

Beaver

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OF POLITICAL AND
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SEE—

'The Art of Belonging'

PAGE THREE

'The Commemoration Ball'

ON MIDDLE PAGES

Survey of Great Importance

LIGHT ON NUS

As a result of the queries and vitriolics last week a lot of information and vindication is forthcoming on the subject of NUS.

Mr. Lock

Mr. Eddie Lock, who was present at the Union meeting, later gave us a detailed account of the utility and indispensability of the organisation and held that without active and mass participation it could not dispense all the benefits it now does.

Information

It is heartening to note that all newcomers and others less-informed on such matters will be in possession of vital information before they attempt any judgments.

Among the functions he outlined and the benefits that accrue with membership the following are outstanding:—

Functions

1. Student Journalists Conference.
2. A trophy for the best students' journal.
3. 'Observer' Mace for National debating competitions.
4. A National Drama Festival.
5. Regional and National Art Exhibitions.
6. Various publications, including the 'Grants Year Book'.
7. A hostel for short stays in London.
8. Travel facilities and concessions.

9. Concession benefits in exhibitions, galleries, museums, etc.

10. NUS also handles a substantial number of individual problems and has been invited to make representations to Educational Commissions and the Minister of Education.

Mr. Locke draws our attention to the following quotation from the 'Universities Review':

'The NUS is to be congratulated on the production of this memorandum. It is a sensible, courageous and timely document which the profession should take seriously and, with the NUS, we express the hope that when the Hale Committee's report is published it will not become an addition to the file marked NO ACTION TO BE TAKEN'.

THE first large-scale sociological survey run by students is to be launched this week by a group of undergraduates from the School.

1,400 third-year students in four major colleges, including the London School of Economics, Imperial and University, will receive a questionnaire by post and asked to fill in details about their financial position, educational background, political and religious opinions and intended careers.

Dr. Mark Abrams, well-known sociologist who sometimes lectures at the School, and Director of Research Services, is to compute the results, which will be available early next year. A copy of the final report will be submitted to the Robbins Committee, and the survey has been welcomed and approved by the National Union of Students.

Questionnaire

An important part of the extensive questionnaire deals with the topical and controversial subject of 'general' versus 'single-subject' degrees and the influences

which lead a student to the choice of a degree course.

Smaller surveys on similar lines have already been conducted at Oxford and Cambridge and it is hoped that interesting comparisons may be drawn between the three universities.

Organisers

The organisers, Mike Borage, Paul Cowan, Frances Doherty and Joan Shardlow are headed by Rosemarie Wittman, ex-editor of 'Sennet', who recently transferred to the School from Westfield College. They have the full support of the Union and the Sociology Society.

THE TEMPERANCE SEVEN AT THE COMMEM BALL



BEAVER

UNDER
NEW
MANAGE-
MENT

Suggestions invited

Criticism tolerated

Articles considered

Beaver—13

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One generation comes, another passes

What is the scope of such a journal as ours? Should it be complacent with student activities or possess a broader outlook? Is there place for creative writing in such a paper or is that pretentious? In attempting to be impartial, should one not beware of spinelessness?

Student activities of common interest are our first concern—social, political or sporting. The arts, humour and literary contributions will have their proportion of importance. Most of all, every point of view will have a voice, and a strong one. We have many ideas, we will work to capacity, but we will not become a propaganda forum.

* * *

The debate on NUS during the Budget meeting served to clarify to a large extent the doubts that seem to exist as to the functions of this organisation. If controversial opinions bring out into the open things that are taken for granted they serve their purpose.

A PIECE OF STRING

"How long", said my fresher friend, twirling his new LSE scarf, which identified him as a fresher from a minimum distance of twenty-five yards, "How long should an economics essay be?"

"That depends", I answered him, thus giving him the non-committal type answer that every economist or potential economist is trained to give.

"But depends on what?" He persisted, "On how much time I have, how much paper I can afford, or perhaps how much economics I know?"

an economics essay at least depends for its length on the tutor for whom it is destined.

"Who, for instance is", I enquired, "is yours this year?"

"Dr. C. . . . , why?"

"Well, by chance he happens to be mine, so if I explain my own experience perhaps you'll fully understand what is expected of you".

"Continue", ordered my eager beaver friend.

The Length

"Well my next essay was a great effort but somehow I managed to get my vast economic knowledge and experience into three foolscap pages. I shall merely say that this was returned and answered in three and a half pencilled lines! My third essay was only two foolscap pages of closely written words and when my tutor, whom actually I liked very much, returned it with no comment but the so-called 'answer' in two lines, I resolved something would have to be done about it".

The latter standard, I pointed out, would mean a very short essay, but that in fact, all his ideas were wrong since

The Comment

"When I had my first economics essay set", I went on, "I did not deliberate like you about how long it should be. I simply went by what I considered must surely be the natural standard, that is, write everything about the subject that my tutor would obviously be ignorant of and hence in one stroke establish myself as a combined re-incarnation of Adam Smith, Marshall and Keynes. Accordingly I handed in my six pages of foolscap essay and eagerly awaited the acclamation of my tutor and the intellectual world in general!"

"What did your tutor say when he gave the essay back?" my fresher friend demanded.

PRESIDENT'S

COLUMN



Tom Evans

I should like to give first priority in this week's column to a welcome to 'Beaver's' new Editor, Kishore Bhimani.

I hope that his period in control of 'Beaver' will be happy and fruitful.

I was very glad that the Budget was accepted so easily last week, but there are two points which concerned me. Whilst I was very grateful to those members of Union who remained until the final acceptance just before 9 o'clock, I was disappointed that so many people found it necessary to leave immediately after the debate on our affiliation to NUS. The second point was the lack of information shown during that debate. This deficiency concerns me a great deal, and the problem of a greater supply of information about the NUS is one to which Council must give priority.

One method of doing this, perhaps, and one, incidentally, which involves problems being faced in this college at the moment, is a consideration of the memorandum submitted by the NUS to the Committee on University Teaching Methods under the chairmanship of Sir Edward Hale. During the last week a small sample survey has been done by the Students Union on behalf of this committee, and though, on this occasion, the numbers involved are small, it is to be hoped that the information gleaned will be use-

ful. Early next term a larger and somewhat broader survey will be done in conjunction with the Robbins Committee on Higher Education.

The NUS memorandum takes the form of a criticism of compulsory factual lectures, containing material which could easily be obtained from books, and of support for a better organised system of tutorials and seminars. This is essentially a document which refers in a general sense to a large number of different institutions and courses. But its message cannot be mistaken.

'It is not enough to admit a person to the University and then to leave him entirely to his own devices. The right attitude to learning is acquired under correct guidance and is not necessarily innate in every student' or gain 'some form of real personal association with some member or members of academic staff is essential to the student throughout his university career'. The memorandum is concerned with methods by which this association can be satisfactorily created.

The criticism of the lecture as occupying too large a proportion of a student's week is very valid in some courses and colleges. It is up to us to consider whether the provision of a framework for further reading counterbalances this objection in our own courses.

In the same way we must consider and criticise the set up with regard to tutorials and seminars in the context of our own courses and circumstances.

Perhaps one of the most solid items of the memorandum is the reference to the necessity of ensuring that the university teacher is suitably qualified to lecture or to supervise tutorials. An academic staff is composed at the moment of people who are interested to a large extent in research, and only incidentally in teaching. Whilst no one would wish to under-

estimate the importance of research work to the existence of a university (particularly one such as LSE), no amount of conjuring with the institutional techniques of university teaching will make up for the absence of teaching ability in members of staff.

And yet this is quite obviously not a question which warrants a simple 'Aye-nay' answer. It is complex and needs to be considered in that light.

With reference to these problems in our own school, a great deal of thinking is being done at the moment. The New Regulations, with the resulting smaller classes, and different tutor-tutee arrangements have made a start in this direction. But even this leaves many problems outstanding.

There is in existence a staff-student committee which provides a joint platform for both sides of the question to be aired. However, it is quite impossible for our side of this committee to function properly unless ideas, criticisms, etc., are aired by students themselves. The student representatives can at best play an inaccurate guessing game of 'What Students Really Think', unless they are provided with the information from the students with the grievances. Apart from this, consultation with students who specialise in this may easily throw up information which will allow the problem to be solved within the existing framework.

The Ball

I am sure this is the only way to approach the problem.

May I finish on a more social note? The Commemoration Ball is being held on November 24th in the Festival Hall, with the Temperance Seven, Nat Temple's orchestra, and the Leeward Islands Steel Band in attendance. I am sure you will not consider £2 10s. 0d. to be too much. Anyway, I hope to see you there.

"Nothing", I replied. "below the last lines of my work were five pencilled sentences the first of which said: 'The answer can be written as follows:—"

As soon as my friend had recovered from his hysterics he again wanted to know what happened after this.

The Curve

"So you changed your tutor?" my friend laughed.

"Certainly not, I said that I wasn't going to let him get away with it and I didn't, for

by now I was sick to death of elasticity of demand and at night I dreamt of skiing on demand curves (downward sloping, of course!).

"Well, what on earth did you write in the fourth essay that sorted everything out?" was my friend's last question.

"It wasn't what I wrote but the essay itself", I explained. "You see I sent in a full sheet of foolscap paper with my name, etc., at the top and one solitary line as my economic essay answer to the question. My fourth 'essay' got no comment and no reply, but all the ones since have

been properly criticised and intelligently answered, and my tutor and I get on very well indeed!"

My friend said nothing but went off to write his essay, I wonder how long it will be!

Andrew Leigh

FOR SALE: 1949 Fordson V8 engine 2½ ton covered van—in excellent condition—newly-painted, waterproof, partly-racked—£35 o.n.o. Apply to Drama Society through pigeon-holes.

CUBA

and

Mrs. ROBINSON

We have had a number of lectures by Mrs. Joan Robinson — she is too distinguished and well-known an economist to need any introduction in LSE — in recent years. Her last one, given two weeks ago at the invitation of the Economics Society, was on no less interesting — and controversial — a topic than on Cuba, which she had visited earlier this year.

Mrs. Robinson's general review was very favourable to the Cubans. Faced with the logic of a complex situation and without any pre-set ideology, they had been forced along a certain path, which they had negotiated very successfully. They were a band of men, by no means Communist, who had no aim but to overthrow Batista and no ideology but a vague belief that poverty should be removed. To develop the economy, industrial production had to be increased. But before industry could be built up, agriculture had to be reformed. This led to a chain of events culminating in the break with USA and an approach to the Communist camp for help. Who was to blame? Mrs. Robinson's implication rang out clearly that the hysteria in the United States and the attitude of its government were a major factor. What could an agricultural country, solely dependent on exports of its agricultural products to one country do? The sudden need to find entirely new markets was a challenging task indeed. And the Cubans managed it successfully, though in a way not liked by the West.

Mrs. Joan Robinson went to Cuba after visiting USA. She was thus able to compare the two images of Castro, one in USA and the other in Cuba. In USA he was the dictator and his army, a hated one; in Cuba the dictator was Batista and Castro was the Saviour. The army of Batista had been completely disbanded and the new militia was wholly composed of young men. Would Castro go around arming a horde of young people, or madly distributing arms at the time of invasion, if he were a dictator, hated by the people? A telling question, indeed.

Revolution

The 'Revolution' had released a lot of energy and enthusiasm which was getting work done, though in a very haphazard manner. There seemed to be a romantic way of doing everything. Once a project was launched, everything was put into it to achieve a big result. An example was the attempt being made to 'alphabetise' the people in one year. Schoolchildren — volunteers all — were sent to the countryside to teach the people the basic elements of reading and writing, and the project was quite popular among both the 'teachers' and 'their students'.

Cuba, a small nation of six million people, could never be self-sufficient in industrial products. Trade, and dependence on others, would always be a dire necessity. Agricultural production had rapidly increased but the attempt to give all enough to eat and yet export a greater amount of agricultural produce to pay for imports of capital equipment had placed a heavy burden on the economy. Farms were being re-organised but the organisation was in most cases too haphazard. The co-operative farms found that many of their labourers, or share-croppers, were not also farm-owners, a hallmark for co-operative farms. There was no compulsion even to join these. In fact Castro himself had remarked that there should not even be the appearance of compulsion. If farmers joined, they did so because of the benefits accruing from such co-operation.

However, Mrs. Robinson was given a standing ovation at the end. Was it genuine? Or was it merely the repetition of a favourite Communist technique? The answer is, I believe, not hard to guess.

Jack Handa

W U S W E E K

This year the World University Service International Week will be between the 13th and 18th November. This is the annual opportunity for student bodies in more than forty countries to raise money for the Service.

Since its formation in 1920, WUS has raised several million pounds, all from voluntary sources. This money has been used all over the world to assist students and lecturers in need, to improve facilities within universities, and to encourage mutual services between students everywhere.

Last year, LSE raised over £100 for WUS and, of course, we want to do as well this year. Ron Whelan, the WUS officer, and his committee are arranging a programme for WUS Week which it is hoped will include events with both entertainment and financial value.

The annual 'Miss LSE' Contest will be judged by guest celebrities, and the entrants (there are still vacancies, girls!) can win fabulous prizes. The production of the International Concert is well under way, with performers from many countries already engaged. Student societies are also co-operating enthusiastically. Amongst others, the Film and Jazz Societies will each arrange programmes, and it is hoped that the various national societies will hold a joint exhibition of their countries' arts and crafts. There will also be a manicure and a shoe-cleaning service in operation.

It will be a full Week, and, the organisers hope, a rewarding one. That, of course, will depend on the support you give it, so please remember the dates and keep an eye on the notice boards for further announcements.

Opinions Invited

The Art of Belonging

by Simon Klinger

External affairs are in the process of becoming the bête-noire of our present and future Union Councils. In spite of our reputation as an 'international school', we contribute very little towards inter-collegiate activities in Europe. Time and again, emissaries from Continental universities have been knocking at our doors pleading for more contacts, exchanges and co-operation. It is significant that in most cases, the European Common Market is invoked.

Councils, present and past, have been aware of our embarrassing position; and one might well ask, in the light of the progress achieved, why we are not told the reasons of our limited success.

Keeping the union fully informed has its benefits. This year's freshers who seem particularly keen, may be able to inject some freshness and originality of thought into our debates on external affairs. Their support will be particularly useful in times of penury when councils run out of suggestions.

The best way to benefit from inter-collegiate activities such as seminars, study-tours and carnivals, is to join an association.

Associations

Our Continental brethren have become experts in the art of creating associations.

In most, but not all cases, local prestige is involved. And after all, debating, lobbying and the good-life are not exclusive to the United Nations in New York. Some associations have a raison-d'être, others have not, nevertheless this is soon put right by lengthy statutes of constitutions dripping with goodwill and often translated into the 'right' languages. There is certainly no harm in joining associations with or without a purpose.

Any effort promoting relations between young people is worthy of promotion. On the continent, young people will tell you almost everywhere that they are Europeans first. This spirit is greatly enhanced by student organisations backed by the full support of their governments, business and industry. This, unfortunately, is not the case in Great Britain.

Reciprocation

Where do WE fit in? Paying our affiliation fee to any association dedicated to the exchange of students and hospitality on a massive scale, by itself is not enough. The magic word in these associations is RECIPROCATION. The question we have all got to ask ourselves is, are we in a position to reciprocate?

If we have to play our part, we must hold seminars, study-tours and throw our doors open to AGMs and conferences. Our full participation is not impossible, nevertheless, it will take some time to raise the necessary funds for such schemes. We should also ask ourselves whether our students are prepared to go abroad, whether they can afford it and whether this is at all possible during term. We must not forget that a great many students have refused to earn salaries abroad coupled with free tours organised by Continental universities during the summer vac. They'd rather stay in London and save money. Grants being what they are, one can hardly blame them for being 'insular'.

The NUS has been known to sponsor small exchanges and I am not referring merely to exchanges of officials; but as far as individual colleges are concerned, the impression abroad is that we are reluctant debutantes.

If council is to ask the Union to bleed itself for the sake of future generations it ought to publicise those associations we are asked to support. A good place to do that is the Handbook and perhaps an External Affairs Board in the Union.

CEDESE

By failing to budget these very ideals and associations we are asked to join, council is hardly showing its enthusiasm. One such item which was budgeted last year (CEDESE) is prominently missing from the list this session in spite of the fact that we are in debt and still owe affiliation fees of about £30. There are always the reserves to be milked, of course, and for some obscure reason, 'it may look better'.

Whatever happens this year, we shall need all the leadership and council we can get in the field of external affairs. The big question is: WILL WE GET IT?



People who make the news read it in The Times

THE sternest judgment any newspaper gets comes from those who see their own words and actions reported. They know what is true and what is not. They read The Times.

Such people are often the diplomats who speak for millions of their fellow countrymen. The ways of life they represent may not be those of this country; but they find them faithfully represented in The Times. They hold strong opinions, but not all of them hold the same opinions. So they demand a newspaper that does not twist the facts to suit a point of view. The one belief they share is that news itself is interesting and necessary. They like it promptly and clearly reported, but do not want it dolled up.

If you would like to learn of events from the newspaper read by those who are causing them, then you are a natural Times reader yourself.

Top People read THE TIMES

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COMM. BALL TO FEATURE THREE BANDS

Not even the ULU setup can compete with LSE's selection of bands for this year's Ball. We even scooped the ULU President's dance band — **Nat Temple Orchestra**, one full week before it plays at Senate House (note—only one band).

Besides Nat Temple, we were lucky enough to book the famous **Temperance Seven** — once again a top class band, always overbooked this time of the year. To complete the brilliant trio we herald a return visit of the **Leeward Islands Steel Band**. Last year their 20 minute spot became a sixty minute marathon — neither would stop playing until the others (both band and dancers) were breathless!

The most that other colleges manage is one big band and something like the college jazz band — all far inferior, in many respects, to scratchy records — at least one can turn them off! They also charge higher prices than LSE. An excellent example of applied economics in that we have three top-line bands and still keep the prices much lower than the rest. Kings' in one instance, charged three pounds for a double ticket with a limit of two hundred double tickets — the dance itself taking place in one of the better known London hotels — it also finished at about 2 a.m. LSE's dance finishes at about 5 a.m. and don't forget the bar is open till 3 a.m. as a special concession to those at the dance!

Every taste has been catered for, this year — no wonder even college presidents PAY, repeat PAY, to come to our Commemoration Ball, what better advertisement could there be? . . . I'll meet you there?

The Suit

Now as to the actual mechanics of going there. Tails are rare for student functions — ordinary dinner suit does for most of these types of function.

However, if you have not got a suit and are short of gold, don't worry. Most students have got neither.

Solutions. . .

1. Buy it. If you are in this class, stop right here.
2. Steal it. O.K. You try it. I did, and missed four balls in a row. Allan Segal missed 42 in a row . . . see last 'Beaver'.
3. Borrow it. In which case you might stain it, strain it, and find that 40 into 36 does not fit very comfortably. 'Please note also, frock coats are now a little out of fashion, sir'.
4. Hire it. The days when wearing someone else's clothes just was 'not done' are past. Most society weddings hire theirs if they do not actually own one . . . why not you? There are a number of men's dress-hire firms in London. Here we might mention:

ALKIT OF CAMBRIDGE CIRCUS who give a 10 per cent. discount to students (show your NUS card).

World-famous **MOSS BROS.** (We also SELL clothes) of Covent Garden are also near at hand. In Kingsway you will also find **KRITZ** . . . just at the beginning of Southampton Row. Every one of these will see to it that you look your best as far as clothes are concerned, from a collar stud to the shoes. While we are on the subject you can go along to **YOUNGS** of Wardour St. which also hire out men's dress clothes or in case you are too late in booking your suit. By the way it is best to get the suit hired now . . . it will take a lot of the worry out of the whole business. Also there is no need to worry about a deposit when you book ahead. Believe me, five minutes on the phone is worth it . . . be sure you know your measurements . . . most men don't.

. . . Or you might have got to the conclusion that five 'hires' at £3 or so a time is equal to 'I might as well buy one now, since I'm not going to grow any more'.

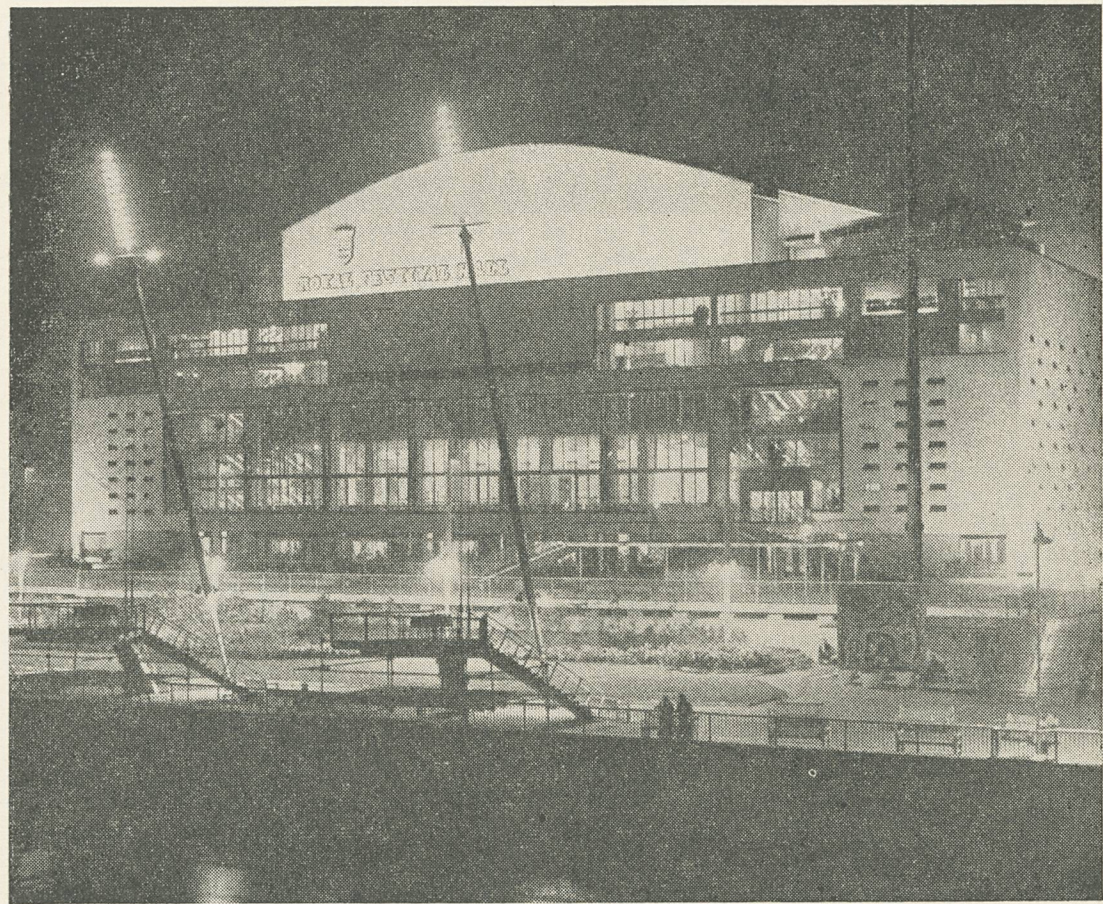
The Dance

I refer, of course, to the Commemoration Ball to be held this year on November 24th at 11 p.m.-5 a.m. in the Royal Festival Hall (that's right, I've checked both times and place!).

It is one of the special events commemorating the foundation of LSE and, to quote Tom Evans at the Budget meeting this year, it is 'the only decent social event of the year'. At one time it seemed that this year it was going to be held in LSE itself with an obviously lower attendance, and probably a fairly substantial financial loss . . . on which one critic at the budget meeting could make one of his funny-serious speeches. Not many people would have come to a dance at LSE even with Nat Temple and the Temperance Seven, not forgetting the Leewards Islands Steel Band.

Anyway the Ents. Comm. have booked the Royal Festival Hall—the top social centre of London—fortunately enough delayed rebuilding plans enabled them to offer it to us at the last possible moment—even the tickets had been printed and the bands booked. In fact the R.F.H. seems to be 'out' for Commem. Balls for the near future. So this year might REALLY be your last chance to shine at this top London show place.

One ought to go at least once in the three-year grind. Might as well make it this year—hence this "Guide to Commem. Balls to them that don't know"—and to them that wish they knew . . . it will also save your gold for such essentials as 'Beaver', bingo, beer (are there any more essentials?) . . . the tick-



The Royal Festival Hall—venue for this year's Commemoration Ball.

Photo R.F.H.

ets are printed in gold leaf to impress the girl-friend and serve as a souvenir of the best night out you've ever had.

The Dress

If you've already got one stop right here. Otherwise, watch out . . . ADVICE.

First—short or long? Depends on your partner really. If he's got tails fine, get a long one. Judging from past years though, the majority of dresses were short evening dresses of one sort and another. Make no mistake about the style of dress expected . . . the tickets state 'Dress Formal', and they mean it.

You've probably read (No?) the bit about the suit. Same applies here. Solution No. 4 seems to be the way out if you are in a hurry. Get it from a Dress Hire firm.

YOUNG'S of Wardour St. may be quoted. They cater for top quality needs at grant-level prices. With more than 1,000 different dresses to choose from you will have a pretty interesting time selecting yours. Every one different and all indexed so that there is no fear of that nightmare scene where you meet someone wearing the same dress.

Again you may decide to get one specially made for it. If so get busy! By the time you read this there will be only fifteen days left before THE NIGHT.

You will need a wrap of some sort—remember November in the very early morning is fairly chilly. Gloves—small manageable handbag—changes of shoes (it might rain), and a pair of shoes that are comfortable to dance in—don't let the night of the year be ruined by ill-fitting shoes, torn silks or tendons!

The Grooming

The essence of looking relaxed and elegant on the night depends on planning ahead, and I do mean AHEAD.

Write down a checklist of what needs doing, fixing, hiring, buying, washing, ironing—the lot. You will be amazed at the things involved.

The guys will have to worry about getting theatre tickets, booking tables at the restau-

rant, hiring a car, or a taxi (you can book in advance) or this year, for the first time, you may care to arrive in a Minicab ('it's smart to go by Minicab, darling').

It would be rather inconvenient to go to the R.F.H. restaurant because they close at 10 p.m. in order to get ready for the dance buffet which is opened at midnight for those attending the dance.

The girls? They will have to worry about lots of things about which I am not very well qualified to deal with in this short guide. However, it would be useful to mention that planning well in advance saves a great deal of rush at the last moment . . . it also will enable you to arrive looking cool, calm, and collected on time by the chap who's paying for the ticket.

Hairdressers? As you already know, Friday evening

is always heavily in demand so go to that local hairdresser on your way home tonight and fix an appointment. In central London a good one is the one that donates a free hair treatment to the WUS in LSE for the 'Miss LSE' contest (S. TAYLOR, 460 Old Bond St., Tel. GRO 4697). He also does the hair styles for the 'Miss World' contests. Otherwise, may I suggest that you buy a copy of your local paper (i.e. 'The East Clacton Sands Times') and in it you will find all the local ones. This is especially useful if you are a newcomer to THE BIG CITY.

DANCING. Brush up your technique or get a few lessons from friends or otherwise . . . Still the **Temperance Seven** will be there, together with the **Leewards Islands Steel Band**. I was referring only to ballroom dancing . . . for which Nat Temple will play.

My Bank?..

THE
MIDLAND
OF COURSE!

It's no coincidence that many students choose the Midland: young people with forward-looking ideas like to deal with a forward-looking and go-ahead bank. Once you open an account with us you'll wonder how you ever managed without it. The cheques you receive are so much more easily dealt with. The bills you pay can be paid by cheque. And you may even find at the end of Term that you have actually saved something! Why not call at your local branch and see us about it? Our staff there will be happy to explain how the Midland Bank can help you.



Midland Bank—

THE GO-AHEAD BANK FOR GO-AHEAD PEOPLE

2,280 BRANCHES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

A Dance to remember — and an 'expert's' advice

What About Tickets?

These will be on sale every day in the OLD BUILDING at the table just to the right of the clock in the Main entrance Hall. Selling times are 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. each day except Wednesdays 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

No need to pay the full whack since you can pay 10/- to book a ticket and pay the rest later.

No tickets available at the door on the night so make sure and pay your deposit today — only fifteen days to go!

P.S.—Ron and Marie also have a stock of the tickets

for sale, so you might like to get one at the NEW BAR.

The Mobility

So you haven't got a car and the scooter is out of commission. How do you get around on the night?

Don't hire a hearse if you can help it, although the chappie with the topper does add a 'bit of class' to the occasion. However, he is liable to forget himself and open the BACK door . . . through force of habit.

Blackmail? A friend of a friend of ours . . . don't bother,

I've booked that one.

Solution. Invest in a copy of the local paper and you will find all the local car-hire firms in it. Why local? Cheaper, and some of the bigger car hirers will not hire their cars out to students . . . so go carefully when filling out the form.

Maybe you might try THE DRIVE YOURSELF CO. (Tel. SLO 9844), or J. DAVY, Tel. KNI 4211 — who may have a garage near to you and once again you can book in advance. Another one is GODFREY DAVIS (Tel. VIC 8484) that can be recommended.

'Starlings and Communism'

by Alec Nove

Every evening the starlings gather in their hundreds of thousands around Whitehall and Trafalgar Square. Why? No satisfactory explanation has yet been advanced by experts. The true explanation has been hidden from British ornithologists by their refusal to see this problem as one aspect of the class struggle and the cold war.

The first hint of the truth came to me when I visited Moscow. Do starlings come to roost on Moscow buildings in the evenings? They do not. Why not? At first I thought that perhaps the apparatus of the police state had devised some highly original means of keeping them out, so that terrified starlings avoid the Kremlin like the plague. But there was nothing to support such a hypothesis, and finally I understood the real reason.

It is that Russian villagers build little wooden houses for starlings and place them on high poles or in trees near their homes. These starling-hutches, called in Russian skvorechniki, are built because it is believed that these birds bring good luck. Consequently, starlings stay in their

hutches and do not fly in to town to sleep.

It is true that Russian peasants have been building such houses for starlings since time immemorial, and so this is not in itself proof of a Communist plot. But the fact remains that British starlings have only taken to roosting in and near Whitehall in such numbers in recent years, that is, since the Communist revolution.

This must have something to do with the effect of mass communication media upon birds. Somehow, the existence of higher living standards for starlings in the east must have become known to the underprivileged birds who reside in Western capitalist countries. It is, after all, a fact that a Communist starling can cross the Channel without the necessity of passing through Immigration controls, and we have no means of telling what kind of propagandist statements they make to their feathered brothers once they get here.

This approach to the problem helps us to understand why the starlings go to the vicinity of Whitehall, rather

than to other desirable roosting grounds.

They can be heard nightly making a deafening noise at the departing civil servants, and, if we could only understand their language, we would find that they were demanding better housing. Their gatherings in Trafalgar Square are in fact mass meetings. Their loudest protests are to be heard in Whitehall Place, significantly enough outside the Ministry of Agriculture, which, they believe, can and should provide living quarters for them.

It is true that this ministry is not in fact responsible for rural housing, but you can hardly expect a starling to know that.

DEATH

through starvation!

Hugo's have inaugurated a "Save the Student" drive and offer a 10% discount on production of your NUS card.

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YOUR BLOOD

MAY SAVE

A LIFE

Perhaps you might like to hire a taxi—or a minicab if you could arrange to meet it in some spot near the R.F.H., near enough to walk and collect but which is hidden enough to stop someone else hijacking it! Also you have got to know the terrain around the R.F.H., near which there are all sorts of old shacks, such as shell sites, lead shot towers and bridges. Planning Essential.

Car is cheaper if a group hire it — especially if you are going down to the restaurant at London Airport for breakfast.

Beauty Blitz

Backs are 'in' this year so they have got to be beautiful. Harvey found that blood just circulates; if it does not circulate freely enough and the pores are not clear you need a blitz on them.

Try these methods:

1. Drastic—get along to a Turkish bath and have a

couple of steam-ups.

2. Dip a rough towel in water (as hot as you can stand it) and rub it vigorously. Friction and steam do the rest (in which case use an asbestos towel).

3. Hot bath—and a loofah: excellent for circulation and clearing the pores. Or you might try a bath brush and a dose of the old carbohc.

4. Then dry the back thoroughly with a rough towel and follow with capacious doses of odour cologne.

5. Get a mutual friend to close the pores by patting the back gently (Unless you are an octopus you will not be able to do this yourself).

Isolated blemishes can be dealt with by using techniques No. 1 to 4. Then use one of the anti-spot lotions normally used for facial make-up.

This method works.

Try it, and it will put you BACK IN FASHION.

Maria Marken



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A LESS SWEET LIFE

by Mark Dickson

When a builder is building a house, before he starts, he throws a brick in the shadow of the first passer-by. This is the sacrifice he must make in order that the house will be built solidly.

These are the words of Rocco to his youngest brother Lucca and they contain perhaps the main symbol of Visconti's great film.

Rocco, together with his mother and three brothers, have left their small village in the impoverished South of Italy to join the eldest member of the family, Vincenzo, in Milan.

The adaptation of these country bumpkins to the more sophisticated environment of the metropolis is slowly and painstakingly narrated. Most of the brothers submit themselves to mundane jobs in order to earn a living, but Simone, eager and ambitious, determines to become a boxer and consequently enters into a world of corruption, and becomes infatuated with Nadia, a prostitute.

His jealous passion leads him further into vice and draws Nadia further away from him, turning her towards Rocco with whom she falls in love.

Learning of their love, Simone, in a scene almost unparalleled for its brutality, violently rapes Nadia in front of Rocco, who is forced to witness the deed. Later, realising the hopelessness of his passion for her, Simone murders her.

* * *

No synopsis though, however full, can do justice to this three hour epic, for behind its main narrative lies the atmosphere of conflict between the world of the southern Italian peasant still exerting its pull on the family and the northern industrial city, filled with the parasitic elements of urban civilisation. Underlying all this, however, we have this predominant, almost religious, idea of a sacrifice — a sacrifice in order that unity can be maintained in the family, pervading right through the household, from their over possessive mother downwards.

To preserve this unity, Rocco, seeing Simone's passion for Nadia, sacrifices her to him, despite the fact that she has been callously raped by his brother, and in doing so, Rocco sends her to her eventual death.

* * *

Rocco covers up for every petty crime of Simone's and turns to professional boxing in order to pay his brother's debts with a saintly devotion that would become innocuous but for the fact that we are constantly being reminded of the mythology from which these characters are drawn.

For once the dialogue defeats the bane of sub-titles and constantly reminds us of the type of country in which Rocco and his brothers were brought up: the land which even today is plagued by illiteracy, where family ties are unassailable bonds, and fami-

ly feuds and vendettas are far from uncommon.

* * *

The greatness of Rocco lies in the way in which Visconti sharply outlines these rural values and places them in violent juxtaposition with the values of the metropolis.

Their passions, jealousies and violent natures are shown in their true nakedness and Visconti does not spare us at any time the brutal situations into which they lead his characters.

Sensationalism is avoided largely due to the brilliance of his main actors—Alain Delon's sensitive playing of Rocco prevents us from feeling that his often unsympathetic actions are totally callous, Renato Salvatori's Simone is a gem of a performance but it is Annie Girardot, as Nadia the prostitute, who for me at least, provided one of the most sympathetic interpretations of a rôle that I have seen for a long time and she may well prove a close rival to that other brilliant French actress, Jeanne Moreau.

* * *

It is to Visconti, however, that the laurels must go for uniting these great individual talents into a dramatic entity. His superb camera work with its magnificent longshots setting his characters in a pin-point perspective

BÜRHLE

The National Gallery, never well endowed with French paintings, will be greatly impoverished by the return to Switzerland of one of the most interesting private collections of modern times. The cream of the 381 paintings, collected over 20 years by Emil Bührle, came to London from the Edinburgh Festival for a brief exhibition following a tour of the capitals of Europe.

It is justly famous. Apart from the popular masterpieces, gorgeous Renoirs, one of Degas' ballet sequences, Van Gogh's self portrait,

Gauguin's glowing Tahitians, and Cezanne's "Boy in Red Waistcoat", the exhibition shows landmarks in the artists' development. A delicate impressionist orchard by the young Van Gogh hangs beside a landscape with the frenzied glutinous whorls of paint that marked the style of his insane genius, while an early almost drab Renoir portrait of Sisley contrasts drastically with the delicious frothiness of his "Young Girl in Plumed Hat".

* * *

Young Ingre's "Portrait of M. Devillers" shows the be-



"Boy in Red Waistcoat" by Cezanne

From the Bührle Collection at the National Gallery



Simone (Renato Salvatori) murders Nadia (Annie Girardot) in a fit of jealous rage. A scene from "Rocco and his Brothers" now showing at the Cameo-Poly.

sharply contrasting with long, lingering close-ups which constantly underline the interplay of the various personalities with the all embracing influence of their environment.

"Rocco and His Brothers"

is a truly great film but more than this it is a deeply emotional experience, more than justifying its great length and anyone who complains that it is too long should be made to sit through "La Dolce Vita" three times.

in retrospect

ginnings of the superb sense of cloth and lace texture of his mature works. Delacroix adapts his magnificent sense of balance and perspective, shown to perfection in "Dante and Virgil", to show off the Sultan of Morocco in a specially commissioned 'propagandist' painting.

There are gaps; very little Barbizon, and a distinct lack of later impressionists. No Suerat, or Douannier Rousseau, one Braque, one Vla-

minck, rather surprisingly one very early Picasso. (blue period).

However, this collection, the result of the whims of one person however well trained and informed, is, for the majority, both absorbing and instructive. I look forward to the day when the rest of this remarkable collection is exhibited in England.

Barry Tomalin

bratby

on

view

It is impossible to deny that John Bratby is one of the most successful English artists today. Whether his other artistic interest, that novel writing will in turn be as materially prosperous it is too early to say. Certainly his current exhibition at the Zwemmer Gallery (next door to Bunjies) is representative of his work, and one is again struck by his tremendous self-confidence and the exuberance of his colour.

* * *

In contrast to the romantic image of an artist who travels far and wide in search of inspiration, Bratby looks no farther than his own doorstep.

The exhibition contains the characteristic Bratby, kitchen scenes and water closets completely unromanticised in their treatment. His paintings of Gloria, show an ugliness which miraculously avoids repugnance.

In his still lifes, the objects no longer seem to elbow each other off the edge of the table as they have done in the past, though the customary sweet and sour cider vase is still very much in evidence. Whether one dislikes or admires his work this current exhibition is a refreshing addition to the greyness of the London scene.

Melvyn Balloch

TRADITION MAINTAINED

WYE HELD

The 1st XI had an encouraging start to the new season when they beat University College Hospital by 52 points to nil. It would appear that such a convincing victory had an adverse effect on morale for on the following Saturday the same team was beaten 6-3 by C.E.M. L.S.E. had been three points up and had then slackened off. However, vindication all but came in the away fixture against Wye College — a strong side in college rugby.

The match was played on a moist, albeit firm, pitch. Losing the toss, LSE were forced to play with the wind and sun behind them. Taken on balance this is not generally considered advantageous as the tiring second half has then to be played against the elements. Showers soon made the new ball greasy but when mistakes were made in handling, the covering, greatly improved since the beginning of the season, prevented the heavy Wye three-quarters from breaking through.

Good Pack

Unfortunately, L.S.E. did very little tactical kicking, and the quick marking of the Wye backs neutralized attacking play. Consequently, when the whistle went for the turn around it looked as if L.S.E. had missed their chance.

But the second half proved that the Beaver pack can rise to anything. The formidable front row of Brown, Davies and Shorthouse contained one of the strongest challenges that it has yet had to face. Pilbeam and Hurley, the former ignoring a badly cut head, made a spirited, "power-house" of a second row.

Injury

With Ewing being forced to leave the pitch with bruised ribs, the back row was reduced to two but continued to keep the Wye backs away from the L.S.E. line. Although on the defensive for long periods, L.S.E. could always make ground by hustling Wye into mistakes and pressing right onto their line.

Fair Result

In the final ten minutes of the game L.S.E. kept surging on and only just failed to cash in on several scoring chances.

At last the whistle brought an end to an exciting, although scoreless, match played in the best L.S.E. tradition.

Alan Thomas

SIXTY FRESHERS

The sailing club would seem all set for a very good season despite the acquisition of several freshers with a marked propensity for falling in the Welsh Harp.

Sixty freshmen (and freshwomen?) were taken up to the Harp at the start of the term and each was taken for a sail — a remarkable feat for one afternoon's sailing. Contrary to expectation many of them have stayed in the club, among whom are several experienced helmsmen and crew members. Largely because of this it is hoped to race first and second teams regularly this season. Fixtures for this season include Southampton, Reading and Exeter.

'Borrowing'

It has come to the notice of Beaver sports staff that the Sailing club regularly loses equipment. During the vacation £15 worth of equipment has been "borrowed" from

the L.S.E. boats lying at anchor, and so far none of it has been returned. Surely something can be done, about this gross waste of Union funds? Enough money is wasted each year due to deterioration of athletic union gear without having to succumb to this bout of organised pilfering.

King's Fixture

The club's next fixture (assuming that the actual boats remain undisturbed in the Harp) is against King's College. King's will have last year's Cambridge University captain sailing in their team and in view of the fact that L.S.E. have never lost this fixture before it should certainly prove to be an interesting match.

The annual visit to the Norfolk Broads, at Easter has already been oversubscribed within days of the list being opened.

PERVERTED MANIACS?

The Women's Hockey club started this season with a nucleus of last year's players. Having gained seven or eight new members it is hoped that unlike last year the full fixture list will be retained — no matches being cancelled through lack of a team. The fixture list includes many interesting away matches.

Excellent Start

To date four matches have been played and four won. This excellent start is due to some extent to the strong players who have joined the team as freshers. One new player, D. Gracie, has also been chosen for the university 2nd XI.

The Women's hockey captain Miss Joanna Gething informed 'Beaver' sports staff

of the club's aims for the coming season.

"We hope to prove that we are not a team of spartan Amazons to be dismissed with a shrug as perverted maniacs." She continued — "we have been challenged to a match against the men's 2 XI hockey team. Perhaps our aim is already being realised."

Late News

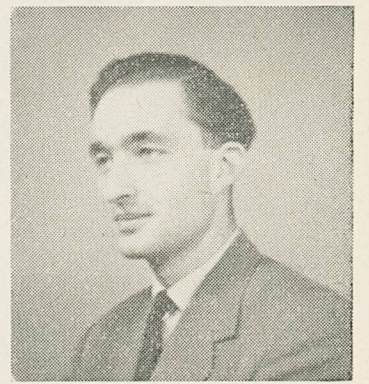
The sailing club defeated King's quite easily on Saturday, November 4th. The fixture is secured for another year.

The Rugby Club has decided to call its 2nd and 3rd XVs by special names. The officials of the club have not yet decided what these names shall be. 'Beaver' sports staff prefers to remain silent on the issue for fear of . . . well for fear.

The football team is going through a bad spell at the moment. The 1st XI lost to Queen Mary College on Wednesday in the Cup game. On Saturday the same team failed to beat St. Clement's Dane grammar school. The score? 5-1. We sincerely hope this bad spell has passed when they return from Mannheim.

ABOUT THE A U

Now that the term is well underway and the speeches given at the beginning of term long forgotten I feel it is time for me to remind you of the work that we do in the Athletic Union.



Mike Shuttleworth

Behind the doors of Rooms S109 and S110 in the St. Clement's Building lie two telephones and a few pieces of furniture. In these offices almost all our work is conducted. The administration is carried out by eight standing officers whose job it is to see that the Clubs are kept happy. Our numerous visitors include club captains, club secretaries, club treasurers and several waifs and strays who often mistake our office for some higher places of worship.

Meetings

Normally every two weeks we hold an executive committee meeting at which matters of interest and importance are discussed. This committee consists of one member from each club and the standing officers who have the right to vote, plus any observers who may care to come along. All monetary matters — budgets etc, are discussed in these meetings, besides any other matters of policy which may crop up.

These meetings also serve as a means whereby the officers of the Union can inform the clubs of any events past, present or future which they ought to know.

Domination

It has often been said that the Athletic Union is dominated by the larger clubs. This in practice is possibly true but it does not come about in the way most people think. Recently we had two vacant positions, those of the junior treasurers. These particular posts are filled after the applicants have been interviewed by a committee of the standing Officers.

The prime purpose of having an Athletic Union is to try to make it possible for students here to play sport with the minimum amount of worry and trouble. We have no full time staff whatsoever and we have only one paid employee who is our part-time book-keeper.

All the rest of our officers have to work as well as administer and if for some reason you cannot get satisfaction out of your dealings with our office it is surely better to bring up such matters in executive committee meetings than to bear a grudge against the Union as a whole for the rest of your stay in College.

No Offers

They are not filled by candidates who have been elected as the result of an election at which the 'big' clubs can supply their block vote. For these two posts we had three applicants, two whose loyalties were to the larger clubs one from a smaller club. How can we appoint people from the smaller clubs, if these clubs do not possess members willing to stand?

I would like to say that it is pleasing to see that this year more people than ever are taking an active part in the sport in the College. I would like to finish by wishing all the clubs a very successful season.

Mike Shuttleworth

U.C. DEFEATED

Last Wednesday saw the first defeat of University College 1st XI for more than three years. The score of 3-1, did not, however, reflect the actual run of the play and for much of the second half U.C. had the defence under great pressure. The fixture was the first in this year's University League and the win promises well for both the League and the Cup competitions.

Goals was scored by Hamilton, Leeke and Chaplin. The latter has scored 12 goals this season out of a total of 25, for the whole club.

The faults of this particular match seem to have been the lack of square-passing and a similar lack of controlling the ball before making a decisive pass.

The Hockey Club has had a vast increase in support

and could easily field two teams, but for the lack of a goalkeeper who can play regularly. Needless to say a volunteer for this post would be welcome.

SWIMMING REPORT

Hopes of repeating last year's success were somewhat dimmed by Part 1 failures and Part 2 successes which left the club with less than one third of last season's team. However a promising crop of newcomers notably Bull, Weiss, Stona, Sarony and Rink may restore the balance.

The Polo team sadly depleted by the loss of ace 'sitter' John Cisgo will field a strong if not as skilful side against U.C. on Friday.

Leonard Lyle

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Society Debate Queen's Trip To Ghana

"Ghana is not a feudal fief of the Duke of Edinburgh" — or so it was stated on Tuesday, 24th October, when the Africa Society debated the highly controversial topic, "Should the Queen go to Ghana". Fourteen people voted for the motion and two against the motion.

There seemed to be two main objections to the Queen's proposed visit — condemnation of Nkrumah's regime, and the general concern for her safety.

Comments Given

The sacking of British officials in Ghana is coincidental. It does not necessarily point to an anti-British feeling. We cannot agree with all Dr. Nkrumah's measures of suppressing power into his own hands, but those that denounce him merely for this are misunderstanding the problem. Democracy cannot simply be transplanted from Westminster to Ghana, a country with no political traditions. The fact that an industrial revolution has to be carried out in the shortest possible time is an added strain on the development of democracy. If we do not fundamentally agree with the regime we realise that it is at present the only solution for Ghana.

'It is up to Ghana and not the British Press to decide whether the political situation is sufficiently stable to ensure the Queen's personal safety. This campaign against Ghana has been conducted by the popular publicity-conscious press. They fail to realise that the British Empire no longer exists'.

Expense Cited

Several members felt that the Queen should not go to Ghana because of the expense. 'Our people are too poor to indulge in such expenditure'.

'It is imperative that the Queen should go to Ghana now that Britain is flirting with the idea of joining the Common Market'.

The meeting was not without its touch of humour. A lone voice from Ireland spoke of the 700 years of British Colonialism. What precisely his lengthy speech on Ireland had in common with the Queen's visit to Ghana, no one has yet discovered

moment, the Trio produced an hour of swinging music.

Despite the changes, the evening went well. Many were there including our Welsh lads who competed successfully with the band by indulging in an impromptu spiritual visit to the football grounds. Judging from this social we think that the new bar will be as popular as ever, in spite of its resemblance to a 'fall-out' shelter (Phil Strasbourg).

Martin Plimley thinks it is very nice 'if you do not mind drinking in a submarine'.

Alan Faucett on the Bar cum coffee-bar, 'it's alright, if you enjoy Expresso-Bitter'.

From someone who remains unruffled — 'I haven't been in there yet' (John Gibbons).

Bedroom-Visiting Seen As Cure for Necking

Bedroom-visiting is to be allowed in girls' hostels as a substitute to what has been described as 'necking' on Aberystwyth Promenade.

Vice-Principal Professor P. A. Reynolds has been quoted as saying that the College was 'determined to stamp out this necking on the Promenade'.

Mr. Graham Harrington, D.P. of the Aberystwyth S.R.C., told the Press that this was something the students had fought for for years. Students courting should be done in strict privacy.

The visiting hours are 7.30 p.m. - 10 p.m. Two visits will be allowed on Saturdays and Sundays.

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Union Defeat Motion To Leave NUS

The main debate in an otherwise quiet Budget Meeting on October 27th, centred on a motion of John Gibbons to move the NUS budget into the general reserve.

NUS, he said, was not worth the £300 budgeted for affiliation fees and officers' expenses to the bi-annual conferences. His motion was not, he said, merely framed out of antipathy to NUS.

He was moving the money into general reserve so that the £300 thus saved could be put into a capital fund. From this fund he hoped that the Union would buy and convert old residential properties into student flatlets.

Hale Speaks

On several occasions 'Beaver' was afforded the finest compliment to which it can aspire. The last edition's Lead Story was frequently referred to as 'scurrilous'.

The House was finally carried by a calm, well-reasoned speech from the NUS secretary and ex-LSE President, Alan Hale (who happened to be passing. Mr. Hale kindly provided a lot of information, which seemed to be sadly lacking, on the advantages of a corporate membership to LSE. This he did with a clarity and force which settled the issue.

Mr. Gibbons' motion was easily defeated.

Passed 'En Bloc'

After this the Union's patience with the Budget declined. There was a move to pass whole sections 'en bloc'. Despite the President's warn-

ing as to the inadvisability of such a process the Administration Section comprising some £1,369 was passed without discussion.

An attempt to move the Publications Section 'en bloc' was opposed. 'Beaver's' subsidy was then increased to the £360 originally budgeted, despite Council's recommendation of £350.

The time-honoured squabble over Commemoration Ball hospitality took place as usual. Mr. Segal and others could not see why we should invite representatives of other Unions to attend.

On learning that the invitations had already been sent out, Segal 'not wishing to cause the President any embarrassment' graciously withdrew his motion to chop the hospitality section.

Societies too, provided little opposition to the budget. Most of the difficulties had already been ironed out in Finance Committee and few societies faced the prospect of having their activities cut. The only difficulty arose over the size of the Music Society's budget. They did, however, get their money to produce an opera in the Lent Term.

Drinka Pinta Day

New 'Three Tuns' Opens

The first pint was poured by Tom Evans for Sir Sydney Caine at the opening of the new Bar on Monday. The other 144 were distributed free. The Social following began with small groups standing around self-consciously.

In contrast to the last social held in the old Bar on the previous Friday, Monday's gathering seemed at first to lack the old atmosphere — it had that feeling of being in a chimneyless sardine-tin.

The new Three Tuns seemed to over-awe the clientele at first by its break with LSE tradition in being clean, brightly-lit, air-filled, odourless and roomy.

However, soon the Jazzband began its weepy assault on 'Samantha', the students settled down to their pints and it was almost like old times again.

There are a few differences of course. The walls are bare, the dance-floor is as yet big enough to swing a cat in, there are orange curtains, no ash-trays, and the dirty jokes and raucous laughter can be easily missed.

Reports

On Societies

● The Music Society are in high spirits, having gained the money from Union to stage their projected opera later this year. Gordon Kirkwood, choir conductor enthuses, 'The choir is larger than it has been for two years and is in great form'.

The orchestra has expanded and has fine prospects. Arrangements are being made to have the scores sent over from Milan; Italy, it appears having a monopoly of operatic sheet music. The works, it is hoped to perform, two one performances, will be announced later.

● Jazzsoc, now one of the biggest societies in the School, held its inaugural concert in the Shaw Library at 1.30 on Wednesday. The guests were The Dave Lee Trio with the leader on the piano, George Dawson on bass and Art Morgan on drums. The concert was an extremely impromptu affair in true jazz spirit. Using mainly standards for their material and arrangements concocted on the spur of the



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