

PRESS RULES ATTACKED

LabSoc Showdown Imminent

LSE Labour Society is to launch an all-out attack on the School regulations concerning political societies' Press relations which have been described by last year's LabSoc President Graham Saville as "the most archaic in the country."

Tomorrow's General Meeting of the Society will approve a statement prepared by the Committee last Friday in which they demand sweeping changes in these regulations.

At the Union Meeting following at 4.15 p.m. they are to bring a motion instructing Council to press the School for these changes.

The existing regulations forbid societies to invite the Press to their meetings or write to the Press without the Director's permission.

Veto Used

Matters came to a head last term when the Director vetoed the presence of the Press at a Public Business Meeting at which Patrick Gordon Walker spoke. One week beforehand they had been allowed to attend a Conservative Society meeting addressed by Enoch Powell. The Labour Society protested against this and challenged the Director for his reasons. These he refused to give.

But he did call a meeting of the vice-presidents of the three political societies and deputy-president Roy Reeve. A compromise, suggested by the Liberals, that each society be allowed one meeting a term to which the Press be admitted, was accepted by all parties present, including the Labour Society. This agreement formed the basis of a draft proposal of school policy which was circulated to those at the meeting with a covering letter asking for comments and another meeting. There has been no further meeting; nor have replies been sent.

Long Delay

LabSoc have chosen to ignore this negotiating machinery. Said Saville: "This has dragged on long enough; we are more likely to get real concessions with a Union resolution behind us." Secretary Mike Golder explained the decision; "We are not satisfied with the way things are going or with the draft letter stating the school's position". The statement "calls upon the school authorities to allow this society to invite the press

to any meeting (notice to be given for television coverage) and to allow any person or society at LSE to write directly to the press."

Golder indicated that "there is a section of LabSoc opinion which considers these demands minimal". But opinion on the present regulations are fairly uniform: They "hamper our political force," said Golder; "LSE is becoming the antithesis of what its founders intended it to be." Chairman Jim Clark affirmed that "we could be much more of a political force than we are at the moment." Ministers will not come here to make important statements (as Wilson did at Sussex) if there is no press coverage".

"Bias"

The school's reasons for opposition to these proposals are that political speakers should not use the school as a mere platform, and that it is in the societies' own interest to have meetings free from the press because speakers will be less inhibited. They say, as LibSoc chairman Bernard Holmes told Beaver, that "in the past the system of allowing the press to meetings has not worked without bias."

Liberal View

Holmes agrees that the school's draft proposals are "not flexible enough", but he maintains that

the existing machinery should be used; he is therefore resisting LabSoc's demands to support them in their unilateral action.

Political By-Pass

"They are by-passing the existing machinery to gain the initiative in the interests of their own publicity. Only if this machinery breaks down would they be justified in bringing a motion to Union, and then it must be a matter for an agreement between all three societies. It probably will come to a fight with the Director in the end. But I do agree with their proposals."

But Jim Clarke countered this. "We do not want a joint meeting." Golder, when asked whether they would take political action if a Union motion is rejected by the Director, said, "We'll wait and see what happens. We may consider approaching a higher authority."

Disincentive

He is worried that the restrictions imposed by these regulations are symptomatic of LSE's "becoming less and less like a University and more and more like an office block." He added, "Little wonder that the best lecturers are leaving LSE for the new Universities. It is indeed a sorry state for the birthplace of the social sciences in Britain to be in."

PREMIER'S MESSAGE

The Prime Minister recently sent the Labour Society a letter of support wishing them success in 1965.

Rally Hopes

LabSoc secretary Mike Golder stated that he hoped to obtain Mr. Wilson for a rally to be held at the school later this term. Lord Brockway has consented to speak at a meeting on race relations in early February and is only one of the many distinguished speakers who will be speaking at LabSoc's forthcoming weekly meetings.

Drs. Milband and Bottomore of LSE, Isaac Deutscher and Dr.

Eric Hobsbawm the historians, and Alistair MacIntyre, Oxford philosophy don, are among those who will speak in a series of lectures on aspects of Marxism organised under the aegis of LabSoc. The first of these takes place today.

More Cabaret

This term the society plans to run more of the Thursday night "Bare Left" cabarets which were a regular feature of the last academic year but which, like several of the society's other activities, were less regular last term. An anonymous member of the staff will again be taking part.



New Minister Reg Prentice, one of LSE's 16 MP's
— see page 6

TELE-RECORDED DEBATE

LSE's Professor of Law John Griffith will be among the distinguished speakers who will be speaking in the ULU Debate which will also be tele-recorded by Rediffusion tonight.

Kenneth Harris of the Observer, Frank Jessup of Oxford University and ULU President Tony Berry will propose the motion "This house considers that life will not be worth living

in the year 2000." Griffiths and John Hale (Professor of History at the new University of Warwick) will oppose the motion.

The tele-recording will be transmitted in the R.T.V. series "Towards 2000" which has been reviewing the scientific and technological progress of the last four centuries. It tries to show how advances in scientific knowledge and technical application has and will produce the tools to fashion "the Britain we make" by the year 2000.

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Presscutting and Red Tape

The genuine concern that the Labour Society clearly holds with regard to the restrictions placed by the school regulations on the freedom of political societies, or of individual students generally, to contact the Press or invite them to their meetings should be far more widely held.

With the regulations as they are it is becoming increasingly difficult for the societies to attract eminent political speakers; LSE's political activities are ignored by a Fleet Street snubbed by the authorities; restriction of free expression hampers and disillusions students, who, isolated from the top political scene and forbidden participation and publicity in the Press, rapidly lose what political enthusiasm they possess and turn to other less idealistic pursuits.

It is a commonplace that the School has lost not only its left-wing zeal (though, incredibly, not its reputation), but also any other zeal that it may have had. These rules are contributory towards the increase in students' apathy, which is further exacerbated by the lack of a Laski or a Tawney to excite student expressions as they did. Not merely have they no contemporary successors; but the young academics capable of becoming similarly stimulating characters are packing their bags.

It is the lack of academic freedom, hampered as this is by the same attitude of the School authorities which perpetuates such as the Press regulations, that frustrates the staff as well as the students; and their departure that aggravates a drop not in academic standards so much as in the general level of the student outlook.

Berkeley and the Business School

As fast as the bright young men go, the production of synthetic economists off the assembly line is stepped up. LSE was not founded to become "the business school of Syd and Kidd." The validity of the Webb's ideas may be questioned, but their idealistic enthusiasm may not. Now that this issue has attracted widespread attention, a refusal to budge on the School's part may lead to disobedience of the rule, if only as a casus belli. It would be a pity if the authorities allowed LSE to degenerate into a second Berkeley; but if it did it need not reflect badly on the students.

LETTERS**Beaver and Library Overcrowding**

Sir,
 So, Beaver had at last sunk to the level of 'Express' journalism. I refer to the vendetta you have been waging against the Library and its staff, culminating in the Editorial and leading letter of the last issue. The Editorial accused the staff of a 'petty-fogging, autocratic, unsympathetic attitude.' Mr. Atkin's letter was in similar vein, decrying the 'Gestapo-type' operations in the Library.

While there is a certain amount of justification in some of these accusations, the most elementary attempt to discover the reasons behind the situation would, I hope,

have made you take a less extremist stand.

The Library staff is, at the moment, working under very great difficulties to try and meet circumstances not of its own creation. If there is to be a villain surely it is the School administration, following slavishly Lord Robbins' recommendation for an annual 10% increase in the number of students here. It is obvious to all but the administration that the student body cannot be further extended and the Library staff would certainly concur with this view. They had hoped that the alterations at present being completed in

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**Combating Robbins**

The new term marks the approach for Council of a number of important decisions. First of all, we have to submit to the School our opinions on the future development of the College during the next 5 years. We have, in fact, been studying the matter for some considerable time now and are in the process of submitting a fairly detailed memorandum to the Director. At the moment Council is mainly concerned with the possible effects of implementing the 10% increase in student population as advocated by the Robbins Report and we have concentrated on finding evidence which will make quite clear some of the difficulties involved in enlarging the student body further. Council would, of course, be very grateful to receive any suggestions or recommendations from members of Union regarding this matter or evidence that overcrowding is becoming blatant.

Library Reform

This, however, still leaves the tremendous problems facing the present student body of the College. While I had hoped to be able to spend considerable time on the problems of the Library, the difficulties and pressing matters regarding the catering of



the College have as yet prevented this but the matter is still being taken care of. One of the most important areas of agreement between the Union and the Graduate Students Association lies in the reform of the Library. Mr. Munro, President of the G.S.A. is instituting a thorough and detailed examination of the problems, together with certain others, and hopes to be able to submit a very elaborate list of proposals. The Welfare Vice-President and the Library Committee will themselves be doing a fair amount of investigation into the needs of students and the inadequacies in the supply of books. Their findings will be pooled when they are near completion so that a joint memorandum may be submitted.

Relative Inactivity

While I am on the subject of our relations with the graduate students members of Union might be interested to know that officers of the G.S.A. and the Union have agreed upon a series of informal meetings in order to improve co-operation between the two bodies. At the moment this seems to be as far as we can go, mainly owing to the relative inactivity of the G.S.A. in the past, except in social matters, with the result that it has too few officers to

National Insurance

Sir,

Most students at this college probably know that we are required to pay national insurance contributions during the period we are at college. Or, we have the option, of making them up within five years of completing our course.

If we take the former course we are likely to find ourselves spending a substantial part of our grant on contributions. If we take the latter course, we may be faced with the debt of nearly £100 which has to be paid if we wish to be assured of a state pension, maternity benefits, unemployment pay, and the like. During the five-year repayment period we are not entitled to these benefits in full and the mere fact that we have to repay the debt can cause hardship.

The basic assumption which this state of affairs is that graduates will earn colossal salaries. I challenge this assumption and have written to my MP about this. I urge other students to do likewise to try to get a change in the system.

If we want the staff to listen to our demands our attitude must be based on an awareness of all the relevant information. In fact, in the last year, many of Council's recommendations have been adopted, mainly because we have taken the necessary steps to discover this information.

If the Editor of Beaver and Mr. Atkin could do likewise, the paper could play a useful part in pressurizing the School for improvements in all spheres of student welfare.

J. D. Armstrong.
 Welfare Vice-President

enable greater activity. Nevertheless, I think the foundation has now been laid and we may expect the relations between the G.S.A. and the Students' Union to become closer in the future.

Tangible Benefits

Much of the time of Union meetings this term will be concerned with the vexed topic of NUS. There is a strong element of Union which has admittedly convincing arguments for taking this college out of the National Union of Students. To the casual observer whose only experience of the Union is second-hand information about what goes on at the NUS council — and let's face it a lot more could take place than actually does — the tangible benefits of membership may seem somewhat obscure. Now that the Union is intending to raise its subscription this obscurity may well seem more marked.

Second Thoughts

But this is to ignore the very real record of achievement that the NUS has in improving the financial status of students, a record which is bound to be enhanced by the regular meetings that NUS has succeeded in getting with the Minister of Education; it is to forget about the facilities in travel, or concessions which students may use occasionally and forget about. Many of the arguments for and against the NUS will as I say be produced at Union meetings this term, but there is surely something in the moves at Imperial College to re-join NUS after a period of non-membership; perhaps they have had second thoughts about going it alone, and so must we.

BEAVER

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The reply I received from Norman Pentland, Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Pensions & National Insurance, informed me that students were well-off anyway with all the so-called concessions we received and that any change was impossible.

We must deplore this sort of attitude and must show the government, by writing to our MP's, how unfair the present system is.

Mike Smithson

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SCHOLARSHIP APPEAL OPENING—

after 18 months negotiation

LSE's South African Scholarship Appeal will be formally launched at a rally organised for next week.

Speakers include Sir Sidney Caine, Humphrey Berkeley, MP, and Colin Legum of 'The Observer', and the rally will probably be chaired by Prof. Goodwin.

Pop-Star Dusty Springfield, recently returned from a much-publicised tour of South Africa, has sent a message of support and it is hoped that Adam Faith and Fenner Brockway will be available to attend.

£2,000 Wanted

The Appeal, whose sponsors include Harold Wilson, the Prime Minister, R. A. Butler, Jo Grimond and the Archbishop of Canterbury, hopes to raise £2,000 to provide a Higher education "for any South African student, who for racial or political reasons is prevented from obtaining a university education comparable to that obtained in this country".

Permanent Trust

Five thousand appeal letters have been printed and are to be sent to recent graduates and present students of the School and to members of the London School of Economics Society.

Aziz Kurtha, vice-chairman of the Appeal committee, told "Beaver" that the rally is the fruition of 18 months of negotiations and that already the National Union of South African Students have provided a list of ten students who specifically want to come to LSE. "If the response is very successful," he concluded, "we hope to set up a permanent South African Scholarship Trust. It is gratifying to see that the Union and the School can work together."

New SocSoc Magazine

Phil Powell, leading light of the Sociology Society, has at last brought his project for a SocSoc magazine off the ground.

First issue is expected before the end of term, and will include, he told a reporter,

"Comments and criticisms of the Department's organisation, lectures and classes."

Powell hopes for contributions of about two thousand words on "Anything related to Sociology," by undergrads and postgrads of the School. Powell especially wants to contact B.Sc. (Econ.) Part I students who intend to make Sociology their Part II option, as the SocSoc has very little contact with them.

All those interested should contact Phil via the pigeonholes.

MOSER IN L.S.E. HONOURS



Beaver congratulates Professors, Popper, Dudley Stamp, and Moser on their inclusion in the New Year Honours List.

Neither knight was available for comment. Sir Karl sent a message indicating that he wanted no publicity, "especially in Beaver".

Professor Moser CBE, told

a reporter: "I am pleased—very pleased. I approve of the system of honours, but not hereditary honours. I would have rejected the CBE had I disapproved". He was a prominent member of the Robbins Committee and he added: "I'd like to think I got my CBE for my work on it".

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Roll on Sennet

Beaver congratulates 1st-year, B.Sc. (Econ.) student Joanna Roll latest editor of Sennet.

Joanna has previously worked upon the Washington Post, her father being attached to the Embassy there, but has walked straight into Sennet after a single term at LSE, during which she admits she did nothing for either Beaver or Sennet.

Why did she head for the blue headline instead of the red? Joanna says she's more interested in working on Sennet, with its wider circulation, and says: "I think Sennet is capable of being a better paper than Beaver" because of this.

Asked whether she approved of the sensationalism which has characterised Sennet in recent months, Joanna agreed that it

"had been rather overdone" and that future policy would be against similar 'blowing-up' of sex. "It's alright if sex and serious comment are balanced."

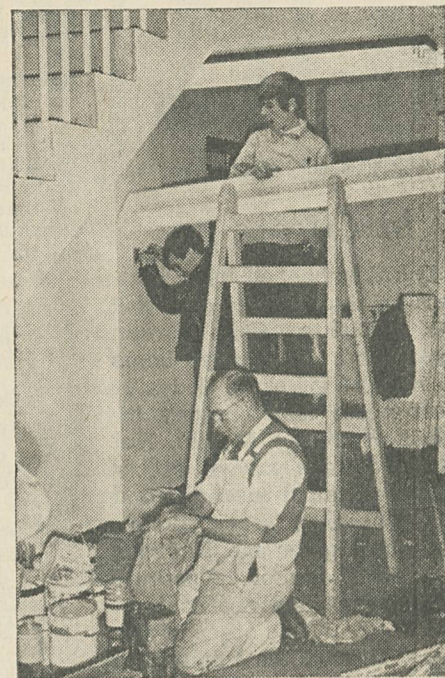
WUS Week

TV personalities Keith Fordyce, Kathy McGowan and Susan Maughan of "Ready, Steady, Go" as well as Ray Martine and Stratford Johns, have been approached to judge the "Miss LSE" and "Mr LSE" contests which promise to be the highlights of "World University Service Week".

Albert Charbit, School WUS officer, told "Beaver" that WUS week has been arranged to raise money for the Service, and will include films and guest speakers, describing WUS's work in various parts of the world.

The week starts tomorrow with a concert in the Old Theatre organized by the Jazz Soc. and a big dance is planned for the following Wednesday.

The Scene in the New East-Wing Library The Second Time It was due to Open



The new lending library in the East Wing opened its doors to readers at the beginning of term.

Originally planned for the beginning of the session, the library has room for about

130 readers.

Reason for the delay were unforeseen construction difficulties. However, it will mean a valuable addition to the already congested library accommodation in the School.

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A la Carton . . .

It had to happen. That waitress on the end, the one with the permanent Colin Jordan look (and, incidentally, boots to match) gave me Cod a la Portuguese last Tuesday instead of Cheese Gnochi. Not that I'd have known except that she called me back and said she was sorry, ducks, but she'd given me Haddock de Red China or something by accident and she couldn't tell one from the other in this light. It took ten minutes to get the whole thing sorted out, and even then I hadn't the faintest idea what I was really carrying across to the plywood.

If you've ever seen Cheese Gnochi (and it's quite an experience) you'll remember that it's a yellowish colour round the edges, lumpy in the middle and has one of those characteristic smells that you only find in the refec and Billingsgate market on a hot June morning. This that I wrestled with in the corner had more of a soggy air about it and was green rather than anything. I'd just about decided that it was either Mexican Mince or Ravioli, with the edge on Mexican Mince (a name which can still conjure up regrets in Beaver office—we had a headline planned months before the Presidential by-election reading 'Max to Axe Mexican Mince' and that, though I'll probably lose my typewriter through saying so, is why Beaver plugged the Max Williams line throughout. All of which is largely irrelevant but Timothy (who celebrated his new editorship by having his hair cut) insists it goes in. He reads Ethel M. Dell, too.) To pick up the threads, I was ready

to lay odds on Mexican Mince when I deciphered the notice-board (that with the little white letters they can never spell Bolognese with) and found that the day's speciality was supposed to be Spanish Rice. That was where I gave up wondering what I was ruining what's left of my gastrinal tracts with, and decided that it'll be Hash again in future. Though that's probably known as Rissotto de l'Argentine.

In Brief . . .

. . . takes a look further afield this week, student news at home being non-existent over the festive season. Britain seems sadly lacking in long and intriguing names for its student societies: these 'ere foreigners have more the right idea. How about The Federation of Student Autonomies to Oppose the Security Treaty and Safeguard Peace and Democracy, for example? Japanese, it opened a conference last month by condemning its rival (The All-Japan Federation of Student Autonomies, etc., etc., only missing out the bit about Democracy) for being out of touch with the 'true national spirit of Japanese Youth', saying that in fact it was, quote, 'ruled by a handful of undemocratic, reactionary, left-wing students,' known collectively as Red China.

Before moving on, it's worth noting that of the 900,000 students in Japan, a recent survey estimated that 'no more than 10% are politically conscious in the slightest degree.' You can't have everything, evidently.

Moscow, not to be left out of things, saw the opening recently of The Second World Youth Forum of Solidarity of Youth and Students in the Fight for National Indepen-

dence, Liberation, and for Peace. This thing about Peace (capital P, of course); it's fascinating. Especially as the Second World Youth Forum - well, you know the rest by now - broke up in a riot when this Peace-loving Chinese Youth delegate stood up and said the place stank of anti-Chinese propaganda, and North Korea, North Vietnam and the Chairman promptly started a fight for control of the only mike, a fight which ended only when they turned the entire loud speaker system off. Above the chaos came the plaintive cry of North Korea: "Delegates' rights are being seriously transgressed!" As North Vietnam put it later, the meeting was 'not very democratic' Nor peaceful. Sorry, Peaceful.

Anyway, it all makes the NUS look not only quiet but a bit unambitious as well. Now, with a name like The Forty-Second All-Britain Youth Congress of Student Bodies to Combat Undemocratic Grants, Fight for the Liberation of Aberystwyth, and the Safe-Guarding of Independence, Freedom, Liberation, Propagation, Democracy, and (naturally) Peace, there's no knowing what Alan Evans might have accomplished at Margate.

Searching desperately through the vast collection of indigestible fact that fills 'Youth and Freedom' (Journal of the Institute for International Youth Affairs, which I hadn't heard of either), one of these magazines someone sends regularly to Beaver in the fond hope that they'll be used for something other than the obvious, I find that the Education Minister of Buganda is throwing out all the school-

teachers because too many students failed their leaving exams, rather a novel twist and certainly a welcome one. Not greeted enthusiastically, however, by Miss Masembe, President of the Buganda Teachers' Association, who said in an indignant protest, 'When patients die in hospital, you don't fire the doctors,' a simile which throws some interesting light on educational theory in East Africa.

Czechoslovakia's had a wild few weeks by the looks of things: not only did the Central Committee of the Czechoslovakian Union of Youth congratulate the Youth Organisation of Guinea (known, obviously enough, as JRDA), but an official delegation of the Mongolian Revolutionary Union of Youth arrived for a fortnight just in time to join in celebrations of World Day of Solidarity with the People and Youth of Cyprus. Oh, to be in Prague now that World Day of Solidarity's here.

And, for good measure, on December 3rd the Sixth Plenary Session (here we go again) of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of the Soviet Union discussed The Unification of Industrial and Agricultural Provincial Kom-somol Organisations. So there you are. It's good to know what goes on elsewhere in the world.

Next issue — back to home ground.

Forecasts for '65:

Jan.: Bangor reimposes Tests and Corporations Act, announces big subsidy for resurgence of Student Band of Hope League in Anglesey;

Feb.: Sennet discovers clandestine lesbian orgy in LSE TV Lounge;

March.: Sennet fails to disclose that clandestine lesbian orgy was in fact Admin. Staff tea-break. Instead reveals story of organised prostitution at School of African and Oriental

Studies.

April: Aberystwyth secedes from UCCA on discovery of beer-bottle at 29, Tavistock Square. Explains that she never could understand those forms anyway, and why weren't they in Welsh?

May: Sheffield announces discovery of the 'rubber hook' and promptly patents vending machine to sell it in packets of 50 for 9d; it's washable, lasts for ever, and can be fitted by a three-month baby.

June: Three-month baby fits 'rubber hook'. Vast public outcry, Chris Kemp appears on Tonight, tells Godfrey Winn about Paragraph 14 sub-section b, part iii; President of University of Strathcona says he doesn't know what all the fuss is about.

July: Mass exodus, led by Aberystwyth students. Vast demonstrations in Gateshead, Dawlish and Trafalgar Square against proposed compulsory wear of mortar-boards at Newcastle and Exeter.

October: Aberystwyth reveals alarming drop in student numbers, now standing at twelve. Applies for foreign aid from Whitehall.

November: Exeter again centre of University Rag Weeks: Roodean at last releases two students left over there from 1964. Sennet misses out on the story, says "It's obviously a hoax". Students appear on Tonight. Sales of 'Rubber hook' soar.

December: Bangor abolishes Christmas as 'reeking of Popery'. LSE announces discovery of 'Plywood splinter', made at negligible cost from wood shavings, everlasting, can be fitted by your budgerigar. LSE promptly turned into vast 'Plywood splinter' factory. No one notices the difference.

January '66: 'In brief' searches desperately through collection of 'Youth and Freedom' from past year and brings out even worse column than this time.

Casement's Diary

Political crises are rather like free nosh-ups; as soon as word gets around that something is brewing every hanger-on under the sun flashes in to see what he can get out of it. The present crisis in the aircraft industry is a pretty fair example of this, for there is quite enough meat on the bones of the TSR-2 to keep the political vultures going for at least until a Spring General Election; P. G. Walker was so busy telling the voters of Leyton (though God only knows what they have to do with the aircraft industry) that the Government's decision would allay 'exaggerated fears' that he quite forgot to notice Jenkins' undertaking that no decision of any sort would be reached for at least two or three weeks.

Meantime, as they say in the more lurid paper-backs, the evil Tories were busy spreading alarm and despondency by accusing the Govt. (quote from Reggie Maudling) of 'spreading alarm and despondency'; Jo was quietly finalising his plans for a co-operative aircraft pool — surely by now he must realise

that no-one listens to this sort of suggestion — and the Beaverbrooks were writing those unique editorials that make Twinkle's recording of Terry sound like a Ph.D. thesis.

Scabbards and Buses

Now for our annual foray into the realm of international affairs. We take our readers, (this bloody column sounds more like Crossbencher every issue), to the steamy jungles of Malaysia. Note the menacing cries of the Chief Bearer of the Indonesians' Burdens. Tremble at the might of the army of the Chief Sword of the Indonesians' Scabbard. Quake at the imperialist designs of the Chief Brain of the Indonesians' Genius.

Then remember what happened to the gift of buses made to Indonesia by Australia under the Colombo Plan: a large consignment of buses was despatched to Djakarta as part of a transport improvement scheme. The Customs Department knew not of the scheme, and refused to allow the buses to move further than the dock, where they were left in the open, without bodies, and their

works open to the elements and the good offices of the Indonesian dockers. By the time the Transport Ministry had persuaded the Customs to change their mind some eighteen months had passed. By this time most of the buses' vital components had disappeared, and what were left were good only for scrap. . . .

Dismiss the Chief Breast of the Indonesians' Bosom as being just that.

But for real insight into the intricacies of the Malaysian political scene, can one hope to better the Guardian's shattering report that 'Golf has an important place in the political intricacies of this experimental and much threatened multiracial society.'

While on the subject of bright ideas, the New Statesman reproduced an interesting letter in the Huddersfield Daily Examiner: 'For murderings of policemen, prison officers, security men, and for murderings for robbery I would suggest amputations of both legs up to the body, plus prison for ten years, with no artificial limbs ever in the offing. Only a small cart on very small wheels. That would be the main deterrent. Further violence, if any, could be dealt with by further deformities.'

Perhaps I'm irresponsible, but it seems to me that if any poor bastard hobbling round legless on a small cart with very small wheels were able to do violence to anything stronger than a soft-boiled egg he should get a Victoria Cross at least.

Voluntary Service Overseas

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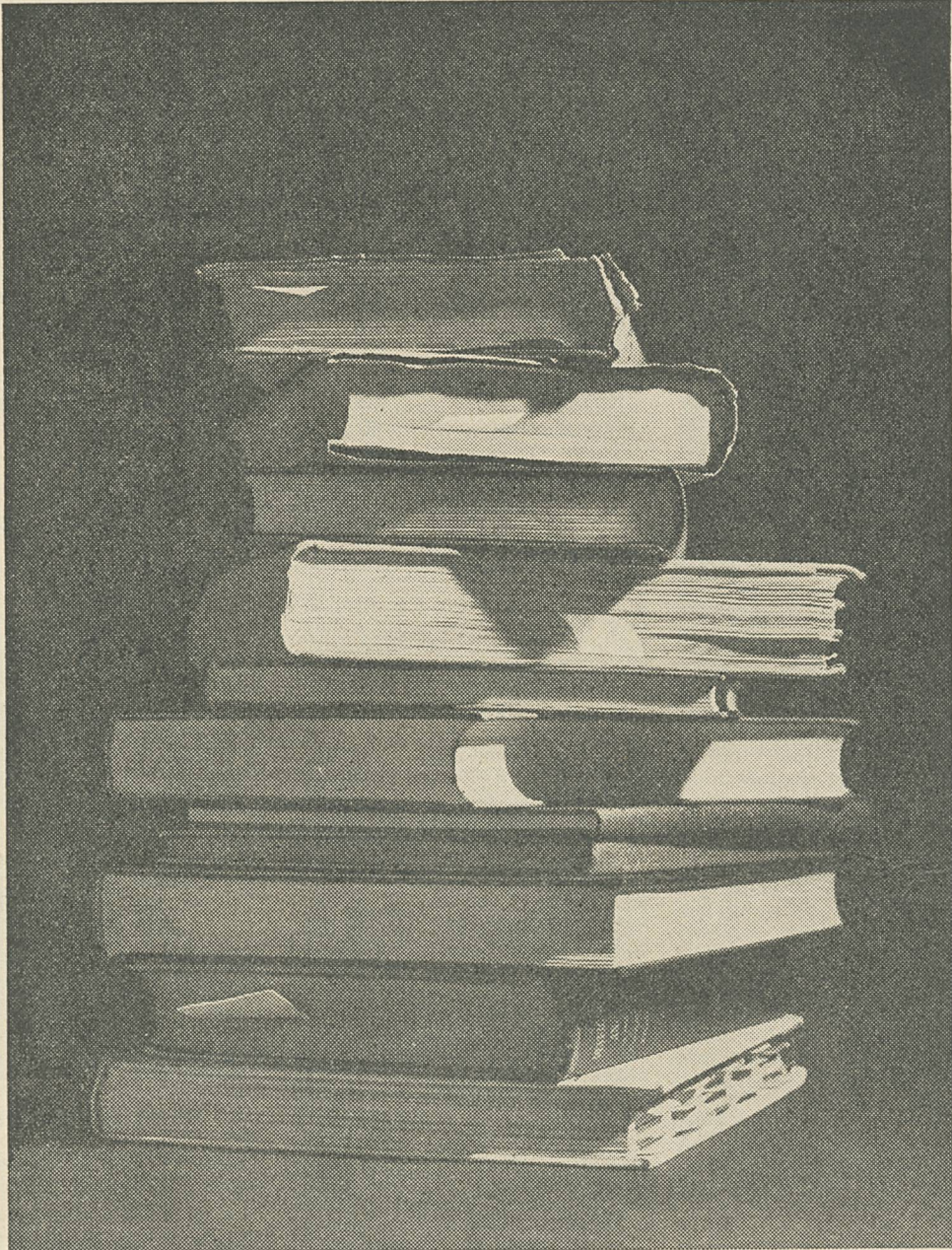
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONSULT YOUR UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS BOARD, OR WRITE DIRECT TO

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UNION AND THE GREY MEN

The present Union Council is not the most popular that has ever existed. The support which Max Williams gained when he stood for the Presidency on an anti-"Union clique" platform last term is evidence of the feeling, which is particularly strong among freshers, against the whole Union structure. Considering that their first impressions were based on the Kurtha debacle this is understandable enough. But come Easter and the resignation of this Council there may well be a serious problem in the lack of a new generation with the enthusiasm to carry on arduous Union work. Beaver commissioned first-year lawyer MARTIN DALY to survey the fresher attitude. This generation may be lost for ever; the next may be saved if the problems of Public Relations he points out are overcome.



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Fresher Viewpoint

Arguments are very often the result of emphasis rather than of real disagreement. It can be taken as generally agreed that the Students Union is a vital part of LSE. There are, however, varying views as to if and why there has been a rise in the number of "grey men", and "things" in the Library causing a lack of enthusiasm in Union affairs, and a shortage of students willing to devote themselves in this sphere.

Those in the Union and those associated with it feel that the freshers of recent years are swotters, indifferent to extending themselves beyond the Library to organise and work for the general curricular upliftment of LSE. Those keen on Union feel that the others must be mechanical insensitive creatures to be unthrilled by Union politics. On the other side of the fence the accused swotters are convinced that those keen on Union are pretentious and form a clique into which it is difficult to crash.

As a fresher and an overseas student I advance three criticisms of Union organisation and policy, and offer three corresponding suggestions.

Firstly, the Union seems to misunderstand and consequently mishandle the fresher condition. It is inevitable that most freshers arrive at LSE with academic success foremost in their minds; but we also arrive willing to try most things. Unfortunately, the Union and older students, rather than stressing the non-academic, worthwhile opportunities of LSE, set to work to relax us, to break down our 'seriousness'. What these mental therapists have not considered is that to give vague, flippant answers to questions about academic affairs, the fresher will react by thinking that he may be easily distracted and he strengthens his determination to work. In short, the Union begins treating us as "grey men" before we become that unhealthy state. This is a negative approach and my first suggestion is that there should be more information available to the fresher about Union.

Burden

The present Students' Handbook is the most undistinguished literature with which the fresher is burdened. "Question Time" is inadequate as it is difficult to ask questions on something one knows little about. The title Welfare V.P. means little as a title. I suggest three media of information.

Firstly, at the Hoddesdon conference (a very successful innovation) Union should inform about its affairs in the same way that the staff from various departments introduce their sub-

jects and that the first discussion groups (which are usually marked by a shy silence) should be devoted to Union affairs. Secondly, on the opening day, after the Director's address the Union should hold an information seminar. The Chief Librarian, the doctor, the psychiatrist can wait. Groups go round the Library anyway. We are not really interested in how many titles the Library has in it. We know what doctors are for. The films we can do without. Lastly, the academic staff, tutors particularly, should give Union a plug.

Disorder

The second and third points come together. There is not enough opportunity for students to express themselves; and when the students have, they often do so in an atmosphere of disorder. (It is hoped that would-be critics appreciate the difference between heckling and childishness.) It is a long and very much-appreciated tradition that LSE debates put very eminent men of the great world on the platform of the Old Theatre. No one would wish to see this pattern stopped. There must, however, be debating and public speaking for the freshers. This would encourage fresher expression and provide an incentive for us to contribute further to other activities.

Expression

An attempt must be made to receive student expression maturely. The present loaded motions do nothing to provoke thought in an audience, and the reluctance (or inability) of chairmen to enforce minimum order merely reduces LSE debates to emotional and prejudicial outbursts.

The LSE Union should be aware of its great rival — London, a city of inexhaustible interest. Please let us have more information about what there is in Union for us, more opportunity to express ourselves, and more order in Student affairs.

AGAINST THE LORDS

The Debates Committee's Lent term programme will be off to a good start next Monday (January 25th) with the Oxbridge Debate on the motion: "This House believes that the House of Lords as it is at present constituted is a hindrance to effective government".

William Hamilton, Labour

Member of Parliament for West Fife, will propose the motion and he will be seconded by the President of the Oxford Union. Lord Derwent, a Minister of State in the last Conservative Government, will oppose the motion and he will be supported by the President of the Cambridge Union.

The debate will be held in the Old Theatre and will commence at 6.30 p.m.

CLARE MARKET

PARLIAMENT

"If I hadn't been a Socialist before I came to L.S.E., the atmosphere would have made me a Tory."

— Ted Garrett

How many people who studied at the LSE are now in the Corridors of Power at Westminster? How much did the teachings of Laski influence the present generation of LSE MP's? How different are they from the rest? How far does success in student politics indicate success in real politics? Has LSE gone to the dogs since their day?

These are the sort of questions that the first Beaver probe of 1965 attempts to answer.

The mode of enquiry was in the first place by means of a postal questionnaire on which several questions were posed, such as "In what way, if any, did LSE influence your political views?" and "Have you ever supported the CND?" By such means a general picture was gained, which was filled out by personal interview with some of the MP's who were willing to talk to us. During each interview 14 main topics were covered, so that each interview could be analysed on a comparable basis; outside of these there was complete conversational freedom. Standard biographical reference works were also consulted.

Lone Tory

Sixteen of the present Members of Parliament have been students at the School, while quite as many again tried their luck last October but failed—among them Alan Hale, President 1958-59. Significantly, Beaver could only trace one Tory MP — Aubrey Jones, MP for Hall Green, Birmingham, author of "The Pendulum of Politics" and variously Minister of Fuel and Power or Supply, between 1955-59. Many may see him as a typical Tory minister, since he was General Director of the British Iron and Steel Federation before taking office and later became director of Guest, Keen and Nettlefold in 1960.

All the rest (15) are members of the Labour Party. Two of them, James Dunn and Chris Rowland, are among the few MP's under 40, whilst at the other extreme Percy Holman ("I was a Fabian at 15 years of age") is at 74 one of the more venerable gentlemen in Parliament. It seems that in principle most of them were convinced Socialists before coming to LSE since 11 out of the 15 were members of the Labour Party before beginning studies here. LSE's role was rather to mould their thought in detail than to persuade them towards Socialism in principle. "LSE translated my emotions into disciplined channels", stated Merlyn Rees. The death of Harold Laski (March 1950) marks a turning point in the life of the School — he had epitomised the radical outlook during his 30 year connection with LSE (24 as Professor of Political Science). Since his day it has become much more of a conventional and 'in' college. On

this basis, the majority of the MP's came into LSE during its more revolutionary era. Holman, at LSE just before the Great War, was one of its earliest students and can remember beginning the tennis and hockey clubs with a grant of £10 for each. Only Ted Garrett and James Dunn — who both came on Trade Union scholarships — studied here during the 1950's. The comment of Merlyn Rees, perhaps sums up the change, since he studied and researched here from 1946-54. In answer to a question about LSE's reputed left-wing atmosphere he said, "True for 1945-50; myth after 1950".

Labour Lawyers

Nearly all took B.Sc. Econ. degrees, although Ted Garrett did Trade Union studies and Judith Hart a B.A. Soc.; 10 had at least the status of a grammar school education before coming up. Highest among their serious interests was, not unexpectedly, economics, especially regarding Government policy. Next favourites were education, followed by foreign and commonwealth affairs. Leo Abse, well known solicitor, with a 20,000 majority at Pontypool, specialises in legal reform — he promoted the Matrimonial Clauses Act a couple of years ago. He was in fine form during the Abolition of Hanging Debate in December, advocating a new approach to the psychology of murder—"Over two thirds of the men with whom I have dealt wanted to die after committing murder". The other legal man is barrister-at-law Raphael Tuck — new left-wing MP for Watford (1500 majority) — who besides being a Member of the Society of Labour Lawyers has been variously Professor of Political Science at the Universities of McGill and Tulane (New Orleans) and Constitutional Adviser to the Premier of Manitoba during the War. The hanging debate marked his maiden speech.

First Class Judith

Just over half are in the "professional" classes (as defined in the Registrar General's classification of occupations). Mrs. Judith Hart — "LSE supplied a philosophical and economic context for my ideals" (and also supplied a first class BA Soc) — is a competent sociologist under whose guidance a survey on mentally handicapped children in Scotland was carried out. She also chaired the Scottish Project Group whose results were published by PEP (1963): her reward is an Under-Secretaryship at the Scottish Office.

1984?

Schoolteacher Sidney Irving, now Deputy Chief Whip, was once chairman of LabSoc after the war, and laughingly said that "the other students were a bit of a crowd". For him — with

Table 1
List of LSE Labour MP's

Name	Age	Constituency
Abse	48	Pontypool
Duffy	45	Colne Valley
Dunn	39	Liverpool — Kirkdale
Garrett	45	Wallsend
Hart	41	Lanark
Holman	74	Bethnal Green
Irving	47	Dartford
Jeger	62	Goole
Oram	52	Eastham South
Prentice	42	Eastham North
Rees	45	Leeds South
Rowland	45	Meriden (Warwicks)
Stonehouse	40	Wednesbury
Tuck	55	Watford
Warbey	62	Ashfield (Notts.)

Government as a special subject — Professor Laski was "very impressive" as a lecturer and tutor; Reg Prentice, now with a key job in the Ministry of Education, was at LSE at the same time as Irving, and is also full of praise for Laski — "a brilliant teacher". A contemporary of these two was John Stonehouse — holding on with a 3,000 majority at Wednesbury, and now Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Aviation. Merlyn Rees — Parliamentary private secretary (PPS) to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and now occupying Hugh Gaitskell's old seat (significant for the future?) was also at LSE at the same time.

These four all have sub-Cabinet positions, but there is another significant factor linking them: they were the leading lights of LabSoc — Stonehouse followed Irving as Chairman and Prentice was on the Executive Committee during this time. All of these men are now in their forties — and have perhaps twenty years of productive Westminster life left in them. Perhaps the Seat of Power in the nineteen-eighties may be posthumously accredited to Laski?



Tyne-sider Garrett

Despite this, there does not appear to be an LSE clique in the House of Commons. "There is no LSE network" said Irving, and Northerner Garrett (who recollects playing football on Clapham Common with his student friends) agreed, adding "there is no University snobbery, at least on the Labour side" . . . "The PLP is classless", maintained Prentice, "although the old rift between working class and intellectuals still exists among the older MP's".

The average age of first degree students has dropped since the war especially as more and more come straight from the second year Sixth. "My generation, being largely ex-Service and therefore older, were more politically aware than those who followed in the period 1950-1960," said Prentice, although he thought "there has been a strong revival in the last few years". This could well account for the constructive debates of the time: comments range from "Everything was very left-wing . . . there was lots happening" to ". . . always great debates in the Old Theatre lasting four or five hours". Rees also said "In general, students are not politically aware ever, but LSE has a better record than most colleges".

Stonehouse — trouble with TSR-2



Raphael Tuck, MP

— ousted Tories at Watford

Table 2
Occupational Analysis

Occupational Class	Sub-Type	Total
Professional	Teacher)	5
	Lecturer)	
	Barrister	1
	Solicitor	1
	Sociologist	1
Managerial, Executive, etc.	Economist	1
	Public Relations	1
	Company Secretary	1
	Paper Merchant	1
Skilled and Semi-Skilled	Engineer	1
	Engineman	1
	Instrument Maker	1

Quite a varied lot on the whole, then. What made them become MPs? As already noted, most were committed before they left their teens, and half went through the training ground of local government before arriving in the Commons. — "I was always interested in politics from a very early age" said Prentice, who was actually adopted as a candidate for the 1950 election whilst still at LSE. Rowland ("always interested in politics") and Rees were among those who were influenced by family experience of unemployment in the 1930's.

Union Bloc

When asked if they felt they held any brief for a particular sectional interest, Garrett (shop-steward convener in the AEU for 18 years) and Rees pointed out that they felt, as Union members, that they should put forward the views of their respective Unions when it was relevant to a particular debate.

Reg Prentice (Minister of State for Education and Science) stated that he was one of 20 MP's sponsored by the Transport and General Workers Union.

Day-to-day details of parliamentary life emerged from the survey. Merlyn Rees dismissed the notorious back-bench 'Revolt' of last November on the pensions issue as the result of dissatisfaction by new MP's who "didn't know the ropes". The party whips, he maintained "are the best method open to back-benchers of expressing their opinions and allowing Ministers to know the state of opinion in the party". Chris Rowland does not "pester Ministers unduly", although he had, in fact, seen a Minister on the very day of the interview. Garrett, too, mentioned that he had spoken with Harold Wilson twice in the first session. Other members stressed the importance of regular meetings of back-benchers. Without exception those interviewed de-

cried the current journalistic fashion of under-rating the work of back-benchers, Merlyn Rees protested that he did not feel "a mere voting machine". He, himself, is on three committees, and most members except whips and Ministers sit on a similar number, each according to his own special interests. "A back-bencher can't be a jack-of-all-trades — he must specialise", according to Garrett who concentrates on pensions, technology and planning. Such interests entail extra work and most members stay at the House for 8-10 hours a day. All disliked these long hours (Rees stating that he had been at the House for a period of 19 hours up to 5 a.m. on the day before the interview and accepted a 12 hour day as normal) and pointed to the little time they currently spent with their families. "I rarely see my family" commented Prentice.

Reform

The most prevalent criticism of Parliament was in fact the misuse of time. The general opinion



Merlyn Rees, MP.

was that the absence of morning sittings made for an excessive waste of time as is shown by the following comment: "It was all right when the House was a select club for gentlemen, but it is an anachronism today". The lack of accommodation due to what is called the 'archaic' use of the House was another general complaint.

These two complaints were so wide-spread as to indicate a change in Parliamentary procedure in the near future. Prentice, who recently chaired a committee on Parliamentary Reform, pointed out that the extensive legislative programme envisaged by a Labour Government needed a greater amount of Parliamentary time. His specific proposals, such as a reform of the committee system, and shorter, better distributed recesses seem likely to be implemented. He also wished to strip the House of Lords of its power, by which he meant the abolition of the hereditary principle and also its 12 month delaying power. His concept of the upper chamber

is for it to be a "House of Experts". Rowland's main reform would be for the introduction of edited T.V. programmes.

Pay Rise

The prospects of more cash pleased everyone. Rees pointed out that his £3250 salary was effectively reduced to £1800 because of expenses and Ted Garrett, who before the rise had been losing £40 a month, recommended a review every two years. Rowland felt that MP's pay should be pegged to "any index that moves". Irving specified the difficulties of MP's who had to maintain homes in London as well as in their constituencies.

Grants Up?

A certain number of new measures was foreshadowed in the information gathered; fore-



George Jeger, MP.

most among which was the reform of the Student Grants System. Though few would commit themselves, 5 MP's are on record as "advocating a larger grant for students". Significantly, Merlyn Rees, who is PPS to Jim Callaghan, holds that the Means Test should be abolished. He feels that the Ministry probably agrees in principle and held out hopes that such a measure might be implemented in the next financial year. The grants question seems to be a moderately urgent one and the impression gained from other MP's is that by the late 60's a new deal will be in force.

Despite their serious approach to their jobs — politics no longer seems to be an amateur's pastime — life is a mixture of work and 'play' at the House, since it appears to be honeycombed with bars (and tea rooms too — but the interviewers never saw these). After late night sittings "Little Moscow" — the Labour members' favourite bar, overlooking the river — positively lives. Many members from the North East retire to these not uncomfortable surroundings according to Garrett. It came as no surprise to find that the bars are often open for 24 hours. Some of the personal secretaries please the eye, too.

Higher Things?

How much ambition do they have — when will 'MP' become 'PM'? Garrett says he will be content with fulfilling a conscientious role as back-bencher — did he want to be PM? "No — not really" was the reply. Rees admitted that his PPS post was a "stepping stone to higher things" though he did not expect quick promotion in the near future. Rowland, though, said in reply to the question "Never I hope

Table 3
MP's University Education

Institution	Labour	Tory	Liberals
Oxford	43	93	3
Cambridge	19	69	1
Other	88 (15 LSE)	37 (1 LSE)	4
	150	199	8

— the job's too tough". Prentice was in humorous vein last week when interviewed. He had been Deputy Front Bench Spokesman on Ministry of Labour affairs, yet in October was appointed to be Minister of State for Education and Science. "The appointment surprised me too", he quipped "You'll have to ask the PM why." Although he could say "An election is not imminent" he went on to answer with a wry smile about his chances of Premiership, "As you can see, I haven't a crystal ball on my desk".

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ARE WE ALL XMAS

AT this time of year the artistic scope of the theatre, cinema and Auntie TV is unfortunately somewhat limited. Christmas becomes Xmas with a capital "X"; this seems to afford the excuse for producers to show as many potentially commercial successes as they possibly dare. The 1964-5 season appears worse than most.

The local cinemas show the most puerile selection of Walt Disney cartoons, third-rate westerns and detective series, sentimentalised sugary love stories and repeats of old films about twenty years old of no conceivable merit whatsoever. The theatres try to commercialise the old idea of the pantomime by modernising it in the current idiom, aided by various pop stars playing leading roles. Lionel Bart's "Oliver!" appears as "Rigoletto" by comparison.

suffer little children

The pop records released at this time of year are also over-sentimental and often in bad taste. The current selection, as Bryan Atkin bears out elsewhere on this page, are even further from being operatic masterpieces than most.

If this is the encouragement that Christmas offers the Arts we ought to begin praying that a miracle might occur and a saviour come to their aid. The aim behind the present trend is that sponsors try to rake in as much money as possible from unsuspecting parents while their children and themselves are subjected to the greatest amount of exploitation possible from a basically religious festival. The holidays are the only opportunity that the theatres have to ensure that large numbers of schoolchildren come; they do not appear to worry about the intellectual torture that unsuspecting parents and families have to endure.

Let us hope that as the season draws to a welcome close we may be relieved of excess pandering to the taste of the very young. Even London's West End, which usually has something new and entertaining to offer, can give us nothing more subtle than "Mary Poppins". This unfortunate start to 1965 must be rectified soon.

In this issue we are continuing last term's enquiry into the artistic societies at LSE. In introducing this probe into the Music Society we should like to point out that the object of it is not to offer a direct means of propaganda to the societies. Geoff Jordan's article in the last issue rather created this impression. If people, on discovering the true nature of these societies, are induced to join, we would not decry this; but recruiting is not our policy.

... play on, play on

stewart richards

The LSE Music Society has usually emphasised the idea of making music rather than listening to it. But the lack of new musicians is becoming an increasing problem for it; enough new singers are not joining the choir for the four concerts planned for this year.

And so in order to increase its membership the society has been forced to broaden its activities. Students who are interested in music but who lack the facilities for making it themselves have been encouraged to join by the offer of tickets at reduced rates for the two opera houses and the Festival Hall. These are provided by an organisation called "Youth and Music" which promotes charity concerts. By taking advantage of this members of the society can meet other musicians, promote a good cause and listen to fine music at the same time. And a further attraction for music listeners has been provided in the society's growing record collection.

the arts MORONS ?

The big names have showered this thing with praise from all directions. But none that I have read have assessed it in the way that strikes me as the obvious one. To what extent have the cinema's basic advantages over the stage been utilized to the full? Is *Hamlet* (Academy) more than a filmed stage production?

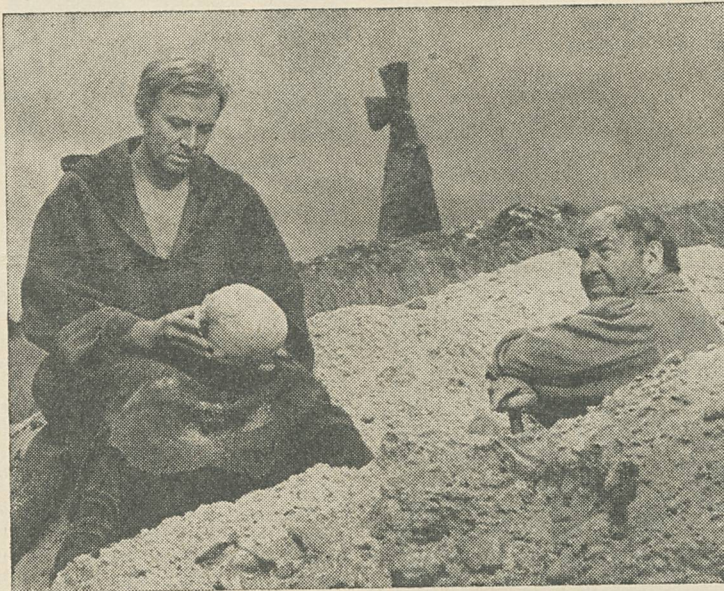
TIM GOPSILL

attends the
premiere of the
new Russian
masterpiece

Well, of course, its out of doors. In a massive dusk-looming cliff-top castle and twice as impressive as the pseudo-authentic ruin we saw on BBCTV last year. It towers menacingly over the petty wrangling of the little Red dinky-men. Puts it all in perspective. Much of the action takes place in a gloomy half-light which adds to this.

You can get a lot more people into a film set than you

BRIGHT RED HAMLET



"Alas poor Yorick, I knew him well"

The real test of the society's organisation will come next term when they will attempt the bold presentation of an opera: Gluck's "Orpheus" will be staged in the Shaw Library, where all their functions take place. This will call for a tremendous co-operation of all interests and activities within the society.

same old problems

In common with other cultured interests in this place the Music Society faces interminable problems in terms of both successful survival, when old members leave and musical contacts lost, and of popular misconceptions and derision, when new members will not join. This particular society may be less frequently branded a "clique" than others,

but it is still not realised outside that they endeavour to provide enjoyment in music-making rather than the attainment and maintenance of professional standards. It is this element that made the concerts of last term and social-musical functions such as the Music Weekend so successful.

Much of their success must also be due to the hard and enthusiastic work of their musical director Gordon Kirkwood who has been associated with them for eight years. And anyway their standards are not so low; most of their orchestral and solo performers are in fact from outside LSE. But at their concerts it is their obvious enjoyment that is most impressive; and very refreshing too.

can on a stage. Director Grigori Kozintsev has assembled a large crowd of hangers-on to the Danish Court. These mope around and provide a humdrum human background to the protagonists. They back away fearfully when the mad Hamlet (Innokenti Smoktunovskiy) dithers vaguely towards them.

In films actors can muse. Hushed tense speaking accompanying a close-up of a pensive face is far more effective than theatrical aside. Hamlet's first soliloquy is thus an inspiration: he wanders among the toadies, their mundane nattering quietly backing his thoughts. Good.

ghostly grandeur

You can have background music. The mad intensity of the Shostakovich score justifies his use here apart from being a top party music hack.

The ghost isn't, for once, a pale luminous white, drifting with a feeble old man's voice. It's a huge black figure in armour with a long cape which flows horizontally behind it as it strides the cliffs situated before a somehow twilight midnight sky. It has a deep husky voice; Kozintsev didn't succumb to concocting a horror film ghost. It doesn't really shock you at all, it's just big and slow.

my favourite rock

Elsewhere the film is not so good. The famous soliloquy is banal. Hamlet on the rocks looking out over a troubled sea. The ending is the same; after Fontinbras' speech, Hamlet's body is borne inside (he staggers out to die on his favourite rock) at a labourious pace on a stretcher made of spears and swords. There are wide shots of the cliffs, castle, sky and sea; a lone seagull wheels away from over Ophelia's grave; the castle gates close, finis.

subtle acting

But the acting is subtle: very restrained madness from both. Hamlet wanders sardonically around, totally expressionless; Ophelia whimpers in the middle of a crowd of subservient soldiers who lend their patronising countenances to her.

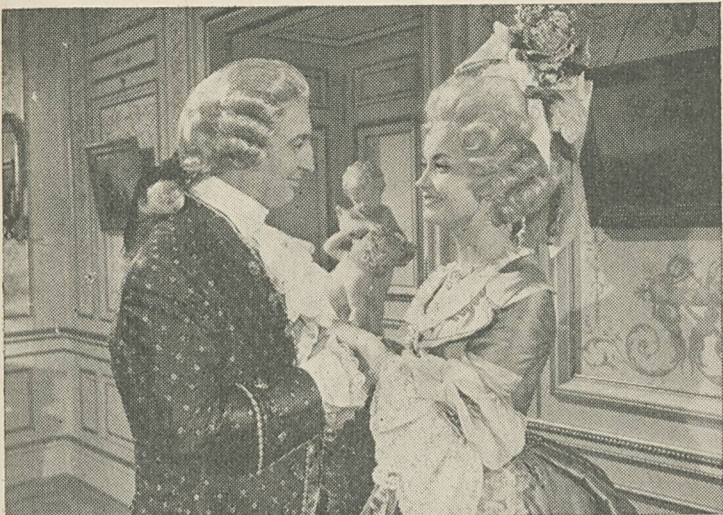
A few inspired moments: Claudius rises during the play, atmosphere tense, showdown imminent, we grip our arm rests. Then he starts to applaud, sighs of relief; and then he storms out.

Pasternak

Pasternak's translation is hard to evaluate: the subtitles are such a crazy mixture of modern paraphrase and incomplete lines from the original that I gave up reading them. Yes, it's more than a filmed play; it's been sensibly cut, generally imaginatively directed. Don't think that Kozintsev deliberately plays down all horror or excitement: the horses in the gale are terrified enough, though the unnatural element in the play, accompanying the unnatural human situation, is probably under-emphasised. But it's a thoughtful, and more important original and therefore welcome interpretation. Don't just go and see it for its curiosity value.

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Propaganda EPIC

The latest blockbusting Cinerama epic to issue forth from the wide and mighty screen is *Lafayette* (Coliseum). This attempts to prove how the twenty year old Marquis de Lafayette, with virtually no military experience, was really the man behind the successes of George Washington at Saratoga and Yorktown, and that if it were not for him the British would have won the war. I have not, in fact, seen such a well-adjusted piece of historical Gaullist propaganda for some time.

The wide screen is extremely difficult to adapt itself to close-up, or private conversation shots, and some sequences in this film are quite lost. The battle scenes, however, are a gift to the Cinerama process and give a very impressive effect. The colour is undoubtedly the most successful feature of the film together with the costumes; the sets are wooden and disappointing.

The title role is taken by a new actor, Michel Le Royer, who gives a performance fitting to the film—pretentious and stultifying. The list of stars which composes most of the cast is distributed among a number of smaller prestige parts; Orson Welles is Benjamin Franklin, and Vittorio de Sica a scheming messenger who appears for

about three minutes at the most. The names have undoubtedly been used for commercial rather than dramatic appeal. Only Jack Hawkins has a big part as General Cornwallis, but then Jack Hawkins is, as ever, only Jack Hawkins. An annoying feature is that a large number of the cast are French and their lines have been dubbed into English. The unfortunate outcome of this is that the auditory effect does not synchronize with the visual.

commercial valve

It is not easy to judge Cinerama films on their aesthetic merits, as they come over with few. The wide screen offers more of a commercial than artistic opportunities. Since the original attempts, "The Seven Wonders of the World" and "Cinerama Holiday", the "fantastic" experiments have been exhausted. As an outing to town for the children, or as holiday entertainment with little serious value, "Lafayette" serves extremely well. There are no horrific, terribly violent or sexy scenes. As serious cinema it is hopeless. The idea is exploited to suit the screen, and although the scenery and "wide-open space scenes" are rather magnificent, the rest of the film does not measure up to this.

JUDITH GOLDMAN

SPOTLIGHT

"Sex and the Single Girl": Great. Not the film of the book. Brilliant performances from Curtis, Natalie Wood, Henry Fonda, and Lauren Bacall. Loads of sentiment and lots of fun.

"Topkapi": A rather poor attempt to renovate the "Riffi" theme. Colour and photography are marvellous, and enough to form queues outside the Istanbul tourist office. Main character — Peter Ustinov. Max Schell is just a pretty face.

"La Ronde": Typical Vadim. Packed with gorgeous girls, handsome men, and consequently, loads of sex. No story, and apt to become rather boring after about half-way, unless studied as an example of erotica, still a bore.

"Father Goose": A good piece of light-hearted, pretentious entertainment, with Cary Grant giving as polished a performance as ever. No serious value—but who cares, for once?

"Magnificent Seven": What more can I say? Yul Brynner appears as the only bald-headed hero in a classic western.

"Les Parapluies De Cherbourg": Winner of 1964 Cannes Film Festival — unusual treatment of old theme made interesting by use of operetta. Superb colour.

"Son of Oblomov": Spike Milligan — utter goonery — in the flesh! Worthy successor to "Bedsitting Room".

"Maggie May": A first century A.D. well-known theme transcribed to twentieth century Liverpool with not unexpected variations.

"Terror of Party Beach (The First Horror Musical)": A musical monstrosity!

ULU Film — Fri. Jan. 22: **"Cleo De 5 A 7"**: If you missed it at LSE last term, here is your chance to see Agnes Varda's first feature. Great nouvelle vague shots. Well worth seeing. Also Robert Bresson's Cannes 1964 award winner, **"The Trial of Joan of Arc"**.

Experience in Abstract

Few people, outside an intimate clique, have heard of the Prophallite school of painting and sculpture. Yet for the last month six of the main representatives of this group displayed their work to the public (however meagre) at the Wainwright Gallery.

The reasons for this lack of popular interest are diverse. Many are perhaps to be found lurking in the semi-mystic conceptual basis upon which the school is founded. The Prophallites came into existence after Jacob Manther (now the foremost exponent of the id-abstract idea) published an article in 'Canvas Critique' in which he presented a personal interpretation of the significance and meaning of abstraction. That he was influenced, indeed contaminated, with adventitious sexual involvements was only secondary to his postulate that abstraction is not abstract at all.

An abstract work of art is not to be viewed on any level the beholder wishes. It has a specific meaning and purposes that originate it. Only because of the limitations of the medium, will the aims behind such works of art appear incomprehensible. The artist is now at liberty to introduce any means at his disposal to suggest to the viewer the correct interpretation of the work, and thus enable him to appreciate it more fully. This is the crucial step in Manther's argument.

At the time the article appeared (June 1962) there was a substantial vacuum in the figurative painting circles waiting to be filled by some intellectualism such as this. It was sheer chance, it seems, that the predominant outlook amongst those who communicated with Manther was Freudian. (The name of the school has connotations

which are not a necessary part of its intentions).

red streaks

Each room of the exhibition is devoted to an initiative idea and all the works resulting from the idea are displayed. The music, lighting and scent provide a background and then there will be all sorts of extra individual items to be identified with each piece. One will see a bed with a mechanism heaving violently beneath the blanket and then suddenly ceasing. This lends an orgasmic air to the painting of red streaks which get thicker and thicker horizontally and then fade.

Devices such as this are too numerous to mention. All one can say at this formative stage is that even with a somewhat shaky intellectual approach there is a definite feeling of excitement and expressive communication about the exhibition. It is also an experience.

David Adelstein



'...I have a go with the crystal ball sometimes...'

Mary Mustard by Mary Mustard.

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Mainspring. I live in the future. Not because I've got a murky past—it's just that I find it stimulating to look ahead—to evaluate and forecast market trends.

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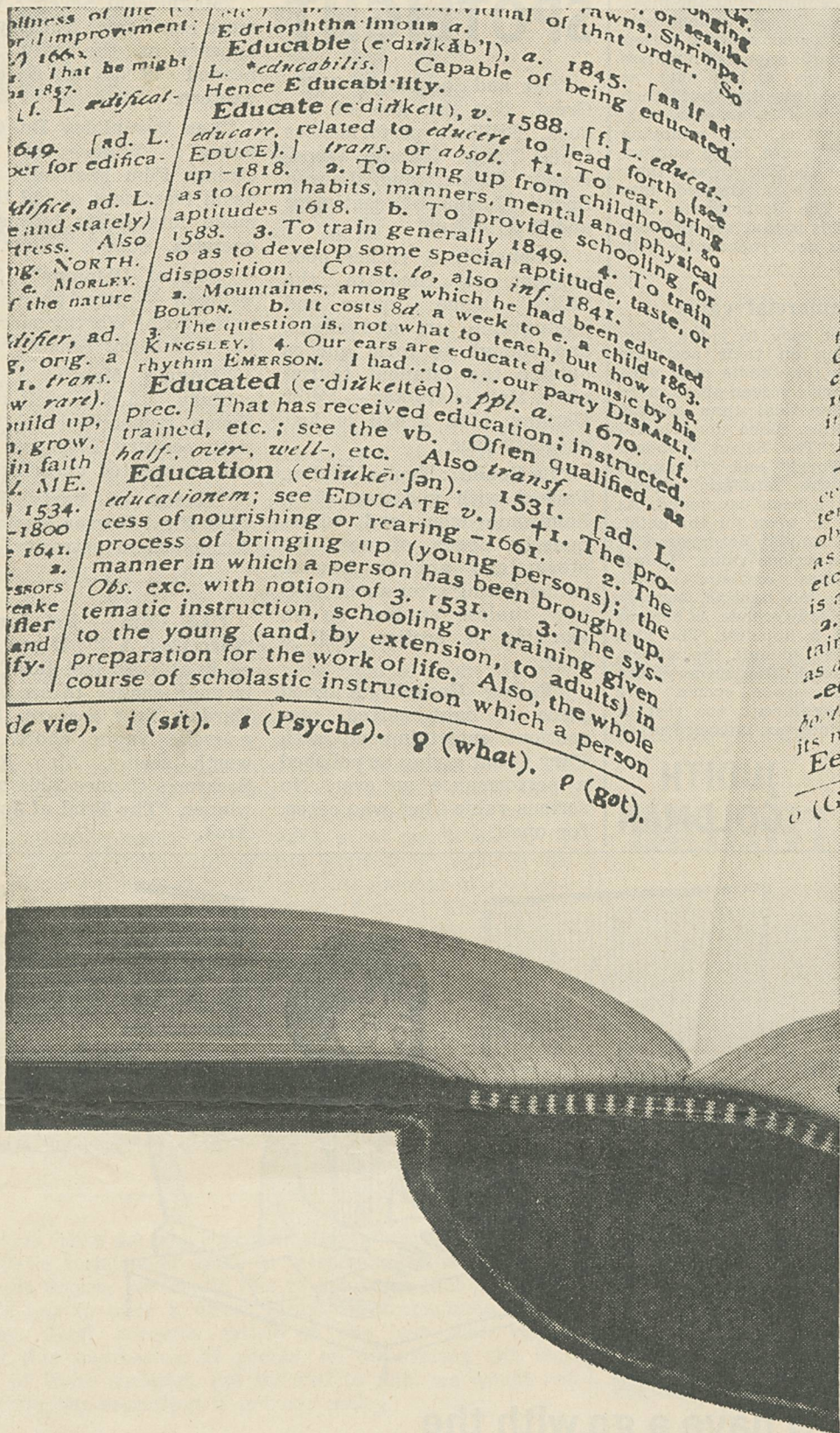
The terrible temptations. Elevenses. Twelveses. Twoses. Fourses.

Personal panacea. Actually I have a go with the cards, or the crystal ball. Not as reliable as the facts and figures, but fun.

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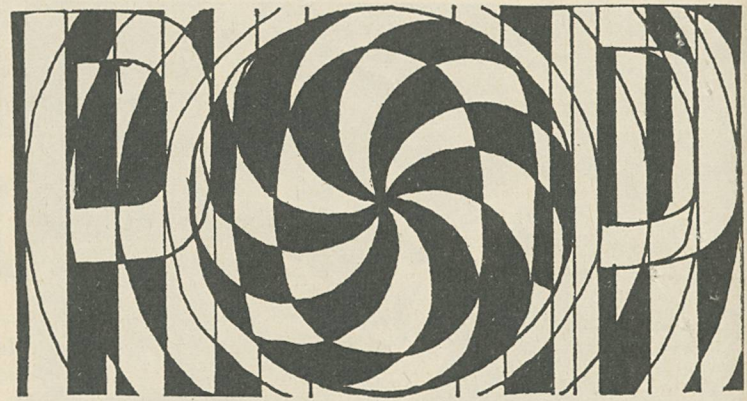
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Did you suffer from Tin Pan Alley this Christmas? Are your eardrums in shreds? Did you have a severe attack of nausea induced by an overdose of seasonal music? The musical gems, laughingly called Christmas "pops" give even the normal "pop" scene an aura of respectability. It is one of the great constants in a world of rapidly changing values that Christmas records plumb depths of banality and treacherous sentimentality thankfully absent at other times of the year. This year was no exception. Spared the horrors of "Lonely Pup" and "Baby's First Christmas" we were nevertheless given the benefit of others worthy of the fine tradition established by these well-loved classics. The hardy annuals were there to accompany our Christmas Dinner and enhance our enjoyment of this magical time of the year. How many more times must we suffer "White Christmas" before, it is finally committed to sweet oblivion?

The scribes of Tin Pan Alley see fit to inform us that Christmas is in fact here again despite the fact that we all must be painfully aware of the truth of this assertion. Having committed this information to musical posterity they go on to tell us that Christmas means Christmas presents. Dora Bryan, it appears, wants 007 for her stocking - I hope he ends our misery by disposing of Dora Bryan. And Roy Orbison, of all people, has got all tangled up in the incredible banality of "Pretty Paper". Poor old Santa - even he comes in for his fair share of musical sanctification.

nerve-shattering

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without snow and if there isn't any in the back-garden there's plenty on record. Judging by the enthusiasm of the singers, bless their frozen hearts, snow's wonderful stuff - you'd think they had never seen it before. Musically we find ourselves thrown headlong into great drifts of it liberally sprinkled with reindeer, red-nosed or otherwise, the nerve-shattering clatter of jingling bells and happy, frolicking children building snowmen. Even the beat boys have succumbed to the

Christmas disease. Perhaps they wouldn't be so keen on singing the praises of snow if they had to shovel a few feet of the stuff away from the front door on Christmas morning.

religion

Somewhere along the line the scribes have remembered that Christmas has got something to do with religion. And this joyous discovery is communicated to the long-suffering public in typical fashion. Never mind if you have heard it all before you are gonna be told all about little baby Jesus, stables, wise men, shepherds, kings and little donkeys, Tin Pan Alley style, whether you like it or not. And you can take your choice of treatment - pious solo singers, heavenly choirs, cascading strings, or even, so help us, calypso and beat. It's enough to make the Bachelors stop believing.

Of course, there are going to be those who are going to miss out on all the fun Christmas traditionally compels us to have. No folks, Tin Pan Alley has not discovered OXFAM, its just that Elvis Presley, Brenda Lee and a host of others have lost, misplaced or simply not got a loved one to whom they can impart a little of the requisite good will. Switch on the radio and you get swept away on a tide of glycerine tears.

Please, songwriters, let's have a little peace on earth next year.

Bryan Atkin

SOCIETY PREVIEW

Filmsoc

Jan. 26th 7.30. "Zazie Dans Le Metro": Louis Ralle's comedy about the little girl who only wanted to ride on the metro. Brilliant direction and camera-work. Interesting characterisation and good colour.

Feb. 1st 6.45: "Don Q., Son of Zorro": Douglas Fairbanks Jnr. as another romantic, swashbuckling hero. A great classic.

Jazzsoc

This term we hope to have the Mike Westbrook Jazz Orchestra and Graham Bond to give concerts, and Benny Green to come to give us a talk. Further details later.

tomorrow

Concert in Old Theatre - tomorrow Friday 22nd. Biggest yet presented by us. The Mike Westbrook Jazz Orchestra. Tres Avant-garde.

SPORT

Cross Country Vacation Running

Soccer

THIRD XI REPORT

Despite the distress calls from the second XI, the third team has made its mark in the top reserve division of the league. Following last year's successful season, spirit is still as high as ever.

At present, the team stands halfway in the League with five points from five games. The outstanding victory was the 6-2 thrashing of Imperial, while the most sensational result was the 1-0 defeat of LSE II. The return game produced a 2-2 draw.

Two inspired moves have been the re-positioning of **Dave Ratcliffe** to centre-half and **Pete Gorty** to right-back, a move which strengthened a slightly suspect defence. Attacking problems have been few with 'Stabber' **Hill** following the "Shell" tradition and averaging a goal a game. Freshers to impress have been **Brian Pitts**, **Stuart Edwards**, and **John Hollis**, while **John Macdonald**, on his rare appearances, has proved a valuable asset.

As the side settles down, it should do even better next term. How ironic if the Second XI finishes bottom of the table and the Thirds are thus promoted!

The climax to the term's effort's was the University Championship on December 12th. The L.S.E. team got off to a good start and for first lap the scoring five were well inside the first 30. As the field spread out Colin Craven and Neil Donkin moved through together with Fritz Koerner close behind. It became evident that even without international Peter Yates U. C. were striding purposefully to their 3rd successive team victory, but behind them a great battle developed. Although Jenkins and Greenlagh ran well above their form in recent weeks, LSE were just pipped for 2nd place by Kings. We had, nevertheless, achieved our best placing for many years in this event.

The match against Leicester was a close fought affair with the solid bunch of Donkin, Ord and Jenkins, and Koerner up in front, emerging from the fog to clinch a narrow 2-point victory.

In the open events injuries have prevented a full team from turning out but Bob Jenkins in the Hog's Back (9½ miles in 53 mins. 6 secs) and Alan Willis in the Nos Galan (4 miles in 21 mins. 36 secs.) have provided the outstanding individual performances.



RUGBY SUMMARY —

TEN FRESHERS PLAY

The 1st team began the season under the disadvantage of having to bring together virtually a new side, because none of last years' players, now in their third year, were willing to play regularly.

The only exception to this was wing-forward, **Guy Swinerton**, who has turned out whenever selected. This situation has meant that about ten freshers have been play for the first eleven in every match. As a result, the team lacked cohesion at the start of the season, and it came as no surprise that three of the first four games were lost against good opposition. As the side became more accustomed to playing together an abundance of talent was revealed and the next five games were won, including a great victory over C.E.M. The side finally lost to the powerful Southampton side by 19 points to 1.

Because of injuries amongst some key players the side has so far failed to recapture its Southampton form, and was knocked out of the Gutheridge Cup by Kings after a very disappointing game.

THE TEAM

Outstanding players have been the new wingmen, **Hembury** and **American Seebold**, who have been the team's leading try scorers, and **Thomas**, who has emerged as the leading goal kicker. The pack has generally played very well, especially hooker **Perry**, who has given the side abundant possession from the right. The team's weak points have been at centre and full-back, where poor tackling and running have cost them several games.

The record to date is:

- Played — 15
- Won — 8
- Lost — 7
- Points for — 213
- Points against — 172

Soccer COMMENT —

IMPROVEMENT NEEDED

The question which is being asked in the football circles of other London colleges is: "Why are LSE 1st team so good and the 2nd XI so poor?"

On paper the LSE 2nd team promised — at the start of the season — to become one of the finest in the University League. That it has won only two games is a mystery. The first team, on the other hand has lost only to Kings and QMC, who are regarded as two of the strongest sides at college level in London.

When second team men have played for the first team they have played well and yet on the field together they do not seem to blend.

In contrast, the first XI has achieved some impressive wins, beating Imperial (away 2-1), UC (home 3-2), and Goldsmiths (home 4-2). In addition, there have been a string of victories, many by large margins, in friendly matches.

The defence has been strong and ruthless. Captain **Pat Kiernan**, has proved as good a centre-half as any in college football. Fullbacks **Frost** and **Bender** — both freshers — have each had offers to play for the ULU sides — a good indication of the job they are doing on the field. At wing-half **Dunn** and **Cooper** both played regularly last season and goalkeeper, **Macduff**, after a lay-off through injury, is playing as well as ever.

In the front division the problem is one of knowing who to play out of a pool of several. The only automatic choice is **Phillipson**, who is scoring at a rate of two goals a game. Others are **Evans**, **Scott**, **A m m a t t**, **Higginbotham**, **Shepherd** and **Summers**, all of whom have had to be content with spells in the second team, and all of whom are worthy of regular first team places. The chances are being made, but only Phillipson is scoring goals. This, to some extent, accounts for the two recent defeats. On the whole,

however, all can be satisfied with their performances.

The second team lies bottom of its league, with only one point. There will have to be a vast improvement if relegation is to be avoided.

Similarly, an improvement in first team performance must be recorded if the championship or the cup is to be won, as was confidently forecast only a short time ago.

A CANOE CLUB FOR L S E ?

Efforts are being made at L.S.E. to form a canoe club which, it is hoped, would be affiliated to the Athletic Union.

Full facilities, including use of canoes, lifejackets and expert instruction have been arranged at Raven's Ait, a boating station situated on the Thames near Richmond. The cost is 3/6 per day, which may be reduced.

Meanwhile, tentative arrangements are being made for the afternoon of Wednesday 27th January.

Anyone who would like to take up this exciting and inexpensive sport and any experienced canoeists in the School are invited to contact **D. A. Battrick** through the pigeonholes.

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LSE
on 4th February



UNION BAR BID VETOED

Armstrong Speaks of Broken Promises

The school administration has vetoed the Union's attempts to take over the St. Clements Coffee Bar.

Welfare VP Dave Armstrong, who was "thoroughly disgusted" by this decision, described the refusal as "the last brick in an obstructionist wall which the school has been erecting for the last two terms".

The takeover was to have been part of a council plan to make the whole St. Clements basement a students' common room area.

Last Chance

This was in fact the school's original plan: when the new building was opened in 1960 coffee was served in the bar itself. In 1962 an offer was made to the Union to open a coffee bar on the present site which was then a lounge. But President Vince Gilpin decided that the school should run the coffee bar for an undefined period so that the Union could see whether or not it would be worth taking over.

They understood that the offer of takeover would be permanently open. But school Bursar Mr. Collings told a reporter that the 1962 offer was the Union's "last chance".

Another Promise

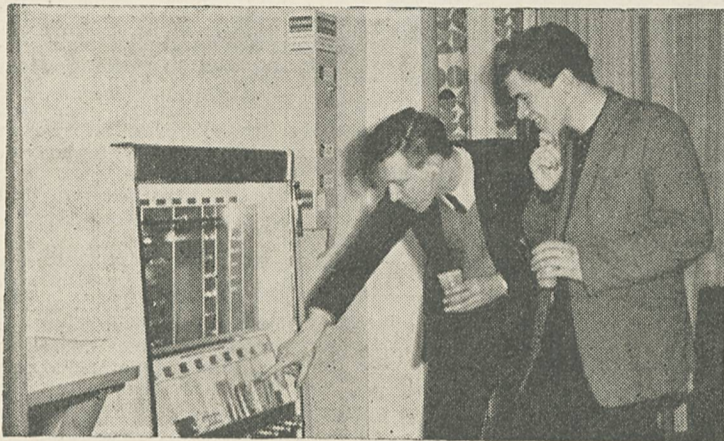
Last June attempts to take it over were renewed. The then President Aziz Kurtha received from the school the definite impression that their attitude was "distinctly favourable" to the proposal.

A sub-committee was set up to report on the subject, and its report was approved by Mrs. Ellis and the full Refectory Committee. In November Council considered the takeover certain.

The refusal was communicated to Armstrong during the Christmas vacation. His first reaction was: "This is yet another promise the school has broken." Added President Roy Burke: "We must not let them get away with this".

Bad Accounting

This coffee bar is the only service point in the school which makes a profit. The Union believe that they could run it more efficiently still; the school contend that if they lost it, prices elsewhere, particularly in the refectory, which lost over £2,000 last year, would have to be raised. The difficulty is that nobody knows exactly how much profit the coffee bar makes, because the system of accounting used by the caterers does not show the figures for the individual service points (ex-



President Burke and Dave Armstrong sample first cup from the machines on their new site—see story below

cept for the staff dining room). Union accounts, Armstrong pointed out, are kept far more efficiently.

Trivial Objections

Mr. Collings agrees that the students have a good case — "from their point of view" — and he can appreciate it. "The matter was very carefully considered". The refusal was "not an easy decision". It was based on what Armstrong described as "trivial objections", which hide the real motive that they need some profit-making service point to cover the losses incurred by the "shambles" of the refectory.

Prices Committee

A further disappointment for Dave Armstrong has been the Schools refusal to co-operate with the Union's policy for the refectory. Last term he suggested to the School that the refectory Committee, which is composed of both student and staff representatives and which at present has purely advisory functions, should have "some management functions." This suggestion was refused by the Governors; they suggested renaming the present body the "Refectory Advisory Committee" and that a sub-committee on refectory prices should be set up, consisting of the School Secretary, Bursar, the Refectory Steward, Mrs. Ellis, and a member of the academic staff. When the Union agitated for a place on this committee the School dropped any reforms so that the present system of Mrs.

Ellis' autonomy being totally unrestricted by student opinion continues.

Commented Union Refectory officer Bernard Holmes "It seems remarkable that the major student facility in this School is not considered by the authorities to warrant student consultation in its management or pricing."

Another Broken Promise—

Mrs. Popper's closes

Mrs. Popper's coffee bar in the Old Three Tuns Building has finally been closed down. The closure was described by the Welfare Vice-President as "yet another broken promise", and the whole history of events leading up to this as "an example of deliberate delays and dealings behind our backs". The closure was against the unanimous recommendation of the Refectory Committee, the composition of which includes the Bursar and Mrs. Ellis.

Typing Pool

When Mrs. Popper's was closed last Easter, it was promised to reopen it in September as a full coffee bar. Instead it opened with the automatic snack machines the School had promised to install in the St. Clements concourse area, where they have now appeared.

The cafe is to be taken over by the administration and turned into a typing pool.

Stools and coffee tables are to be installed in the Three Tuns' Bar during the next fortnight. These are intended to relieve some of the lunch-time congestion there which has been a constant source of complaint among students.

When Deputy President Roy Reeve, heard that the School administration has agreed to pay for the stools and tables he told a reporter: "This is the first bit of real co-operation I have had from the school". He added, grinning underneath his new ginger beard; "I'm laughing, mate!"

Warm Beer

But all the problems of the bar have still not been solved. Reeve spoke more solemnly of the persistent failure of the School to deal with the cooling

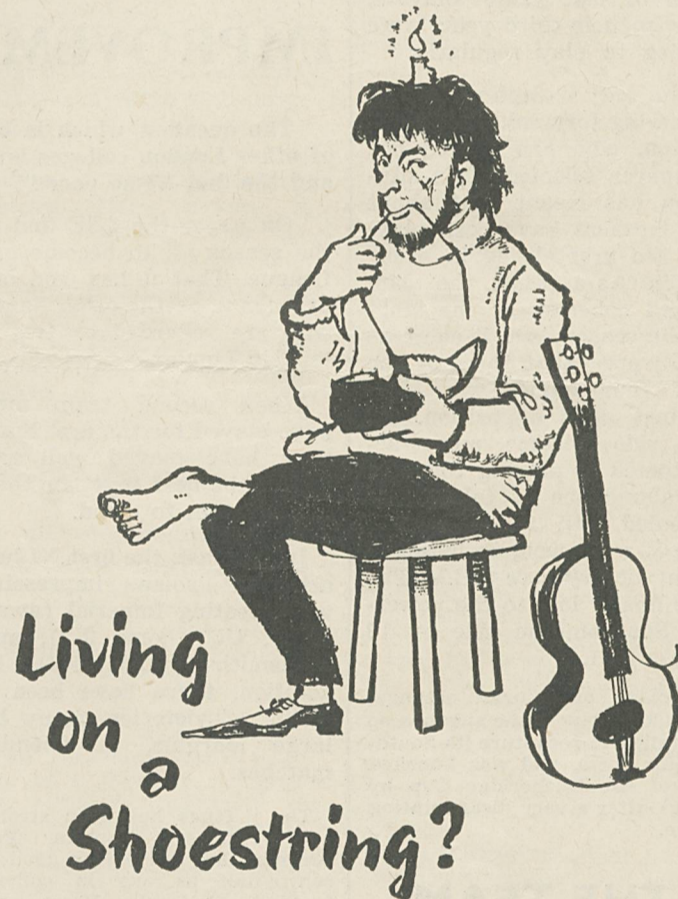
of the beer in the bar cellar. The temperature there is frequently as high as 70 degrees, and the cooling installations are vastly inadequate.

"The problem has been in hand for two terms," said Reeve, "and still nothing has been done."

PRICES PEGGED —for a while

"George Brown said that prices should be pegged, and we intend to do our bit," said Deputy-President Roy Reeve. In spite of recent beer price increases, the bar will retain unchanged prices for the most part.

"However," added Reeve ominously, "If Fremmins' increase their prices in the next month we shall have to follow suit."



Practically everyone has to—from the inveterate midnight oil burner to the most dedicated Union type. Some people, of course, manage better than others. It's all a question of balance and balance is exactly what you will have if you open an account at the Midland Bank.

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