

BEAVER

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JANUARY 27th, 1955

THREEPENCE

CHRISTIANITY AND THE KREMLIN

A Critical Review by

Marguerite Watkins

At 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, January 20th, what seemed to be the whole of L.S.E. crowded into the Old Theatre to give a traditional Fabian welcome to Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the "Red Dean" of Canterbury. Not since the ex-prime minister of British Guiana visited the school last year has the Old Theatre bulged so precariously in honour of a political speaker.

Few members of the audience knew quite what to expect of the Dean, but most of them were disappointed. Instead of a logical attempt to put into focus the two great forces of Communism and Religion which dominate the modern world, the Dean attempted to propound the impossible thesis that Marxism was in some way a manifestation of Christian doctrine.

He suggested that deeds not words were the criteria of true religion, and that the Russians who expended their resources on the building of homes, schools and factories, the increasing of agricultural productivity and the raising of the general standard of living to double that of England, were, though they denied God, nearer Christianity than the wicked, hydrogen-bomb manufacturers of the Western world. We were left to infer that the Western world was not interested in the progress of civilization nor the U.S.S.R. in hydrogen bombs, in spite of the fact that we were later informed that Russia possessed the hydrogen bomb before the West. One feels that the rewriters of Russian history should deal first with less recent events, those of which the ordinary people have a less clear recollection.

Russian Propaganda

The Dean doubted whether the British press would print what he had said. "Beaver" reporter decided that "Beaver" at least would do so. But it was not necessary. We had heard it all before. The Dean treated us to a fifty-minute dose of practically undiluted Russian propaganda, flavoured, but not disguised, by his own particular brand of religion.

Religion, the Dean informed us, must be expressed in action, and the appropriate action is that of the Soviet Union in building larger universities, more impressive schools and more impressive factories than can be found in the Western World.

His audience found it difficult to comprehend just how the corridors of the new Moscow University, which, arranged end to end, would stretch from Canterbury through London to Oxford, or the number of rooms therein, which are sufficiently numerous for a child born in one of them to spend a hundred years in the building without staying more than a day in each room, could sanctify the Russian regime. On such a premise it would be possible, as a member of the audience pointed out, to justify the regime of Franco Spain on the grounds that the medical school in Madrid is vastly superior to that in Manchester.

An Idealist

But ridiculous as it all was, one was left with the impression that the Dean was an idealist, blinded by his idealism to the realities of totalitarianism. He began life as a factory worker and, distressed by the standard of living of the working classes, he searched for an answer, not in religion, where the workers of nineteenth century

England had found it, nor in Communism, where it had been found by the workers of twentieth century Europe—but in both. He attempted to equate Communism and Christianity, and because the two were incompatible he built for himself an idealistic communism based on the communism of the early Christian church.

He modified the Socialist formula to "From each according to his ability. To each according to his need." because in that form it had a religious significance.

He fabricated his own interpretation of Dialectical Materialism. It was, he suggested, religion, but religion in reverse; religion built on fact and working towards the idea, rather than built upon the idea, as is the Christianity of the churches, aimed at and gradually achieving the fact. It satisfied the Dean. It can never satisfy L.S.E.

Question Time

Yet no one could deny that the Dean had the courage of his convictions, for to face an audience of undergraduates while holding such views requires courage—just how much became apparent during the twenty minutes devoted to questions after the address. Dr. Johnson was faced with questions on every aspect of Russian Communism from the censorship of the press and lack of religious liberty to the unsavoury practice of liquidation. One feels that the Dean was embarrassed when Mr. Laurence Hanlatt (a member of L.I.F.C.U.) questioned his religion with the aid of passages read from the Bible. He was baffled when an American from the gallery suggested that either the machinery of Russian justice had been at fault in its condemnation of Mr. Beria, or there was something radically wrong with a system of government which allowed a man of the type which the verdict suggested Beria must be, to head an important department of state for nearly a quarter of a century. But the audience bore his answers, evasive, illogical or just Sovietisms, with remarkable restraint until he attempted to justify liquidation on the grounds that it had been practised by the early Christian church, when he was greeted by a gasp of horror.

The Dean is not of our world. We found his beliefs unacceptable, his reasoning illogical and his attitude to life unrealistic—but I would hesitate to suggest that he was of the Soviet world either; a view which seems to be borne out by the complete silence of L.S.E.'s Communists throughout the meeting.

Publicity

Anyone who thinks that what Paul Klee can do they can do better is welcome on the staff of the publicity department. This is one of the most hard-working of the Union branches, but manages to combine service with a gay abandon seldom found elsewhere. Those with a latent desire to paint the town red should sublimate their desire by writing a brief note to Shirley Jackson, the Publicity Officer.



Reproduced by courtesy of the "Church of England Newspaper".

This photograph, kindly lent to us, shows Dr. Hewlett Johnson and King Frederick of Denmark after the latter had unveiled a memorial window in Canterbury Cathedral. We are now negotiating for the visit of the King of Denmark.

Poleconics

The greatest change in Houghton Street is undoubtedly the West End comfort of the seating in the Old Theatre. Lecturers gaze enviously down on rows of somnolent students having a quiet kip between classes. The reseating of the Gallery will take place in the Summer Vac. This will consist of long upholstered seats with backrests, so that they can on occasion take more people than the single seats downstairs. Much research has gone into the discovery of a bench which will withstand the weight and leverage of members of the Boat Club. At last the School Architect designed one of his own, and a prototype stands at the back of the O.T. The Maintenance Officer is anxious that this should be adequately tested before the rest are installed, provided this is done intelligently.

* * * *

Also planned for the Summer Vac. is the linking up of the Smith Memorial Hall as an extension to

the Library. While the normal pre-exam. crush cannot be avoided this year, the studios will be glad to hear that the pneumatic drills have now done their worst and will appear only occasionally in future.

* * * *

The lift in the main building, which contracted collywobbles in the vacation, has been undergoing a thorough overhaul. We were told that it should be back at work in two days. That was two days ago.

* * * *

The Secretary, in an interview, has said that the School is not planning any official celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of our foundation this year. The subject will, however, be brought up at the next Staff-Student Committee meeting at the request of Bob Weinberg. Mr. Kidd said that the School will probably celebrate its centenary (in 1995) in a suitable way. Stick around.

POST EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS

by G. M. Storry

Power! That's what is was, Power. Authority over others such as few men know. For once in my humble life I had gained an enviable status in the eyes of my fellow men. To me they came running, often with the pitiful cry, "Am I too late?" To refuse them, to damn their hopes, to embitter them, to snarl at them, all was within my power. Old men came running, members of the constabulary waited for my words, women ran breathlessly towards me with arms outstretched, little boys looked with awe and admiration, little girls stared wonderingly—and with a few cruel words I could crush them all—make them wait, send them further afield in the cold winter air.

This power, however, was not abused. I well remember one occasion, Christmas Eve, when the spirit of the season entered my heart. It was a cold frosty night and an east wind blew from over the North Sea, freezing all parts of

my domain. I paused before a little cavern which lay on my route, squatted down before it and, putting my hand into its dark interior I emptied it of its contents. I stood up, an old lady was hobbling towards me. "Am I too late?"

I slammed the iron door. The sound echoed among the gaunt buildings. A look of resignation appeared on her face, a face hardened by much toil and care. She turned to go. Too many of them came late and I was a busy man. But it was Christmas Eve.

"No, you are just in time", I said—gently.

She turned around, smiled, and stretched out her hand. "Thank you—thank you so much."

I watched her until she disappeared into the darkness. I turned, mounted my cycle, and rode slowly back to the sorting office through the empty streets.

(Breaks your heart, don't it?—Editor.)

SITUATIONS VACANT

Now that the Michaelmas Term has passed and the new Union Council has become established, the peace-loving Union-man may now wish for a period of peace untroubled by posters, hustings, Thompson, or all the other trappings of Union elections. If this is his wish, he is due for a disappointment. During this term there will be three separate elections for six different posts. This is because, in the first place, our three vice-presidents, John Burrows (Welfare), Roland Freeman (External), and Ken Pearmain (Social), will finish their period of office (two university terms) at Easter. Secondly, we have now changed our Union year so that in future our President, Deputy President and General Secretary will take office in June.

Examinations

The present Council feels that it is better to conduct the elections this term instead of next when, quite apart from anything else, the threat of examinations will distract people's minds from Union affairs. Thus we have all the elections to come in the next few weeks, and the thought which Union Council has lavished on the programme to make sure they all fit in is worthy of a pools correspondent. We therefore present the Young Politician's Guide to the Lent Term:

Feb. 10th: Presidential nominations open.

Feb. 17th: Presidential nominations close.

Feb. 22nd: Presidential Hustings, 4.15 p.m.

Feb. 24th and 25th: Presidential voting.

Feb. 26th (Saturday): Deputy President and General Secretary nominations close.*

Mar. 1st: Deputy President and General Secretary Hustings, 4.15 p.m.

Mar. 4th and 7th: Deputy President and General Secretary voting.

Mar. 8th: Vice-Presidential nominations close.

Mar. 10th: Vice-Presidential Hustings. (Time?)

Mar. 14th and 15th: Vice-Presidential voting.

As this wasn't enough, the elections for the standing officers of U.L.U. take place this term. As "King's News" remarks, there must be some significance in the date, February 14th.

Well, there it is. Plenty of chance for everyone—even you!

* Nomination lists are open for one week.

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Editor:
G. IAN JACKSON

Sports Editor:
Christine Merritt

Other staff vacancies are at
present being filled by Union
appointments.

The State of the Union

There were eight items on the agenda for the Union Meeting which was scheduled to take place at 4.15 p.m. on January 20th. They included motions dealing with the Freshers' Conference, the composition of the L.S.E. delegation to the next N.U.S. conference and amendments to the Constitution and Standing Orders; but a shortage of time limited the Union to the usual preliminary announcements and questions, and a very inadequate discussion of the Council motion "that a Freshers' Conference should be held next session".

No Quorum

This unsatisfactory state of affairs was partly the fault of Council who time-tabled only an hour and a quarter for Private Business, and partly that of Mr. Hugh Thomas (Third Year Government specialist in L.S.E. and political dilettante out of it), who, at 4.30 p.m., in the face of considerable and unconstitutional opposition from the President, challenged the quorum.

Mr. Thomas, waving his copy of the "Digest of Procedure for Union Meetings", was obviously within his rights. It is lamentable that decisions affecting the whole School should be taken at Meetings of less than thirty people.

But if Mr. Thomas had made an attempt to attend Union Meetings rather more frequently in the past, he would have realised that they are quorate only on the rare occasions when individual societies "pack" them for private gain, and that ordinary business must be carried on somehow.

No Reception

The non-quorate meeting was closed and a second meeting called for 4.45 p.m., when a quorum was obtained by persuading the Red Dean's prospective audience to await his arrival in the novel comfort of the Old Theatre.

Mr. Frank Judd, Deputy President, moved the Council motion on the Freshers' Conference, explaining that the motion was intended to introduce a general discussion on the Freshers' Conference with special reference to Overseas Students. In the limited time that remained for discussion the Union rejected the proposals that it should arrange for Overseas Students to be met on their arrival in this country, and that a special reception should be held for them before the main conference; the former on the grounds that the British Council already perform a similar service, and the latter because it would point to some "difference", which it was not in the interests of either the students or the School to foster.

The Union agreed however that something should be done to familiarise Overseas Students with their new surroundings, though the Overseas Students who spoke on the motion insisted that the "something" should fall short of "paternalism".

Democracy

As 5.30 p.m. approached the Old Theatre began to fill up, and in spite of his new gavel the President often had great difficulty in making himself heard. Perhaps the Overseas Students, at least, who came in between 5.15 and 5.30 to hear Dr. Hewlett Johnson realised that it was their affairs that were discussed at Union Meetings, that it was to their advantage to be present at and to take part in those discussions and that to a student of economics and political science time spent in observing the workings of democracy, even on a small scale, is never time wasted. M.W.

(continued from column 1)

prospective contributor does not harass us with the plea "Tell me what to write about". It is a measure of our growing appeal that written contributions of the editorial staff decreased with each issue last term.

Engagement

We offer our congratulations to Mr. A. C. C. Page ("Alf") and to Miss Sheila Jones, who have recently announced their engagement. Mr. Page is 2nd Year B.Sc.(Econ.) (Industry & Trade) student and a resident of Passfield Hall. Miss Jones is not a student at L.S.E., but her interest is shown by the fact that she was accepted as a candidate for the post of General Secretary in the Union elections last December.

MONEY TALKS

Those who have been annoyed in the past concerning the difficulty of getting money out of the Senior Treasurer, and "Beaver" is no exception, would do well to remember that the Students' Union runs all its services on a grant from the school of 12/- for each regular student, plus smaller amounts for occasional and inter-collegiate students. In fairness it must be said that many colleges have to pay for a part of the upkeep of their Union buildings, whereas much of this at L.S.E. is undertaken by the School. Here, however, are some of the *per capita* grants of other universities:—

Belfast	....	£5 12 0
Birmingham	....	£5 4 0
Bristol	....	£5 0 0
Exeter	....	£3 10 0
Hull	....	£4 0 0
King's College, Newcastle	....	£5 0 0
Liverpool	....	£5 5 0
Manchester	....	£5 14 0
Reading	....	£5 5 0
Southampton	....	£4 4 0

Situations Filled

The following Union Officers have been appointed for the forthcoming term:—

Secretary of the Social Committee: P. Mitchell.
Chairman of the Entertainments Committee: M. Sharman.
Common Rooms Officer: R. Lustig.
Public Business Officer: L. Crosbie.
Secretary of the Welfare Committee: J. Roberts.
Housing Officer: G. Wiskin.
Beaver Club: F. Howard.
Refectory Officer: T. Hawtin.
Chairman of the Inter-departmental Committee: D. Spurrell.
Overseas Officer: D. Fernando.
Secretary of the External Affairs Committee: J. Boland.
N.U.S. Officer: C. Sweet.
I.U.S. Officer: M. Harris.
U.L.U. Officer: A. Pelling.
W.U.S. Officer: R. Hitch.
Travel Officer: B. Ziff.
A.I.E.S.E.C. Officer: C. Pitt.
C.O.S.E.C. Officer: L. Glanville.
Stationary Stall Officer: P. Williams.
Senate Agent: N. Spinks.
Vacation Work Officer: to be appointed.
Minutes Secretary: R. Nixon.
Public Business Secretary: R. Nixon.
Assistant General Secretary: L. Jackson.

The President of the Research Students' Association, elected by research students, is Jitendra Singh.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST in the Shaw Library, a Ronson cigarette lighter. I will ignore the long delay if only the finder will return the object, which is of great sentimental value. He (or perhaps she) will be rewarded with my sincere thanks.

C. S. RADFORD.

Within Five Years?

Last Thursday week (January 13th) the second stage in the establishment of a comprehensive Health Centre at L.S.E. was passed through the Union. Ever since Union agreed to the scheme in principle, work has been going forward to formulate a casebook sufficiently convincing to persuade the Director that such a scheme was desirable, though without notable success until the beginning of the Michaelmas term, when the Director and Secretary visited the U.C. Centre. They gained a favourable impression, which, added

to the general movement for the greater consideration of student health in the country as a whole, proved sufficient to convince the Director that a Centre similar to U.C.'s was desirable at L.S.E.

The first hurdle overcome, Union had then to be informed of the possibility of a *per capita* levy on every student joining the Scheme and convinced that, despite this, the institution was still desirable. The N.H.S. gives a *per capita* contribution to industrial and university Health Centres such as that envisaged here, but it is insufficient to cover costs. Therefore until they can be persuaded to increase their grant, the balance has to be made up by the College authorities or the students, or both.

Time Saving

Although contrary to the Welfare States' aim of free Health Services, a charge on students is justified by the fact that they have all the facilities—a doctor, nurse, dentist, optician, etc.—provided for their exclusive use on their own premises, a situation which will never be experienced by people outside, for whom treatment involves considerable travel and time-wasting.

It is certain that the School authorities cannot be expected to make good the balance, a considerable sum, on their own; moreover, the more people that join the scheme, the higher is the sum to be claimed by the N.H.S., which is the reason why U.C. have a strong element of compulsion as regards membership of their Health Centre for students not living at home.

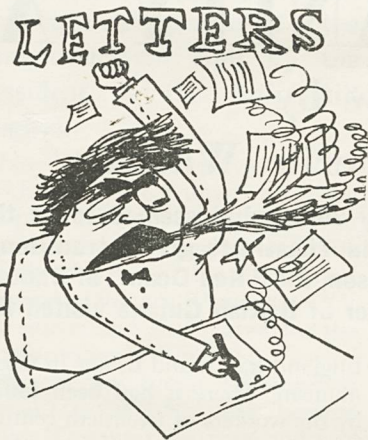
Charge

The Union has therefore deemed it wise to proceed with the theoretical development of the scheme; it may well be that when the Centre comes into operation, by virtue of pressure now being applied on the N.H.S. to increase financial support, a charge much less than that now envisaged—"not more than 10/-"—will be possible, ideally, of course, none at all. In the meantime the School authorities are proceeding to draw up a provisional Budget to see how much they are likely to be called upon to pay. This proving satisfactory, only two things remain; the filling in of practical details and the obtaining of premises—the latter an obstacle that could well retard progress longer than is desirable.

Path of Progress

Other things being equal, progress up to the actual establishment of the Centre should be more rapid than hitherto, and if the dentist has to work whilst you have your hair cut, or the doctor practice in the lift on the frequent occasions when it does not serve its rightful purpose, it will only prove that naught can impede the path of progress.

J. T. B.



U.N.O. Letter

ROYAL HOTEL,
MAIN STREET.

Dear Sweetheart,

I sit myself down in hand to typewrite this letter. I don't live where I lived before because I moved to where I live now. When you come to see me ask anyone because nobody knows me. I am sorry we are so far together. I wish we were nearer apart. We are having more weather this year than we had last year. My Aunt Willie died and she is doing fine (T.G.). I hope you are the same. I started to Westminster to see you and I saw a sign that read "This takes you to Westminster" so I got on the sign and sat there for three hours, but the damn thing would not move. I am sending you a coat by mail. I cut off the buttons to make it lighter. The buttons are in the pocket if you need them. If you don't get this letter, let me know immediately so I can mail it again tomorrow. Our neighbours baby swallowed a pin cushion so we gave it some pins to swallow after it. Everything is O.K. now. I would have sent you the few bob I owe you but I never thought about it until the envelope was sealed. Meet me at the same place on Sunday. If I am there first I will put a chalk mark on the wall. If you are there first rub it off.

Yours sincerely,

U. N. O.

Apology

We wish to apologise for an error of policy in our last issue. The leading article made reference to two articles for which, at the last minute, we had not space. Every effort was made to give these articles publicity on a notice board, but we apologise to their authors and we hope that a similar situation will not recur.

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21-2-55

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Alan Lennox-Boyd, M.P., and the former Colonial Secretary, Mr. James Griffiths, M.P., are to speak at L.S.E. on Monday, February 21st, Colonial Students' Day. This was announced at a recent Union Meeting by the External Affairs Vice-President, Roland Freeman.

The meeting, arranged for 5.30 p.m. in the Old Theatre, will be followed by a reception in the "Three Tuns", at which Colonial foods, prepared by L.S.E. students, will be available.

Mr. Freeman said that invitations were being sent out to M.P.'s, Presidents of Colonial Students' Unions and similar organisations in London.

After Mr. Lennox-Boyd and Mr. Griffiths have addressed the meeting the audience will be invited to put questions until approximately 6.30 p.m.

"Beaver" Wonders . . .

BEAVER WONDERS :—

(1) Where the Rooms Booking Book has been?

(2) What has been going on in Spain?

(3) Did the Dean of Canterbury catch his train?

(4) Will the Music Society ask for a supplementary budget?

(5) Why doesn't N.U.S. join the T.U.C.?

(6) Who is the Editor of "Beaver"?

(7) Why the Senior Treasurer hasn't paid a bill for 7 guineas? What if that date was 5th December, 1939?

(8) Just how much did the Commem. Ball cost?

It's A Date!

Union Events for your Diary

PROGRAMME

UNION PUBLIC BUSINESS :—

Jan. 27th—

Debate: "This House looks to the younger universities, now that Oxford and Cambridge are in their dotage". Proposed by Fred Jarvis, ex-president of N.U.S. (Liverpool and Oxford); seconded by Jeff Thomas, Vice-President of U.L.U. (King's); opposed by Richard Moore (President of Cambridge Union); seconded by Michael Heseltine (Michaelmas Term President of Oxford Union).

Feb. 3rd—

It is hoped that a Minister attending the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference may be able to speak.

Feb. 10th—

1st Annual Political Societies Prize Debate for the Beveridge trophy. Motion: "That socialism is the road to serfdom". The principal speakers will be Frank Byers (former Liberal Chief Whip) and H. D. Hughes (principal of Ruskin College, Oxford). Speeches to the resolution will be made by nominees of the political societies, and these latter will be judged for the trophy, which will be awarded by Lord and Lady Beveridge, who will be present. There will also be a prize for the Society Whip having the best absolute attendance.

Feb. 17th—

Inter-Varsity Debate. Motion: "That the English have had their day and should admit it". Several university debating presidents will take part.

Feb. 24th—

Colonial Students' Day—see separate notice.

THE WEEK'S GOOD CAUSE

by David Spurrell

Far from the madding crowd of initials which pervade L.S.E. and the Union, such as N.U.S., G.O.S.E.C., A.I.S.E.C., U.L.U.* and the like, there is a set of initials which may be relatively unfamiliar to most students. They are unknown because they rarely appear in Union discussions and controversies. The Policy of the present Chairman and of Union is to make these initials well-known and useful.

MOCK PARLIAMENT

Plans for the 1955 University Mock Parliament, to be held at L.S.E. on Friday, February 4th, seem to leave the Conservatives out in the cold. Both Labour and the Liberals appear overjoyed at their agreement to form a "Coalition" Government. Last Saturday, the two university societies agreed on a Queen's Speech for the Parliament. The Liberals have wrung a number of concessions from Labour in exchange for their support. The Queen's Speech will include proposals for Scottish and Welsh devolution and for co-partnership in industry, although the main emphasis will be on foreign affairs. After their defeat at the last University and Clare Market Mock Parliaments, the University Association of Labour Students and L.S.E.'s Labour Society will be anxious to restore their reputation as easy winners in any event held at L.S.E. Assured of Liberal support, their Government seems certain of victory. No doubt the School will dominate both Front Benches, although King's have a number of able political speakers. It is even rumoured that an Honorary Member of our Union will be Mr. Speaker.

Concerning the composition of the Government it seems probable that Brian Van Arkadie, President of U.L.A.L.S., will act as Prime Minister, and inevitable that Norman Allen will be First Lord of the Admiralty and Gabriel Newfield the Minister for Scottish Affairs.

I.D.C. for the uninitiated represents the organisation known as the Inter-Departmental Committee. This committee, under a Chairman appointed by Union, is composed of representatives of all departments of this School, from Anthropology to Trade Union Studies.

The object of the committee is to consider complaints and the suggestions which students may have in relation to their academic activities: these range from coal delivering to the class system. The I.D.C. has no power, but is an advisory body to the School. It may be pointed out that I.D.C. was largely responsible for the removing of Statistics from the compulsory subjects for B.Sc.(Econ.), Part I. The work of I.D.C. affects every student; therefore I want to make two appeals.

To Help You

There are still certain departments which are not represented on the committee, among them being Money and Banking, International Economics, and the various study courses. If you think your department is not on I.D.C. yet, please contact me.

Secondly, the committee is concerned with topics like the revision of the B.Sc.(Econ.) course, staff-student relations, and the tutorial system. If you have any serious criticism or, better still, any suggestion for reform, please contact your representative, or myself, as chairman.

Your ideas may benefit yourself and your successors at L.S.E.

* No prize awarded for guessing.

Ye Gods!

The outstanding event of the session will take place on March 7th and 8th, when the long-awaited Revue will be staged. This masterpiece will masquerade under the mythological monicker of "Ye Gods".

The show will be produced by one of the remaining specimens of the genus "Graduate B.Sc.(Econ.)", Mr. John Sparrow. It is a wonderful bargain in laughter. Seats will be at sale price level, 2/- for those who desire the elegance and comfort of the new foam rubber seats, while for regular gallery goers we can offer the usual brand of rear rigidity at 1/6.

Sayings of the Week

"It was the coming of the railways which gave rise to that typical English custom of 'going away for the week-end'." (Mr. Stern.)

"We must get another copy of 'What's On' to put in the Common Room because every copy we put there is stolen." (Senior Treasurer of the Students' Union.)

"Well, here I am. The man of whom the 'News Chronicle' said: 'This is the person to whom 200,000 women told their most intimate marriage secrets'." (Professor David Glass.)

"Believe me, if this were true, my hair would be completely grey." (D.V.G.)

BOOK REVIEW

"BRITISH POLITICAL PARTIES"—R. T. McKenzie, Heinemann, 30/-.

Political parties in Britain have produced a flood of pamphlets, books or propaganda on the virtues of their programmes or the wickedness of their opponents. Not since the beginning of the century has anyone really troubled to enquire deeply into the working of the parties themselves, particularly how they react to the Parliamentary system within which they operate. Compared with the introversion of American political scientist, who by now must have analysed every aspect of party psychology, sociology and organisation, British commentators have presented a rather superficial view of our political system. Mr. McKenzie has tried to fill the gap in our knowledge of the inside of politics in his newly published "British Political Parties". Party programmes are not given any consideration by the author, as his subject of research is the source of power in the two main parties.

The Conservative Party has received less attention in the past than the Labour Party. In providing detailed information on its development over seventy years this book serves a useful function. Even more significant, in my opinion, is the light which it throws on the claims of the Labour Party to be a democratic organisation, controlled by its members.

Mr. McKenzie shows in great detail how the Parliamentary leadership of both parties has remained in control, even suggesting that revolts in the Conservative Party have been more successful than those in the Labour Party.

While the inherent contradiction between Labour's aspirations to internal democracy and its position as a Parliamentary party is fully stressed, insufficient attention is perhaps paid to the strongly rooted traditions of the Party's membership. These are predominantly in favour of control of the higher Party organs by the membership, and it is the tension produced by this contradiction which has given rise to "Bevanism".

Regardless of the political conclusions which will doubtless be drawn from this work, it is of considerable academic significance. It must necessarily be many years before anyone can undertake the task of analysing our parties by the use of original material. This is no text-book with quotations from other text-books, but a new and important venture in political science in this country. J. JUPP.

Water Polo

In one of the highest scoring games ever played in the University of London Water Polo League L.S.E. beat Q.M.C. by 17 points to nil.

The scoring was opened by Brecknell inside the first minute and after five minutes play L.S.E. were four goals up with scoring by Smith (2) and Turner. Q.M.C. rallied and Winch in goal at last touched the ball but good defensive play by Burgess, Davies and Turner frustrated all attacks and Winch merely had to retrieve a few wild shots. L.S.E. kept up their lead and at half-time were winning by 7 goals to nil.

During the second half L.S.E. were scoring at the rate of a goal each minute and kept this up throughout the rest of the match. Turner kept up a stream of good passes to Brecknell and Smith and few shots went wide. These two scored five goals each in the second half, Smith scoring with comparative ease from close to the half-way line and Brecknell from the four-yard mark.

After the match the Q.M.C. Captain was heard to say that this was the finest display of water polo from any L.S.E. team during the last five years.

R. T. MCKENZIE

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Animal Farm

I was privileged to attend recently the press preview of "Animal Farm", an adaptation of George Orwell's best-selling novel of the same name. "Animal Farm", a British film made by a brilliant married couple, Halas and Batchelor, is the first attempt at a full-length, animated film of an adult nature, and without any qualification, I acclaim it as an outstanding success.

George Orwell, who was brought into the public eye by the recent television production of his "1984", wrote a most moving story, with most of its characters being animals living under the tyrannical rule of the drunken Farmer Jones, the owner of Manor Farm.

The film, shown in Technicolour, follows the original story apart from the ending, with surprising faithfulness and will, I am sure, delight the many who have read the book as well as those who have not had the opportunity to do so.

"1984"

The plot has much basically in common with "1984" for it is essentially a political satire, which shows that an oligarchy can arise in the best-run democracy. True to Orwell's style, there are many subtly-concealed barbs and the cinemagoer who analyses the film will find much of great interest.

The great merit of the film, though, is that it is equally enjoyable as an art form in its own right. The animated film is a comparatively fresh medium, and the technical excellence of the production is clearly apparent to the layman. The characterisation and portrayal of Orwell's characters is first rate, and the animals themselves gain much from the visual art.

Frequent touches of light humour brighten the film. These blend well with the "stronger meat", which, while unlike the "horror" of "1984", is still very moving. Suspense is very well created at times of dramatic tension, and the story is fast-moving, perhaps too much so at the end. DAVID S. MORRIS.

Basketball Team Hits Form

For the first time in its history the Basketball Club has reached the semi-final of the University of London Knock-out Cup by defeating Westminster Hospital by 90 points to 2. In this match the team as a whole reached, for the first time this season, the form of which they were capable. Thanks to accurate shooting by Herring, ably backed up by Boulby and Dowse, the scoring was at the rate of two points a minute throughout the game. The L.S.E. defence held firm throughout the match and the introduction of the Canadian, Sheppard, here steadied and helped the "old brigade", Tite and Brecknell, so much so that Westminster saw little of the L.S.E. basket. In the semi-final, when Woolwich Polytechnic are the opponents, a harder match is expected, but a reproduction of this form should give us a fighting chance of reaching the final.

A rather disheartening beginning was made to the season when the first three matches were lost. Once the players began to work really as a team, however, these defeats were avenged. The record now reads:

P.	W.	L.	Pts. for	Pts. against
7	3	4	254	210

This term's fixture list includes matches with Cambridge University and Quintin School (the top junior team in the country) and also some matches for which it is proposed to field a second team.

CLIMBING IN GLENCOE

Once again the Mountaineering Club held their New Year meet at Glencoe. We must confess that part of the attraction was Hogmanay, which was celebrated in true Scottish style.

Four members turned up at Glencoe, illness preventing others attending the meet. The lack of snow hindered instruction in snow technique and ice made many of the rock-climbs virtually impossible but the Club did make ascents of Ben Nevis, Bidean nam Bian and the Clonach Eagach Ridge, where several members saw the Brocken Spectre for the first time. The Club also assisted in a mountain rescue.

One member, with several friends, rounded off the meet by enduring a very cold camp on the edge of Rannoch Moor, while doing a traverse of the three "Munros", Stol Ghabhar, Clach Leathad and Mealh a' Bruidh.

The Purple Boat

For the first time in many years, the Women's Boat Club has a member rowing in the Purple boat. This success is due primarily to the activities of the Club as a whole—whose members have never lost the enthusiasm which they felt on first setting out on the river as novice crews. Successful recruiting brought many new members until the Committee felt that having members of the University VIII, who can no longer row for their college because of training and racing on every conceivable occasion, would not cause college rowing to lose any of that ground gained during the past year.

Rowing is the only women's sport at this college which never stops because of bad weather (*sic*). Time after time, crews come off the river soaking wet and worn out—only to be seen going out again ten minutes later. Things have reached such a state now that the cox has been advised by her doctor to rest her voice for at least a fortnight.

Audrey's Ability

Over and above this enthusiasm, however, the club must have members of ability to win races. Stamina and strength must be present. Audrey Morris, who is rowing in the University VIII, has both. She is a 2nd Year B.Sc. (Econ.) student, specialising in Sociology. Audrey can be recognised by the tartan slacks which she wears much better than most L.S.E. women, and a huge black sweater and a laugh which somehow manages to make itself heard at the most inappropriate moments during lectures.

Members of the University VIII have to train rigorously and keep absolutely fit.

She does 15 minutes' running every night and Heddie Nash, who lives across the road from her in Pett's Wood, must be increasingly surprised to see a fiendish figure go round the block faster and faster.

The VIII race almost every Saturday during the Lent and Summer Terms. Interesting fixtures include those against Cambridge and Holland. Such is the standard of the university VIII. We congratulate Audrey on her Purple and best of luck in Part I, too.

Sports Results

RUGBY

1st XV 20 points, Esher "A" 0.

SOCCER

1st XI 3, Fitzwilliam House, Cambridge, 3.

All other matches were cancelled owing to the weather.

Berth

LATYMER-SMITH. To Dave and Martin, of the Sailing Club, on Jan. 5th, 1955, at Houghton Street, W.C.2, a sister to the "Temptress". To be christened "Allen".

Hard Going at Cambridge

by B. K. Ward

Michaelmas Term

The Club, having lost both Ralph Dunkley and Terry Keegan, had no outstanding individual performances; but the team as a whole is much improved on that of last year and the packing has been far more consistent. This is mainly due to the fact that a number of promising freshmen have joined the club, and a number of runners now in their second year have improved enormously on their performances of last year.

Unluckiest Run

L.S.E. entered six runners for the University Cross-Country Trials, but B. K. Ward was the only runner to obtain a place in the University First Team. Alec Tite must have been the unluckiest runner of the day, for when he appeared well set to get into the University Second Team he had a bad patch and had to drop back about ten places. B. Tubb also ran well in the Trials.

The School ran against U.C., the reigning University Champions, twice in inter-college matches, and in the first match of the term we were unlucky not to beat them, when Ward, Herring and Tite filled second, third and fourth places. We also lost to Imperial College, but our team was considerably weaker than usual owing to sickness and injury.

Only Win

The only match of the term which we did win was against Southampton University, where, over a very hard course, Ward, Herring and Tite once again came second, third and fourth, but were this time ably supported by Howell, Tubb and Arnold, who all ran well.

L.S.E. came fifth in the University championships. Ward came seventh, but the rest of the team, apart from Hood, appeared to run well below their usual form.

Lent Term

At present we have had only one match this term. This was against Cambridge University Second Team at Cambridge on January 15th. The course of 7½ miles was frozen solid and surface snow and ice made fast running extremely difficult, especially over the ploughed fields, where one slip in the numerous potholes could easily have caused a broken ankle. Herring got away to a good start and eventually finished third.

The most creditable performances of the day were, however, by Arnold and Hood, who seemed able to adapt themselves to the conditions far easier than some of the more experienced members of the team, finishing sixth and ninth respectively.

Ward and Tite, both running well below their usual form, finished seventh and eighth.

The rest of the term promises some good fixtures. The Club goes to Oxford to run against Lincoln College on February 2nd and then travels to Reading to run against the University on the 5th.

Hyde Park Relay

On the 29th January the Club will be competing in the Q.M.C. 7½ mile inter-college race. Later in February come the South-West Essex Technical College Road Race and in March the Hyde Park Road Relay.

There is training each week at Parliament Hill Fields, and anyone interested in joining the Club should contact J. B. Herring or B. K. Ward.

Table D' Hôte for Boat Club

The Boat Club awaits with eager anticipation the rowing tank that is to be built at the far end of the Barley Sugar Room. The tank will probably be completed during the Easter vacation. At the moment the committee is undecided whether or not to allow the Sailing Club to sail their celluloid duck on the tank when it is not otherwise being used.

A matter of principle is involved, for should it become a common practice, even if it is not already so, then the years of unremitting toil, the patient canvassing, the eloquent lobbying, the whole gamut of getting one's own way will be called in question.

One question that might be put is "How much did they lose by?" But we know the answer to that one—it is four feet; and if you had to row in a Boxing Day regatta in a race as close as that you might begin to think that it was a rotten idea anyway and who thought of it in the first place because I've got a better idea. Let's put three people in the University Trial VIII's and let them train rigorously for some time, then let's put a scratch VIII in the Ibis Head and watch it come second behind the University trial VIII, if it does go up only one place.

Joe's

During the vac. most people took jobs in order that they might keep themselves in the peak of physical fitness and in order that they might keep themselves. Much comment was evoked in café society, especially Joe's, at the dashing way five debonair young students played cards for hours at the corner table. Rumour has it that they also used to ride on the little electric trolleys at Paddington Station and jeer at all those inferior beings throwing mailbags into mail vans. For this they were paid £20, which probably accounts for the state which four of them were in on Boxing Day morning.

Did you know that on the coldest day for seven years four men rescued an L.S.E. VIII from a flooded boathouse at Richmond and that one of them disappeared for 8.341 seconds below the surface of the cool river and thereafter rowed from Richmond to Chiswick in nothing more warming than a short shirt and a pair of wet socks.

All-night Parties

Now that the party season is settling down to normal, the revolutionaries of the club who got so indignant because they had not been to three all-night parties in succession just before the dress-rehearsal of a race will have to find something else to occupy their energy.

Anyone who is interested in joining the Boat Club after this article is obviously unbalanced. In which case he should join his fellows in the Boat Club. Auditions will be arranged in the Three Tuns Bar. Candidates will be required to stand a round of drinks without flinching.

A prize gem of a notice which was seen but not accessible ran something as follows:

"Members are warned that the practice of throwing missiles in the dining-room must cease. Disciplinary action will be taken against persons doing so.

By Order,

The Committee."

Another one that got away was "Do not feed until the green light is showing". Naturally the Boat Club resents this attitude on the part of the A.U.—but there you are.

DENNIS BIZERAY.

Y.H.A. NEWS

A large party of students from L.S.E. went to Tanner's Hatch at the end of the Michaelmas Term. This Youth Hostel, in the middle of a Surrey wood and decidedly difficult to find on a dark evening has become the firmly established and popular base for L.S.E. festivities. This was essentially an occasion for enjoying oneself; there were less than a dozen shopping days to Christmas, and many fewer than that to the beginning of the vacation.

Outward Bound

The vacation Y.H.A. tour was held in the Snowdon area of North Wales over New Year. Poor weather and difficult conditions meant the curtailment of a rather ambitious programme, but did not prevent Tryfan and the Glyder from being climbed. Perhaps the most noteworthy event during the tour occurred on New Year's Eve, when the Club president drank the last pint of the year at the Royal in Capel Curig. That last drink of '54 was also the last that will be served by the Royal, for it is to become one of the Outward Bound Schools.

It is hoped that all those who have taken part in the Club's activities, and all those who intend to join in those for the remaining terms and vacations of this session will be present at the A.G.M., today, January 27th. VALERIE TONGE.

CONVINCING VICTORY

The Rugby Club 1st XV opened its Lent fixtures with a good win by 20 pts. to nil over Esher "A" XV. All this term's previous fixtures had been cancelled because of weather conditions.

Despite the heavy going and the greasy ball, both sides managed to bring their backs into the picture and the result was a fast open game. Due to their superior fitness and speed the L.S.E. were invariably quicker on the loose ball and a decided reluctance on the part of Esher to tackle low made matters all the easier. The game opened with Esher attacking strongly; only some determined tackling kept them at bay. Gradually, however, L.S.E. settled down and by half-time had scored 11 points without reply. Miller, Candlish and Ryan scoring the tries. The third try was converted by Williams.

Ryan Tries

Strengthened by the belated appearance of Flude, L.S.E. controlled the second half. Ryan brought his match tally to 9 points with two well-taken tries and Irvine completed the scoring with a try in the corner.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature of the game was the force and determination of Rosenberg, who deputised for Jones at centre tree-quarter.

SOCCER DRAW

A considerably weakened L.S.E. team were unlucky not to win a friendly game against Fitzwilliam House, Cambridge, last Saturday.

By half-time White and Barnes had given L.S.E. a two-goal lead. Soon after the interval, Barnes scored again. Fitzwilliam House fought back, and with the aid of a penalty they levelled the scores and despite a late L.S.E. rally the game ended as a three-all draw. D. Boulton, captaining L.S.E. for this game, was outstanding, particularly in the first half.

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