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N58

BEAVER

NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS STUDENTS' UNION

New Statesman

The Voice of the Left.

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No. 215

FEBRUARY 22nd, 1983

STUDENTS UNITE!

by JIM McCALLUM

THE news that the Government has yet to decide upon the alteration of the London weighting allowance and the transport allowance has given a boost of confidence to the LSE vigil. As it becomes clear that on several key issues the Government has not yet made any decisions the interest created through the media by the LSE vigil and similar demonstrations will be seen to have strengthened the NUS bargaining position with the Government.

When asked whether it was a Government proposal to change the London weighting allowance, an education spokesman for the Conservative Party Central Office commented: "We won't confirm that we're thinking about getting rid of the London weighting allowance." When pressed he added, "However, we cannot deny that we are not. Everything is constantly under review."

"MANIFESTO POSSIBILITY?"

Commenting on this the NUS grants officer said "It seems that far from being a Government proposal this could be a possible manifesto proposal."

The NUS grants officer has

said that in his regular talks with the DES neither side has ever mentioned the idea. This would seem to strengthen the claim made by Neil Stewart, the President of NUS, that the Government in an election year can be influenced.

"UP FOR GRABS"

On the issue of the transport allowance the Government also seems unlikely to have made up its mind, as was originally thought. The Government have publicly committed themselves to a change, there being two main options. Firstly there could be added to what we already have a flat average rate for the whole of the UK. This would clearly affect London students disproportionately.

SPECULATION

The second proposal is a system of banding with London retaining its weighting. The NUS grants officer described the situation as "up for grabs".

A spokesman for the DES described this as "speculation" and, while not denying the claim, questioned the NUS source of information. A decision concerning the transport allowance is expected soon from the Secretary of State for Education.



The increase of 4.9 per cent in next year's grant, however, has been decided upon and, short of lobbying MPs to precipitate some form of back-bench revolt, it looks likely that this will be passed by the House of Commons.

Sabbatical elections

THE elections for sabbatical officers draw nigh and the candidate picture is becoming steadily clearer. The Labour Club will decide its nominees next week. Strongly tipped

are John Donkersley for the Senior Treasurer nomination and Dave Jackson or Debbie Hindson for Gen. Sec. From the Tories, Dominic Freely is standing, and Nick Varney for Senior Treasurer. Hopley is after his old job as 'Return to Efficiency' candidate, as is Nic Newman for Social Sec. Dave Bull, Union Chairman, is also going for Social Sec., and Phil Hague is rumoured to be doing the same. Simon Taylor, the Union Services Officer, confirmed that he would definitely be standing for Senior Treasurer, and is thought to represent the main threat to John Donkey-Jacket. Richard Dunn, the one who smiles, has similarly confirmed that he is going for Gen. Sec. Look out next issue for Houghton Street Harry's odds.

DAHRENDORF DEATH THREAT

LAST week's wave of bomb scares included a death threat on the Director, Ralf Dahrendorf. On Wednesday, 16th February, several hours before the Director was due to give a speech to LSE Liberals, the administration received a call from a man with an American accent who claimed: "Dahrendorf would get it." However, the caller rang off before

the call could be traced by the police. This followed a call at the beginning of the week which predicted four days of bomb scares. In the recent past, the callers have been described as having African, Irish and Asian voices. The Bursar said the School had no idea why there has been this recent spate of threats, usually confined to election and exam dates.

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BEAVER

Education vigil

ONE thing is clear from checking various sources connected with the issue of education cuts. The government has not yet decided the future of London weighting or the Transport Allowance. The extent to which they are "up for grabs" is unknown. However it is obvious that the government are still in a position to be influenced and we as students, nationally, are in a position to influence them. We are not at the mercy of an omnipotent government pushing its proposals through the Department of Education and the House of Commons.

If every University and College in the country took part in some form of protest as advocated by the NUS, the subsequent media attention would highlight the strength of student opposition to government ideas. Generally such action would have only a limited effect but in what is potentially an election year the whole complexion of student protest is changed. The Tory Government will be aware of the electoral dangers of jeopardising what amounts to a substantial student vote. Since a significant proportion of student voters reside in marginal constituencies the government is likely to be even more cautious. The price of our support must be high, putting the N.U.S. in a position of strength for its negotiations with the government. That is why every student should support Wednesday's action in order to convince the government that we really mean what we say.

Anyone who has attended the organisational meetings for the Vigil would have been impressed by the wide political spectrum from which it drew its support.

The Vigil will be non-factional and allows any person regardless of party ties to show his or her distaste for government proposals. This could lead to the removal of such short-sighted ideas from the political agenda. This is a realistic proposition and is in no way a futile cause. The rapidity with which Mrs Thatcher disavowed herself from the Think Tank Report on the Health Service served to emphasise the government's propensity to avoid any move liable to alienate electoral support.

It is vital that the LSE accepts its responsibility and joins other Universities and Colleges in protest. We must show the government that we do care about our education and that we are not prepared to sit back and accept attacks on it. We must face this challenge and if only for once in our student lives forget our differences to stand up and fight. **SUPPORT THE VIGIL.**

Opposition to Price...

Dear Comrades,

I was appalled to read your article 'Director to go on LSE vigil.' The article was a rewritten version of an article that was originally prepared by Kevin Cooper, Tony Donaldson and myself, outlining the events of Education Week (Feb 21-25), the vigil and the Director's support for student action on this issue. The article which appeared on Feb 8 had been completely changed in tone, direction and attitude and furthermore was factually incorrect in places. The "Labour Club statement" referred to in the article does not in fact exist. The two quotations were actually sections from the original article which is in no way Labour Club policy. Ken Livingstone, Frances Morrel have not "expressed their support" or as yet intend to appear. Moreover, the original article never mentioned having "semi-paralytic" students rolling around Houghton Street. It referred to hopes of establishing "a carnival-type atmosphere with entertainment" along the lines of actions taken by the Greenham Common women — actions which have proved so effective.

The opposition of "some groups" is as most people now realise, simply the opposition of Matthew Price, your so-called political editor. If Price is really trying to sabotage Education Week, fair enough — but will he please let us know, so that we can disregard any hope of support from Beaver. By the time this issue of your comic appears we hope to have produced a leaflet repairing the damage done by your piece of pseudo-Sun shit.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN TOMANEY

First past the post for a hunt saboteur

7th February, 1983.

Dear Sir and Brother,
MAY I use your columns to apologise to those thousands of disappointed persons who flocked to the Great Proportional Representation Debate at which I was announced as the speaker against only to find that I was not present?

Unfortunately the organisers of the event neglected to tell me that I was speaking with the result that I was at home resting after a strenuous encounter with Berkshire landowners on behalf of the Hunt Saboteurs whilst the disappointed hordes thronged the school in search of the missing speaker.

However, if it's any consolation to my fellow honest and sturdy "first past the posters" there really isn't a case to answer and those few misguided souls clinging to the spectre of electoral reform as a means to halt the irresistible forward march of Labour have all but given up their hopeless cause.

Recent events in West Germany and a general raising of political consciousness have combined to show even the most blinkered Jenkinsite or National Front supporter that an electorate wants to make decisions about major issues and not dither around in Shirley Williams' middle of the road fairyland.

The sight of a change of government independent of the electorate has concentrated the mind wonderfully and I happily prophesy that manic tinkering by persons with calculators instead of brains will end and PR will gracefully fade away as an issue in the same way as the SDP as faded as a political party. I believe that a coach will shortly be leaving LSE bound for the Bundestag and I heartily recommend all PR freaks to hop aboard whilst the last shreds of credibility still shelter them from the cold but bracing winds of political reality.

Fraternally your,

STEVE POUND

LETTERS PAGE

Permanent manager wanted

Dear Beaver,

Having spent almost a year in the post of services officer, I have attained a detailed first-hand knowledge of how the Students' Union works — in practice.

In theory the permanent staff are employed to help the sabbaticals act out the Union's wishes. In reality this does not happen and a lot of time is spent dealing in a rather ham-fisted manner, with personal problems.

The reasons for this situation are numerous. First, the way the process of management is carried out. At the moment the staff are responsible to the five people of the administration sub-committee (Gen. Sec., Sen. Treasurer and three executive members), obviously with most work falling on the sabbaticals. Secondly, all sabbaticals are inexperienced and lacking in confidence when they start and these problems are not overcome until near the end of their term of office. This period of 'learning' and confidence build-

ing worsens the situation because the sabbaticals lack confidence to make effective personnel decisions and they, therefore, have limited control over staff.

As a result, staff performance becomes largely a matter of individual personality and in most cases this leads to staff taking excessive work with little or no thanks. Consequently, frustration and hostility develops between well-intentioned officers and hard-working staff.

What is needed is a permanent Union manager who, under the direction of the sabbaticals and the executive, would provide a link between policy-making and implementation and also act as an advisor both to staff and to elected officers to provide assistance to them in carrying out their duties, especially in the annual transition period.

Most other Student Unions of ment manager. It seems insane that an institution re- nent manager. It seems

that in an institution renowned for economics and management science should have a Union in which this important role is neglected.

Yours,

SIMON TAYLOR
(Union Services Officer).

Soft soap for shaving cream

Dear Sir,

IN answer to Mr Crabb's worry about Rag Week it must be said that the Rag Committee had decided not to inflict shaving cream injuries upon staff this year. Although letters would have been sent out to staff it is thought that shaving cream hits would not have benefited the staff student relations. However there will be a chance for you to get sabbaticals, friends or even enemies splattered! Don't let Rag Week pass you by!!! Take part. There are many things going on in the Halls as well as at the school, so make the most of it. After all it only happens once a year!!

Yours faithfully,

DAVID BRANCH
(Rag Week Treasurer)

Yet another admirer....

Dear sir or madam,

Were I of a more Hopley-esque nature, the somewhat dubious Letters Page of your august organ would be blessed with a writ rather than a letter. Even by Beaver's remarkably low standards, the anonymous, distorted, and largely illiterate account in your last issue of the speech delivered recently at LSE by Bill Rodgers, MP, was outstandingly bad.

The "article" accuses me of "extensive fixing of the questions". Seven questions were put to Mr Rodgers. Of these, four came from prominent Social Democrats, Anthony Wedgewood-Donaldson (General Secretary), Alev Adiloglu (Chairperson of the Labour Club), Deborah Hindson (Prospective Labour Club candidate for General Secretary) and Patrick Hayes (Principal First Year Labour hack). How this can constitute "extensive fixing" eludes me, and I can scarcely be held to blame for the fact that these four intellectual giants combined could not outwit Mr Rodgers.

The nameless "author" explains this away on the grounds that our Fab Four "credited him with policies which they then, of course, ran into difficulties

trying to knock down". Why "of course"? If people do not support the SDP they should be prepared to explain why, but to persist with the lie that the party has no policies is feeble, dishonest and pigoted. If Labour Club supporters cannot compound counter-arguments to the policies the SDP proposes, perhaps it is time they re-examine their own inadequate pre-conceptions.

Most seriously of all, this ignoramus appears to have reached University without learning how to spell correctly the name of the great poet Thomas Stearns Eliot ("Eliott" sic).

All in all, it seems that either this person was not at the Bill Rodgers meeting at all, or that he was too stupid to understand what Mr Rodgers was saying. Either way, I really cannot understand why you publish such flagrantly unsubstantiated verbiage.

You are The Daily Express and I claim my ten pounds.

Yours etc.,

ANDREW COOPER,
Chairman, LSE SDPS.

Silly season for scaremongers....

Dear Editors,

Debate in the LSE in recent weeks has centred on the government's latest proposals for students in higher education. This subject has also been the focal point for much distortion and misrepresentation.

We have all been told of how the government plans to abolish the 'London weighting allowance' for students. In reality, however, evidence for this has been thin on the ground. When the director of student affairs at Conservative Party Central Office was contacted over this proposal he remarked: "Over our dead bodies, these students would be rioting in the streets." I must admit I'd be one of them. Even the education officer of NUS, who would be a highly quotable source, if the government's

intentions are well founded, was not aware of any such scheme.

But, however, on the government's transport proposals I feel that they might have a case in point. The present plans would probably work towards London students' disadvantage—though not necessarily towards all students.

Finally, it ought to be borne in mind that at present all the government has on the table are certain ideas—that may or may not be adopted (and in the past many haven't).

So anyone reading over the next few weeks poorly printed pamphlets or hearing student demagogues ought not to be too alarmed. After all, with Student Union elections in sight is this not the silly season for student politics?

GUY DAVIES

END OF A KIERA....

KEIR Hopley's resignation as 'Senior' Ents Treasurer, on St. Valentine's Day brought forth fears that not only had Virgin not sent him a verse of sweet nothings, but that an end of an era had dawned.

A disagreement over the payment of the bill for the Rosebery Christmas Disco prompted Hopley to offer his resignation. According to Simon Taylor, the Rosebery Treasurer, a verbal agreement was made between Dave Bearman and John Priest, the then Social Secretary, that the cost to the Rosebery Hall Committee would not exceed £90. The Hall Committee, however, received a bill for £181.66, which John Tomany, then Rosebery Treasurer, refused to pay.

As a result Bearman and Hopley, via Ents, threatened legal action. Tomany then requested that an itemised bill be sent to the Hall Committee. A bill for £181.66 was received, but according to Tomany this was not itemised and a second

request for an itemised bill was sent to Ents.

VIRGIN— 'UNPROFESSIONAL'

Time elapsed. A letter was then sent by Hopley to the Hall Committee, in which Hopley claimed no responsibility for any dishonour.

Steve Virgin then agreed to knock £15 off the bill, so that only costs would be paid. At this point Hopley submitted his resignation. Hopley said "The Social Secretary went around the dealing in an unprofessional manner and had not used the correct financial procedures."

NEW TOY

"There are certain disagreements between me and the Social Secretary but that is inevitable. I think in an organised financial manner." Sources extremely close to Mr Hopley said that he is not in total agreement with Mr Virgin's approach to finance. The source described it as one of a small boy, who has been given half-a-

request for an itemised bill was sent to Ents. crown by his uncle to buy a new toy, such as a mixed amplifier at £165. A purchase against which Mr Hopley issued a memo, as he felt Ents mentality did not make for efficient organisation.

Matters have since been resolved. Hopley has been reinstated, and according to Hopley most certainly not as the junior member of the treasury team.

In private Keir Hopley has expressed disillusionment with student politics, and he failed to make a speech at last Thursday's UGM. But will Keir ever drift into oblivion...

ROSIE WHITEHOUSE

Not in the library

AT the decision of the Senior Librarian, the Library has a policy this year of restricting what can be displayed on the foyer noticeboard, amongst other reasons given, to prevent it becoming overcrowded.

The basic distinction made is that posters advertising events of "general interest," such as speakers addressing societies, can be displayed, but those advertising "social events" can't.

UNGAY

The way this policy is being implemented, however, is not quite clear. A Gay Society poster publicising the availability of a free gay newspaper in the various shops in the LSE was recently not allowed to be put up, whereas a notice about the Malay-Singapore Society's Newsletter was prominently displayed. Given that the purpose of a library is to provide and disseminate information, it seems odd that they should refuse details of a newspaper which would provide the only source of gay information in the School.

Similarly, while talks by speakers of interest at other colleges cannot be displayed (but only events at LSE), there were on the noticeboard posters advertising courses at the Institute of Industrial Archaeology, BUNAC "Work America" schemes, and a Chinese cultural exhibition.

(WEEKENDS) NON-EVENTS

And despite "no social events," various clubs had posters up advertising weekends in Oxford, Windsor and Paris.

The are at present plans afoot to make more space available for the Library cloakroom. Perhaps more space should be made available for a wider range of student interests, and fewer contradictions in the implementation of the noticeboard regulations. Pat Hayes, a student member of the Library Committee, has meanwhile written to the Senior Librarian asking him for clarification of his policy on posters. We await an answer with interest.



LUCAS — AIDS RECOVERY ?

ED Lucas, retired hack, has been demonstrating his commitment to the Liberal cause, to ensure that all is not lost in Bermondsey, in this week's by-election. Despite the arctic conditions Ed has been out canvassing and thinks: "this is the best fun you can have with your clothes on!"

The Labour Club have not yet put in an appearance in Bermondsey. The Labour activists have been expounding their energies in organising the 24-hour vigil, which will form part of the NUS Education Week. From Thursday teams will be going to support Peter Tatchell, once they have made their point a little closer to home.

The Tories, whose candidate may be about to lose his deposit, have not ventured into London dockland and have no official plans as yet to do so. Rather than furthering their cause nearer home, they have chosen to have Enoch Powell for dinner.

ROSIE WHITEHOUSE

News in brief

THE Monochrome Set, on February 5th, was a sell-out, so much so that the GLC fire limit was broken. Steve Virgin admits to having placed far too many names on the guest list. Keir Hopley, who was away for the weekend, said that Virgin was far too enthusiastic, in his desire to make a profit. GLC officers have visited the Bursar and it is possible that the LSE as a venue may be closed down.

The Executive have set up a staff-student committee to review management in Student Union facilities, and iron out any difficulties. Student representatives will be: Rick Young, Simon Taylor and Sheila Curran.

Steve Virgin has said that the reason that no P.A. has yet been purchased is because there is not enough money to buy one. After shopping around he has decided that £3,000 not £2,000, as stated at the UGM, will be needed. He intends to use Ents profits to make up the difference. Rick Young said that according to the constitution this would require a financial motion, with one week's notification, and a two-thirds majority.

It was decided at the Accommodation Committee meeting that the constraints on the expansion of nursery facilities are financial. Once that is overcome the question of building can easily be overcome.

The September resits issue has been referred to the Academic policy sub-committee, following discussion at the Academic Board meeting on February 9th. The issue was also discussed in the Committee on Undergraduate Studies, where members appeared in favour of September resits. The Department of Mathematical Science and Statistics has changed the emphasis of its argument against resits. The main thrust of the argument is no longer the amount of work they would produce but academic. The candidates, who fail need extra attention and since extra tuition is not available in the summer the department disagree with the proposal.

LSE POLISH SOCIETY present:
A RAG DANCE
(In aid of the Polish Students' Appeal Fund)
"THE SUPPORT" — up and coming young blues band
HERTZ VAN RENTAL — close friend of Dave Bull
DISCO & CHEAP BAR
RAFFLE—a chance to win bottles of vodka, cherry brandy, ski jackets etc etc
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24th
7.30 in the HALDANE ROOM
Tickets £1 in adv; £1.50 on door

LSE'S ISRAEL SOCIETY
presents—
"THE ISRAELI
CULTURAL EVENING"
TUESDAY, MARCH 8th
7.30 pm
Rooms: PER, A45, A40
Admission: FREE

MATTHEW PRICE IN THE UNION

DONALDSON: DEMAGOGUE TO STATESMAN

TO the outraged hacks for whom involuntary euthanasia seems to be the kindest release, the Union meetings of the past fortnight have come as quite a shock. The man who, when a second year, made SWSO seem moderate, showed that although a Donaldson does not change its clothes, it can change its spots.

Take, for example, the Union meeting at which the S.S. Budget finally reached the post, even though submarine commander Hopley was going up and down like a periscope. Rumours were flying about that the rogue torpedo, Groves, was to make a surprise attack, accusing Donaldson of not buying his 'Bradford Twelve' T-shirt. Most of the Labour Club know very well that he bought the T-shirt, but just wish he would wash it occasionally.

Hopley tried to spin out the societies budget game. Chairman Dave Bull saw completely red until someone attacked the 'Give a home to an ageing hippy fund (Folk/Blues Soc.)' After promising that Roy Harper would never have the cheek to show his face again at LSE he returned to the chair and decided to guillotine the budget.

Chaos reigned at Monday's emergency meeting, with 'Our Great and Glorious Revolutionary Leader' opposing the sending of a coach to the trial of the Greenham Common women. Groves was against it too, and let us know that "he disliked pickets." SWSO was in favour, as was a section of the Labour Club, judging by the final vote. Why the split? Are the manifestations of collective solidarity, so dear to the left, less appealing to those bearing the loneliness of leadership? Or does Rick Young fear a future court appearance at the hands of a Matthew Collings just wanting to show off to the legal establishment. Dave Jackson tried to suggest that there was no real division amongst the left, but to see Boney and Gareth Skunk literally at each other's throats afterwards, one could be forgiven for thinking Cruise had already arrived and each held the other personally responsible.

For the first time ever last Thursday we were spared the Groves oration. But instead we got the unacceptable face of Robert Shrimpsley. This is exactly the same as the acceptable face of Robert Shrimpsley except the lips move and a speech comes out. He was opposing the education week of action, a motion for which Labour released its deadliest and rarest weapon—a member with a genuine working class accent. The momentum was lost, unfortunately, when Kevin Cooper was seconded by Paul Cordery, whose neat apparel and impeccable manner coupled with the fact that he said 'care,' 'caring' or 'cared' 17 times in one sentence, made one sure he was a member of the SDP (he is actually as red as Kevin Cooper's wardrobe).

As we arrived at the Palestinian motion, LSE's answer to Quasi Modo decided to set off the bells yet again.

GOTCHA!

Florries felon ?

AN arrest was made last week in connection with recent thefts in the School. On the afternoon of Wednesday, 9th February, Donald Williams, aged 20, of Wood Green, was apprehended in Florries coffee bar.

He was identified by Kate Slay, the Union shop manager, and chased by a group of porters who caught him in Florries. Mr Williams will appear in court this week.

A further arrest was also made in connection with other incidents, which include the case of a bogus cleaner, who attacked a woman in the Geography Department last year. A photo-fit picture of the suspect was widely distributed within the School. There have been subsequent occasions, when it has been suspected that the suspect has returned to the School.

The Standing Committee of the Court of Governors, who effectively run the LSE, met on February 15th and agreed to implement a report on security in the School made by the crime prevention officer. This includes an increase in the number of alarms in areas of the School used by women and stronger locks and bolts.

SNACKS BARRED— FLORRIE'S ALARMED

Bars will be placed on the windows of Florries, through which thieves entered on the night of December 1st. The Bursar's department may provide alarms for Florries, the Three Tuns Bar, and the Union Shop.

The matter of the installation of closed circuit television in the East Building remains unresolved but is opposed by the Student's Union. It has proved incapable of preventing the theft of bicycles, as it cannot distinguish between owner and thief. Tony Donaldson, the General Secretary objects to the atmosphere they create even, when not switched on.

ROSIE WHITEHOUSE

TONY BENN

MOST of the seats in the New Theatre were taken by 12.30. By a quarter to one it was difficult to find standing room. By the time 'he' arrived, about seven minutes before one o'clock, the entrances to the theatre were totally jammed, and people were spreading up the stairs towards the Beaver office, eager just to hear, if not actually to see, what was happening inside. Was it a great prophet? Was it a new Messiah? Could it even be ET? For the student population of LSE it might well have been all three rolled into one: Anthony Wedgwood Benn, the



'most controversial figure in British politics', as the blurb on the back of his new book describes him, had arrived. The Labour Club had been trying to get him for months, and he had refused two invitations on different occasions. But it took one short sweet note from CND, and Mr Benn was saying yes, yes, and more yes. Was this slight to the Labour Club intentional? Or was it just the emotive appeal of CND was too strong to resist? If Mr Benn was in search of an audience, he certainly got one.

He started by questioning several basic assumptions upon which traditional Western thinking has been based. He said we should not accept the government's argument that the peace we have enjoyed in Europe since 1945 is due to nuc-



lear deterrent. He suggested that the Russians do not want another war, having lost 20m people in the last one. There was no evidence to support the idea that the USSR would move into Western Europe, should we disarm. He argued that a 'cordon sanitaire' existed for security reasons, but he pointed out that the Soviet Union had often been invaded throughout history, and had legitimate security concerns. Mr Benn also exposed the fallacy that where ever the West is in power, democracy flourishes: "Some of the most cruel and despotic dictatorships are under the direct control of Britain and the USA."

The BBC, which he referred to as the 'mouthpiece' of the Ministry of Defence, concentrates our attention (quite rightly) on suppression of human rights in Poland, but never mentions Turkey—a fellow ally in Nato—where the trade unions have been strictly controlled.

Thirdly, Mr Benn suggested that nuclear weapons are not for what the Americans have led us to believe. "We are told that nuclear weapons are to prevent a Soviet attack on Europe—but the Reagan administration is now talking in terms of 'rolling back' the Soviet empire. They are pushing for a confrontation. He also reminded us that the Americans have openly stated that they want internal reform in the USSR, and the shrinkage of the Soviet empire. An advisor for Reagan actually said: "We want to see a world order compatible with American values." He concluded that the USA's interest in nuclear weapons was not to avert war, but to try and win a strategic nuclear war in Europe. One is bound to remember that famous occasion when Mr Reagan could "see where you could have a limited nuclear war in Europe". Stars and Stripes magazine, an organ of the US forces, urged in an issue last year to make preparation for

winning a nuclear war with the Soviet Union. Mr Benn said that we are being led along in a campaign which has nothing whatever to do with the protection of Britain or Western Europe against a Soviet attack. "Although I admire the American people" (and we must pause to remember that his wife comes from none other place than the Land of the Free). "I do not believe it is compatible with our own domestic democracy to allow a President we do not elect and cannot remove, to have bases here and to pursue policies that may not be our policies". He did not believe that it was in the interest of Europe to be clients of either the USA or the USSR. Despite recent press reports that Michael Foot might not support a fully unilateralist policy, Mr Benn was confident that a Labour government would ultimately go ahead with it, reminding us that Michael Foot himself has been closely associated with the peace movement for many years. Although the last CND conference and Labour Women's conference both voted for Britain to



leave Nato, Benn opposed this, saying that it would be the "maximum provocation for the minimum effect." He felt the ultimate aim should be to use our influence within Nato to create a nuclear free zone in Western Europe.

The possibility of a nuclear Western Europe would increase dramatically if the Greens were to gain over the five per cent threshold for access to the Bundestag, and replace the FDP.

"Nato is a very flexible organisation"

Benn did not think that it was hypocritical to remove American bases from Europe, and still remain in Europe—"Nato is a very flexible organisation", he said, "and accommodates the policies of the people within it." In the long term, he looked to a perspective of a European security agreement based on the dissolution of both the Warsaw Pact and Nato. It would have to be taken step by step, he said, but "I think the perspective of a united Europe in which people would live together and co-operate without the super-powers dominating the two sides of Europe, is a very powerful one."

Benn is certainly not a pacifist, however, and does talk in terms of a non-nuclear defence strategy on the lines of the Swedish model. He felt that this would not mean an increase in the defence budget.

Despite the fact that the Tories have an 18 per cent lead in the latest opinion polls, Benn was confident that Labour could win the next election. Unemployment, nuclear disarmament and leaving the EEC are major issues, he felt, and Labour had a very clear stance on all three.

He admitted that anxiety existed over whether voting Labour would result in the stated policies being carried out after a Labour government had been returned. The main problem was to convince people of the workability of Labour's ideas, and convince them that a Labour government would carry them out after an election. As Benn sees it, what we are currently faced with is a genuine crisis of capitalism, and that this can only be reversed by a genuine shift to socialism ("which hasn't been publicly advocated by the Labour Party for twenty years"). Crisis, he said, tended to frighten people into a shift to the right, but he estimated that there were at least 20m people in Britain who are looking for a genuine alternative, and would respond if they thought there was one. For this reason, Labour should be more a campaigning party, encouraging people to fight back, rather than simply saying: "Vote for us and we'll solve all your problems."

Kirsty Lang,
Richard Bacon
and Danny Burns.



Stage armies don't win battles

THE response of the NUS executive to the Tory attacks on education has been to call for passive resistance to the cuts — petitioning, lobbying MPs etc. They somehow think that by changing public opinion we will defeat the cuts.

Public opinion alone cannot achieve such aims. The overwhelming opposition to cruise missiles being sited in Britain has not made the Tories change their position.

Some members of the Labour Club see the week of action as part of the general election campaign. They envisage a vigil on February 23rd as a way of raising public awareness, thus making the tasks easier for NUS members and Neil Kinnock.

Thus the students at LSE are to be used as a "stage army" to impress the public, but basically we are to leave it to our betters to stop the cuts.

SWSO on the other hand sees direct action at the LSE as the way to bring the campaign under the leadership of the rank and file.

We regard the incorporation of the demand for an under two's nursery into the week of action as very important. Such an achievement will boost the confidence of students at LSE and in other colleges, in their ability to fight the cuts. An occupation is the only way to win concessions out of the school. Only by making life difficult for LSE and by showing our readiness to fight, can we achieve even the smallest aims.

JULIAN DEAN

Socialist Worker Student Organisation

Neither cliches nor claptrap nor claret — but results

THE Labour Club has initiated the Education Campaign at LSE in response to the national call from NUS for 24-hour occupations in opposition to all education cuts, the threat of student loans and loss of travelling allowance, posing the alternative as investment in education.

We see the event as important in four ways:—

(1) It publicises Government plans for the education system and co-ordinates resistance to them.

(2) It involves the LSE student body in activity rather than relying on others to speak for them.

(3) It reaffirms the socialist view of education, that it is a right not a privilege. This right must be defended and extended until it is available for all those who wish to study, at a polytechnic, further education college, or university. There can be no discrimination on the basis of wealth or nationality.

(4) It allows other issues at LSE to be raised such as despite LSE making a profit, there is still no nursery for under-tuos, the poor security in the East Building, the problem of finding books in the library and the fact that there are no September re-sits.

However, the vigil is only part of a larger struggle. Student activity cannot be turned on and off like a tap. The movement must be continued on two levels:—

Firstly the national level taking the NUS demands as starting-point.

Secondly, the local level where we can directly influence events.

LSE invites all students to join the vigil and extend the campaign afterwards by whatever means necessary to make an impact on the Government and win concessions from the LSE authorities.

DAVID JACKSON

VIGILANTES

FIRST

1 - 2.30 — OPENING RALLY

- * FRANK DOBSON, MP
- * SARAH VEALE, NUS Exec, outlining the National Situation
- * DAWN MUSPATT Nalgo Shop Steward (Library Staff)
- * Speaker from T & G (Poster)
- * Speaker from AUT (Teaching Staffs) outlining LSE staff situation
- * Students' Union Speakers

THEN

2.30 onwards—

- * Street entertainment Featuring
- * LOFTY
- * HERTZ VAN RENTAL
- * THE DAINTEES

Petition and leaflet Public and students

5.30 - 6.30 : Newham Eight. Some of the defendants and speakers from the campaign will be appearing.

AND

- * 7.00 — RAG REVUE
- * 9.00 — Address by RALPH DAHRENDORF, LSE Director
- * 9.30 - late — First ever LSE education week DISCO Spectacular

Florries open 12 - 2 am

- * 8.00 — Florries open for Breakfast
- * 12.00 — Closing rally — "on to further campaign"
- * 1.00 — UGM

Leaflet & petition of public & students More street entertainment

SPECIAL: On the steps that afternoon, a debate on Nuclear Disarmament between Richard Bacon & Danny Burns.

(Second speakers and times to be announced)

STUDENTS are a special layer of society. When they are adversely affected they can't withdraw their labour or mount an investment strike. However, it is a mistaken view to think that students are powerless. It is even more mistaken for students simply to rely on their "leaders".

The government is aware of the large student vote which exists. The LSE is aware that it is within the power of students to make life very difficult for the school and give it bad publicity.

Show your opposition to losing transport allowances, a grant increase of 24 pence a day, cuts in education.

Show your support for a grant increase of £5.00 a week more. £25.00 for FE students. Investment in all education. Improved facilities at LSE Join the VIGIL!

JOIN THE VIGIL

WED 23rd 1.00 pm

NOT JUST ANOTHER DEMO

MANY students reading these articles will be extremely cynical about being asked to attend yet another grants demonstration—they will wonder if, just like all the previous demos, this one is going to be a poorly organised clique affair influencing no-one and spending more time discussing occupations than grants. I too have been very disappointed by previous grants events but I believe this one is different—it is well organised, it has wide political support and it is aimed at the Government and public opinion.

The reason why higher education has become a convenient area for cuts is that public opinion is not behind us. Like it or not, the general public sees students as a small effete group of Marxists who have long hair and are continuously in occupation and this view must be challenged. The best way of doing this is to ensure that our grants campaign is conducted in such a way as to gain support with people who have credibility with the Government and the public—people like Ralf Dahrendorf, General Sir John Hackett and even Ted Heath. If people like this support us we may stand a chance of being believed when we complain about grant levels.

I have made this point over and over again in the Students' Union and in Beaver's columns, but I think now that the Executive led by Tony Donaldson has come round to this point and that they have organised something worth supporting.

The grants issue is vital and it goes beyond the reversal of a few overdrafts. Britain needs a fully comprehensive education system, and a comprehensive grants system for those over-16 is an important step towards that. I urge you all to support the campaign and to start by supporting the all-night grants vigil on February 23rd.

DANNY FINKELSTEIN

We will face this challenge

A personal view from
Philip Groves

THE education week of action coupled with the LSE vigil this Wednesday presents those of us in the Federation of Conservative Students with a difficult choice of whether to support it or not. Conservatives realise that this week of action could easily turn into a destructive crusade against every Government proposal on education and a platform for extravagant claims which have no chance of being met. At LSE itself, the all-night vigil could be exploited by the Labour Club, which has so far secured a virtual monopoly over invited speakers. I know for a fact that members of SWSO and others on the extreme left plan to turn the vigil into an occupation of the School, a move which would be futile and counter-productive. Why, then, should we support the vigil and the week of action?

Firstly, we must show that the far left does not have a monopoly of concern over university opportunities. Many Conservatives are themselves anxious that certain cutbacks—for example, those affecting overseas students—are not implemented.

Secondly, it appears that this week of action has broad support. The support lent to it by Professor Dahrendorf and other leading academics at LSE means that—far from necessarily being a front for the Left this could be a week of constructive discussion of Government proposals. We may, as Conservatives, abhor the tone of the protests, but we can surely as such give this week our qualified support. Even those Conservatives who believe that all the Government is putting forward is justified (if harsh) can come to the vigil and listen to the different arguments advanced.

Thirdly, we should participate in the coming debate for the simple reason that, if Government proposals are in need of modification, we are by far in the best position to secure change as Conservative students. The views of the FCS will undoubtedly be given close attention in what is possibly an election year. If we feel the need to protest, we will be listened to. The left, in contrast to us, are always protesting.

In conclusion, let me say that if we do not attend this vigil, the Press and the public will only receive the views and outlook of a politically-motivated minority, as if they were a majority. They will see the banners of hatred against the Government, they will hear the rhetoric of Mr Ken Livingstone, and they will think that this is the only voice representing students. We cannot allow this to happen. That is why some Conservatives have made up their minds to attend the vigil and to take part in the week of action. We intend to show that our positive concern for education goes further than sloganising, extravagant demands of students and political manoeuvring. We will face this challenge.



IT'S RAG WEEK



SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 22nd

GRAND FETE in the QUAD
 BINGO in the NEW THEATRE - 1.00
 ★ WITH MASSIVE PRIZES ★
 RAG REVUE in O.T., 7.30 pm

WEDNESDAY 23rd

STREET COLLECTION. Meet 8.00
 by BANK TUBE STATION
 HYPNOTIST, 1.30 pm, O.T.

THURSDAY 23rd

SPONSORED UNION MEETING
 STOCKS on HOUGHTON STREET
 POLISH EVENTING with
 HERTZ VAN RENTAL

FRIDAY 23rd

MATINEE RAG REVUE - 1.00 pm,
 CARR SAUNDERS MEGGA DISCO

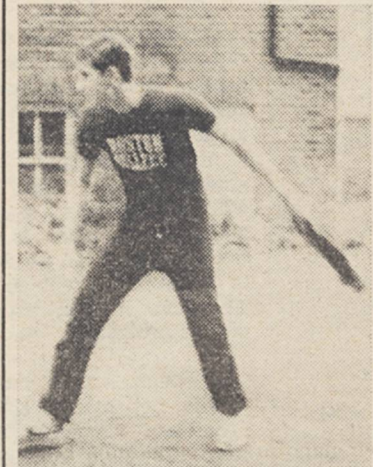
SATURDAY 23rd

RAB BALL 1983 with OSIBISA
 STAR WARS plus WHAT'S
 NEW PUSSYCAT with Peter Seller
 MEGGA VIDEO DISCO
 GRAND FETE in the Quad



HOT CHOCOLATE

THIS photograph surely embodies why it's worth holding Rag Week. Witness Rick Hochman, described as a Transatlantic Super-Stud with the most subtle of charms, or alternatively as a marauding Yank with more passion than panache. He was persuaded with much cajolement and promise of goodies afterwards (which, needless to say, weren't forthcoming), to sit completely still in bed whilst Tracey Wright read him a story. In all the halls a similar ritual will occur this week, some en masse with everyone getting together in py-jamas (what better way of solving political differences?) Afterwards, the lucky things who take part get personalised tucker-in service and a kiss goodnight. Look out in your halls for details.



RADIO PASSFIELD

ONE of the most successful aspects of Rag this year is, sadly, already over. Last weekend, Passfield were treated to a non-stop 55-hour broadcasting marathon of the good, the great and the unbearable, from 'Radio Passfield'. The concept is not new—Nic Newman ran something similar last year and gave useful advice this time. He readily admits, though, that the two chief architects were Tony Smith and 'lovable Henry Leek', who even published a Radio Times for the whole weekend.

The station was a definite hit, and had a wide variety of music, plus everything else you could imagine. For example, a Desert Island Discs with Passfield's warden, interviewed by our very own Houghton St Harry. Harry has formally joined Beaver as Sports and

WELLIE THROWING

"YOU'D be surprised" said someone to me recently. "Most people think there's nothing to it. They think you just pick up the wellie and, well bang." I couldn't say that I was actually very surprised by this, though I soon realised such an admission was a mistake. In the following 20 minutes I was to have this gap in my knowledge filled with quite painstaking thoroughness.

"It's all a question of feet," he said, "where you put your feet." By placing them in the right spot, you were able, so I learnt, to get your entire body into the swing. Only this was the athlete's shoulder able to be temporarily part of the wellie in what I was told was "a valid interfusion." Quite clearly it is one of the more profound activities on during Rag Week.

Finance Editor, incidentally (though his salary is anything but incidental—Ed.). Other delights included Funkapolitan Frolics with Andre Atkins, and the All-American Bore Show, catering for "majority interest".

The following two days included exclusive sessions on Bowie,

The Jam, and also some reggae. True punk, Bill Telford talked about the 'mentality (sic) of a punk' and also explained his recent conversion to vegetarianism, to a undoubtedly fascinated audience.

The Men of Straw collective, guardians of LSE's gutter press, ran a comedy special for 2½ hours

for the everyone flitting music Runfield I was a lieve fied) on the

Radio, Revue,

RELATIVE to other London colleges, the LSE usually puts up a poor performance during Rag Week. Various reasons for this are quoted but it boils down, as usual, to student apathy. Perhaps the high proportion of overseas students who are unfamiliar with the concept of Rag Week exacerbates the problem, but whatever the excuses our track record is not one to be proud of.

This year, however, there are between twenty and thirty people helping with the organization of Rag Week, which although a tiny proportion of the student population, is about five times the usual number that come forward.

Phil Hague, who was elected

chairman of the Rag Committee, said: "I was the only person prepared to stand and the elections for the Rag Committee were advertised about eight times."

Money raised will be sent to the Imperial Cancer Fund, the Polish students charity and a charity in Central America. And the Rag Committee have organised a series of events this week, that if supported with enthusiasm, will ensure that substantial amounts can be handed over to the respective charities.

Radio Passfield's non-stop 57 hour show began proceedings last Friday. Other events include wellie throwing in Houghton Street on Monday, with a university challenge in

the C On T the qu the R This sketch batica wome ate un be rep nesda ternoo Wed day; a formi lunch any co event which Hertz while is bir

WEEK 1983!

Ostriches at the Oxford Union

By DAVID RUTLEY

THE Oxford Union debating hall was jammed. Students had gathered in this rich man's "Old Theatre" to hear a debate that might prove as momentous as the recent wrangles over the "Young budget". The motion was "That this House would not fight for Queen and country". A similar question for debate was passed 50 years ago, and was held by many to have encouraged Hitler in his plans and led to the outbreak of the second world war.

As the debate progressed it soon became clear that it was more about unilateral versus multilateral disarmament than the issue of Queen and country.

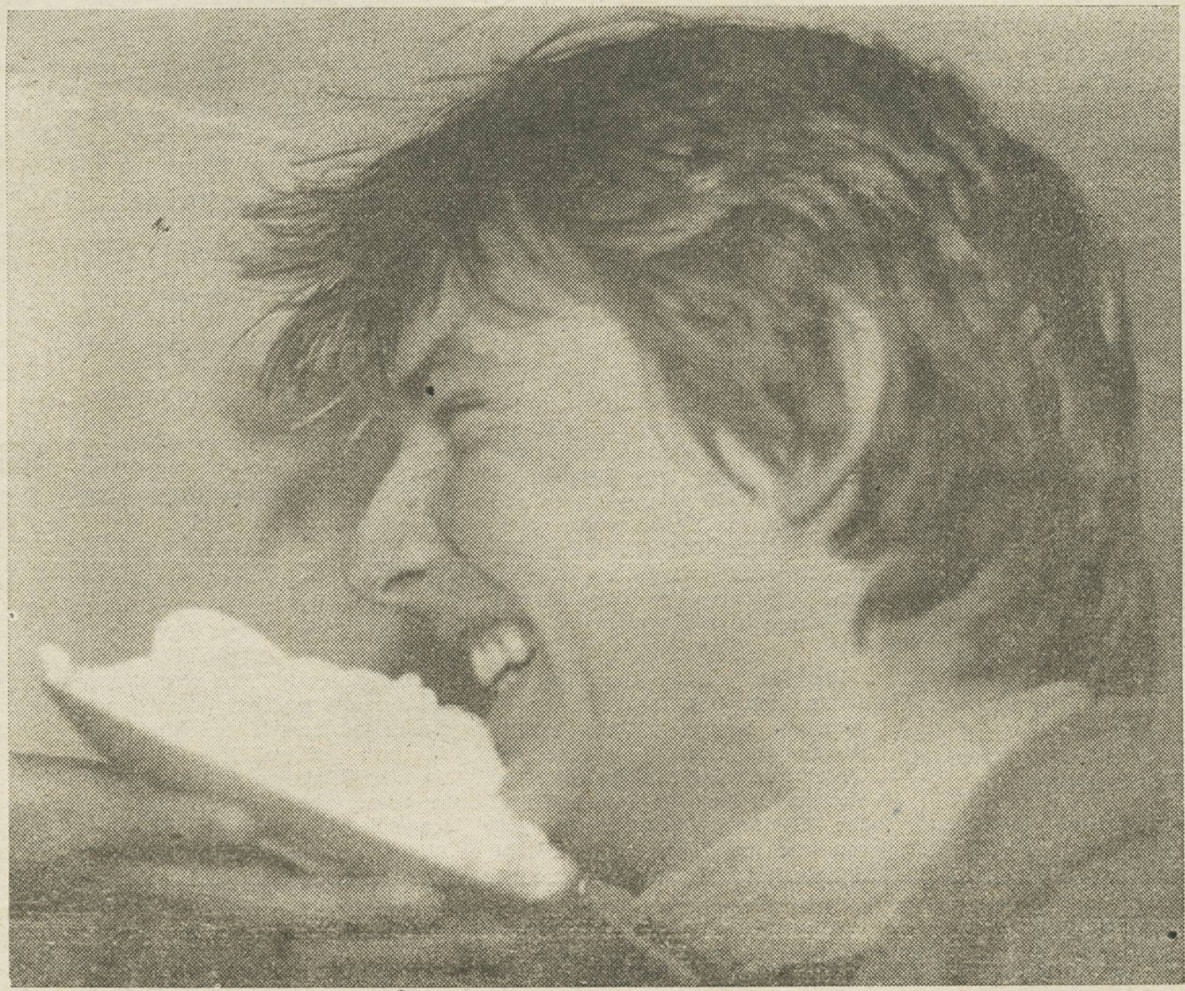
The proposer came out with the now familiar cries of "Nuclear war is inevitable and the only way out is unilateral disarmament". These statements were met by opposition rhetoric which referred to unilateralism as a "one-legged peace", and its supporters "not doves, but ostriches with their heads buried in the sand".

Thus the student speakers wrangled in verbal deadlock until the emergence of Helen John, "our girl from Greenham". Her tactic was obvious: to bore the audience into accepting the motion, using the dulllest tone conceivable and the most uninspiring content—a case of the bland leading the bland? Thinking this might not prove enough, she made considerable efforts to show that she was definitely one of the ostriches. "My mind is closed" and "We are living in an occupied country", completely ignoring the truth, which is that, unlike in East Germany or Czechoslovakia in relation to Russia, if we asked the Americans to leave, they would.

Lord Soper entered the debate, attempting to use his reasonableness and sincerity to achieve the impossible—turn around the defeat assured by the incompetence of Mrs John. All credibility had gone, though, and there was little he could do. Among the opposers of the motion, Lord Beloff was the real star. He pointed to the lack of concern CND had shown at the actual deployment of SS20s in 1977, which was the cause of the planned deployment of Cruise and Pershing, about which they are so concerned. Beloff felt that the unilateralists were playing into the hands of the Soviet Union, and strengthening their hand at the bargaining table. His arguments were added to by Lord Home, who had accompanied Chamberlain to Munich in 1938. His conclusions were that military weakness encourages dictators, and that the CND were sending signals similar to the pacifists in the 1930s, which had not helped the cause of peace, and would not do so now.

The audience followed Beloff's advice not to make the same mistake as he had done fifty years earlier in supporting the motion. It was defeated by 187 votes to 416.

The author is chairman of the Multilateral Disarmament Society.



Rag Treasurer, Dave Branch receives a vote of thanks for the hard, diligent work he has put in.

Also featured were programmes about what men thought of women and vice-versa, Paul Whittaker's Desert Island Discs, in which the Three Tuns bar manager revealed which brews he would take to a desert island. Listeners were also able to find out what Christians, pre-marital sex and Sunday morning had in common.

The piece de resistance was Question Time with Dominic Freely, Keir Hopley, Philip Groves and Tony Donaldson, chaired by UGM chairman Dave Bull. Finally, everyone was able to throw up the results of 55 hours continuous consumption of alcohol, spurred on to greater and greater heaves by Barry Manilow singing 'Looks Like We Made It'.

HIT SQUAD

AS ever Rag Week would be incomplete without its most salient feature, the Hit Squad. For one week a year anyone of even remote notoriety is seen to dress like Tony Donaldson to avoid having to launder newly-purchased three-piece

suits (Tory Club members) or donkey jackets (the other side). Unfortunately, the Academic staff have been declared immune from Hit Squad's activities to avoid antagonising what I was told were cordial staff/student relations. The idiot pictured doesn't appear at all antagonised, in fact he appears to be enjoying himself. If you would like to help your friends (or enemies) derive such enjoyment, contact John 'Deckchair' Lewis at Passfield Hall (T35). The Hit Squad's fees start at 50p for ordinary mortals and rise according to the particular person's propensity to make a fool of himself at UGMs.



From left to right, Dominic Freely, Philip Groves and Keir Hopley at "Question Time" on Radio Passfield. Mr Donaldson had yet to arrive.

ULE

QUAD
DRE - 1.00 pm
RIZES ★
7.30 pm

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meet 8.00 am
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MEETING
N STREET
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NTAL

1.00 pm, O.T.
GA DISCO

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Peter Sellers
ISCO
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hours

for the purposes of slugging off everyone they could think of and inflicting their horrendous tastes in music on an appalled public.
Running up to the Great Passfield Disco (broadcast live!) there was an ex-Vogue hack etc (I believe she actually sold the classifieds) giving her tips on 'what's hot on the dance floor tonight'.

ue, Van Rental

the Old Theatre at lunchtime. On Tuesday there is a fete in the quadrangle, with the first of the Rag Revues in the evening. This is a series of songs and sketches by students and sabbaticals including one on the women's room and one graduate unemployment. There will be repeat performances on Wednesday evening and Friday afternoon.

Wednesday is street-collecting day; an hypnotist will be performing in the Old Theatre at lunchtime. I am not aware of any connection between the two events. Thursday evening, which is Polish evening, sees Hertz Van Rental in concert while earlier in the day there is bingo with prizes which in-

clude albums, books and even money.

A disco at Carr-Saunders is the penultimate event before the Rag Ball which stars Osibisa, who are described by Phil Hague as "the greatest African high life band." Films will also be shown and there will be a Rosebery sponsored three-legged pub crawl.

This impressive list of events has the potential to be a great success providing people participate. The whole week is dependent on student response and as Rag Committee member, Sarah Raynes says: "Get involved, enjoy a week of fun and raise money for charity."

BRIDGETTE LAWRENCE

DAHRENDORF ON GERMANY

By DINA RABINOVITCH

PROFESSOR Dahrendorf's feelings for Germany are once more tugging him homewards because of his sense of responsibility for liberty there.

"I honestly think that democracy in Germany is at greater risk than democracy in Britain. I think the risk was probably somewhat greater in the difficult years between 1966 and 1969 when the neo-Nazi, so-called National Democratic Party, was represented in several land parliaments; when people were talking about them being represented in the Federal Parliament—indeed they did get 4.8 per cent or something like that, in 1969, which is often forgotten; when there was a general disaffection with political parties and a desire to have non-party government, or whatever. I don't feel that this is quite happening at the moment, but I do feel that Germany will find it much harder than Britain to deal with low economic growth. In many ways, I sometimes say that economic growth has become an article of the German Constitution, and people can't cope with the sort of thing which people in Britain have coped with for quite a long time. . . . I have been quite concerned for a very long time about not only liberty, but liberty in Germany and it is the place where I feel I may have a certain responsibility—whether people like it or not."

Auriol Stevens in "The Observer" asked: "The question now must be how readily Dahrendorf can fit back into German life . . . his brief sojourn at the German Foreign Office . . . is not remembered as a success . . . he irritated people to the point of rendering himself ineffective." "The Observer" quoted a German civil servant as saying, "Many people were unhappy with his jumpiness, his professorial attitude and his lack of patience with the routine things which are part of the political process."

"I sometimes say that economic growth has become an article of the German constitution"

So does Professor Dahrendorf feel his manner jars in Germany? "Yes." But no, it is not irritating to the point of ineffectuality. "On the contrary, it's slightly intriguing to people. . . . What journalists say about it is born of the German journalists' bureaucratic minds—they prefer people who do one thing all their lives, for some strange reason: they're just part and parcel of a highly bureaucratized society I suppose."

These days Professor Dahrendorf's political role is in the FDP, the

party he joined in 1967—as always in pursuit of an idea. "I thought the continuous rule of the Christian Democrats from 1949 to 1969 meant that German democracy had never proved its ability to bring about change. . . . I strongly felt that unless one brought about change German democracy did seem in danger."

Today the FDP is a troubled party. In 1980 the FDP came in on a platform of continuing the coalition with the Social Democrats, but switched to the Christian Democrats halfway through the period of Parliament shedding all credibility on the way. For Professor Dahrendorf the problem goes deeper: "Really for some considerable time it hasn't been entirely clear what the FDP stands for—that seems to me to be the main problem."

In addition, there is the matter of the Liberal Democrats, the group who split off from the FDP, unhappy with what had been done. "My own hope," says Dahrendorf, "is that it will be possible to persuade them to return to the party, but of course that will mean that the Liberals will have to be a clearly progressive liberal party again and that's quite a task."

For the moment, it is Dahrendorf's task, but "that's a short-term and temporary thing because there's an election on the 6th March . . . what happens after the election is for the leadership of the FDP to decide in so far as it concerns the FDP." And will he

be part of that leadership? "No." So much for rumours. "Newspapers," he adds, "are funny in that once they've written something they believe that must be true. If the person about whom they've written does something else then they say that person has changed his mind—they don't say we were wrong the first time round."

"Students begin to be proud of LSE five years after they have left. We have learnt that we mustn't write until about five years later, not because they have no money but because they don't actually want to be reminded of it quite so soon"

He has just written a book on the future of liberalism, especially German, called "The Chances of the Crisis", parts of which have been serialised in "Die Zeit", the Hamburg weekly. His recent work has been dismissed as non-academic; he makes the point that this is a political book which he hopes will have an "effect". "But," he adds, "there is of course an academic underpinning: there is an intellectual underpinning that goes

back to a very long tradition of thought—and of rather complex thought."

We talk about this business of the scholarly acclaim. The word has, after all, come out from LSE labelling his recent books as superficial. "If I wanted to, yes, I could still sit down and write things which would enable me to pass the major review at LSE and be appointed a lecturer." In his case what the sages say no longer matters, but "there are teachers at the School who are not promoted because it is said their books are too popular or too readable or too journalistic, and that's where it becomes truly serious. It is not serious for me because I am not up for promotion but, if somebody is up for promotion and has sold 50,000 copies of a book it really turns against him . . . not that people argue in terms of 'Ah, but So-and-so has written a much more profound etc'."

His main concern at LSE has been, he says, for the staff and students to feel secure "at a time in which there is enough reason to be afraid. I wanted them to feel that they are in an institution which respects them." A second concern was for them to be proud of the School. "Some are, some aren't. Quite a few are. Students begin to be proud of it five years after they have left. We have learned in our appeals work that we mustn't write to students until about five years later—not because they have no money, but because they don't actually want to be reminded of it quite so soon."

Asterix IN BELGIUM by GOSCINNY AND UDERZO

Hodder & Stoughton

IT'S LIKE THIS—ONE DAY OLD CAESAR SAID THAT THE BELGIANS WERE THE BRAVEST OF ALL THE GAULISH PEOPLE JUST ONE OF THOSE SILLY REMARKS ONE MAKES WITHOUT THINKING!

CAESAR NOT THINKING

ONLY I RATHER ANNOYED OUR CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX. SO OFF WE WENT TO BELGIUM.

BELGIUM (ARMORICA)

THEY SAID IT'S CUSTOM-ARY!

THEY'RE CERTAINLY GOOD FIGHTERS!

LET'S GET THEM!!!

THE LOCALS

AND VERY HOSPITABLE!

JUST A LITTLE SOMETHING!

WE COULDN'T FIGHT THEM! SO WE HAD A ROMAN-THUMPING COMPETITION TO SEE WHO WAS THE BRAVEST.

THE GAULS ARE COMING!

THE BELGIANS ARE COMING!

BUT YOU ARE TELLING THE WHOLE STORY!

HE'S RIGHT. SO HERE'S A COMPETITION FOR YOU TO HAVE FUN WITH!

THERE ARE A HUNDRED OF THESE COLOURFUL T-SHIRTS TO BE WON.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AND SEND THEM WITH YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, T-SHIRT SIZE AND AGE (IF UNDER 16) TO THE ASTERIX COMPETITION, HODDER & STOUGHTON, 47 BEDFORD SQUARE LONDON WC1B 3DP.

ANSWERS FOUND: IN BELGIUM

DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE NOW TWENTY SEVEN OF MY HILARIOUS BOOKS IN YOUR LOCAL BOOKSHOP?

THE FIRST PRIZE IS A WEEKEND IN BELGIUM FOR TWO—INCLUDING FLIGHT, HOTEL AND SIGHT-SEEING TOURS.

1. What was my flag of truce made of?
2. What famous seaside food did Beefix think up?
3. What was being discussed in the Senate on Gangamadeus's arrival?
4. Two odd characters turned up— which famous books do they usually appear in?
5. What tribe does Beefix belong to?
6. Translate 'Brassica Oleracea Botrytis'

© Albert René 1983

ASTERIX IN BELGIUM NOW AVAILABLE IN SOFT COVER—HILARIOUS JOKES, BITING SATIRE, STINGING WIT.

COMPETITION RULES

1. The competition is open to all UK residents except employees of Hodder & Stoughton, their advertising agencies, or their families or anyone connected with the competition
2. The closing date of the competition is June 30th 1983. Entries received after that

date will not be considered, neither will entries which are damaged or illegible.
3. Two identical first prizes will be awarded, one for the age group 16 and over, one for under 16's. (Proof of age may be required to be provided by the winners.)
4. The prizes will be awarded to the first

correct entries opened after the closing date of the competition. T-shirts will be awarded to the 50 runners-up in each age group.
5. No cash alternatives can be offered for the prizes.
6. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into.



Demonstrators display a "Future Investment Bank" cheque at the human chain from the Ministry of Defence to the Ministry of Education, last Saturday.

**AFRIKA LIBERATION
SUPPORT COMMITTEE
WEEK OF
ACTION**

Tuesday, Feb 22nd—

LECTURE:

"South Africa, the next ten Years" — Doctor Francis Meli
Publicity Officer for the African
National Congress of South
Africa. 1.00 pm in S-601.

Thursday, Feb 24th—

FILM FESTIVAL:

"Voices from Pergatory" —
Showing interviews with victims
of apartheid and repression; "The
Battle for South Africa" — *the
developing liberation fronted by
ANC. 6.00 pm - 8.00 pm, A-247.

Friday, Feb 25th—

ERITREAN NIGHT:

Lecture "Eritrea — Africa's
forgotten war?" — Martin Plant
from Eritrean Support Committee
after a film show. A-247.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION:

In Brunch Bowl and Florries —
"Children under Apartheid" and
"Namibia in Struggle".

LSE FOLK/BLUES SOC

presents in Concert

JOHN RENBOURN

and

JAQUI McSHEE

plus **DAVE BULL**

THURSDAY, MARCH 3rd

8.00 pm.

OLD THEATRE

Tickets £2 in adv; £2.50 on door

FUTURE ATTRACTIONS—

PENTANGLE

Only London date—**FRI, MAR 18**

MIKE CHAPMAN

FRI, APRIL 29

**U.L.U. ELECTIONS
FOR 1983**

Nominations are invited for the
following posts on the Executive
at the University of London
Union General Council.

PRESIDENT

**VICE-PRESIDENT (Finance &
Administration)**

VICE-PRESIDENT (Services)

***SENATOR FOR LAW**

***SENATOR FOR ECONOMICS/
THEOLOGY/POLITICAL
SCIENCE**

***SENATOR FOR SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING**

***SENATOR FOR SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING**

***SENATOR FOR MEDICINE**

***SENATOR FOR ARTS AND
MUSIC**

**FOUR SENATORS WITHOUT
REFERENCE TO
FACULTY**

**TWO GUC EXECUTIVE
OFFICERS**

**ONE CHAIRMAN OF THE
GENERAL UNION COUNCIL**

*Candidates and nominees must
be members of the University in
which office is sought.

Senators will become Members
of the Senate of the University
of London.

Nomination is open to all internal
and associate students of the
University of London.

Nominations will close on Friday,
March 4th.

Nomination forms available
from your Students' Union or the
President's Office, ULU, Malet
Street, WC1 7HY.

**ELECTION WILL BE AT
U.L.U. ANNUAL G.U.C. ON SAT-
URDAY, MARCH 19th. IN U.L.U.**

**U.L.U. ELECTIONS
COMMITTEE**

L.S.E.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

R. L. STIRRAT (MA, PhD,

Lecturer in Social Anthropology,

University of Sussex)

on

"SACRED MODELS"

TUESDAY, MARCH 15th, 1983

Admission — FREE

L.S.E.
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**An INAUGURAL
LECTURE**

**FRANK LAND, (BSc Econ,
FBCS, Professor of Systems
Analysis)**

on

**Information Technology:
The Alvey Report and
Government Strategy**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 1st, 1983
5.00 pm OLD THEATRE**

Admission — FREE

Sterling Club

on **WEDNESDAY, FEB 23rd**
in A85, at 1.00 pm

ROBERT SCHOLEY, Deputy
Chairman of the British Steel
Corporation, will speak on "The
Future of Steel in the UK. The
Corporate Plan for 1982-83".

Also on **MARCH 2nd, S169,**
at 1.00 pm

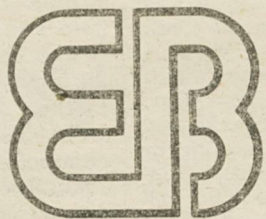
STEVE LUMBY, LSE Accounting
Lecturer, will speak on "The
Future of Nationalised Industries
in the UK".

**HISTORY
SOCIETY**

THERE WILL BE MEETINGS
of this Society on the
22nd, 29th of **FEBRUARY**
and the 1st, 8th & 16th of **MARCH**

Speakers, amongst others, will in-
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"Nuclear Arms Race" and Dr
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LONDON ARTS

Gilmour film dies natural death

THE film was boring; the series of events predictable. Poor 'il ol' Gary Gilmore gets out of prison, can't handle the freedom, or maybe just the strain of having the Waltons for relatives, can't hold his girl and ends up back in jail, but on Death Row this time.

The reason for the film was that this prisoner insisted on being executed as sentenced. But "The Executioner's Song" (Gate, Notting Hill, Warner West End from 17th Feb. and on video from September) doesn't answer any of the questions that fact raises. After the press showing people politely tried to get some answers out of Lawrence Schiller who directed and Tommy Lee Jones who starred without making it too obvious how abysmally the film had failed. Tommy Lee Jones was bored, talking into space about "what is insanity, in fact?" He said he thought the Gilmore in the film wasn't made attractive enough, that he should have been more charming to accentuate the evil more. Gary's brother Mikal wrote of the film that "there was little that suggests the reach of

Gary's deadliness, or the range of his intelligence." Schiller said: "You couldn't portray Gary the way he really was, because a man who's been in prison as many years as he was comes out like a piece of lard. I played Tommy Lee Jones—and hopefully he played himself—as a man who'd been in prison for fewer years than Gary really had because I needed more life to the character." They should have taken off a few more years.

The only faint flicker of life in the film is provided by Rosanna Arquette as Nicole Baker—the girl who makes a pact with Gary the Devil Gilmore. Christine Dahti adds substance as Gilmore's cousin Brenda Nicol—moral fibre in a chunky personality.

The second half of the film gets more interesting after Gilmore is arrested and his craving for publicity emerges. He arranges for his uncle to handle his business affairs—selling his story. Norman Mailer wrote the script, though apparently the dialogue is as accurate as could be remembered. **D.R.**

Cupboard love

'CARE' at the Royal Court Theatre Upstairs must surely rank as one of the most lurid plays showing in London at the moment. The play which is Roy Mitchell's first for the stage centres around a Birmingham couple—who keep their mentally handicapped vegetable child—"It"—in a cupboard. Odd material for a play—but fascinating. This though certainly not thanks to the couple's conversation which is so banal as to make it almost tragicomic. Why fascinating therefore—because of the influence. "It" exerts on the whole play—by not appearing except in a plastic bag before they finally kill it.

The two main actors, Peter Huggins and Gwyneth Strong as Terry and Cheryl Hall are exceptionally good. Terry is a worker at Longbridge, illiterate, prone to headaches and with a strong aversion for his friend David's wife, the obnoxious Cathy played exuberantly by Jane Galloway. Terry also has a strong dislike for his friend's son Jason who he accuses of being 'a Villa supporter on the quiet'. Nonetheless it takes the

child to demand to know what the nasty smell in the Hall's flat is—and thus brings the problem back into the minds of the unfortunate Terry and Cheryl.

There are some weaknesses in this rather horrible play though. Firstly it's all somewhat unrealistic. Is it possible to hide a child in a cupboard for—apparently some years—with it escaping the attention of friends, relatives, authorities and others? Secondly, what's it all about? Certainly, it's a powerful portrait to which this overwhelmingly middle class audience are admitted as voyeurs but yes, it can't be nice having a handicapped child that you don't want, and yes, you can try and ignore it by getting drunk, going to football, going to bed, etc, but do we really need Roy Mitchell to tell us something that we already know—and nothing more. This is the main weakness of this somewhat superficial play. One sits there with bated breath watching this highly compelling play—but then emerge bewildered and wondering what it's all about.

TIMOTHY JUDAH

'Art movie' undresses

FILM Director meets thinking man's cut-out Vogue models in many well-furnished rooms and sometimes in the fog. Looking for the perfect female image to inspire his film, doesn't find it and ends up making a sci-fi picture.

Antonioni is Italy's top filmmaker and his latest film "Identification of a Woman" (Camden Plaza) has had good reviews. I thought I was watching a pastiche—idealised characters with two-dimensional emotions in a bubble-gum world... and Italy's top director blowing bubbles at the audience. Only don't take my word for it, because the bits of the film where I thought he'd run out of the plot, the press handout calls "odd references and enigmatic objects". And the major critics all found it weird but very, very wonderful.

D.R.

Junk movie tastes good

WHEN do a small budget, atrocious acting and a feeble story line make for an excellent film? When Paul Bartel puts them all together in 'Eating Raoul'.

'Eating Raoul' is an excellent comedy about a frustrated all American wholemeal couple who resort to despatching LA's assorted swingers and perverts to the local dogfood factory with a swift blow from a frying pan—to raise money for their dream restaurant.

Along the way they meet all sorts of appealing characters such as Doris the Dominatrix and the apparently sexy Raoul, who all go to make this film the light relief from the mundane world of Cricklewood that it is...

TIMOTHY JUDAH



Top play

'TOP Girls' at the Royal Court Theatre is undoubtedly a play for every woman—and certainly one that men should see.

Max Stafford-Clark's production of the Caryl Churchill drama is laughable and touching. Seven women portray sixteen parts in a play about the conflict between different female roles in modern society: she examines, for instance, the problem of the commitment to a family versus the individual drive to achieve traditionally male goals. The brux of the plot is a reunion of two sisters; one is a high-society business wiz-woman, and the other her blase working class sister. Gwen Taylor's Marlene, the ultrahot, business executive is a quick tease and then a ruthless slap in the face. Her fast paced style, sophisticated poise, and in the final scene, her rampant burst of emotion dig deeply into this character.

Taylor's portrayal of the "hurricane" Marlene, however, is depreciated by the highly nasal acting of Lindsay Duncan who plays another business woman of the "hurricane" variety. Deborah Findlay's Joyce, the intelligent but unmotivated sister, is neither dynamic

nor emotional. Her reserved disposition betrays introspection and a powerful frankness about life.

Churchill launches her play with a zany scene in which Marlene invites several prominent women from the pages of history to a dinner celebration. At dinner, each woman, high on her own achievements, boasts incessantly about her life's exploits utterly oblivious to the ravings of the other women. There is Pope Joan, a woman who allegedly became Pope in the ninth century by disguising herself as a man, and Patient Griselda, the epitome of submissive femininity from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. Dull Gret, the subject of a painting by Brueghel, comes to Marlene's dinner party dressed in armour and carrying a sword. Played by Carole Hayman, Gret is boorish and hearty. She occasionally interjects her hilarious neanderthal utterances into the clamour of the conversation. This scene is a lot of fun.

'Top Girls' flows smoothly. It is a complex play of overlapping dialogue, yet the rhythmic precision and timing of the cues is very well orchestrated. The production is in a limited season. **ROGER SCHER**

Earth shattering Shakespeare

'TEMPEST' is an astonishing movie. Anything that is said about it could very easily put you off. It is based on, and closely follows, the plot of Shakespeare's play. That in itself will (wrongly) discourage some. In the early part of the film one sees the trials and tribulation of a New York architect caught up in the rat race. He is successful, wealthy, lives in beautiful surroundings, and to complete the cliché, hates his show-biz wife. He wants to get away from it all and find his roots. Hardly the stuff of which superb movies are made. Wait. The architect, Demetrius, ends up on a Greek island with his daughter and an American woman they meet in Athens. Their time on the island is spent effecting various of Demetrius' schemes, the emphasis being on "wholesomeness".

The daughter longs for the good

things of American youth: television, hamburgers and dope. The woman longs for sex—"a year is a long time without, Demetrius." He denies her on grounds of (you guessed it) wholesomeness.

Perhaps it still doesn't sound like the world's greatest film. The publicity poster is completely misleading and would not alter that view. The only way to understand is to go and see it. The film seduces you the longer you watch, and there are moments when it seems to take off and fly. It is magical.

It is also highly inventive—one pauses and remembers that Shakespeare was rumoured to know a little about writing. Towards the end, I found myself wishing it were a stage play so the cast could come out and be applauded. This, albeit in the film, is exactly what they did. If any film is very high on your list, this should be it. You will have no regrets. **R.B.**

The Column

HERE beginneth the column which fortnightly will revolutionize "BEAVER" (ie, make it less boring). But we're not promising anything...

This week we're going to look at a topic which eventually, in some form or another, will concern us all, if it hasn't done so already. The topic is "flat-hunting." Having, for some strange reason, tired of Passfield and its attractions—namely the chicken, the 6.00 am fire alarms, and the strange pubes in the bathroom etc, etc, we went in search of alternative accommodation.

On the first day we sallied forth, innocent and pure, armed with only our trusty "A to Z's" to protect us. Our aims at this time were to be 1) close to Lattimer Road, where a certain boyfriend lives and 2) able to get cheap vegetables from Portobello Road.

After trudging for miles and disposing of several copies of someone else's "A to Z" through sheer wear and tear, we're sure you'll be pleased to hear that we have, at last, found several possibilities:-

a) Portobello Road: this lovely first floor flat has all the latest fixtures and fittings, the only problem being the close proximity of the open-air public conveniences which necessitate the wearing of a clothes peg over one's nostrils—but we do get cheap vegetables.

b) Baron's Court: apart from taking at least 10 hours and a good compass to find this little flat is just perfect.

c) Earl's Court: for us ladies of leisure (ie, slob) this flat is ideal situated a mere gob away from the tube station—by the way, you can get to the boyfriend's by changing at Paddington.

So, dear readers (or reader), if you have yet to face the prospect of looking for alternative accommodation—think again—if you come to the same conclusion that we came to, GET LOOKING.

A. BAIG and Y. HASSANY

WOMEN OF THE WORLD UNITE

INTERNATIONAL Women's Day was something of a disappointment to the LSE Women's Group last year, owing to the lack of response by overseas women students. This reflects one overriding problem of the women's movement in Britain, and other Western countries: it is composed mainly of white, middle-class women. Third World women have now established their own Black Women's Centre in London, and for the first time this year International Women's Day will be organised in this country by them.

Last Wednesday, Lena, from the women's newspaper *Outwrite*, and Women for Palestine, came to talk to the Women's Group about anti-imperialism, feminism and the British women's movement. Black women argue that the women's movement does not cater for their specific interests. "The movement is not revolutionary in origin, but has emerged by the grace of Britain's economic development, which has facilitated the organisation of women." Consequently it campaigns on the issues of most concern to its middle-class membership, such as pornography, abortion, contraception and nurseries.

Third World women have different priorities. How is our concern for abortion on demand to be viewed by Chinese women, for whom abortion may be compulsory under present measures to contain population growth? Nor is birth control a demand expressed by Palestinian women in Israeli-occupied territories. They see it as vital to have as many children as possible in order to ensure the survival of the Palestinian people. (It should be noted here that Dr Sadan, Adviser to Israel's Minister of Health, uses a similar formulation: he perceives birth control in terms of six potential divisions of Israeli soldiers "murdered" since the abortion law was passed in the mid-70s.) What Palestinian women do demand, on the other hand, is better health care for women, childcare facilities and literacy programmes.

Many Third World Women resent western women involving themselves in issues like female seclusion, the veil and clitoridectomy, and expressing horror at the plight of their "sisters" in Asia and Africa. They feel that they know best how to deal effectively with their own problems. This does not mean that they are not glad of sympathy or help with their struggle, but that the struggle is different in different cultures, and western women should rather concern themselves with the things that are particularly pernicious in their own society, such as pornography, the widespread wearing of high heels, and so on. A complacent and unthinking "solidarity" of women based merely on a common location of the genitals is inappropriate and unwelcome in that it often rules out further thought on and insight into the larger context in which many of the issues have their roots, ie imperialism, racism, patriarchy.

AB & AB

STUDY STUDY

MANY students learn at least one thing in their first year: that they do not know how to study efficiently. Reading, note-taking, essay-writing and revision are specialised skills. Unfortunately, they are invariably the product of nurture rather than innate individual capacity, and this is often ignored in the curriculum of educational establishments, including the LSE.

Showing its customary verve and initiative, the Women's Group has begun a self-help study course. Regular discussion groups are being held, where each person talks about any problems they may have with work, and others suggest ways of overcoming them. Direct criticism and pious "Well I do this" contributions are not felt to be useful; the idea is that we outline our own techniques and pool experience and information.

All women are welcome to attend these meetings, in the Women's Centre on Thursday evenings 6 pm - 7 pm. The first session proved enlightening in the range of work hang-ups experienced, from total neglect and apathy to acute over-exertion. One point raised over and over again was that discussion with fellow students is the most effective way to sort out one's own ideas.

Large numbers of LSE students seem to work in isolation, supported only by horrendously lengthy booklists; it should be realised that individuals do not generate earth-shattering theories by internal combustion. Academics here should know this: how many of their prefaces are cluttered by lists of colleagues to whom the author is deeply indebted for assistance? Surely work methods which are of value to staff would also be useful for students. Isn't it time we challenged the destructive and needlessly competitive ethos of study in this establishment?

At least one academic seems to think so: an additional source of study guidance will soon be available for all students. The Government Department's fresh-faced whizz-kid, Dr Patrick Dunleavy, is eager to give us the benefit of his experience of Education Technology at the Open University. Copies of an article he has written on essay-writing and revision techniques will be available from his office (L302) within the next two weeks. Further, a course of three revision workshops is being planned for Wednesday afternoons (2 pm) next term. The room has not yet been decided, but all students are welcome to come along, and the workshops will be extended if there is sufficient demand. It has also been suggested to the Committee for Undergraduate Studies that a specific course in study techniques should be established in the next academic year.

ANGELA BURNS

NAKED BEAVER

FOLLOWING the example of our revered sister paper, we are establishing a regular NAKED BEAVER column for those gems of enlightened thinking that leap out of the page and bite you on the astonished ankle at all too frequent intervals in one's reading (assuming one does any) at this institution of Higher (sic) learning (sic). To encourage your as yet nascent ideological soundness, we are offering £1.00 for the best example sent in to the Beaver each issue.

To whet your appetites, revel in this little gem from Hanson & Wallis, *Governing Britain* (1974):

"The 1928 Representation of the People Act having given full voting equality to women, there remained few exceptions to the general principle of "one man one vote" when the Labour Party came to power in 1945."

(Quotes from lecturers are acceptable currency).

ANSWER TO CND

Written by several members of the Multilateral Disarmament Society.

THE CND Week of Action concentrated people's minds on the greatest single issue facing us, and has increased the level of debate within LSE. This article will explain the multilateralist position by reference to CND's main arguments.

The core of the unilateralist case runs as follows. Nuclear weapons are an abomination to mankind. Their use against anyone would be utterly immoral and could not be contemplated in any circumstances. To possess nuclear weapons as a deterrent is not credible unless the enemy thinks that you might possibly use them. But such a threat—to be credible—involves possibly doing something that should never actually be contemplated on moral grounds. It follows that the very possession of such weapons with the intention to use them in certain circumstances is also utterly immoral. Therefore, we must get rid of our weapons.

Argument

Various other arguments of the CND will emerge as they are exposed, but this is perhaps the central argument for unilateralism. It is certainly a powerful one. How could anyone possibly countenance using these appalling weapons in any circumstances, and say that they were being anything other than totally immoral?

The answer rests in the multilateralists' belief that unilateral disarmament would actually increase the chances of nuclear weapons being used in certain circumstances. From this belief, we are led to ask: Wherein lies the greater immorality, the possession of nuclear weapons by us, or the increased possibility of their use by someone? Since this is the crux of the issue—and many will disagree with us that the use of nuclear weapons would be more likely after our unilateral disarmament—such a stance necessitates very detailed explanation.

No-one can, in absolute certainty, calculate a series of cool rational acts that would or would not lead to nuclear weapons being used. What is possible is to make it clear, by logical reasoning, that a given sequence of events will increase the chances, at any rate, of such weapons being used. The deterrent principle is exactly what Europe lacked in 1914 and 1939. Millions of lives were lost because the

aggressor did not know he was embarking on a world war. There was misunderstanding.

Today there is no misunderstanding, and that is because of NATO. The late Lord Mountbatten CND are under the illusion that disarmament, though many in the CND are under the illusion that he supported them, which he did not. He said in a speech in Strasbourg that "we are most likely to preserve the peace if there is a military balance of strength between East and West." This position is widely understood. Yet last week Tony Benn quoted Sir Frank Cooper—who said that the Warsaw Pact disarming tomorrow and leaving NATO fully armed would not make the world safer—as if he (Benn) were surprised that Cooper should speak as he did.

In no circumstances is one power bloc—which ever it be—holding undue dominance over another, going to be safer than a situation of military balance. Mr Benn shows that he does not have a thorough grasp of the problems involved. Indeed, one can argue that he has little knowledge of international affairs at all. Witness his astonishing claim during his speech at LSE that Norway was not part of the NATO alliance. (If you do not believe this check any of the several tape recordings that were made.)

Removed

CND's conference voted to leave NATO. It is clear that they would like all nuclear weapons and American bases removed from western Europe. Can anyone seriously believe that a united Warsaw Pact with nuclear weapons facing a western Europe in disarray without nuclear weapons would be a safer situation than the one we have now? Apparently, some people actually can. That this is so is stupefying to any reasonable mind, but it is true. Every single British government since the war has supported NATO, which was set up to make sure that another war did not happen. Currently, every major political party favours membership, including Labour. On the issue of the nuclear deterrent, however, the parties are divided. We believe that a Europe-based independent deterrent strengthens NATO. There are two main reasons for this.

The first was put succinctly by Lord Cameron, a former Chief of Defence Staff, who said: "Soviet

leaders might just one day be tempted to gamble on the belief that a United States administration would hold back when the price for defending Europe was reaching nuclear proportions. A capability in European hands plainly makes the gamble more dangerous."

The second reason is a political one. There is a powerful isolationist lobby in the United States that, rightly or wrongly, would try to persuade the administration of the day that our unilateral disarmament was a manifestation of our refusal to defend ourselves. So, would follow their logic, why should the US taxpayer meet the bill by stationing 350,000 American personnel in Europe, when Europeans are not prepared to help themselves? Thus could the American presence disappear from Europe, which would be destabilising.

It is hard to dissent from Lord Cameron's view that a capability in European hands—a second "centre of decision-making"—makes it more difficult for the Russians to gamble that they could launch aggression without a nuclear response, and therefore makes such aggression less likely. Lord Carver, another former Chief of Defence Staff, does dissent. He says there is no military case for us to have our own nuclear weapons. But even Lord Carver, maverick of the defence establishment that he is, is no unilateralist. He recognises "the profound political impact of a positive decision to opt out . . . it would symbolise a renunciation of power and influence, a desire to step out of the front line, to shoulder less responsibility for the burden of dealing with the world's problems." He concludes that, purely on political grounds, we should retain our own independent system.

Nuclear-free

So far we have suggested that NATO has ensured the Russians know we will defend ourselves, and that a nuclear-free western Europe would make it more tempting for the Russians to launch aggression. We have argued that NATO makes Europe a safer place, and that there are powerful military and political arguments for retaining independent European nuclear weapons. One can hear the unilateralist say it: "You still have not demonstrated that nuclear war would be more likely if we unilaterally renounced our nuclear weapons."

History records only two instances of nuclear weapons being used in war—the American bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Suppose the Americans had known that the Japanese could have dropped nuclear weapons on San Francisco and Los Angeles in retaliation for a US strike, would the Americans have been more likely, or less likely, to have bombed Japan? Everyone knows there is only one answer. No-one could possibly say that the US would actually have been more likely to have bombed Japan, in the knowledge that their own cities could be destroyed. It would make no sense. Neither can anyone say that the chances of an American bombing would have been identical, with or without a Japanese capability. Of course, nothing is certain. But everyone who has studied the arms debate knows in their heart of hearts that with Japanese parity, an American bombing would have been, at the very least, "less likely". In all probability it would not have happened at all.

There follows from the Japanese-American analogy an inescapable and profound conclusion—**deterrence works**. This, in a nutshell, is why the unilateralists are wrong

SPORT

LSE 2nd's triumph

LSE IIs 2,
Bedford IIs 0

DESPITE a bitter fight against relegation in the league, LSE IIs won their way through to the final of the ULU reserve team's cup, with a victory over Bedford.

On a pitch, covered with numerous large puddles, the diminutive LSE midfield (total height 5 feet 5 inches standing on each other's shoulders) struggled to keep their heads above water and the life-guard was soon in action. Newly equipped with masks and snorkels LSE began to play their way back into the game, and went close to scoring before half-time, when the teams went in level at 0-0.

In the second half, with the wind behind them, due to beans instead of oranges at half-time, LSE put Bedford under pressure and with less than 20 minutes to go opened the scoring. Jose Ferrer ran on to a quick throw-in and with his famous left foot, beat the Bedford goalie from a difficult angle. This silenced the Bedford fans, who number well into the twenties; LSE only managing two supporters, including full-back Ian Appleton's girl friend!

Shortly afterwards, the other full-back Bruce Luckham sent Paul Meadows through with a fine 50 yard clearance, and the LSE II's "Ian Rush" made no mistake, putting the game out of Bedford's reach at 2-0.

MARTIN UGLOW

IMPERIAL 2

LSE 1st 3

LAST Wednesday the first XI secured a notable victory over Imperial College, the 3-2 scoreline not being a true reflection of the run of the game. Our Polish right-back contributed well, and although not the quickest person on two feet, we soon found out where his subtle movements could best be put to use at a recent social function.

We are hoping that now we have a more settled side, with a blend of age, provided by our resident inspector at centre forward in the form of "Man Mountain Hammett" and enough verbal support from a certain member of the back four, for all teams, we can put together a string of victories and finish off the season on a high note.

D.P.S.

HOUGHTON ST. HARRY

FORTUNATELY the occasions on which I have to turn to serious matters are rare, nevertheless the events of the past week leave me with no alternative. The kidnapping of Shergar was no joke, in fact it was an astonishing indictment of the sickness of certain elements existing in contemporary society. Similar treatment of political targets has in a way albeit a suspicious one a degree of logic. The abduction of Shergar has no

such rationale, it leads to a situation in which nothing regardless of its absolute innocence remains safe. The Aga Khan kept his Derby winner in Ireland at considerable personal expense turning down the possibility of far higher returns in the United States. The result of the actions of a few sick idiots will be to induce second thoughts into the minds of our top stallion owners as to where to keep their charges in British racing. The potential exodus of our best sires to America could prove disastrous. The greatest threat will be to the multi-million pound Irish racing industry itself. Surely these people do not have Ireland's true interests at heart?

Moving on to less emotive issues, students still face the problem of diminishing living standards. To provide additional supplement to your incomes from that already provided by its racing tips this column has decided to move into financial markets. Strategic metals like Chrome and Vanadium should be bought up immediately, considering the aptitude to stockpile them they constitute a superb investment (provided you've got a large enough cupboard to put them in).

Guinness drinkers seem to have insatiable thirst leading to a pre tax profit of 18 per cent, and expect their profits to grow further. Drake and Scull are a rare example of British individual excellence and are worth a minor interest.

Last weekend divine intervention saved the bookmakers considerable losses through this column's tips. Given improved weather the situation should be redressed over the coming week. Fort Belvedere running at Kempton on Friday or Huntingdon on Tuesday may well confirm the growing accolade received about him from his trainer Mrs Pitman. Badsworth Boy (Friday) and Basic's Choice (Saturday) should complete a Kempton double for Michael Dickinson. Nevertheless he is such an arrogant individual I wouldn't be sorry to see them both fall over. Rich Dee may well oblige in the Swallow Handicap at Kempton. Joulville (Huntingdon, Tuesday) has shown great potential at home and is worth a small each-way investment.

Finally, don't buy your Rolls Royce in Belgium. Tax advantages have turned against a previously cheap way to appear rich without having to actually be rich.

HOUGHTON STREET HARRY

Mike Hutchinson shows us how to solve his crosswords

CONFESSIONS OF A CROSSWORD COMPILER

LAST summer I had never even attempted to solve a cryptic crossword. However, I now compile the regular crossword in this paper. I'm sure there must be many students at LSE who feel that the mental gymnastics involved in solving such crosswords are beyond them, as I once did, but like many other pastimes, you need to learn the rules before you can join in.

Every clue in a cryptic crossword sets out to mislead you by various devices, many of which will be explained below. Every cryptic clue which means to be fair will contain an accurate meaning of the required answer although it may not be an exact definition. In addition, there is normally a further piece of information which should also lead to the same answer if you are able to decode it.

Cryptic clues come in many forms, and often one clue is a combination of a number of features. There are six basic types, and once you have learned to recognise them, you have the tools with which to complete any cryptic crossword. I have illustrated these six types with examples from previous Beaver puzzles.

Anagram—The answer is a mixture of the letters of another word or phrase: eg 'Rinse badly after getting up=Risen. You can usually find a hint that jumbling is required from words such as 'changing,' 'awfully,' 'mixing,' or, more cryptically, 'resort.'

Reversal—The answer has the same letters as another word when spelled backwards: eg 'The return of strong lager could lead to a fall.' PILS (strong lager) written backwards (the return) is SLIP (a fall).

Charade—The answer is split up into two or more parts: eg 'Brecht's cheap production was a peak—he'll put you through.' OPERATOR (he'll put you through) is formed by OPERA (Brecht's cheap production) and TOR (a peak). Sometimes these words are split up eg 'French street, a northern one, seen in Polanski film—that has plausibility.' RUE (French street) and N (northern) are contained in TESS (Polanski film), giving TRUENESS (plausibility).

Hidden—The answer is concealed within a group of words and is staring you in the face: eg 'In Morocco, AS IS usual, we find a fertile place.' This type of clue is sometimes indicated by the word 'some,' eg 'Some meAN GERmans cause rage.'

Two meanings—The answer will have two different definitions: eg 'rough man, perhaps.' CHAP is a man and also the roughing up of skin.

Pun—The answer sounds like a different word or phrase: eg 'This bird has flown, I hear—there's many sides to it'. POLYGON (a many-sided figure) is the same as POLLY GONE (this bird has flown) when spoken. This clue is usually indicated by 'I hear,' 'hearing' or 'say.'

I hope this demystification of cryptic crosswords will give some people the confidence to tackle Beaver and other crosswords. You might even become addicted. One of the advantages of the Beaver crossword is that it rarely contains

what may be called 'dictionary words,' using only words in common usage. There are also a number of clues concerned with

music, which should also help many of you. So get your pen out and have a go. Good luck!

MIKE HUTCHINSON

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Beaver Crossword

CLUES

Across

- Feeling modifies mine too—I second that (7).
- Worries replaced by tears in a mad world (5).
- Perhaps you found one last week, but 1 down, 18 had a funny one (9).
- Malcolm Owen was one, but you could get in one (3).
- Game equipment found in street by Mr Dawson (8).
- 1 down, 18 was almost this (4).
- 20 The interest of cockney scrap metal dealers, perhaps (3, 3, 4).
- Push around the right last Tuesday (6).
- The burden is our possession, we hear (4).
- See 1 down.
- Some stylish attire for the head (3).
- Advise about praise (9).
- Textile sounds lit up (5).
- A thief or a piece of paper (7).

Down

- 18 Lots live close to resort with attractions (5, 3).
- Bird in window ledge (3).
- Tiny lane changes naturally (8).
- Sounds one found in organs (6).

- Worry—a guitarist has many (4).
- Oil for lamp without a thousand changes is a hoax (5, 4).
- I'm right, the rose is wrong (2, 5).
- 1 down, 18 played with an orchestra on this, but it sounds as though he wants you to play with him (2, 4, 3).
- It returns in melodies for a different paper (3, 5).
- You should love one with no heart (7).
- A game played without shoes? (6).
- Get a round of drinks! That's one (5).
- See 14 across.
- Shade returns for a fish (3).

SOLUTION FROM LAST ISSUE
Across. 1 Brighton rock. 8 Realm. 9 Spender. 10 Trueness. 13 Sons. 14 P.E. 15 Rousing. 16 F.A. 19 Ligament. 23 Satchel. 24 Glean. 25 Graham Greene.

Down: 1 Burnt-out case. 2 Icarus. 3 Human (factor). 4 Oasis. 5 Reel. 6 Cod roe. 7 Present tense. 11 Equal. 12 Sting. 13 S.P.G. 15 Rap. 16 (Human) factor. 17 Severe. 20 Islam. 21 Anger. 22 Shah.

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