

# BEAVER

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NEWSPAPER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS STUDENTS' UNION

No. 98 5th March, 1970

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## NO OCCUPATION But full support for other Unions

L.S.E.'s fighting spirit vanished at the Union meeting last Friday (27th February) when the issue of political files was the only topic of debate. The flippant mood with which the meeting began pervaded (for) most of the 2 hour session and little was done in the way of concrete resolutions. After the scandalous business at Warwick University, Messrs. P. Glatter and P. Smith proposed a motion, placed at the bottom of a long agenda, calling for Union to congratulate students at Edinburgh and Warwick in exposing "the true relationship between universities and business, and pledges its support to all actions of a similar nature". What form this support would take was unspecified: presumably in the nature of Pryce-type telegrams, like the one he sent to Edinburgh some time after the letters were found: "Full support for your present policy, good luck; Chris Pryce".

The meeting was packed, and voted to move this motion to the top of (the list of motions), and with the agreement of the proposers a long and more precise amendment, put forward by Martin Shaw and Neil Lockwood, was added. The essence of it was congratulations to students for exposing the collaboration of Universities and Big Business, and the way businesses have used their position on the governing bodies of universities "in the interest of profits".

But it also proposed that Union demand of the Director that no political files be kept on staff or students; no political tests be conducted and an end to the control of universities by business interests.

The final demand came as something of a shock to the meeting, and is one over which the Governors have said they will not climb

down: "As a first step" towards preventing such discrimination Union demands that it be allowed to send two observers to all interviews for admission of students and any other meeting where admissions, either in general or of individual students, are discussed."

But these issues were never discussed directly, and the matter was taken to a higher and more general level plain. In a verbose but historically interesting speech Mr. Philip Corrigan outlined political censorship in L.S.E. from the time of the Webbs, in which the Rockefellers and Ford Foundation played a large part in selecting the right staff for the right students. In further speeches from Messrs. Shaw and Lockwood (the latter pointed out how much the standard of debate had degenerated, and how right he was: one speaker for the motion had occasion to utter 53 ums and ers in 4 minutes) they almost contradicted the nature of their motion. Searching files is not good though, they maintained; the whole issue is just a symptom of a greater sickness in society, where the people with money (businessmen) control everybody else, and people who need money (universities) have to prostitute themselves in order to get it.

Mr. Shaw said that his experience had indicated that such political files did exist, even though he had only seen files not containing any political aspects.

The motion also proposed that two delegates be appointed to an Investigating Committee (other members of the committee were not specified) to examine political files. Mr. Alan Gillie came out firmly against this idea. He said "the action of sit-ins is going to be ineffective" because of the protection of files (in the vaults of the Westminster Bank? What must be done is to diminish the influence of big industrialists.

But by a majority of only

five, in which almost everyone present voted, the meeting decided to appoint Messrs. Lockwood and Corrigan to the Investigating Committee.

However, the motion as it was read out in all its length, and as it was *not* subsequently debated, was passed by an overwhelming majority. But nothing concrete has been decided: it was agreed that what had happened at Warwick and is suspected at L.S.E. is just part of the wider issue of who exploits whom; and it was agreed that examining files will solve nothing — but the motion as passed said examine files.

Dave Rumble and Angela Greatley withdrew their emergency motion proposing a 24-hour sit-in of Connaught House "in view of what has been discussed at this meeting" said Mr. Rumble, but the tone of the meeting at the end suggested that it would have been defeated.

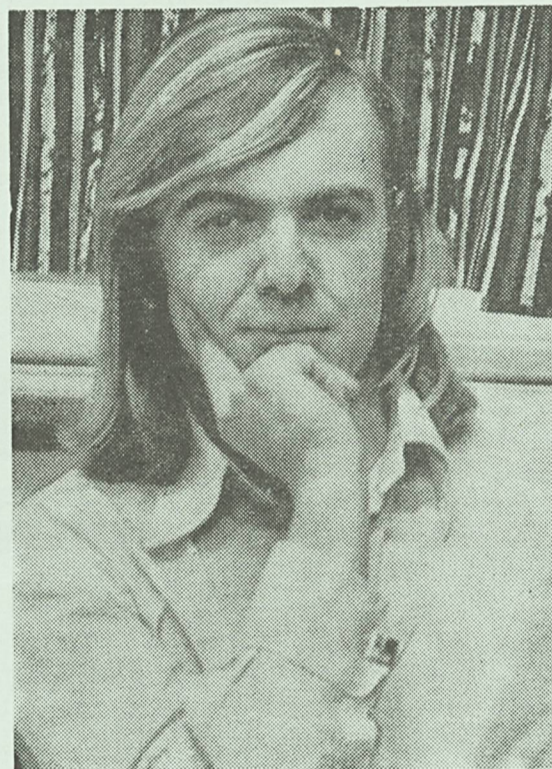
### CONTRACEPTIVE MACHINE

Beaver announced in its issue of the 5th February, the possibility of installing a contraceptive machine in the L.S.E. David Kenvyn, Senior treasurer, seems to have come to a final agreement with the company in question. The only problem left is to know where its going to be fixed: the men's lavatories seem to be the most qualified place.

Now the discussion is opened: if the females feel frustrated by this decision the columns of Beaver are opened to them.

If the quarrel gets very hot, an extra machine could be installed in the women's lavatory: the cost of installation is completely free.

## New DP voted in by Friends?



Andrew Hickley — the new D.P.

The Labour Society has again had its traditional hold on the Position of Deputy President broken. For the last few years this position has been monopolised by the society, but this year sees a more left-wing gentleman elected into office in the form of Mr. Andrew Hickley, a figure marked out by his long blonde hair and apparent knowledge of every woman in L.S.E.

Mr. Hickley took 104 first preference votes in a total turn-out of 202, in the quietest election this session. Dave Rumble re-stood as General Secretary and was returned unopposed without reaching the ballot paper.

On first preference John Andrews took 63 votes and Lab. Soc. candidate Andrew Milner got a mere 29. What happened to your supporters Andrew? Also Milner's second preferences were divided fairly evenly between the other two candidates, showing apparent confusion among the electorate.

There is a theory in 'Beaver' office that Mr. Hickley's support came exclusively from ex-girl friends, Dram. Soc. and other friends. "It really was a boring election," said Mr. Hickley.

A feature of this election was the way in which the candidates respected the rights of the individual by adopting a policy of only handing out election manifestos when asked (politely) to do so . . . or by females who looked as though they wanted to talk about it.

All three candidates for D.P. are of the opinion that this was the most civilised and neglected election since Gideon Ben-Israel in 1953.

The election post-mortem was transferred to the bar where candidates and advisers were involved in detailed discussion (we think) during which every problem past and present relating to L.S.E. was thrashed out with the help of a little alcoholic enlightenment.

A comment from Mr. Hickley was "On a body as unrepresentative as Union Council there is a claim to fame to be able to say that I am the most unrepresentative person on it".

## Population Explosion Reaches L.S.E.

At present there is a chronic shortage of society rooms within L.S.E., and the situation is shortly going to get even worse when at least five rooms, previously available to societies, will be taken off the booking list. In fact there is only one true society room S167 (next to Florries), the rest are rooms made available by the school, through the students' union, for use by the societies.

As Beaver has previously reported, the school will soon be losing one of its present buildings, which will further reduce the number of rooms available.

Why when the new building was being planned, was no provision made for school societies? The majority of the new rooms are of the small office type, and in any case are permanently occupied, hence never available for booking.

The future holds no promise of improvement, in fact quite the opposite. There are no new buildings planned, and the use by the school of rooms previously available to societies is increasing. The whole students union is short of space, can anything be done in any way to improve the situation?

In short the answer is no: all that can be done is to re-allocate existing rooms, which in itself is increasingly difficult to do effectively, and in any case is no real solution to anything.



# ACTION FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH

The events of the last few months have taught us exactly what we can expect of World Public Opinion. Unmistakably something has happened, an unconscious feeling, rather disturbing, has been worrying a great majority of people, if I may say so, all over the world. The mass media organs have been bombarding us lately with emotional pictures, ideas, etc. . . . Some of us don't know any longer how to express our horror. In fact we have never passed the state of words in this kind of subject. Only the strength of the words used is in question. It is not worth trying to give a definition of what world opinion is, for the basis to it would be words, and they are known for their weakness.

In general world justice has a more powerful attribute. Biafra, the Middle East . . . , the Civilized world have one important common factor: the law of the strongest. This reproduces itself with fidelity in the minds of those who make world public opinion. Even

we the 'silent' spectators, in our intimacy decide what we are going to stand up for. It has become a matter of partisanship: the importance of this idea depends in fact on how strong are the roots of the initial feeling towards the favoured side. The diversity of human nature explains why we always go on the side of the oppressed: our opponent is the aggressor! What we don't realise is that we take sides according to our own value judgement, with the strongest party: everybody believes that their side is the rightful one. It is a similar process in world opinion, for from the very start our position is fixed.

We have grown accustomed to the Vietnam, the Middle East, Nigeria, South Africa . . . we talked about it at the beginning, we knew it existed, and we pretend we were right in what we said when it ends.

Lately we have found a solution to this dilemma, the United Nations are our constant representatives in expressing our sorrow. We have

appointed it undemocratically, leader of world opinion. For once we should congratulate ourselves, for not having made use of our democratic prerogatives, for if we had, probably the UN would still be a pile of half forgotten dossiers. So if we agree that world opinion should be just that, I fear that the world is not left with much dignity.

No, by definition world opinion cannot limit itself to that. Interests are the main rule of the game. Whenever somebody touches our interests we are confident in having world opinion on our side. There is no search to know where justice stands or who were the real instigators of The Crime, and how to keep it from happening again. As long as this lasts, world opinion will be limited to the interests of those who have the power to transform them into action.

From the use of sterile words and emotions in the expression of world opinion, some groups have now decided to follow a completely new track:

action. Too alienated by their daily lives people have forgotten that they are the creators of justice, and therefore the only real judges. "The national self-interest is superior to international justice," the highest principle of any successful government, some political writers would say. But one wonders if they haven't taken their assignment too far as to ignore completely that in a community, from a tribe to the community of nations, there exists the idea of RESPONSIBILITY. In whatever system you believe or live, socialist or capitalist, it does not seem possible to get out of this vicious circle. When you try, the consequences are such that discouragement is probably the highest virus of any movement. Most times the sacrifice is not worth it. By involving yourself alone, you will only manage to get a few words of pity or a headline in the corner of some unknown newspaper. In the best of cases, you might become a national hero, like Jan Palach, and don't forget there will always be somebody to say that you were a masochist or something of the kind.

But let's be practical. The 20th century lives on numbers and everlasting sums: the more the better (or the worse). So when it comes to world public opinion, the rules should be the same.

Sociologists talk of reception and comprehension of information as only applicable to certain categories: politicians, academics, students, businessmen. But what about the rest of the people, they have the right to judge and act accordingly in the expression of their opinion. The problem is that we who are supposed to show them the ways of doing it, blinded by our own self-importance, forget to do so. Conscious action seems to be the last resource. To transform the meaning of the expression "world opinion" is worth any sacrifice, even that of being misjudged in your intentions. But in any movement that has a useful aim, we must be aware of those who are not sincere in their action. It is aimed at the accomplishment of their ambitions, this they will do by playing with people's feelings.

World public opinion should not only feel shocked, but should create enough power to intimidate crime and justice. Power can only exist in our century when the numbers are large: so it is the role of the majority to defend the minority when it is oppressed. The student movements of our generation are the growing signs of this new belief. France, May '68 was only a step, many others will have to follow before we reach our aim: A new meaning to the expression "world public opinion." **N.B.**

## APOLOGIES ALL ROUND

Dear Editor,

At the Union Meeting on Friday, Feb. 13th we moved a motion of censure on the President and President Elect concerning their conduct in the Presidential Elections. The motion was moved in some haste, for various reasons, and was based on investigation it appears that formation received regarding misconduct. On further uncertain allegations were totally groundless, specifically those relating to Miss Pickford and Messrs. McGill and Blair, and that certain of the sources were biased and unreliable. We would, therefore, like to withdraw all the allegations concerning misconduct as being groundless.

We accept the overwhelming defeat of the motion as being Union's decision on this topic and further recog-

nise the defeat of Miss Dunwell's addendum censuring the President for his actions in office as also the decision of Union and an expression of overwhelming support for the President and his policies. In the light of the unreliability of the evidence for the motion we support the decisions of Union on both counts. We regret certain misunderstandings which arose concerning our support for the President, the office of President and for the policies pursued, our support has never been in doubt.

Finally, there have been suggestions that we were motivated by political conspiracy and 'careerist ambitions', neither of these allegations has any substance whatsoever, our sole motive being the welfare of the Student Body.

R. A. COLLIER  
SIMON CANNELL

## LETTERS

### FRESHER'S CONFERENCE

Dear Madam,

With reference to the General Secretary's letter of 4th February, 1970, to all society secretaries concerning the arrangements for this year's Fresher's Reception, the Committee of Con. Soc. would like to express their deep regret and disapproval over the abolition of the provision which en-

abled societies to solicit en masse at this occasion for new members. It is the view of the Committee that this provision served a valuable function and in the light of this we ask that in some similar form is should be restored.

Your sincerely,  
CLIFFORD J. DEAR,  
Secretary Con. Soc.

### ADELSTEIN REPLIES

Dear Editor,

Roy Wolfe, in his "exposé" of "L.S.E. and Liberalism" seems to be making two points:

(1). That the student movement is an imaginary figment. In reply I would point out that the contemporary and simultaneous eruption of students in Japan, West German, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, U.S.A., and, even to a certain extent, in Britain, is hardly a chimera. Nor is it merely a result of "pressures and frustrations which the education process puts on students," which have always existed. The reasons for this insurgence must lie in the contradictions of present-day capitalism, some theories of which were summarised in the pamphlet. Incidentally, the statement that "students and youth (are) at the forefront of this conflict" does not mean that every student and youth is a revolutionary. It does not even imply that students and youth constitute a class: of course they do not. All it means is that the structural location of students and youth is at a point where capitalism's contradictions are active. Wolfe confuses a social category with its individual members.

(2). That the pamphlet advocates "non-conscious, spontaneous action" in order only

to serve a "psychotherapeutic function."

In reply I would observe that the statement that students are impatient, which Wolfe cites from the pamphlet, is a criticism of this impatience, not a call to blind action. Again, in the discussion of violence the pamphlet specifically criticises an existentialist viewpoint which might "justify untheoretical action". Moreover, the entire use of the concept "critical action" is in contrast to mere impulsive catharses. "Critical" denotes precisely that action which is the product theory, in other words, action which is conscious and non-spontaneous. Such a basic distortion does, however, allow Wolfe to introduce the "Tate" murders and "queer bashing" in order to denigrate the pamphlet.

The pamphlet was written in response to the situation in L.S.E. last year and only touches upon a limited number of the issues. Its main contention, that capitalism's increasing reliance on mental forces of production gives rise to particular theoretical implications for traditional notions of free-speech, democracy and violence, are not mentioned by Wolfe. It has, nevertheless, provoked at least some interesting discussion and criticism elsewhere.

DAVID ADELSTEIN

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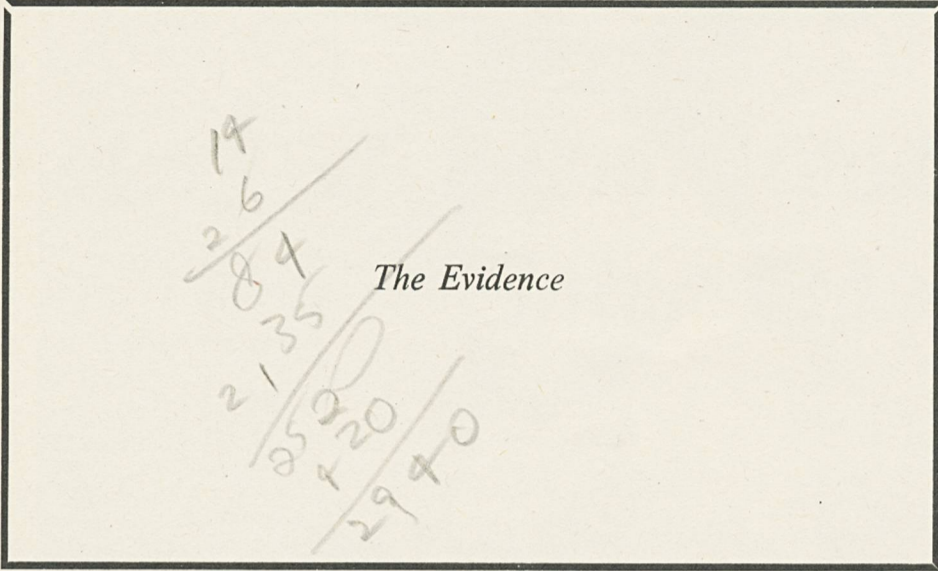
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# WHAT WE ARE NOT FREE TO PRINT:



The Evidence

The "Warwick Letters" which we cannot print in the space above raises the following issues:—

Political discrimination is accepted and operated by ruling bodies to serve their own interests.

Injunctions can be made out by these bodies to prevent all discussion on the question, amounting to private CENSORSHIP.

No justification or comment has come from the people who write or received these letters, proving their own guilt.

# FILES? L.S.E.?

At the time of going to press (Sunday, 1st March) it is understood that Dr. Adams will see the student delegation early next week. May one anticipate the outcome of this meeting? It will be pointed out by the administration that no political files are kept on students. Indeed, it is the view of the President and others that there are no such files, and furthermore that the School would have no use for them. In accordance with the decisions of the Committee of the Vice-Chancellors it will be pointed out that there will be no political tests in students admissions. No doubt the Warwick affair was a lamentable lapse.

"The University does not exist in a vacuum. It is paid for by society and the cost is high" (*The Times*, 28 February)—but not as high as in the United States.

Prescinding from the wider issues relating to the role of the university in society it is worth while considering one or two points that have

emerged from the latest Union discussions. Perhaps it would be wise to take seriously the headlines in Manchester's paper, 'Independent': "The only big news is Warwick" (24th February). The situation at Warwick university appears unique in many respects. Admittedly it highlights a serious and disturbing problem, one that many people are well aware of; however, it would be misleading to assume that LSE falls into the same 'category.' (pace: P. Corrigan). This would side track from those issues at LSE which should continue to attract the attention of all students namely, administration-students relations in general.

For this reason the, perhaps predictable, response of the authorities to the current demands of the students should not be dismissed too lightly. It is, after all, significant that Union should have taken this adventurous step of suggesting that discussions should be opened with the authorities, especially in view of all that has been said about the futility of such discussions in the past. Students would do well to consider the implications of this move. It would appear that prejudice against representation and discussion is not as ingrained as some would like to think.

If this is the case, then the withdrawal of the motion to 'occupy' is more than welcome. Whether the original proposer of the motion saw the futility of an occupation in terms of any immediate tangible gains or whether it was the realisation that such action would have been based on nothing substantial anyway,\* it is at least an indication of a changed climate of opinion. There was no occupation.

It is doubtful, incidentally, whether this had anything to do with the new set of rules and regulations. They are still suspect in any respects and it would be appropriate if discussions were to be reopened on this still very controversial issue. As they stand, they reflect the mistrust that currently prevails in administration-student relationships and are a discredit to the L.S.E. as a whole. We put it to the authorities that they give this matter further consideration.

\*Let it be noted, incidentally, that the report given in *Sennet* (2nd March) to the effect that the motion to occupy Connaught House was withdrawn purely on the grounds that there were not enough people on hand to make the sit-in effective, is positively misleading. There were enough people but the time spent by the Union in trying to convince itself of the wisdom of the move merely ensured that no effective occupation could take place anyway.

# WE ARE IN FOR THE COMPUTER IDENTITY

What is your opinion of the current type of union and admission cards, those flimsy cards that proclaim one a citizen of L.S.E. Are they really the best that can be provided: if we must have identification cards, why not something better than at present. The card's principal purpose is to gain admittance into the library and gain access to the ballot when, if ever, you vote. However, apart from the fact that the cards in use are apt to fall apart, they are also open to misuse. What is to stop a student using another person's card without his permission for certain purposes?

One solution would be to adopt the type of card shown above: now used: now used by over 50,000 students; it is produced by Polaroid, and is tamper resistant as well as being in full colour.

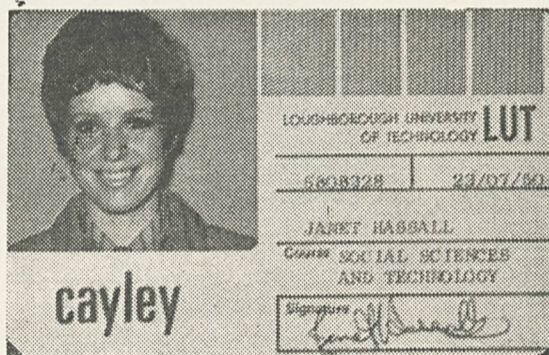
The cards can be produced in a matter of minutes and are available for immediate issue: using a flow line technique up to 200 cards an hour can be produced at a cost of around 2/6.

Because of the plastic laminated nature of the card, it has a number of uses. In addition to their role as straightforward identification

cards, they can also be worn as badges, for instance at inter-university functions or at the Fresher's Conference. Their nature also means that they would be acceptable for future use in mechanised data collection systems, which would appear to be inevitable in the future.

The card would also be useful when a check is made on people entering union meetings, and the photo would prevent someone using another person's card. They could also be used to prove one's identity, when (if ever) claiming concessions and services offered specially to students, and for when one is seeking credit facilities.

This system works in practice as shown by its success in universities such as Edinburgh, Kent and Aberdeen. True there is no desperate need to change L.S.E.'s system at present but there is a lot to be said for reforming it in the manner outlined above. In the long run it would appear that the introduction of such facilities as computer based library records of book issue would make a system such as this, which can incorporate magnetic or optical recognition symbols, inevitable.



### LOST

"A WHOLE BODY OF THE REALM" — BY G. R. ERTON (Printed by VIRGINIA PRESS).

### CONTACT:

Miss Lira Feigenbaum, Undergraduate Pigeon Holes.

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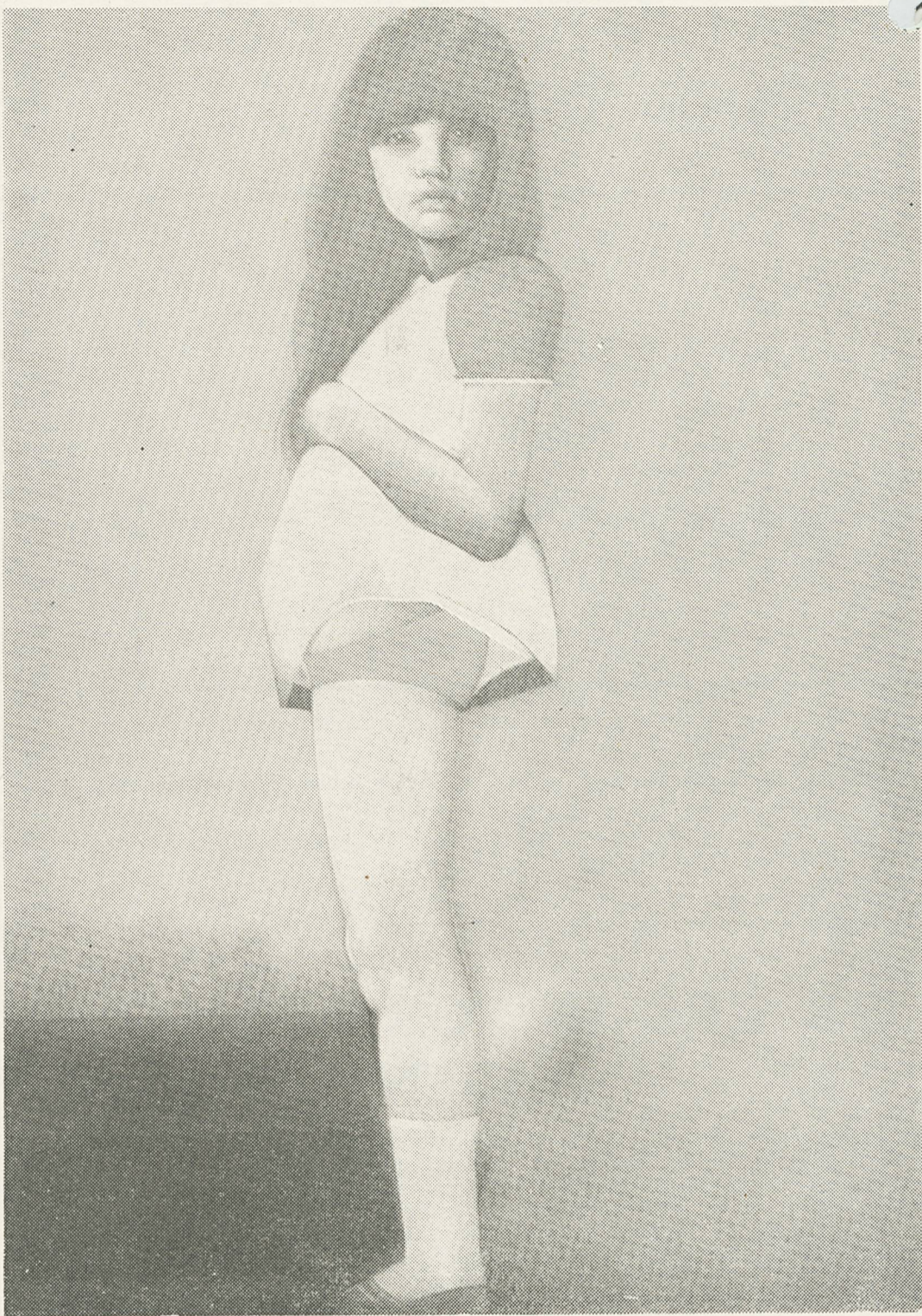
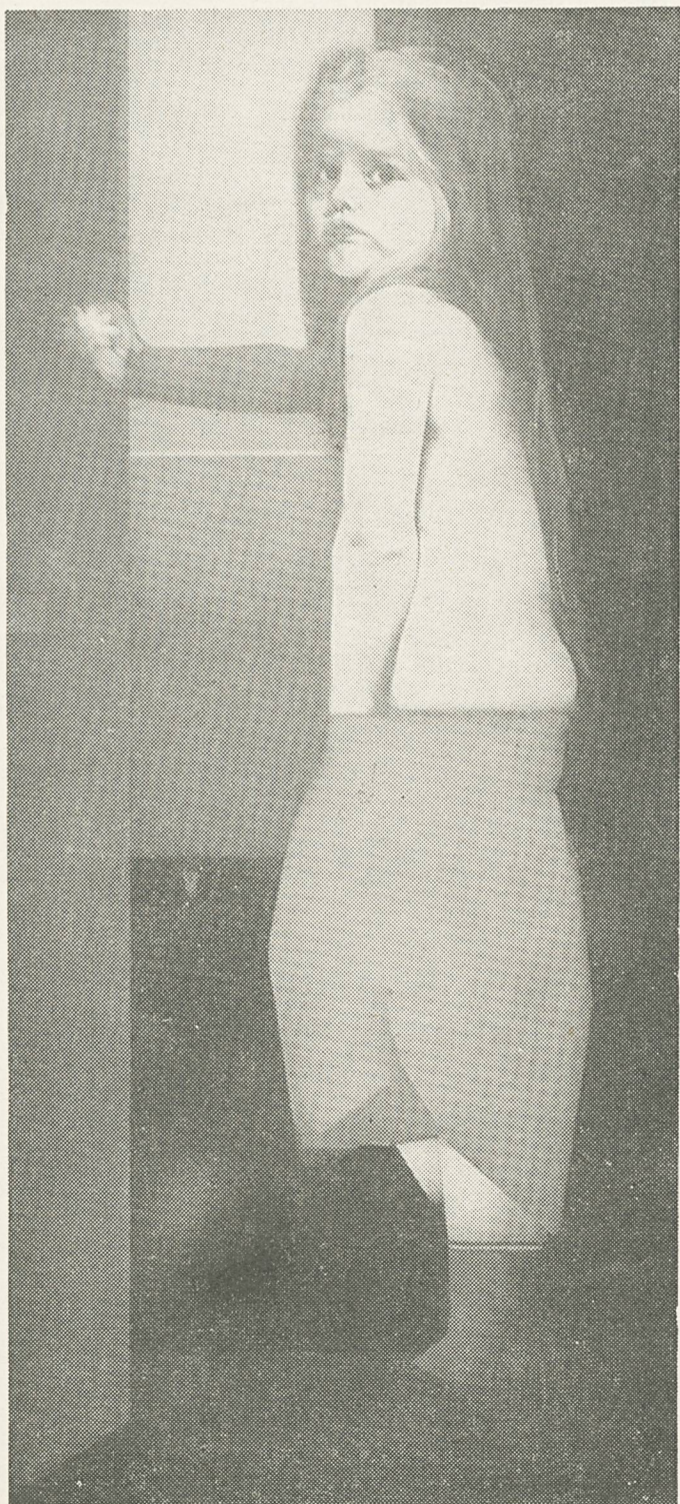
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# THANK HEAVEN FOR LITTLE GIRLS



THE Piccadilly Gallery (Cork Street) currently has an exhibition likely to tingle a good many nervous systems. On view are a series of frank and highly-charged paintings and drawings of little girls, beautifully executed by a young artist called Graham Ovenden.

It is hard to tell how far the vertigo-inducing atmosphere surrounding these works is created in the mind of the onlooker and how far it comes from the pre-pubescent subjects themselves. The poses of the little girls are completely natural; there is nothing exceptional in the expressions of coyness, enticement or terror on their faces. The artist is honest but also restrained; the fantasy is exquisitely powerful but vague.

It is the ambiguity which gives these works their remorseless validity. The very same frank gestures and revealing postures also express all the intensity of adult erotic awareness. The little girls' youth and innocence contain experience and corruption: purity is marked by incipient pustules of decay and death.

The onlooker (voyeur?) is involved in this ambiguity. Are the erotic fantasies that come to him from his own psyche or from the pictures? Does the arm encircling one of the girls, a cruel carmine nail poised over one of her nipples, belong to auntie, or to some depraved old transvestite?

These disturbing works are very vulnerable to accusations of decadence and perversion. They are pictures for the wall of an orgy room; but only if so regarded. More than this they have the healthiness of an uncompromising statement: they are all true. And they are a means of self-knowledge.

Graham Ovenden is here exploring a relatively untapped area of fantasy in art. The Rev. Charles Dodgson, alias Lewis Carroll, hovered on its edge; more recently Balthus, and especially Hans Bellmer, that wonderful unique artist, have dared to explore these particular correlations between nervous infirmity, psychopathology of the organism, and erotic vulnerability more fully.

Their work is far less decadent than the banality of our permissive society (worse usually in the Bond Street Galleries than anywhere), carefully balanced to sustain the system. Fear of that being upset is what keeps most of the critics (not to mention Mary Whitehouse who would have a fit at these pictures) well away from this beautiful exhibition.

PETER INCH



# Myrtle's Method

## A story of human tenderness in the old, cold-war era of inter-departmental factionalism

It was not until the first evening of the rapid reading course, that Myrtle experienced passion. As she sat there watching the print flit across the screen, the pencil trembled under her fingers, rattling her Mexican peasant rings and describing little parabolas on her Jumbo Economy Pad. Who was he? What was his department — this man who a few moments before, had burnt up seven hundred words a minute, his eyes scorching over the pages of Godel's proof, like a laser-beam burning sausages? Why was he here?

Life had not been easy for Myrtle: in particular, as the only working class student in the Anthropology Department, she had been wondering if she was an administrative error. She had spent the first month perfecting her English at the Language Laboratory and concocting a genealogy, so that no-one asking who her Mother's brother's wife's patrilineal cross-cousin was, should catch her at a loss for names. In addition, she had adopted the middle-class peasant costume and Greek shoulder-bag that were de rigueur among her colleagues, and had covered the inadequacies of her eating habits by substituting chop-sticks for Western ironmongery. Still she felt dogged by her past: in the library she always seemed to attract deviants. The man sitting by her would scratch obsessively, or underline every word he read in three colours, grunting with enthusiasm. At other times she would find herself in a row of hairy students, plucking out their split-ends; miraculously next to a department sage, she would listen as disciple after disciple would come up asking for advice or books, or recognition. Once she had watched fascinated, as a middle-aged enthusiast had gone on sharpening three full pencils in a row — on and on until only the stubs were left — and had then gone out humming. College life seemed so alien altogether.

One day, unable to bear it any longer, she had taken an overdose of Lévi-Strauss, purged herself of Malinowski, and was unable to function at all. The doctor had prescribed a rapid reading course, and here she was, testing her abilities with a filmed account of the life of Napoleon. The film came to an end, and she looked round to where the dark-haired young man had opened a little book called "Principia Mathematica" and was flicking over the pages one by one, his face wrapped in concentration and a green fur hood. Suddenly he raised his eyes, and in a flash had read her expression, the titles of all the books on her desk and the NO SMOKING sign behind her head.

"What is it?" he whispered between smiling lips. "What?" she replied cautiously. Half an hour later they were sitting together in the steaming noisy subterranean excitement of the Three Nuns Bar. All around them, gay students were tilting glasses, singing and casting away their cigarette coupons; the warm air was full of the strains of music and beery breaths, and the one-armed bandit was claiming a steady stream of young economists, learning to shape the nation's future. Myrtle and Jim sat there quietly, overawed by the boisterous gaiety on every side, absorbed by each other's presence and by the sudden fire which was flaring between them and hissing in the froth on their beers. Jim sighed and loosened the hood of his ex-US Army Arctic combat jacket; Myrtle made a swift appraisal of his dark eyes, his large manly hands gripping the mug, the aesthetic individualism of his green padded coat and his long, jungle-camouflage trousers, the practicality of his fur hat and desert-boots. He surveyed her nebulous tweed blouse and her purple, folk-weave culotte under a brown cycling cape, which hinted at her graceful form.

"I learned to read when I was three," he said. "It was necessity. My mother was short-sighted; all packets and tubes were the same to her. When she was stirring in a packet, you didn't know whether to wash you hair in it, or get out the soup-spoons. By the time I was four I could read every title on the shelf, the Times editorial and the gas meter. Then I took up the violin."



Myrtle's eyes filled with tears, and she began to tell him her problems; hers had been such a dull career by comparison. What could she offer? What in her humdrum life could possibly interest? She turned away, pensively. She could not see Jim's face lit with a sudden enthusiasm.

"You should come to some of Lottatosh's lectures," he said, changing the subject as if in an effort to break her reverie. "He's lecturing in scientific method. It's just what you need."

Myrtle's face was transformed with a sudden flow of excitement — but it was short-lived. She turned away again, and her eyes held a strange sadness. "How I wish I could," she volunteered at last. "But Professor Boundman would never let me, I know it". She thought of her examinations, remembering what had happened to poor little Jarvie. Yes indeed, they both knew it was unthinkable that she could desert magic, religion and the comparative method, for Lottatosh and his rival gang.

Jim waxed logical on the legend of this methodological commissar, how hungary (sic) to justify himself for seventeen year's field-work among the Vulgar-Marxlanders. Like a latter-day Savonarola, he was conducting a campaign of purge and denunciation, with the skills he had acquired as a shaman among the peasants, in the days before his informants had conspired against him. Myrtle had heard that he strode about with his henchmen, seeking out heretics, and that ecstatic followers leapt to his defence in the name of Reason. But Myrtle was a good girl. She could never give up the cargo cult, the myths and rituals on which her department depended, for the seductive lure of rationalism. A moment of sympathy passed between them, a sudden desperation. They finished their beer in a single harmonic gulp, and walked out hand in hand into the cold night air.

The sadness which characterized their first meeting was soon forgotten. The days passed in a flurry of academic activity. Myrtle started to read at a hundred words a minute: Jim had now devoured the whole philosophy library, and had moved on to the Sociology, taking in the periodicals room in one morning. Every day they would meet to talk for three quarters of an hour in the lunch queue and then clear themselves a little corner in the huge

rubble of dirty plates and forks, gravy and yogurt cartons which surmounted the tables. Myrtle wished it would go on forever: the days passing, each more stimulating than the last, her cup filled . . . .

One day, however, Myrtle realised that she could not go on as they were any longer; something inside her demanded more; the fire that he had kindled that first evening when he had spoken of Lottatosh, would not die down. They were sitting in the Study Room, discussing African Systems of Marriage. Suddenly, Myrtle stood up, her peasant head-scarf fluttering with emotion:

"It's no good," she said, faltering at first, and then firm and determined. "I cannot help myself. I must join the movement, whatever the consequences. Tell me when I must go."

Jim was overcome with joy. With one bound he was at her side, enfolding her in his Arctic battle-dress. "Come at seven on Thursday," he whispered. "But what will you tell Boundman and Woodchuck, Morass and Counterfeit — all the people who care for you? Can I take you from them? Can I?"

Myrtle looked suddenly young and frightened, and yet old and sure, a dialectic of passion and reason from ear to ear. "Nothing can stop me now," she murmured, writing her name in the dust on the exhibition cabinet of Throw-behind Island valuables. "Nothing can stop me now that I am going to learn a *method!*"

She gave one long last look at the valuables in the case, the dusty books behind glass, the prayer mats for use in the malinowski memorial lectures and seminars, the cushions for afternoon snoozes, the tea-cups and plates for buns and afternoon cakes — and then walked out. Lottatosh had claimed another follower — or victim?

WILL MYRTLE, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF HER BOYFRIEND, JIM, BECOME A DEVOTE OF THIS ALIEN GENIUS, OR WILL SHE RETURN TO SAFETY OF STRUCTURAL FICTIONALISM? DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO MYRTLE?



## SIDE TALK

Winnie the Pooh is back in town! Based on an original idea by Mr. Roger Collier presided by Miss Alison Emmott, the L.S.E. includes from October 1969 a new society: the Pooh society. You probably never heard of it, or if you had seen their little notices up on the boards, you thought it was a joke. Well I have tried to find out more about it and this is what I managed to get during an interview with Miss Emmott.

What is the Pooh society? Escapism. What do they do? They read the "Winnie the Pooh" books. What else? They giggle, they eat bread and honey. What are the future aims of the society? An expedition to the North Pole, and playing pooh sticks under Waterloo bridge. But don't think the whole idea is a joke: it is the most serious society in the LSE. Their first aim is to get all the followers fully acquainted with Winnie the Pooh, Tigger, Kangaroo . . . Discussions could then follow with outside readers coming in, e.g. Prince Charles for Winnie the Pooh and the monarchy. Some said that the Pooh Society was in hands of the Socialist society, others that it was the Conservative society that had created it: but the level of the Pooh society is much too high for any of these two societies; at least they eat bread and honey. The Pooh society is the long awaited for tonic that will give LSE students their sense of humour back, if they ever had it. Some reactions have already been received, Dr. Desai is a candidate to the title role of Winnie the Pooh: best of luck Doctor!

But what really makes the society interesting is that it is free of membership, and the honey is guaranteed as a teddy bear top quality brand. On another hand you have the full support of the Constitution, which seems to be Sir Walter Adam's favourite literature for he has had it in his possession for the last four months: is he in for the Pooh as well?

One of the main aims expressed in the Constitution is to further private lunacy. I don't think the society will find this very difficult, it is one of our main characteristics. So for the lovers of honey and philosophy, there love is to be found in the meetings of the Pooh society: how about a summer holiday in the north pole eating honey (without the bee risk) and reading the "Winnie the Pooh" books?

## R E V I E W

### SPRING AND PORT WINE . . .

is a film that will leave you smiling when it's finished. Though it is a comedy, it accurately presents problems of a northern family (although it could happen anywhere), made all the more convincing by the acting talents of the whole cast, but especially those of James Mason, and Rodney Berves and Len Jones (playing two of his four children). Mason, in the role of Rafe Crompton, gives life to the role of the stern father who proves good intentions are not enough.

In the end we find that the father's autocratic behaviour comes from love of his wife and children and their equally adamant opposition to his ways is a result of their maturity. This Bill Naughton play comes to life on the screen because of the delightful performance of its cast.

### MORE THAN BONNIE AND GLYDE !!!

The finest pair you will probably ever see on the screen: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid. Bonny and Clyde are mere babies, side to side with this couple. This film is the best entertainment now showing in the West End.

Butch and the Kid are part of a legend, but they are back in action, back to reality in this superb picture. At the beginning of the film you are told that much of what you are going to see it true: at the end you wish it was all true.

The film opens with a hit musical score by Burt Bacharach: "Rain drops are falling on my head". It's got nothing to do with the film, until the bicycle stroll: A wonderful feeling of happiness goes through the film, from the tough Western to the 'A man and a woman' style, an exciting mixture who does not fall out of context. Butch and the Kid do not kill for the sake of it. The people they steal from like them. When somebody tries to oppose them, they give him a lesson: but never of the toughest kind. They consider stealing a profession, and only realised the consequences once they were on the run. They share this with Etta, a school teacher in search of excitement, who loves them, but does not want to see them get killed. Butch and the Kid, and Etta decide that they could start all over in Bolivia: so they are off. Bolivia is not as poor as it looked and banks flourish. After a few successes they decide to go straight, but it's too late: Etta goes back to the US, and because of a stolen mule the Kid and Butch fall into an ambush. Etta did not want to see them die, and neither do we, so when you leave your seat, you hear the shots, but like in the legend they will never die.

Butch (Paul Newman), Sundance Kid (Robert Redford), Etta (Katherine Ross) make, of what would have been one more western, a new exciting and beautifully acted film. They have made a hit, a film that you don't easily forget because these three actor have made a new legend to their names. Paul Newman is Butch Cassidy, the leader, the one with the right ideas but not always the good solution, is as usual remarkable: at times violent, at times amusing. The Kid portrayed by Robert Redford doesn't know how to swim, but he is the sharpest and fastest gun in the West. Robert Redford confirms his talent after his performance in "Tell them Willie Boy is here."

The biggest credit to the film is the directing by George Roy Hill, the silent film style picture alternates with the Panavision 70 mm picture: this method is used throughout the film but never in excess. A surprisingly wonderful parallelism between the photography and the musical score by Burt Bacharach keeps you constantly in contact with the story. The fresh and crisp colours add to the atmosphere of the film a touch of reality. If you enjoyed Bonnie and Clyde, you will love Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

N.B.

## THE MERRY-GO-ROUND

### THE PEACEGAME PROLOGUE

Peter Watkins' latest film, **THE PEACEGAME**, is a satire on making war. In Watkins' own words, this film "represents the hideous game of antagonism and self-interest which a lot of the more developed world is playing today." He is critical of people who give acquiescence to the "system" by their passive acceptance of what is happening. He believed that the "system" is one of "internal self-interest" and warns that "many of the present young revolutionary movements . . . have a high chance of becoming absorbed in the system they are trying to destroy." He believes that the system can be overthrown and that it should happen as soon as possible. All these things are said in *The Peace Game*, sometimes dogmatically, sometimes allegorically. The only criticism is that the film is too dogmatic and too allegoric.

**Prologue** is the work of Robin Spray, a 29-year-old Canadian who has attempted to depict today's alienated youth and it is remarkable how successfully accurate he is, this is a sympathetic approach which only rarely becomes maudlin. The film discusses the value of trying to change society as a whole on trying to change oneself only. Unlike other films on society's evils, *Prologue* tries not to be dogmatic for the viewer is left to make his own choice for himself as to what is best to do. In this sense the film postulates that each person must decide for himself what is the best thing to do in any situation. *Prologue* itself is the best proof of this proposition.

### THE GIRLS

In this age of prejudices and oppressed minorities, the female is just beginning to

come in form. Laying dormant since securing the vote, the girls are again militarily demonstrating for their version of the new equality. The Girls is the title of Mai Zetterling's latest film (Paris Pullman) and in its passionate argumentation that the female is an oppressed minority the film becomes remarkably anti-feminine.

The Girls are three actresses who are touring Sweden in the back tragedy *Lysestrada* which in turn is a play about women who refuse sex to their men until men end war. The two stories overlap (but not to the benefit of either) and we find that many of the problems of the girls of *Lysestrada* are faxed by the Zetterling girls.

Her assumption, false though it is, is that the girls can do things better than the men. In reality the only thing women can do better than men is have babies.

DON ROTUNDA

### "A GROOVY DUMP"

"You can get anything you want at Alice's Restaurant". Well in fact nearly everything, except what you really want! Arthur Penn has tried to describe the hippy way of life through the adventures of Arlo Guthrie, a

love complexed folk singer. Penn has tried very hard to tell us that hippies really live the way he has seen them: through a pink cloud. Mr. Penn for our own sake I must tell you that the new generation have a bit more to them

than you suppose!

Take this film as a light hearted story and your are probably on the right track. Groovy songs, groovy feelings about the world and the cops, groovy ideas on how to make life as super as possible that is a fair summary of Alice's Restaurant. How dumps are closed on Thanksgiving Day and the consequences of this is the main issue of the film. Penn's dreams include a smiling 'Officer Obie' that likes kids, but nevertheless takes his job very seriously.

Films had been made of the Beatles and other famous groups, but people knew what they were going to see. Alice's Restaurant is a mere propaganda for Arlo Guthrie; if you enjoy Guthrie's singing like I do, then the film is worth the trouble.

Guthrie will never be a talented actor, but his angelic face could very well be imagined in a silent movie.

It's a pity Penn doesn't manage to keep an equal rhythm of humour all along the film, for he has shot some very funny scenes.

The best part of the film is the physical examination for military service, and why people that don't know where to dump garbage are not accepted in the US army.

Penn's great mistake has been to introduce real facts into this film which would have done perfectly well without them. The informal appearance of drugs in this film disrupts the main purpose of it: a good laugh on the hippy way of life, but thanks to the beautiful singing of Joni Mitchell ("Songs to Ageing Children") the film does survive from this foreign intrusion.

N.B.



ARLO GUTHRIE



# What about Pop . . . .

BY ALAN KILKENNY

Astride his first LP 'Halfbreed', resplendent in Indian headdress, rifle and totems, Keef Hartley appears an unlikely character in an unlikely business. He wears his hair long and straight like Geronimo, and like the Red Indians doesn't shave — but he's grown a beard. His band is perhaps the oddest collection of musicians now regularly playing together, . . .

Henry Lowther — one of the finest trumpet players and arrangers in this country. Learnt trumpet and violin at the Royal Academy of Music. Has played with the Leicester Symphony Orchestra, Johnny Dankworth, Mike Westbrook, Ronnie Scott, Manfred Mann, John Mayall, Jack Bruce, Colosseum, Alan Price, etc., etc., etc. (Trumpet, Flugelhorn, Violin).

Miller Anderson — came down from Scotland five years ago with a group known as the Profile, later the Voice — they disbanded and Miller played with David MacWilliam's backing band all over the Continent. (Guitars, Vocals).

Jimmy Jewell — came to the band via Henry. He used to play with Chris Ryan and the Question and the Stewart James Inspiration — like the rest of the band he has 'done the rounds'! (Tenor Sax).

Gary Thain — ex-New Zealander — he forms, with Keef, the backbone of the group, laying down a solid unpretentious bassline over which the brass and guitar can set the melodies (Bass).

Keef himself has had the stormiest career — leaving his home in Preston to join the Liverpool boom, and then down to London, spending three disagreeing years with the Artwoods. Next came John Mayall — ("Both Henry and I used to play with John — but he comes too soon!") — a minor tragedy for Keef and yet the beginnings of his own band, for, after the sacking, John helped, verbally and financially, to get the band on the road. After a spell with Spit James on guitar and Peter Dines on organ (later replaced by Mick Weaver) the group settled down to its present form, gradually improving — solos becoming better and numbers becoming more integrated. But things don't stay the same for very long these days.

Henry already did the arrangements for the band and on the second LP, 'Battle of North West Six', extra musicians were added — Mick Taylor, Ray Warleigh, Harry Beckett, Chris Mercer, Barbara Thompson, Lyn Dobson and Mike Davis — Henry doing some marvellous arrangements. This produced a sound similar to the first LP, where the same thing was tried — some very exciting and moving music. Unfortunately, complaints were received — because a 14-piece band on record doesn't sound like a 5-piece band on stage.

So the Keef Hartley BIG Band emerged. With Barbara Thompson, Roger Wade, Ray Warleigh, Derek Wassworth, Mike Davis and Bud Parkes, the band has played several times — each time receiving resounding compliments and generous reviews. It looked as if, at last Keef Hartley was going to make it. Then, a few weeks back came the news that Henry Lowther and Jimmy Jewell were leaving to be replaced by Geoff Condon and Steve Gregory.

It appears that Keef will now be working hard again to repair the gaping hole left by Henry. Without doubt he produced some of the band's finest solos, and will really be missed. A band that has produced so much fine music doesn't deserve to fade into oblivion just when it looked poised to triumph. But a group composed of so many people who've gone through so much will be hard to keep down. You can't ignore Keef Hartley!

(The Keef Hartley Band has produced two fine albums Halfbreed—DML 1037 SHL 1037

Battle of North West Six DML 1054 SML 1054

These LPs contain a mixture of exciting rock and R & B tracks and some very bluesy, moving ballads. 'Halfbreed' was one of the best LPs of 1969 and 'Battle of North West Six' comes very close to it. Miller Anderson's fine singing, and some beautiful violin solos from Henry are featured in both albums the use of short semi-repetitive phrases make the faster tracks instantly and lastingly likeable. Both are worth more than a listen).



Henry Lowther

## SIMON AND GARFUNKEL Bridging it over troubled Water At Last

"Bridge Over Troubled Water" (CBS).

We've had to wait nearly two years for this, the latest album from Simon and Garfunkel, but the wait has certainly been worthwhile. The charm which Paul Simon always manages to produce in his compositions is well to the fore in an album which successfully employs rock techniques to give the record a liveliness, which has been missing on some of their previous albums.

The best track is probably 'Bridge Over Troubled Water' which is sung over a rolling piano, beginning slowly before a change of

mood leads it into a climax, exhibiting a heaviness not normally associated with Simon and Garfunkel. 'The Boxer' and 'Baby Driver' are tracks already out in the form of a single, although there are one or two modifications, suggesting that there is a bigger orchestra in the background. There are no really disappointing tracks, although 'Keep the Customer Satisfied' and 'Why don't you write me' are slightly dull, and it seems that Simon's magic has deserted him temporarily. Nevertheless the L.P. is well worth hearing, and a worthy follow-up to 'Bookends', their classic L.P. BILL WINTER

**IF SUFFICIENT PEOPLE  
eat in the RECTORY  
prices can go down  
FURTHER**

**BUT — the refectory  
is still losing money  
due to lack of custom**

**Do you want cheap  
food or not?**

## WHAT'S THIS — A SUNDAY CLUB

Those little yellow posters are appearing just everywhere. "MAKE SUNDAY NIGHT SWING AT THE NEW ONE ELEVEN CLUB!" they say.

"What the devil is the One Eleven Club?" asks Eager Beaver as the furtive disseminator of handbills approaches.

"Well, it's a basement at 111 Gower Street opposite University College," says the propagandist who turns out to be Louis Alexander of the LSE. "The building belongs to the Catholic Chaplaincy but we are emphasising that this is a strictly non-denominational project. The Club's prime objective is to bring some life into Sunday nights. How deadly Bloomsbury can be on weekends!" he adds, trying to arouse my sympathy. "We though we would provide students with a place to go on Sunday nights. This will undoubtedly be London's most inexpensive night spot. We operate it on a non-profit basis. The people who staff the club are volunteers from different colleges but we have managed to get the permanent services of "Discobolus," one of London's best mobile discotheques. The "Discobolus" team, John Powis Pinder, Nick Armistead and Ben Seeborn are real professionals. They've offered to provide the music and set the mood with fancy lights at a reduction because Sunday bookings are relatively few and far between. That means that we can run a cut-price bar, offer hot dogs at sixpence and dancing 'til midnight every Sunday for just THREE SHILLINGS!"

But does your Club offer anything else besides cheap food, drink and dancing to midnight? I ask.

"Yes, indeed," replies Alexander with a salesman-

like gleam in his eye. "We intend to start fortnightly cabaret and "Folk" nights in the near future. We are getting steel bands, jazz groups and folk singers into the Club to perform in the course of the evening."

"And still keeping the admission at three bob?" I ask suspiciously.

"For the time being, yes", answers Alexander. "We want to get the Club known by as many people as possible and we're ready to operate at a loss for a few weeks." Alexander becomes more excited as he tells me how the One-Eleven is undergoing transformation, how they are building a stage for the disco and the performers and how, after redecoration, a low-ceilinged basement will have been turned into a cosy and intimate night joint, a la Soho.

And what about membership? I ask non-committally, "Ah, you'd like to join?", (He produces a blank membership card). "A year's membership costs one pound and entitles you to attend the weekly dances without paying any more. But we are trying to get membership up at the moment so we are offering the first few hundred memberships at the unbelievably low price of just ten shillings!"

"Your membership will entitle you to use the bar and lounge on weekdays and you will be able to find out about the One-Eleven's Weekends-Away-From-It-All in the heart of the country, the best 4/6 weekend lunches in London and a host of other activities."

Your somewhat perplexed Beaver man leaves Alexander distributing his handbills and wonders whether this might not be a part of a sinister Papist plot.

W. MADRIDO

**MAKE SUNDAY NIGHT  
SWING  
AT THE NEW  
ONE-ELEVEN  
CLUB**

111, Gower Street

Admission 2/6

**IF YOU'RE STAYING IN LONDON OVER THE SUMMER VAC., and like the idea of meeting some of 60-100 groovy foreign students who are working here, and you like the idea of going on parties on river boats, or in groovy discos, or of mystery tours or similar things, then why not contact us.**

**AIIESEC L.S.E.  
01-242 8468**

(1-2 is the best time to phone—ask for reception officer. We know it's a long time to go, but contact us soon . . . we like to plan ahead).

**P.S. We live in 5-6 St. Clements Inn . . . drop in and see us . . . don't forget, between 1 and 2.**



# TELLING IT LIKE IT IS

BY DAVID MORGAN

*A review of "Lawyers and the public interest" by M. Zander*

Just down the road in Fleet Street and about two hundred years ago lies the Legal Profession. The High Courts of Justice are close by, but I am concerned in this review not directly with the law but with the legal profession.

The profession is a most important and under-studied factor in the effect law has on people. For the Judges decide within (sometimes very wide) limits the way the law will go. And judges are all ex-barristers (why should advocacy be a criterion for the Bench? — a point which Lord Beeching made after his long look at the court system).

They began almost without exception in the upper middle class womb of the public school followed by Oxbridge. Take a look at the Christian names in the Law reports — Winttingham, Hildreth, De Paiva, Lennox. (That is just a random sample, you understand — some of these chaps know a bit about the law of libel). They have lived their professional lives and probably their social lives as well in a narrow society which remains inward-looking and tigerishly resistant to change. Solicitors shield the Barrister from his clients and to some extent barristers are even shielded from Solicitors by their clerks.

Clerks are very powerful creatures because they organise the work done in Barrister's chambers. They still follow the Nineteenth-century policy on Women Barristers: "We'd love to have you, Miss, but I'm afraid there isn't a ladies' convenience on the premises."

And these are the people who are to make subtle decisions which have important direct and more important indirect effects on all our lives. Even where the law is firm and well-defined, it is shot through with formulae of judicial discretion — 'public policy', 'the reasonable man' — fictionalised as 'the man on the Clapham Omnibus', to be given life and meaning in each new situation by the judge. What

judge ever went near a bus? When they want to cross the road — and sometimes when they do not — police pour from all directions to stop the traffic for them.

## 'Where there's a will there's a lawyer'

The other reason why the profession has such a crucial effect on ordinary people's lives is that, save in criminal matters, you need a lawyer before you can even get near a judge. This means that the professional rules, the addresses of their offices, advertising or the lack of it, personality and image all affect the public. And especially the fields in which they practice. There are dozens of tax-experts. Patent law has a whole little Bar to itself, but as recently as last December "The Observer" was able to describe Miss Rosalind Brookes (of Child Poverty Action Group, and an academic here) as "The country's first welfare lawyer."

Welfare law takes in all the rights of the citizen under the Welfare State and so concerns, vitally, millions of people, and similarly while the S.L.C. sets up new and easier schemes for home-buying, conveying a moderate-sized house still costs £70-£80—and is a simple mechanical process which could be done by a lay man, were it not for the solicitor's monopoly.

## 'Huge reservoir of irresponsibility'

Mr. Zander, also an academic of this Parish, is noted for the clarity, reason and vision of his lectures. Because of them, some of the entanglements to the legal profession will now have heard of the defects in it and the way they affect society. The virtues of the lectures appear in the book.

It deals exclusively with the restrictive practices maintained by Barristers and Solicitors. Because it is not a general and complete text-book, the content must have been

difficult to organise. Yet Mr. Zander has created a lucid and coherent whole out of it. The sole defect, as I take it to be, is that the force of the arguments is sometimes blunted because he leans over too far backwards in being fair in his criticisms. Perhaps he was unable to decide whether the book was an academic work or an engine of change. It is however dedicated to "(those) in the profession who share the view that reform is long overdue and who are themselves willing to devote some effort to seeing that it comes — not in the time of our grandchildren, but in our own time."

The topics examined in detail include fusion of the Solicitors and Barristers (mention this topic to a Barrister and watch him bound out of his briefs in horror), the Queen's Council system at the Bar and the petty and shameful restriction on lawyers working for the poor.

There are chapters on Fees, on 'Coveting thy Colleague's Client' and on Entry into the Profession — including the famous Dinners, the wine at which tastes to be as if its been pumped a very long way.

As Mr. Zander stresses, this is not intended to be a complete guide. And so there is no discussion of the well known integrity of the English profession. Anyway there are plenty of other books which stress this point so much that one feels like singing a hymn. Nor is there any extended discussion of the remarkable system of government of the Bar. (The Solicitors' body — the Law Society — is slightly better). It consists of self-perpetuating committees of worn-out and reactionary old gentlemen. Sometime ago one of these vetoed an invitation to Michael Zander to speak on "Reform of the Bar", which had been made by the Bar Student's Union. One day, perhaps, we shall have a radical government which will cut down this huge reservoir of irresponsible power. Meanwhile books like this are useful pebbles to add to the cairn.

## Ford puts its graduates in the driving seat

You have spent the last 17 or so years of your life in the process of "learning". We do not believe that the process stops now, and we feel sure that you agree with us. We do believe, however, that it is time you had a chance to put your knowledge to the test. So our initial induction period consists of showing you what we do and why. We shall then put you in a job which we feel will match your abilities and reflect your own inclinations. It will certainly give you real responsibility.

We offer you, besides this, a good starting salary — at least £1,176 (£1,260 after six months); a flexible approach, you can choose your job after seeing several; good management experience — within three years most graduates are taking significant decisions; a realistic approach to career planning, through our performance reporting system. There are, of course, many other points we could make and we will be happy to talk to you about them.

If you would like to know more about a real career, then please contact your appointments officer or write to:



Graduate Recruitment Officer, Room 1/177  
Ford Motor Company Ltd, Warley, Brentwood, Essex





# UNION REFORM — AGAIN

On 5th February, 1970, "Beaver" published proposals by some members of L.S.E. Socialist Society, for the abolition of Union and Council in its present form, and its replacement with a chairman presiding over a meeting, with a number of ad hoc committees. Here are two more reform plans . . .

After lying dormant for some time, the old question of Constitutional Reform has again become an issue. In the last weeks two new draft constitutions have emerged; one drawn up by Miss Felicity Mate, the Administrative Assistant of the Students Union, and the other from the Constitution Committee. In this article I would like to discuss the first of these.

Miss Mate's draft is the more conservative of the two, in the sense that it sticks more closely to the structure of the existing constitution and has the self-proclaimed aim of being a tidying-up operation rather than a thorough-going revision. However, as will be seen some of its proposals are far more radical than appears at first sight.

It abolishes Union Council and replaces it with a twelve man Executive Committee. This consists of the President, Deputy President and General Secretary with the same powers as before. There is also a Senior Treasurer, but elected instead of appointed by Council. The five vice-presidents are replaced with eight ordinary members, two being elected from each of the four departmental groups.

To me, this manner of election is entirely objectionable. First, there are serious practical problems in holding four different elections for four groups of students on eight consecutive days. Elections are enough of a burden already, and this proposal could only reduce the turnout of voters. But more serious are ideological objections. Instead of all students participating in the same election for their representatives, now eight people are to be made responsible for their election, not to Union as a whole, but only to a quarter of it. Surely, in an electorate of 3,000, election by the whole is more democratic than a constituency system. Since the eight ordinary members will not be elected for a specific task, the draft proposes that each should be assigned a job by the President. This formula would increase the power of the President and would lead to patronage. Finally, election by departmental groups could set the precedent for the creation of a Students Representative Council. A strong case can be made, for S.R.C. at large universities, but at the L.S.E. it is unnecessary and would decrease participation and increase apathy.

It is claimed in the introduction to the draft that the Executive Committee's power is more limited than Council's is at present. After reading the draft, I cannot see in

what ways it is more curtailed, but the President certainly is more powerful and the Committee, as a whole, less representative. Clearly, we are better off with the present Council, than we would be if we made these changes.

On finance, the draft would introduce referenda whenever more than 5% of Union's unbudgeted income is to be spent. The justification for this is that two years ago, Union passed this proposal as a Constitutional Amendment, which was then disallowed by the Court of Governors. However, since then, Union has rejected the idea of referenda on a number of occasions. This proposal is clearly a way of sneaking the principle of referenda into the Constitution, while claiming that it is only being introduced for one specific purpose, in accordance with the wishes of our ancestors. As with S.R.C. referenda, this may be coming upon us, through a strategy of indirect approach.

Miss Mate also proposes that in future the Constitution Committee be elected, since its watchdog role is more likely to be served in this way, than by being appointed by Council, as it is at present. But is a Constitution Committee elected at the same time as Council, likely to be more independent? Surely, with the Committee being elected on the basis of political platforms, it is liable to contain people of the same views, as Council. Surely a Committee appointed by Council, but serving not for a year, but until its members resign, makes a better independent watchdog. And with the number of elections already increased by five, in the draft, practical considerations should make us draw back from adding another seven, as well.

There are three major changes proposed by the new draft. Each is undesirable in my view, and represent a radicalism of the Right, not of the Left. There are, however, innovations which are long-overdue, such as the election of the Senior Treasurer. The latter post has great administrative powers and it is obvious, that he should be responsible to the electorate. Both in the Constitution and in the Standing Orders, the draft does serve its declared purpose of tidying-up and clarifying questions, which were vague and subject to differing interpretations in the past. There is much of value in Miss Mate's draft, and it should be used when the constitution is revised. But the major changes it proposes are undesirable and should be rejected as the basis for reform.

TOM MUNCH-PETERSEN

## APOCALYPSE

The Senior Treasurer received yesterday a circular from the South African Embassy about the buoyancy of South African industry. The tacit suggestion was that Union should invest money in such lucrative companies. The Senior Treasurer had to give this matter serious consideration. There is no need to panic however. The text of his letter to the Director of Information, South African Embassy, ended with the sentence 'I do not wish to receive such excrement as South African propaganda ever again.' Union will not have anything to do with that regime, thank God.

Now I'm perfectly sure this will not apply to you, or indeed the other person; in fact this little discourse will only be relevant to L.S.E.'s latest minority group, that hardy band of 200 voters who risked all to vote at the D.P. election. Half the amusement of the little charade, otherwise known as the democracy game, is to what level of literacy L.S.E.'s voters can rise, when adding their own contributions to the history of graffiti to the ballot paper.

On Wednesday night the tense expectant crowd attending the counting of the ballot papers, were shocked and sickened at certain allegations made by 5% of the voters.

Really, that anyone could write such a thing, and that a rumour of such character even started is almost unthinkable. Anyway readers, I'm sure we can all rest assured that unlike with some politicians, we need have no worries about people behind locked doors, in rooms full of smoke, and covered in cigarette ash, thrashing out controversial points of future dynamic union policy.

Anyway, Apocalypse welcomes our new D.P. to office, I'm sure he will be able to meet all the president's needs in line with his constitutional duty.

Well done Trevor, the dynamic welfare dept. has finally secured for itself a new source of revenue: the source of this new found liquidity lies in two brand new, hygienic, all purpose contraceptive machines. At last protection has reached L.S.E., and what is more it will not cost the student body as a whole, anything. One of our elder statesmen once told Apocalypse that this issue was one of those which came up every year and was always rejected, well we all make mistakes.

What will be the effect of the machine on L.S.E. life? It will be very interesting to see the sales figures when they are published as although one might expect a reasonably steady turnover, evidence from other universities suggests that the project is not as assured of a reasonable level of sales, as one might expect.

Still, full marks to the Welfare and Finance Dept. for a job well done: whatever one's personal feelings on the matter, another service has been provided for the student community. Some will have moral qualms and their views are to be respected, however they ought not to try to obstruct the machine's effectiveness in any way. At least people now have another facility provided and it is up to the individual concerned whether he makes use of it.

The rising tide of mediocrity (A. J. Milner 70) threatens to engulf L.S.E., and in some people's opinion has already swamped it. O.K., the whole political system might stink in your view, but there are some groups who are trying to change the whole constitutional base of the system within L.S.E.

You will probably have read the other Beaver articles discussing the two proposals: both have their faults and need to be corrected in certain ways. For once discard the shroud of apathy and take some interest, find a constitution, read it, and make constructive comments.

Which of the two is accepted by union, is of the utmost importance as far as L.S.E. politics and administration is concerned. For once get up and make a decision which is constructive, you are being given the opportunity to alter the way in which student affairs are conducted in this college, use it.

Apocalypse

## MONEY IN THE NEW PLANS

In both drafts for a new constitution to be put before Union the financial set up of the Union has come under serious consideration. It could be helpful if some critique of these financial proposals was made.

The Senior Treasurer is to become an elective office and whilst one can see the advantages of this, there are disadvantages to offset them. The major advantages are (i) that the Senior Treasurer shall, in one constitution, have voting rights in all matters discussed by the Executive Committee, and (ii) that Union shall have effective control over the person who, because he controls the purse strings, has an extremely powerful voice in Union affairs. The greatest disadvantage is that the office could be used for political purposes to the detriment of Union, even if each faction put up a candidate interested in finance.

Politically one draft has given the school greater control in finance by insisting that the Honorary Treasurer should be 'a member of the accounting staff of the school or a suitably qualified graduate of the school of at least five years standing' rather

than demanding that he should be an outsider. I, for one, am loath to surrender our autonomy in this way. One should point out however that it is preferable to have the Honorary Treasurer appointed by invitation of the Finance Committee, rather than a Council because these are the people, especially the Financial Secretary, with real knowledge and experience of finance in Union.

There seems to be a considerable amount of confusion over the Capital Equipment Fund. Both drafts say "Union societies requiring the provision of capital equipment shall be allowed to accumulate 50 per cent of the amount of any surpluses left after providing for any capital depreciation incumbent upon the Union as a result of that society's activities. The remaining 50 per cent shall be transferred to the Union General Reserve." Firstly, very few societies need capital equipment, but those that do are not necessarily the richer societies and this clause could restrict their activities. Also, the richer societies would suffer if they had to pay for capital depreciation. Secondly, as societies receive their money

from Union it is not necessary for Union to pay for capital depreciation in a roundabout way. It is far easier for Union to buy capital equipment and to allow for depreciation in value at the time of the purchase. Thus all that follows about depreciation and accumulated reserves falls.

Another problem is the position of the Finance Committee. Whilst it is useful to have an effective check on the Senior Treasurer there is some difficulty in the demand that "The Senior Treasurer shall consult the Finance Committee on all major decisions." Apart from carping about what constitutes a major decision, there is the difficulty that the Senior Treasurer has to make many decisions more or less immediately. There would be no time to call a meeting of the Finance Committee in some situations. A more effective check on the Senior Treasurer would be provision for members of the Finance Committee to call emergency meetings of the Committee, and for them to take any course they consider necessary to prevent dictatorial actions on the part of the Senior Treasurer.

There is also the question of referenda on financial affairs. Admittedly the draft that proposes this does have the provision that the Senior Treasurer must give his consent to a referendum taking place, but politically no officer of Union would be able to refuse such a request. This proposal sounds extremely democratic, but it could have the effect of reducing Union's budget to chaos. Referenda were proposed as part of a scheme for the financial autonomy of Union. I think that this matter should be seriously reconsidered.

Finally there is the question of the date of the election of the Senior Treasurer. I believe that he should take office at the beginning of the Union's financial year, i.e. after the Annual Budget Meeting in the Michaelmas Term, in order to make the running of the Union's financial affairs as smooth as possible. Thus each Senior Treasurer would have a year's experience of office before he has to present a budget.

I hope that this article has clarified some of the issues concerning finance.

DAVID KENVIN



## HOPELESS CASE?

Where have all the players gone?

So far there has been no reaction to all that has been written in the last few weeks about the problems of Rugby in LSE, so now it's time for a few home truths.

What is happening and why?

We can forget the past and we can forget those amusing anecdotes which are so much a part of a successful club — we don't have a successful club?

Let us start by going direct to the source to find out just what is wrong (and there is plenty). Consider now some of the reasons given for players remaining unavailable:—

"I've too much work." — Just how much work is done

### WEBB HITS FORM

There is now hope that salvation is at hand — the 1st XV won its first victory of the term, beating Old Askeans 13 points to 12.

Starting with one short and with captain, Maurice Fletcher, incapacitated for most of the game, the pack fought bravely together against a big weight disadvantage while Morgan functioned as a complete back-row on his own.

The return of Rothwell (for a full 80 minutes) was just what was required. A fine individual try capped a stirring performance. Edwards appeared to be suffering from too many late nights but still looked for the break and kept his opposite number under his thumb (or should it be fist?). All of the backs tackled hard and there was purpose in their running, but it is Webb who must take the honours. In scoring two classic tries both resulting from breakdowns in the Askeans' line, he sent the teams singing happily to the bath. The first involved a 70 yard gallop through four men; the second was a perfect out-side break. Winter converted the latter and Rothwell's try.

Such a performance should serve as an example of just how effective extra effort can be. The prospect for next season is suddenly much improved.

on a Wednesday afternoon in the library and how much is merely wasted? Get down to Malden; relaxation refreshes the brain.

"The spirit has gone because so many people think like I do." — Stop thinking like you do!

"I don't enjoy the game anymore." — You get out of it only what you put into it.

"I don't know and I don't care." — Hopeless case: flowers on request.

These are typical and representative. They give no answers and they are by no means constructive. So, it's time to be constructive for you. Too much effort has been put in for us to sit back and watch the club go down the drain. The answer here lies with more effort on your part. You can't leave it all to the officials, they're like all officials — overworked and underpaid! For God's sake stop being so selfish — have a go yourselves.

You must take an active part, don't just sit passively watching the notice board. The greater your participation the greater your enjoyment both on and off the field. Sign availability lists, tick-off on team sheets, put your name down for the Paris tour, book a place at the annual dinner and you're off to a good start.

On the field play your heart out — the beer tastes much better afterwards. Don't just sit moping in the corner, don't sit waiting for the coach to leave or for your opponents to bring the jug round. Make the effort to talk to the opposition, the referee, your own teammates or even the barman! You can't help but enjoy yourself and it's surprising what you can learn — no one knows it all.

Many of these criticisms can be applied to all groups within the club and it's a bit unfair to ask those of us pressurized by finals to keep rugby alive in L.S.E. Part I is no excuse for sitting in the library all day. You have the prospect of three years in L.S.E. to enjoy these years as we have, start now before it's too late.



## NO GLORY JUST HARD WORK

As this soccer season draws to a close, now is perhaps the time for remembrance. Little jubilation can come from the Soccer Club this season, no glories have occurred on the field and certainly none socially off it. Though perhaps the prospective foreign trip and the annual dinner may relieve the latter.

Although the season and the lessons learned from it should be looked back upon, the actual experience should be forgotten. Together with a will and a modicum of interest, the club may be able to regain some of its former social and playing abilities. Effective management and improvements in the interest factor are contemplated and may

well be crucial.

Hard work seems to be the order and though the position of the 4th and 1st XI's, who are both likely to finish high in their respective divisions, does not make amends for the other poor performances, there is at least a base to build upon. The recent performances by Wiggans, Ellwood and Herbert, 1st years in the 1st XI augers well for next season, as does the enthusiasm shown by other 1st years, D. Chennock, H. Collin and R. Potter for instance.

The influx of new members with playing and social ability, will greatly enhance the club and the depressing nature of this season may be then cast into oblivion.

## LEE-HO AND AWAY WE GO

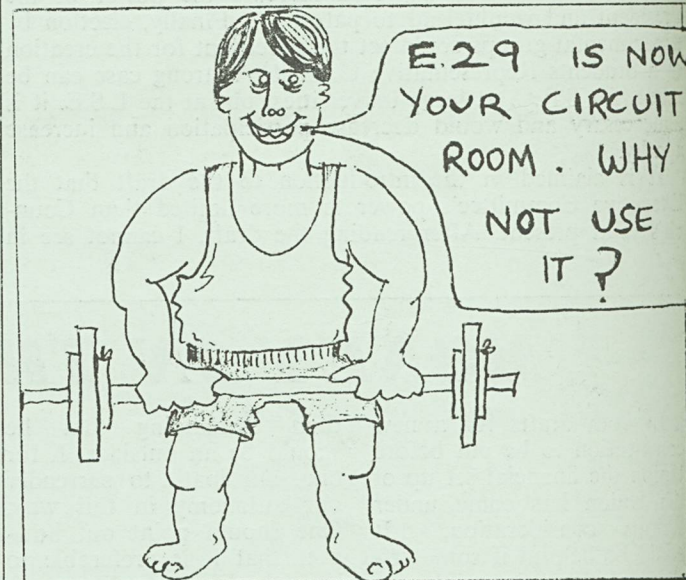
A couple of weeks ago our jolly sailing club set off en-masse up the A11 to Cambridge. This was the occasion of our much awaited return match with Pembroke College. Having entertained them to an afternoon of frivolity on our home patch, (one of our guys didn't turn up and we borrowed one of theirs who won the match for us), we looked forward with relish to the thrills of the away match.

On arrival we got down to the serious business of beer with lunch followed by coffee and strains of Fairport convention. Eventually, Haumit decided that rain was not going to stop play after all we set for the sailing—on what turned out to be a smaller puddle than our own. It was blowing a gale and only a combination of cowardice and a nifty way of avoiding hail storms and squalls saved the day. Needless to say we lost this time as they made sure they kept their own men.

**P.S.:** ULU's new super club house at the Welsh Harp is now open, complete with bar (but no beer as yet), and whopple (we're off to the broads at Easter).

## DOG COMES FIRST!

Last Wednesday (18th Feb.) L.S.E. Cross-County Club were hosts at Richmond Park to Essex University and the Royal Veterinary College. L.S.E. managed to win a closely contested race with Royal Vets. 2nd and Essex 3rd. John Newcombe of Royal Vets. and Doug Gunstone of L.S.E. tied equal first. Dave Butler was next home for L.S.E. in 4th place with Dave Jones (6th) and Doug Storton (9th) making up the scoring team. Star performer of the day, however, was John Newcombe's dog who ran as a 'non-scorer' and came in first after completing the two lap, 5½ mile course. The dog then ran back to Berrylands (another five miles) and was later seen putting some extra interval training in around the field.



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