

BEAVER

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COMMENT PAGE

A BIT OF EVERYTHING

IT is not the easiest task in the world to edit this Union newspaper. Apart from the practical features, for example, we have consistently come up against the brick wall of administration over our financial difficulties, there are other problems.

Firstly, not many people seem particularly interested in writing for the rag. LSE seems to have suffered from the disease of "apathy" for two years or more. Several of the freshers have expressed their view that L.S.E. is "cold". There is very little social life, and very little excitement about anything. One of the answers to this could be geographical, in so far as L.S.E. is situated in the centre of London. There is no campus as such, and students make for home as soon as classes are over.

Another reason for the apathy could be, and in my view is, a political one. Political in the sense that students are feeling completely alienated from the educational process in which they are involved, and the outside world, within which they have no direct role as yet.

The L.S.E. defeat of 1969, due partly to a belief that students alone could change the world, created tremendous disillusionment, and there was a rapid retreat back into the corridors of learning. Into a cotton-wool existence where nothing is demanded but the consumption of partial knowledge; in an education system where Economics is separated from History, History from Philosophy, Sociology from Psychology and so on.

What is the use of all this partial knowledge, where every effort is made to arrive at plausible argument about the world, and where conviction is a cardinal sin. By this it is meant that this education system leads students to an abstract idea about what society and "life" is all about. In any argument in any essay it is always safer for the student to say: "Well, this could have happened", "it is probably that", "on the other hand", "there is not enough evidence to suggest" and so on.

To actually say "This is what I believe" is dangerous, and the education in every way prevents anybody from reaching definitive ideas.

With subjects divorced from each other in the way that they are, there is little possibility of arriving at any total view of anything. An illustration of this is that in history for example, one could consider the rise of Hitler and National Socialism to be the fault of political statesmen making wrong decisions. Economists might argue that the "Great Depression" caused the rise of Fascism. Psychologists might just blame it on the personality of individuals, and so on. The only true understanding must come from an examination and synthesis of all these things.

Partiality and "objectivity" have nothing at all to do with reality. And just analysing the world, even with a total view, is no good without being actively involved in answering the ills of society, and I don't just mean on paper either. Why analyse a disease without attempting to cure it?

As far as L.S.E. is concerned, let's look at where "the action is". There are still a few interested union faithfuls left who meet every two weeks to throw paper darts at the speakers but, just like these weapons, Union is becoming more and more a paper organisation, where motions are passed and forgotten.

It is these people also who in fact bother to write and work for "Beaver" who work on the **Ad Hoc Committee**, in Ents. and so on. If "Beaver" is to be a mirror of L.S.E. at all, then it is a mirror which reflects the ideas of the few who are active. But more than just reflecting what L.S.E. is, "Beaver", I feel, should talk about what L.S.E. could be, and try to some extent to give guidance and answers to those tired and alienated individuals who sit in the Library buried in their books trying to understand the world.

R.H.

ACADEMICS FREEDOM!

CANADIAN students at several British universities concerned at the Canadian government's recent actions against Dr. Istvan Meszaros, recently formed the Ad Hoc Committee for the Defence of Academic and Political Freedom in Canada.

The Ad Hoc Committee circulated a petition to ten British universities. The petition demands that the Canadian government allow Meszaros an open hearing at which he can publicly defend himself against the Canadian government's allegations. The petition has been signed by over 1,000 Canadian and British academics and students as well as other concerned people.

On November 1st, Canadian students demonstrated in support of Dr. Meszaros at Canada House in London. A delegation of three Canadian students, along with a representative of CAFAD, met with the Deputy Canadian High Commissioner to outline their grievances

and to present him with a statement of protest. The statement of protest charges that the Canadian government's actions in this case are politically motivated and contains a number of questions directed to the Prime Minister for reply.

The actions currently being taken by the Canadian government against Dr. Istvan Meszaros to prevent him taking up his appointment in the philosophy department of York University, Toronto, cannot be defended in terms consistent with the principles of academic and political freedom. Dr. Meszaros, a political refugee of the 1956 Hungarian uprising, has been a British citizen since 1965. In Britain, he has lectured at St. Andrew's, London, and Sussex Universities. His published work includes **MARX'S THEORY OF ALIENATION** (1971) for which he received the Isaac Deutscher Memorial Prize, **ASPECTS OF HISTORY AND CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS** (1971), **THE NECESSITY OF SOCIAL CONTROL** (1971), and **LUKACS' CONCEPT OF DIALECTIC** (1972). He is a scholar of considerable repute in Europe whose work is widely recognised as an important contribution to various aspects of socialist thought.

'The Public'

Money and us

WE can, I think, feel satisfied with the work the two ad hoc committees have done in carrying on the fight for reform initiated by previous Constitution committees, and last year's S.U. council. The fact that Union, despite all the difficulties, is still more or less in existence is tribute enough to their nights of wearisome drudgery and months of ceaseless vigilance in defence of our God-given rights as free, equal students—and human beings. Nay, mere words do not speak with tones enough — but I digress.

NO GOAL

The point is, no matter what concessions, large or small, have been made by the Kafkaesque barons of Houghton Street, "La lutte continue". The whole object of last year's tortuous and convoluted politicking was a student union of, by and for the students. That goal has not been achieved. Part 2, Section II of the new draft constitution means that if the school doesn't like the way we interpret any part of the constitution, they, i.e. the court of governors (admittedly a notoriously enlightened body)—get the final say as to how we run our affairs.

POLITICAL

Practically this question boils down to how we use our money, and in particular to the question of "political" payments to unpopular causes. (Presumably if the £100 given to U.C.S. last year had gone to the Cons. Assoc. instead, no-one would have minded). Our prerogative as to how we use our money is undeniable IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SCHOOL, for the consequences of our actions are borne SOLELY by us.

Thus, by the most elementary standards of democracy, the court of governors has no right to adjudicate in this matter.

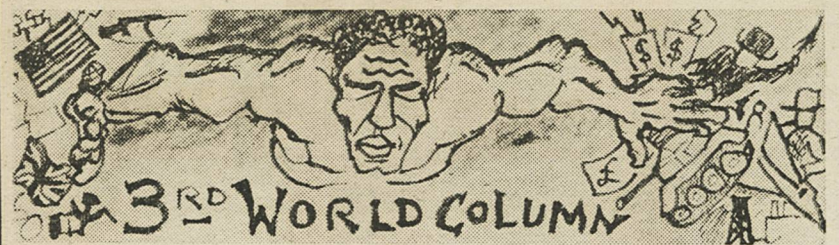
But it is only fair to add that the money we get is allocated to us by the taxpayers of Britain, whose interests, as opposed to the C. of G., are involved, no matter how indirectly. That Britain is a capitalist-dominated society has nothing to do with the matter, for the British people, as a whole accept the state of their society. We have no right to tell them what they really would want, if only they knew.

If the British people have a right to decide how their money is spent, it follows that any dispute as to how we spend our portion of it should be resolved by the organ of adjudication of the society that the British people recognises, i.e., the courts. Not the court of governors.

There is a strong feeling at the moment that our problems are over with the new constitution. An eminent Tory had a phrase for it: "The end of the beginning." The training of the average governor is hardly suited to relinquishing control of money once he's been given it.

G.F.

[Replies to editorials welcomed.—R.H.]



Repression in Turkey

THERE is a distressing tendency among Western Europeans and North Americans to forget just what a small proportion of the world's territory and population they represent. It's as if dollars separated them in some way from the rest of mankind.

The moral justification for this rather doubtful, to say the least, empirical view, is non-existent.

Every year, billions of dollars are siphoned away, directly or indirectly from the "underdeveloped" countries of the globe, leaving the majority of the world's population in conditions which would send any self-respecting Westerner screaming blue murder for the Red Cross; this is not a plea but a warning. The Frankenstein monster of global development has, willy-nilly, provided these oppressed nations with both the spur and the consciousness needed to start questioning the chains that bind them; and it has made the world too small a place for any one group of men to dominate and oppress another with impunity.

Item: Gross National Product (g.n.p.) per capita of the U.S.A. 6,000 dollars.

g.n.p. p.c. Vietnam 500
 Item: Life expectation—
 Norway 71 years
 France 67 years
 U.S.S.R. 64 years
 Mali 26 years
 Haiti 32 years
 Mexico 38 years

Item: Dependence on Third World raw materials of developed countries.

Iron, 34 per cent and growing.
 Cobalt, 77 per cent.
 Tin, 74 per cent.
 Oil, 36 per cent of all energy requirements in 1980.

Item: Population of underdeveloped or developing areas comprises over two-thirds of

total global population with a growth rate on the average three or four times greater.

If this column in any way manages to awaken interest in the oppressed majority of humanity among the well-fed students of this school it will have achieved its purpose.

G.F.

MASSIVE repression is the order of the day in Turkey. Since the intervention of the generals in 1971 thousands of people have been arrested and tortured by the army backed by the government. All the student organisations were banned, the Turkish Labour Party was outlawed, books (including Agatha Christie) were burnt and confiscated.

In May 1972, three young university students: Deniz Gezmiş, Yusuf Aslan, and Huseyin Inan, whose only "crime" was to demand an independent Turkey free from NATO bases, were savagely executed by the generals. Another death sentence on a student, Ziya Yilmaz, is before Parliament for ratification.

Last week the leaders of the Turkish Labour Party were given prison sentences ranging from 12½ to 15 years. Among those prominent are Mrs. Behice Boran, the chairman of the TLP who is a Harvard-trained Professor of Sociology and Professor Sadun Aren, who spent a year in Cambridge.

We appeal to the democratic public opinion all over the world through the columns of "Beaver" to raise their voices in protest against the persecution taking place in Turkey.

Protests to the Turkish Embassy, 43 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1.

Donations to the Union of Turkish Progressives, National Westminster Bank, (51-50-21), 1,370 High Road, London N.20, A/c. No. 05888379.

CON-SOC. CORNER

SIR KEITH JOSEPH, Secretary of State for the Social Services, visited the London School of Economics on Tuesday, October 17th, at the request of the Conservative Society.

Taking the "Cycle of Deprivation" as the title of his speech, he contrasted the social services as they exist in Europe, for which he freely admitted had many inadequacies.

"In five years," he said, "the position will be better, in ten years it will be reasonable."

CHILDREN

He went on to talk about what he called "the incapacity of some people to manage their own affairs." When questioned about low incomes and supplementary benefit he answered that there were persons with low incomes, "but the real problem is," he said, "that they get married and have children."

Expanding on this, Sir Keith hoped that with increased expenditure on pre-school education, and more immediate ad-

vice readily available on family planning and the social and moral implications of parenthood "to reach into these cycles of deprivation to help these children who have a poor start to life."

After an entertaining round of questions, the Chairman thanked Sir Keith for giving up his time to come to the School, and we moved on to the New Theatre, where Mr. Tony Benn, unhampered by hecklers, had the slightly easier task of delivering an academic lecture.

Speakers' Corner

Mrs. Cusworth's speakers' classes for LUCA take place at 7 p.m. on Thursdays at ULU, and are well recommended. Mrs. Cusworth is senior tutor in public speaking at Central Office. She has great experience, and has been described as the "political mother" of many of today's leading political figures.

ARMAGEDDON



SCHOOL MOTTO:

Rerum cognoscere causas

To Know The Cause of Things

KNOW YOUR GOVERNORS

THIS research was undertaken with the aim of trying to give students a better understanding of what is actually meant when we talk about "the administration" or "bureaucracy" of L.S.E.

Who runs the place? What powers do the Governors have? Who are these people?

L.S.E. has over 80 governors. They meet three times every year, though of course not all turn up. They have the right to appoint other governors, so they are self-perpetuating. Their value is mainly weighed in prestige and financial terms. They represent all kinds of top businessmen, politicians, intellectuals and so on.

The governors have in theory full executive powers. In practice, they delegate their powers to a smaller body: **THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE COURT OF GOVERNORS.** This is the real "power house." They draw up the agenda for the larger body of Governors, and they execute policies agreed on by the Governors. As Chairman of the Court of Governors, Lord Robbins wields powers of veto on Union activity, as does Adams. This mainly affects students in terms of the control they have over their money. Students have been offered six places on the Court of Governors, but have really no power in the running of the Union as regards finance. This is a simplified analysis, but states the reality of the situation.

SIR ARNOLD WEINSTOCK, B.Sc. Econ., F.S.S.

Sir Arnold Weinstock is probably a Governor because of the prestige it brings to him to be associated with an Academic Institution. To be realistic, it is unlikely that he regards his position in L.S.E. to be of much importance. As a top businessman, he represents Capitalist Industry in this country. Capitalist Industry relies for a large part on Universities like L.S.E. for its top management, and its scientists and innovators. We have no facts to show if Sir Arnold's industry benefits in this way from his position as a Governor.

PROFITS UP

He is head of the GEC-AEI electrical combine, the fourth largest industry in this country. It is the largest private employer in the U.K. employing a labour force of 181,000. Since 1967, 64,000 jobs have disappeared, almost half through direct redundancy. Over the same period, GEC's pre-tax profits have risen from £36½ million to £77 million.

GEC deals in power engineering, telecommunications, electronics and automation, cables, consumer goods, has overseas interests, and associate companies.

Among other directors, Lord Aldington (of the Aldington/Jones agreement) is one. When confronted at a shareholders' meeting on the question of wage differentials in the industry between employees and bosses he is quoted as saying: "If I were to talk about wage differentials it would take all day." (No doubt to explain why he has an income in the five-figure bracket, would take even longer.)

Arnold Weinstock of Bowden Park, Nr. Chippenham, Wilts., holds 2,925,148 ordinary shares in GEC, worth £5,000,000.

He is also a director of Rolls Royce Ltd. (1971).

As Managing Director of GEC Weinstock received (1967) £23,000 (salary). (See T. Cliff, "Productivity Deals.")

Here are a few quotes from letters to English Electric Manager from Weinstock on the art of management and the role of GEC (published in "Anatomy of a Merger," O. Marriott and Robert Jones). The letters make interesting reading but there is only space here for a few gems.

OWN WORDS

November 1968

"The justification for our existence is to satisfy the needs of consumers . . . in order to perform this task we have to make use of resources, and this process involves cost. The difference between the two, the created surplus, is profit. Clearly in a competitive economy we operate most efficiently and

creatively when profit is optimised . . ."

"Administrative, commercial and similar overheads are too high . . . see where you can reduce them—and save other expenses as well. Stocks and debtors are generally excessive. Try to cut these by more rigorous production . . ."

"We are embarking on a monumental task . . . we simply cannot afford avoidable problems such as personality clashes, personal prejudices, divisive, misplaced loyalties. We are now one company, one group, and heaven only knows, we need each other's help in every way." (Reminiscent of Heathco in "Private Eye"?) It is rumoured that Sir A.W. helped Sir W.A. get his garters.



Hon. Reginald Maudling, M.A., M.P., P.C.

In July of this year, Mr. Reginald Maudling, a governor of L.S.E., resigned from his position as Home Secretary. It had to happen.

"Reggie" had a long history of being connected with disreputable people and firms, quite apart from his other activities.

REFA (Real Estate Fund of America) run by Jerome Hoffman, a notorious swindler, was one of the companies Maudling was particularly involved in. When Oliver Marriott of the "Times" asked him why, in 1969, he replied, he was "hoping to build up a little pot of money for my old age."

The firm was exposed in the "Sunday Times" and the "Eye," as having done some "shady deals," and Maudling reportedly sold his shares in the company.

In July, the Poulson case blew up. John Poulson used to be head of the largest architectural

practice in Europe, employing 750 people and taking over £1 million a year in fees.

He filed a bankruptcy petition in Wakefield this year.

CHARITY

Reginald Maudling, who used to be chairman of one of his companies, received £22,000 from Poulson. Maudling asked for the money to be covenanted to "his wife's favourite charity." The trustees told reporters that they had received £15,000.

During the bankruptcy hearing these facts came out. Poulson gave T. Dan Smith, former labour boss of Newcastle-upon-Tyne over £150,000 over a period of eight years. When asked what he got in return Poulson replied: "Nothing. I don't know."

He gave £2,500 to E. G. Braithwaite, Secretary of South West Metropolitan Hospital Board. Poulson designed a new extension for a hospital in this region.

He paid a leading Civil Servant, W. G. Pottinger, £21,000, built him a house and bought him a Rolls-Royce.

A great deal more came out in the hearing, but as regards Maudling, he resigned shortly after the facts became well publicised.

In 1970, Reginald Maudling said: "Britain has lost some of her pride. We need a new sense of self-discipline based on a pride in oneself and responsibility and on the recognition of individual courage and achievement."

Reginald Maudling achieved these things. The expulsion of Rudi Dutschke from this country. The introduction of the racist immigration act. Association with two firms both of which have allegedly been involved in crooked deals.

He is on our board of Governors.

Halsbury!

We were going to say something about the Distillers company here and the Thalidomide drug. As the case against Distillers is now being heard, we are prevented from doing so because of the Sud Justice ruling.

We were going to do this because we have the dubious honour of having on our board of governors the Earl of Halsbury. He is a Director of Distillers Company (Biochemicals) Ltd., who marketed the Thalidomide drug.

Ad Infinitum

Evelyn de Rothschild Lord Seebom:

Director of Barclays Bank Ltd.; Gillet Bros. Discount Co. Ltd.; Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation; Joined Barclays 1929.

Sir Arnold Weinstock:

M. Dir. Gen. Electric Co.; Dir. Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd.

Charles Wintour:

Editor the "Evening Standard"; Dir. Beaverbrook Newspapers.

The Rt. Hon. Lord Robens:

Chairman Vickers Ltd.; MLH Consultants; Chancellor Univ. of Surrey; Dir. Bank of England; Times Newspapers; Johnson Mathey and Co. Ltd.; Chrmn. National Coal Board, 1961-71.

Sir Eric Roll:

Dir. of Bank of England since 1968; Dep. Chairman S. G. Warburg and Co. Ltd.; Dir. Times Newspapers.

Sir Eric Drake:

Dir. of British Petroleum Co. Ltd.; BP Chemicals International Ltd.; Societe Francaise des Petroles BP; Born 1910; Ed. Shrewsbury, Pembroke Coll., Cambridge; Joined BP 1935; Governor of L.S.E. since 1963; Lloyds Register of Shipping 1960; Cttee. on Invisible Exports; Clubs: Royal Yacht Squadron, Leader.

The Rt. Hon. Earl of Drogheda (D. of D.):

Appollo Magazine; Economist Newspaper Ltd.; "Financial Times"; History Today Ltd.; Heritage Travel Ltd.; Industrial and Trade Fairs Holidays; Investors Chronicle Ltd.; Pearson Longman Ltd.; Reuters Ltd.; Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; Throgmorton Publications Ltd.; Ed. Eton, Trinity Hall, Cambridge; Club: Whites.

The Rt. Hon. Earl of Halsbury (D. of D.):

The Distillers Co. Ltd.; Wrigshon and Co. Ltd.; Joseph Lucas Industries Ltd.; Chairman: Review Body on Doctors' and Dentists' Pay since 1971; Chancellor, Brunel Univ.; Ed. Eton; National Research Development Corp. '49-'59; Clubs: Athanaeum, Savile, Beefsteak, Royal Auto.

Sir Paul Chambers:

Insurance: Liverpool and London Globe; London and Lancs.; Mutual and Federal Investments.; Nat. Westminster Bank Ltd.; Spey Investments; Westminster Foreign Bank Ltd.; Born 1904; Ed. City of London College, L.S.E.; Income Tax Advisor to Govt. India, 1937-1940; Dir. ICI 1947; Clubs: Athanaeum, Reform.

Information, L.S.E. Calendar, 1972.

Directory of Directors. "Who's Who."

J.C. and R.H.

BOOKS AND MORE

PUBLISH AND BE SLAMMED

An appreciation of 'In Honour of Lord Robbins', by Dr. Magnhad Desai

"ESSAYS IN HONOUR OF LORD ROBBINS," Professors Peston and Corry (Edit.)
(Macmillan, 1972).

THIS collection of essays written by former students and/or colleagues of Lionel Robbins falls considerably short of the standards expected of a Festschrift.

Except for one or two, the articles in this collection in no way relate to Robbins' approach to economics or the ideas he stands for in the development of what can be called the L.S.E. view of economics. We shall leave aside the book therefore, concentrating on the nature of economic theory and the view of the economist's tasks which Robbins conveyed through his teachings and writing from 1929 onwards.

GOLDEN

1929 to 1935 was the Golden Age of L.S.E. economics department. Robbins' contribution in this was on the philosophical side in encouraging a view of economics different from that held previously.

In the main, he sought to separate a "scientific" economics (objective, value free) and political economy.

In the works of Adam Smith, Mill, Marshall, a logical deductive analysis of the price system, growth and distribution was always mingled with the larger concern for public betterment, amelioration of poverty.

Robbins proposed a clean separation between economic science concerned with problems of resource allocation and built round a general concept of scarcity and the pursuit of one's pet ideas about economic reforms such as alleviation of poverty.

The latter involved subjective judgements and hence was not strictly scientific. The ameliorative concern was banished from economic science.

This was a profound change. The generality (and logical beauty) of the Robbins model made the specific social, political, environmental considerations in economic behaviour—class structure, political power, income distribution—totally irrelevant and economic theory gained in "elegance" by emptying itself of empirical content.

A second strand of L.S.E. economics was against welfare economics. Societies are continually faced with economic events which favour some and hurt others. Entry into the Common Market will hurt Bri-

tish consumers but benefit the larger corporations, who can now expand into Europe. Taxation, income redistribution, environmental pollution are other such economic events where we need some simple calculus of benefits and losses to be able to decide whether a society is better off or worse off.

WHOSE RULES

Robbins denied the validity of all this by saying that there was no scientific way of adding up different individuals benefits and losses. Even if the vast majority is made better off (say, by a rise in wealth and unearned income tax) one could not conclude that the society was better off since such head counting involved interpersonal comparisons of utilities.

Even if you attach equal weight to everybody's welfare, this was arbitrary and involved subjective judgements. Faced with this denial of the possibility of making welfare judgements, many younger economists mainly at L.S.E. (Kaldor, Hicks) spent many years trying to circumvent this obstacle, which given the rules of the game set out by Robbins turned out to be virtually impossible.

A third strand of L.S.E. economics was the denial of the possibility of rational socialist planning. Since the market solves several equations between consumers, producers, commodities and services simultaneously and automatically, it was clear to Hayek and Robbins that no single planner could solve such a problem rationally. The economists therefore contrast "Socialist" economy where there is a Dictator making all economic decisions and the "free" market where individual consumers and producers make all economic decisions.

While all this was going on, there was massive unemployment and capitalism was facing one of its biggest crises. All the models developed of course assumed full employment and full utilisation of all resources since scarcity and idle resources make a contradictory combination. The L.S.E. economists diagnosed unemployment as being due to the workers' reluctance to accept lower real wages, due to trade union obstacles in the path of equilibrating movements. Unemployment was thus voluntary (the

workers' fault) or due to the monopoly power of Unions (again the workers' fault).

But even the high place in abstract economic theory occupied by L.S.E. was shattered by three events in economics between 1936 and 1939. The publication of Keynes' **GENERAL THEORY** in 1936 and the growing acceptance of Keynesian economics meant the end of L.S.E.'s Golden Age. Legend has it that at L.S.E., they refused to teach Keynesian economics, which became "reactionary" even in the realm of technical economic theory.

The other two attacks on L.S.E. citadels were in the fields of socialist planning and welfare economics. Oscar Lange showed that it was perfectly feasible for a Socialist planner in theory to arrive at a set of efficient prices without the need for private trading and practically to adjust his prices in a way analogous to the market. It was also becoming clear to ordinary people that planning could also provide full employment and economic growth.

But the Cold War years revived, especially in U.S.A., the (L.S.E.) free-market interpretation of economic theory with emphasis on resource allocation and scarcity. The redistributive implications of Keynesian economics were ignored and Keynes' model was rewritten as a case of neoclassical theory. The only use of his theory was to put a greater emphasis on public expenditure (especially Armaments expenditure) to keep up full employment.

After a long and successful run, this emaciated form of Keynesian economics has at last come under attack due to problems of international currency crisis, domestic inflation and workers' demands for higher wages.

Through the years L.S.E. economics was thus formally scientific and value free and practically conservative and often reactionary. On questions of economic welfare and betterment of the masses, full employment and socialist planning, L.S.E. answers were resoundingly no, all on grounds of proper economic theory, clever logical and semantic arguments, free of "value judgements." The record starts with brilliant beginnings in the 1930s and ends up in a series of defeats on level of theory and on policy matters. At times L.S.E. economics was influential — and potentially harmful to the interests of the people.

OLD BOOKS

The Old Testament

"**YOU'VE** seen the film! Now read the book. Yes, here it is folks, in glorious black and white, the book you've all been waiting for . . . 'The Old Testament'!"

This book, written by a collection of journalists and men on the spot, deals with the plight of Adam and Eve and their offspring during the frontier days of old Palestine. The two are happy, and prosper on enormous Paradise Ranch leased to them by grizzled and patriarchal God, until a certain untrustworthy B. L. Zeebul, a fired ranch-hand, stirs the newcomers to trouble and expulsion.

EASY STYLE

The action-filled tale is told in easy, rambling prose and is a veritable Forsyte Saga of family conflict, desperate passion and terrible cruelty which the great John Galsworthy himself would have been proud to write.

Now available in paperback, we feel sure that you will want a copy on your bookshelves. It is available from all good bookshops. A smash-hit in America already, it seems all set to repeat its success in the U.K.

And like all money-spinners, it has a sequel . . . coming shortly, "The New Testament."

So get ready folks and save those pennies!

Jeremy Clift.

'FOR MARX' by Louis Althusser

THIS book represents an attempt by Louis Althusser, a distinguished French philosopher, to rescue Marxism from ideological distortion.

Indeed it acts as a sort of verbal weedkiller aimed at destroying that jungle of clouded thinking which revisionist authors on Marx seem to cultivate. For Althusser urges a return to Marx to rediscover the essentials of his philosophy.

ESSAYS

Louis Althusser's book is a collection of philosophical essays, the first stages of a long term investigation, which is concerned with the specific nature of the principles of the science and philosophy formed by Marx.

"For Marx" appeared in France in 1965. But only its introduction (Today) dates from that year. All the other chapters, which range from "On the Young Marx" to "Marxism and Humanism," were published earlier, between 1960 and 1964, in the form of articles in the French Communist Party journals.

The book is obviously not light reading, but it forms part of a new series of Penguin University Books, which are obtainable in paperback, and available in the Economists' Bookshop.

J.C.

I want

NELL DUNN (author of 'Poor Cow' and 'Up the Junction'), and **Adrian Henri** (painter, writer and people's poet from the 'Pool) have got together to produce what must be called a long prose-poem.

Titled "I Want," it's about a love-story which takes place over 50 years between a working-class lad, Albert, and an upper-class "Dolly," who finds Albert's earthy roots more than fascinating.

INSIGHTFUL

The book, which is mainly a series of conversations dotted with anecdotes and insightful commentary, is perhaps a little out-dated. (Henri and Nell Dunn made their names when Pinter and Osborne were just fading from the limelight.) The style has not changed much, but then perhaps it's not supposed to. Well produced by Jonathan Cape, it costs £1.50. (Not yet paperback.)

R.H.

CIS.

COUNTER - INFORMATION SERVICES, a radical bureau of investigation into "Capitalist" enterprises, set up under the control of a life-wing philanthropist, has so far produced some extremely insightful and fact-packed reports.

The first report which appeared, examined the Rio Tinto Zinc, multi-National mining company, which has its largest base in South Africa. As well as examining the political interests of British Capitalists in this industry, it exposed the savage conditions and appalling low wages which black workers employed in Rio Tinto suffer.

The second report was an examination of the General Electric Company, and its merger with AEI. (See "Anatomy of a Merger," R. Jones and O. Marriott, published by Jonathan Cape.) One of our very own governors, Arnold Weinstock, owns five million shares in this company; (see Armegeddon page on Board of Governors L.S.E.).

The latest report centres round Consolidated Gold Fields. I'll tell you no more. It is obtainable at CIS, 52 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.1.

R.H.

BOOKS

INDIA'S CHINA WAR : Neville Maxwell.
Pelican. £1.

A HIGHLY readable account of the 1962 Sino-Indian hostilities by the then New Delhi correspondent for "The Times."

Of particular interest to today's student of East Asian politics as it successfully demolishes the myth of Chinese expansionism and aggression in the 'sixties; Mr. Maxwell shows, step by step, how India's intransigence over her undemarcated boundaries east and west of Tibet, and her consistent refusal to negotiate with the Chinese on the matter, brought the two countries to the point of crisis.

Having provoked the crisis in the first place, Nehru then al-

lowed nationalist pressure within his own Congress Party to push him into despatching Indian Army forces into the disputed areas north of the MacMahon line and into the Aksai Chin. Nehru's "forward policy," in which bluff, self-righteousness and over-confidence played an equal part collapsed with the Chinese attack in October, but China was saddled with the responsibility as far as the western world was concerned.

This book should go a long way towards putting the record straight. I only wish Penguin had put a more realistic price on it.

RED STAR OVER CHINA, by Edgar Snow. Pelican. £1.

SNOW'S classic account of the Chinese civil war by an eye-witness remains an invaluable historical source. This new edition includes some further interviews with Mao and addi-

tional biographical data on the Chinese leaders. As Snow readily acknowledges in his preface, his account is necessarily partisan, but this does not detract from its value.

THE MARIJUANA PAPERS : Ed. David Solomon.
Panther. 75p.

A RIP-OFF; the more interesting material is repeated over and over again in the various articles, and there is a lot of padding. The best part is the report of LaGuardia's 1938 New York City Committee on Marijuana, which came in for a lot of flack, through pointing out that marijuana was es-

entially less harmful than alcohol.

This is unlikely to come as a surprise to anybody, but the report has been massively ignored since then. Also some garbage by Ginsburg and Timothy Leary which is enough to give any would-be experimenter with pot second thoughts.

J.S.

WANDERING,
by Hermann Hesse.

THIS short book of poetry and watercolours by the author of "Steppenwolf" and "Demian" is a relaxing and delightful change from the tortured ramblings of his previous works. It is outwardly an account of a walking trip over the Alps, southwards into Italy, and the descriptions as well as the brilliant illustrations are sufficient reason in themselves for reading it.

But on another level the whole account is merely allegorical; an expression of Hesse's philosophical interpretation of life. For Hesse, wandering is simply a search for happiness and truth. And these can be found in the act of searching itself; their final expression only in the ultimate, unattainable goal of the wanderer.

Whether any distinction is possible between the goal and the search is something the author never reveals.

Not paperback yet—J. Cape, £1.60.

G.F.

BEAVER STAFF

Those involved in this publication of Beaver :

George Foy

Jeremy Clift

Rosie Hurst

John Jascoll

John Walden

Lindsey German

John Stathatos

We need more people to write for the next issue. Anything considered.

Printers: Ripley Printers Ltd., Nottingham Rd., Ripley, Derbys.



THE REAL BLUES

PURITY of expression has always been cherished by those small cliques of exclusivists who form the hard core of dedicated people who follow Jazz and Blues.

American Blues was the main root from which sprouted the full flower of Rhythm and Blues and later, Rock and Roll. It was also a tremendous influence in Britain on a rising, and perhaps "pseudo-intellectual" middle-class group of teenagers in the South West London area, particularly Richmond and Kingston, in the early 1960's.

Expression was given to their disillusionment with the fruits of conformity, by the bitter cry of the American negro against the poverty and helplessness in the sharcropping South and the ghettos of the north.

This association was also partly born out of a rejection of the inane cardboard imitation of American white, clean-cut, beat groups, and also a search for something more personal and expressive than the happy but often gutsy traditional British Jazz band.

The harsh guitar of Bukka White, Mississippi John Hurt, Mance Lipscomb, and Lightnin' Hopkins provided the means of expression; as did the wailing harp of Sonny Terry and Sonny Boy Williamson.

ALIEN

The only problem was you couldn't dance to it and it was unamplified. So these young imitation "Bronzies" found expression in the folk club circuit

and jostled shoulders with the equally imitative and often hostile ethnic singers who despised this adoption of a totally unsympathetic and alien form of music.

Of course the interest in the blues had been kept alive in Britain by Alexis Corner, Cyril Davies and various jazzmen in the 1950's, and young British Blues singers also took their cue from them.

Out of this folk club scene emerged such names as John Renbourn, Long John Baldry, Keith Relf, Gerry Lockran, Cliff Aungier, Joanne Kelly, Tony McPhee and Duster Bennett—all found the Richmond and Kingston scene their place of identification. Such places as the "Barge," Kingston, "The Union Hotel", Surbiton, Eel Pie Island Hotel and the Richmond Community Centre, were their spawning grounds.

However, there was another side to the coin—pure blues could not remain so for long, and though its prodigy R. and B. had always had reviews in the jazz papers, it was taken up rapidly by many of the London bluesers. Thus around about 1962-3 the whole music scene in Britain was on the brink of a number of developments. It was jumbled.

Beatlemania was on the way in. Rhythm and Blues was beginning to be developed. A growing interest in folk music emerged as well as pure blues, and the end of a spurious trad-jazz popularity. All these movements were lying in wait to assault and seize that bastion of the pop world, Tin Pan Alley (who continued to churn out sugar pink romance images).

This side of the development has been well documented by Richard Mabey, Nik Cohn, and George Melly, and so we'll leave it there.

HOT

But back in Richmond rhythm 'n' blues was becoming hot, particularly under the influence of the Rolling Stones, and later, John Mayall, at the Crawdaddy Club. The folk bluesers despised both and most of rhythm and blues. They had adopted the peculiar English trait

FUTURE EVENTS

December 2nd :—
Roy Wood's Wizzard, Silverhead. (Roy Wood being the "intellect" behind the Move).

December 9th :—
MC5 and U.S. Bluesman Dr. Ross.

January 20th :—
JSD Band and Mike Absalom.

January 27th :—
U.S. Blues Tour, Homesick James, Lightnin' Slim, Whistling Alex Moore, Whispering Smith, Boogie Woogie Red, Washboard Willie.

February 3rd :—
Steeleye Span, Gillian McPherson.

February 24th :—
Stackridge (support).

March 10th :—
To be announced.
Advance Tickets or Further Information—Call 5118

of purity, which had been the hallmark of British New Orleans Jazz revivalists and, of course, the second folk revivalists.

Obscurity and avant-gardism had become the way of identifying really funky people. There was a kind of ambivalence developed in their attitude to fame, which was a mixture of contempt, and a desire to show everybody what the REAL music was. Thus you have on "Ready Steady Go" (remember it?) a ludicrous situation of Long John Baldry arguing that Mick Jagger was not a real exponent of the blues, as he had perverted his "art".

This all took place in front of an audience of confused teeny boppers, who didn't give a damn anyway. Who was right? Nobody could say. But Baldry (perhaps the best blues singer Britain has ever produced) was cutting pop records inside two years of the worst tin pan alley type.

Pop and money had got its way and from the middle 1960's a rush of bluesers desperately competed with each other in their efforts to get fame and bread.

Though the folk scene rolls on, and though the influence of Dylan and other protest singers has gained a wider audience, blues undulates, depending on the temperature of pop.

From the mid 1960's the blues was really re-discovered, only in the long run to its detriment. It remains an influence and is more popular than it has ever been. But pop, like many of the trends it borrows from has sucked the guts out of blues and left it an over-exposed cliché. Perhaps I'm still a purist at heart?
LEN HOLDEN

RECORD REVIEW

SUTHERLAND BROS.—
LIFEBOAT

ANOTHER L.P. in the some-conglomerate "soft rock" category, the Sutherland Bros. 2nd album deserves to rise above most of the others spewed out by the record companies these days.

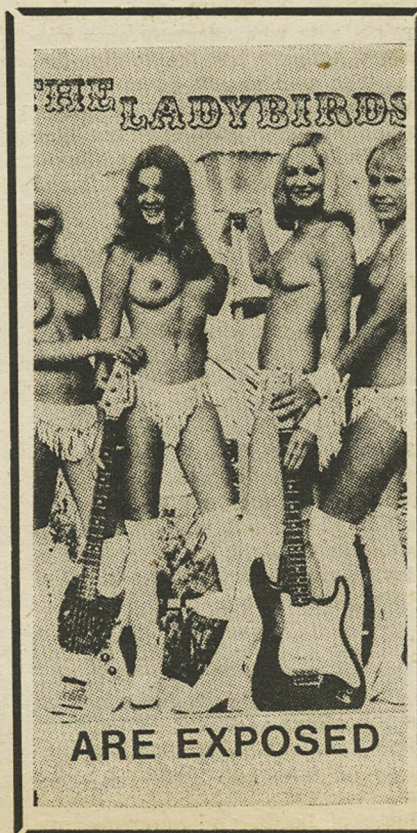
"Lifeboat" is essentially an album to listen to, though I'm undecided whether this is due to the beautiful lyrics, or the lack of power behind—it certainly doesn't set the feet tapping as much as their first offering but, on the other hand, there's much more reason to listen.

The majority of the songs involve doubts about whether they are doing the right thing

with their (or anybody's) life, but outstanding on the album is "Ireland". Okay, so we've had lots of songs and articles about Ireland and maybe you're sick of it all. However, the songs that stand out for me are John Lennon's and the Sutherland's—they make me feel sick about the situation in Ireland, not about the song.

Whatever your preference in music, "Lifeboat" is worth a listen—to say that the album lacks power doesn't necessarily mean a lack of competence. Gavin Sutherland's pedal steel guitar is extremely good, and backing is provided by Dave Mattacks, Pat Donaldson and occasionally Stevie Winwood. A valuable addition to any collection, though I doubt if it will make the charts.

N. WILKIE (Ents.)



Son of Armageddon

The sin of the academic

THE sin of the academic is that he takes so long in coming to the point.—Professor Michael Oakshott (*"Rationalism in Politics"*, p.127).

If the historian is to talk about the past he must first understand the terminology of time: past, present, future, yesterday, the middle of next week, and now. Now—erm—erm—erm, now—and there's a word which many of us use, but do we know what we mean by "now"? Many would stop here and ask what we mean by "mean" or indeed by "what" "do" and "by". And excellent questions too. However, let us concentrate on the question in hand. Let us assume that when we ask what do we mean by "now" that we are looking for a specific definition, that is to say that we are looking for the contexts in which "now" could be appropriately used.

OOPS

Now—er—er—erm—oops there I go again erm—erm—erm—this word "now" has three letters and that's a very important point. Before we go any further we must consider what we mean by "letter". Is it something that Mr. Smith places in a pillar-box for Miss Jones? Or is it maybe a form of prophylactic that Mr. Smith may intend using in connection with Miss Jones? Or I suppose "letter" could conceivably be construed as being the components of the words which Mr. Smith has written down in his missive to Miss Jones. Let us take this final—some would say far-fetched—definition of the word "letter" for use in this context.

N.O.W.

That is to say, a letter composed of lines, angles and curves is itself a component of a word. In this case the word "now" has three letter. In short, "now" contains an N, an O, and a W.

Er—er—erm having ascertained what this word is, namely that it is a literary phenomenon composed of the three letters N O W, and that it is spoken or written down either manually or by some perhaps more sophisticated typographical means, let us proceed to analyse it one step further.

"Now" gives us an impression of the immediate, of the present—in short, of the immediate present. But is this present as the historian would take it the same present as everyone else would understand by the word? For instance, if Mr. Smith gives Miss Jones a gaily-wrapped parcel tied with some bright-coloured ribbon for her birthday, is this the kind of "present" which the historian is talking about? Or is he rather referring to the exclamation "Present!" meaning "I am here"? Or could he possibly be... *ad infinitum*.

Divide and rule?

ALL future capitalists and parasites (the words are interchangeable) should make a copy of the *"Directory of Directors"*, the introduction to which will confirm their "ill-held beliefs. (This wonderfully useless book is quite naturally available in the Library). Here is a sample from this monument to capitalism:—

"What makes directors unhappy is the frustration of running businesses in a country torn by industrial anarchy and with a labour force activated to a large extent by a desire to get as much as possible for doing as little as possible. While industrial leaders report falling profits and consequently falling investment, their workpeople go slow (if they go at all) because they have been offered only a 10 per cent increase in wages instead of the 25 or 30 per cent they have demanded. It is a situation which makes life at the top a constant headache."

After this paragraph of self-pity we are treated to yet more earth-shattering analysis. Directors are "subject to more strain and harassment than any other section of the community"—"their rewards in Britain are smaller than in practically any

TUTORS NOTE!

[Taken from Notes to Tutors of Part I B.Sc. Econ. students.]

"The tutor's primary responsibilities will be advisory; it will be a large part of his work to see that his pupils become acclimatised to university life.

"His first business is to get to know his pupils as human beings; to become acquainted with their home background, their qualities, tastes, activities, ambitions and individualities, and to make them aware that he has a special interest in them. He should in the course of the year assure himself about their health, their conditions of living in London, and so on, and try to ensure that they are not getting into difficulties for want of advice..."

HELL

Any PI student who has actually experienced treatment of this kind during his first year in this hell-hole within a hell-hole is invited to write and tell us of it.

other country in the western world." And then the statement to beat all statements:—

"Perhaps it is time directors started going slow, or even going on strike now and again. What an amazed outcry there would be from the car workers if Lord Stokes went on strike with the safe keys in his pocket and the employees of British Leyland Motors could not be paid their wages in consequence! But no; directors have too much sense of responsibility for such insurrection."

And so it continues. The philosophy expressed in the introduction to this book seems entirely representative of that age-old Tory belief "divide and rule." How dare the unions ask for a wage that could bring them into the £20 a week earnings bracket: how dare the unions resort to the "industrial anarchy" of striking?

It soon becomes obvious where the influence for the Industrial Relations Act came from, an Act which more than any other has furthered divide and rule. The crowning hypocrisy of the above quotations can be realised when one examines the salaries of a few of this country's top directors and chairmen: Lord Stokes, for example, is paid somewhere in the region of £60,000 per annum. I for one would be perfectly willing to swap a 30 per cent increase in my grant for a one per cent increase in his salary!

JON WALDEN.

Adams Publishes Memoirs

by Sir Walter Adams (Pergamon Press.) Price £49.99

FOLLOWING hard on the heels of memorable works from his colleagues, Lord Robens (entitled *10 Year Wank* or "How I Managed to Destroy the Jobs of Half the Miners in Britain") and Lord Robbins' (Autobiography of a Pseud) come the memoirs of Sir Walter Adams. His book appropriately titled *"How I Smashed The Union"*, is destined to be a best seller, according to Mrs. T. Adams (no relation).

It tells in no uncertain terms of Adams' struggle towards academic liberalism in South Africa, aided by his wife who allegedly once described Africans and their supporters as "pigs who should be allowed to wallow in their own filth." We hear of Adams' appointment to the London School of Economics (referred to as an "academic institution") and of how he dealt with "unruly mobs of demonstrators" (or students). His final triumph came in the School year 1971/2 when, again in a confrontation with the students, and assisted by an anonymous friend (called in the book "Lionel X"), he denied the students one of their basic rights: independence. His excuse for this denial was that "the law did not allow me... etc., etc." He managed to achieve the aim of his plot by posting various letters to the students at vantage points in the School, explaining the "justification" of his actions. One such letter read:

Savoy Hotel
The Strand,
London.

Dear President,—In reply to your recent request for autonomy, here are my reasons for denying you this basic human right. When I retire in a few years, I want a seat in the House of Lords, and annoying my

DRIVEL

Economics student in Aldwych "mind-machine" horror
From our Special Reporter

RSPCA officers are investigating alleged "Gestapo brain-washing" methods in an inhuman mind-machine factory in Aldwych.

DEATH-TECHNIQUES

Economics student Hector Carruthers, 19, of Very Close, Walthamstow, was the first to bring the death-techniques of the Killer-Scientists to the attention of authorities.

CINDERELLA

According to the victim, the cerebro-cidal institution, posing under the fake front-name of a school of economics and political science, was using torture methods that would "make Himmler look like Cinderella."

MADNESS-MAKERS

"They impose exercises on us which by their sheer artificiality and irrelevance and lack of contact with reality, make you stark staring mad in three years time," said Carruthers.

ISOLATION-HORROR

"But the worst was the isolation. No human contact, no chance of really talking with anyone."

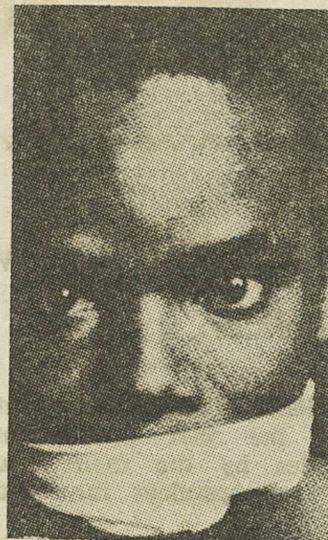
ALONE

"You were alone in the midst of 3,000 others."

GROUNDLESS

The school's director, Sir Retlaw Smada, a Rhodesian immigrant, said: "These allegations are groundless." "I have no knowledge of the torture methods we use in this institution," Sir Retlaw said.

SOUTH AFRICA



ONE of the most common attitudes adopted by people concerned with the plight of the suffering under the yoke of fascism is a moral one. Committed Left-wingers tend to critically support these struggles but are guided by their own perspectives where material support is concerned.

Perhaps this serves as a reflection of the contradictions facing the liberation struggle in South Africa. This is both bounded by countries hostile to any liberation organisation, e.g. Rhodesia and Mozambique, and by countries economically and politically controlled by it—Namibia and Botswana.

This situation has created an impossible buffer against the development of an adjoining base from which the freedom struggle could be directed.

Secondly, South Africa is a highly industrialised state which commands an important position within the Western economic block both as a launching-pad for a consumer onslaught on Black Africa and as a profitable ground for the consolidation of the launching-pad itself.

This symbolic relationship between the fascist state of South Africa and the corporate giants of the West reinforces apartheid and, in particular, the Pass-Laws which serve as a fundamental basis of the economic system.

These laws directly control the labour force by injecting into it a level of mobility which ensures that:—

- Cheap labour is shunted where it's needed;
- The growth of a stable working class around the industrial centres is prevented;
- Huge levels of unemployment around these industrial centres are prevented by forcing those unable to seek work on to the reserves where malnutrition and infant mortality is a way of life.

Coupled to this is the virtual elimination of open trade union activity amongst the black masses through the implementation of a host of laws. These range from "the Suppression of Communism Act" to the detention without trial "180-day Detention Law". Further, the institution of these laws includes the use of an extensive "informer system" which extends beyond the boundaries of South Africa under the direction of B.O.S.S. (Bureau of State Security).

These, in broad outline, are the problems facing the A.N.C. and other South African liberation organisation. In its evolution the A.N.C. has been forced to adopt tactics and strategies which do not have immediate tangible results as in the case of Mozambique, Angola and Guinea Bissau.

These issues demand from us that our perspectives of these struggles take into account the differences between the obstacles to be overcome in Southern Africa generally and South Africa in particular so that the emerging multinational level of struggle can be concretely accelerated. It also demands material and principled support since these struggles are reverberating into the boardrooms of big corporations in England, Western Europe, America and Japan.

A.O.

J.W.

THE ATHLETIC UNION PAGE

Editorial slot

FEW people play sport at L.S.E. and that's because it's so damn inconvenient. Squash courts are booked up, pitches are miles away and train fares are high.

But nevertheless it is one of the few non-political activities in which students take part here, and thus it has a useful recreational and social value.

Dr. Bannister, chairman of the Sports Council, bemoans the recent recession in university sports standards and dedication.

"I think this is a pity," he said, "because I believe that dedicated training and perfecting what physical skills a person possesses are extremely satisfying."

VARIED

Sport is, however, satisfying at all levels. The Athletics Union offers a wide range of activities, from soccer to ski-ing, in which I urge you to participate. Above all, perhaps, we should encourage the Men's Hockey Club, which is in the process of being reborn.

Jeremy Clift.

A.U. CLUB

AS in previous years the summer term saw the conversion of the Cross-Country Club into the Athletics Club. We took part in three matches of the Southern League 4th Division, where out of the five competing clubs, we finished an honourable third.

CANADIAN

The team was considerably strengthened by the addition of some sprinters from the Soccer and Rugby Clubs and especially by our Canadian strongman, Dave Milner, who managed to win the U.L. titles in shotput and discus and came fifth in the shot at the B.U.S.F. championships in Edinburgh.

Herman Rooney and Oyvind Osterud were regulars for the U.L. athletics team, which, admittedly, was having a lean spell; only two matches were won, both against the combined London Banks.

Herman Rooney.

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SOCCER CLUB

Reality is alive and well

FOR the benefit of those who do not know already, the Soccer club is alive and kicking. Here in the midst of a miasma of bourgeois values is a bastion of Reality; an oasis of working class culture. It is, like booze (if there is anything like booze) a useful diversion from the banality of the education process.

TEAM SPIRIT

So come all you faithful along to the training sessions: Mondays 3 p.m. or 5 p.m., and help us to create a great team-spirit. An availability list ensures you will get regular games, and team discussions make for a better understanding of the game.

NEW EXECUTIVE

A new executive has been elected and I urge them to further strengthen the social atmosphere in the club, for this is so directly related to better playing by the teams. A lot of

energy will also be required in organising team trips to Paris (November 25th provisionally) and Rome (Spring 1973). Unfortunately, due to pressure of fixtures the Oxford match has had to be cancelled. An alternative may be found; but the Oxford trip (two games) is still on.

SOLID BASIS

At the time of writing it is meaningless to ponder on results (as there have been so few games played) except to say that the 1st XI, after beating King's 3-0, seem to have a solid basis for a title-shot, whilst the 2nd XI have yet to find a winning combination. The 3rd XI and the 4th XI have, perhaps, the nuclei of sides which can also aim for promotion.

SIP SOC.

Enjoy your football, and remember Friday night in the Three Tuns is football piss-up night (all Soccer Club members are bone fide members of Sip Soc. also).

Sam Hazley.

GLIDING CLUB FLIES HIGH

THIS year's record membership of the club indicates the ever-increasing number who feel they must defy the laws of gravity and take to the air. The growth in membership has, however, placed great pressure on the availability of the training gliders at Lasham, where our glide club is based. There is now strong feeling in the club that there should be at least one glider actually owned by the club.

Despite this position, last year was one of the most successful in the club's history; two members "won their wings," Gunter and John Meldrum, who achieved this, in fact did so in a club record time. It is hoped that at least ten other members will

have gained their "solo" status this coming year.

SETBACK

However, the success of the club this last year at Lasham has been coloured by the fact that the club has lost its prized and historic Bunk House; an ex-wartime control tower. A new accommodation block is now in the process of being built. But despite this setback, the spirit of the club makes it a force to be reckoned with at Lasham, where for too long the power of Imperial College has prevailed. The fact that they own eight gliders and the L.S.E. owns none adds that much weight to the argument that L.S.E. should obtain at least one glider in the near future.

MOTOR SPORT CLUB FORMED

A NEW club joined the Athletic Union this term: the Motor Sport Club. The objects of the club are to get together the motor sport enthusiasts at the School, promote rallying and racing at club level, and introduce new members to the sport.

You do not need a car to join; for example, what the club needs most of all at the moment is navigators, with or without experience.

Through affiliation with Seetech and the Combined Universities Motor Club, we are guaranteed invitations on numerous events at all levels including 12-car, closed and restricted rallies. We hope to run a four-car L.S.E. team in a few rallies next term, including a long overnight restricted. Classes and practical demonstrations for new navigators will be organised throughout the year.

Another of our projects is skid-control technique training

at Crystal Palace and various other skid pads. This is invaluable training, and not only for the competitive driver.

We are also involved in negotiations for a garage which we shall hang on to permanently for preparing club and member vehicles. The club "stable" at the present includes a rallying Land Rover, two Minis, a Saab, an Escort and a fully rally prepared 1.3 Cooper "S" which will be ready by January.

If you have ever been tempted to take part in a rally or learn about the most exciting sport in the world, now is your chance. Meetings are held regularly (keep an eye on A.U. notice-board and news-sheet), new members always warmly welcomed.

NOTE: A general introductory talk on rallying will be given at 1.15 on Wednesday, December 6th. Room to be announced.

RUGBY CLUB

We're having a Ball!

L.S.E. 1st XV still maintains its brilliant record (no, not academic) after five matches this season. With the alcohol of the previous nights appearing to have little effect on these Men of Iron, a total of 167 points have been accumulated, and it is rumoured that "Fingers" Whelan may even try when taking conversions. The opposition remain flabbergasted at the intricacies of L.S.E. play.

Bent legs

Playing strength has been augmented by the arrival of Ian "Country Yokel" Diamon, a Devonshire lad; Gerry Thomas—a Welshman, I think, but none the worse for it; and a hooker John Strudwick, with bent legs, from Kent, who can neither see nor throw the ball in straight—still it takes the opposition by surprise as well!

Old stalwarts

The old stalwarts of the previous year still remain with us and contribute as much as they ever did. (Interested party: "Who's he trying to kid") Fred "Split Lip" Marrow is now fit again, but Pete "Wobbly Knee" Swinden has suffered an unfortunate relapse whilst playing the heathen game of football!

Good news

And now for the good news—the Strollers—that perennial phoenix is rising from the bar again. All of you therefore, who feel that you are better piss-artists than rugby players, come along on Wednesdays and Saturdays. (Availability list on A.U. notice-boards in Concourse area).

At the end of November we are pleased to announce that we are going a Paris pour le vino et les belles señoritas (and incidentally a game of rugby!). Other forthcoming trips include Warwick, Cambridge and Bristol (the U.A.U. champions).

We also encourage you to support us on our home matches—the Middlesex Cup, London, New Zealand, and in the U.L.U. Cup.

Dave Clarke.

Prospects bright for Cross-Country Club

AFTER the exceptionally good season of 1970-71, in which L.S.E. won the individual and team championships of the University and several other major races, last year turned out to be slightly less spectacular. Membership was somewhat lower and we had no outstanding runner to replace our junior Scottish international, Doug Gunstone.

However, we managed to complete a very full programme: 30 fixtures in all. We finished sixth in the London Colleges League and fifth in the U.L. Championships. The captain, Andy Crompton, was a regular for the U.L. firsts, and Herman Rooney was a fixed choice for the U.L. seconds.

THE NATIONALS

For the first time in history L.S.E. entered a complete team in the British Nationals at Sutton Coldfield. According to official reports conditions were the

worst since 1934. A fierce blizzard turned the race into a nightmare: one of the officials died and several dozen athletes had to be treated for exposure. In the circumstances it was surprising that only one of the L.S.E. team—our runner from Norway!—failed to complete the course of nine miles.

The L.S.E. championship was won by Andy Crompton, with Herman Rooney in second place. The annual handicap race was won by John Meldrum, closely followed by Oyvind Osterud.

This year prospects are very bright, with 27 paid-up members on the books and more expected to join shortly.

The last fixture of the season is a trip to the Netherlands, with matches against the Rotterdam School of Economics and against Herman's own club, A.C. Maassluis.

HERMAN ROONEY.

Snail racing

This year's annual snail-racing championships are due to be held, as always, next Sunday in the Mall, at 3 p.m. Lord Annan is to open the ceremony. Said a spokesman for the snail-racing committee: "I doubt that there is a man better qualified to preside over these games. Lord Annan has been a snail-racer all his life."

Special Correspondent.

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Union and the Constitution

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE OF THE UNION ON THEIR MONTH IN OFFICE.

THIS Ad Hoc Committee was elected with a fourfold mandate:—

- (a) to keep the Union administration turning over until officers recognised by both the school and union can be elected under the New Constitution when it is implemented.
- (b) to tidy up the negotiations on the New Constitution and see to its implementation,
- (c) to investigate and attempt a settlement of the financial affairs of the Union for the year ending July 1972,
- (d) to settle with the School a reasonable per-capita grant (the main means of financing the Union) for this year (and draw up the budget presumably).

ADMINISTRATION

The fact that Union meetings have been held, the Bar, the Shop and Florries are still open, that most societies have received a little money, that the Nursery Committee is off the ground etc., etc., is, it appears to us, self-evident testimony to the fact that we are performing our administrative duties. In addition it has been arranged that during the month we will send delegates to the N.U.S. Conference, to the Westminster Trades Council, to the Liaison Committee for the Defence of Student Unions, and to the Camden Federation of Tenants' Association, as well as to the Indo-China Conference.

We have also arranged for the hiring of an office secretary and a finance secretary.

The fact that there is an overwhelming difficulty in dealing with the adequate dissemination of the flood of information that pours into the Union office each week is indeed a function of the ad hoc nature of the present interlude. This can be changed only by the setting up of all the Committees provisionally incorporated in the New Constitution. But most important is that these are so designed as to be interlinking with all aspects of Union affairs, and if one section, viz. finance and administration, were not working, the rest would be but an empty shell.

The situation with regard to officers is that the only ones that the School will accept as legitimate representatives of the Union until the New Constitution is passed by the Board of Governors is an Ad Hoc Committee or a Council elected with all the rigmarole of the 1966 Constitution.

As you will read in the next section, we are but a few weeks away from a final constitutional settle-

ment and it would be a pity either to jeopardise the whole settlement by a premature election of New Constitution officers, and a phenomenal waste of time and energy to elect officers under the 1966 Constitution for the few weeks interim, apart from the massive change of principle that holding such elections would involve.

CONSTITUTION

In compliance with our mandate we have sent a final draft for presentation to the Board of Governors. The main reason for any delay is the difficulty in getting Mr. Morris Finer, the School's key negotiator, to meetings, due apparently to pressure of work in his private legal practice! However, we have had two meetings, a full report of which will be presented at Union meeting.

Whilst not negotiating any substantive change in the draft presented previously to Union we have provisionally reworded the Objects, we believe slightly to the Union's advantage, plus one or two other small drafting changes in the Part One, and have completely re-edited the Part Two in order to make it more readable and easily understandable.

GRANT FOR 1972-73

With respect to this year's grant we are at present getting money on the basis of drawing up to 1/4 of an estimated budget prepared by the last Committee. We have also had one meeting with the Director and Mr. Pike where we presented a request and strongly argued for a per capita figure of £4.67, giving a net grant of just £15,000.

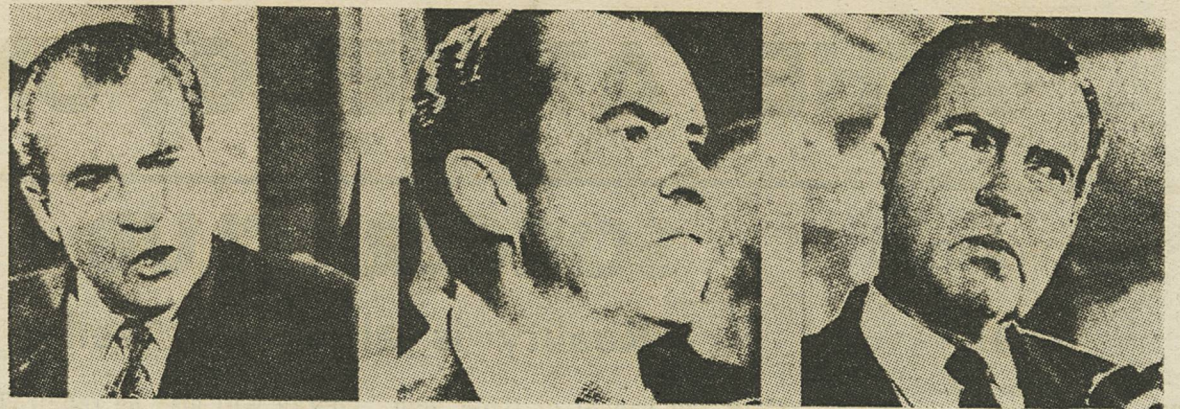
At the beginning of the meeting the Director had suggested a figure of about £3.67 based on the last negotiated figure for 1970-71, of £2.89, plus 78p to cover inflation since. We await their reply to our figure but members of the Union should be considering what course of action to take if their final offer is considerably less than the amount requested.

Signed: Jon Blair, Jo Cummings, Dave Howarth, Tim Jones, Imogen Pennell, Pat Smith.

**Ad Hoc Administrative Committee of the Union.
10th November, 1972.**

DRAMA SOC
Afternoon Performances
in the
OLD THEATRE
DECEMBER 4th & 6th

Shaw's "Passion, Poison and Petrification."
Albee's "The Sandbox."
Ionesco's "The Bald Prima Donna."
Chekhov's "The Bear."
Season Ticket : 20p



How Tricky won

WRITTEN BEFORE THE EVENT

AS this is being written, Richard Milhouse Nixon, slightly psychoid, ageing, Republican, President of the United States of America, is well on his way to the greatest Republican presidential victory since the war.

Against him, George McGovern, the democratic candidate, is shattering lances against erstwhile dragons which Nixon, with a few nonchalant waves of the wand, has turned into windmills. How did it happen?

The first and probably most important reason lies in the fact that the people of the U.S.A. are not ready for a "leftie". Joe McCarthy is dead but you can see his ghost striding along Capitol Hill at midnight on October 31st, muttering quotes from Abraham Lincoln and Joe McCarthy, screaming imprecations towards the East.

The 1932 depression didn't kill the spirit of 1849, that Great American Dream of a land of peace and plenty where happiness comes from dollars and dollars are lying on the cobblestones of Wall Street, the slopes of Klondike and the corporate laws of New Jersey for any good W.A.S.P. with his eye on God and his hand on a wallet to pick up.

The cause and consequence of this is that there is no working class as such in America;

- (a) because "workers" in both the primary and secondary sectors form a minority of the U.S. population, both absolutely, and relatively to the white-collar sector;
- (b) because there is no working-class ideology, which in turn is because the American worker is, in general, the highest paid, most comfortable "labourer" in the world.

Where are the strongholds of conservatism in the U.S.? Not lower Manhattan, nor Wallace territory down South, but in the working-class bungalows of Warren, Ohio, Gary, Indiana, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Los Angeles, California.

There, in a wall-to-wall carpeted sitting-room, sits the arch-supporter of U.S. capitalism, the U.S. worker.

Why is this so? To put it generally, simply because he "never had it so good."

The old aspirations of the European immigrant have been fulfilled many times over, and even the native American has seen his standard of living multiplied several times in a lifetime. In a materialistically-orientated society, he has seen his material desires almost satiated. This gives him great satisfaction, and at the same time the fact that he still has some material desires left spares him the disillusionment of a lot of the younger middle-classes who have fulfilled all their material desires and now have nowhere to go except sleeping pills, pep pills, acid, pills, speed, dope, pills, apathy and the Rotary Club.

Politically, the state of mind of the "working class" (as well as that of the white-collar majority) comes out in two ways;

- (1) FOR the status-quo, i.e., good old-fashioned economic liberalism, a strong, even aggressive foreign policy,
- (2) negatively, against what is seen as the enemies of that status-quo, viz., Communism and socialism in all shapes and sizes.

To be fair, this attitude derives at least in part from a genuine tradition of more or less democratic government which sees Russian-style Communism for the political tyranny it is. It should also be added that a certain current of populist-type reformism is very strong in the U.S. "working class", especially in the Trade Unions—but these traditions of democracy and economic reformism are strictly in the XIXth century liberal tradition, and are anathema to any forms of ideology which event hint at socialism.

Thus George McGovern loses this crucial support of the working class on purely ideological grounds, especially when running against a conservative of the Nixon calibre. What true-American - populist - grass-roots appeal he had—and he must have had a lot to win on a reformist platform in South Dakota—must have gone with the wins in the primaries.

The second main reason for McGovern's defeat lies in the disorganisation of his campaign. Perhaps the worst aspect of this was the ideological chaos of his platform, which was a patchwork brand of pacifism, populism, watered down socialism and even isolationism patently

unworkable even in theory. And probably the most harmful single miscalculation in the McGovern platform was his rigid promise to reduce defence spending.

It would be hard to say if the disorganisation inherent in McGovern's contradictory policy statements was ultimately more dangerous to him than the disorganisation in the running of the campaign itself. The two biggest and most serious mishaps were:—

- (a) the vice-presidential lottery and,
- (b) the ham-handed mistreatment of the Democratic party organisation.

The first happened when McGovern went down a list of V.P. choices, from Muskie and Kennedy onwards, and was refused by every one except Thomas Eagleton, a virtual non-entity, whom McGovern eventually had to force to resign in a messy powerplay because it was revealed he had a psychiatric record.

DOWNFALL

This event was probably most damaging to his image, whereas the second was most damaging to his real chances. From the defeat of Mayor Daley at the Convention right through a long list of snubs until the day McGovern realised he wasn't getting anywhere without the party, McGovern managed to antagonise most of the powerful Democratic chiefs from Maine to Washington, some of whom eventually turned to Nixon.

But it was too late, too many people thought of McGovern as the man who had wrecked the Democratic party, and many Democrats considered that he wasn't even a Democrat, merely a black sheep elected by a fluke, and in the circumstances the only thing to do was to vote for Nixon and hope for '76.

COOL

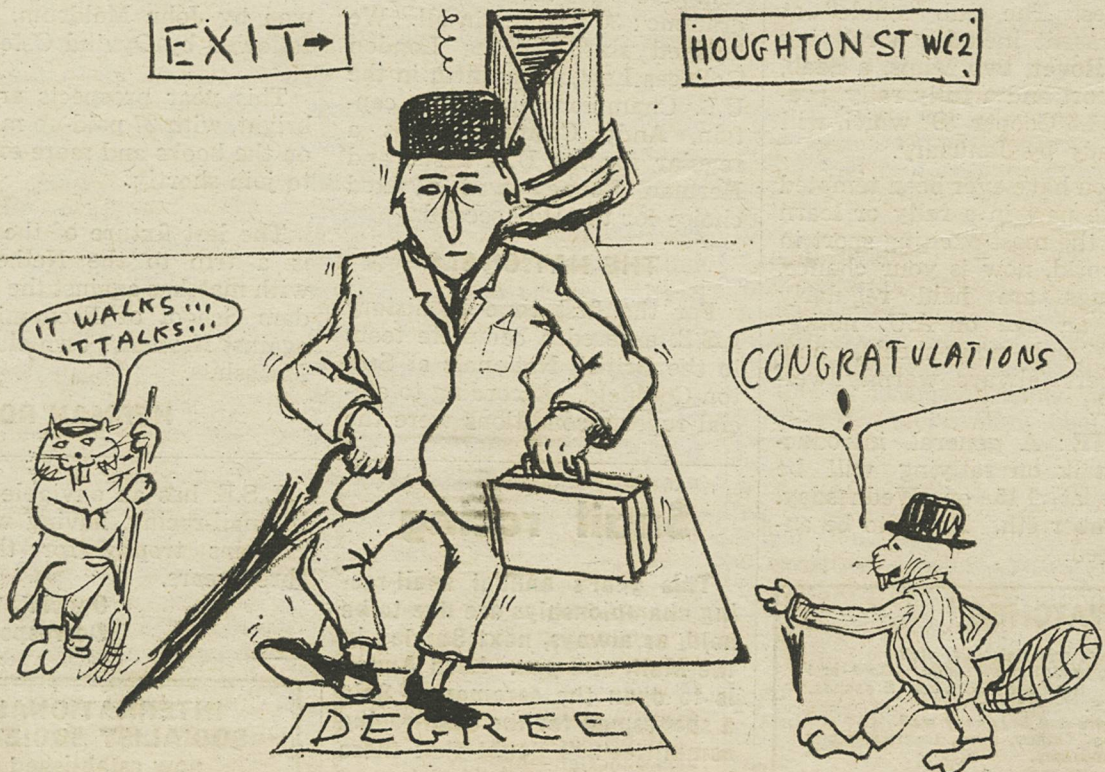
The second crucial factor in McGovern's defeat was Richard M. Nixon. In a negative sense, Nixon had only to play it cool, saying nothing while keeping up his image of a sneaky but ruthlessly efficient politician while the McGovern forces fell into a hysterical shambles at his feet, wrecked by their own disorganisation.

Few Americans like Nixon as a person, but most go along with his ideas and admire him as a ruthless and efficient statesman. Thus, "Tricky Dicky" means two things—someone who's crooked, but someone who's crooked on our team—and gets away with it.

The next four years, when Nixon, free of any electoral considerations, can set about doing what he himself wants, should provide the necessary impetus for reform if recession doesn't. All in all, the 1976 stage looks set for another stage-manager from an old theatrical family—this time on the other side—Edward Kennedy.

G.F.

EXIT → HOUGHTON ST WC2



Continued from Page One—the finished product.