

## DOWN YOU GO

### Full Week of Events

by KEN PEARMAIN

Going down week is the height of L.S.E.'s social life. Whether or not it merits this position must rest mainly on the First year students. Theoretically it is the opportunity for those who are going down for the last time to take a gay farewell of the old school, whose ivy has entwined about their hearts. However, steeped in the laws of commerce, relentless master that it is, or filled with a longing to get out of the place, much of the second and third year departs beforehand. Let us hope that this exodus is confined to the long faced "respectable" element who would not contribute to the fun anyway.

What is left for those who remain? An excellent week of fun and games. We get off with a first class start on Monday with a social at the Three Tuns. The new bar will be open; 7.30 p.m. There will be dancing on the third floor and there will be free refreshments (you will have time to read the rest of this before you join the queue).

On Tuesday the whole of union is invited to a service in the Shaw Library at 4 p.m.: this will be conducted by the Methodist Chaplain to the University, the Reverend B. Arthur Shaw.

#### Rag Debate

On Wednesday evening the proceedings resume a lighter note with the sitting of the august and pre-ntious Clare Market Parliament. At least will be a rag debate: this will go well, especially if some of the resident clots of union meetings turn up and take it seriously.

#### "Lot of Ball"

Do you like to sit in the dark? At 8 o'clock on Thursday, the film society are organising a film show—which should be a farce. It will cost no more than 6d. and will be a good evening's entertainment.

As someone rightly said, "That's a lot of ball for 5/-".

They were referring to COSMIC PAPERS, the event of the year, an all night ball, a nine-piece band and a midnight Matinee all for five shillings. The bar is laying in extra stocks of beer and there will be a breakfast service. The dance is designed to be like nothing on earth. It represents a trip to other worlds: Hades, Paradise, etc.

Well, my friends, it is there for your taking. Whether University life is dull or not depends upon you. It's what you make it.

## CRISIS IN N.U.S.

In the last few months have added Manchester University to the list of Unions disaffiliated from the National Union of Students. This list now includes Leicester, Durham, Southampton, and King's College, London. But even longer is the list of Unions that are dissatisfied with N.U.S. and whose disaffiliation would threaten the whole structure of the National Union.

The arguments against N.U.S., expressed in a recent letter to the Times Educational Supplement by the student who moved the motion for disaffiliation at Leicester, are based on the theory that only in the students' own College or University "can student life take on a community aspects and enrich

the experience of the individual". Therefore a National Union that depends on a spirit of community throughout the country is found to fail.

#### Returns not Commensurate

It is also argued that the returns from N.U.S. are not commensurate with the time, trouble and finances involved.

All this is no doubt sound and logical, especially if one looks only to material returns, but it does not explain why an organisation, that has in the past represented the vast majority of students in this country and which even to-day spends nearly £10,000 of public or students' money every year, is no longer worth while.

The writer points out, quite correctly, that the vast majority of students are not interested in N.U.S. But how does he explain the existence of his own Union, in which surely only a minority of students are interested. A recent article in C.M.R. asked the same question about our Universities, for if the majority of people were asked whether they wished public money to be spent on University education their answer would probably be no.

#### Glue to Disaffiliation

The real clue to the disaffiliation problem can be detected where the writer suggests that the minorities who support N.U.S. are usually the "politically-interested".

Politics is a subject that creeps into most student activities (sometimes, I believe, into our own Union) and quite rightly so. Our future administrators are drawn to a considerable extent from the ranks of University students.

The fact that a majority of the people of this country are usually dissatisfied with "the politicians" or at least not interested, has never been used as an excuse for abolishing Parliament. Why condemn then a National Union for only gaining the support of a tiny (but, may I suggest, enlightened) minority?

What annoys the writer, obviously, is not that the politically-minded are the only ones who worry about N.U.S., but that the National Union is the wrong colour, politically, for him.

#### Slow Disintegration

But all this does not mean that those Unions who still support N.U.S. can sit back, safe in the knowledge that they appreciate the value of N.U.S., etc. They must ask themselves how far they are responsible for the slow disintegration of N.U.S. and whether they are doing anything to reverse the trend.

Both Manchester and Leicester mention the long drawn-out negoti-

### Pretty Girls of L.S.E. - 2



Photo by Irving Teitelbaum

Hazel Acton is a 1st year B.Sc. (Econ.) student. An athletic girl, she is a member of the squash and tennis clubs—and she can swim too!

When she is not in London, she lives alternately in the wilds of Lancashire and Africa.

Asked what she is going to do when she graduates she replied: "I do not want to be a teacher".

## MISSING, BELIEVED PUTRIFIED

### Mystery of Room 'A'

It all began just after Easter, when anxious freshers (?), their consciences pricked by the "Amplex" advertising campaign, began to ask, "Is it me, or is there a terrible smell in here?"

Fears of an unsurpassed failure rate in history led to complaints being made about the unknown presence in Room A of the Main Library. A terse notice saying "Phew" and the clothes-peg on the bust's nose drew further official attention to it, and the janitor, formerly thought to be a fixture in the doorway, was observed scurrying around with an expression of disgusted nausea and indignant bewilderment on his face.

L.S.E., together with a number of other Unions, feels that any contact with students behind the "Iron Curtain" can serve only for the good. What we have not so far considered is whether the time and energy spent on I.U.S. is contributing to the break-up of our own National Union. If every discussion on I.U.S. at N.U.S. Council is going to lead to another Union leaving N.U.S., then we ought to hesitate and think before having such discussion.

Our first aim must be to further N.U.S. as a National Union, that can play an effective part in student life in this country.

#### Rights of Students

If we believe, as I do, that the very existence of a strong National Union safeguards the rights of students within the community and that that existence is worth more than all the material benefits put together, then we must make certain that the international interests of a narrow majority of Unions are not going to threaten that existence.

Unless we act soon, there may be no National Union to look after students most important interests, here in this country. H. B.

It is a solid, earthy stench of cabbage, cat and coffin, and by tea-time is quite unbearable. Printable suggestions as to its source include:

- The South Bank Whale.
- A British workman, taking time off from his 8-hour week, whilst the floor in Room A was being repaired, was forgotten and incarcerated, and his ghost is forcibly seeking an exit.
- That bust: could it be just a thin veneer of plaster covering the mortal but highly noxious remains of the real man?
- The tail of one of those feline monstrosities which lurk in the Porter's Lodge: they didn't start out as Manx, anyway.

### Willing Lad NOT Wanted

by Neville Heath

It would probably have been easier to have confirmed the Careers Adviser's naval rank before being ushered into the august presence. Addressed variously as "Sir", "Commander", "Lieutenant", "You" and "Um", the atmosphere might well have become strained, but for an expansive manner and breezy nautical vernacular which dispelled any tension.

It was pleasant to recall that within these doors had been perpetrated the most damning *faux pas* imaginable. There was the classic case of a student, asked for his considered view on a naval career, who, unaware of the questioner's background, delivered a blistering tirade on the senior service and the morals and intelligence of its officers. Another, more presumptuous, asked for a job as a careers adviser, claiming that he wanted a well-paid sinecure.

However, my rôle as an earnest, intense careerist, demanded much concentration and some acting, leaving little time for whimsical memories. It then became apparent that some freak of acoustics made the interviewer's laugh crystallise in the air—his lips were closed after the normal movements had been made and THEN the laugh rang out. I was so absorbed by this phenomenon that I allowed my jaw to drop into its familiar expression of vacuous idiocy and so gave, against my will, a genuine indication of my character. No amount of "class-room alertness" technique could repair the damage—the rapt gaze of concentration, the sudden smile of revelation, the understanding nod at regular intervals, as if the speaker is confirming a long-held opinion—all these ploys were wasted.

Has anyone a job for an idle male with a 3rd class B.Sc. Econ. degree?

### COST OF LIVING

At a meeting of the Refectory Committee on the 10th May, it was reported that arrangements had now been made for morning coffee and afternoon tea to be served to the staff and to others in the Students' Bar during August. It was therefore agreed that all other services of the Refectory should be closed for the month of August. In view of our leading article in the March issue, "Beaver" welcomes this decision as a step towards putting Refectory prices on a par with those of other colleges.

### STOP PRESS

#### V. P. Elections—Classified Results

The following were the votes cast at the recent Vice-Presidential Election:

J. Burrows	....	101
H. Cohen	....	40
R. Freeman	....	134
J. Hipkin	....	82
M. Harris	....	47
K. Pearmain	....	93
T. Wilson	....	45
A. Unerman	....	3

Messrs. Freeman, Burrows and Pearmain were declared elected.



**"BEAVER"**  
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Marguerite Watkins  
Sports Editor's Secretary:  
Paddy Tooley

## Comment

This is the seventh and last issue of "Beaver" for the session 1953-54. Next year we hope to be able to publish a bigger paper at least four times a term; but that will depend on a number of factors outside our control, for "Beaver" is caught in a vicious circle.

Our grant from the Union is £60 a year, which compares with £150 for "King's News" and £450 for the University College paper "Pi". It is not possible therefore to produce a paper big enough to ensure a circulation of at least a thousand per issue, and until such a figure is reached advertisers are seldom interested. Without good advertising revenue it is not possible to produce a paper big enough . . .

This fundamental difficulty can only be solved if Union members want an adequate Union newspaper and are prepared in the initial stages of expansion to allocate the money. Otherwise it might be better to spend the grant on something else, and do without a newspaper altogether.

The Sports Page is the sole responsibility of the Sports Editor, who is appointed by the Athletic Union. He is in charge of the material, editing and layout of the page, for which the A.U. pay £10, i.e., one seventh of the cost for a quarter of the space!

So although A.U. enthusiasts may resent the criticisms which have appeared of late in "Beaver", they are certainly getting the best of the bargain as far as space is concerned.

It so happens that the Editor of "Beaver" is lost in admiration for the A.U., and violently disagrees with the article on the Rag Regatta. He had a whale of a time and promptly applied to join the Boat Club (the fact that the bar was open all day, of course, is a coincidence).

\* \* \* \*

Due to the sudden defection of our previous printers, this issue has been produced at very short notice by another firm. We desire to record our sincere thanks for the efforts which they have made to ensure that "Beaver" could be published in Going-Down Week.

## Letters

### Wag's Complaint

Dear Sir,  
As this is supposed to be a wag ishwew of "Beavah" I want to complain about the dearth of waggery in the old Market. 'Where, oh where has our waggery gone? Why, oh why can't we wag?' There is more life in a wagful of fleas than in most of us residents of Beaverdom. The trouble is we just don't wag. Can't we? Didn't we? Daren't we? Won't we? We've got to wag our ideas up. Market-men, arise! We have nothing to lose but our torpidity.

I'm sorry to get so wagged up over this, but it really does distress me.  
OLD NICK.

### Homosexual Controversy

Dear Sir,  
Many of your readers will probably have seen Mr. R. Johnson's article in "Obiter", in which he attacks homosexuality: I would like to comment on it.

# THESE YOU HAVE LOVED

## Rosemary Ellerbeck

After an early and somewhat unfortunate adventure into the realms of writing revue, Rosemary Ellerbeck has now settled down as the dilettante of Room E. Her usual mode of expression has been the printed word; after rising high in the hierarchy of "Beaver", where she achieved a certain notoriety as "Tacitus", she turned from journalism to literature and has become the Assistant Editor of "Clare Market Review".

In the last year or so she has cultivated the reputation and appearance of an intellectual; but when one gets to know her very well—as few do—one realises that this is just a facade. That bitter tongue conceals a heart of gold, and deep down within her she is just a clean-living, healthy young Englishwoman of the better sort. Disappointing as this may be, not least to herself, we believe that a lady who is still a lady after nearly a bottle of whisky is a lady indeed. And this is the real Ellerbeck; not the one rampant in the public imagination, but just one of the sweetest of pseudo-intellectuals you could possibly imagine.

## Bob Johnson

During the Deputy-Presidential elections last November, a new tornado suddenly struck the Union. Bob Johnson had emerged from the depths of the Library, to attempt to steamroller the Law Society's candidate into office. Since then, his particular brand of bluster has flourished to such an extent that L.S.E., and the Union in particular, will never seem the same without him.

And yet we very nearly never saw him at all; he could have gone to R.A.D.A., but apparently decided that there could be greater opportunities to use his dramatic ability at L.S.E. Particularly noted are his impersonations of Sir Winston and of Lord Goddard; and perhaps Mr. Johnson combines the worst qualities of these two gentlemen. In politics, he is a country Tory of the baser sort; in law his chief achieve-

ment has been a persuasive advocacy of life imprisonment for homosexual offenders. We understand that Mr. Johnson hopes to become a prison visitor.

## Utter Nonsense!

It is built on intolerance and ignorance, with a good dash of sheer maliciousness thrown in. Intolerance, because Mr. Johnson has not yet learnt the first rule of civilisation—to accept your fellow-beings as they are—ignorance, because he has based his whole argument on a blind and stupid fallacy—that all homosexuals are potential "attackers" of children.

We must not allow homosexual practices, even between consenting adults in private, he says, as this will breed more people liable to "attack" children. What utter nonsense! Are assaults by heterosexuals on those of the opposite sex any rarer? Does Mr. Johnson then suggest that all heterosexual practices should be forbidden, for surely girls and young women need just as much protection as do boys? Of course this would be an absurd argument.

And just as it is only a small minority of heterosexuals that are guilty of such offences, so, too, it is only a small minority of homosexuals that would think of seducing children. It is surely no more difficult to separate these "predatory" types from the rest of the homosexuals than it is to separate any class of criminals from their fellow men. Restrain the guilty, both homosexual and heterosexual, by all means, but leave the innocent alone.

Of his savage and irresponsible maliciousness I will say nothing, beyond that in thinking it both desirable and possible to obliterate homosexuality simply by imposing the severest penalties possible, Mr. Johnson has once again shown himself to be centuries behind the times.

Yours sincerely,  
DOUGLAS TALINTYRE.

He is also a debater of some note and little promise, and has never yet been effectively silenced by any Chairman he has met in open battle. The art of public speaking, to his mind, seems to be to say nothing at all as loudly as possible, as frequently as possible and as offensively as possible. We think we understand his feelings on leaving this college, and we assure him that we reciprocate them most heartily.

## John Taylor

John Taylor will not easily be forgotten by those of us who knew him. Rarely prominent in Union, he held that there were more important things to do on Thursday evenings; yet who will not remember his repeated and repetitive attempts to propose candidates for Union office—with mixed success?

His major contribution to college life has been in the field of drama. From a start functioning as a straitjacket to Derrick Walters he later found opportunities to use histrionic talent of his own and now uses it 24 hours a day. He does not live on his reputation as President-Emeritus of the Dramatic Society alone, however; he has shone in the forensic field as well, and formed half of the winning pair in this year's Debating Society tournament. This remarkable person is leaving us for the armed services. The Army, we feel, will not change him at all, although he may well change the Army. When he leaves the college, we shall lose a wit and a gentleman; perhaps it is because we have so few of either that his departure will be sorely felt.

## John Sparrow

There are many things to be said about John Sparrow; one searches for the good ones. Although for much of the pre-examination period he was to be found either reclining against the radiator or reclining in

live under them are concerned.

Dear Sir,  
In an institution as renowned for its political consciousness as is the London School of Economics and Political Science, it is somewhat disappointing to discover the newspaper of the Students' Union falling into the common trap of excess simplification. May I, therefore, point out to your readers, Sir, that the Liberals both of this School and of the rest of this country do NOT regard themselves as forming a "Centre Party", attractive as such an explanation of the Party's existence no doubt is to the majority of our countrymen. If that were so, then, with the other major parties overlapping as they do, there would be no need for a separate Liberal Party.

## Uneasy Compromise

The Liberal Party exists because it can provide something which no other party can offer to-day: a working synthesis of the twin ideals of liberty and security. Each of the other parties presents what can only be described as an uneasy compromise in which one or the other of these objects inevitably dominates the other. The Liberal Party is, in a very real sense, the opposite both of Fascism and of Communism, but its ideals can in no way be said to lie between, or even be a compromise between, theirs. It is, of course, true that Liberals tend to be moderate in their political opinions, strongly though they hold them; but those opinions are held of conviction and not out of any desire to find a *via media* between two philosophies which tend in the long run to be remarkably similar in practice as far as those who have to

the Shaw, he is the only person with sufficient confidence (!) to assert that his final degree will be anywhere between an Upper Second and a First.

But then this is typical of the man. Self-confessed a poor public speaker, he rose to be President of the Debating Society. Monotonously insistent on the line between wit and vulgarity, he nevertheless usually falls on the wrong side of it. A sandwich-eater to the last crumb and unable to appreciate that Watneys' is not all that we want, no gourmet but a gourmand, he yet became Vice-President of the Wine and Food Society—through, it must be admitted, no fault of his own. To his friends, it is no longer surprising that his Bridge is so bad, but as he wins money at cards it is obvious that his choice of partners here, if not in other fields, leads him to do the right things.

He is now ending his period of service as Court Jester and member of the Constitution Committee. For the former he will be replaced by his erstwhile stooge, Mr. Harold Cohen; for the latter, Mr. Eric Thompson survives. We see him go with regret in our hearts and sympathy for all those with whom he has yet to come in contact. We shall miss the umbrella even more.

## Colin Sweet

Like the Mr. Kremlin in Disraeli's "Sybil", Colin Sweet has only one idea and that one is wrong; but unlike Mr. Kremlin, Colin cannot be said to be noted for his ignorance. He is one of the few graduates of L.S.E. who, without ever holding elected office in the Union, has achieved honorary life membership of the Union; and his services to the School and its students during his five years here will ensure that no one will dispute the justice of the honour.

Colin's great fear in life is that one day he will so conduct himself as to be mistaken for one of the bourgeoisie; at one time he would go to great lengths to avoid being seen with anyone carrying an umbrella, and latter day reports say

liberalism, Sir, is a constructive alternative, not a weak compromise.

Yours faithfully,

ERIC J. THOMPSON,  
Secretary, L.S.E. Liberal  
Society Management Committee.

Dear Sir,

## The Missing Papers

Thefts of money are periodically reported in L.S.E. In our generosity we attribute such acts to the light fingers of strolling vagabonds, rogues and interlopers from the streets of London. I hardly think, however, that this class of criminal can be held responsible for the petty pilfering of high-class newspapers aimed at thinking people—although it is just conceivable that the "Manchester Guardian" makes excellent wrapping paper.

Nevertheless, one has only to leave a newly purchased copy on the table by the pigeon-holes unattended for a fraction of a second, and although often secured beneath a brief-case, it is skilfully removed by some artful dodger or other, and is never seen again. If such delinquency springs from inadequate grants, Lacassagne may well have been correct: "*Les Societes ont les criminels qu'elles meritent*".

There seems to be a fertile field of investigation here for the criminologist. Apparently the delinquent groups in contemporary English society are in process of being equipped with an invaluable corps *d'elite* of thieves armed with a university education.

I beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN TAYLOR.

that he has even been seen wearing a white collar. This change in has been evident in other facets his personality. The sense of humour, which his intimates always knew, has recently been produced before all the Union more than once; and the erstwhile *Wag* thumper has been replaced by a persuasive, if somewhat stoic politician.

Politics, of course, are the central feature of the past year has been frequent and somewhat rowdy *Fe* promptu discussion groups in the ground-floor corridor between the wing Tories and right-wing Communists. Provided that Colin is here, for the sixth time, next session as he may yet be, we shall lose a man who is as notable for his sincerity and intellectual honesty as ability, as many of us think he for his political wrong-headedness.

## The Sexual Problem

To the Editor of "Beaver".

Sir,

A member of the L.S.E. who reads the Social Sciences has made two startling discoveries. They are:

- (1) that he has a sex-life; and
- (2) that this sex-life is unsatisfactory.

So what does he do about it?

He does not, it seems, invite so pleasant young woman to accompany him to the cinema or theatre. He does not go to a dance that produces in him "steam-tumescence". He does not even out for a good long country walk. No. Instead, he relieves himself by writing an article to "Clare Market Review" about it. And one would expect from such a spineless fellow, he is too cowardly to put his name underneath the article.

Now this article is a nasty piece of work altogether. Written partly in sociological jargonese which, as a law student, I do not understand it tells us that all university students—except for a few clandestine libertines—lead unnatural lives as a result, the well-being of the State will be imperilled in years come. To remedy this situation, advocates the conversion of the University into a "Menagerie" which, it seems, means nothing more than a glorified Bawdy House or brothel. Having been through such an institution we are told we shall emerge fit to occupy the posts which, so it seems, will be offered to us as Leaders of Society.

The writer has, however, overlooked two considerations:

- (1) that fond parents might hesitate before they send their daughters to the University if their going there were but to gratify the lust of a petulant wretch such as he;

- (2) that the vast majority of decent men would marry none other than a virgin.

Either he is an exception or he is not decent. Having regard to his irresponsible attitude and craven nature, I incline towards the latter view.

Most young women however sensible enough to appreciate consideration (2).

Let us hope that the anonymous contributor to "Clare Market Review" will now lay down his pen and spend his time in contemplation of the essential difference between

- (a) that which selfish people want;
- (b) that which is right.

A. KYNRIC LEWIS

(Footnote: This letter is being published in full at the express request of our correspondent. Naturally, and in future, it would be accepted as it stands, for it is not the policy of "Beaver" to publish personal attacks on other students in any context—Editor)



# Hysteria of Political Ideas

with apoplexies to Prof. Oakeshott

We students (or eieves)  
Who have struggled through  
D'Entrevies,  
Who have also had a look  
At McIlwain and Cook,  
To whom Sabine's *magnum opus*  
Is a closed and open book,  
Feel we really ought  
To enlighten you on Thought.

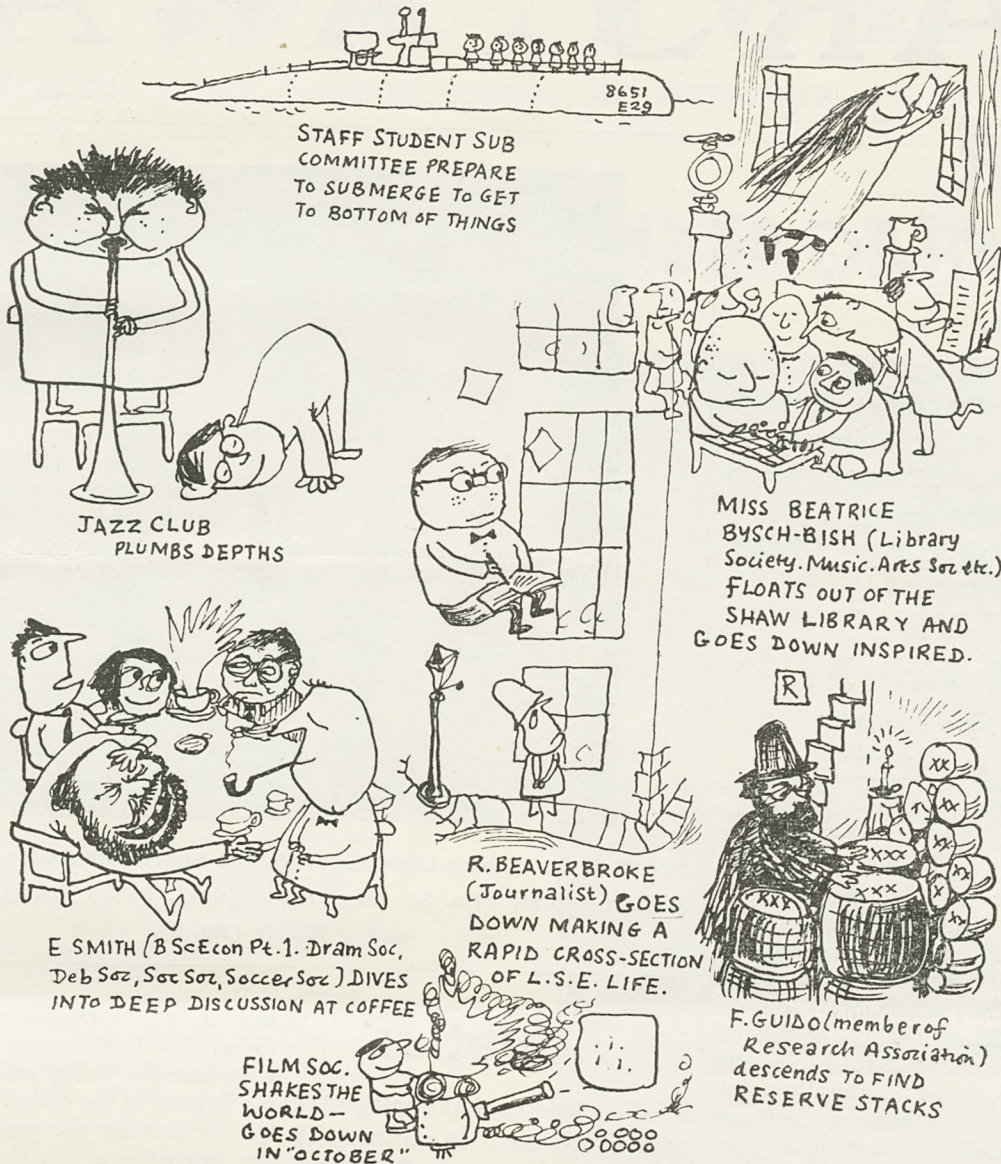
Let's start in very early times,  
With aptly ancient poems and  
rhymes:  
Thought at this time was hardly  
thoughted  
And all accounts thereof distorted:  
In fact, as our friend Oakeshott said  
it  
*Extracta mici est—non credit*”.

Moving on by easy stages  
Brings us to the Middle Ages  
When, prostituting Grace and Arts,  
Men put the whores before Des-  
cartes;  
and wallowing in this fleshly sink  
Thought not one good, clean, whole-  
some think.

Now in this ultra-modern Age  
Every workman is a sage:  
(quantum physics, evolution  
field, with deep sleep, to quick  
solution,  
for on each head a spheroid bubble  
Thinks: “Thanks to Horlicks, it's  
no trouble”.

‘BIVARIATE,’  
Room 315.

# “G - g - going down?”



by Don Aldridge

# BOOK REVIEWS

## INTERRELATIONS OF CULTURES

*Their Contribution to International Understanding.*  
U.N.E.S.C.O.; 14s. 6d.

This volume, the second in Unesco's "Collection of Inter-cultural Studies", consists of fourteen essays selected from a group submitted to a Unesco Committee of experts late in 1949 by a number of "scientists, historians, ethnologists, humanists and philosophers" on "the present stage of the indigenous cultures of the various peoples of the world and on the relations existing between these cultures". The introduction states: "Ignorance and misunderstanding of the intellectual, moral and spiritual values inherent in each culture would expose the most praiseworthy endeavours (by the specialised agencies of the U.N.) to the worst mistakes or to irreparable disaster". Although intended, as its somewhat inconsequential sub-title implies, to lessen this misunderstanding, this volume is likely only to infuriate the already well-informed by the pretentiousness of the meagre morsels it offers, and it entices its lay readers into a rich land of crude simplification, and often unsupported generalization, within which few can fail to discover attractive (but false) notions to add to their already well-stocked store-houses of misunderstanding.

The major defect of the book is that neither the conclave of editors nor most of the contributors appear to have decided what audience they are writing for. Its only redeeming feature is its dullness: this should be a sufficient deterrent to most of those who might otherwise be tempted to read it. Most of it need never have been written. May it stand as a permanent reminder to Unesco that when careful forethought is neglected no amount of academic knowledge or understanding can save "the most praiseworthy endeavours" from "irreparable disaster".

GABRIEL NEWFIELD.

*University Teaching of the Social Sciences—International Relations,*  
by C. A. Manning. Published by U.N.E.S.C.O. (Min. of Education).

Prof. Manning here collates reports on the status, teaching and subject matter of International Relations in eight countries and usefully adds his own comments to an "informative but otherwise uninteresting publication".

The value of the subject matter is undisputed, but not so its claim to stand as a legitimate field of scientific enquiry within the social sciences. Professor Manning exhaustively covers the points at issue: the qualities necessary in the teaching staff, the manner and level at which it should be taught and particularly the attitude of mind required of the student of the subject. His contribution is a reasoned and worthy plea for the acceptance of International Relations as a separate University discipline.

R. G. HENDERSON.

*The Clare Market Review—Summer Term issue.*  
Editor: G. Newfield. Published by L.S.E. Students' Union.

I found this publication interesting.—C. R. ATTLEE.

## LOST PROPERTY

All those students who have ended up the year lacking something more than a first-class honours degree may be able to make good their losses at the W.U.S. Lost Property sale which will be held on Thursday next in Room 8 at 2.30 p.m. Anyone having anything to add to the pile will be welcome.

# RED ELEPHANTS?

In the evening of Tuesday, May 18th, a party of L.S.E. students was invited by the Bulgarian Charge d'Affaires (M. Christo Tatev) to a film show of the Bulgarian feature film, "Dawn Over The Fatherland", at the Hammer Theatre, Wardour St.

The party comprised a small group of Communist Society members anxious to discover how the patriotic youth brigades had rebuilt Bulgaria after the war, and a larger group of right-wing cynics, even more anxious to discover the refreshments which it was rumoured could be served afterwards.

## Riper Tomatoes

The main feature was preceded by a short coloured film which in theory was intended to illustrate the achievements of the collective farm, which in fact was a greater success as an advertisement for Bulgarian tomatoes which, we were informed, ripened earlier, grew larger, and contained more vitamins than any other tomato which we might have been inveigled into consuming.

The main feature itself was the simple story of a youth who joined Work Brigade under pressure from his parents, though he himself was as yet unconvinced of the fallibility of the Communist Party. As the film progresses, the youth gradually becomes aware of the glories of the totalitarian regime, until, after about an hour of well-organised mass hysteria and fight worthy of Hollywood, he finally achieved that state of complete happiness which can only be reached when one has accepted unconditionally the maxim that—to quote from the sub-titles—"The Party Does Not Make Mistakes".

## Patronising Understanding

The general attitude of the audience as the lights went up seemed to be one of patronising understanding: this sort of thing was all right for the simple Bulgarian but was all just too naive to convince intelligent English student. Then the refreshments appeared...

After the first round feeling became slightly but decidedly pro-Bulgarian—"the uninhibited enthusiasm of the free youth was truly estimable".

## Communist Propaganda

Half an hour later, a certain young lady of Tory sympathies was heard to remark to a member of the Legation staff that of course Western antipathy was largely based on ignorance.

Later still, a prominent member of the Conservative Society, raising a shaky glass in the direction of an Embassy official, and mumbling the Bulgarian equivalent of "Cheers", confessed himself lost in admiration of tomatoes.

By the end of the evening many habitually pink elephants had assumed a reddish glow. If this is Communist propaganda, let's have more of it!

# SUBURBIA

I think that Hell must be a suburbia of well-cut lawns stretching to a green infinity; where little automatons of respectable souls clip, clip at imaginary hedges and survey with pride a fantasy of redbrick gothic houses: protesting at the fact that the Sun (with a deplorable lack of tact) is blistering the varnish from their lives So here with bright striped awnings they hide the light from rooms, conspicuous for their meticulous tidiness; where ideas are carefully dusted every Sunday and values neatly ranged along a marble mantelpiece with an overall solidity which proclaims, "All this which is so right shall never cease". Who knows? They might be correct and Hell remain a suburbia of well-cut lawns stretching to a green eternity.

ROBIN FOX

# SASSENACHS WHA HAE!

L.S.E.'s youngest Society, the Scottish Covenant Society, held its inaugural meeting last week. Its aim is to promote the lessening of such hostility as exists in England to the proposal that there should be a separate Parliament in Scotland to deal with Scottish affairs, within the framework of the United Kingdom.

The basis of this proposal, which is part of Liberal Party policy, enjoys the support of a substantial minority of the Conservative Party, and has traditionally, from Keir Hardie onwards, had the support of the Labour Party, is partly sentimental—a widespread awareness among the people of Scotland that they belong to a nation culturally separate and different from England and a feeling that this cultural difference is sufficient to warrant institutional recognition in the form

of a separate Scottish legislature—and partly practical—a growing realisation of the inadequacy of the existing framework of government in Scotland combined with a conviction that in devolution lies a realistic solution.

The Society is bound to consist mainly of English students, but students from all countries—even from Scotland!—will be welcome to join. Although the Society's aims are overtly political, it does not intend confining itself to sedate politics, and social events will play a large part in its activities.

# SOCIETY LIFE

Beaver's roving reporter understands from a usually unreliable source that the Constitution Committee is at present examining the *bona fides* of the following Societies which have applied for official recognition by the Union: Anarcho-Syndicalists Society; London Inter-Faculty Gamblers' Club; Darts Club; Innominate Club; Ruanda-Urundi Society; Students' Independence Society; Indifferentists Society; Licensing Laws Reform Society; Whig Society, Use More Wool Society; Enemies of the Rectory Society; Make-up Society; Anti-Make-up Society; Examinations Abolition Society; Watkins Society; Gardening Society; and Society Society.

The General Secretary is reported to be seriously concerned about the shortage of Notice Boards which will arise if all these Societies are granted recognition.



# OARS AWAY

## TO RAG OR NOT TO RAG

by Marguerite Watkins

Is it because L.S.E. is a relatively new college that it is so totally incapable of producing a "rag" in the true student tradition? Or is it because, being a college of the University of London, situated half way between Oxford and Cambridge, and the provincial Universities in the academic hierarchy, it finds it impossible to generate either the established insanity of the old or the youthful madness of the new Universities?

On June 17th the Men's Boat Club entertained members of the college to an enjoyable social event at the University Boat House in Chiswick . . . but in spite of its name, it was *not* a "rag". The afternoon was devoted to a series of races between inexperienced crews, too bad to be regarded seriously but too good to be funny. Why couldn't the Boat Club have borrowed a few ideas from the Cambridge "Bumps" if its aim was to "rag", or show us more of John Dunkley's sculling if it had a more serious end in view?

If the event is to be judged as a "Rag Regatta" it was a flop. If on the other hand the Boat Club merely intended to provide an ordinary afternoon and evening's entertainment . . . then since "none can compass more than he intends" they must be given at least half marks, for the dance in the evening was obviously enjoyed by all those brave souls who had managed to survive the afternoon, and, in spite of the misgivings expressed by at least three of the six V.P. candidates present, the bar did not run out of beer.

### RESULTS:

**Society Fours**—The Scottish Covenanters won easily from the Catholic Society.

**Club Fours**—The Rugger Club was beaten in the finals by the Cricket "C" crew.

**Women's Pairs**—There were only two entries, both from the Fencing Club, whose "A" crew was successful.

**Women's Sculls**—This event was won by Paddy Tooley, who beat Margaret Fletcher by half a length in her heat and Beryl Smith by rather more in the finals.

**Men's Sculls**—The Men's Sculling Race was won by John Dunkley, who beat Peter Musset by four lengths in his heat and went on to beat Brian Carpenter in the finals.

(SPORTS EDITOR. — Everyone whom I have met and who went to the Rag seemed to have enjoyed it. Personally, I thoroughly enjoyed it, although I did not attend.)

## HOME AND AWAY

by "Scipio"

### U and the S.U.

The air of superiority worn by the Whips of the various political parties at the School recently should be dispelled by a report reaching "Beaver" office. Our counterpart at the University of Ljubana, "Tribuna", complains that only 218 of the 900 members attended the A.G.M. of the Student Union of the Faculty of Philosophy there. "Tribuna" naturally points out that "this proves how deficient the political and ideological education is at this faculty and how widespread bourgeois and clerical views are". In view of the much smaller numbers usually attending our own Union, we pass on the advice of "Tribuna" that "the students should be brought together into small political work-groups and receive personal attention (!) there".

### Mo(o)re Reclining Figures . . . ?

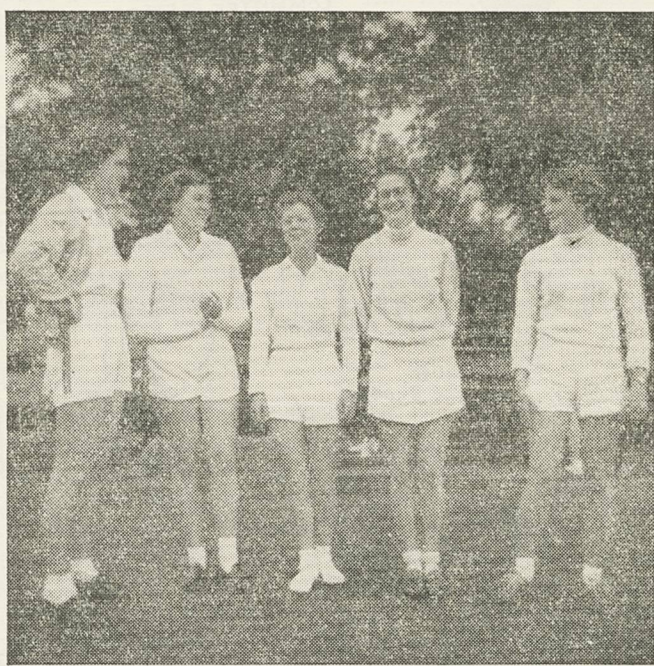
We are informed by the I.U.S. Information Service that young poets, writers, artists, sculptors, dramatists and musicians have been asked to contribute original works on "the life of young people in the countryside".

### Tactless Strikes Again!

Delegates absent from the student parliament of the University of Helsinki are to be punished by having their names printed in the student newspaper, "Ylioppilaslehti".

### Ours is a Nice University, Ours is!

From the peculiarly-named paper of Marseilles University—"Cave Canem"—we hear that the Student Council of Nice is also going into journalism. Of course, there was no difficulty about the title . . . "Nice-Universite".



The Women's Novices Light Four: (left to right) Sylvia Brown (No. 1), Barbara Morely (No. 3), Beryl Smith (Cox), Paddy Tooley (Stroke), Audrey Morris (No. 2).

## Athletics

L.S.E. athletes have played a prominent part in University athletics this season. Outstanding among them is A. I. D. Francis, the Puerto Rican Olympic hurdler. He succeeded in winning all three hurdling events in the London University Championships, setting up new records in each, and followed this up with similar successes in the hurdling events at the A.U.A. Championships. He has run regularly this season for both L.S.E. and for the University and has been a consistent winner, numbering among his victims the reigning British Champion, P. B. Mildrith.

Francis, however, is not L.S.E.'s only top-line athlete. Three very promising athletes have emerged from the ranks of this year's freshers: D. H. Price, who won the University hop-step-and-jump title but was unfortunately prevented from further competition by a leg injury; J. B. Herrey, who runs for the first University team and came second to the new star, J. S. Evans, in the recent London v. Paris match; and John Fulbrook, who has, in addition to representing the University in the high jump, proved himself an invaluable member of the L.S.E. team, putting the shot, throwing the javelin and taking part in long jump and hop-step-and-jump competitions.

Two old hands have been victims of injury this season. Terry Keagan, after running second to Bailey, of I.C., in the London v. Paris match and in the University Championships, injured his knee and has been unable to run since; and Ralph Dunkerly, who was a member of the quartet that broke the world 4 x 1500 metres relay record last year, has been unable to run at all this year as a result of an injury sustained while cross-country running.

## Y.H.A.

The First-Year members of the Y.H.A. Club spent the weekend of 28th-30th May walking in the Thames Valley. On Friday the group stayed at the hostel in Streatley and on the following day

walked over to Henley, where they found that the marquees and stands were already being assembled for the Regatta at the end of the month. On the Sunday the party followed the towpaths to the village of Henley, where, much against the advice of one of the members, who knew the area well, they stopped for a drink in one of the most exclusive and expensive inns on the Thames—so much for the economics of Club members. The final stage of the journey was undertaken by river steamer (an innovation in hiking practice).

However, in return for the entertainment derived from hostelling, five more members are going to Ivinghoe hostel on the 11th June to carry out repairs and decorations.

## Riding Club

On Wednesday, May 19th, the Riding Club held its first Open Gymkhana. The weather—believe it or not—was good, and the paddock, usually water-logged, was in good condition. The horses played up to the occasion very well, so well in fact that one of the Committee bit the dust in the first Potato Race (no names).

The competition of the Coombe Hill Club was very keen, but L.S.E. fought back; the treasurer's effort in the sack race had to be seen to be believed. The experienced, riding her own horse, Russet, proved a match for the best of the opponents, her first in the Open Jumping being particularly worthy of note.

### Results:

Wendy Bradlaw	four 1sts, two 2nds
Michael Greenane	two 3rds
Carrin Currimje	one 3rd
Stanley Chapman	one 3rd
Maureen Gibson	one 3rd
Anne Furniss	two 2nds
Paul Marchand	one 2nd
Bob Yazgi	one 4th

### L.S.E. Best Rider Class:

1st	Wendy Bradlaw
2nd	Ann Furniss
3rd	Carrin Currimje

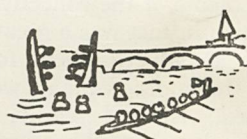
## Women Have Mixed Fortunes

By an unfortunate stroke fate the Women's Boat Club lost what was probably the last race this year, by only half a length at Bristol on Saturday June 12th. Owing to exhaustion which laid premature claim on three members of the Senior Four at the end of last term (Captain Jill Garrett (stroke), Eunice Hallet (No. 2), and Dorothy Mellor (cox)) the crew entered in the Bristol Regatta was a Novice Four, in view of which the result was not satisfactory.

Not only were L.S.E. beaten in the finals at Bristol, but by the time the race took place the last team had already departed, leaving the wet and weary women tramping round Bath in filthy shorts looking for somewhere to sleep. Eventually beds were found back in Bristol and the first meal of the day was consumed at the nearest fish and chip shop.

Taken on the whole the Rowing Year has not been unworthy of L.S.E.'s sporting tradition. Since last October the College Four has beaten Bristol University away, Leeds University and Q.M.C. Chiswick, all by a clear two lengths. In "The Head of River" (Women's), the Senior Four was beaten in the finals. The Novice Four suffered a less glorious feat but at that time they were junior and it may be safely said that their performance was not promising.

Last month the Novice crew of Southampton's second boat by lengths at Southampton, and following week they went on to the "Frankie's Fours" by five seconds, in six minutes, one second taking only six seconds longer than the winning Senior boat to complete the one mile course.



## TO R. J. . . .

(Tune: "Who is Sylvia?")

What's my subject? Such is his name  
That all the Union knows him  
Speaker good (though loud) is his name  
So Chairmen often call him,  
And attentive we must be.

Is he wise and eloquent?  
All wisdom in him's lacking,  
Knowledge to his lips doth flow  
But he soon sends it packing,  
And so, without that, he's no wing.

So to this speaker, let us sing  
That he, all wits excelling,  
Always gets the loudest laugh  
Within our Union's dwelling—  
But never to him votes to bring!

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