the School could work without students on committees for 82 years." Do we really want to throw away our chance to influence crucial decisions, which could include increases in tuition fees and changes in course structure? Too often at the LSE vital decisions have been made by a handful of academics. Students and non-academic staff have had no say. Obvious examples include the decisions to implement fee increases in full, to close the Language Department and to make changes in the French Studies degree course.

A major complaint which is justifiably made by the Students' Union is that our participation does not extend to some of the most important committees, such as the Academic Board, the Standing Committee of the Court of Governors, and the Academic Policy Committee. Representation on all the School's committees is imperative if students are to exert real power over all decisions affecting them, and until we win this, accusations of "sham representation" will continue.

However, it would be shortsighted to use this argument as a basis for withdrawing from those committees on which we have won representation. To continue such participation is essential, as is shown by the case of the "Examinations Methods Report", which included a proposal to restrict the flexibility in examination methods at the LSE. Student representatives on the Committee of Undergraduate Studies (CUS) were able to obtain copies of the report, and the information gained was used to mount a campaign against implementation.

In the face of the pressure this campaign generated, the Academic Policy Committee has deferred its original intention to quickly take a final decision on the report, and will await a joint Staff/Student submission from the Sociology Department, (which was the Department most affected). If there had been no student representatives on the CUS then the students would not have even been aware of the existence of the report. One great advantage of student participation then, is the opportunity to gain early access to information and to initiate action before decisions are irrevocably made.

Another problem that has been encountered is the issue of accountability and mandatability of the students' representa-

tives. Of course, mandation is impossible on every single issue that may crop up, but on the important issues, such as fee levels, our representatives can and must put forward the policy democratically adopted by the Students' Union.

In this context a worrying aspect is the attitude of certain Tories who were elected to represent the students. These "democrats", it seems, do not consider themselves bound by Union policy unless it suits them. This approach runs counter to the whole concept of active democracy. If students elected to committees are to be "representatives" they must be seen as delegates putting forward the collective viewpoint. Individuals who go to School committees and ignore Union policy are neither representatives nor democrats.

At present, those members of the Students' Union Executive Committee who serve ex-officio on the committees are mandated by Union policy and removable by Union General Meeting. Thus, the Union can be sure that democratically agreed policy is being represented by at least some of our members, and without this safeguard we would oppose the whole idea of student participation as it now stands. An important goal of the Union must be to ensure similar arrangements for all our representatives.

In conclusion then, the current position of student representation is fraught with difficulties, but the advantages can outweigh the difficulties if the Students' Union organises properly.

In addition to the points already mentioned, our representatives must give regular reports to Union, frequent meetings of the representatives must be held, and the Executive must coordinate our policy between the various committees.

To those on the Union Executive who find this all too troublesome and would rather not be bothered with committees, I quote one of the School's porters, who is in favour of non-academic staff being represented on committees.

In commenting on the "Jump In—Jump Out" lift in Clare Market Building, he has said that if the porters had been represented at the committee which decided to install this lift, they could have pointed out the difficulties in moving furniture around the building. Currently, the porters are forced to carry heavy articles up and down the stairs. At a time, then, when the School Committees are discussing space allocation in Strand House, is it not essential that the student view, and the views of non-academic staff, be put forward?

LSE BROAD LEFT

Young Socialists Student Society

THE YSSS—the student section of the Young Socialists was the only political group not invited to contribute to the first issue of "Beaver". This follows last year's discrepancies—our political meetings were not advertised in the "Beaver Daily News".

The Young Socialists are the youth section of the Workers' Revolutionary Party, the British section of the International Committee of the 4th International. The YSSS and the WRP stands firmly on the achievements of Marxism and the conquests of the world working class in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China. We maintain that such countries are transitional states, midway between socialism and capitalism, where political revolution is necessary to overthrow the parasitic bureaucracies.

The WRP represents the continuation of the Bolshevik tradition and Trotskyism in the British working class. Our party fights uncompromisingly against all forms of revisionism and stalinism in the struggle to build a revolutionary party to lead the Trade Union and Student movements. Our party is therefore alone in seeking to transform simple trade union militancy into revolutionary class consciousness.

Accordingly, the WRP is the only Party that calls for the working class to force the present reactionary Lib-Lab coalition to resign and for a fresh election on socialist policies. That we are the only party to publish a revolutionary daily paper—the News Line—is a tribute to the consistency of our fight. (Contrary to the lies peddled by the misnamed Socialist Workers' Party, our paper is not financed by Colonel Gaddafi but by working class support).

The International Committee gives full support to all national liberation movements, and especially calls for victory to the PLO and the creation of a democratic secular state of Palestine. We invite all students who are seriously interested in socialism to come to our meetings, to read the daily "News Line" and join the YSSS.

P & P LSE YSSS

Cheap national tickets

AS is widely known, it is almost impossible to get a "cheap" ticket at the National Theatre. It usually means queueing before 8.30 am on the day. Beaver has, however, started a special scheme which means reduced tickets will be available in advance via the paper. If interested, please put your name and the play you wish to see on the notice board in the Beaver office.

CHEAP LEVIS, WRANGLERS AND SHIRTS Florries extension

1st Floor, St. Clements Building

This Wednesday

CAMPUS CLOTHES

Brown's bullshit

WHILE sitting in the White Horse the other day, I overheard two City "Capitalists" arranging a private wager on when LSE Student Union would go back into occupation. If I hadn't attended last week's Emergency Union meeting I would have dismissed this as idle reactionary gambling.

However when the Student Union sinks to the depths of trying to railroad an unbiased observer like Daud Khan into Chairmanship of the Union without a democratic vote from the floor, and allowing the proposer and seconder of a motion to speak and sum up without calling for any speakers against, I would rather fancy that the man in the pub making the wager had inside information about the workings of LSE Students' Union.

The question of withholding registration until fees are paid is important, but so is the question of democracy and proper procedure. This was shown during the last occupation when standing orders were discarded and mob justice was the order of the day when union meetings were actually held.

Students must not regard the Union as a waste of time and allow the political opportunist element in our midst to play their little games by themselves. The polarising of views and current problems between the Union and the School are a direct result of the intransigent attitude taken by these students last year in their efforts to recreate the LSE revolution of '68.

The traditional response to this criticism has been that a large number of students representing a majority opinion in LSE were involved and that the campaign was about a human rights issue—the right of everybody to education. One could argue that many of the students involved were merely trendy hangers-on who sat by the door when the Police finally broke in so that they would not risk embarrassing Mummy and Daddy by being arrested.

One could argue that the issue of free education as a right could be better worded as the issue of whether free education should be included as part of an overseas aid development programme not paid for out of Central Government Education funds. One could argue that occupying the registry was not a very effective protest since the Director is financially forced to obey government policy, and that a sit down protest outside the DES would have been more effective.

Whatever one feels, it is important that if certain political elements try to organise another occupation this term, students must attend union meetings and not allow decisions to be made in their name which are likely to disrupt education at LSE.

PAUL BROWN

A PROFILE

BRUCE FELL

"FASCIST". "Loony". "Toffee-nosed". These are just a few of the epithets which have been hurled at **BRUCE FELL**, one of LSE's most notorious student politicians.

But what is the REAL Bruce like? Are all the rumours and mysteries which surround him—that he wears stripey socks in bed, that he is incurably addicted to digestive biscuits, that he was once the official School Bully at Eton—REALLY true? Is he really the outrageous, flamboyant individual that he likes to project—or is he the most incredible bore than ever stalked LSE?—nay, Britain, or, conceivably, the world? Does, indeed, Bruce Fell really exist at all, outside the fevered imagination of some paranoid Lefties?

These were just a few of the questions engaging the minds of **JAMES GAUSSEN** and **CAROL SAUNDERS** when they decided to interview Bruce. As a result Beaver has an exclusive portrait of this enigmatic, fascinating person, who has been described by one well-known crackpot as "a future Leader of Britain".

But there comes a time when the clichés have to stop. To discover everything you ever wanted to know about Bruce Fell but were afraid to ask, READ ON:

Contrary to public belief, Bruce never went to a public school. His first secondary school was a comprehensive run by the Royal Navy education service in Malta. Then he went to Grangefield grammar school in Stockton-on-Tees which he describes as "a bit of a typical northern grammar school—not highly pleasant". Then he took his O and A levels at "a sort of comprehensive" called Chippenham.

Bruce's father, a former squadron leader, has just retired from the Royal Air Force. His mother works as a receptionist in the local surgery.

Rather foolishly, perhaps, we interviewed Bruce in the Beaver office, amongst the din and chaos normally prevalent shortly before copy day. But from the cacophony we extracted much information, the rest of which we print below:

US: If you didn't go to public school, where did you get your accent?

BRUCE: Well, I think it's just something one acquired rather than . . .

US: Deliberately?

BRUCE: Not deliberately, I just happened to acquire it . . . Some comprehensives are very posh you know.

US: Your image at LSE is rather tongue-in-cheek: is the Bruce we all know and love the real McCoy?

BRUCE: Well, I'm not sure: I put over—well, not consciously put over—a different image to different people; it rather depends who you are. I tend to react to people as—I suppose—they expect me to react, and while some people hate the sight of me, there are some people who I like to think find me quite pleasant . . .

US: And some people love to hate you?

BRUCE: Yes, I'm sure they do! But I think there are probably quite a lot of people who have an impression of me which is not wholly accurate, but then I don't go particularly out of my way to correct it if they have an impression which is good or bad.

US: But is the way you—say—kind of bound into offices and things—is that real or it is put on?

BRUCE: I don't know; if I'm in a hurry I do tend to bound into offices . . .

US: Part of your natural exuberance?

BRUCE: Part of my natural exuberance, correct James, yes.

US: OK, this is really quite connected with the above questions: how far to the right do you class yourself?

BRUCE: Well I find it very difficult to class myself politically in terms of right or left: I think these labels become somewhat meaningless, but I would say I am possibly slightly more to the right than someone like Rog (Galloway), but it depends on the issue, really, whether you would class me as right or left . . .

US: Well let's take an issue like race . . .

BRUCE: I don't agree with any form of racism, but I'm not sure whether that makes me right or left wing . . .

US: How about monetary issues . . . say speculators?

BRUCE: A term like speculators can mean anything: what sort of speculator do you have in mind?

US: Commodity speculator for instance.

BRUCE: I think that the way the commodity market runs does allow people to speculate . . . we must bear in mind that if somebody through speculation pushes the price of say copper up, then it does benefit an awful lot of people in Zambia. So you do have a certain balance between the good they do and the bad they might do

. . . like pushing up the price of copper for us. But the market should always find its own level.

US: How do you feel about participation in School committees now that you've been a student governor for some time?

BRUCE: I'm also on the accommodation committee . . . I think that it's a pretty good idea, because even if this was the only function we had, it's still an important one—of being an extra input of information, because I was particularly struck by the first governors meeting I attended by how ill-informed some of the lay governors are, and they are merely told what the administration wishes to tell them, and the interpretation the administration wishes to put on things. Of course we perhaps don't get all the decisions we would like to get, but I think it is unrealistic to suppose that we would be able to have an inordinate amount of influence—after all, these people who are on the Court of Governors for instance, are chosen because of certain qualities they have. The main value of them of course, is the fact that they are policy makers or influence policy makers, and if they have some connection with the School they can lobby on our behalf. But you must ask yourself: what do students know about running a university or a college? and whilst it would be silly to say they know nothing about it, at the same time it would be rather silly to say they knew everything. After all, we haven't even been through the process yet. For instance, once in the Court of Governors we took a vote on whether to refer back the decision on how much the hardship fund should be. If we hadn't been on that committee, then we wouldn't have been able to attempt to refer back that decision. We did lose that vote, but nevertheless despite that they did have another look at their figures.

US: Don't you think with the conditions we have so far, for having people on school committees, that the position is actually worse than useless, because you can see what you could have done if we'd had decent representation?

BRUCE: What do you mean by decent representation?

US: Anything which you want to bring forward which is in definite opposition to the school is obviously going to be voted out because you haven't got enough people . . .

BRUCE: Not necessarily, because if you take the Court of Governors . . . we have the same number of students as there are academic Governors, so if the academics wanted to bring something forward, then you could similarly say they would be outvoted. But as I said earlier the main thing that we gain from that is that we do have a voice when the decisions are being made; we do have an extra input of information. Even if they ignore it, at least they've been informed, which is surely a better situation than it was before. I think something that ought to be borne in mind is that Sir Huw Wheldon—he is chairman of the Court of Governors—has been very co-operative, and all the Governors have been trying to enter into the spirit of co-operation and perhaps have made concessions to us which they perhaps might not have made had we not been new. But I don't think that merely because there is a possibility of us being outvoted we should just give up. And after all,

the Court of Governors is merely one committee, just one way of trying to influence decisions. Therefore merely because we lose a vote on the Court of Governors doesn't mean we've lost the issue for ever. It's just one point of pressure which we bring to bear.

US: You have been heard to refer to South Africa as "God's own country". Assuming this to be a joke, what were your impressions when you visited it this summer?

BRUCE: Yes, it is a joke—it's something that diehard Nationalists like to call it. My impressions of South Africa . . . well, the country is very beautiful, particularly Cape Province. Of course, with the political situation the basic thing you must bear in mind is there are two groups of whites. There are the Afrikaansers who are those settlers of Dutch descent who tend to be more nationalistic and more keen on apartheid. Then there are settlers of English descent—all the whites in South Africa incidentally regard themselves as South African—who tend to be more liberal, probably like the left wing of the Conservative party here or the Liberal Party. The difficulty with the political situation is that, of course, only the whites have the vote. The Afrikaansers constitute 60 per cent of the white population and they vote in their Nationalist party which has been in power since 1948. So the Nationalist Government can do virtually anything it likes. The Afrikaaner looks upon himself as the builder of the nation—anything that's there he's created, and sees himself as the ultimate salvationist of it. He also wants to keep himself pure, the Afrikaans culture and language, and to some extent he is still fighting the Boer war in that they are anti-British and pro-German.

US: What, if anything, should the British Government do about South Africa and Rhodesia?

BRUCE: I think British governments have shown themselves to be wholly inept in their negotiations in foreign policy since the war. Perhaps it would be better if it didn't do anything, but that would be slightly irresponsible. Regarding South Africa first, The



BRUCE: as he really is?

British Government realises that the whites there are not going to hold out for very much longer. They must have realised that the South African Government is very much in control of the situation. Also the Zulu will hate a Causa more than he'll hate a white man, so they will tend to play one tribe off against another. They consider South Africa a multinational state rather than a multiracial state and thus this idea of homelands is created. Anyway I think the British Government, realising that the white regime in South Africa is unlikely to last, has sided with the black

regimes of Africa, quite a lot for trade reasons. They did have to bear in mind that we have substantial investments in South Africa, but I think they realised that those are going to be lost anyway, so you might as well side with the blacks. What else the British government can do is very difficult to know. If you do have a trade embargo on South Africa, it'll hurt us just as much as them, and the first people to be hurt will be the blacks because it's a labour intensive country, and so if you are cutting back on costs you sack people. There's a lot of black unemployment there at the moment, causing a great deal of hardship.

US: Did you see much evidence of unrest among the masses?

BRUCE: No, I did drive through the edge of Soweto. I would say that most black South Africans are wholly unaware politically, in that their aspirations are somewhat limited to perhaps a Mercedes-Benz or a large American car. Those who want to get on can do quite well, though not as well as the whites. But there have been great changes in the last 12 to 18 months amongst the young: they have become much more politically aware, and the troubles in Soweto at the moment are because the Government has taken over the control of the schools from the West Rand education board, and put in white headmasters. And the blacks have started demanding equal education with the Europeans, and the Government is obviously reluctant to give this. But not long ago such a situation would have been inconceivable. I think there has been an awakening among the blacks which the Government has probably observed.

US: Is there any particular event which you witnessed?

BRUCE: Not really. One has to accept the fact that there is, for instance, segregated public transport; there was one place I saw where park benches were still reserved for black and white.

US: Do you think it is possible for a white European to go into South Africa and be totally unaware of what's going on?

BRUCE: Well obviously it depends on how perceptive that person is! No, I think you do have to notice that a policy of apartheid is operating. But apart from the fact that public transport and some shops and bottle stores are segregated—and the fact that there is a certain us-and-them attitude—I suppose it would be possible for someone to live in South Africa and thus be unaware of the details of the situation—obviously you can't fail to get a general impression.

US: It's very hard to imagine you anywhere but LSE, doing the things you do here. What are your plans for the future?

BRUCE: Well it would be quite nice to become a perpetual student; it's quite a pleasant life.

US: But with a higher income!

BRUCE: With a higher income of course. At the moment I am toying with the idea of becoming a lawyer—it might allow me to continue in my exuberant manner! But it's something I'm going to have to look into.

US: It appeals to the theatrical side of you, does it?

BRUCE: Well, we've all seen too many Perry Mason films in our time haven't we!

TEAR UP THE FRONT—page

WE are living in a period of economic crisis which is causing rampant unemployment, demanding further cuts in the standards of living of the working-class, while costs soar and public welfare facilities are slashed.

Such conditions and the growing discontent resulting, are suitable preconditions for the growth of fascism amongst a demoralised and leaderless working-class.

The national minority communities living with us in Britain are already well aware of the growing restrictions on their liberty, with the highly restrictive Immigration Law of 1971, police harassment, discrimination in employment, and attacks on their persons and homes by racist muggers.

Everyone in Britain must become conscious of what is happening. We must analyse those trends and groups which exist to promote fascist notions, and understand their material basis before we can organise to crush them.

We at LSE have the opportunity to understand how fascism and racism arise and breed. It is important that all students be made aware of the present danger and be ideologically armed to defeat it.

The Union has planned an "anti-fascist and anti-racist week" to awaken students and staff to the urgency of this problem.

Monday, 10th October, 1 pm, Old Theatre: **"NATIONAL MINORITY WORKERS"**
Speakers from 'Race Today' and Grunwick strikers.

Tuesday, 11th October, 1 pm, Old Theatre: **"NATIONAL MINORITIES AND THE LAW"**
Speaker from Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants.

Thursday, 13th October, 1 pm, Old Theatre: **"THE NATIONAL FRONT"**
Speaker from Indian Defence Committee and Martin Walker.

On Friday, 14th October, the Union is launching an **ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST RACISM** (1 pm, Old Theatre) whose function will be to inform all staff and students at LSE of the growing problem of fascism and racism: to aid outside groups in their fight against racism; and to expose and root out racism here in LSE.

We hope that students and staff will attend the meetings, and help in the setting-up of the ACAR.

Nazis off the streets!

OVER the past weeks we have seen in Birmingham and in Lewisham mass demonstrations of people with the declared aim of stopping the fascist National Front from marching or holding meetings. Fleet Street has been outraged at these attempts by socialists to "drive the Front off the streets" and the Socialist Workers' Party has had abuse hurled at it for being the prime organisers. They have been accused of using "fascist" tactics against fascism, and of advocating "thug rule". Many sympathise with their hostility to fascism but explain that violence only "alienates public opinion."

The truth is that these arguments take the wrong starting-point. The real argument is not one about gaining the support of "public opinion" or about freedom of speech". The real argument is about stopping a growing fascist movement. With sympathisers or new members argument is vital. Many people join the National Front without realising that it is a fascist group. But for the hardcore fascist members of the National Front only one argument is successful—physical force. People join the National Front out of despair and frustration. A fascist movement seems to offer a way forward, even an exciting one, out of present difficulties.

The more successful a fascist movement is in dominating the streets, in attacking socialist and trade union organisations, in terrorising minority groups, the more it attracts support. The very dynamism of the movement seems to offer hope to new members. Fascism feeds on its own success. Every parade is a sign of progress. For the moment the NF are not engaged in **widespread** terrorism against socialist and trade union organisations or blacks.

But increasing violence does occur. Many Left-wing bookshops in London have been attacked with bricks and petrol bombs; black people suffer

street attacks and many anti-racist meetings are disrupted. At an NF rally in Red Lion Square members were told: "It is time our young men were let loose on the Reds".

The future is written in the history of all previous fascist movements. Command of the streets is essential to the fascists.

HOW SHOULD THE LEFT RESPOND TO THIS?

Liberals and the Labour Party leadership argue that silent contempt is the best answer. Merlyn Rees provides the NF with the largest police escort ever, so that they can march provocatively through Lewisham.

The Communist Party argues that peaceful pickets and protest marches together with pressure on the police to have the marches called off, are the best way. Whilst agreeing that fascist marches should be stopped, it is generally opposed to physical force being used to stop fascists in their tracks.

What a contrast to the CP in Cable Street on October 4th 1936. Mosley's fascists announced a march through East London's Jewish quarter. Liberal protests to the Home Secretary failed. No peace counter-march was organised.

Seven thousand police mobilised to protect the fascists and

repeatedly charged the blocked streets where barricades, trams abandoned by anti-fascist drivers and 250,000 workers hurling stones met them. In Cable Street several police actually surrendered. The police eventually ordered the fascists to withdraw and East End celebrations continued for hours.

This defeat was a severe blow to Mosley. His failure to control the streets demoralised his supporters. It cast doubts on his ability to deliver the goods to his financial backers. And the scale of the disturbances terrified the government which introduced the 1936 Public Order Act banning the wearing of political uniforms and certain demonstrations—a law which has since been liberally used against—the Left.

The lessons should be clear. If the NF did anything badly out of step with ruling-class plans or committed a major outrage then the police might take some action. In general the police will protect ruthlessly-fascist marches. The only circumstances under which a fascist march will be banned is if the threat of counter demonstration is so serious that the police instruct the fascists not to march, as happened in Manchester.

The fascists are clear that the only way they can be stopped is for them to be nipped in the bud:

"Only one thing could have stopped our movement—if our adversaries had understood its principles and from the first day had smashed with the utmost brutality the nucleus of our new movement" (Hitler, 1933).

It's about time the Left was clear:

If we deny them the use of the streets then the Front becomes a much less attractive group to join.

A year ago their marches were 1,500 strong. On the first demonstration where they faced united, mass opposition, their numbers were down to about a thousand. In Lewisham there were probably no more than 500. It is clear that the ability to march and threaten is what holds the NF together.

Hitler's ravings were not defeated by reasoned argument. Mussolini's empty waffle did not crumble in the face of mighty words from liberals. In both cases the Left could have stopped the fascists. But their reliance on the police to stop the fascists and the failure of the CP to realise what a ruthless danger the fascists were, meant that workers' defence groups were formed too late or not at all.

People driven to fascism by empty stomachs, ruined savings, falling wages or unemployment will not be deterred by wise words. It is action which impresses them. It is counter-action not counter-argument which will win the day.

ONLY SOCIALISM CAN DEFEAT FASCISM

When the NF take to the streets, we knock them off. Such action places major obstacles in the path of the fascists. We need to do more, however.

People driven to despair by a growing massive crisis of the system turn to fascism as a way out. A socialist organisation powerful enough and with the right policies can defeat fascism once and for all.

How do the present working-class organisations respond?

According to the Labour Party all that is needed is to warn people about the fascists and they will realise what hooligans they are.

It believes that people driven to support fascism by a desperate economic crisis will be deterred by a warning about its nature and ideas. But homeless people want a home, unemployed people want jobs, people whose savings or fixed incomes are wiped out by inflation want their money back, not apologies defending black people. They all want **action** and have found a **scapegoat**.

MISTAKES

We can only counter this in a positive way.

The CP makes the same mistakes. No-one doubts the anti-fascist feelings of Party members. But again and again instead of fighting fascism on a **class** basis, vicars and liberals are chased after for support and the levels of demands dragged down to their level.

It is possible to cut the ground from under the fascists in two ways:—

(1) We fight fascism not simply with anti-fascism but with socialism. The desperate racialism which drives people to fascist methods can be smashed only if a real fight is made against the poor housing, unemployment and inflation which make racialism so important.

It is not the ideas of the NF which attract most supporters—it is the feeling that they are going to get **something** done. The key for the Left is to **show ourselves even more determined than the fascists**. We must convince people that we really can tackle the problems of housing, unemployment and inflation.

MORE HOPE

Unlike calls for human solidarity and pleas for tolerance, a mass socialist organisation could build a movement of such momentum that it appears to offer much more hope than any fascist movement. Hardcore racialists will not be won over but more potential support can be. Such a policy gives more confidence to the anti-fascists. Bringing in the widest number of people on the weakest possible programme is short-sighted policy.

(2) Nothing is more dangerous than the idea that first we can defeat fascism and then start the struggle for socialism. Any anti-fascism which bases itself on the "defence of democracy" in the existing state of Britain is doomed to failure. Fascism is a cancer which can only be wiped out when the system which breeds it is totally changed.

Fascism can only succeed where the Left has failed. It is not inevitable. It is not a response to working-class strength but to our weakness.

In Britain today the working class has massive power. If that power in the factories, offices and mines was really used to bring about socialism then the ruling class would be helpless. But every hesitation, every delay, every acceptance of wage restraint and every strike sold out, disillusion workers.

To those who denounce the Socialist Workers' Party and other militant anti-fascists' at Lewisham and Birmingham I say—

IF YOU HAD BEEN IN GERMANY IN 1933, AND YOU KNEW THEN WHAT WE KNOW NOW ABOUT THE NAZIS, WOULD YOU HAVE SAT AT HOME AND WAITED FOR REASON TO PREVAIL?

JIM GEE

LSE International Socialist Society

BEAVER against Fascism and Racism



BEAVER AGAINST FASCISM AND RACISM



'Only one thing could have stopped our movement—if our adversaries had understood its principle and from the first day had smashed with the utmost brutality the nucleus of our new movement.'

HITLER 1933



The right to march?

ABOUT the only thing, one suspects, that John Tyndall and Lord Hailsham have in common is a belief that banning National Front marches is in some way a diminution of what they both call Freedom.

The events of Ladywood and Lewisham, and fears of what might happen in Manchester, have persuaded those of our politicians who think of their profession as no more than the efficient manipulation of rhetorical symbols, to hold up this most beguiling of totems, and bid their flock bow down in worship. We all know we don't want to lose what freedom we have, but we can't really agree on what to do about it.

The Left would confuse us with their talk of "positive" and "negative" freedoms, with "social", "political", "economic" and "civil" freedoms, and even with the paradox that freedom is the "recognition of necessity". They offer us a dream, if only, like disciples, we will renounce all the worldly goods we already possess, and follow them. The Right, on the other hand, prefer to seduce us with "the great simplicities" of freedom, and to expend enormous cosmetic energy in erecting their own absolute, monolithic freedoms of private property, the individual and contract.

Freedom is neither freedom, nor a simple aggregate of individual liberties. Freedoms may certainly be distinguished, and some may, perhaps, be judged more important than others, but the characteristic of the freedom traditionally enjoyed (or not enjoyed) in this country is the fact that it is a fabric of interwoven liberties. No single parliamentary device or judicial safeguard guarantees our freedom; one liberty supports another and thereby amplifies the whole. Close analysis of the fabric of freedom may reveal a multitude of unsuspected

threads, but each strand gains its significance only when related to the cloth.

Of these many threads of freedom, two, or possibly three, have been held in particular reverence; freedom of association, freedom of speech and (if not the quasi-judicial power which it bequeathes) the freedom enjoyed in the right to own private property. And it is the first two which most people imagine the ban to be damaging. Because the Tameside rallies have been banned, it is argued, men are being denied their rights of free association and free speech.

If freedom really was either the arithmetical sum of a number of independent, autonomous freedoms, or the ability simply to indulge one's capricious whim (which, as a dozen semanticists might chorus, is "licence and not liberty"), then this claim might indeed be respected. But freedoms are not like that. The right of voluntary association certainly does mean the right to form new associations or leave old, but it also implies the duty not to form or join associations or gatherings which are designed to (or which in effect) deprive others of the same right. This apparent limitation of the right of free association is no more than the obvious quality of all rights, namely that its exercise is limited only by its own character and the other rights in that system of rights to which it is related. There is nothing in the nature of freedom, as Tyndall would have us believe and, as Hailsham implies, that makes it illogical to say that the exercise of a right may be harmful to freedom. When both the National Front and Socialist Workers' Party exercise their rights of free association and speech in a way that negates their own character, then what they claim is no longer a right, but a privilege.

John Emerson

ONE RACE—The human race

THE British economy, like those of all the imperialist countries, is in deep crisis. This is the result of the inherent contradiction in the monopoly capitalist system—the monopoly capitalists are unable to sell all their goods, and in order to maintain their super-profits they are forced to cut back on production, thus throwing millions out of work.

They are trying to pass the burden on to the working people, by restricting wage rises (the social contract), and through public expenditure cuts. At the same time, the workers are resisting these attempts to make them pay for the crisis. It is also in this period that the fascist influence has been growing. The parallel with the capitalist countries in the 1930s is only too clear.

The material basis for fascism is the crisis of finance capital and the increasingly militant resistance of the workers. It becomes increasingly difficult for the ruling class to perpetuate its rule using the old methods. The bourgeoisie is forced to resort to openly terrorist rule. Fascism is not a spontaneous movement of the working class to establish "law and order" or to improve their own well-being. Nor is it the action of a few demented individuals. The historic experience of fascism in Germany, Japan, Spain, Italy etc. reveals that the first action of a fascist government is to liquidate all working class struggles, by banning trade unions, strikes, demonstrations, while the property and power of the financial magnates increases. Thus fascism is profoundly anti-working class. Fascist rule is not

an accident or the work of isolated maniacs, for the fascist parties are supported and promoted by the big bourgeoisie (National Association for Freedom in Britain, Krupp for Hitler etc.). Not to point out the true class basis of fascism, to present it as a working class movement or an unforeseeable accident, is to weaken the resistance of the people.

Fascism differs fundamentally from bourgeois democratic rule in that the most elementary rights of the people are snatched away. But the reactionary measures passed by the bourgeoisie under "parliamentary democracy" are directly responsible for the growth of fascism. In this category come the racist immigration laws, the Criminal Trespass Law, police protection of such openly fascist parties as the National Front and allowing fascists to enter the ranks of the police. This is why it is so easy for the fascists to take over the entire bourgeois state apparatus to suppress the people once they come to power. Equally important is the propagation of racist and fascist ideas in the media and the universities as a means of preparing public opinion for accepting fascism. This involves giving prominence to race theories of inferiority (Eysenck) justifying imperialist domination, glorifying imperialist history (as in the Jubilee celebration), denigrating the liberation struggles of oppressed nations, among other things. The most basic expression of fascist ideology is anti-people through and through—it blames the crisis on lack of "discipline", and turns every nation into an enemy. Fascism must therefore be combatted in ideological as well as economic spheres. Liberals who try to "criticise" fas-

cists and "prove" them wrong, without trying to stop them, or who portray anti-fascists as being essentially the same as fascists, are in effect aiding the progress of fascism.

What is the source of the influence of fascism among the people? Fascism attracts the mass of the petty bourgeoisie, the peasantry and sections of the working-class ruled by the crisis and unable to fight back. It often comes to power by fighting against other bourgeois parties, under the guise of representing the supra-class interests. It plays on the most urgent needs of the people (the demand for employment, housing, stable prices) and on the prejudices and backward ideas found among them. Thus it offers bread and shelter for all; it elevates racism and religious bigotry to the level of scientific theory; it projects militarism as the symbol of male valour for youth; it drives women out of employment and into household slavery under the pretext of protecting femininity and motherhood. In effect, it takes over the revolutionary struggles of the masses against bourgeois rule by playing on both their revolutionary sentiments and their backward ideas, with the aim of suppressing them more ruthlessly.

An analysis of the material basis of fascism and its expression in the cultural superstructure is essential if we are to be consistent and unwavering in opposing fascism. Fascism cannot be wished away by well-meaning liberals. It requires constant struggle on the one hand against its traces among other people (including students) and on the other against the fascists and their ideologies.

An Anti-fascist student

Which is which?

THE cries of "Fascist-Nazi scum" which rang out towards the N.F. at Lewisham may have been excusable, from the extreme left anyway. However it will need a lot of argument to explain to the British citizen the attitude which the left adopts towards our police.

It is no surprise that they have been forced to use riot shields. To anyone vaguely understanding the law it is obvious that the police have a duty to protect the right of any group to march providing the march has not been banned under the Public Order Act 1936. It is time that the Left learnt who controls marches.

By their attitude towards the police the Left have set up the N.F. as the party of law and order. The latter they may be—when it suits them—but it must have taken a lot of restraint from their thugs to keep the level of violence down to what it was. It is time the S.W.P. realised that the N.F. will not be booted from the streets. It is time for rational argument, not the time to knock nails into the coffin of democracy as the Left are trying to do.

However, like the N.F. the S.W.P. are not democratic. The N.F. is the right boot of socialism, the S.W.P. the left—they both involve state regimentation e.g. "The Stock Exchange is a gigantic swindle", "profits extorted from British workers are invested abroad. The banks should be nationalised, multi-nationals excluded and most significantly of all the trade barriers erected". N.F., S.W.P., even the Tribune group, it is all the same.

Race is the one differential that sets the Left at the N.F.

Both parties have fastened on to the fears of people living in areas such as Lewisham and Deptford and fostered the disenchantment that exists amongst people.

They are not interested in solutions to these problems, unless in the context of violence and revolutions. The N.F. leaders take precautions to avoid using violence when in the public eye. They are more subtle than the S.W.P. who stone the police protecting fascists, thus giving the N.F. publicity. N.F. violence is conducted by members given the silent go ahead by Tyndall with protection rackets against Asian shop owners, attacks on West Indians in the streets and leaflets published to stir up racial hatred.

At present there is debate around the "No platform for racists and fascists" policy of N.U.S. At one level it is irrelevant since it is unlikely that anyone holding such views would be invited to a college.

Britain must continue to rely on freedom of speech, association, and public demonstration as part of her democratic system. The position of immigrants is worsening and steps must be taken to stop this. A group like the N.F. which threatens a minority should not be permitted to march through areas where that minority is resident in large numbers. The motive of the N.F. in marching through immigrant areas is not one of free expression but of intimidation. The misery and fear produced in black areas by the N.F. we cannot allow.

Margot James (Chairman Consoc) and Nick White (Consoc and S.U. Exec.)

From our side

NATIONAL minority peoples and overseas students are under increased racist attacks on all fronts: and these attacks are all consciously promoted by the state and monopoly capitalism. Such people are not here by accident but as a direct result of imperialism.

Britain advanced itself by colonisation and exploitation. This process involved the extermination and enslavement of millions, and the destruction of the pre-colonial societies. Up to 1945, the mass of people were illiterate since (a) all that was required of them was brute labour and (b) literacy involved access to political ideas. After 1945 when a wave of revolution swept through the Third World, the imperialist countries realised that direct colonial rule was becoming impractical and adopted the strategy of neo-colonialism handing the political power over to the local ruling classes who could protect their economic interests.

It was at this stage that large numbers of overseas students started coming to advanced countries for education which their impoverished countries could not provide. The advanced countries were happy to provide this education since the knowledge acquired by an overseas student would not break the economic dependence but preserve it. For the new technology required machines to be imported from these countries. As well as this many overseas students spend their working lives doing research in the west that is a source of profit to the multinationals.

The poverty in the colonised countries caused many to seek employment in imperialist countries. The advantage of such a labour force is obvious: it can be pushed into menial, low-paid jobs which the local working class refuse. They work in essential but underpaid areas like public transport and cleaning work. Long hours of work and low wages are a common feature.

Why racist attacks now?

Britain's economy has passed from a stage of growth and expansion to a stage of deep crisis and stagnation, and it is the working class which has suffered. The ruling class has therefore propagated the myth of the "black burden". This prevents people from questioning the present system. National minorities are subject to economic attack, being the first to be laid off work; to legislative attacks such as the 1971 Immigration Act, and the Green Paper on nationality which is under discussion at the moment; to attacks on civil liberties such as the Trial Marriage Law rules, as well as being subject to the fascist attacks coming from the National Front and similar groups.

It is thus clear that the increase of racist attacks are a part of the general programme of bringing about a fascist state. And we must fight back against all state-organised racism and fascism!

PUNK IN LONDON

THIS article is going to seem pretty abysmal to anybody who's already into the scene, and incomprehensible to a total outsider but so what, I was given only one day's notice to write it and it's more directed at the interested observer new to the London Scene anyway. So, what is it REALLY all about then? Well y'see, MAAAN, it goes something like this, just over a year and a half ago, the hippy audience at the Nashville were startled out of their complacent apathy when the lead singer of an unknown support band's first gig screamed at them in friendly greeting "I bet YOU won't hate US, as much as WE hate YOU! The peace loving audience reacted with the subtlety of an air raid, bottles, glasses, cut lips, blacks, the blue denim rednecks had for the first time met Johnny Rotten. The Sex Pistols had arrived. Punk was here, but just look at who it was who threw the bottles.

Within months from that gig there came the birth of groups consisting of those being influenced or imitating the Pistols, or even those who happened to be in that magic elite of musicians and friends, The Clash, The Damned, The Jam; all were formed at the same time and in the same scene; with The Stranglers, as ever, just outside; and it was from these that yer average Mr Joe Public Rock Punter reads about in his weekly "music" rag, maybe even buying their records ("I don't really like punk rock but I like the Stranglers, but they're not REALLY punk, are they?" whine whine); so I'm not going to talk about them except to say that the Damned are showbiz, The Clash are more political than Jon McColl (which isn't saying much) and The Jam are three Mods who are little more than fab and gear.

What is more interesting for the London Scene now are the new bands who are furiously performing along the trails blazed by the aforementioned heroes. Bands like Sham 69 are keeping up the Political stance of the Clash that many newer bands have adopted (when was the last time Yes wrote a song condemning the National Front, when did the recently split Chelsea write a concept triple album based on the four parts of the Sanskrit?). If you get the chance, go see Generation X before they leave the small clubs for good, Billy Idol

is surely destined to become heart throb numero uno of the Black Generation (which is not Your Generation cos "it don't mean a thing to me"). Look around and you can see The Boys just as their album is hitting the charts (as it surely must), you can see Wayne Country just before he finally O.D.s on speed, alcohol, cute little girls (and boys) and the noise his Electric Chairs make, he is without doubt the greatest performer in London and he's not gonna make it, I just know he's not, but he can still give a show of such degeneracy and decadent theatrics that he's (F) ARTISTICALLY import-



THE CLASH

ant, yeah MAAAN, he really is CULTURALLY important. More small bands who'll be huge after Christmas are New Hearts, Wire, Saints, Tom Robinson band, Johnny Moped; come to think of it, anyone at all, except the Slits who are probably a good band to send round to your favourite enemy's house (Dahrendorf beware!)

So, for those newly arrived in London and maybe interested in something new (the rest of you can fuck off) here's a quick list of the best punk gigs, The Marquee in Wardour St. actually banned punk last year but it knows where the money is and never backs a loser for long so it has now become one of the best breaks a new punk band can get. The Vortex on the corner of Oxford St. and Wardour St. has a cheap public bar upstairs

which is good for meeting people, and usually on Mondays and Tuesdays you can see four bands for £1 downstairs. The other Vortex in Hanway St. is a 24 hour, free admission, cheap drinks, continuous jam session, meeting place, crash pad DUMP. The Sundown in Charing Cross Road is reopening soon with Generation X—be there. You could try Global Village underneath the Arches just off the Strand but it's a bit too smooth and Bowiesque for my taste and the drinks are almost as expensive as the Roxy where, unless the band is really exceptional, you should definitely NOT go, it's full of tourists, and bank clerks from Birmingham who wanna go back with a higher reading on the punkometer "Wow, did you really go to that thar Rocksee then" and with beer at 60p a pint, any band you see there better be something really spectral. It's in Neal St. If you really must go and pay your respects to the once hallowed punk breeding ground, but it died this spring with new management, so be warned! You may also find it interesting to take a look at some of the new papers recently sprung up, by far of which is the best paper, Sniffin' Glue.

So, there you have it, the social movement cum teen fashion cum commercial rip off. I've only given a brief description of the scene, and I KNOW I've missed out so and so's new band and that club in Notting Hill and I KNOW I haven't stressed the social/political/economic basis of it all and I haven't sensationalised on the media created skirmishes in Kings Road; but I just haven't got the time or motivation to write it all out. If you really are an outsider and want to join in (and why not?) then it won't be handed to you on a silver platter, you've gotta come out and suss the scene out yourself. This article wasn't meant as an all embracing definition of Punk, I want it to be more of a catalyst to get those interested involved.

Maybe when I get older I'll look back on this article, and the whole way I was back in 77 and laugh, but these are still the best years of my life and I'm living them the way it should be, with energy and with no regrets. Can you say the same about the way YOU are? So you can join us—or FUCK OFF!!

Signed,

A Mole

JAZZ SOC.

STUDENTS who have a particular interest in jazz (ie, playing an instrument or just enjoying listening to it) are welcomed to join the LSE Jazz Soc.

This year, the society's activities will probably not differ very much from the ones organised during the session 1976-77. Therefore, another effort will be made to form a group if there is enough interest. Last year only a few jazz sessions came out of attempts by some musicians to get some sort of permanent group together. The second—and for non-instrument-playing jazz lovers—the most important activity of the Jazz Soc consists of organising concerts and discos. These are very popular and a lot of them are the "gigs" at the Three Tuns bar, where usually upcoming London groups enrich the bar atmosphere with their music. Additionally the Jazz Soc may organise concerts on a larger scale. Last year it was fortunate to have some well-known British and international jazz musicians at the LSE, people like Don Randell, Eberhard Weber, Charlie Mariano, Elton Dean, Michael Garrick and Stan Tracy. Again this year, the LSE Jazz Soc will hopefully play an active part on the very lively London jazz scene.

It is important to point out that the society is not run by an anonymous body, but by its members. Their active participation will, among other things also make a wider information exchange of jazz events in London possible.

In addition to the fun of participation, members will enjoy some fringe benefits such as free tickets to radio and television recordings.

So, what are you waiting for?

Join in!

CHRISTOPH NOEBEL

CHESS SOC.

DUE to the resignations of the secretary, captain and treasurer this week, the future of the Chess Soc. is in jeopardy this year. Therefore, if there is anybody interested in playing chess this year, whether just for fun or at a more competitive level, I would be grateful if you could come to the short meeting I am arranging for 12.00 pm on Wednesday in Florries' extension. Contact me through the U/G pigeonholes, or come and see me in the Beaver office, S116, as soon as possible.

LSE usually enters a team in the University of London league and I have information about the University teams which can provide further competitive chess for those interested, whatever their playing strength.

L.S.E.

THE FIRST DAY

A GRIMY Victorian warehouse surrounded by equally grimy Victorian warehouses, peopled by a motley collection of humanity. The true awfulness of the LSE's physical appearance is a momentous, almost exhilarating thing. How can anything be so ugly? People I saw just stood around open-mouthed. This impression really came home when I was told that if you lean out of a window to the far left (of course) corner of St Clements building, you can actually see a tree. Perhaps I'm just a boring yokel from rural Hampshire, where there are cows, and sheep and grass and cows and boring things like that. And what about the foreign students? Do they think the rest of England looks like this place? However, after the initial shock you start to recover and get to know some people, who turn out to be rather nice, and quite like you.

The day began with our Ralf's cosy fireside chat. He spoke well, said the same boring crap as Daud Khan about the fees strike—well, not quite the same, but still boring! Nobody seemed to realise that more than half of the new students have their tuition fees paid by their local authorities. A fees strike may well bring about the overthrow of the capitalist society as we know it, but if Hampshire County Council pays your fees for you, it's just plain boring, man. I thought Mr Grun was brilliant, a born comedian. Apparently he is an excellent lecturer; well, he had me in fits talking about the "nitty-gritty".

Our guide is a real heavy: "This is the old building this is the east building this is the new building this is the market . . ." YES! How can you understand the LSE geography if you disappear into one building and come out somewhere totally different? The lifts in Clare Market are far out too, every time I step in I think I'm going to lose my head! Somebody in Loughborough, I think, or somewhere like Loughborough, killed themselves on one of those; think about that next time you are in one.

The rest of the Day was spent in one long queue, or so it seemed. The motto must be: "If it moves, stand behind it." However, I did find out that Americans call queues "lines", which is about the most interesting thing that happened all day. The union meeting seemed more like a social in-joke than a political grouping. I enjoyed the Socialists' Workers' Party, much working-class accent, and I thought that the Tory women looked pretty much like Tory women; Julian Ingram smiled sweetly, but John McColl—OK—was—OK—boring—OK? So was Dud Khan. I can't remember the rest of the evening as I was drunk. I'm going to enjoy this place!

JOHN SWEENEY

STOP PRESS

SO the Executive are trying to ruin the Union's finances again. They find it so much easier just to accept proposed salary increases than to seriously examine them. The pay award to the trading staff may or may not have been just (it is on top of generous adjustments which more than cover inflation) but does this mean that the Executive have to fail to examine the consequences to the Union and the mass of Students who were foolish enough to vote for them?

The Finance Secretary was not consulted and he knows more about Union finances than a whole decade of Executives. A Finance Committee has not even been elected, let alone consulted. Why was this decision railroaded through in such an irresponsible way?

GRADUATE COMMITTEE

invites all graduates to a

PARTY

on **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14th**, 7 to midnight
in the **BRUNCHBOWL** (third floor of Main Building)
Bar extension until midnight.
MUSIC : FOOD : GRADUATES . . .

Anyone interested in HANG-GLIDING ? . . .

Qualified Pilots—get in touch with Stephen Hicks,
Flat 2/6 Maple Street Flats.
Novices, put your names down on A/U board.
Possibility of forming a club and obtaining club kites if enough interest is shown.

CLASSIFIED

WANTED: Secondhand Bookcase. Contact Jeanne Golay through P/G pigeonholes.

STOLEN from VW Estate, outside the main building on Wednesday, 5th, one black case containing a year's notes, thoughts and ideas towards an M.Phil. degree. These are obviously irreplaceable. PLEASE return them to TL Martindale Sheldon (Soc. dept.), Flat 1, 1 Adelaide Road, Surbiton, Surrey, or 'phone 01 339 8374.

FOR SALE: Reams of buff coloured paper, 90p each. Beaver Lodge, S116.

ERRATUM: Christos Slavounis is NOT a member of the Greek Communist Party.

WORKERS' SOCIALIST LEAGUE PUBLIC MEETING

"1917-1977 Lessons of the Russian Revolution: Build the revolutionary leadership." Thursday, 13th October, Room S101a, 1-2 pm.

God must go!

A PROPOSAL to abolish God and replace Him with "democratically elected workers' councils elected by the masses, with a mandate . . ." (17 pages deleted here—Ed.) may be brought before LSE Students' Union shortly.

The plan, discussed in an eight-million-page pamphlet by the two-strong Middle-class Socialist Revolutionary Party, is bound to cause a great deal of controversy.

In the pamphlet, which is "written" by Roger "Gallows" Pole, the idea that Satan was (or is) evil is strongly repudiated: "All right, we don't totally approve of all of Satan's methods—but basically we think he has been totally misrepresented by the capitalist media, most notably by that organ of reactionary fascist imperialist opinion, the Bible. Satan's main aim—to give 'all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory thereof' to the workers, who have been exploited by the arch-capitalist God—is one which we commend."

Roger Pole also attacks God for what he describes as the "mass slaughter of workers known as the so-called 'Noah's Flood'." As for God's promise that He would never cause another Flood, Pole claims that this "election pledge has been cynically broken", citing this summer's poor weather as evidence.

Pole attacks "the elitist concept underlying the so-called Day of Judgement, whereby some people—ie the bourgeoisie—go to an eternity of luxury

and privilege known as Heaven, and the rest have to endure the agony of Hell for ever. Why should God be allowed to decide? Who the f— elected God anyway? This just shows the self-perpetuating nature of God's rule . . ."

Pole concludes that "all socialists must therefore give critical but unconditional support (or maybe uncritical but conditional support) to Satan in his attempts to overthrow God's tyrannical system, and replace it with a system of autonomous collectives, in which accountable representatives of the masses . . ." (another 43 pages deleted here—Eds).

Reactions from other political groupings in LSE to the proposals have been mixed. The Conservatives have strongly attacked the booklet as a "blueprint for the destruction of liberty and excellence". A Tory spokesman added: "God has ruled the world for 6,000 years, if the Bible is to be believed, and we reckon He's done a grand job. Look at His achievements—two-thirds of the world starving, most of the world living under various forms of dictatorship—oh what a giveaway! What I meant to say was . . ."

The Bored Left has also reacted to the proposals, but in a manner so boring as not to merit reprinting for fear of sending everyone to sleep. And the Apathy Society has so far declined to comment, "fatigue" being the official reason.

JAMES GAUSSEN

SPECULATION the easy way

S. K. Adalja was an LSE B.Sc.Econ. student and has just finished his post-graduate studies at Durham University Business School. He has considerable practical experience in the field of international finance, particularly in commodities and foreign exchanges and the company, of which at the age of twenty-two he is one of the directors of, Investments International (Africa) Ltd, are the agents and representatives of Chawten Commodities, in East Africa.

SPECULATING in commodities, I found, is not only an ideal way for the well-off overseas student with external account funds not subject to UK Exchange Control to pass the cold, dull winter term at LSE, but also provides the opportunity for amassing large capital gains.

If one had for instance sold 50 tons of sugar when sugar prices were at their peak of around £600 per ton and bought back at today's prices of around £115 per ton the speculator would have made £22,000 on every £3,000 of risk capital invested: a return of 800 per cent p.a. I decided long ago that bank deposit accounts were not for me.

In addition to the enormous social status commodity speculation can confer on the rich overseas student, it gives him that practical feel for the international economic and financial situation which is of invaluable assistance when at the end of his studies he returns to assume a senior managerial position in a multi-national giant operating all over the world.

As there is no income and only the prospects of capital gains, it must be remembered that changes in the price of a commodity are the basis of all speculative profits. It is rarely realised that in commodities massive profits can be made in falling markets where one sells now when the price is high (one does not need to own any copper to sell it) and buys back later when prices have fallen. In the stock market profits are limited largely to rising markets, where one buys low and sells higher later.

The speculator deliberately seeks to be in an "open exposed" position by buying goods or selling goods he has not bought. Standing to gain if the price changed in one direction (rise if he had bought, fall if he had sold) and to incur losses if prices changed in the other direction.

What a speculator wants is a market where prices are changing constantly by large amounts in a very short space of time. Commodities are the ideal market for the speculator with risk capital to invest in return for spectacular profit opportunities because price instability is their outstanding characteristic; for instance, in the last 18 months the price of sugar has ranged from £600 to £115 per ton, a spot price movement of over 500 per cent. As will be seen, on the futures market this effect is magnified ten times so that the effective change is 5,000 per cent.

It was the existence of the futures

market that made me prefer commodities to the stock market for my speculative activities. With the latter, if I bought 1,000 ICI shares at £2 each I had to pay £2,000 or 100 per cent of the value. With the futures market, instead of buying, for instance, 15,000 kgs of rubber at 50p per kilo worth £7,500 and forking out £7,500, I simply bought 15,000 kgs forward, committing myself to buy that much rubber at a fixed price at a date in the future. Only 10 per cent of the nominal value of the rubber had to be paid to the commodity broker. Hence with my £7,500 I could buy 150,000 kgs or £75,000 of rubber. If the rubber price rose by 1 per cent from 50p per kilo to 50.5p I made a 10 per cent profit on my £7,500 as the value of my rubber rose by £750 to £75,750. Hence my gains could be magnified tenfold to the actual price movement. Of course I would have lost £750 if the price had fallen by 1 per cent from 50p to 49.5p but, through the use of "drop loss" orders, my losses were minimised in relation to the gains.

It must be remembered that in practice there was absolutely no need to take or provide delivery of 150,000 kgs of rubber. I could have bought or sold forward: I simply reversed or closed out my position by a reversing transaction. Speculation in commodity futures is a purely financial paper transaction and one need never see the sugar, tin, coffee, etc one buys or sells forward unlike the coffee jars and tin cans in the Union Shop. The profits if one makes them are for real and can be used to buy all the physical goodies (existing in reality) and so readily available in exclusive London shops at a price: Italian suits at £300, gold watches at £1,000 from Cartiers.

The LSE overseas student speculator has the overseas advantage of being so close to the heart of one of the major financial centres of the world—the City of London. Transactions can be conducted by prearrangement by telephone through a call-box at LSE or the Halls of Residence. The more serious student speculator can have a radio telephone in his briefcase and a Reuters television screen service showing the changing prices ticking away installed in his room.

Anyone thinking of forming an LSE commodity speculators society: it simply requires 20 signatures and ratification of the Constitution by a Union meeting. There could be pleasant social evenings with fellow speculators and talks by commodity experts held at the LSE.

I am more than happy to provide information and confidential personal advice. I should be around Florries buying coffee!



Mensah appeal

THE High Court in Accra, Ghana, refused in September to hear the appeal of Joseph Henry Mensah, former student of economics at the LSE, against his eight year sentence for "sedition".

J. H. Mensah, an M.Sc. student here in 1954, was charged with "sedition" and sentenced in November 1975 to eight years' imprisonment for his authorship of a pamphlet critical of the economic policies of the present military government of Ghana. Imprisoned along with Mensah, Finance Minister in the last civilian government of Ghana, were the Ghanaian politicians Kwame Karikari and Ibrahim Cudjoe Quaye.

The High Court decided not to hear the appeal because the presiding judge disqualified himself, on the grounds that his name had been mentioned during Mensah's original trial. The case was referred to the Chief Justice. However no new date has been set for the appeal hearing and so it is not clear when if ever, Mensah's appeal will be heard.

The Ghanaian government, in response to widespread criticism of Mensah's imprisonment, has declared that Joseph Mensah is merely a common criminal. Amnesty International, on the basis of the evidence from, and a transcript of the trial considers that J. H. Mensah has been imprisoned for nothing more than the peaceful expression of his beliefs. His continued imprisonment constitutes a violation of his basic civil and political rights, and Amnesty has therefore adopted Joseph Henry Mensah and his co-defendants as prisoners of conscience.

The LSE Amnesty Group has naturally joined in the fight for Mensah's release and has organised petitions and letter writing campaigns by the students and staff on his behalf. The Students' Union has also called for his release. The Ghanaian government remains deaf to all these appeals.

What can be done? The first step is to see that the appeal, which has now taken two years, is heard fairly but without further delay. J. H. Mensah has already served one quarter of his unjust sentence, and his appeal should not be further delayed. One way you can help is by writing a courteous



J. H. Mensah (left) and Dr Kurami, Karikari - Ghana

letter to His Excellency Colonel S. M. Asante, High Commissioner for Ghana, 13 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PR, asking that Mensah's appeal be heard without further delay. You could enclose a copy of this article, giving a summary of this case.

This is a small step, but important nevertheless. If you wish to do more, contact the LSE Amnesty group via the Societies Pigeonholes, St Clements Building or at our booth outside the library on Thursdays.

On November 25 Joseph Henry Mensah will have been in prison two years. The students and staff of the LSE must help secure his release.

ATHLETIC UNION

E65—home of that happy band of tireless workers, the Athletic Union. For those of you interested in participating in the more athletic pursuits, we organise over 25 sports. For more information about any of these, pop into the office and we will get you into contact with the appropriate people.

If you find that we do not organise the sport you wish to participate in, why not tell us and we will help you organise it.

As well as organising the various clubs, the A.U. also provides a number of facilities which are for the use of all A.U. members. In the East building we have the Gym (some free periods are still available—see Kath Binns) the weight machine (opposite the Gym) and the changing rooms (on the first floor landing by the Teaching Library). For any more information come to E65.

We hope you all have a successful year in whatever sport (and position) you adopt.

A.U. EXECUTIVE

JUDO CLUB

YOU have arrived at the right time, the judo club this year is being reorganised into a modern and efficient club. With solid backing from the A.U. many things are in store:

(1) A competent judo instructor. He instructs at his local club in Southend and will be able to teach for at least two hours at L.S.E., he has considerable experience both in judo and in the managing of a club and should provide some valuable advice.

(2) New material: we are planning to buy some new mats, foam rubber, which should make the carrying of the mats from the store-room to the gymnasium a fast affair. And it'll probably be more comfortable when you get thrown over a shoulder...

(3) Trips: Crystal Palace being a big centre for national and international judo it should be feasible to organise excursions to see some top judo.

(4) Reading: depending on our budget we should be able to subscribe to the B.J.A. journal for information about grading and events.

(5) Suits: also depending on the budget we should be able to buy some judo suits for your use before committing yourself totally to the sport.

Not to mention what an enjoyable sport judo can be to get rid of one's frustration against the establishment and the incomprehensible lecturers...

If you are interested please contact Piers Butler, 2nd year through U/G pigeonholes or come to the gymnasium on 3rd and 4th of October.

First meet: Wednesday, 12th October.

If you haven't got a judo suit bring a track suit or loose old clothing.

SQUASH CLUB

THIS is the largest club in the A.U., but unfortunately the facilities are limited to just one court which is in the East Building and on the second floor. This means that in order to get a court you have to be an early riser. However the problem will be eased by two new squash courts which are included in the Strand House Building due to be completed over the summer of 1978. So 1st years don't despair.

SNOOKER CLUB

FOR those more interested in John Spencer than John Maynard Keynes, the Snooker Room is the place to be. Indeed this could be the place to ruin LSE's fine academic record. Although it has occasionally been known for academic pursuits in the Library to distract members from the serious business of playing snooker, this is a rare occurrence which is frowned upon by the Committee.

Unfortunately the facilities aren't quite what John Spencer might expect, and sharing a cue is quite often the order of the day. However the Snooker Room is conveniently placed near to the bar so you can while away the long hours waiting for a game—one table can't cope with the numbers of people wanting to play. However LSE does take part in a London Colleges Snooker League and is on the lookout for budding John Spencers who have no aspirations for academic success.

TABLE TENNIS

THE Table Tennis Club will once again awake from its annual sleep caused by exam fever and examinations. The first meeting will be held on Friday, 14th October at 2.00 pm. It will commence with the appointment of office-bearer followed by a normal playing session.

For the benefit of the newcomer and potential members of the club, the club operates with the dual objectives of providing competitive as well as social play. Meetings during term-time are held in the school gym on Wednesday (2.00-5.00 pm). Later on during the term, arrangements are being made to provide members with the benefits of a professional coach. Furthermore all equipment is provided.

So if you think you are a champion why not come and play for one of the teams. But beware, don't despair to find someone better than you. On the other hand, if you fancy a giggle or an outlet for all those boring lectures you will have to swallow, I am sure we can cater for you.

H. JUMA (TABLE TENNIS CAPTAIN)

FOOTBALL

THE football club's programme is usually one of the busiest and most attractive, and this year's is no exception. We are running four league teams, therefore players of all standards will be most welcome. League and cup matches will be played on Wednesdays and Saturdays and coaches will be provided where possible. The first and second teams will also be playing in the AUA competition which involves a trip to Sussex University.

We are also travelling down to Southampton on October 26th for friendlies and players from all XIs are very welcome.

During the season we hope to arrange more trips, five-a-side, and other competitions.

The club captain this year will be Stewart Segal with Paul Knowles and Ronnie Patterson doing the secretarial duties. We will all be pleased to hear from anyone interested in the playing or organisational side of the club.

We hope many of you will have joined the F.C. already, but if not you can always leave your name with somebody in the AU office or on the soccer notice-board and we will get in touch with you. If you feel that you will not be able to play regularly do not let that stop you joining our club. The trips are open to all members of the club.

A NEW VENTURE THIS YEAR is women's football. We hope to run a 5-a-side team in the WIVAB competition in about three weeks' time, but we will be very glad of anyone wishing to kick a ball around for an hour or two a week. Anyone interested please sign the notices on the sport's board. Training with the blokes Mondays and Thursdays.

RUGBY CLUB

THIS major institution of the London School of Economics and Political Science not only provides students with healthy outdoor activity but also adds another dimension to their social life!

On the sporting side, we run two sides who play against other universities and colleges as well as many of the London club sides. Fixtures are on Wednesday and Saturdays. Training commences on Monday, October 11th at 6.00 p.m. in the Gym in the East Building and we hope to provide a qualified coach from a major London club. The majority of the games during the season are 'friendlies' and the only competition entered is the U.A.U. competition, culminating in a final at Twickenham. Playing for the L.S.E. also provides the springboard for selection for the London University side who have many fixtures against leading first-class sides, and enables students to attend trials for all of the British University sides.

We hope to end this season with a tour to either Belgium or Dublin which promises to be one of the unforgettable sporting and social events of the year!

On the social side, after match get-togethers are frequently uproarious to say the least, and it is hoped to organise some discos and other cultural evenings to raise some funds for the tour. Joining is the easiest thing in the world, just go along to the Athletic Union office and sign up. If you want any more information about the club contact Pat Moon, club captain, Bob Joshua, vice-captain or Paul Delaney, fixture secretary at the Athletic Union office. They will only be too pleased to answer all your queries!

GOOD RUCKING!

TENNIS CLUB

Last year the tennis club was badly organised and as a result no matches were played. However, this year I hope to organise as many matches as possible, and in order to get a good team winter tennis practices will be organised. These will take place at Lincoln's Inn

Field as the School has only grass courts. The nine very good grass courts are at the School's sports field at New Malden. Anyone who is interested in playing for the team please contact IAN DRANE, Flat 36, Maple Street Flats, London W1. Tel. 580-6338.

'SPORTSPERSON'S DRINKING GUIDE'

THIS is one of the new features that we hope to make regular to the sportspage in the hope that it will encourage you to get out and about and not become too fit and healthy. Our first investigation will be into the pubs close at hand to the School.

Highly recommended is the Lamb in Guildford Place. Apart from the fact that it is standing room only in there after about 7 p.m., one can have a very pleasant evening supping their excellent Young's. We recommend Ramrod and Special... real Rocket propellant. Winter Warmer will be in by November too.

Better still though is the adjacent Rising Sun in Conduit Street, which has an immense range of ale, including Young's, Braekespears, Abbott, Ruddles, Shepherd Neame and the excellent Felinfoel. This place is right outside Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and has a goodly range of nurses too. Bar snacks also provided.

Just on the LSE doorstep is the George which has quite a nice drop of Bass and good Guinness. It's pretty cheap too, the only problem being that it's populated by students! We do not recommend its neighbour, the White Horse; we don't like Whitbread Trophy and I have never felt especially welcome in there though the food is quite good. It also has one of the worst toilets in London!

I also don't recommend the Hercules Pillars, just off Newton Street. It is one of those plastic beer houses but Watneys Fined is available and is OK as an experiment... once! Far better is the Princess Louise on High Holborn with Ruddles and Youngs. It is a nice old pub but the bar staff are a bit dozy and tend to confuse orders.

Going the other way we strongly recommend the Old King Lud in Ludgate Circus, with excellent Trophy draught, smooth furnishing and great, but expensive food. The occasional quake of a train going overhead can soon be mistaken for D.T.s, however. I would recommend a flying visit to the Albion across the road to try their Burton from the wood. They also do good lunches, but get in by about 12.55.

Next week: pubs around the Tottenham Court Road area.

VICTOR VOLUME and ARTHUR RAMROD