

NS8

BEAVER

200TH EDITION

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BOOK PRICE WAR

ONE of the electoral promises of the Social Democratic Party has become the centre of a row between the management of the Economist Bookshop and the Party's Student Union officials.

In several leaflets issued during the February Student Union elections the SDP published their intention to set up a cheap book service where students could buy important textbooks at reduced prices. This week, however, Mick Micel, the shop manager of the Economist Bookshop, has attacked the group for what he feels is a cheap snipe at the service offered by the shop.

Mr Micel pointed out that under the Net Book Agreement of 1957, drawn up between the publishers' and booksellers' respective organisations, it is illegal for booksellers to sell books below the net price set by the publishers. Almost all textbooks are covered under this agreement and Mr Micel emphasised that the prices the EB charges for its books are thus the minimum legal prices. It was there-

fore politically dishonest of the SDP to promise a cheaper service. "We are not trying to screw students," he said.

The Net Book Agreement, which has been tested several times in the courts, is intended to increase the variety of stock and of published books. Mr Micel told Beaver that the agreement provides for an average mark-up of 33 per cent, which in the case of the EB is just sufficient to break even.

The EB feels therefore that by promising a cheaper and better book service the SDP is unfairly implying that the shop is not providing as good a deal for students as it could do. If the SDP were to attempt to set up a book service in defiance of the Net Book Agreement, Mr Micel has warned that he considers it "the duty of any bookshop, where infringements of



the agreement are found, to inform the publishers".

In an angry reaction to Mr Micel's remarks, officials of the SDP have defended their election promises. General Secretary Ed Jacob, a Social Democratic Party founder, said that "Mr Micel is talking a load of rubbish and I think he knows it. There is nothing to stop us forming a book club thereby getting round the legal points Mr Micel refers to; and form a book club we will."

Mr Jacob says that the club hopes to start next term, running on a modest scale "semi-independently" from the Union. He was unable to describe exactly how the club would be run but promises that all legal considerations will be taken into account.

When asked if the SDP's election promise had been intended as a snipe at the Economist Bookshop, Mr Jacob replied that the service in the shop "is not satisfactory". The shop, he said, did not stock the right books and students often had to wait "weeks and weeks" for the ones they wanted. On top of this, he said, where the bookshop was not bound, it overcharged, giving examples of magazines and old Fabian pamphlets.

At this moment, therefore, it is unclear exactly what form the new book service will take but the SDP are determined that the Economist Bookshop will be facing opposition next year—a cheaper one.

Margaret Cameron-Waller

Weekend violence hits hall

THE L.S.E. Hall of Residence at Rosebery Avenue was the scene of much police activity during the last weekend as an ex-student was slashed with a broken bottle on Saturday night while on Friday drunks from the May-Day disco caused a disturbance.

A resident of Rosebery Hall last year, Tim Page was walking back to the Hall, where he was staying with a friend for the weekend, when he was attacked by a group of three youths, believed to be football supporters. A bottle was broken over his head and he was slashed in the face with the broken end. Only a matter of yards from the Hall, he staggered into reception and an ambulance was called. After having stitches in several deep cuts, including one just below his eye, he was allowed home. The attackers ran off.

After the Disco in the Hall on Friday night several students, believed to be from Carr-Saunders were taken away by police after dancing on a parked car. Earlier that evening police had been called to deal with an incident outside the Hall when a student coming to the disco noticed a woman struggling to get away from what later turned out to be her fiance. Though it turned out to be a domestic row there is always a constant worry over women's safety since a female student was attacked in the autumn on her way back from the tube station.

The issue of hall security was raised at the Hall Society meeting, where the Warden, Tim Murphy, announced that a crime prevention officer would be visiting the Hall and making recommendations. Further developments are awaited.

LYE RESIGNS

EXTERNAL Affairs Officer, Diane Lye, tendered her resignation from the Executive after the debacle surrounding the motion on 'H' Block Prisoner Bobby Sands at last Thursday's Union Meeting.

At the UGM, once the adjourned motions from the previous week's business had been completed, Diane Lyle proposed a motion to hold a minute's silence in memory of Sands, whose funeral was to be held that day.

Since the new Union Meeting had not been opened, no meeting was officially in progress and consequently Richard Shackleton stood down from the Chair.

General Secretary, Ed Jacob then took the floor and said a vote must be taken on the motion. David Bearman, Services Representative on the Executive then proposed an amendment to observe silence for all those killed in Northern Ireland. A

vote was taken which resulted in both motions of silence being rejected by the Union.

Following the Meeting Ms Lye tendered her resignation, expressing "disgust" at the failure of fellow Executive members to support the motion which had been agreed upon at the Executive Meeting the day before.

In reply to Diane's letter, Ed Jacob pointed out that the Executive had no policy of "collective responsibility" and at the Wednesday Meeting, four members had expressed their intention not to support the motion and consequently, she was wrong to assume that there was "unqualified support" from the Executive.

The letter of resignation has not, as yet, been accepted since the General Secretary hopes that Diane will reconsider her decision.

Danny Finklestein

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PLUS:

- Pages 7-10 — Celebration Pull-out

... now with added **Boishevism!**



EDITORIAL

SHUTTING DOWN

BEAVER reaches its 200th birthday today with what will be our only edition this term (barring unforeseen occurrences). We would like to take this opportunity to wish goodbye and good fortune to those who will be leaving us at the end of the term and extend our thanks to all who have helped with BEAVER over their time at the School.

However, for those of us who will be coming back in the Autumn, there is still much to be done after the examinations. We will be beginning to compile the FRESHERS ISSUE for next year's new intake so all societies and groups wanting a mention should keep an eye on their pigeon holes for further information. Anyone with any contributions that they feel could be of use to new students should see the editors or leave a message in the BEAVER pigeon hole in the Union general enquiries office, E297. Reviews of catering outlets, social cinemas, theatres and concert halls would be welcome. Keep a look out for a meeting to discuss ideas soon.

BEYOND THE POWER OF MAN?

ONCE again the question of ultra vires has raised its head at Union meetings. On less contentious issues than Brixton, payments have slipped through unchallenged recently. It is time these abnormalities in Union behaviour were tidied up so that the cry "ultra vires" can no longer be wheeled out as an extra line of argument every few months.

MAN AND BEAST

Dear Editors

WHILE I sympathise with Steven Vujacic's "rebuttal of the insulting proposition that the evil of concentration camp experimentation is indistinguishable from the evil of animal torture," I feel that he has rather missed the point of the analogy.

The Nazi vivisectors felt justified in conducting experiments on humans because they felt that they were dealing with an inferior race, just as we too justify animal experimentation because we feel that we are superior for all the reasons that Mr Vujacic pointed out. What is being questioned is not that man is intellectually superior to animals, but that this superiority gives him the right to sacrifice 140,000,000 animals every year for his own very dubious progress.

We feel revulsion and outrage for the doctors who took the life of innocent people for the benefit of a so-called 'superior' race not because we know that these victims were "prone to artistic inspiration" or because they were "capable of technological and social progress" but because we can understand and feel the terror and misery that they must have endured before they died. Although animals may not be capable of building nuclear power stations, as is progressive man, in many cases their nervous systems are more highly developed than in man, and we do not need to be monkeys to imagine the fear and suffering that they are forced to undergo from the time that they are captured to the time they are allowed to die (not mere sentimentalism; symptoms of fear and distress are recorded and thus acknowledged by their vivisectors in behavioural experiments as have been their shrieks to monitor the effects of a painkiller).

Furthermore, most animals lack the concept of death, so they don't even have the consolation of knowing that an end to their suffering is sooner or later bound to come. It is the vivisector's paradox that he observes animals' reactions because they are so like man, yet justifies them on the grounds that they are so unlike man.

Just as it once seemed very strange and absurd to consider the interests of certain racial and religious minority groups, so now our society has been conditioned to accept unquestionably that our intellectual superiority gives us a right to brutalise animals in any way we see fit, be it scalding, freezing, starving, disembowelling or poisoning them, because it may have some benefit for us. To compare animal experiments with human experiments is not to detract from the abhorrence that we rightly feel for the concentration camp atrocities, but rather it is designed to make us question the validity of our assumptions and the grounds on which they are based.

In most civilised societies we have come to accept that might is not right when it is man oppressing man; to hope that this will one day extend to man against animal may be self-deluding, but not as Mr Vujacic asserts, "self-righteous."

Joan Donaghey

NICK GODDARD

SOCIAL SECRETARY Nick Goddard has asked us to point out that he took no part in the organisation of the activities of the Hit Squad during Rag Week, as we implied last issue. He was merely a bystander in the incident referred to. He has also asked us to mention that he has received a letter from ex-Union Chairperson Steve Pound apologising for his over-reaction to the Hit Squad raid on the Union Meeting.



Pragmatism triumphs

Dear Editors,

I SHOULD like to take this opportunity to thank the masses who rose to my defence in the recent censure vote (23-4-81). The result of the debate was overwhelming support for the non-sexist nature of my campaign. Yet, being a pragmatic reasonablist, I am not above apologising to anyone who was offended by my election material.

I sincerely hope that this misunderstanding has now been resolved and that my continuing support for the anti-sexist movement is noted.

Fraternal greetings,
S. K. HUSAIN, Esq.,
Exec. Publications Officer,
PRAGMATIC REASONABLIST

Overseas students fees - a response

I WOULD like to take up briefly the main theme of Professor John Griffith's contribution on the subject of student fees.

I think it is reasonable to suggest that John Griffith represents the liberal (small 'l') wing of the School's academic establishment, and yet, after expounding on the dilemmas faced by a financially "poor" institution like the LSE in admitting overseas students, he concludes by saying:—

"All students are buying goods in a shop. The shopkeeper may try to give a discount in certain circumstances. But . . ." etc.

This, it seems to me, perfectly sums up the ideological trap into which John Griffith, Ralf Dahrendorf and others have all too easily fallen, and is at the root of their inability to effectively combat the Government's cuts in education.

So long as John Griffith continues to accept the ideological vocabulary of Tory political discourse, ie, education as a "product"; universities as "sellers"; students as "buyers" etc, there will never be a concerted resistance of university students AND staff to these ideological attacks. Ralf Dahrendorf has also repeatedly used this voca-

bulary and the assumptions that flow from it, such as referring to the "productivity of academic staff" (a euphemism, he admits, for larger class sizes!)

In a situation where the Government is arguing for a "rationalisation" of education, with British Steel type redundancies of academics and the buying out of tenured staff, the logical extension of this way of viewing education as a product is highlighted.

Education in any sense can only be seen as a PROCESS, an exchange of ideas based around mutually-agreed terms of reference. From this perspective, even without the present round of cuts, large sections of society are simply excluded from this "process", in the same way that many ideas are also excluded from course syllabuses, as these too are viewed as self-contained "products".

This Government has made great efforts to inject their ideological terminology into other public arenas such as the National Health Service and Public Housing, thereby posing ongoing processes or services as products, which can then be bought and sold as individualised commodities.

Unless we reject this form of political discourse which John Griffith presents, with his dichotomy of the LSE as "seller" and students as "buyers", we will not be able to mount a concerted alternative strategy for an expansion of the education process, to include those necessary components of input made by overseas students and excluded sectors of our own society.

Tom Kennedy

EXECUTIVE POSTS

- Dave Bearman — Services Rep.
- Owen Bennet-Jones — Societies
- Nick Goddard — A.U. and Ents.
- Matthew Brettler — Welfare
- Julian Chaffey — Post Grad. and Part Timers
- Julia Clayton — External Affairs
- Diane Lye — External Affairs (resigned)
- Inderjeet Parma — Overseas Students
- Tim Hussain — Publications
- Andre Brown — Academic Affairs

No hope?

Dear Editors,

AROUND the end of 1983 the planets in the Solar System will be approaching a double conjunction, i.e. the earth will be on one side of the sun and all the other planets in a line diametrically opposite it. The combined gravitational pull of this will cause massive natural disasters. We are already witnessing an increase in earthquakes; Algeria, Yugoslavia, China etc. The last time such a planetary arrangement occurred was about the date of the biblical Great Flood. I have calculated that, if all students in halls contribute their furniture we can build an Ark large enough to save us all. The Union must be mandated to this end. Painter Baynton shall apply the finishing touches.

Yours in hope,

Ian MacDonald.

Bad publicity

THE occupation of Connaught House at the end of last term was presented to students as the only alternative to passive acceptance of overseas students fee increases and as a way of obtaining publicity to attract popular sympathy for our cause. I believe that of all the many ways of gaining publicity and fighting fee increases, the occupation was the worst in this case and displayed a fundamental lack of understanding of British politics.

The reason why universities have been in the front line of public expenditure cuts is because whilst the Labour Party is prejudiced against what it considers to be the elitist university system, the Conservative Party is prejudiced against a university system which it sees as being full of left-wing lecturers and marxist students who spend all their time on politics at the expense of the State. These prejudices, whilst being deplorable, are only strengthened by occupations, especially occupations at L.S.E. The occupiers, far from securing good publicity, have provided the press with a golden opportunity to strengthen them. Whilst action like the occupation is going on, the Government knows that one of the few places it can make a popular expenditure cut is in its higher education budget.

The only way in which the battle for increased university funds can be won is by a campaign that attacks the misconceptions and prejudices held by voters and political parties. We must show to the public that universities and overseas students are useful and important to this country. This cannot be achieved quickly since a long-term campaign has been waged against universities and it will need a long-term fightback.

The L.S.E. is fortunate to be associated with many respected and popular figures in this country. We must use these people as heads of a national campaign, united with students; we all have an interest in fighting these cuts.

The School has done all that it can locally to ease the effects of implementing these cuts but it can offer us nothing more than this and its fullest co-operation in fighting Government policy and prejudice.

Many students are understandably desperate about the effects of these cuts and may complain that I offer no immediate solution. There IS NO immediate solution. Taking our case to party meetings, to Downing Street, to Parliament and to the people may not succeed this year or the year after and many students may suffer before the battle is won but it is better than an occupation which weakens our friends and strengthens our enemies.

Danny Finkelstein.

BEAVER

Newspaper of the Students' Union of London School of Economics, East Building, Houghton St., London WC2.

Editors

Colin Bates
Margaret Cameron-Waller

With thanks to:—

Simon Garfield
Helen Fawcett
Sheila Curran
Chris Amoro
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Pete Crockford
Kelvin Baynton
Nigel Racine-Jaques
Terry and the print shop lads.

Photos

Simon Grosset

OPEN MEETING

For FRESHERS ISSUE to be announced.
Keep your eyes open and come along.



GOVERNORS MEETING DISRUPTED

DISTURBANCES marked the last Court of Governors Meeting on 19th March. The now customary picket, this time by OSAC, turned into disruption. As chants of "No Fee increases—cut Ralf's salary" grew, people were jostled when going into the meeting and later, on the fire alarm was twice turned on. This led Sir Huw Wheldon, Chairman, and Lord Robbins to claim that the meeting had been "hi-jacked" by the protestors. The student governors voiced their disapproval of the disruption adding that it was not student union policy.

The financial situation and overseas student fees dominated the meeting. First, the Director Ralf Dahrendorf outlined his "Statement to the Academic Board" (which has been distributed around the School.) It is based on the assumption that total student numbers stay constant and that Overseas Students numbers stay constant. The deficit to be met from reserves and a "near complete" freeze on vacant academic posts.

Sir Fred Dainton, ex-chairman of the University Grants Committee said that there was "No basis for the assumptions on student numbers" and that the Director's economics "will be damaging". Indeed Overseas Students applications are 19% down on last year, as many people feared would be the effect of fees at £2,000.

The assumption that total student numbers will remain the same is a complete U-Turn. The Director's response to claims of overcrowding was "Nobody thinks we can continue this policy—it is for one year only." What was portrayed as a temporary hardship looks like becoming a permanent feature at LSE.

Kelvin Baynton argued for the fee to be set at £2,500 saying that "No fee increases was just a starting point for negotiations." He pointed out the

very real hardship many overseas students face. He asked the governors if they were going to "make LSE an international institution on the backs of overseas students?" Stressing the need for a political campaign he urged everyone to argue against full cost fees because of the damage it was doing to higher education. In a final appeal, Kelvin said that Overseas Students already bear more than their fair share of the burden, and that putting up the fees again was an easy way out.

The chanting had subsided temporarily and the governors appeared to be responding and becoming sympathetic. Professor Dahrendorf was moved to say that he "shared almost everything that Mr Baynton had said," but said that a very different argument was put to the Academic Board. Professor Ben Roberts for the Academic Governors then said that some staff wanted "A much higher fee" and indeed "this year's fee was too low." Dick Taverne doubted there was much LSE could do and accepted the Academic Board's Decision.

Richard Balfe claimed that the £2,700 fee had "not been intellectually justified." He proposed that the increase be the lowest possible.

Whilst the Director promised that concern about the academic effects of the extra students was "Top of the agenda" and that "all information on (hardship) funds would be available to the Students Union," the vote was taken.

The uneasiness of many of the governors was apparent as the vote was formally counted. There were 26 for £2,700, with five against. All the academic governors voted for the motion, while of the six student governors, Toby Rose was absent and Alan Catchpole abstained. Richard Balfe (lay governor) was the only non-student against.

Peter Crockford

NEWS IN BRIEF

THE S.U. has now gained possession of the Cobden Room bar, to be used in conjunction with Haldane Room functions. Official opening will take place on the completion of pump fitting.

Following negotiations with the London SU and a brewers' consortium, moves have been made to introduce cheaper beer to SU bars. LSE has agreed to enter a scheme hopefully coming into effect in October. A catch exists—in moving to the new bar, a loan of £12,000 was taken out with Charrington's; with a switch in breweries it will have to be repaid immediately. The scheme will allow SU bars to retain existing profit margins while lowering prices. Independent beers are excepted.

The opening of SU services during most of the Easter recess has proved very successful. They will now remain open for a large part of the summer break.

Negotiations between London SUs and London Transport for cheaper fares have failed to produce results, possibly owing to uncertainty in the face of the GLC elections and movement among Sabbaticals within LSO ranks. It is hoped to reopen the issue at a later date.

The issue of discrimination and support of apartheid within the LSE Careers Advisory Service was brought up at the recent meeting of the Court of Governors. While failing to answer such charges, presumably owing to chagrin over the then existing occupation, Student Governor's succeeded in placing the School in a very embarrassing situation.

The Court of Governors has agreed to allow some degree of SU participation in the allocation of the hardship fund. Although the actual mechanics of the scheme have not been formulated, the SU will accept this as a useful first step, while pressing for absolute student control of the fund.

The Court of Governors has justified the much-opposed increase of fees to £2,700 on the grounds of allowing more generous waivers to students in hardship while alleviating School financial difficulties in a situation where a deficit of £500,000 still remains. Student Governors have asked the School whether it intends to approach the Government or the UGC for financial aid in meeting the deficit, the implication being, does it again intend to make students cover this in increased fees?

The Library continues in its practice of withholding cards to students failing to pay all or part of their fees. The SU, totally opposed to this measure, is to raise the matter with the School.

On the issue of women's safety, students have demanded night porters in Halls, able to answer calls and check incoming visitors. The difficulties in gaining access to telephones was witnessed in the Carr-Saunders stabbing.

Following the collapse of the Grafton Hall scheme, the SU has been informed that the financial viability of the plan was seriously called into question prior to the May 1980 Inter-Hall Committee meeting, but was withheld as a lever to push through the 24 per cent increase in Hall fees. It seems difficult to see what may now be done, but it is hoped that last term's Rent Strike has dissuaded the School from implementing further increases of these proportions.

The SU is pleased to announce the arrival of its most recent acquisition—a television for the Television Room! (adjacent to the Snooker Room).

Sheila Curran

Overseas students to pay for health care?

OVERSEAS students, already faced with massive fee increases and the problems of a buoyant pound, may from next year be faced with large bills for medical treatment. This measure, which would include all visitors in Britain, is the subject of a consultative document released by the DHSS which could form the basis of proposals to Parliament in June for implementation in October. Briefly, it is proposing that overseas visitors to Britain be charged for treatment by the NHS.

So far, the proposals seem very grey and confused. The document says that treatment of "immediate necessity" would continue to be free without exception. If, for example, someone broke a leg, it could be put in a plaster cast for nothing but they could be charged for having the cast removed. It also seems likely that this is another measure which will particularly hit students from the Third World since citizens of countries with reciprocal Health Service arrangements with the U.K. will probably be exempt from the new charges. The high cost of hospital treatment, with a bed costing £50 a night, will necessitate the taking out of insurance by overseas students, thus further adding to the cost of an education in Britain.

The attitude of the Government is made clear in a letter from Dr. Gerard Vaughan (Minister of State at the DHSS) to the UKCOSA (United Kingdom Council for Overseas Students Affairs) which stated: "The exclusion of Overseas students from free NHS treatment would be a reversal of a long established practice. BUT IT WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON FEES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND WITH OUR GENERAL POLICY OF CUTTING INESSENTIAL SPENDING." As Alison Barty of UKCOSA points out, the proposals in total will only save £5m per annum out of an



Dr Payne

Photo by Simon Grosser

NHS budget of £5,000m, whilst the effects on overseas students particularly would only save 0.04% of the NHS budget. She is hopeful in addition, that the many technical difficulties involved in the operation of such a policy will prevent its implementation. Not only are doctors angry with it for its intrusion into medical ethics, but many Senior NHS staff see its administration as a bureaucratic nightmare.

Naturally, the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals are seeking a delay of implementation of at least a year. In addition, the British Student Health Association is submitting a case on the difficulties that college Health Services will run into. With regard to the General Practitioner service provided by the School Health service, the major problem concerns the cost of prescriptions rather than the cost of consultations, since the staff are employed by the School. In any

case, however, since NHS payments would be cut, a further rise in fees to cover medical treatment seems likely. Dr. Payne, Head of the Health Service, believes that the intensive lobbying that he and others have been doing could well succeed in stopping the scheme, since the cost of recovery may well outweigh any money saved.

To that end, the Students' Union is drafting a letter to send to MP's together with details of how to lobby them which is available from Room E297. It could well be that we can pressure and embarrass the Tory government into dropping this particularly miserly attack on overseas students, but what an issue to have to campaign on! Some day someone should erect a Statue of Misery to this government that can take us back so far.

Kelvin Baynton

RAG RESULTS

LAST term's Rag Week was, according to Rag Chairman Nick Newman, the most successful one held in the three years since the Rag Week was resurrected. The Fleet Street collection raised £400 courtesy of wealthy stockbrokers and bankers and the Passfield Sponsored Radio gathered £250 for their 50-hour marathon non-stop show. There are many successful smaller ventures, notably the welly-throwing in Houghton Street and the sponsored three-legged pub crawl.

However, one major problem proved to be the lack of continuity amongst those involved with Rag '81. Since no-one from last year's Rag Committee was involved with the activities this year, it was not possible to draw on experiences. Printing problems delayed the publication of the Rag Mag and the occupation of Connaught House prevented the use of the stapling facilities. The Hit Squad proved to be a contentious issue, appearing to be a vehicle for personal victimisation, rather than a major fund-raising event, while the controversy surrounding Hot Gossip's appearance marred the early part of Rag Week.

Despite attempts to ban Rag Week, most people enjoyed the events and participated in one way or another. As Social Secretary Elect, Nick has said that he hopes to mobilise support for Rag '82 at a much earlier date next year and to improve publicity of the occasion.

Any remaining sponsor forms should be handed in to Nick Newman in the Ents Office, E-206.

THE INTER-ACTION APPROACH TO COMMUNITY ARTS

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15 Wilkin Street,
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Tel. 01 267 9421

SPOTLIGHT

Now that the violence and destruction is over it is easy to forget the problems of Brixton and the issues behind the troubles. KOFI DWINFOUR looks at two opposing solutions and talks to some of the people involved.

AS I walked down front-line Railton Road, Brixton, some two-and-a-half weeks after the event, I came across some very interesting political posters. They were for the Socialist Workers Party (SWP). In these posters was depicted a nondescript police commander (nondescript except that he looked menacingly fascist) and a rather ugly drawing of Margaret Thatcher. The headline was "The real Agitators". The rest of the poster then proposed a three-point plan for rejuvenating Brixton:—

- (1) Police out of Brixton
- (2) Drop all charges
- (3) Kick out the Tories

In contrast to this point of view was the "Spectator's" issue dated 18th April.

The overall tone of the "Spectator's" editorial was one of anger, anguish and unreasonable assertions for mass black repatriation. It began by making references to the now infamous "rivers of blood" speech delivered by Mr Enoch Powell on April 13th 1968.

In that speech Powell stated his views in uncompromising, totally considered, on his part, terms:—

"As I look ahead, I am filled with foreboding—like the Roman, I seem to see the River Tiber foaming with much blood."

In defence of Mr Powell, whose ideas subsequent to that speech are now much discredited and widely viewed to be cantankerous in their very nature and habit of inciting racial hatred and bestowing a shroud of respectability on racism, the "Spectator" pointed to the riots in Brixton and said that,

"Recent events in Birmingham and London are uncannily typical . . . It is part of the mechanism of escalating violence that the reaction of playing down, condoning or ignoring these attacks causes a loss of confidence on the

part of the public at large and encourages repetition on an ever-increasing scale."

So, in reference to Brixton and the SWP's second point in their plan, ie dropping all charges, "The Spectator" expects, at the very least, convictions of an unprecedentedly high level and severe prison punishments, only this, in their view, will help to inhibit further repetitions.

Contrary to eye-witness reports, both black and white, and the first instance police statements, "The Spectator" believes that,

"This was racial rioting," and it adds, forebodingly:

"There is certainly more to come."

In an inside feature article, Richard West claims that,

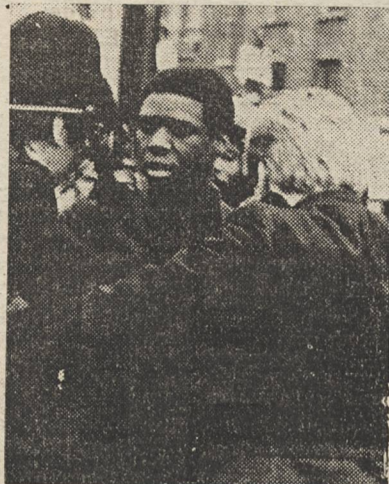
"The white South Africans must be laughing their heads off at our race riots in Brixton; and who could blame them?"

West not only confines his arguments to the defence of white-ruled South Africa, but specifies the prime trouble-makers in Brixton and attacks them:—

"Above all, nobody has remarked on the fact that recent trouble in Brixton cannot compare with the permanent frightful rioting and killing in Jamaica, the largest West Indian country."

West asserts: "In short, British opinion makers (the newspapers) employ double standards in dealing with West Indians here (not immigrants; West Indians—no other immigrant group has caused trouble of this kind)."

Ah, now I see the drift of his argument. It is West Indians; they are the "troublemakers", deal with them effectively and you've solved, partially, the British race problem. Only partially mind, because although no other immigrant



Whatever comes out of Brixton will affect the role of racial minorities in this society.

groups cause trouble "of this kind" they do cause trouble of other kinds.

These two opposing viewpoints show the measure of intolerance in this country. Whether intolerance of ethnic minorities ("The Spectator") or, of the rule of law (the SWP). They are polemical, extremist viewpoints that need to be challenged by any reasonable thinking person. "The Spectator" flippantly disregards the true and actual cause of the Brixton flare-ups, the frustration felt by black youth over unemployment, bad to disgusting housing conditions that are an affront to their self-respect and paramountly the allegedly repressive and openly racist police view. It is these that are the real issues concerned with Brixton and it is to these that the Scarman inquiry should address itself.

These viewpoints are secondly interesting because of the marked absence of black people. These statements are not made by blacks, but they are about and concern the future of black people in this country. For either of the two, it could quite plausibly be argued that black people, their feelings as a people, their needs as minority communities and paramountly, their thoughts, both socially and politically, are not represented at

all. To both the "Spectator" and the SWP actual black people are incidental to the Brixton issue. They both do not take into regard that whatever comes out of Brixton will affect the future role of racial minorities in this society and Brixton is a situation more deep than a few hundred black youths attacking a pathetic police force.

To redress this anomaly I spoke to two leading blacks, both from outside the Brixton area, so as to get a reasoned argument. The first was Mr Arif Ali the editor of a black magazine, the "West Indian Digest"; the second was Mr Jeff Crawford, the Community Relations Officer for the London borough of Haringey. Mr Crawford's immediate comments on the Brixton riots were criticised by the "Spectator" and he feels that by selectively choosing sections of his statements they unduly misrepresented his comments.

Mr Arif Ali declined to give an interview because he felt that at the present time he is "not qualified to make explicit statements concerning the situation at Brixton," saying that he firmly believes that some of the community leaders within the Brixton area "should not be making the inflammatory statements they have made."

Mr Crawford, in answering the "Spectator's" allegations that remarks he made during and after the Brixton raid were—

"More offensive, more specific, more bellicose and more inflammatory than anything that Mr Powell ever uttered",

he charged that when black leaders "give as good as they get, its gets under their noses."

Mr Crawford charged that the police provoked the whole situation, "they were convinced that they were going to give the blacks a bloody good hiding." This is in reference to the police operation "Swamp 81," which was mounted as an experiment, and the glorification of saturation policing methods. This operation very evidently failed to produce anything like a result, all it succeeded in provoking was a massive reaction on the part of the Brixton community. Mr Crawford argued that the Community relations officers have been saying for two decades that things were badly wrong in the area and that something terrible was going to happen if nothing constructive was done. This advice was, quite evidently, ignored.

He firmly believes that the police should have withdrawn from the front-line area, in order, to allow the situation to cool and tempers to settle. In view of the

recent police assertions that they are insufficiently trained to handle such explosive riot situations, perhaps, this could conceivably have been the most important decision that any commander was ever asked to take during the rioting.

What society as a whole is faced with in Brixton is a set of problems that need to be adequately defined and a number of probing questions must be asked as to the effectiveness of certain types of policing methods, community relations, housing, education and employment.

The mass of opinion views Brixton not to have been a race riot, but one of violent action against Authority. The rioting was aimed at the police to inflict on them physical damage and to break them mentally. It was essentially a challenge by the youths to authority to see who could control the streets. The police replied, and I charge, that they should not have. They became defensive, they made slow progress and the frequent breakings of rank and the charges made by individual officers into the rioters screaming obscenities and racial abuse only served to aggravate the whole situation. The whole confrontation became a game and the police were successfully baited.

Once it became known that authority no longer existed serious rioting subsidised and anarchy took over.

To my mind, Brixton was a race riot. You cannot have just a riot against authority. It must be a specified authority, in this case repressive white police authority. So what if white residents were not attacked? Would some of you sleep better if you knew that they were? It was young black people who have to live in an area of squalid ghetto-like setting with little hope of finding decent jobs.

Their parents came here to fill a need for relatively unskilled labour, and by their actions the young are refusing to accept menial demeaning tasks, meagre rewards and barely nominal status. They have grievances against society, against the law and the people who have to enforce it, the police. Many of these young people, I believe, have bottled up frustration and anger for all their young lives and on that weekend enough became enough.

I am not apologising for their violence, I am just trying to understand it. But also I will not accept the detrimental way in which they have been treated. It is time this society sat up and realised that it has a real race problem and that it cannot ignore it any longer. Repatriation will not solve it; it is unjust, it is unreasonable, and damn right inhumane to consider such an idea. Immigration controls that are racist in implication, nature and practice also will not solve the race problem. The problem is a fundamental one of the whole society's attitude to racial minorities and a fundamental approach to living. You have to change your attitudes, your way of life. Your institutions and establishments must be made to adapt and to adapt easily and smoothly. You must be seen to be attempting to accept people for what they are and then you are on the way to harmonious race relations. Black and White can live together, but like any liberal marriage you have to make a go of it.

Kofi Dwinfour

EXAM SPECIALS

from

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World poverty

SINCE its publication last year, the Brandt Report has already sold over 100,000 copies in Britain, and the response from the general public has been widespread. Several lectures have been given to capacity audiences in London colleges. For instance Imperial College held a series of four lectures on the report last term; two of the speakers were Shirley Williams and the Director of Christian Aid, Dr Kenneth Slack.

The report is subtitled: "North-South: a programme for survival" and examines the global issues of poverty, hunger, and the threat to world peace facing both the industrial countries of the "North" and the developing nations of the "South". It calls for a summit of world leaders and the implementation of an emergency programme based on a global energy strategy, a world food programme, monetary reform and an immediate increase in aid.

The summit is to be held in Mexico in October, and a lobby of parliament is being organised by the Churches and major aid agencies to try and change the Government's attitude to these issues, characterised by the overseas students fees policy, the overseas aid cuts, and the massive increase in arms spending.

The lobby of Parliament took place on 5th May with many students in attendance, showing that the Brandt Report has generated overwhelming concern. If you want to find out more, contact the Fight World Poverty Lobby, c/o WDM, Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, WC2E 8HA.

Jonathan Tame

PUBLIC LECTURES

Wednesday, May 13th, New Theatre, 11 am-1.30 pm. Debate on Government Economic Policy between Prof M. Miller (Univ of Warwick) and Prof P. Winford (Univ of Liverpool). Chairman: Prof R. Layard.

Tuesday 19th, Board Room, 5 pm. The Articulation of Power in a Peasant Society: the Case of Pakistan, Dr Hamza A. Alavi (Senior Lecturer in Sociology, Univ of Manchester). Fifth of five ICERD Lectures on South Asian Politics & Development. Chairman: Prof W. H. Morris-Jones.

Thursday 21st, Board Room, 5 pm. Anthropological Contributions to the Study of Rural Development. Prof Norman Long (Prof of Anthropology, Univ of Durham). Special University Lecture. Chairman: Prof I. M. Lewis.

The above details, which are correct as at 9 April, 1981, may be subject to alteration.

ADMISSION FREE TO ALL WITHOUT TICKET

HALF-TERM PLAYGROUP

The Students' Union Welfare Office will be organising their usual half-term playgroup this term from 26th MAY to 29th MAY (N.B.: 25th May is a Bank Holiday). If you are interested, please enter your child/children's names AS SOON AS POSSIBLE on the list on the noticeboard outside Room E294 (2nd Floor, East Building).

USA AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

IN recent years, American political leaders have expressed concern about the human rights situation in other countries. However, the death penalty abandoned in Western nations still exists in the USA and with the advent of Ronald Reagan's administration, many prisoners now face execution. The Amnesty International group at the LSE has been working against the death penalty in Arizona and as a follow-up to the exhibition held in February in the St Clements building, RICHARD BECKETT and TIM BARNETT, two of the group's members, now report.

"You asked me the question how your campaign should proceed in our state? My answer would be to stay the heck out of here and let us devise our own system which hopefully would have provisions for capital punishment." (Senator Stan Turley of Arizona in a letter to the group)

"You can sum up within a few words what it is like living on Death Row here in Arizona. It is loneliness that sinks its teeth into your soul and emptiness that leaves a sick feeling inside. It is anxiety that pushes and swells and uncertainty that smothers and stifles. It is frustration, futility, despair and indifference. It suppresses and deadens and crushes enclosing a life without meaning, life without purpose. It is the regret of men who took a life in a moment of anger who began to pay for their crime once the moment of passion was spent, and have paid for it since in a thousand different ways..." (Paul Jordan, a condemned prisoner).

"The first surge (which was administered at 10.12) singed the skin off his right calf, sending smoke into the death chamber. He clenched his left fist, then his hands began to curl and blackened. . . . The impact came when the doctor lifted the black death mask: the lower part of Spenkelink's face was swollen and blackened by the three 2,500-volt surges that ended his life. He was literally cooked alive." (From the Associated Press account of John Spenkelink's execution).

"Most of the arguments on capital punishment, pro and con, are learnedly expressed by authorities who have never had personal experience of an execution, who have never visited Death Row nor spent an hour with a man in the Ready Room, nor watched his spittle drip down on his shirt as he was dying." (Eshelman—Death Row chaplain.)

On May 25 1979, John Spenkelink became the first man to be executed in the United States since Gary Gilmore willingly faced a firing-squad in Utah, two years before. Previous to that, no executions had been carried out since 1967.

Spenkelink's death meant that for the first time in 12 years in the

liable to be influenced by such an emotive issue, only the most liberal of national politicians have consistently proclaimed their opposition to the penalty.

THE REALITY: DEATH ROW ARIZONA

Arizona is geographically and socially isolated and retains a

carried his education to master's degree level. Many had followed drifting lives and a prisoner with more than two or three known living relatives was an exception. Only two men corresponded regularly with people outside and three had never received any mail of a non-legal nature while in jail until our first circular letter arrived.

Another common theme of letters was a dissatisfaction with lawyers. Low income inmates fighting frequent court actions may choose to defend themselves (difficult), since law books are expensive and in Arizona death row prisoners are not allowed access to the prison law library) or to accept a state-provided "public defender" who, tends with notable exceptions to be both inefficient and inexperienced. One inmate wrote:—

"I have an attorney whom I do not trust any further than I can throw him . . . he won't tell me what he is doing even though he knows that I know and understand the legal maze as well as he does."

THE FUTURE

While some of the hundreds of prisoners sentenced to death may be pardoned, others are threatened with immediate execution and there are very likely to be several sentences carried out in certain states within the next year. It is possible that some cases may arise in which those sentenced will accept their fate and insist on their own execution taking place (the Gilmore syndrome) but most of the coming executions will be performed on prisoners who have always wanted to stay alive. By the mid 1980s the number of executions could be as high as in the America of the 1930s, i.e. between 100 and 200 per annum.

The imposition of the death penalty is inconsistent with the fundamental values of democracy. The state may not abrogate unto itself the power to kill human beings, especially when it proposes to do so with premeditation and ceremony under colour of law, in the name of the people. In the judgment of Amnesty International, capital punishment is an intolerable denial of human rights. Court decisions and much public sentiment notwithstanding, we shall therefore continue to seek to prevent every execution and to abolish capital punishment, whether by litigation, by legislation or by the weight of a renewed public outcry against the brutal and brutalising institutions of capital punishment.



"Literally cooked alive"—the electric chair.

US, a man who fought for his life up to the last minute had died in the electric chair. With this, the stage was set for a resumption of non-voluntary legal executions. In 38 of the 50 states in the US there are laws which provide for capital punishment. As of April 1981, 765 people have been sentenced to death. Each month across America an average of ten defendants are condemned to die.

The history of the death penalty in America since 1967 has essentially been one of legal blocking and delaying. The process was affected by a Supreme Court decision in 1972 which all but outlawed the penalty (and saved all men then on Death Row) but suffered a setback in 1976 when a ruling confirmed the basic constitutionality of the punishment.

During this uncertain period, however, two key influences on US public opinion, religion and politics, have swung to the right. Although the traditional church organisations have long been opposed to the death penalty, the powerful right-wing fundamentalist Christian movements have consistently supported it and have at least as great an influence.

Faced with a volatile electorate

dominant conservative tradition. It has always had one of the largest death-rows on an absolute and per capita basis.

Death Row itself is contained in a new maximum security building in the State Prison designed especially for rule-breakers and persistently troublesome convicts. From correspondence undertaken with prisoners and subsequently with the State's Department of Corrections the reality of this was revealed. Prisoners on Death Row are not allowed to do paid jail jobs or participate in blood donation schemes and so are unable to afford any basic toiletries or recreational equipment. Only three one-hour exercise periods per week are allowed; the shortage of money means that they are barely able to afford stamps; visiting hours are shorter; prisoners are not allowed to mingle with each other.

Many of the prisoners freely admit to their crimes but point out that they were institutionalised criminals. Even so, half had been to college although a high proportion had dropped out before graduation. Most had held unskilled or semi-skilled jobs before conviction. However, one man used to write children's stories and had

GRAND LIBRARY JUMBLE SALE & SALE OF WORK

to be held in the LIBRARY on THURSDAY, MAY 21st from 12.00 - 2.00 EVERYONE WELCOME All proceeds to the LSE 1980's fund

The Union Office will soon be able to validate International Student Identity Cards for those wishing to travel abroad this summer. Until then they can only be stamped at a Student Travel Office. The validating fee is £1.50.

Points to ponder on

I WONDER sometimes whether any of you, fellow students, ever question a little the principles we are being taught here. It is a rule in this world to accept what the elders have created (social conventions, the science of economics etc). Fair enough, there are some good reasons for that, but not always. We seem to know now that the Roman games were something awful; they didn't know at the time, these horrible people. Now could it be that, thousands of years from now, when mankind has grown a little older, they will think of what people used to believe in around the year 2000 and find it amazing that man could have been so primitive? That's what I wonder sometimes when I see the axioms on which our dear economic science is based: the customer wishes to maximise his pleasure, the firm wishes to maximise its profits, the country wishes to maximise its whatever etc. And then when we take a look around we see the world seems to be on the brink of a war, countries fight each other, it's

everybody for himself and never mind the others. Hardly surprising when our society works on such egoistic bases. Why do we continue to swallow and live by such principles which have proved unable to bring any harmony into the world? Is there not anything more divine in life than to seek our pleasure, our profit-maximisation and so on?

I wish I could be a wise old man sitting day long in a cave of the Himalayas looking at men and smiling compassionately. Things must be so obvious from up there. But then that is not a solution either. I'd rather make this a better world for everyone and not only for me. Could we possibly bring Nirvana down from the Himalayan heights into the streets of London? I am sure it is possible (maybe the old sage will say it will happen in some thousands of years), but for that we certainly need to revise the axioms on which we base our lives and build new ones—that of universal brotherhood for example. It's easy, it's only in our heads.

NF/BM STILL ATTRACTING SCHOOL

Where and how do fascist groups recruit?

A SPECIAL REPORT BY

SHORTLY before the last General Election, the National Front claimed that just over a quarter of its total membership was under 20. Two months ago, Joe Pearce, editor of the Young National Front newspaper "Bulldog," stated that the figure is now closer to 60 per cent.

Since 1978, extreme right-wing groups have recruited extensively at many schools, sports grounds, public meetings and rock concert venues. They attempt to win the support of those who are both too ignorant to heed the lessons of Nazi Germany and too disillusioned with record levels of youth unemployment not to grasp at any party offering new answers, no matter how extreme.

The attraction of fascist and racist groups to teenagers appears to be two-fold: first, the promise of the "new solution" or "new order" in which each new recruit is treated (according to "Bulldog") as a "hand-picked member of a bright, elite team", and in which there are outlets for "legitimised" physical acts of racial violence; and second, the oratory, the marches, the flags banners and organisation which the National Front and the more openly Nazi British Movement provide.

Michael Furbank, a skinhead with strong anti-fascist views, feels that the reason most skinheads join either the NF or BM lies in both groups' appeal to base masculinity: "Skinheadism is a very male-dominated society and fascism is a very appealing stereotype of male consciousness. The NF and BM marches are in a way a celebration of masculinity."

"A lot of kids simply have nothing else to do but to get their kicks out of a march which is

well organised, well staged and financed. These groups become a very attractive proposition. They stage things in a very dramatic way and young kids are very susceptible to banner waving."

"There have been an unusually high number of applications from school pupils of 15, 14, 13 and even 12 year-olds"

The poor showings of all fascist groups in the recent local government elections are seen by many as a misleading indication of their inherent strength. With 60 per cent of the National Front's members still under 20 it can be assumed that a large proportion are not yet eligible to vote. The same is probably true of most other right-wing groups. More importantly, recent evidence suggests that the numbers of school-age children recruited in the last year are far higher than in any year since the war.

NF newspaper "Spearhead" quotes their head office secretary, Beryl Mitchell, as having recently received "many hundreds of membership applications from teenagers, especially in the 16-18-year-old age group. In addition there have been an unusually high number of applications from school pupils of 15, 14, 13, and even 12-year-olds."

The NF and BM are the two largest and best-known groups to recruit teenagers on widespread and systematic lines, but there are two other organisations which also recruit heavily among the young. The National Socialist Party of the United Kingdom centres its activities both inside and directly outside schools, while the Viking Youth, led by Paul Jarvis, recruits children from the age of six. Viking Youth is run on similar lines to the Hitler Youth movement.

There are now three clearly distinct recruiting grounds. The first two, schools and football matches, are looked at here, while the third, rock concert venues, is the subject of a separate piece (below), considered in relation to punk and skinhead cults and the significance of the Rock Against Racism organisation.

Racist activity inside schools was highlighted six weeks ago with the appearance of the virulently anti-semitic comic "The Stormer."

The comic contains references to "coffee-coloured coons" and "blood-thirsty Jews" as well as a guide to goose-stepping. Described as "Britain's only nationalist comic," it is the work of cartoonist Robert Edwards, a director of the National Front Constitutional Movement—a group which claims not to be anti-semitic. At least 150,000 copies were printed in Spain, the European centre for much fascist literature, for distribution by the National Socialist Party of the UK and the National Socialist Irish Workers' Party.

They were aimed directly at schoolchildren, many with a covering letter encouraging them to "join the Nazi Party." Cartoonist Edwards claimed that the comic was "a lot of nonsense over nothing" and "just as harmless as the Beano."

Until recently it was believed that extreme right-wing groups had directed their recruiting activities away from schools and on to foot-



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WARNING! Rich businessmen are trying to destroy our Shed!

Unless we, the Chelsea fans, do something to stop them, Martin Spencer and the rich Chelsea directors will pull our Shed down. They want to sell a large chunk of the Shed and to wealthy property speculators. And they want to pull down the terraces so that they can build a posh stand only for the rich.

Spencer, Mears and the other directors at Chelsea want to turn the Shed into a two-tier all seat stand. Tickets will then cost anything up to £10.

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- 1. Spencer and Mears should keep their hands off the Shed.
- 2. The interests of loyal Chelsea fans are put before those of rich Jewish property speculators.
- 3. The running of the team should be left to footballers like Geoff Hurst and not to businessmen who are only interested in profits.

Published by the Chelsea NF, P.O. Box 116, Harrow, Middlesex.

Antisemitic NF leafletting at Chelsea. But are clubs covering up such activity? When this leaflet appeared in the Chelsea programme at the next home game, all references to "rich Jewish property speculators" and the NF had been deleted.

ball terraces, but Peter Hain, Press Officer of the now-revitalised Anti-Nazi League, told BEAVER otherwise: "The disturbing fact is that while infiltration has increased at football matches, it has also increased in schools. There's been

no significant let-up in the amount of racist literature found in schools since the appearance of several Young NF publications early in 1978."

One such publication, "How to Combat Red Teachers," surfaced in

many East London recommended r YNF supporters, in the words of the Verrall, to organi fight communism —from within the booklet outlines "classroom comm "politely" any at to expose the ant the NF. "When leaders did once or fascist organis 'A few of them d very much young

Other recruitm vocates complete and contains blacks are the pri unemployment. O sheet—"Fact Fin tion"—attemp that Nazi gas o hoax. Concentrat graphs depicting are described as Soviet Union be World War.

"Fact Finder" British Movement which states: "N those under 12- parents' approv open only to thos pean race."

Most leafletting either at school lunch breaks. E extreme right-win inside schools ar late—claims from selves and from t wing opponents. gerated. Most t that only a ver of those who di fascist literature signia on school-believers and p Most are apolit offering their sup follow the same rock group.

Rock concert recruitment

Music, fashion and fascism

MIDWAY through Bob Fosse's film 'Cabaret', a blond, handsome, teenage boy with a swastika armband rises from his seat in a Berlin beer-garden to sing the chilling 'Tomorrow Belongs To Me'. Before the end of the song he is joined by his fellow drinkers, all singing, all convinced of the potential greatness of a Nazi Germany in the very early thirties.

Fosse's terrifying symbol exposed not only the threat and influence of Hitler's Nazi youth, but also the significance of a unifying and rousing fascist anthem. A stirring song, like an overwhelming chant or slogan, could win sympathetic hearts and ignorant minds to the fascist cause.

Since 1976, and the emergence of British Punk Rock, the National Front and the British Movement have benefitted considerably from

the use of Nazi insignia and fascist slogans as a symbol of punk rebellion. Influenced by deliberately shocking, but mostly ill-informed punk bands, many disillusioned youths turned costumiers' Nazi uniforms into the highest fashion; many garments from the Kings Road punk shop 'Seditionaries' carried SS and swastika motifs; many punks simply drew swastikas on their own clothes with marker pens.

Andy Polaris of I-D Magazine explained that in the huge majority of cases Nazi insignia was worn out of ignorance: "The swastika no longer represented a symbol of Nazi menace but more one of anti-establishment... ironically Blacks and probably Jewish punks were wearing swastikas."

In the songs themselves anarchy often embraced Nazism. In times of already high inflation and unemployment the bands offered an escapist refuge, if only on a very small scale. As in Nazi Germany, youths were offered a 'New Order'.

In the summer of 1976 the Sex Pistols were photographed in swas-

tika teeshirts, and an illegal live recording of the band revealed a song called 'Belsen Was A Gas'; on another live recording, Siouxsie and the Banshees sing "they're too many Jews for my liking."

Both bands had cultivated a small but dedicated following, especially in London, before they realized the error of their ways. Their influence on youth culture, and more importantly on the recruitment drives of Britain's fascist organizations cannot be overstated.

Chants of 'Sieg Heil' are a common occurrence

As at football matches, Young National Front and British Movement recruitment at rock concerts is high. Joe Pearce, editor of the YNF newspaper, Bulldog, estimates that over 700 copies were sold at a recent London concert by Two-Tone band Madness—a band renowned for their young skinhead following. Pearce claims that similar quantities were sold at most live appearances by new-wave band Sham 69. Reports in the New Musical Express show that before their split last year Sham 69 suffered from an appalling record of skinhead violence whenever they played live. Nazi salutes and chants of 'Sieg Heil' were also a common occurrence.

Yet even before the appearance of skinheads and punks, more glamorous 'rock superstars' such as David Bowie and Eric Clapton had hinted at their support for the growing fascist and racist movements. Bowie told one audience: "As I see it I'm the only alternative to the Premier of England. Britain would benefit from a fascist leader. After all, fascism is really only national socialism."

Clapton had made a similar declaration a year earlier.

Understandably, both artists now bitterly regret their statements; sadly, however, both Bowie's and Clapton's fans hang with unparalleled devotion on their heroes' every word. Peter Hain, a founder member of the Anti-Nazi League and now its Press Officer told BEAVER that it would be fallacious to suggest that YNF or BM membership increased alarmingly as a direct result of either concert.

"Yet just the mention of fascism in a favourable light by someone with so much influence was sufficient to point people in a dangerous direction."

It was Eric Clapton's outburst which prompted the formation of the Rock Against Racism organisation in 1977. Although it is still considered crucial in combatting today's racist activity at major rock concerts, RAR enjoyed most suc-

cess in uniting level-headed punks, skinheads and rastafarians against the Nazis in two massive, free open-air concerts in 1978.

Peter Hain explained that as an attractive method of breaking down the ignorance which fuelled fascism, RAR did far more in educating the young than the Anti-Nazi League could ever hope to do: "Carnivals were very much the right thing in 1978. The whole Rock Against Racism thing was critically important—the hour of punk and street music blended very well with the idea of grass roots



Cause or effect? The label from a "bootleg" Sex and the desecration of a tombstone in a North L

200th edition... 200th edition... 200th edition... 200th edition...

LOOKING BACK AT NUMBER ONE

BEAVER first appeared on May 5th, 1949 and the new edition presents an insight into the LSE student of 32 years ago. The Editor was a Charles R. Stuart and the staff included one Ron Moody, who perhaps as a prelude to his future acting career, held the post of Arts Editor.

Articles included in this first edition and which later became regular features included Bridge problems and a "BEAVER HANSARD", the latter mentioning an occasion when there was an attendance of 38 at the Union Meeting. The pros and cons of National Conscription and University Training Corps provided the opening theme for a section entitled "Controversy". Theatrical Reviews and the inevitable Athletic Union columns also featured strongly.

The NUS Congress in Bangor occupied the front page. When not attending sessions on "The Place of Science in Upland Farming" or debating whether "Scientists are non quate nithe", the LSE delegates were able to play in table-tennis tournaments and enjoy a Welsh Concert. At the Annual General Meeting of the National Social Science Students' Association BEAVER was happily able to report that the LSE contingent proved to be more "tolerant, knowledgeable and amenable than students from

other colleges." Sentiments of disgust were expressed for those students who left the service in Bangor Cathedral before the Collection. No mention is made as to whether any LSE student was amongst this atheistic crowd and space is devoted instead to the problems encountered by a BEAVER reporter, who being without the necessary equipment for the "Blazar Dance", was forced to wear his striped silk pyjama jacket.

The early editions of BEAVER ran to only four pages and as such all aspects of the newspaper are more compressed than is the case today. Photographs are few and advertisements from outside subscribers notably absent. Many articles are written with a humorous slant though the depth of political feeling remains evident. However, the aim of BEAVER in 1949, that of "inducing a more cohesive atmosphere amongst students" remains as important now as it was then.

Margaret Cameron-Waller



Cartoon from first issue of "Beaver", May 1949 by Ron Moody

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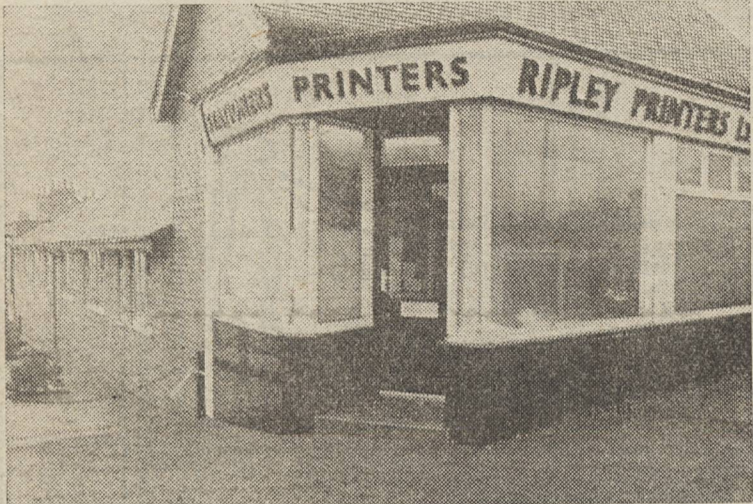
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Interviews with applicants will be held at the University before the end of term.



200th edition... 200th edition... 200th edition... 200th edition...

Awayday to Derby

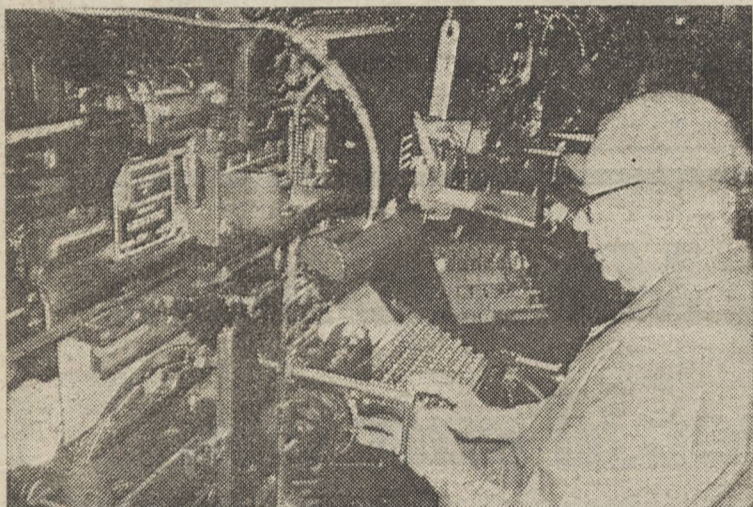


3.30 a.m. MONDAY

AT various points across London four alarm clocks wake up the four BEAVER contributors whose turn it is to make the long journey North. Assembling at St Pancras station, clutching their folders of late news, they board the 4.25 train to Derby. It is not strictly necessary to go so early but the timetabling of British Rail means that the next train to Derby doesn't arrive until after 10 a.m., which is too late.

Most catch up with their sleep on the train but many a feature or film review has been written en route.

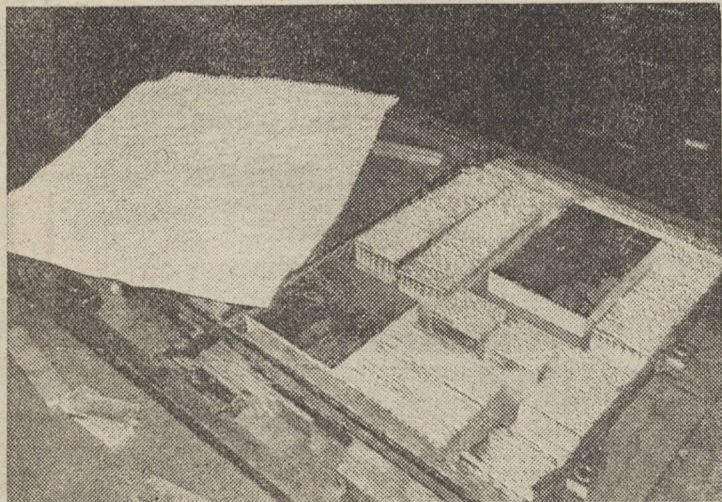
We reach Derby around 8 a.m. and after another nine or ten miles by taxi reach the printing works (above).



TYPESETTING

SINCE our parcel of copy was collected from Derby Station on Friday, the printers have been converting it to metal type. Each story is typed out again by the setters on Linotype machinery, which produces column-width lines of type from a large vat of molten white metal (see above).

As we arrive, this process is nearing completion but the late copy we bring up keeps them going until lunchtime. Also while this is happening blocks are being made from our photographs and diagrams.



PAGE LAYOUT

AS typesetting nears its end the lines of type and blocks are assembled in the frames according to the layout sheets we have sent up. Since the words-per-column-inch charts are only approximate we spend time juggling pages about and putting in small advertisements to fill any gaps. Usually gaps are widened between lines of type or paragraphs.

Since we have now produced 200 issues of BEAVER, we thought that it was about time we told you how it is done

AS copy date draws nearer, a great flurry of activity can be seen around the BEAVER office. All copy must be assembled, typed-up (if not already done so) and checked for errors, and then all the words in each article must be counted before we can lay out the pages. By use of conversion charts we can convert the number of words in an article into column inches and with these figures we can begin to lay out the pages in outline.

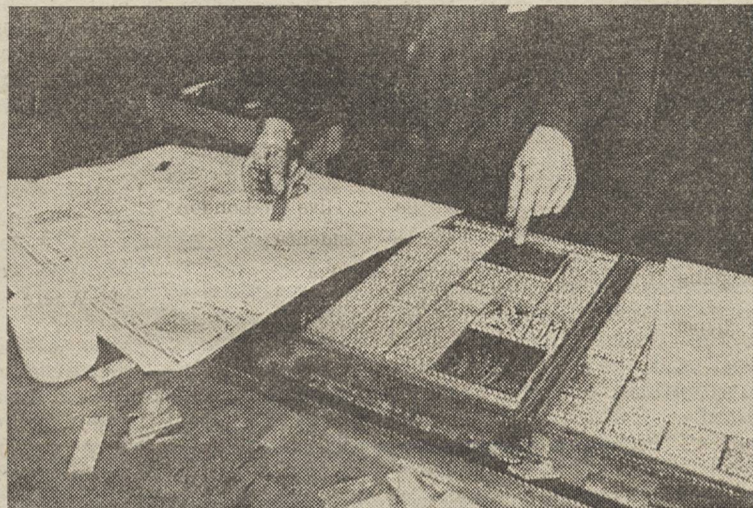
By late on Thursday night, all pages have been laid out in outline, with correct sized spaces being marked for photos, graphics and text. All the type-written text, pictures and layout-sheets are then bundled together and sent by Red Star parcels, to arrive in Derby the following morning. At this stage we may still have left gaps for late pictures, news or other events that may happen over the weekend. Not until the Monday does the actual printing start. . . .

Homeward bound

ONCE the print run has been completed and the papers tied into six or seven bundles, the boss, Terry, drives us and the papers down to the station. Taking the papers on to the train as "hand luggage", we settle down in the buffet car for the ride home. Somehow we manage to get the same buffet attendant every trip.

Back at St Pancras at 9 p.m. (on a good day) the papers are taken by taxi back to L.S.E. where they are deposited at strategic points throughout the building to be picked up and read on the Tuesday. We go home to bed.

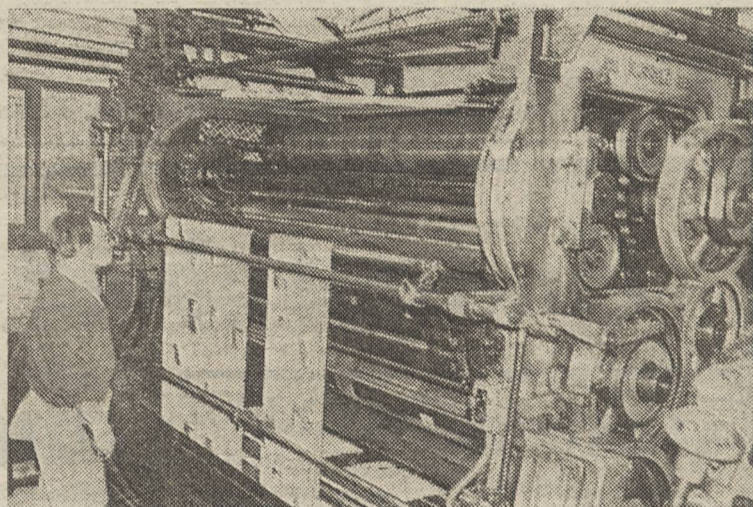
Despite the expense and effort of journeying to Derbyshire for each issue, it still works out cheaper than getting the paper printed to comparable standard in London.



PROOF READING

ONCE a complete page is laid out we are given a proof copy to check for errors. Proofs usually arrive all at once just after our lunch break, so the number of mistakes that slip through depend on where we have been for lunch.

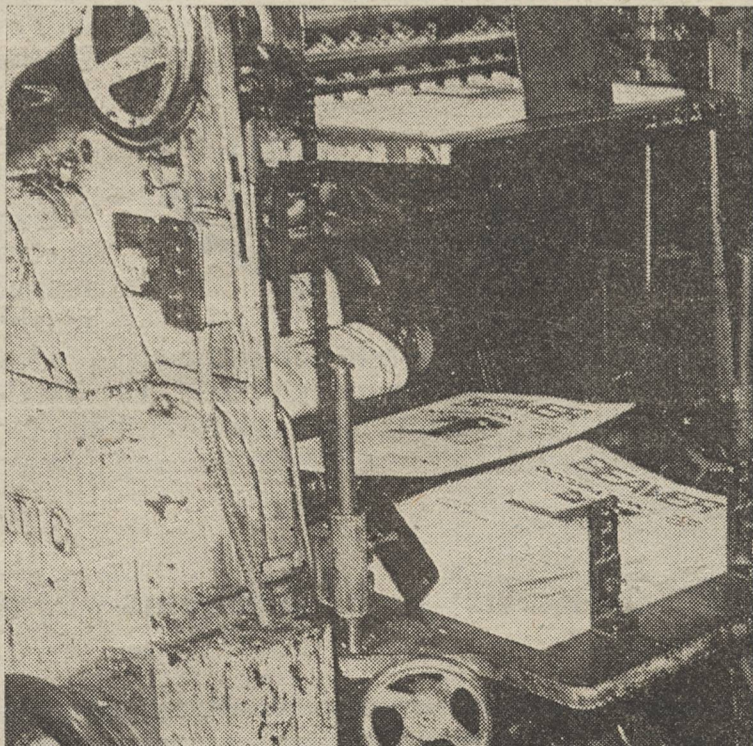
If a mistake is discovered it is marked on the proof sheet. Once the complete page has been proofed, these sheets are passed back to the setters, who remove the offending lines and replace them with new ones (above). Since the type is set in individual lines one mistake means a whole new line, but this is not too much of a chore or waste since the white metal is recycled for further use.



PRINTING

By about 3 p.m. all pages have been proofed and are put on the large press (above). This prints, collates and folds all the pages in a crescendo of noise. There is just nothing quite like the threshing and clanking of the old mechanical monsters, especially when you are trying to catch up on some more sleep.

Finally the papers are put through a smaller machine to have the red "BEAVER" printed on the cover (below). Unfortunately this machine is somewhat unreliable and has been responsible for some very hurried trips to the railway station to catch our train home.



200th edition... 200th edition... 200th edition... 200th edition...

What sort of student are you?

- How much time do you spend in the Library?
 - Sleep there
 - Occasional afternoon
 - Five hours per day
 - Under 30 minutes per week
- Do you get lost in LSE?
 - Never
 - Frequently
 - Occasionally
 - Only when going to classes
- Which daily paper do you prefer?
 - Guardian
 - The Times
 - Morning Star
 - Daily Star
- Where do you eat most often?
 - Bring sandwiches—LSE food too expensive
 - Maxwells in Covent Garden
 - Florries
 - Brunch Bowl
- Do you think UGMs are
 - Time fillers between lectures
 - Feeding time at the zoo
 - Very productive
 - Great for throwing paper aeroplanes?
- Do you think Social Democrats are
 - Good-looking
 - Closet Tories
 - Labour Club careerists
 - Tools of imperialist bourgeoisie?
- What sort of graffiti do you write?
 - Never have time for it
 - Witticisms in the downstairs loos
 - Rent Strike slogans on the Old Curiosity Shop
 - "In" jokes in Ents room
- Where do you live in London?
 - Hall of Residence
 - Knightsbridge
 - Brixton
 - Camden
- What is your favourite kind of party?
 - Passfield Bops
 - Deb Balls
 - Rosebery Arabian Bed Parties
 - Carr-Saunders debauches
- How do you spend your time in lectures?
 - Paying attention to lecturer
 - Combing hair/filing nails
 - Writing letters
 - Counting the number of times the word "basically" is used
- Why did you come to LSE?
 - To get a first
 - Failed Oxbridge
 - To become General Secretary
 - Escape from home
- What is your overall impression of LSE?
 - Different
 - Full of Americans
 - Depressing
 - Would rather not say
- Which sport do you prefer?
 - Table-tennis
 - Squash
 - Hang-gliding
 - Beating up the National Front
- Where do you sleep most often?
 - Shaw Library
 - Statistics classes
 - Hyde Park bench
 - Other people's beds
- Do you think the Director is
 - Handsome and well-dressed
 - Liberal
 - Student loving
 - A vegetarian?
- Do you think Public School people at LSE
 - Keep a low profile
 - Retreat to Chelsea
 - Wear donkey jackets as a disguise
 - Do not exist in this part of the world?
- Worst aspect of LSE is
 - Not being able to take books from the Library
 - Clare Market lifts
 - Keir Hopley
 - Work?
- Best aspect of LSE is
 - Hit Squad in Rag Week
 - Never being able to find tutor?
 - Close proximity to Fleet St
 - Half-price spirits in the Three Tuns?
- What is your favourite type of political activity?
 - Reading Carlisle's History of the French Revolution
 - Afternoon tea at Westminster with local MP
 - Occupations
 - Rent strikes
- What is your most vivid recollection of the Freshers' Conference?
 - Arguing with room-mate
 - Being seduced
 - Lack of sleep
 - Hall breakfasts

ANSWERS

MOSTLY (a)s
 Studious variety, rare species at LSE. On first name terms with Tutor and regularly have drinks with him in the Beaver's Retreat. Hope to become an academic. Have particular seat in the Library. Reading Law (sounds impressive), econometrics (job in Treasury lined up), Philosophy (read Popper at school). Possibly an American General Course Student.

MOSTLY (b)s
 Originate from the Home Counties. Spend as little time at LSE as possible and instead fraternise with old school chums. Chose LSE because it is so uncultured at provincial universities and wanted to shock parents by attending such a 'Lefty Institution'. Passionate Conservationist and ride bicycle everywhere. Reading History, with Special Reference to Jean Plaidy (to please Mummy and Daddy). Always carry Registration Card in Gucci Wallet.

MOSTLY (c)s
 Trendy vivacious reactionary. Have had burning desire to come to LSE since age three — an ambition which was second only to getting arrested. Regard LSE as teething ground for future career. Reading Government or Sociology (because liked Professor McKenzie's swingometer on Nationwide). Hoping for Honorary Fellowship but would settle for seat on the Court of Governors.

MOSTLY (d)s
 Social butterfly. Can sniff out a party at 800 yards. Regard Three Tuns as Mecca. Think Marx made some very good films. Interests include Drama, Motorbikes and making money. Reading Management Sciences or Geography (human variety). Make regular trips to Bank manager to explain increasing size of overdraft. Dressed exclusively by Woolworths and Camden Market.

COVENT GARDEN PROMS

Seven performances by The Royal Ballet:

Mon. May 11. 7.30 p.m. The Sleeping Beauty (Tchaikovsky/Petipa)

Tue. May 12. 7.30 p.m. Isadora (Bennett/MacMillan)

Wed. May 13. 7.30 p.m. Hamlet (Tchaikovsky/Helpmann)
 Symphonic Variations (Franck/Ashton)
 Pas de deux (to be announced)
 The Concert (Chopin/Robbins)

Thur. May 14. 7.30 p.m. The Dream (Mendelssohn/Ashton)
 A Month in the Country (Chopin/Ashton)
 La Fin du jour (Ravel/MacMillan)

Fri. May 15. 7.30 p.m. Hamlet (Tchaikovsky/Helpmann)
 Symphonic Variations (Franck/Ashton)
 Pas de deux (to be announced)
 The Concert (Chopin/Robbins)

Sat. May 16. 2.00 p.m. Romeo and Juliet (Prokofiev/MacMillan)

Sat. May 16. 7.30 p.m. Romeo and Juliet (Prokofiev/MacMillan)

700 stalls promenade places available on the day of performance one hour before curtain up. £1.50 each inc. VAT.
 Further details: 01-240 1911 (24-hour information service).

Bargain offers for promenaders. Stalls seats for Amphi prices! Proms ticket stub will entitle you to drastic reductions on seats for a number of performances by The Royal Opera: Full details supplied with tickets.

Sponsored by Midland Bank Limited.



The Royal Opera House Covent Garden Limited receives financial assistance from The Arts Council of Great Britain.



A TALE OF TWO CONSTITUTIONS

IN the course of its first 200 issues, BEAVER has reflected the fortunes of the L.S.E. in documenting the highs and lows of student life. Of course, everyone knows of the convulsions of 1968, but fewer people recall the events of 1972. In the light of today's threats to Student Union autonomy, it is pertinent to look back at this period as seen through the eyes of BEAVER.

Unrest has been growing since 1968 over the controls that the School had over the Union and there was an increasing disillusionment about its role in serving Student Interests. In October 1971 the Deputy-President of the Union Council assaulted two fellow members and made a string of racist remarks about the Senior Treasurer, who was of Jewish origin. In the following motion of censure, reported BEAVER, "was the occasion of much hilarity, and resulted in large abstentions from voting." When such a serious incident as that receives that sort of response, a sense of purpose in the Union is at a dismally low level.

The event which set the ball rolling was the overwhelmingly decision by the U.G.M. of 22nd October 1971 to adopt a new constitution as proposed by the Socialist Society. The proposers said the old constitution was undemocratic and in the last analysis controlled by the School — all cheques paid out by the Union even had to be counter-signed by the School. Autonomy was the crucial issue.

"The proposers of the motion maintain that the crucial issue lay in the relationship between the Union and the School," reported BEAVER, calling for "a united and determined effort on the part of all students" to abolish the School's power of veto.

The Director, Walter Adams, refused to speak to BEAVER about the Union's moves but told the Sunday Telegraph: "I don't mind what democratic systems they adopt. That is up to them. But we are administering public funds and we must be accountable for those funds." Meanwhile he refused the Union access to the accounts.

The situation within the School was aggravated by the fact that the School was holding back some of the Union's funds while awaiting the new proposals of the Government over Student Union funding. The then Minister of Education was Margaret Thatcher (at the

time labelled "Milk Snatcher" over her cuts in the provision of free school milk). Her DES proposals included:

(1) Members could opt out of Union membership on grounds of "conscience". "An attempt to underline the representative nature of Student Unions," said BEAVER.

(2) All money given to Student Unions to come from the University's general funds, to be set against other claims for money by departments of the University.

(3) Union societies to be financed by voluntary contributions of members.

(4) The Comptroller and the Auditor-General must be satisfied that the constitution and expenditure of the Union are "proper."

L.S.E.'s Student Union was already under many of these controls through the role of the School as its official Custodian Trustees.

Opposition to these proposals was widespread, with N.U.S. drawing up a consultative document and a plan of protest action. A confrontation seemed imminent.

December saw mass demonstrations as part of the N.U.S. campaign, with a boycott of classes and a picket of the School. The Director, Adams, made a much-delayed appearance at a U.G.M. and, according to BEAVER, "was subjected to one indignity after another as he shuffled helplessly through the stock answers that are all his organisation allow him on such occasions."

The Union voted to support the N.U.S. plan for all colleges to be occupied over the weekend of 21st-23rd January 1972. Adams responded and when the Union finally declared UDI after trying all channels to get the new constitution accepted by the School, he cut off all Union funds. Those staff and societies who were prepared to work under the now defunct old constitution would be financed directly by him. He specifically excluded BEAVER from any further association with the School and the Union.

The newspaper was not to be stopped as easily as that and just before the occupation the first "Liberated BEAVER" was produced. On its front cover was the now-famous black-gloved fist with "Occupy" stamped across it. On sale at 5p a copy, it reflected the popular mood with a stinging attack on the Director: "He is for student autonomy but not for us. He welcomes public accountability but not for him."

The Union took court action to



THE DECISION MAKERS

COURT OF GOVERNORS MEETING, December 16th, 1971: A Reconstruction.

Sir Walter Adams: I'm in the unhappy position of having to inform you that the natives are once again restless.

Baroness Stocks: Let them eat cake!

Lord Crowther: I've heard something about this. Damned impertinence I call it, bless my soul, ahem!

Earl of Halsbury: Some rubbish about a union isn't it? One of your Bolshie friends, I presume, Vic?

V. Feather: No, no! You know I gave that sort of thing up years ago!

Lord Hirshfield: I recall when I was a student at Cambridge . . .

Lord Robens: Yes, yes, we know all about that. Point is, do we allow them to have a union or don't we, eh what?

Dame Mary Green: But I thought that they already had a union?

Sir Walter Adams: Yes they have. That's just the point . . .

Earl of Drogheda: What the deuce (pardon my language, ladies) is all the fuss about then?

Sir Walter Adams: They want a new one.

Baroness Sharp: I would have thought one union was enough for anybody! I don't approve of all this chopping and changing anyway. The youth of today don't appreciate their good fortune. Why, I remember, during the worst days of the Great War, we couldn't get aspic jelly anywhere. It just wasn't available, darlings. We tried . . .

Lord Robens: Well, that's settled then. They can't have a new union until the present one is quite worn out. Let's get on to more important business. Oh, I say Lord Molson, your glass is quite empty!

Lord Tangley: Chin chin, everybody!

—Beaver No 114, 20th January, 1972

secure the release of funds but was only partially successful as a confused Judge released £750 on the condition that fresh elections were held under the old constitution.

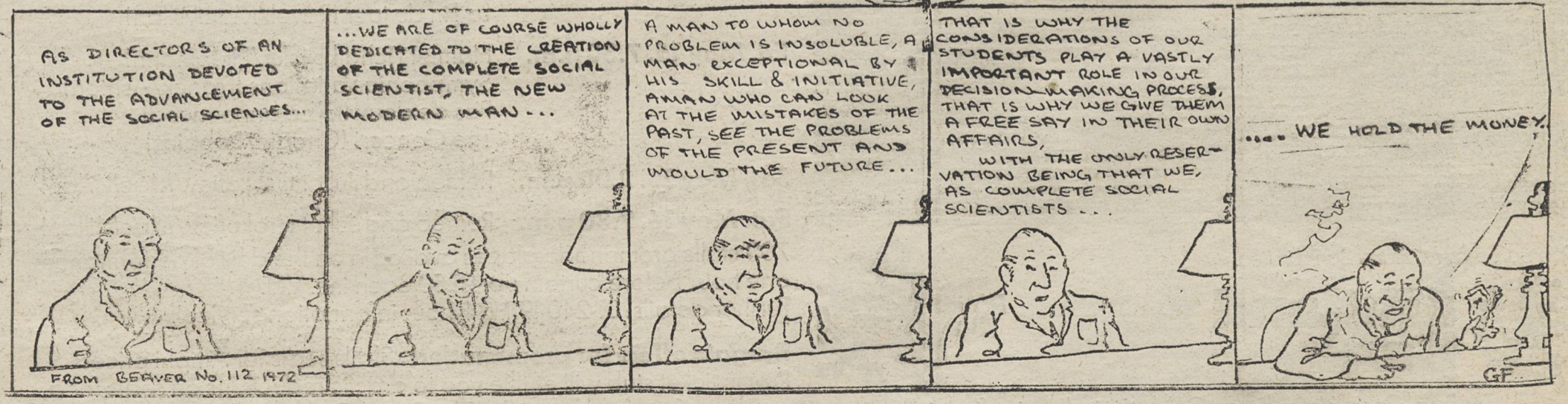
The wrangling dragged on and on in search of officers and constitution acceptable to both sides. Finally in late 1972 the new constitution was accepted with amendments by the School but though complete financial autonomy was

not secured—ultimate control still lay with the Court of Governors—major gains had been made.

With the autonomy that we now have we can enjoy a Union that can do concrete things to further our interests, providing amenities and welfare services and playing a real role in the life of the School. When it is able to do this then its members will play an active part in it. Any controls on its

autonomy leaves it hamstrung and ineffective, people thus begin to lose interest and it goes into a downward spiral. With the plans of the present Thatcher Government in mind this is worth remembering. We must all fight to hang on to what has been won for us so we can avoid a repeat of some of the problems that past students have faced.

Colin Bates



FROM BEAVER No. 112 1972

BOOLKIDS

REPORT BY SIMON GARFIELD

many East London schools and is recommended reading for all YNF supporters. It was designed, in the words of the Front's Richard Verrall, to organise its members "to fight communism in the classroom—from within the classroom." The booklet outlines how to deal with "classroom commies," by disputing "politely" any attempt by teachers to expose the anti-semitic nature of the NF. "When he says 'Some NF leaders did once belong to Nazi or fascist organisations,' (you say) 'A few of them did when they were very much younger.'"

Other recruitment literature advocates complete immigration bans, and contains accusations that blacks are the prime cause of youth unemployment. One BM propaganda sheet—"Fact Finder, Schools Edition"—attempts to "prove" that Nazi gas chambers were a hoax. Concentration camp photographs depicting piles of corpses are described as scenes from the Soviet Union before the Second World War.

"Fact Finder" also includes a British Movement application form which states: "No age limit, but those under 12 must have their parents' approval. Membership open only to those of White European race."

Most leafleting goes unnoticed either at school gates or during lunch breaks. Exact numbers of extreme right-wing group members inside schools are hard to formulate—claims from the groups themselves and from their extreme left-wing opponents tend to be exaggerated. Most evidence suggests that only a very small proportion of those who distribute racist or fascist literature or daub Nazi insignia on school walls are genuine believers and paid-up members. Most are apolitical sympathisers, offering their support because they follow the same football team or rock group.



Cartoons from the racist comic "The Stormer"—150,000 copies were printed for distribution in British schools.

While racist literature is still the cause of much concern, a more sinister aspect of extreme activity has recently emerged in several schools. According to a report in "Searchlight—The Anti-Fascist Monthly," two skinhead members of the Young NF last autumn forced their way into Archers Court Secondary School in Dover and shouted abuse at a teacher as he left his class. He was photographed and threatened by the youths for being a regular reader of Socialist Worker and Soviet Weekly. His name had appeared on a YNF "black list" and had been singled out in "Bulldog" as an NF opponent.

A similar incident occurred at Manchester's Spurley Hey High School. Headmaster Mr Jack Shofield says that a group of youths "began distributing NF leaflets on immigration. One of them also had a camera and took, or pretended to take, pictures of a mem-

ber of the staff who had approached him. I consider that to be intimidation."

Peter Hain believes that headmasters and teachers should be doing more to combat the threat of extreme groups gaining further support, despite the risk of being singled out as a future BM or NF target.

"Some football clubs are deliberately hiding the recruitment problem in case potential supporters are discouraged by reports of racist activity"

"Headmasters are too complacent. There is a level of thuggery and violence which can only be explained by the increase in hardcore support among the young. It is only a tiny minority but their effect is disproportionate. You cannot just poo-poo it as a fashion they will grow out of."

Three years ago the Anti-Nazi League established a junior branch, School Kids Against the Nazis, to counteract the flood of Nazi propaganda. The ANL claimed that SKAN had been "a qualified success" before it was branded as a front for the Socialist Workers' Party. There is now a new, broader group with similar aims but apparently more moderate methods—Youth Against the Nazis.

Formed just over two months ago, most of its efforts have been directed against the increase in BM and NF football terrace recruitment. Here again, says Hain, the greatest barrier is one of awareness—"to make clubs admit that they do have a very real problem on their hands."

"If clubs like West Ham and Chelsea came out and said that



Photo by Steve Hutchings

they were against Nazi chants and salutes from the terraces then at least there's a chance that fans might listen. But instead of speaking out, some clubs are deliberately hiding the problem in case potential supporters are discouraged by reports of racist activity."

"Bulldog" claims a Saturday afternoon sale of between 700 and 1,000 at several clubs, with highest sales reported at West Ham, Tottenham, Chelsea, Millwall, Aston Villa and West Bromwich.

Two clubs in particular, West Ham and Chelsea, are now recognised as BM and NF strongholds, and it seems that much activity is centred around the grounds even when there is no match.

"New Musical Express" reporter Andrew Tyler recently quoted an ANL spokeswoman who suggested that some police officers now regard Chelsea's ground as the accepted "territory" of extreme right-wing groups, and said that they made

the ANL quite unwelcome when they attempted to distribute anti-racist material there last month.

The increase in extreme right-wing recruitment has occurred at a time when more and more black footballers are emerging as key players in First Division teams. Many predict that the England team will soon contain perhaps four or five black players. Ironically, racist supporters will then be forced to choose between their political activities and their football.

Most believe that it will be football and not racism that will triumph, and that the numbers recruited in schools and at rock concerts will eventually decline as economic conditions and employment opportunities improve. Yet the fact that extreme right-wing groups are still recruiting extensively and persistently—primarily among the young—can give Britain no cause for complacency.

activity and political activity. We managed to reverse that drift into racism that was undoubtedly potentially there in '77."

Faced with the more forceful and overt fascist recruitment drive of early '81, Hain is less optimistic about the possible success of RAR

this time around. While groups such as the Tom Robinson Band, The Clash, Steel Pulse and Elvis Costello have all played RAR gigs in the past, big-name bands are now more reluctant to offer their services: "I think many people in the pop world are less committed politically than they were a couple of years back. There's now more reluctance to come out openly against Nazism and fascism."

If only Paul McCartney would give kids a lead

"I would simply like Paul McCartney and The Police and so on to actually come out and be very firm and give kids a lead. In the past groups began to identify with anti-racist politics and were far more important to kids than any politician is going to be. If they speak out against racism then frankly that's worth a thousand times any statement by a Labour MP."

Clearly not all punk or new-wave bands were foolish enough to adopt a racist stance. In 1978 The Clash and the Tom Robinson Band were both committed to educating the young as to the true threat of fascism and the horrors of Nazi Germany. "I think people ought to know we're anti-fascist, anti-violence, anti-racist and pro-creative... we're against ignor-

ance" said The Clash. "Ain't gonna take it... frightening lies from the other side... the National Front are getting awful strong... they're fascists marching down the High Street..." warned the TRB.

In recent months multi-racial bands The Specials and The Beat have spoken out in a similar fashion, but their live appearances have been marred by the very racial attacks they have attempted to eradicate.

Although now without his original band, Tom Robinson is still ardently involved in anti-racist politics. He realizes the potential influence of rock musicians on their audience, but told me that it is not what groups say that is important, but the fact that the groups themselves are saying it: "If I said I supported the National Front, at the end of the concert they'd probably all have cheered. I believe that bands have got to be very cynical about the true amount of power they have."

"At any rock concert there's bound to be a certain amount of hysteria. The audience is going to get worked-up and singing along. If I'd have prompted them, that audience might have been singing 'Niggers out... Keep Britain White'—that's a pretty terrifying thought."

Most popular bands realize the importance of taking an anti-



racist stance and "saying the right things"; some even regard it as an obligation to direct their fans away from extreme right-wing movements.

Yet recruitment at rock concerts, particularly at the major London venues, appears to be increasing on a par with that at football matches, and for many of the same reasons. Not only is there an intense feeling of 'comradeship' amongst all

those who follow the same band, but there is an inherent fear of stepping out of line; the reasoning seems to be that one straight-fingered salute is wrong, but that several hundred are quite in order. Above all, many bands have unwittingly attracted considerable and threatening skinhead support. Many skinheads are clearly not involved in any form of extreme right-wing activity. Yet at many rock concerts and football matches their number seems to be at least balanced, if not outweighed, by those who are.

So what can be done? Peter Hain believes the answer lies in 'education' and 'isolation': "If enough people speak out and say plainly that we won't stand for any Nazi salutes or Sieg Heiling at this concert, and if that's done forcefully but not violently, then I think we can achieve something."

Joe Strummer, vocalist with The Clash, has said that the gravest danger lies in the upsurge of right-wing activity going unseen—the risk that "you won't notice it... like you won't notice your hair is longer on Monday than Sunday."

Without doubt, ignorance and indifference are the strongest weapons of any fascist organization. Even at rock concerts, no one can now afford to ignore or forget the lessons of the past.

Simon Garfield.

a "bootleg" Sex Pistols recording one in a North London cemetery.

THE LONDON ARTS

FILM FOCUS

SEEING as this seems to be the first and last issue for this term I've decided to briefly go over four really good films I've seen, one really bad one and one I haven't seen but sounds really good.

One of the main difficulties about writing a film review, or an excuse for a film review, apart from not knowing how to type, is the fact that generally the mark of a really excellent film is that the effect it has on you emotionally or intellectually is inexpressible in words. This is what happens with DEATHWATCH which is, for me, the best of the above.

It is a film made with such a human sensitivity, such an almost magic touch, it is such a beautiful film, not in a plastic

sense as in Tess, but in an emotional sense. The story isn't beautiful, it tells of a man-child who has sold himself to a TV company who have installed cameras in his eyes.

He is to film the last days of a woman with a terminal disease for a programme called Deathwatch. The film is set in the future, when illness has been eliminated through advanced surgery and transplants and death has become the new pornography. The strength of the film lies with Romy Schneider as the dying woman, her love for life, her great heart and her effect on Harvey Keitel, the camera man. It is a violent story without fights or chases, a love story without love scenes. It's so hard to ex-

press what makes this film so magic, but what I'd like to emphasise is that it is films like this which are the truly great films, not the Apocalypse Now's or even, I regret to say, the Raging Bulls, for even though I really liked that film, with its great intensity, passion and technical brilliance, Death Watch has an edge on it because of the inexpressible effects and the undertones it carries to the viewer. Of course like anything this is open to discussion.

TESS marks Polanski's comeback and you can tell he has thought about it a lot. With amazing self control, and in a tour-de-force of directing skill, he has produced a film of great poetry, with such exquisite care in the composition of the images and with such an utmost faithfulness to the Hardy original, that it is small wonder that Tess is pulling the audiences in.

The formidable discovery of the beauty and presence of Natassia Kinski, which reduces the rest of the cast to a supporting role, is also a major ingredient. The story tells of the cruelty of the aristocracy, the blind instinct of the poor and the asphyxiating morality of the religious, as it follows a girl, "victim of her own beauty", and her struggle against the forces of destiny which seem to block off her every road and escape. Fatalism beyond irony.

In almost three hours Polanski submits the audience to a succession of cinematic wonders as scene after scene take your breath away culminating, for me, in the scene where a deer intrudes on Tess' sleep at dawn in a forest to produce a beautifully poetic, touching encounter. Indeed only in the last, frenetic, fifteen minutes is any trace of the old Polanski sensed, I had never lost faith in him, but for those who had this is an immense surprise.

Robert Altman's POPEYE I



Romy Schneider and Harvey Keitel in "Deathwatch".

found "absolutely enchanting". At first the adaptation of comic strip action to cinema is a bit disconcerting, but as soon as you get used to it you can fall in love with Shelley Duvall's Olive Oyl, and with the ten month old Swee' Pea; you can admire Robin (Mork) Williams' fabulous rendition of Popeye and you can laugh at the inhabitants of the homely and brilliantly reconstructed shambles of Sweethaven. The film is enjoyable, the songs are fun, and Altman's characteristic touch makes this a cut above a mere Disney children's movie. Ignore any vicious rumours that Popeye doesn't eat spinach, 'cos he does!

Superman 2 is a lot more fun than the first one which is why I insist that the replacement of Donner's seriousness by Lester's humour was a fortunate occurrence. It is a film that will make you laugh and squirm about in your seat like a five year old child, with some fabulous baddies, the best I've seen in quite a while, and the best goodie of them all, the man of steel, no not Stalin, SUPERMAN. The script is witty and entertaining; so go see it, even on the night before an exam — I would even bet it would improve your performance the following day.

Finally UNION CITY is interesting if you want to see Debby Harry and Pat Benatar's acting abilities or if you're interested in trendy art direction or if you like films with ultrabanal plots, over acting, terrible directorial indecision which results in a pastiche of styles none of which are realised, and really bad scripts. This film has some of the stupidest dialogue I've heard in years which is saying quite a lot. However I'm not saying you shouldn't see it because it's always best to judge for one's self, but don't blame me later on.

Highly recommended is the sixth version of James M. Cain's novel THE POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS TWICE and possibly the ultimate one. It stars Jack Nicholson and Jessica Lange and tells a story of sexual obsession that was highly scandalous in 1934 when the book was first released and which might still prove so today. I haven't seen it yet but I'm dying to.

Also hopefully coming soon are Ken Russell's ALTERED STATES and Carlos Saura's DEPRISA DEPRISA (Faster, Faster) the latter having won the first prize at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

C. J. Armero



Jessica Lange in "The Postman Always Rings Twice"

A TALE OF TWO ISADORAS

THE Royal Ballet's Golden Jubilee month began with the premiere of "Isadora" by the Company's principal choreographer Kenneth MacMillan. The choice of this new work to open the special season shows a welcome commitment on the part of the administration to change and the pushing back of the frontiers of ballet, as well as a willingness to take the risks that this entails.

"Isadora" tells the story of Isadora Duncan, woman and dancer, but although it has been created for and is danced by a ballet company, it is not ballet. It is theatre. It combines the spoken word and dance in the form of two Isadoras — a speaking Isadora, (actress Mary Miller), and a dancing Isadora (ballerina Merle Park). The use of a de-

clamatory character brings Isadora to life as perhaps dance alone could not have done because Isadora Duncan expressed herself as much in writings and in speeches as in dance. However, the use of speech does tend to rob the dancing of the power of its impact by disturbing its continuity, rendering it episodic, and by distracting attention from it.

The dialogue chosen from Isadora's memoirs by Mary Miller paints a very vivid picture of the dancer's life and personality.

The choreography and direction by Kenneth MacMillan are less uniformly successful. The dances devised for Isadora are appropriate and clearly illustrate the revolutionary nature of her art especially when contrasted, as they so cleverly are,

with examples of the dance of that era (beautifully sent up by MacMillan). The pas de deux which Isadora dances with her great love Gordon Craig, is as erotic as any MacMillan has made.

The scene in which a delirious Isadora in childbirth relives all her past affairs is most effective but it goes on too long. The prolonged histrionics which occur when Paris Singer informs Isadora of the death of her two children bear no resemblance to grief, are a rare example of overkill by MacMillan and would benefit from editing and simplification. Spoken sequences which would be better mimed include the actor Beregi's speech to his Budapest audience and Isadora's first confinement while the first scene at St Petersburg station could

be cut altogether.

Finally, the opening scene where the choreographer attempts to establish the unity of the speaking and dancing Isadoras by making actress and dancer move in unison does not work because Mary Miller does not and cannot have the suppleness and grace of Merle Park, with the result that the former looks strained and the latter constricted. Surely the necessary unity was established when the curtain opened to show the two identically-dressed figures together.

Richard Rodney Bennett's music is also mixed; the pastiche of Brahms, Mendelssohn, Chopin and Liszt to which Isadora dances is excellent but much of the rest is oppressive. Barry Kay's scenery and costumes are splendid in their

simplicity.

"Isadora" is not another "Romeo and Juliet" or another "Gloria" but then such works of genius are few and far between — even if Kenneth MacMillan does seem to create them quite regularly. It is, however, a courageous and worthwhile theatrical experiment. At the premiere, Derek Deane (Beregi), Derek Rencher (Paris Singer) and especially Ashley Page (Tango Boy) gave good performances, as did Julian Hosking (Gordon Craig) although his passion for Isadora was not quite credible. But the evening belonged to Mary Miller and Merle Park who together succeeded in reincarnating Isadora Duncan on the Covent Garden stage.

Jane Kleiner

Stirring pestles

ALTHOUGH "The Romans in Britain" is still the subject of bitter controversy at the National, director Michael Bogdanov has apparently come out of it all quite unscathed. Brandishing a half-forgotten, mildly-comic Tudor soap opera in one hand and a lethal tickling stick in the other, he has returned triumphantly to the Aldwych to unleash a dazzling mixture of inventive anarchy and first-rate farce.

After the critical onslaught that pursued "The Romans..." all the way to the courtroom it would have been understandable if he had temporarily abandoned all forms of risk-taking, choosing for his return an unspectacular but safe, popular standard. But this, it seems, is not Bogdanov's way.

Instead, he has taken Francis Beaumont's "The Knight of The Burning Pestle," an above average, but rarely revived Elizabethan comedy, and has transformed it, almost beyond recognition into an evening of the highest jinks with many inventions and insertions of his own. The result is an almost relentless attack of quick-fire gags and three-and-a-quarter hours of solid merry-making.

Bogdanov's passion for apparent "audience - participation" has also not abated. Just as Jonathan Pryce feigned a drunken theatre-goer in "The

Taming of The Shrew," later to become inextricably involved in the play itself, so now does George, a pinstripe-suited grocer, step up out of the £6.50 seats, proclaiming the play's opening speech as "Rubbish" and quite unsuitable for the Royal Shakespeare Company. "When did you last do Shakespeare?" he asks. "And when you do do him, what do we get? Rubber, leather, whips..."

He is shortly joined on stage by his wife and teenage "apprentice", Rafe. What is required, it seems, is "a good, straight play with a beginning, a middle, and an end. And a grocer in it." They decline to leave until the play is changed, or at least until Rafe has been cast in a leading role.

Henceforward there are two plays; the original, before the disruption, is an appalling account of a young couple's struggle against the restricting pecuniary values of their parents; and the new one, with Rafe, the grocers own apprentice (and the true Knight of the Burning Pestle), as a gallant but deliberately inadequate Quixotic hero consumed by courtly love and chivalric myth.

The two co-exist effortlessly throughout. A wealthy London merchant expels his honest apprentice for proposing to his daughter in one play, just as Rafe, the grocers own apprentice, prepares himself to rescue any deserving damsels in distress in the other. While the common themes maintain unity,

the disjunctive action upholds both pace and interest.

Yet this is not entertainment for the purists. The line stitched between the Beaumont original and the RSC re-working is, to Bogdanov's credit, an extremely fine one, but there remains much that could not have been written in Elizabethan times. You must resign yourself entirely to the director's inventive whims or not go at all.

Whatever your views on modern innovations — and in the Bogdanov version these include morris dancing, a Pythonesque trompe l'oeil in which a fully-lathered head is not shaved but sliced off completely, and a parade of brass bands, motor-cycle cops, punks and rockers—it seems doubtful whether they could have been entrusted to more capable hands than the RSCs.

As with most Aldwych productions, it is both difficult and unjust to praise individual performances, such is the obvious delight in the Company effort. Yet Timothy Kightley and Timothy Spall are both outstanding as the grocer and his apprentice, and John Woodvine, Lucy Gutteridge and Karl Johnson are no less impressive as the protagonists in the "other", original melodrama.

One thorn sticks painfully in Bogdanov's side; into what is a rare exhibition of truly positive theatre he inserts a clumsy and ineffectual jibe at the GLC. The attack—retaliation no doubt for their removal of the RSC's grant—seems both petty and alien against a backdrop of remarkably unaggressive good-humour, and flaws an otherwise splendid evening.

Simon Garfield

Susan Hill Interviewed for Beaver by Jeremy Rosenblatt

SUSAN Hill used to write novels. Now she spends most of her time writing plays for the BBC, broadcasting for radio and other endless jobs in journalism. But when she did write books she was reckoned to be one of the better novelists though she never had influence in contemporary literature as other female novelists. Unlike the other prominent 60s female novelists, she never wrote about herself; her own problems and so her books do not tend to be autobiographical but are imaginative.

"The Enclosure," her first book, published at nineteen, launched her literary career. This was followed by "Do Me a Favour," "Gentlemen and Ladies," a book about the old, the lonely and the disenchanting, she wrote about the inherent madness in everyone and produced a novel both funny and sad which was the runner-up for the John Llew-

elyn Rhys Memorial Prize and was the first of many prize-winning novels.

But though Susan Hill can boast a whole host of prize-winners, her work examines the mundane, everyday side of life. This may be because she seldom writes about herself and her problems, thus her work lacks the immediacy of other novelists. "I'm the King of the Castle" won her the Somerset Maugham award and great critical acclaim; it was compared to Goldings "Lord of the Rings" and concerns two boys eleven years old. One resents the presence of the other subtly persecuting him; the book culminates in the death of Kingshaw, the young intruder.

"The Bird of the Night," was yet another prize-winner (Whitbread Award 1972) as was the "Albatross and Other Stories" (John Llewelyn Rhys Prize). "In the Springtime of the Year" was written with compassion and understanding. A twenty-one-year-old comes to terms with her widowhood and

resolves to go on living, fighting loneliness.

Indeed, loneliness plays an important part in all her novels as it does in most contemporary work. She said she liked to deal with man's loneliness and isolation and went on to say that while often people are alone through no fault of their own, she feels that certain character defects alienate others and cause isolation. "A Change for the Better" discussed this familiar aspect of life; set among the shabby terraces and tearooms of "Westbourne," retired lives run their course.

Ms Hill wrote novels for herself unmindful of audience and unconcerned about publication. Now she feels delighted to be distanced from novels, and critical approval. "Critics' expectations of you rose after every prize." Nor had she ever wanted to become part of the Hampstead clique of novelists.

She prefers to live in Oxfordshire with her husband Stanley Wells and young daughter. Now she has found personal contentment, she says she has lost the desire to write.

Picasso lives!

"THIS Malagueno bruised us like a brief frost... he came from far away, from the rich composition and the brutal decoration of the seventeenth-century Spaniards... his insistence on the pursuit of beauty has since changed everything in art... a new man, the world is his new representation... new born, he orders the universe in accordance with his personal requirements..." —this was the impression that Picasso gave Guillaume Apollinaire in 1913, the celebrated art critic of Impressionism, Fauvism, Cubism, Futurism, Surrealism.

Picasso was a volcanic art force—he revolutionised the whole aspect of interpreting reality. "Paint what passes through your mind without stopping to think whether it's good or bad," he advised Manuel Angeles Ortiz.

But what passed through Picasso's mind when he looked at a body, a head, a house, a tree, the sea... the world was something which we, in our everyday perception, gloss over and completely miss. He saw the essence of reality and applied the principle of "creative destruction" to its communication: he destroyed form in nature and then recreated it in a new visual way.

Fauvism, especially Matisse, expanded this idea by painting only with bright, contradictory and often terrifying colours; the Futurists believed movement, action, and change the most essential qualities of nature and attempted to reduce the world into a dynamic representation of this energy force.

Cézanne, at the turn of the century, attempted to find a means of applying the principle of "when colour has its greatest richness then form has its plenitude" by reducing form into two dimensions and using sharply angled forms to release inherent qualities of objects which were trapped by our everyday perception and yet relate it to an overall pictorial order.

Picasso's painting is riddled with phases. The Blue and Rose periods are concerned with moods: the former used to portray the world of the underdog and the dejected human rubbish heap of the Parisian urban bourgeois society; the hungry, orphaned children, the beggars, the tramps, the harlots, the sick. The latter was a representation of the romantic sadness of circus folk.

Cubism is perhaps the most important movement which is associated with Picasso. Both he and Braque, introduced to each other by the enterprising Apollinaire, were influenced by Cézanne's exhibition at the Paris Salon d'Automne, and his reduction of form and space technique (e.g. the *Bathers*); both rejected the use of bright, sensuous colours, striving for a pictorial language of volumes without destroying its two-dimensional representation.

They dissected objects into facets presenting successive yet simultaneous views of reality which they experienced. The

facets were related to each other in such a way that it implied a connection between the structure of the whole painting and the central object. From this "Structural" Cubism they moved to a Synthetic version where reality becomes coded into a language of shapes and colours. The facets now become overlapping yet transparent planes, so that one can see what happens underneath.

Picasso's *Les Femmes d'Alger* (1907) and *Braques' Still-Life with Violin* (1912) are typical examples.

Inherent in Synthetic Cubism is the notion of association: Picasso developed this in his *Collage* art, which combined a painting with stuck-on materials such as sand, rope, pieces of paper, cloth which would hint at a third dimension, yet suppress it.

The next step was Surrealism, an art movement much influenced by Freud's conception of the unconscious and subconscious. Breton, its leader, described it as a "pure psychic Automatism, by which it is intended to express verbally, in writing or in any other dictation of thought, free from the exercise of reason and every aesthetic or moral preoccupation."

By 1925, Picasso had abandoned Cubism and participated actively in Surrealism, but to him "surreality is nothing, and has never been anything but this profound resemblance, something deeper than the forms and the colours in which objects present themselves", a means of expressing his reaction against the desolation and violence descending upon the world.

Like Marx, who absorbed the history of intellectual ideas of his period, to synthesise a highly original, convincing and predictive theory of human development, so too Picasso absorbed the techniques and ideas of Impressionism, Post-Impressionism (Gauguin, Lautrec, Cézanne, Van Gogh), Primitivism (art of "primitive" peoples of Australasia, Africa and Mexico), Velasquez, Goya and El Greco to become one of the most influential artists of the 20th century.

Thereafter he increasingly showed where his sympathies lay with his radicalism: in 1936, with the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War, he offered his services to the lawful government of the Spanish Republic; in 1937 the *Dreams and Lie of Franco* and, of course, *Guernica*, openly showed his republicanism.

In 1940, his refusal to collaborate with the Germans in Paris made him a symbol for the French Resistance Movement. By 1944, he had joined the Communist Party.

The *Massacre of Korea* (1951) and the *Peace Dove* (1949) for the Paris Peace Congress showed Picasso as an ardent pacifist.

Till the end of his life, Picasso remained full of energy—a true fighter. Alone he dismantled the traditions of art and put in its place the supreme concept of art, and of life: Chaos.

A. K. Diamantopoulos

ITS CONFERENCE TIME....

F. C. S. — N. U. S.

CHARGES of vote rigging, infiltration and corruption have been levelled at last month's Federation of Conservative Students Conference held at Sheffield. Amidst allegations that the conference was openly fixed, that violence and intimidation were used for political ends and that there were neo-Fascist elements present, ex-Chairman of the LSE FCS, Paul Blacknell, has resigned stating, "I cannot find my idea of democracy compatible with what went on at the conference."

Following the highlighting of the issue in a recent New Statesman article, National Chairman Peter Young has admitted that he personally made payments to non-FCS members recruited to vote for right-wing policies. Former London Regional Chairman Richard Gibbs, commenting on a conference dominated by "bootboy Tories" described the atmosphere as "uptight, intense, grim and nasty."

On the issue of the injection of funds to the FCS from external sources, he estimated the total at some £3,000 and suggested the 'Heritage Foundation', an obscure right-wing American organisation, as a possible source of this sum. The FCS, as an influential body in its own right and as a breeding ground for future Tory MPs and Ministers, was felt to be a worthwhile vehicle for infiltration by those wishing to propagate right-wing policies and with the financial power to do so.

The left wing itself did not escape from Sheffield unscathed. Lance Moir and David Steyn, former members of the National Committee, and leading instigators of the left wing "Neasden Group", were censured following allegations of embezzling funds. They are now to take libel action over allegedly forged excerpts.

Politically, the conference displayed a distinct trend to the right, with the so-called "wets" very much in the minority. A Conservative Campaign for Homosexuality stall was vandalised, a right wing delegate escaped any condemnation for his vandalism of a left wing delegate's car and support was given to the Chilean Government and American intervention in El Salvador.

The policy of disaffiliation from the NUS was dismissed as "cloud cuckoo land" by Gibb. Yet, with the potential impact of the Social Democrats and the possibility of a wider base of disaffiliation as Students Unions face increasing financial difficulties, it might become more attractive, "NUS will come under greater pressure to justify itself."

It is now up to FCS to define its aims and to ensure that a repetition of Sheffield may

never again occur. Despite pessimism in the light of a right-wing swing, Gibb thought that benefits might arise in stirring the complacency of the "Wets" and that perhaps a splinter group on Neasden lines might reinvigorate the left. But for the next three years it seems likely that right wing policies will prevail and it can only be hoped that publicity will prevent the more ugly profile of the right wing from displaying itself so openly again.

Sheila Curran

BUDGET SUBMISSION

THE Student Union finance committee decided on 1st May to ask the School for a 12½ per cent increase in the Union's income for next year. The money will be coming from the University rather than fees, as was the case last year, so self-financing students will for the first time be members of the Student Union for "nothing".

If the DES cash limits of six per cent for staff costs and 11 per cent for all other costs were rigidly adhered to it would give us a rise of nine per cent. The "extra" is an attempt to catch up with other large colleges of the University. Of the six London colleges of more than 2,000 students, L.S.E. has the second lowest Union subscription and whilst we got a 14.7 per cent increase per head last year, the average was 23 per cent and even the medium increase was between 17½ and 20 per cent.

Kelvin Baynton
Sen. Treas.

IN the tightest margin ever in the 60 year history of N.U.S., current president David Aaronovitch was re-elected for a further term of office, defeating NOLS candidate and retiring Treasurer Helen Connor in the final count.

Such was the main news story to come from this year's first N.U.S. conference, held at Blackpool at the beginning of April. Elections dominated the programme and with them came stories of violence and intimidation, but other business was passed as the Union hammered out policies for the coming year.

First, though to the elections, which both sides claimed as a victory. Said Aaronovitch: "I had a broader base of support. I won because delegates understood the need for a more united movement rather than wanting to move along party lines." Helen Connor saw things differently: "The Left Alliance will certainly have to shift in our direction now. The challenge we mounted has shown that the strength of NOLS has grown enormously. A lot of people will now have to think very carefully about the future policies of N.U.S."

Down to actual policy; agreement was reached to form an alliance of students, parents and teachers to provide the base for a campaign to fight education cuts, plans made to further the interests of Further Education colleges, organise anti-racist carnivals, oppose the Nationality bill, support the fight against sexism, press colleges to provide more for disabled students and finally to sell the N.U.S. Marketing concern.

L.S.E. sponsored an emergency motion on overseas student fees, calling for a national

campaign against the increases to be organised by an activists' conference in May. A resolution to call a nationally co-ordinated partial fees strike was deleted by the National Committee. At L.S.E. last week a conference of local colleges was held as a preliminary meeting to discuss the campaign.

Then, of course there were the Conservatives. Right-wing delegates handing out vituperative anti feminist leaflets clashed with women delegates, and the Conference was suspended when one of the Tories involved tried to address the delegates after his delegation card had been withdrawn by his college group.

All in all a mixed bag of events, but what N.U.S. conference isn't? The activities of the Right were just a prelude to their own Conference but most importantly, policy was made and officials elected. After all, that's what they are there to do.

New face in welfare



WE would like to extend a warm welcome to new Welfare Officer Barbara Houldin who takes over from Elana Erlich. Elana is home on a period of maternity leave and we wish her all the best.



Victorious President Dave Aaronovitch

How's your sense of humour?

Nigel Racine-Jaques makes or breaks it with this irreverent cartoon which BEAVER obsequiously publishes in honour of the Royal wedding and subsequent traffic jams. Long live the Republic, Tony Benn Count of Kensington, Ralf Dahrendorf's cat and half-price spirits!

SLATE AND SOUND



CERTAIN ARRIVAL NICK GODDARD REVIEWS A CERTAIN RATIO

YOU flick a switch, raise a lever and lower the arm; this is it! You are pulled beneath the brilliant rhythms into the subterfuge layers—held there incessantly, powerless to any distraction. Voices murmur, trumpets scream, the bass and the drums pulsate and pulsate never letting you relax; the result is unsurpassed!

We waited with uneasy anticipation for the first album for so long. This review is unashamedly adulating as *To Each* is simply the most powerful, original and coherent musical statement I have heard since Talking Heads' 77. So I will slobber on.

The band themselves have always been in the shadows of Joy Division, always considered factory's second prodigies, and have themselves seemed aware of this. They have always possessed unique qualities but as artists have never been satisfied with the 'final sound'. The resulting experimentation and progressions over the past 2½ years have culminated in the aesthetic beauty and musical perfection portrayed on *To Each* that surpasses even *Closer*. With *To Each*, A Certain Ratio

BLACK SLATE & THE SOUND APPEARED AT LSE, 9th May, '81

BLACK SLATE were no overnight success when they reached the top 10 in the national charts with their single *Anigo*, because the North London Group have persevered for six years to achieve the breakthrough, helped along by loyal home club audiences and a high standing in the reggae charts.

Undoubtedly one of the greatest factors in the band's success is that they were one of the last reggae bands to feature both an immigrant generation and an English born generation. These cultural differences provided a rich mix of cross fertilisation enabling the band to draw upon the various musical influences of blues, soul and calypso to add fresh dimensions to their essential reggae sound.

Nineteen hundred and eighty has been an important year for *Black Slate*—a major hit in the singles chart, on album and a headlining nationwide tour. The Band's name refers to the high quality educational materials used in Jamaican schools.

THE SOUND
The party started without *The Sound*. U2, Teardrop Explodes and Echo and the Bunnymen were all there early; their tense sound tracks were already on the turntable, courted and championed. *The Sound* arrived late, made off with the women and cutlery; they may yet make off with all the honours too.

Released last November, *The Sound's* debut album, "Jeopardy" was a stark essay in contemporary anxiety; compelling, worrying, impatient, in menace. The production jettisoned every conventional effect that might have deflected the listeners' attention from the emotional centre of its songs.

The Sound suggest themselves as potentially the best exponents of bare knuckle rock dynamics since the Attractions wrested Elvis Costello's repertoire to the floor on "this year's repertoire" (*The Sound's* "Heartland" has the same kind of venomous adrenal rush as say "Lipstick Vogue"). *The Sound* are a superb live act.



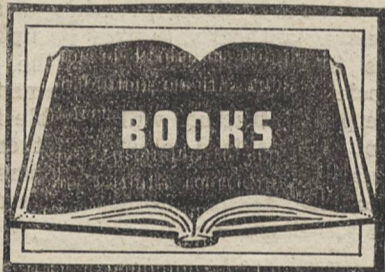
have stepped out of the shadows.

In character, A Certain Ratio unite Funk, Jazz and post modernism, but retain a level of sophistication that places them above idiomatic description and gives them a rare tag indeed—utter originality. This is the most contemporary sound around and can only develop as it acquires commercial status as surely it must.

To Each defies logical review and impartial description as it creates emotion only aesthetic beauty can induce and possesses a subjective hold only a supreme work of art can achieve.

With *To Each* A Certain Ratio have arrived and the world holds no bounds.

BUY IT OR STEAL IT!!!
Nick Goddard



AS ONE of Radio One's DJ's, Anne Nightingale is more known for the spoken or recorded word than the written one. In the introduction to this new book she confesses that she doesn't like writing, was reluctant to do the book and started off by trying to compose it by speaking into a tape-recorder.

The result, subtitled "Music Memories and Memorabilia," is a collection of episodes and souvenirs from the late 60s up to 1980 which vary considerably in perspective. Several chapters, especially the earlier ones, record events that happened while Ms Nightingale was around, while the rest happen around her.

With this division we have two incomplete books within the same cover. Parts provide a basis for an Anne Nightingale autobiography, while others would be useful as parts of a fuller history of rock music in the last decade. A compromise between the publisher's original intentions, 'a book about the Seventies,' and the author's objections to writing one is obvious.

Having said that, the book has its interesting and illuminating parts, revealing yet more bizarre Keith Moon stunts, the passion of the Police for photographing their every movement and sheds a bit of light on audiences:—

I met two girls on the Clash White Riot tour. One had two safety pins through her ear.

"Does it hurt when you put them in?" I asked her.

"Nah, I just meditate while I'm doing it."

Was this a Hippy in punk clothing?

"What do you meditate about?"

"Beans, baked beans, I hate 'em."

Padding out the text to its 120 pages are photos of groups, album covers, badges and clothing spanning the last decade. The inclusion of some of these I found rather puzzling—a black and white photo of the author's anorak, and the full-page picture of the running order for a Police concert scrawled on a piece of hotel notepaper.

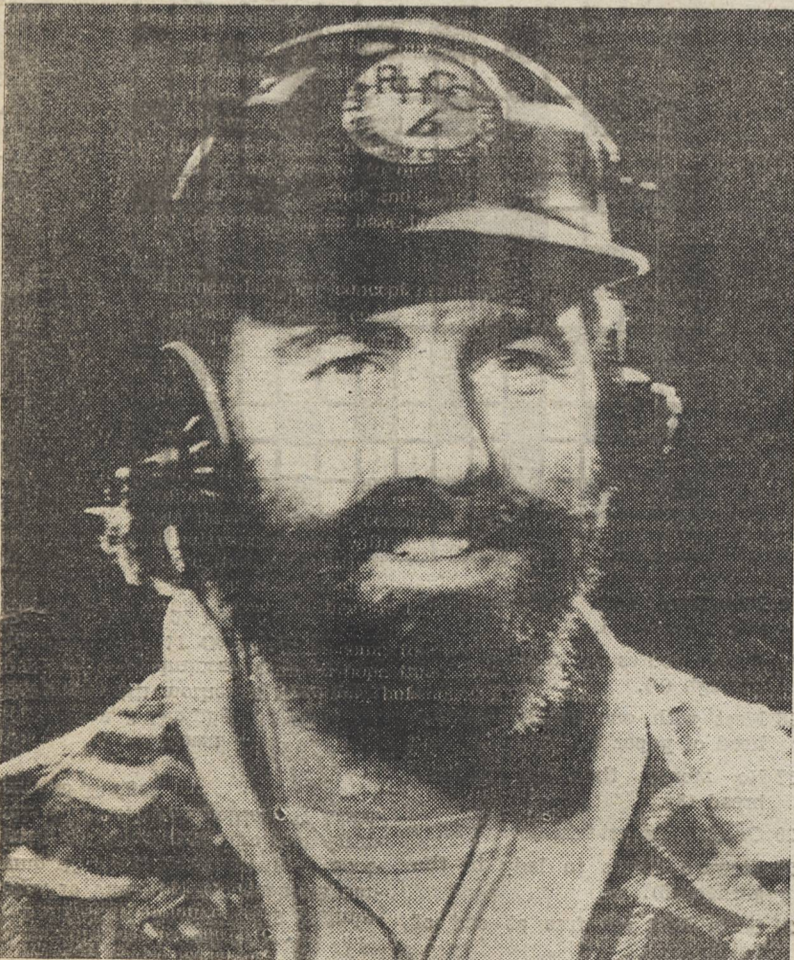
The book whets the appetite but fails to fill the stomach, its main failing being its structure of detailed episodes chronologically way apart with no real

links in between. It is perhaps best read a chapter at a time in spare moments.

FACT 4

Compiled by the Men of Straw collective

The latest edition of this scurrilous publication hits the streets claiming to be the smuttiest yet. Scandal and revelations abound but this time are spread over a wider area; in the previous issue all the contributors seemed to be writing about each other. The new batch of S.U. officials provide more than enough to keep the piranas fed. Want to know more? Go out and buy the rag. Copies to be had from Nic Newman or anyone else you may find around the ENTS room.



Roy Harper, folk singer and LSE regular guest. His performance on Saturday floated delicately above the pile of rotting Afghan coats in the audience.

Anne Nightingale
CHASE THE FADE
Music Memories & Memorabilia

Available from Bookshops £5.95

A personal account of over ten years association with the music scene, featuring 32 pages of full colour illustrations. Published by BLANDFORD PRESS, Robert Rogers House, New Orchard, Poole, Dorset BH15 1LU on 27th April, 1981.



CRICKET

UNTIL this week the L.S.E. Cricket Club had been plagued by bad weather and had only completed one of their four "friendly" matches. However, after a mild setback at Kent in mid-week both the first and second XIs qualified for the next round of the UAU championship.

The Firsts made 235 in their allotted 60 overs thanks principally to a Stuart Waterton century and a 50 from Nick Brown. With tight bowling and fielding, Sussex were restricted to 180 in reply. The Seconds also boasted a century-maker in Ben Holden and with a whirlwind 50 by Randell Worrell amassed 249, which easily proved to be a winning score.

F.A.B.—'DESY'

HOCKEY

Ladies hit Bath — with little impact

After a near disastrous season, thwarted by cancelled matches and an under-staffed team, we set off for the U.A.U. Ladies Indoor Hockey Tournament at Bath University. Well, on any terms this was ambitious, but added was the fact that the Tournament took place the day after the Rag Ball and we had to set off at 8 a.m., a fact I'm not sure the players realized as most of the team boarded the coach with their eyes closed!

We were to play under great difficulties — the major one being none of us had ever played indoor hockey before, although we thought we'd got it sorted out by going over the rules on the coach, but when we saw our draw a little more knowledge than just which way to hold the stick was required!! We wondered why U.E.A. had bothered coming all the way from Norwich but when we played them we knew why. On to our next defeat, when we played Bristol; we were afterwards consoled by the knowledge that out of a six-a-side team, two were in the England squad!! But not all was gloomy, we got a draw with City University who were luckily taking it in the same frame of mind as us — humorous. After these three matches we played the home team and by now we had gathered a few of the basic techniques and I must say we played "brilliantly" — only letting an extremely lucky goal i.e. a deflection, in, in the last minute.

By the end of the day we were all too tired to mull over our results but we all agreed it was a very enjoyable day and will hope to be better prepared for next year.

I must mention that every player who went played really well especially Liz and Judy who at varying times played in goal and saved us from extremely embarrassing scores. Despite a fixture list badly affected by the weather, I was

pleased to see the improvement in players whom I've now played with for two years and also the great set of first years who have promised to stay in our ranks next season and it is a shame we have to lose a late-comer but one of our most enthusiastic players, Elsa.

Hopefully next season, consistent fixtures and more players joining our ranks will bring us some success in the U.L.U. League which we have now joined.

I personally would like to thank all the players for making my term as Captain an enjoyable if not hectic one. I look forward to being just "a player" next season.

Gill Harris

Anyone for tennis?

L.S.E. has one men's tennis team and is hoping to run another. If anyone is interested please see Mark or Martyn in the A.U. offices.

SITS. VAC

A new post is being created in the **THREE TUNS BAR** as an **ASSISTANT** to Chas Holmes.

The job will entail a maximum of 15 hours a week and will pay £5 a week retainer during term time plus £1.50 per hour as worked.

Anybody who is interested can collect an application form from E297.

APPLICANTS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE REASONABLE EXPERIENCE.

VIVE L'ANARCHIE!

ANARCHY, an idea both individualistic and communal, both spiritual and political, both violent and peaceful, a word which is an endless row of paradoxes, firing many men's imagination and driving them to heroic and seemingly lunatic actions.

Why? What is it about this idea? It seems as if it is infinitely malleable and adaptable to all kinds of questions, temperaments and predicaments.

Anarchy to a social reformer may represent the blueprint of the ultimate Utopia where man has, through the purity and goodness of his soul, transcended the need for oppressive authority which dictates what it claims is best for society, and has at last become responsible for himself such that through sharing earth, food, the means of production, friends, emotions and love he reveals his true self and hence his natural goodness.

Anarchy to a discontented social critic may show the only way of finally abolishing and crushing what he perceives as a rotten, corrupt, unjust, cruel and selfish society whose values, because they uphold such qualities, totally alienate man from his true nature, hence preserving only the species of humanity which will perpetuate this pattern. Only by a total rejection of all these values and then by complete dedication to destruction of their source, will a truly humane society come about.

Compromise? Never — because it is impossible to mix good and evil, black and white.

Anarchy, then, preaches a simple lesson: destroy authority, destroy its upholders, destroy its figureheads and once the first pillar of society is brought down, the rest of the rotten, despised, structure will crumble fast. It appeals not to organised violence, rather to the individual, hence it has a very personal message: violence against authority becomes a means of self-liberation.

This is where anarchy often becomes embroiled with the idea that it is in fact a justification of criminal acts: that, whereas before a psychopath would shoot a politician (say) and have nothing to say to account for his crime, now he cries, "Vive L'Anarchie!" and he becomes a martyr, a hero, a new cause for more terrorist attacks against authority.

But this is putting the horse before the cart, it is justifying the ends with easily-found means — a true, dedicated Anarchist is no inherently-born criminal, murderer; he is one who loves his fellow man so much that he is forced, out of this love, to kill him whom he perceives as oppressing, destroying, exploiting his neighbour — a true Anarchist, because he dedicates himself utterly to something he believes is true: the goodness of man and the greatness of his potential and, looking around him, sees instead, exploitation, oppression, greed, selfishness, the fat rich, the starving poor, the bourgeoisie who have "psychological" problems because they have so much time to self-indulge and create their own difficulties, the toiling "lumpenproletariat" who because of malnutrition, job alienation (if they're lucky enough to be employed), horrible working conditions, degradation, no self-respect, needs that never get satisfied, become mindless, and because the Anarchist becomes totally exasperated and sees no other means of rectifying the situation, is driven, compelled to an act which will confirm his belief and cleanse his soul: destroy that which is destroying him.

Self-defence and, altruistically, a total striving for justice, peace, and happiness will result from a general and equitable satisfaction of material and social needs.

Hence Anarchic means are a contradiction to the final stage of Anarchy; it uses hate, passion, violence, blood, pain and death to achieve justice, equality, peace, happiness, goodness.

Hate leads to love: violence to peace.

It is not the crime which makes the Anarchist, it is the Anarchist who is pushed into crime.

Anarchy is in a way existentialist: it has a total trust in mankind's good nature and believes that once the chains which suffocate it are broken, then man can, himself, create a world fit for gods. Anarchy uses the Devil's tools to kill the State, authority, private property and the parasitic bourgeoisie, and calls upon each man's Jesus to found a Paradise, not in the heavens and after life, but on earth and now.

A. K. Diamantopoulos

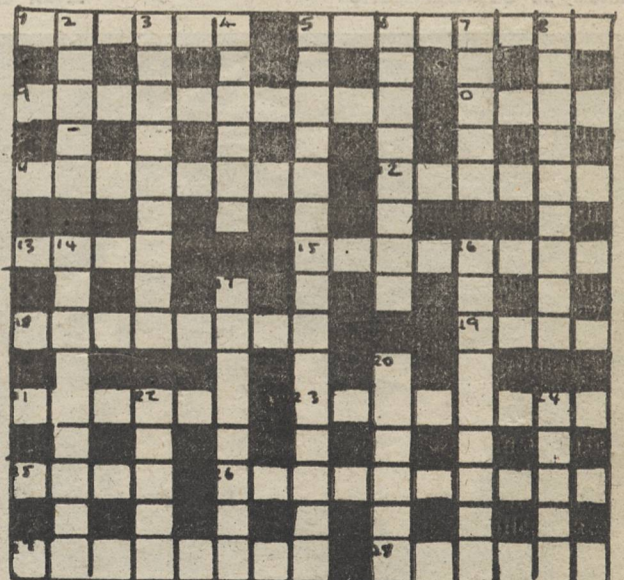
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Fruit is cheap from France (6).
- Change in autumn breeze brings about unexpected legacy (8).
- Lucin and mates combine to reach the peak (10).
- Welshman disturbed to see top of windmill (4).
- Telephone company pressed for attention (8).
- Mob cry disturbed flowering form (6).
- Droop over flat stone (4).
- Simple hearted one gives hostility no money (8).
- Track in Labour leaders garden (8).
- Is this cape amongst June's stoies? (4).
- Union Rep trapped by end of lunch in building (6).
- Clothes are above everyone (8).
- Probably not a speedy little plum (4).
- Showing of Newcastle ale (10).
- Legal advisor assists the magistrate (9).
- Money plan filled little sack (6).

DOWN

- Feathers in Charlie's hat? (5).
- Florrie spread this brightness (9).
- Order to bed for cruel imitation (4,2).
- Old girl has time piece which was on the television (5, 4, 6).
- Ricket head pries into pince seed (4,4).
- Duke's portrait weighs a few pounds (5).
- Incautious step explodes Mal and Dennis (9).
- Escape routes for driving buses through (9).
- Meet with one in the eye for head of paper (9).
- No money then go without bread (8).
- One, nil! Robert take note (3, 3).
- Steward refers to lady in the garden (5).
- Scots Earl set free at end of battle (5).



1 Apple, 5 Windfall, 9 Cullin-ates, 10 Vane, 11 Bell push, 12 Cor-amp, 13 Flag, 15 Innocent, 18 Foot- bath, 19 Ness, 21 Church, 23 Over- alls, 25 Shoe, 26 Exhibition, 27 Asses- sor, 28 Budget.
2 Plume, 3 Lamplight, 4 Send up, 5 Watch with mother, 6 Nose cone, 7 River, 8 Landmines, 14 Loopholes, 16 Contacted, 17 Cashless, 20 Ten- Bob, 22 Reeve, 24 Loose.

SOLUTIONS