



BEAVER

MARCH DAY!

'Mafia Moved In' — Griffith

THIS afternoon, representatives of all major groups within L.S.E. will march to Parliament, lobby M.P.s and proceed to Central Hall for a rally which will be addressed by prominent speakers. This concerted joint action by members of the Students' Union, A.U.T., N.A.L.G.O. and T.G.W.U. is the latest stage in the campaign against the Thatcher Government's educational amputations. Major action started with the occupation several weeks ago. During the occupation, the Director, Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, called for a show of unity to oppose the cuts. A letter was sent to him suggesting a march and lobby of Parliament the next week, to which the Director agreed, and seven delegates were elected at the Union General Meeting to sit on the organising committee together with representatives of the other bodies. Later, though, the Director said that the following Monday or Tuesday was too early for the march and lobby, and he chose 21st November for the lobby, the organisation to be undertaken by Professor John Griffith. The march and a press conference would be held on a different day.

At this stage, then, there were plans for the lobby, a march of all groups in LSE and a press conference at which the Director had agreed to appear. However, certain academics, led by the Pro-Director, Professor Alan Day, expressed concern and, after a meeting of some academics on the General Purposes Committee and the Standing Committee of the Court of Governors, the Director informed the Students' Union that he was withdrawing from the march as he had been told that it would be counter-productive. In the words of John Griffith, "the mafia moved in".

Despite the Director's withdrawal, the Students' Union resolved to go ahead with the march, and the AUT, NALGO and TGWU have also made clear their intention to participate. At an emergency meeting of the AUT, John Griffith labelled those who had urged the Director not to march "cowardly and wrong". The meeting voted to support the march and invite the Director to reconsider his position by 35 votes to 29.

The NALGO vote was 23 to 1. After the AUT vote, the Students' Union delegation met the Director to decide the approach to the lobby. The students made clear the policy of the Union in opposing all fee increases and that they could not participate in attempts to compromise. They invited the Director once more to join the march, expressing regrets at the time taken to organise the action and the consequent loss of momentum, but the Director again refused.

Despite the uncertainty over the march, the lobby did take place last Wednesday and the meeting with Neil Kinnoch, another Labour MP Anthony Kershaw, and several other Tories proceeded satisfactorily. The LSE delegation put forward the argument that the government's economic statistics do not reflect the real position. The government has produced an average cost per student of around £2,750 and plans to reduce the grant in direct proportion to the number of overseas students. This would mean

that the LSE would lose about 45% of its income and universities generally would have to make a minimum charge of £2,000 per annum, a fee which would restrict severely the number of students from developing countries and would be way in excess of fees at comparable institutions abroad.

The irony of the situation is that universities would receive more money from overseas students than from government financed home students and the number of overseas students might increase rather than decrease as the financial factor would be most attractive to impoverished institutions of higher education. This would have a disastrous effect on standards as the criterion for entrance would be the ability to pay and not the ability to benefit from a university education.

The lobby is now history, and the Students' Union is urging members to demonstrate their opposition to the cuts by joining the march and lobbying MPs and embassies. The battle continues.

DELETE RACIST

AT last Thursday's UGM, a controversial motion proposed by General Course student, Curtis Duane Baker, became Union Policy. The motion read:

Union Notes:

The current campaign against proposed "racist" Fee increases.

Union Believes:

That the language currently being used is detrimental to the aims of the campaign.

Union Resolves:

To delete the word "racist" from all references to Increased Fees.

However, Mr Baker now feels after encountering strident opposition on the Union floor and elsewhere, that his motives have been misunderstood. His intention he says, is not to deny that the proposed increases are racist—or to hinder the campaign against their implementation in any way. Speaking to "Beaver" after the meeting, Mr Baker said that he simply wished to stop the alienation of potential support for the campaign by the use of "over-emotive

language and political slogans". He now hoped that we would see "a strong forward movement of the campaign," and "that "unfortunate animosities" could now be put behind us."

The "unfortunate animosities" referred to by Mr Baker are the construction put on his motion and its amendment (which included a Mandate on the General Secretary) by the General Secretary Krish Maharaj. Mr Maharaj took Mr Baker's motion and the amendment to be a personal attack on himself, and reacted strongly at the Union Meeting. Mr Baker, in an earlier letter to "Beaver" was at pains to point out that he had "no doubts about Krish's dedication to the overseas students cause" although he wished to criticise Krish's methods of campaigning, in particular the use of "Marxist Leninist jargon".

SO REMEMBER! WHATEVER YOU MAY THINK OF THEM, YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO CALL THE FEE INCREASES "RACIST" ANY MORE!



CUT MAGGIE NOT OVERSEAS STUDENTS

JOIN TODAY'S MARCH
ASSEMBLE 1 p.m.
HOUGHTON STREET





LETTERS

ABORTION CHOICE

IN the last issue of the "Beaver", Patricia Moloney wrote a letter in which she criticised LSE for cancelling a meeting sponsored by the Society for Protection of the Unborn Child, which was to have been held here on October 27th. I wish to make four points regarding her letter.

(1) The meeting was not cancelled because it "was claimed that the LSE must not be used as an arena for political purposes". Any external organisation (one whose membership is not drawn from the LSE) can use the LSE premises only for private meetings. When the booking was made, SPUC clearly understood that only a private meeting, open to SPUC members, would be allowed. However, advertisements for the meeting, described as "Abortion: A Challenge to Human Rights: A Student Seminar", appeared in issues of the "Catholic Herald" and the "Universe." To obtain free tickets, only a telephone call was required. Thus the meeting was open to the public, and indeed was aimed at all interested "students of higher education and sixth-formers". It was not restricted to SPUC members; it was for this specific reason, and this reason alone, that the meeting was cancelled by the Director of the School.

(2) Ms. Maloney repeatedly argues that this is an issue of free speech, of an "educational seminar", and calls for full debate. The two listed speakers for the seminar, Phyllis Bowman and Mary Kenny, are both not only against choice on the abortion issue, but published articles do not show them to be prone to the canons of rational argument. (Kenny: "Yes, certainly, the articulate, liberal trendy girl graduates, the cold, clever feminists who organise the abortion campaigns—they are women who are pro-abortion. . . . What a sad thing it is that the TUC has been hoodwinked into siding with an element which is so characteristically anti-family.") More significant is the fact that no pro-choice speakers were scheduled to appear at the SPUC conference. This is "free speech" and "full debate"?

(3) The advertisements for the "seminar" displayed LSE's name prominently beneath the words "A Student Seminar"; in effect, a graphic implication that LSE approved of the seminar or that it was educationally supported by LSE. Since almost any church hall in London would have been available to SPUC, one must ask why they wished to hold the meeting at LSE and preferred cancelling it to re-locating it? Was it to gain some academic legitimacy or to play on LSE's liberal reputation?

(4) It is easy to overlook the complicated choices one faces in a democracy. Free speech is only one of the rights ideally granted by such a society; others are freedom from racial and sexual discrimination, freedom of worship, and educational opportunities. What happens when those who speak freely attempt to undermine substantive choices available within the society? Must they be supported by the institutions they would undermine? (Hyde Park Corner is always available). If SPUC had its way, an LSE student who became pregnant could not have an abortion, and therefore might have to abandon her studies. SPUC may claim free speech in the abstract (and their list of speakers betrays the shallowness of their commitment), but they would certainly deny other substantial freedoms for women.

Decide for yourselves about abortion, certainly; but why should LSE students support those who want to decide for everyone?

Sharon Witherspoon

LEFT ALLIANCE: 'POPULAR FRONTISM'

POLITICAL differences apart, the Labour Club was disgusted by the leaflet put out by your organization during the recent elections for Student Union and School committees. The leaflet stated that certain candidates should be supported as they were in sympathy with the aims of the Left Alliance. You did not take the trouble to ask these candidates if this was the case, and at least two of them were strongly opposed to your organization.

Although you are obviously entitled to recommend whichever candidates you like, your leaflet gave the impression to many voters that there is a sig-

nificant level of support for the Left Alliance within the Labour Club. In fact only four of the 197 Labour Club members are also members of the Left Alliance.

While willing to work with non-socialist radicals on particular issues, we are not prepared to enter any permanent or electoral alliance, and we condemn all socialists misguided enough to do so. In spite of any progressive ideas they may have, the Liberals are fundamentally only interested in ameliorating the worst excesses of the capitalist system. We as socialists seek to change this system, and this basic opposition of interests makes alliances impossible.

We do not just oppose the Left Alliance because of its

popular frontism, but also because it is a cynical manoeuvre by the discredited NUS hacks of the Broad Left, it is an attempt to regain supporters by donning a new set of clothes.

As a result of this opposition, the Labour Club passed the following motion at its meeting of October 29th: "That this Labour Club wishes to completely dissociate itself from the so-called Left Alliance, both at a local and national level."

Andrew Smith,
Secretary,
LSE Labour Club.

* The Left Alliance is a grouping based on individual membership and consisting of liberals and socialists who are in agreement with the founding statement of the Left Alliance.

FIGHTING THE FEE INCREASES

Dear Editor,

I AM a Ph. D self-financed overseas student from a working class background and of Social Democratic political views. Last year, I had to borrow £2,000 to maintain my presence in Britain as a student. I was forced to re-register this year as a part-time student and go out to work. Next year, I shall probably quit my studies if the overseas fees reach £3,000.

However, in spite of this I would like to note the following:

Education is a commodity today no matter what we would like ourselves to believe. The majority of overseas students who are going to help the economies of their own countries are also going to help their own pockets in the process.

It is also a fact that in 1977-78, according to the Financial Times, the majority of overseas students in British Further Education were from rich countries (sometimes richer than Britain herself) or relatively rich countries in the Third World. It is also a fact that no research has yet been done on the financial abilities of each overseas student and his family. If such research were to be carried out by, say, the NUS, the results might show that, had they been home students, many overseas students

would not have qualified for a local grant.

If honesty and truth, and not hypocrisy, are to be shown, then overseas students reading technology and economics based subjects should admit they are doing so willingly in the hope of being more successful financially and otherwise in the future.

This is even more evident in the case of the 60% or so overseas students who are coming from Third World countries. The students from these countries who could make it to Britain to read social sciences are no doubt the future leaders of their own countries' various departments and institutions. Education for them is an access to the world of power in their countries.

2. It is a fact that the majority of the British people through their successive Education Secretaries and Governments wish to see the overseas students pay more for the studies offered to them by Britain. This was done under Shirley Williams, whom no one can say is racist, and is now followed by the present Conservative Government.

3. Foreign people should respect the sovereignty of their host country and respect its government's decisions. The fact that the British people are kind and tolerant does not mean that an overseas student, who is, after all, a foreigner here, should take the law into his own hands and turn to extreme ways of expressing his protest.

4. An overseas student who feels he has been promised a course of

study on the understanding that he would be paying x amount of sterling and arranged his stay in Britain accordingly, and now when he has to pay y amount of sterling and cannot make it, should try to sue his academic institution and the DES for breach of contract. Why has the Overseas Student Action Committee not tried this as a test case?

5. It is up to the British home-students to raise the protest and to demand a change in the policies of their own government. The most effective campaign, before turning to more extreme ways of demonstrations, should be a joint action of the British students and the college authorities against the proposed government cuts.

In the LSE there are 3,800 or so students out of which ca. 2,400 are home-students. Have you seen them protesting? Do you think they care if an overseas student is forced to quit his or her studies? I tend to believe that the British student either justifies his government's decision or could not care less as long as his pint of beer at the college bar will not cost him more as a result of the proposed government's cuts.

I hope I am wrong.

6. As for future students from overseas countries in Britain: I believe that they ought first to try in the USSR, Germany, France or the USA where studies are cheaper. If they want to come to Britain they should obtain a large grant from Libya, Iraq or other such countries.

D. RACHMAN

ABORTION AND THE NEW SOCIETY

OH, to be a revolutionary — what "jolly good fun" this path of political realism holds for the young searching for something — anything — to believe in. It comes in an already made-up package, conveniently perhaps, with general ideas to be accepted without hesitation. It sounds unsound, maybe, but we do want to be revolutionaries — we must conform. Oh, to be a revolutionary, it's jolly good fun!

In the last issue of "BEAVER" we learnt, had we read the feature on the Houghton Street Revolutionary Front, that real revolution is found in rejecting the political spectrum. This is because society must not be represented by the splits caused by political discourse, but instead by what unites it (which we must sort out). This is

perhaps straying from the point but it allows us to view any ideas, established or otherwise, with both scepticism and favour.

Thus we come to abortion—one of those subjects immediately accepted when one accepts the role of a revolutionary. In the first Union meeting there was a motion on abortion passed with but two hands against (mine being one). Thought was necessary on the matter and indeed thought is demanded you—the reader. Now, how often does a glance at "BEAVER" demand such an anti-social response—the new colour in Florries certainly is no comfort on this account.

When confronted by revolution we see a chance to discard that part of our society which cares not for the people—normally the urge

to acquire wealth at any cost. This is capitalism, and as good revolutionaries we hate it. It is the negation of true existence—it uses everything for its own ends and all that gets in its way is expendable—argued on the lines that increased production benefits everyone (admittedly some more than others) and consequently we persist with the profit motive. Now, the market must not contract, so we invent "throw away items." Values are lost—this doesn't matter—as long as we keep buying the product. If we don't want something—throw it away and buy a new one. Consequences don't matter as long as production increases. Commitment—what commitment?

Where do we start in our new society? Surely we don't want

capitalism and all that goes with it, and surely that includes abortion? This is a product of the age—the "I don't care" attitude—as long as my prospects don't suffer, as long as profit is maintained!

What is an unborn child?—certainly not a commitment. The nature of things can be betrayed—as long as I don't get inconvenienced—just "throw it away" . . . I can always get another one!

This is the attitude, life is no longer sacred—only the present is important and, here, only the "spirit of the age" is valid, namely, the society of no commitment, as long as production and profit are good.

Abortion is, hence, totally inconsistent with revolutionary change,

we must reject it from our ideas. The society we desire must value life and respect people as individuals. The bitterness of rejection in capitalist society must be replaced by welcome and even, dare I say it, love for each other. In fact, if everyone served each other then we would have our society—no ambition, no hate etc. What is in the way? People, yes, people — individuals, they are at the heart of the problem, with lack of respect, hate and ambition. Society is made up of these people—society will change, perhaps, when people change. Where have I heard that before?

JOIN THE HOUGHTON STREET, REVOLUTIONARY FRONT AND BE A REAL REVOLUTIONARY!

ROB HAMPSON

BOOKS FOUND IN LIBRARY

FOR those of you who use the Library — and there must be some of you somewhere — it's hardly likely to be your favourite subject of conversation. The reason for raising the matter yet again is that complaints have come to us once more about the way the library works and the difficulty of finding essential books.

Books are disappearing from the shelves. They can be seen parked in people's carrels or sitting on "returned books" shelves for days. Many books are allowed out of the library, either to staff, who are not prevented from taking out books on reading lists, or to research students. Unfortunately, this makes the books inaccessible to other students.

There are other problems. The times of opening and closing are restrictive. The organisation of periodicals leaves much to be desired, and the main catalogue is a nightmare from which it seems we will never wake up.

It may be unfair to carp with criticisms when so much has been done to improve the library in the last couple of years. But it is possible to alleviate most of the problems now, at relatively little cost, and that is why it was decided to write this.

First, there is the problem of finding books. It seems ridiculous that books which have been restricted because they are on reading lists should still be allowed out of the library; this should be stopped immediately. Books in carrels should be treated in the same way as books in other reader places, and removed by staff when they are re-shelving.

Re-shelving itself is probably the most difficult thing to deal with. It was suggested last year that the answer to this was to make better use of the system of yellow cards which readers should use to mark the place when they take a book off the shelf. The advantages of this system are twofold... firstly, a reader would be able to find where a book was being used in the library. Secondly, it would be a simple matter for people to re-shelve their own books when they have marked the place it came from. This would save the library staff — and other readers — an enormous amount of effort.

A working party last year considered that. It was told that all the reader places in the library had been clearly numbered. This was not true, and it gave the impression, wrongly, that the only reason that the system did not work was that students did not use it. The numbers, which have since appeared on the tables, measure 1½ inches by ¼ inch. They are difficult to find; there is no obvious sequence,

and no signs to indicate where a group of numbered places can be found. Most readers have not even realised the numbers are on the tables because they are not in a place where they are easy to see. Tables should be renumbered, and cards should be available at the end of every shelf and by the catalogue.

Secondly, there is the question of opening and closing times. The library staff are in the building from 9.30 am, but readers are not admitted before 10.00 am. The argument against admittance was that readers would get in the way of re-shelving, which may have been true in the Old Library, but is open to doubt now. There is no real reason why the doors of the library should not be open from 9.30 am without the provision of reader services.

There is a case for extending the times further, so that those people that want to work can do so. There is no need to provide any services to readers in the extra hours; all that is required is one or two Porters to man the barricades. It seems to involve little cost and much benefit to students.

Thirdly, the Periodicals Section needs some thought. Periodicals are not put in sequence with other volumes for a year or more. The section should be cleared of back numbers. The time it takes for a new issue of a journal to be put on display is far too long—often two or three months behind Senate House. The cataloguing of Periodicals is baffling: defunct journals are transferred to the main catalogue where no-one can find them; changes in title are not fully cross-referenced. The system requires a thorough review.

Lastly, there is the main catalogue, and its glorious accumulation of the mistakes of the best part of the century, which would probably take as much time again to put right. It is uncertain whether books are to be found under author, publisher or place of publication, there is an appalling lack of cross-referencing, and the treatment of Government publications is incomprehensible. But there is a relatively small measure which can save each and every student hours of fruitless searching. On the counter next to the inquiry desk, there are a few reading lists, marked up with an accession number. They constitute a tiny proportion of the available reading lists, and Government Publications have been marked with the unhelpful epithet "OFF". There should be a copy of every reading list marked up in full available next to the main catalogue. This facility would be of more immediate use to students than nearly any other.

If anyone has any comments, we would like to hear them. Contact us care of The Graduate Common Room, or come to a meeting there on Friday at 5 pm.

Paul Spicker,
(for the Graduate Students Committee).



WAS IT VOLUME XVI OR XVII
YOU WANTED ?.....

BEAVER'S CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

- To the Director: A pair of walking shoes for demos.
- To Professor Day: a Machivellian sub-plot.
- To Jeff Staniforth: a job description.
- To Martine Mann: a French Accent.
- To T. Krish Maharaj: a captive audience.
- To Toby Rose: an on-going profit situation.
- To Unmesh Desai: a record "I love the sound of breaking glass".
- To Beaver: a Collective.
- To the Students' Union: the East Building.
- To R. Shackleton: the New Hampshire Primary.
- To AU: Its own banner/tablecloth to play with.
- To Simon Cole: Bruce the Beaver.
- To Christina Archbold: "Politics for Beginners".
- To all those who don't understand these gifts: Hard Luck.

BEAVER DIARY

A STUDENT'S WEEK

No. 1: A week of action

Monday:

I COME in for a seminar, only to find that no-one has anything to say. They sit and think deeply. I sit and sip my coffee from Florries, which is quite undrinkable, reflecting that it cost the astounding sum of 12p. We move to the Brunch Bowl afterwards, and agree we have had a deep and meaningful experience.

Tuesday:

I understand there is an occupation somewhere. The policemen at the door of Connaught House are most civil, I feel sure they would be happy to tell me the time. In the Three Tuns that evening, the seats are occupied by participants in Students' Union affairs, who tell me that they don't believe in the occupation but that it's important to show their support. It is clear these young people are going to go far.

Wednesday:

I go to find the union meeting, only to find that instead of Krish Maharaj there is a film of oriental warriors waving their arms and talking gibberish. It takes me several minutes to realise that this is not the right room. The New Theatre is full of fresh, well-scrubbed faces; people are actually applauding Unmesh Desai. I sneak out when no-one's looking.

In the evening, I go to my local Labour Party. The genteel atmosphere is spoiled by someone from the working classes, who becomes emotional and quite lowers the tone of the argument. I don't know what the Party's coming to.

Thursday:

Imagine my surprise when, walking down the Strand, I encounter a demonstration passing the Law Courts. It seems to me that some of the faces are familiar, and so it proves to be; the suspicion that they might be from LSE is confirmed by a sweet little banner dancing merrily above their smiling faces. Apparently it has something to do with the new craze for physical fitness, of which I can only approve; it can't be good for the students to sit around all day smoking and drinking, and a brisk walk in the open air is just what they need. Some of our boys in blue, no doubt eager to get some healthy exercise themselves, have joined in. It is a charming event, full of gaiety and bonhomie.

Unfortunately, I find the effort too much, and am forced to drop out with fatigue half way up Chancery Lane. It is a problem I share with President Carter.

Friday:

My exhaustion from the day before causes me to miss the first half-hour of a seminar, and even afterwards I cannot concentrate. It is doubtless this infirmity of purpose that leads me to be trapped not once, but twice, by student missionaries preaching the value of solidarity. I am tempted to throw in my lot with the Workers' Institute, so that no-one will talk to me.

"Pooter"

OVERSEAS STUDENTS ATTACKED

By Alok Vajpeyi

THE Government has put forward proposals for major changes in immigration rules in a White Paper published on November 14, 1979. Among other proposed changes, controls on overseas students are to be made more stringent.

To gain entry as a student, an applicant would have to satisfy the entry clearance officer that he has been accepted for a full-time course at a university, college of further education, independent school or any bonafide private educational institution. He would have to demonstrate financial ability to meet the cost of his course and stay in Britain and would also have to prove his intention of leaving the country at the end of his course.

After gaining entry, overseas students will not be allowed to stay for more than four years. "Extensions of stay should not be granted to students who appear to be moving from one course to another without any intention of bringing their studies to a close. An extension of stay should normally be refused if it would lead to more than four years being spent on short courses."

It has also been proposed that overseas students financed by the British Government, an

international scholarship or by their home Government would not be eligible to remain for further studies.

These changes in conditions governing overseas students follow the Government's earlier announcement of an increase in overseas students' fees. From September 1980, all new overseas students would be expected to meet "the full cost of their tuition." On average, the fees increase will be three times the present level. The range of fee charges would be from a minimum of £2,000 for Arts students, £3,000 for students on science courses and £5,000 for clinical courses. These increases in fees will not apply to overseas students already on a course.

The drastic increase in fees and the stringent immigration controls on overseas students, proposed by the Government, have been widely commented upon. The Director of the LSE, Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, has emphasised the cultural benefits of overseas students and has publicly criticised the Government's policies as having the effect of destroying excellence and severing international ties. J. A. G. Griffith, Professor of Public Law at the LSE, presents a similar view. "It is an enormous advantage to our own stu-

dents to live in a community where there are many different people from different parts of the world. It is also a great advantage to teachers to teach people from other countries. From the point of view of the overseas student, there is cultural value in his living in a different country than his own."

Dr Rhodes Boyson, Under-Secretary of State for Education, takes a different view. In a speech in Harlow, he quoted the examples of Iran and Nigeria and queried the political and cultural advantages of the large number of students from these countries who have studied in Britain. Siamak, Chairman of the Overseas Students Action Committee (OSAC) criticises Dr Boyson and suggests that the Iranian political situation is determined by basic social processes and not by the decisions of Iranian students from Britain.

The new policies have also been termed racist. This is particularly so, since "The Times" published the Government's intention of allowing EEC students in Britain to have the status of home students for fees purposes. While the Director does not mind this policy, as long as the Government pays the difference between the

home and overseas fee levels, Professor Griffith sees this policy as obviously discriminatory in an area where he does not want any discrimination whatsoever. However, both of them disagree with the view that the increase in overseas fees is racist, because, they argue, it also applies to students from North America. Siamak does see the fee increases as racist, in the total context. He uses the example of the EEC students and the hypothesis that American students may be exempt from overseas fee levels through the existence of exchange schemes. Therefore, the students who fall into the overseas category for fees are those from underdeveloped countries. He also suggests that the question of discriminatory fees is just one facet of the Government's attacks on ethnic minorities.

The Government, however, justifies its stand on economic grounds. According to them, the overseas student is subsidised by the British taxpayer and in the present economic climate it is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain the subsidy.

Dr Rhodes Boyson summed up the Government's case, (The "Guardian", 19-11-79), when he said that there were many people in Britain supporting foreign students by their taxes who, "had had neither the privilege of attending universities themselves, nor increasing their potential earnings by studying at university."

The economic justification has been criticised for its bad arithmetic. In a brief prepared by OSAC titled "Let us know the

facts!" it has been argued that it is not the Government which subsidises the overseas student, but it is the students who subsidise the British economy by a minimum of £32m. The calculations are based on a subjective basis and include Research contributions, trade and foreign exchange benefits and long term marginal costs correction.

In spite of all these fallibilities and weaknesses, the Government still plans to pursue its dogmatic and discriminatory policies. Though it has removed the quota system on overseas students, the high fees and the immigration officer who would need to be satisfied of the applicant's intention to leave the country, amalgamate to form a much more effective deterrent to the entry of overseas students into Britain. One senior academic has called the new immigration rules concerning students—"bizarre". They give too much arbitrary power to the immigration officer on the spot and he is not famous for his judicious use of power.

The student body is now facing a two pronged attack via high fees and immigration control. And while the Government steadily increases the pressure and strengthens its position, some of the opponents of these policies are still discussing whether the policies are racist or just discriminatory.

Is it not time for a show of solidarity between academics, students and others? After all, education is not like any other commodity to be redistributed at will.

The Married Students' Tale

IF you talk to Pat Truesdale over a cup of coffee you certainly won't hear a hackneyed account of the difficulties of finding cheap accommodation, the unbelievable amount of essays that have to be handed in by Friday week, how she still hasn't recovered from the previous day's hangover or any number of other problems that plague the typical adolescent student. What you might get is a tale of how her kids were late for school this morning, how her husband needed the car to pick up the shopping, or how the education over here differs from that in Houston, Texas.

She is one of a very small group of married female undergraduates at the L.S.E. currently involved in the general one-year course involved in Economics, Economic History and French government and politics.

Born in North Carolina, Pat ran for political office as a state legislator before beginning a four-year course at Houston University. After only two years her husband's job as an electrical engineer necessitated a move to West Virginia and, being unable to continue the course because of the lack of a nearby college, she turned her attentions to her family and domestic life. When her husband's career demanded yet another move, this time to England, she jumped at the opportunity of re-commencing her studies, and after much delay was accepted by the L.S.E.

She now has three children, aged eleven, eight and four—the youngest of whom travels with her to the L.S.E. each morning and spends the day in the University creche while her mother attends lectures. The elder two go to the American school in Hillingdon. "All my kids love it here so much they don't want to go back. The change is as much a fascinat-

ing experience for them as it is for me."

"I'm also enjoying myself here immensely. The course, while demanding, is extremely interesting and I can do as much or as little work as I like. Clearly my stay here would be ill-spent if I was to devote no time to studying—but I find it reassuring that I'm enjoying the course as a novel experience—irrespective of how well I've done in an academic sense by the end of the year."

However, she admits that there are several drawbacks—"The three hours travelling each day are extremely tedious and even when my four-year-old turns into the train's resident comedian and amuses the passengers the time passes slowly and is a terrible waste.

Also, because of the percentage of full-time married female students at the L.S.E. is so small, and because I've got my kids and especially the four-year-old to look after while I'm here, making friends within the university is a little difficult."

While she enjoys a fairly healthy social life near her home—she points out that the American Wives Club is especially active in her area—she slightly regrets the limited possibilities of further involve-

ment with other mature students at the L.S.E.

"I can't even attend the various social events here in the evening as I've got my kids to put to bed, meals to cook and clothes to wash. My husband often helps out, but his job requires a fair bit of travelling and he's not always at home."

She comments that American higher education operates on a more progressive points system based on the number of hours actually spent studying at the university and that this allows the student to miss six months of the course and catch up simply by putting in more hours. "It often happens that a student in America leaves a course for a certain period and then returns to it, possibly after getting married, but this seems to be a much rarer occurrence over here."

"Plans for the future are really a bit hazy at the moment. We'll definitely be staying here until the end of the academic year, and possibly another two years after that. If we do decide to stay on after June, I think I'll enrol for a full-time degree course somewhere. However demanding the life of a married student, I'd really hate the thought of sitting around at home doing nothing all day."

SIMON GARFIELD



GO ON - TAKE A DEGREE -
IT'S QUITE PAINLESS - YOU
CAN BE AN ACCOUNTANT -
IT'S NOT AT ALL BORING
AND IT WON'T AFFECT
YOUR SENSE OF HUMOUR
OR YOUR SEX LIFE -
AREN'T YOU TEMPTED?

CHINESE STUDENTS TALK TO BEAVER

ONE casualty of the recently-announced increase in fees for overseas students could be the Chinese government's enthusiasm for sending students to Britain. Nearly all the Chinese studying here are wholly supported by their government, so the fees rise will mean that they may soon be going elsewhere and an important point of contact between Chinese and British people would be lost. After all, there is more than just an export market at stake.

The students I spoke to last week were all graduates of Chinese universities and had come to Britain not only to acquire additional educational qualifications but also to improve their English, establish contacts with Britain and gain "first-hand experience of life in the West". Would it not be a considerable shame if this obvious gesture of friendship and reconciliation were met with intransigence from the British Government on the cost of study and our chance to respond lost?

SUMMER CAMP COUNSELLING

At present there are eight students from the People's Republic of China at the LSE: five men and three women. Before coming here they spent a year in the small English Quaker town of Saffron Walden, and then last summer they all went to various parts of the United States to work as "camp counsellors" in children's summer camps.

Their impressions of Britain and the US have, it must be said, led them to the conclusion that Americans are easier to make contact with and more ready to talk, even the ones who "still think communists are demons", in the words of Haiming Shao, one of the three women in the group. It is a pity that the British should be acting true to form in this way as the Chinese group is ready to talk about anything from the film "Saturday Night Fever", tales of which have reached China, to the democracy movement. They emphasised many times during our talk that they are here under no constraints whatsoever: they are free to do and say what they like and to live and go where they like.

"Since arriving at the LSE," said Chuang Tsien-Yang, "one of our main problems has been getting used to the different methods of teaching used here. In International Relations, for example, we find the abstract, theoretical nature of some of the course difficult to cope with. It's not that we don't understand English well enough; just that we find case studies easier than general theory, although we know that both are very necessary parts of the course."

"Another problem," added Haiming, "has been making contact with people in our seminar groups. We find that the groups with foreign students are the easiest ones in which to get talking to people." She said that, at LSE, other Chinese from countries like Malaysia have been most friendly towards them. They are very curious about China and any ideological differences, even with the

in these centres of Chinese culture in capitalist society, especially in New York, where on Mott Street, Chinatown, you can eat at the Human Garden restaurant with its famous window display of Chinese specialities, visit the Chinese Museum or sit beneath the statue of Confucius.

But what about the seediness of areas next to Chinatown, like the Bowery in New York and Soho here in London? It does upset them and is one of the reasons why the two women at present living in Chinatown here in London would like to move into university accommodation or flat-shares. Anyone interesting in sharing with them should contact Haiming Shao via the 'S' IR pigeonhole. In Chinatown, Hsiaoping, Shuping and Haiming are instantly recognisable by their distinctive style of dress as being from "the mainland", as the Hong Kong Chinese call the People's Republic. Although they have met with endless curiosity, the only hostility they have come across consisted of a couple of anti-communist slogans on a wall in Chinatown, New York.

In the United States this summer, the members of the group found that the question most often asked of them by the young people with whom they had contact was: "Do you have freedom in China?" A predictable question, perhaps, but one that the group answered in the affirmative. "In Peking, there is

Last month, with Wei Jingsheng's 15-year sentence and after the arrest last week of people distributing transcripts of his trial, the "democracy movement" seemed in jeopardy. But, according to the BBC World Service, the Chinese authorities have been conspicuous in their failure to arrest or harass people continuing to petition on other issues. Wei Jingsheng's mistake was to call publicly for the institution of a multi-party system in China and this was borne out by what the students told me last week. Although "democracy movement" is an accurate translation of Min Zhu Yun Dong, it is misinterpreted in the West and represents something of a normative slip on the part of the Western media. Min Zhu really stands for accountability and accessibility in government rather than a Western-type multi-party system. "Only a minority of the radicals want that," said Chuang.

The general reactions of the group to the US were mixed. Most were overwhelmed by the experience of New York, their first port of call, but liked it better second time around. I asked them whether the fact that, in the years before the visits of Kissinger and Nixon to China, they had been exposed to a lot of anti-American propaganda had made any difference to their feelings. They replied that it hadn't and Hsueh said that for him it

the downfall of the "Gang of Four", the government has decided that it can best develop the country's industrial capacity by maintaining friendly relations with all countries, including the Soviet Union. "But unfortunately," said Hsueh, "the Soviet Government hasn't yet shown any sign of sincerity in improving its state relations with China. Instead, it continues to pursue its policy of expansion." Second, China is determined to develop without destroying its traditional culture, although its ability to do so is often doubted in the West. In connection with this point, Hsueh pointed out that most westerners in China are teachers rather than workers: China is not building up a reliance on foreign personnel in the way that some Third World countries have done, and this is why the sending of students abroad is so important. The idea is to acquire skill, not import it.

The words "science and technology" cropped up often during our conversation and we ended in time for the group to watch one of their favourite programmes: "Tomorrow's World". S and T is China's number one priority so the group at the LSE is in something of a minority. What did they think they would get out of their studies here?

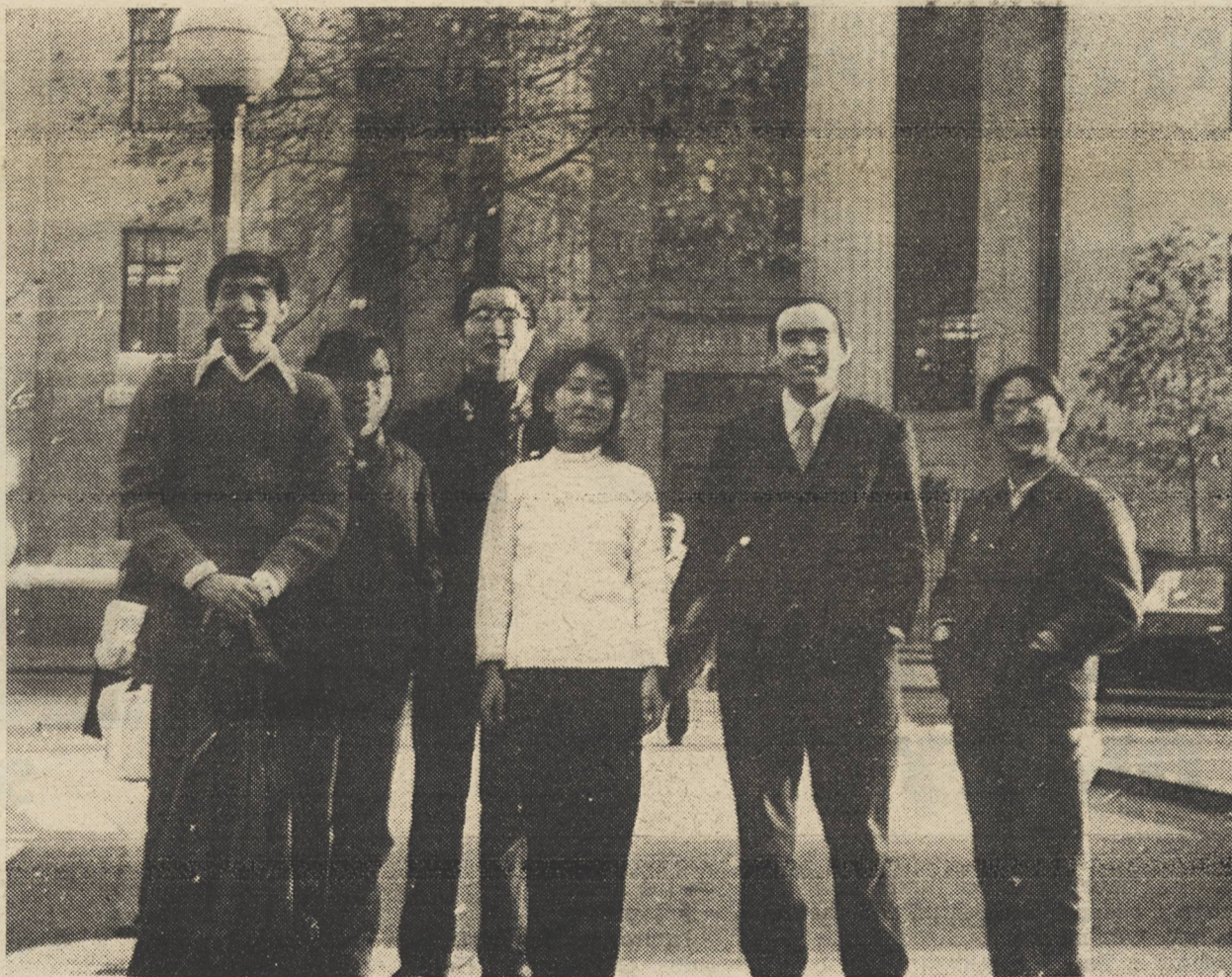
"We will not be getting any more money just because we've studied in Britain—that would be wrong, although there is some status attached to studying abroad. But one problem we don't share with you is jobs. In China we compete for further education, not for jobs, so we know we will be going into fields like journalism, interpretation and diplomacy. But the cultural experience is the most valuable thing we will take back with us."

A BEER & A BALL GAME

Among other points we discussed was the question of the Olympics next year. The Chinese, like back-page readers the world over, love sport and hope that they will be able to compete in the Olympics. What the Chinese government is asking, as Chuang and Hsueh pointed out, is that Taiwan should compete under the flag of the People's Republic as the "Province of Taiwan". We also talked about Western cinema with Beaver's movie buff, Roddy Hallifax. Two films the group had seen recently were "Alien", which they thought was "fascinating but horrible", and, out of curiosity on their part, "Chinatown", although they did not see why it was called Chinatown. Lastly, there was a discussion on the relative merits of different beers—a bit of American influence creeping in, perhaps. China makes a beer from spa water called Tsing Tao which it exports to Eastern Europe and the US. British beer, if nothing else, should be a "cultural experience".

By ALEX WYNTER with thanks to

Haiming Shao
Lin Yenming
Liu Shuping
Jen Hsiao-Ping
Chuang Tsien-Yang
Hsueh Yung-Hsing
Hsu Tsien-Kuo
Lin Tao-Hsin.



Photo—Alex Wynter

DEMOCRACY MOVEMENT

Among the many things about the West which have fascinated the group since they left China are the various Chinatowns which they have encountered in the US and Britain. In fact, two of the women in the group are at present living in Chinatown here in London because of a "breakdown in communication" with the LSE accommodation bureaucracy. They talked at length about the differences between Chinatowns in London, New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

They found a lot to impress them.

still an office of the old Kuomintang party composed of ex-members who decided to accept the outcome of the civil war and stay in Peking—the government has allowed them to retain their identity."

Hsueh Yung-Hsing went on to say that, "until a few years ago, there was actually a number of ex-Kuomintang officers serving as deputy ministers and ministers in the government; General Fu Tsuo-Yi, for example, was responsible for hydro-electric power until he died, and General Liu Wen-Hui is forestry minister. Hsueh felt that "China has something to learn from Western democracies: a multi-party system will not work in China but there are other features of Western administrations which might be tried."

had been "secondhand information" in the first place. They all felt that Americans were exceptionally proud of their country and their system, perhaps a bit too proud, but they found Americans easy to get along with and liked "their style". "I miss America," said Chuang.

'CULTURAL EXPERIENCE'

When talking about China today there are two things which must be borne firmly in mind and these were confirmed during our conversation. The first is that, in the years since

WEEK OF ACTION



WHICH WAY NOW—LEFT



OCCUPATION DIARY

STUDENTS SHOW THEIR

THURSDAY, 1st November.
 1.00 pm Union meeting. Julian Ingram! proposes NUS idea of 24 hour occupation as part of a National Week of Action. The motion was carried but by no means unanimously. Several activists in the Campaign Against Fee Increases opposed the idea as a tactical mistake.
Friday, 2nd.
 Great activity in the Students' Union. Many students find difficulty getting into Connaught House already. Executive meeting in the evening inconclusive.
Monday, 5th.
 More frenzied activity. Entry into Connaught House now virtually impossible. Another Union Executive meeting in the evening. Ex-students called in as "Occupation Consultants". They were sceptical of the chances of success. Executive decide

"where, when and how" to occupy. Date fixed for the following day.
Tuesday, 6th.
 Early morning attempt by "Occupation Vanguard" to gain entry to Connaught House thwarted. Decision taken to fall back on the second option, the New Board Room. Occupation carried out successfully.
 1.00 pm.
 OSAC meeting. The Director gives his views. During the meeting police appeared on the doorsteps of Connaught House. Reports of a further three vanloads and a bus-load more police outside Australia House sent back to those in occupation.
 3.00 pm.
 Great excitement: the BBC arrive. Many people hang out of windows and shout "Hello, Mum!" etc. We must have been photogenic as we later appeared

on the news.
 5.00 pm.
 Impromptu demonstration outside Connaught House and around LSE to protest at the presence of police on campus.
 Some staff at Senate House warned of the occupation.
 Early evening.
 With the prospect of a long night before them, several "Occupiers" took the opportunity to espouse new pastimes. Several took up poker and lost their rent money in the process. As alcohol is not allowed in occupations, there was a boost for the Three Tuns profits as the less dedicated sought to alleviate the boredom. Bed time for the occupiers was a novel experience. Bruce the Beaver—doubling as an occupation mascot was much in demand for those who had foolishly forgotten their teddy-bears.

Fashion note: The favoured ensemble seemed to be thick jumpers and a sleeping bag; the School had unsportingly turned off the heating. Pyjamas were in a distinct minority.
Wednesday, 7th.
 Morning saw the early editions of the newspapers which we weren't in, but the cross-words were a relief.
 1.00 pm.
 Emergency UGM. The decision was taken by a packed Union meeting, to extend the Occupation for a further 24 hours. Resignedly, occupiers returned to the homely atmosphere of the New Board Room.
 New Board Room becomes poster and leaflet workshop.
 Evening.
 Great puzzlement—where are the masses who had voted for

an extra 24 hours? Another long night approaches. Due to the lack of audio-entertainment the occupiers resorted to old fashioned forms of entertainment—community singing. This rapidly deteriorated into "I know more revolutionary songs than you do, so there!" As voices hoarsened (if there is such a word) the "community" singing dwindled to "LSM sings Those You Have Loved".
Thursday, 8th.
 Morning, and we still weren't in the papers. People were shaken from their sleeping bags by the gentle sound of massed Hoovers as the New Board Room was restored to its former state of sparkling cleanliness. We "de-Occupied" at 11.00 am precisely.
 The Occupation of 1979 was over.

THE NUS rather silly it advert to all col was happy escape th dents Uni not to fo to occupy than Thur
 The we speculation that the the provin I would vious tho be some c rounding planning had previ an occupa amendmen Action' m Ingram (s occupation

ON AT THE L.S.E.



Y NOW—LEFT OR RIGHT?



V THEIR DISCONTENT

A PARTICIPANT'S VIEW

THE NUS week of action was rather silly in my view, since it advertised before the event to all college authorities, what was happening. This did not escape the notice of LSE Students Union when they decided not to follow NUS advice, and to occupy on Tuesday rather than Thursday.

The week before was full of speculation and accusations that the occupation was kept the province of a select clique. I would have thought it obvious though that there has to be some degree of security surrounding an occupation in the planning stage. The Executive had previously decided against an occupation but due to an amendment to the 'Week of Action' motion, proposed by J. Ingram (suspected by many) an occupation became Union policy.

Thus the process of planning was initiated, and advice was given on the subject by various parties.

Executive discussions led to the conclusion that an occupation should be held on the Tuesday and preferably, in Connaught House. Armed with this, a motley bunch met early on Tuesday morning, to form the 'assault squad'. Although various attempts to get into Connaught House were made, these were all failures. Feelings that the School had been tipped off were enhanced. The group then decided to retire and to consider alternative action. It was decided to occupy the New Boardroom. Disturbing a meeting of Belgian Lawyers, with the words 'We are occupying', it had begun.

People arriving for lectures were met by the weird spec-

tacle of the "vanguard" in the New Boardroom. Several people joined in. During Tuesday there was much discussion, but further attempts to invade Connaught House failed, as by this time it resembled Fort Knox. At 1.00 pm Professor Dahrendorf spoke to a packed meeting where he was informed that there were police on the doorsteps of Connaught House. This angered many people, and a spontaneous demonstration was held outside Connaught House. Then 'Back to the Occupation'.

Later another demonstration was staged which developed into a march around LSE. Students in lectures in the Halcane Room looked on, and a rally outside the Old Building also attracted much attention.

On Wednesday, a packed emergency UGM, (about 400 people present) in the New

Theatre, decided to extend the occupation for another 24 hours. Umesh Desai made many forceful points. That evening was ended with revolutionary songs led by Krish.

On Thursday at 11.00 am the occupation came to an end (very quietly, hardly anyone noticed). However the story doesn't end there.

At 1.00 pm the Union Meeting was followed by a march, round Fleet Street, Chancery Lane and Kingsway. This, in my opinion, was the success of the week, as about 400-500 students participated. They made their point very forcefully, that they were not prepared to accept the Fee Increases in any form. By handing out leaflets we got our view across to some members of the public.

The demonstration was ended by a Rally in Houghton Street, where speakers stressed the need to continue the fight. The next meeting of the Standing Committee of the Court of Governors was picketed by about 30 students who made their opinions quite clear. The conclusions to be drawn from this action are:

- 1 Students do care.
- 2 We are prepared to show this.
- 3 We do have strength by virtue of our numbers, and in our argument.
- 4 We can fight the Fee Increases.

Students must continue to show their support in a constructive manner. It is no good just voting at a Union Meeting, do something constructive as well. Support the march next week.

THE LONDON ARTS

THE DEVIL'S DECADE

DESPITE the rather perilous habit of dividing artistic periods into decades, thereby enabling an object to be classed as "typically 'twenties", or "unquestionably 'forties", the treatment of British art, architecture and design of the nineteen-thirties at the Hayward Gallery suggests that such a division is indeed justified here, and makes one realise how unimaginative and backward-looking our own decade has been.

The twenty-five sections range from the decorative arts, painting and sculpture (both traditional and "modern") on the lower floor to more industrial and generally obscure arts (focusing for example on advertising, the money supply and transport design) in the upper galleries. The sections devoted to communications, including features on the postal and telegraphic service as well as the development of television and the construction of Broadcasting House, are particularly full, and the archive photographs provide the nostalgic feel of the decade very much expected from such an exhibition.

While the exhibits from London Transport and those marking the development of cars and motor-cycles in the period must have been shown countless times elsewhere in numerous other exhibitions, the show at the Hayward is worth a visit if only for the magnificent attempt at catching the mood of middle-class domestic lifestyle as shown by the reconstruction of comprehensively furnished, full-sized rooms. We are shown a typical living-room, bedroom, kitchen, and a rather exceptional lavishly decorated bathroom, as well as a faithful reproduction of the "minimum flat" designed by Wells Coates and containing all that was required for a "comfortable" domestic existence.

As is customary with spectacles of this kind in Britain, each object is clearly and attractively presented—although finding one's way around the exhibition as a whole is a little less simple. Whether intentional or otherwise, the unorthodox link-up of the huge section devoted to leisure and public recreation with the minimal area portraying the approaching war is somewhat peculiar, and although the exhibition is strictly one of art and design, more should have been made of the depression—albeit in an artistic way. The aspect of the 'thirties not on show at the Hayward is highlighted by George Orwell, perhaps the best remembered writer of the period, in his image of the Rolls-Royce gliding past the dole queue. And indeed the development of writing, journalism and the use of newsreels are also features which appear to have been sadly neglected.

While immensely interesting, the exhibition is not one which requires several visits to see thoroughly, and although the ideas for some of the sections are rather hackneyed, the 60p student entrance fee is certainly money well spent.

More than anything, the 'thirties are shown as a decade of unquestionable artistic style, suburban opulence and stunning originality—and all of this despite the period's frequently grim economic climate. Those who graduated from the 'thirties to the egalitarianism of the 'forties and the "People's War" swore never to return to it. With this in mind, it will be interesting to see how the 'seventies will be remembered and portrayed in forty years' time.

Simon Garfield and Alex Wynter

The Gospel according to Python

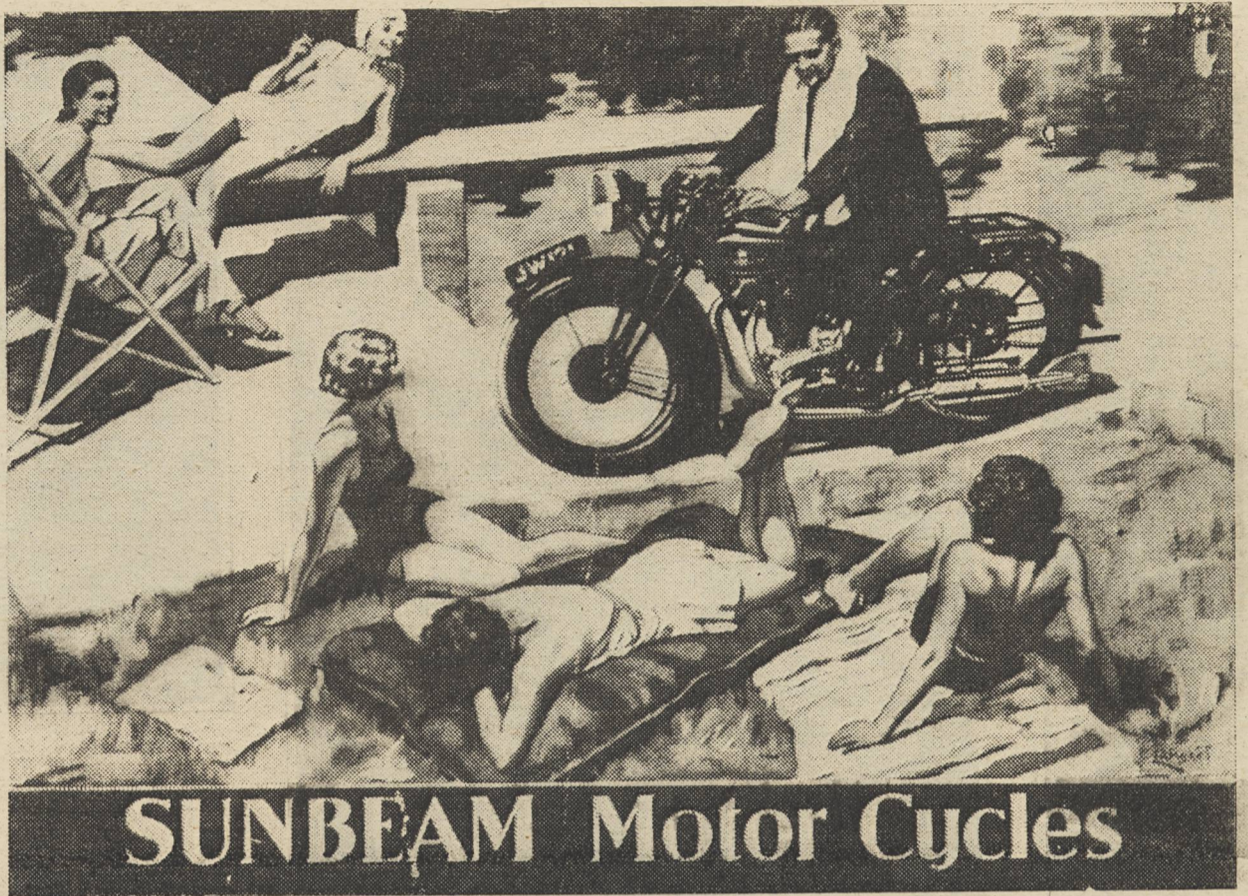
MONTY PYTHON'S "Life of Brian" at the Plaza (AA) is not the shocking blasphemy we have all been led to expect, but even so it will be a great box-office hit. While you might expect Monty Python to extract a great deal of humour from established religion and from the contradictions of Christianity it does in fact parody several other themes, such as the spoof on Nazism.

Those familiar with the Gospel of St Matthew will find this film very entertaining. Brian (Graham Chapman) pretends to nothing more than the fact that he was born and died at the same time as the Messiah. He is thought to be the Messiah by others: "I say you

are the Messiah and I should know, I've followed a few," he's told by Michael Palin. Only under extreme pressure from the mob does he say "Oh all right, I am the Messiah, now fuck off!"

Graham Chapman makes a wonderful victim of circumstance throughout the film, right up to his accidental crucifixion. Terry Jones is a brilliant mother to Brian, particularly when the three kings come in. More structured and cohesively amusing than "The Holy Grail" I would recommend it strongly to everyone, especially those who thrive on Python Humour.

Tim Devlin



SUNBEAM Motor Cycles

"The Thirties" at the Hayward Gallery until 13th January.

... until it's over
— over here: YANKS!

JOHN SCHLESINGER'S new film "Yanks", which will enhance his reputation for thoughtfulness and sensitivity, is deceptively simple. On the surface, it is a romantic but unsentimental story of three love affairs between GIs and English women, yet Schlesinger uses the setting of a tiny South Yorkshire village in 1943 to make some subtle and perceptive comments about the wartime relationship between Britain and the United States and their respective national characters. Everything from tea-drinking to racism comes under scrutiny.

The star couple, Mat and Jean, played by Richard Gere and Lisa Eichhorn, develops a deep and genuine love for each other, in sharp contrast to the desperate nature of the other relationships which spring up around them: the lonely village women become visibly excited at the beginning of the film when the loaded troop carriers come thundering up the high street. But differences in their backgrounds threaten them: Mat's father, for example, owns a diner in Arizona while Jean's is the village bobby.

This comes to a head when a vicious race fight breaks out at a New Year's Eve dance. Some white American soldiers become enraged at the sight of a black (American) soldier dancing with one of the local lasses and they almost kick him to death. No other white soldiers intervene, including Mat and his best friend, although they had been cheering the couple on, and Jean and her friends are so disgusted by the whole thing that they ask all the other black soldiers to dance with them. Later, Jean tells Mat that "this isn't Alabama". "But," he says, "I've come from a state which didn't even exist fifty years ago to a town the Romans built..." Maybe this scene is unfair to the Americans, especially as the film has a factual basis, but in Britain during the war dance halls did sometimes erect colour

bars in order to keep the custom of white American soldiers (see "Tribune", 11th August, 1944). In any case, the fight leaves a nasty taste behind it.

None of the themes in the film is overdone, although the temptation to do so must have been strong. The sexual frustration of the English women, the sex appeal of the Americans, the MASH-type humorous patter and the wartime period piece all fit together nicely. There is a bit of picture painting, however, when Vanessa Redgrave and William Devane take a day trip to an American base in Ireland in a bomber named "Miami Clipper" to pick up some illicit supplies: "Hey Joe!—don't forget the nylons and the chocolate." They kiss fondly in the rear gun turret to the sound of "String of Pearls" (I think) as the bomber flies through low cloud and the patchwork English countryside passes beneath.

War and crisis tend to bring out the best and the worst in people

End of the Road Show" Venues

- Saturday, 1st December: Princess Louise, High Holborn, WC2.
- Monday, 3rd: The Moon, New North Street, WC1.
- Tuesday, 4th: The George, Great Queen Street, WC2.
- Wednesday, 5th: Lamb and Flag, Rose Street (off Garrick Street), The Sun Tavern, Long Acre, WC2.
- Thursday, 6th: Lamb and Flag, Rose Street (off Garrick Street), Bodega, Bedford Street, WC2.
- Friday, 7th: Lamb and Flag, Rose Street (off Garrick Street).
- Saturday, 8th: King's Head Bar, Upper Street, N1.
- Tuesday, 11th: Two Brewers, Monmouth Street, WC2.

and Schlesinger has managed to capture the former without covering up or ignoring the latter. There are beautiful natural performances all round, including a very impressive debut from Lisa Eichhorn who is a RADA trained American. A good question to ask yourself about any film is: "Having seen this film, do I feel better or worse about tomorrow?" After Yanks, a funny, spontaneous, romantic period piece about the contradictions of war, the answer will be better.

(YANKS is at the Odeon, Leicester Square).

Alex Wynter

THE premier performance of Bill Douglas's autobiographical trilogy is currently showing at the Academy, 3 Oxford Street. Shot in 16mm black and white, writer/director Douglas extends the filming over several years to follow the authentic development of his young actor. "My Way Home", the final part, was completed last year.

Avoiding the pit-falls of self pity or Presbyterian moralising, Douglas makes an honest survey of the life of a young, parentless boy living in a Scottish mining town. The maternal grandmother provides adequate emotional security, but her death throws the child into the complexities of his natural father's home. This, together with his subsequent attempts at reconciling the need for a family and the greater beneficence of the boy's home, provides the basis of the early works.

Poverty is all pervasive but never sentimentalised—the black and white medium prevents any glamorising. Pathos does not outweigh humour while the stoic youngster arouses sympathy. Understanding of the location and a genuine desire to record rather than expound makes this three-hour show wholly worthwhile.

Rówena Whelan

DANCE

THE Royal Ballet at Covent Garden are currently presenting three ballets in so-called repertory; *Les Sylphides*, *Les Biches*, *Les Noces*.

With music by Frederick Chopin, *Les Sylphides* is presented in the truly traditional fashion; it is easy, light and very relaxing, demanding nothing of its audience. Marguerite Port and Mark Silver (who danced a pas de deux) performed elegantly as did the whole company.

Les Biches was probably the most exciting of the three ballets in the evening performance. To quote the programme "in its ironical glance at the transitory pleasures of the sophisticated set who frequented the exclusive Mediterranean resorts in the twenties there was little to shock the public." Francis Poulenc's music is superb with echoes of the haunting jazz-strained atmosphere. Vergie Dernlau's performance as Adagietto was enjoyable.

The final ballet "*Les Noces*" constructed the scene of preparations for a wedding. The music was that of Stravinsky as were the words, sung by the Royal Opera Chorus, both portraying the Russian atmosphere. The company danced well, the choreography being of Russian influence.

Jeremy Rosenblatt

THE double bill performed by the Royal Ballet during November consisted of Ashton's ballet "*The Dream*" (Shakespeare's story, Mendelssohn's music) and Balanchine's "*Liebeslieder Waltzes*" (no story, music by Brahms).

"*The Dream*" is a beautiful ballet, the music alone guarantees its success. The performance I saw (November 8th) featured Lesley Collier as Titania and Mark Silver as Oberon, the latter showing once again that he is a worthy heir to Dowell. Wayne Sleep was as brilliant as ever in the role of Puck, one of his most famous parts.

"*Liebeslieder Waltzes*" was a pleasant surprise. Having found it very boring and dated when the Royal Ballet first performed it in April, I was delighted to enjoy it so much the second time round. It may be that having seen just how bad Balanchine can be, in dreadful spectacles such as "*Union Jack*" and "*Vienna Waltzes*" (both performances by the New York City Ballet at Covent Garden in September), it was easy to appreciate one of his better works.

The Royal Ballet looks like having a vintage Christmas with a revival of Ashton's "*Cinderella*" (tickets in great demand) and a new production of "*Swan Lake*" (unfortunately retaining Leslie Hurry's ancient and rather dreary designs). I'm afraid I can't recommend the London Festival Ballet "*Nutcracker*" to anyone over the age of ten: the production is a disaster and the dancing at the performance I went to last year wasn't much better. However the company may have been revitalised by the recent change of management.

J. D. Johnson

The road to success

FRINGE protest theatre is nothing new, but I am sure that there has seldom been more originality and spirited enthusiasm than that shown by the Covent Garden Community Theatre's production of their own work, '*The End of the Road Show*'. The fifty minute play is loosely based around the objections to Westminster City Council's plan to extend Central London's congested road network, and to construct two more multi-storey car parks while pulling down ancient flats and various public utilities in the process.

To make the protest that much more acute, the piece highlights two particular targets—Sandringham West flats in the Charing Cross Road, and the Jubilee Sports Hall—both of which face demolition early in the New Year. The protesters take the form of those directly affected by the council's proposed actions. Thus we see a mother, who, while complaining of the loss of the sports hall, discovers that her flats have to be demolished as well and a rather reactionary traffic warden, who argues that, if the plans for the car parks go ahead, she faces the possibility of losing her job. No matter how fallible, her case is pleaded with the utmost sincerity.

Representing the contrasting

view, Westminster Council are portrayed as bumbling, sycophantic and nauseatingly bureaucratic fools (everyone in the council has the same name 'to avoid confusion and the levying of criticism or blame') who spend most of their time knocking down desk-top models of flats while sniggering at public complaints. 'We love cars, roads, car parks, offices', comments one council member, 'but we absolutely loathe people', continues another.

If not subtle, the protest is both valuable and effective, bringing to the public eye a subject which might otherwise have been overlooked. 'This play's supposed to get you thinking', shouts the cast at the beginning of the play, and the heated discussion during the interval provided a fine gauge of their success.

The troupe are to be found playing for free at a different pub or club in the Covent Garden area almost every day until the middle of December, and there really is very little in the West End to touch the warmth, conviction and spirit of this performance.

If the sports hall and the Sandringham West flats do get knocked down in the New Year (and such a plight now seems inevitable) it will certainly not have been without the strongest opposition—and opposition of the most enjoyable dramatic sort.

Simon Garside

Ars gratis artis

AMONG other benefits of our sometimes overpowering metropolis is the vast range of art collections that combine to keep London one of the most important centres of Art in the world. Most of them are close to LSE, open all week, and free.

The biggest collection is at the National Gallery, which faces on to Trafalgar Square. Don't be put off by the shabbiness, the treasures inside are unparalleled in their range and splendour. The best guide is "*The National Gallery*" (Thames and Hudson, £2.50). Tucked in behind is the National Portrait Gallery, at present exhibiting Sir Thomas Lawrence. Its aim is to provide a collection of paintings and photos of Britain's worthies, sometimes sacrifices the standard of the painting for the status of the sitter, but remains a fascinating collection.

Two more national collections are less well known for their paintings: the Victoria and Albert (Cromwell Road), and the British Museum, but nevertheless remain important galleries. The V and A is the home of the fabulous Raphael cartoons, but look out also for the unique Constable room, as well as lesser water-colourists and miniaturists.

The British Museum recently staged an impressive exhibition on "The age of Rembrandt and Rubens" and before that an array of floral paintings. Worth seeing also are the antique books and interminable rooms of classical relics!

Smaller, but less overbearing collections, are not in short supply. The Wallace Collection (Manchester Square) is most famous for French 18th century works, but if you insist on seeing the "*Laughing Cavalier*", make sure you also take in some of Hals' less over-exposed works.

The Courtauld Galleries are nearer to home, to be found just behind Senate House, a staggering selection of impressionist works, especially those of Cezanne and Degas.

These and other impressionist and post impressionist painters feature in the Royal Academy's present exhibition. "*The horses of San Marco*" was criticised as being an attraction and little else. But few people have done less than emphasise the major and unique importance of their "Post-Impressionists". This is certainly the exhibition most worth visiting, and should be regarded as a once in a lifetime spectacle.

Major London centre of modern art is the Tate Gallery, but it also houses some older works, most notably those of Stubbs and Tucker. Being a friend of the Tate costs only £2.50 pa, when viewing many paintings in relative peace acquires a new dimension. Some other galleries to watch out for are the Hayward, at present showing the controversial Thirties exhibition; the Camden Arts Centre and the ICA Gallery. Also the Queens Galleries (The Mall), Sotheby's and Christies (on picture days) and one of the better independents, Anthony D'Offay.

Finally, although it is unlikely to house the nation's Turner collection as predicted, it seems that Michael Heseltine has promised to turn Somerset House into a major museum. About time when you consider that almost half the National Gallery collection is in its vaults, never seen by the public.

Magnus Spence

THE NT's adaptation of Flora Thompson's book, '*CANDLEFORD*', can only be described as delightful. The promenade performance undoubtedly makes the audience involved with the story—the simple one of a Victorian girl who has left home to work in a post office; the story is not deeply symbolic, yet it is moving.

The layout of a promenade performance brings the characters to life—the fact that the characters walk among us, the audience, enables us to perceive them as real people who are not acting but who are actually living in Victorian times.

The lighting is very effective, conjuring up different atmospheres—the departing of mother and daughter at the beginning, with the darkening light gives a chill feeling.

Valerie Whittington as Laura, Flora Thompson's recreation of herself, is very impressive, her firm stare playing on our emotions; her walks through the audience portray a feeling of loneliness, yet Laura is so unselfish, only the audience experiences this feeling of loneliness. Peggy Mount is amusing and entertaining — her booming voice and strong character coming through to us all, her arguments with the village blacksmiths are also comic.

Morag Hood is very fluent, portraying a respectable character. This performance will appeal to all.

Jeremy Rosenblatt

A night at the opera

COVENT Garden's opera season got off to a flying start on November 7th with a thrilling performance of Puccini's "*La Boheme*". In many ways the conductor, Carlos Kleiber, was the central figure of the performance. I personally found his reading of the score too showy, in particular his exaggerated variations in tempo phrases. However it's perhaps foolish to criticise a conductor who gets such glorious playing out of this sometimes variable Covent Garden orchestra.

The cast was excellent: Ileana Cotrubas and Giacomo Aragall, both in superb voice, made a wholly credible pair of lovers. Johnathon Summers was an impressive Marcello: his voice sounded much less heavy and wooden than it did last season, probably as a result of working with Kleiber. Perhaps best of all was Sona Ghazarian's Musetta, for once a real character, rather than a crude caricature. The sets are beautiful and the opera is remarkably concise. Anyone who missed it this time will get another chance to see it in June, with a cast including the sensational young tenor Peter Dvorsky.

Luciano Pavarotti's recital at Covent Garden on November 4th was a big disappointment.

He hadn't managed to memorise his words, and had to keep looking in his programme to see where he was. In an attempt to pretend that this was a balanced recital programme, rather than a string of 19th century Italian arias, he included three Arie Antiche (17th and 18th century pieces), which he sang in a "style" which Gigli could have got away with but which he couldn't: Handel's "*Care Selve*" sung in a wobbly crooning mezza voce was particularly painful. In short he failed to convince me that he is the "Prince of Italian tenors": to my ears he offers neither the artistry of Carreras, nor the sheer vocal thrill of Domingo.

An interesting rarity is being performed by the ENO at the moment Martinu's "*Julietta*". This opera, written in 1938, is set around a man who ultimately rejects sanity and the world of reality for the "half-life of dreams, spurred on by a vision of his ideal woman, Julietta. The idea may sound a little pretentious, but this opera is very entertaining. It comes over very well in English: it would be impossible to follow the often witty libretto in the original Czech. Martinu's haunting music is easy to listen to, and John Stoddart's set contributes greatly to the atmos-

phere. Stuart Kale leads an excellent cast.

There are also two more performances of Britten's "*The Turn of the Screw*," based on a story by Henry James, the producer is Johnathon Miller and the cast includes Graham Clark, the most exciting young British tenor for some years.

The operas on at Covent Garden over Christmas are Mozart's "*Così fan tutte*" conducted by Karl Bohm, Johann Strauss's "*Die Fledermaus*", the funniest thing to be seen on the operatic stage for years, and at the beginning of January Verdi's "*La Traviata*" an ideal opera for beginners (or anyone else for that matter). Of the works being performed by the ENO, Handel's "*Julius Caesar*" is probably a bit long for beginners, but is a must for anyone else, with the cast of this season headed by Janet Baker; "*The Magic Flute*" is the easiest of Mozart's operas to enjoy, although ultimately the hardest to understand, and again the cast looks very promising.

On a non-operatic note, the pick of the traditional Messiahs should be the one in the RFH on December 8th conducted by that brilliant young conductor Brian Wright.

J. D. Johnson

'AVE YA GOTTA FAG?

MY attention has recently been drawn to an interesting article in one of our daily major newspapers, "The Guardian." It concerned, would you believe, the introduction of "fagging" (as in Tom Brown's Schooldays) at North Staffordshire Polytechnic. "Fagging," for all those of you who don't know what it is, basically involved such ghastly things as washing the floor, making the tea, cleaning shoes, doing the laundry, etc., these being the sort of duties that all junior boys at such revered public school establishments as Eton, Harrow and Rugby found themselves having to do for the older boys at risk of being beaten up, roasted over the fireplace, or something equally jolly. The dilemma that first-year students at North Staffs Poly are facing, is that plans are being made for them to become "fags" for final-year students about to take exams. Shock! Horror!

It would be interesting however to see what might happen if such a thing were to be introduced into the L.S.E. Pandemonium would probably reign in an effort to return to this great British tradition. I am pretty sure that if "Flashman Shackleton (our great and glorious Senior Treasurer) were to ask perhaps a rather large and rotund first-year member of the A.U. Rugby Club to fag for him, he would no doubt be in severe danger of getting his nose broken for him in about six different places! Conversely, fagging would be difficult to put into practice at the L.S.E., mainly because we are not a Campus university.

I can just imagine the screams of abuse which might issue forth from the mouth of an articulate and highly irritated Fresher, if he were to be approached by a well meaning but harassed third-year, in the throes of taking his finals, and asked to turn up to his flat that evening for a bit of floor scrubbing and boot polishing, the flat of course being in somewhere as out of the way as Harrow-on-the-Hill, or even Amersham (what student can afford to live in Amersham?)

Various other thoughts spring to mind. Perhaps instead of the annual Rag Week we could have instead a "Fag Week." Or maybe even a Fag Stall at the yearly Freshers' Fair, and a weekly Fag Society, to which Fags would come to swap stories of how many cups of tea they had made that week, how many shirt buttons they had sewn on, how much filthy laundry they had washed or to protest about the number of times they had been roasted over the fireplace, etc. A Fag Union springs to mind (why not, everyone else seems to have one?) as do "Fags against the Nazis" and a "Fag Ball," and maybe even a "Fag Solidarity" sit-in in Connaught House now and then.

Seriously though, I can't myself imagine the L.S.E. (that "Mecca" of the Left, and bastion against tradition) even remotely considering tabling a motion to the weekly U.G.M. approving a move to introduce fagging. So, as far as we are concerned, the only "fag" likely to be found at the L.S.E. would be of the smoking variety. "Fags for the Memories?"

LIZ BAKALA.

Parliamentary report

THE suggestion of Curtis Duane Baker that Union meetings follow Parliamentary procedure sounded rather intriguing. Therefore, I got out my "Guide to Bourgeois Democracy" and tried to imagine a Students' Union run in the same efficient manner as is our glorious democracy.

We already follow the first rule of Parliamentary procedure, that only a minority of members be present, the rest being in the Members' Bar (the Tuns). All members would file in quietly and bow respectfully to the Chair (sorry, Mr. Speaker), rather than throwing paper darts at his head. The Chairperson has covered his grubby locks with a white, woolly hairpiece, which looks suspiciously like a dead goat. The mace would have been brought in, but the Sports Council (the AU) has pinched it. We have prayers (Union policy, believe it or not) before going on to General Secretary's Question-time. Backbench Tory Guy Elliott now subjects our great, glorious and correct leader, the Rt. Hon. Krish Maharaj, to sneering, counter-revolutionary sarcasm.

The Front Bench then makes Ministerial statements, which are received with cries of "Hear, hear," although it sounds like goats bleating. The resignation of the Minister for Drought and Culture (Bar & Ents) is announced and we speculate as to how long this shaky coalition of Tories, Liberals, Labourites, SWP and LSM can continue.

The first business of the day is a Committee of the Whole House for the Second Reading of the Consolidation of the Revolution Act. The clause on permitted language comes under heavy attack from the Tory benches and also from the Spartacist League, WRP, Revolutionary Communist Tendency and Uncle Tom Cobleigh Solidarity Front. Unfortunately, the Minister for Propaganda (Publicity) is unable to defend the Bills as he has been incapacitated since the loss of his moustache. Secretary Maharaj and Education Secretary Desai speak and speak; following Parliamentary procedure we have dispensed with time-limits on speaking, and members may carry on ad infinitum. Mind you there is a limitation on speech content known as "unparliamentary language."

A cheer goes up as the ever-popular Trade Secretary (Florries & Shop), The Most Gallant Member for Greater Nonsense, Robert Hampson (Private, Territorial Army, Retd.) rises to raise a point of order. A member wishing to raise a point of order must cover her/his head. A top-hat was available, but the AU has pinched that too. Priv. Hampson Rtd. wearing a wastepaper bin atop his bonce asks for a guillotine to be imposed, which tempts everybody. The Ghastly Green Society—sponsored member gets his way, and the members then proceed to run in and out of doors to be counted, hotly pursued by whips.

The clause is defeated, and further debate is prevented by a call for a debate on the rumours that Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Richard M. Nix . . . sorry, Shackleton—is working for a foreign power, i.e., Ralf Dahrendorf. Mr. Shackleton denied these rumours, saying "you all know it's plumb hogwash".

The fun is abruptly brought to an end with a loud bang. It appears some dangerous clown is playing with Molotov cocktails in the cellar beneath the Old Theatre. This has set light to some Florries pies being stored there, with disastrous results. From my new observation post on the balcony, I can hear the General Secretary calling for the arrest of all anarchists and Papists. Messrs Guy Elliott and Helen Fawkesett are under suspicion. Eccles.

AFFECTO

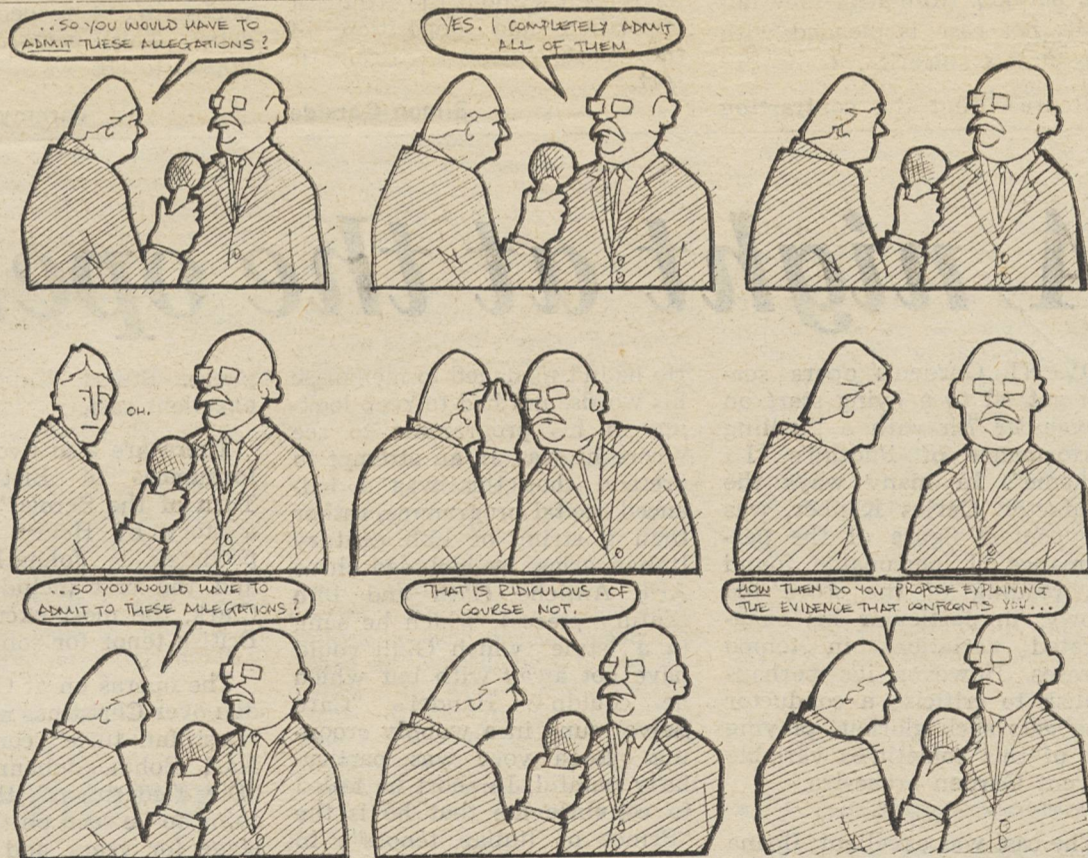
Rumble life political
Oh God, it seems so difficult.
Enshrine the high ideal
Delayed by fate's ordeal
Saturn's shadow of the real.

One team is metaphysics
A loop-the-loop for psychics
A dilettante's cross word
Enough to give the bird,
To make nobility absurd.

So to the revolution
This is the one fruition
Feet on the ground, we fight
Humane loyalty is might
Help! Beware of real fright.

No, I will not join the army
(Oh God, again)—it's barmy
When it comes to human kind-
ness
On every lectern is there
blindness?
Ah, my B.Sc.'s a fine mess . . .

J-J. Rousseau Jnr. (Age 155½)



Welfare Announcement

IMPORTANT

The local pub scheme will be re-started early next term. Apologies to all concerned, who missed meetings, but printing delays led to Beaver being too late with the arrangements.

Elana Erlich,
Welfare Officer.

Sorry!—Beaver Collective

COLLEGE COLLAGE

HAVE you ever wondered about students beyond Houghton Street? Are other Universities centres of contentment and civilised behaviour or centres of revolutionary activity? Reading college newspapers probably doesn't give us any true idea at all . . . Students at King's College have the pleasure of being informed, amused, and outrageously affronted by MAGUS. This controversial magazine has recently improved in production; the typical KCL student is obviously a conservative, well-groomed chap. The magazine has plenty of feature articles but hard news is a little scarce.

GRIT, the magazine of RGIT (near Aberdeen) has similar problems; the first issue has one serious article on (inevitably) accommodation problems. The rest is rather like a rag mag: the "Gritonometry" page is devoted to tasteless jokes about lepers in wind tunnels and babies stapled to chickens (why did the baby cross the road?). GRIT has a full page cartoon strip. The story so far: "The Wizard of Epiglot the great Bolzup has foretold a 'great disaster' . . .": compelling reading.

The Bath Area Student, reader of SPIKE, is a concerned liberal, appreciative of in-depth

reporting, and having plenty of general interests. This newspaper has a fashion page ("at the local scale Bath has a lot to offer"), a gardening column, a short story, a crossword etc., etc. SPIKE as a whole is an excellent paper . . . and rather like Beaver in style.

While Bath Students may be fairly conservative, if the last issue of GRIP is anything to go by, UMIST is the centre of revolutionary activity. Students have occupied "the link Bridge"; A Very Important Place. The University was visited by a Chief Inspector and two Inspectors and the Principal, although perceiving their actual existence, was going home for tea. Much of the paper is concerned with the background to the occupation:

it is a protest at discriminatory fees.

Recently student papers have been criticised for being dependent on their Unions for finance. INVOICE is "The Independent Newspaper of The New University of Ulster". One obtrusive feature of the paper is the amount of advertising: much of it patronising: "Mace Supermarket: We cater for student needs" (presumably they stock liquor, stationery, provide accommodation etc.) The paper itself is fairly badly produced but fairly interesting. There are no grievous injustices, or repressions there; though dogs cannot register, draw unemployment benefit: a reactionary, racist plot by . . . Finally, "Omega", or should I

say PI, the paper of UCLU, asks "Feel safer now?" Much of the news concerns the safety of female students at the college, and monitors new security precautions. There are several features; one is "What is Scientology?" (something all respectable students should condemn). The average student may be passionately religious but he also has a great sense of humour: an article by Barry Fawkes (Guy's brother — Hee Hee) lists harmless pranks with fireworks. Roman candles "can be quite spectacular, but a dose of sodium chlorate and a hole in the side nearest your audience will create minutes of hilarious injury".

Much safer drinking with LSE students, according to the latest news . . .

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BRUCE REVIVED

Rag '80

Into the 80's with the L.S.E. Rag Week. This year's event will run from Sunday, 2nd March until Friday, 7th March. All the usual features such as a Rag Mag, Revue and sponsored events. Of course we need as many new and exciting events as possible to augment this little lot. So if you feel you have an idea interesting/worthwhile/profitable, then please contact Toby Rose in S.118 at any time.

PROPOSED RAG DIARY

(subject to alteration)

Sunday, 2nd March—Official start of Rag Week with a sponsored tube ride. The idea is to visit as many tube stations as possible within the allotted time. You will be sponsored per tube stop where you will stop for certification.

Monday, 3rd March—Lunchtime event will be Pie Throwing. Local "celebs," i.e., Students Union officers, staff and other notables will volunteer as targets for you to take potshots at for a small fee.

The evening entertainment has yet to be confirmed.

Tuesday, 4th March—Welly Throwing Competition. The local banks have challenged the Students Union to a Welly Throwing Competition down Houghton Street—very bourgeois. The first prize is an unlimited overdraft facility.

Once again your ideas are needed to fill the evening spot.

Wednesday, 5th March—In the afternoon there will be a Children's Party in the Old Li-

brary. Children from schools in and around the city will be invited, for food and entertainment.

This evening will see the glittering premiere of the Rag Revue which will be held in the Old Theatre. (See item below explaining how you can participate).

Thursday, 6th March—Daytime event to be confirmed.

Second night of the Revue.

Friday, 7th March—Thank God, it's the last day of the Rag. The end of the week is marked by the All-Nite Party in the Old Library area. The evening will include food, raffles, talent contest, films, a late bar, a disco, prizes and many other surprises.

If you are interested in any of the above or would like to pursue ideas of your own, then please contact Toby Rose in S.118 at any time.

RAG REVUE

Interested in the Rag Revue? Well, Christina Archbold, 2nd Year Law and resident of room 109, Passfield Hall, certainly is because she's producing this year's Revue. The format of this production is that anything goes—serious, comedy, poetry, song, dance, anything you feel is entertaining. Please bring your ideas along to Christina or once again drop into S.118.

RAG MAG

People are urgently required to assist in the compilation of the Rag Mag. If you can give any help with writing or laying out, then please come along to S.118.

THE PHYSICISTS

THE compulsive notice board watchers among you will already know that LSE Drama Society is putting on a production of Durrenmatt's "The Physicists" on the 27th and 28th of November. Tickets will be selling at 30p which is cheap at the price if the standard of the rehearsal I witnessed on the 20th was anything to go by.

Contrary to my expectations there was none of the disorganisation and gigglishness one associates with Amateur Dramatics. All the members of the cast seemed serious and competent. None more so than the director of the play, Christian Hodeige. This is the first play that Christian has directed, though his ample experience of acting should stand him in good stead (he was in waiting for Godot and Zoo story).

The cast is large and includes both experienced actors and newcomers to the stage. It contains, I was amused to find, few Englishmen which is perhaps just as well for it is set in Germany. However you will be relieved to hear that we are

spared the phoney German accents.

The play was written in 1962 against the background of the Cuban missile crisis and Bertrand Russell's Nuclear Disarmament campaign. It concerns three nuclear physicists and takes the social utility of science as its theme. Though the play is probably most meaningful in the German context it remains very topical, because the basic proposition of the play remains as true today as it did in 1962. This could be roughly stated as being that progress in the natural sciences has far outstripped man's psychological development and that this imbalance could have disastrous consequences for humanity. The Physicist works very well on a purely dramatic level. The conclusion in particular is both spectacular and unexpected. I shall resist the temptation to tell you how it all ends, but here is a clue: Durrenmatt said that a plot is only complete if it has the worst possible outcome.

Vivek

COMING EVENTS FROM ENTS

DICK WHITTINGTON

As you may already know, this year's pantomime is Dick Whittington. It will be performed on Tuesday, 4th and Wednesday, 5th of December. There are the usual galaxy of stars performing including Professor Morishima, Mr. Stern and many more.

Tickets are a trifling 50p advance, so get yours early to avoid disappointment.

Morrissey Mullen Band/Ronnie Scotts Quartet

Both these great bands will be appearing on the same bill at the L.S.E. on Friday, 30th Nov. p.m. The Morrissey Mullen Band are a great combination of musicians, producing the finest in jazz rock and the Ronnie Scott Quartet are as professional as ever. It would cost you around £4.00 to see these bands elsewhere but you can get a ticket to this concert for the amazingly low price of £2.00 advance, £2.50 on the door.

YULETIDE FLING? CHRISTMAS BALL

Three bands and a disco, late bar, Christmas spirit prizes and the last chance to have a late night rave-up before the commercial break. On the bill are Jab Jab, a great reggae band, Piranhas, the best in Brighton rock and a late addition, Protex, an Irish band, who supported the Boomtown Rats on their last tour. Tickets available now, only £1.50 advance.

Events for the remainder of Term

Here and now Three Tuns, Tuesday, November 27th. Free.

Morrissey Mullen and Ronnie Scott's Quartet, Old Theatre, Friday, November 30th.

The Physicists, November 28th, 29th, Old Theatre.

Dick Whittington, 4th and 5th December, Old Theatre.

Yuletide Fling, Saturday, December 8th, Main Building.

AWOL.....

FIRST some disgruntled Hebridean types, civil service clerical officers with the impetus of pressed (labour) ennui to write unimpeachable, welfare-mocking flat words and competently churn them out with a sufficient mash of sound.—Ski Patrol.

Next a band currently AWOL having a very high sound check to playing time ratio and one of the best "worst is first" begins—as Naph, be-ear-ringed, manic, organ-playing vocalist with reverse head-master's gown, pounds out, locked digitally, the opening Numanesque sobriety. Thankfully improvements soon surfaced as a trilbied short-haired one performed a regulation special dance to Awol's fop to standard social comment vote-catching.

Only after that did they lose non-profile pretensions and generate the sort of excitement countless theatre-goers know'n love—the aptly named Car Park demanding attention(-ance), the cutting nepalm of Modern Warfare, and amid calls for Blunt's Ode, the tall one responded with ad lib spontaneity undercovering Secret Agent in its hot and cold empty necessity.

Ensuite the Administrators... but the rubber stamp had vanished from the back of my hand, I was sitting in front of an accountancy exercise. They could play a bit. I expect.

NOTICE

Friday, 7th December
Free Disco as advertised
on Ents. poster is now
CANCELLED.



The man himself—Ronnie Scott—coming soon.

ATHLETIC UNION

THE WAY AHEAD!

WITH our best result ever, L.S.E. have qualified in six sports for the S.E. play-offs section of the U.A.U. competitions. This was achieved by winning the S. Thames groups in the following: Football 3rd XI; table-tennis; netball; and squash 2nd V, while Men's Badminton were group runners-up. The Basketball also qualified at their weekend tournament. All group winners will proceed to the last 16 stage after the S.E. play-offs against North Thames group winners. The winners of these play-offs will be at home, the losers away, in the last 16. For group runners-up the road is longer, with a runners-up play-off North v South Thames and winners v SW 3rd team before playing Welsh group winners in the last 16.

LINCOLN'S INN LOVELIES



Last year's victorious team on a good day—wait till you see this year's.

THIS year's netball team is once again on the path to victory, as yet unbeaten in the London League. We have also knocked out Sussex, Surrey and Kent in the first round of the U.A.U. League which we entered for the first time this year. Despite multiple injuries incurred on Wednesday from a somewhat barbaric Kent side we put them in their place with a 27-20 win and retired to the changing-rooms with their first-aid kit to patch up Sian who looked as though she needed a blood transfusion. Undaunted and still inspired by ex-captain Tina whose coaching and umpiring are first-class, we prepare for battle in the second round.

N.B.: We would like to point out to the football teams who continually put us down, that contrary to their generally-held belief, our members and our opponents take the U.A.U. very seriously (indicated perhaps by our being one of the few teams in the A.U. who train). Consequently our surge into the next round is as significant as any of your team's would have been had you played well enough to do it. In short—up yours!

The Netball Collective

The Riding Club

THIS column is directed at those who were not present at the club meeting, are still keen on riding in this bleak autumn, or are oblivious of the existence of the club.

As the LSE does not have riding facilities of its own, members are inflicted with the burden of making their own riding arrangements, which can be rewarding. But do not despair, those who are of a neurotic temperament. A list of a few riding stables is available on request from the secretary. He may not be of much use, so when in doubt consult the Yellow Pages (under Riding Schools).

So much for the bad news, now comes the good news. The

club will subsidise one ride a week for a member. The exact subsidy has not been determined because of the uncertainty of the club budget, but for the first term (so hurry) the subsidy will cover half of the total riding and transport cost, but will not exceed £2.00 for riding and 50p for transport.

At the end of each term, members are requested to submit the receipts of their rides with an account of their transport costs, and their name and address, to the treasurer, via the riding club pigeon hole, or knock on room 722 at Roseberry after midnight (the subsidy will be the same but there might be fringe benefits).

Happy riding.

REWARD
FOR THE RETURN
OF A CERTAIN
BANNER (S.U.)
£20
Anyone interested?
(that's about 60 pints)

The U.A.U. office has informed us of the following probable schedule:—

1. Soccer S.E. play-off v U.E.A.(H)
then, if win (a) last 16 v Liverpool (H)
or if lose (b) last 16 v Bangor/Cardiff (A).
2. Table-tennis (a) last 16 v Essex (H)
3. Netball S.E. play-off v City (H)
then (a) v Birmingham/Keele
or (b) v Hull (A)
4. Squash S.E. play-off v City (H)
then (a) v Reading/Bristol (H)
or (b) v Leeds (A)
- and 5. Badminton S.E. play-off v Brunel (H)
then if win S. play-off v Exeter (A)
then (a) v UWIST (A).

Play-offs will be played by 28th November with the last 16 on 5th December.

Andrew Tebb (UAU rep)

'A SHENLEY TOO FAR'

Scene I

Setting: Collegiate Theatre, Gordon Square, W.C.1, Wednesday, Nov. 14th, 1979. Around 1 pm.

UCL Captain: Sorry, but I am afraid there is no room on our coaches (not even at £1 a seat), there's been a slight booking error. You'll have to go round to the UC Hospital Union in Huntley Street, their coaches are going to Shenley, we've phoned them up already.

Exit left: nine assorted LSE hockey players, one of whom is heard volubly complaining to the hon. fixture secretary.

Scene II

Setting: UCH Union, Huntley Street, Coach parked outside; 1.15 pm.

UCH Captain: Are you LSE? Only nine of you, good get on the coach then. What's this...? Enter eight assorted UCL players in similar disarray.

UCL Captain: Ah, can you help,

there is no room for us on our coaches now!

UCH Captain: Sorry, but we only have a few odd places when our teams have boarded.

By Coach—Tripartite discussions, getting somewhat heated. Talks break up. Coach is boarded till full then departs for Shenley, with nine LSE players, five UCL players plus several UCH players!

Scene III

Setting: Shenley, Herts. 45 minutes-plus later.

UCL Captain: You took your time, we came up by taxi, only £12, book it to the union, and arrived ages ago.

UCH Captain: We had to drop the ladies off at RVC ground all right?

Exit right all players to changing rooms...

"We interrupt this play to bring you some late news..."

Hockey Results UCL 5, LSE 1 (Dryzko)

Thank You.

A. Budding—Playwright



Boat Club Beauty: David Mapley