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# BEAVER

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POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC SCIENCE

NEWSPAPER OF THE STUDENTS' UNION, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL  
SCIENCE (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

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# ORIGINAL RESEARCH IN MONEY AND BANKING?

## EX L.S.E. STUDENT ROBS BANK!



MISS FRESHER 1955? (No. 1)

Miss Marion Puddick, 1st year L.L.B., "Beaver's" Maid Marion!

How's about it making you wake up, you Sociologists?

(See "Beaver" Editorial.)

By Our Criminal Editor

The sentence of four years penal servitude passed last week by a  
Dublin Court on a London University Economics Graduate has failed  
to clear up a series of baffling problems.

For though the accused and an ac-  
complice were caught redhanded (the  
strong room of the Bank they were  
raiding actually blowing up whilst  
they were being questioned outside)  
it is believed by the authorities that  
another man, the directing brain of  
the trio, has got clean away.

for his degree, but it may be pre-  
sumed that he took an exceptional  
interest in the study of Applied  
Economics: after leaving College he  
worked with a Lombard Street firm  
before ambitiously venturing forth  
into his somewhat more original re-  
search into money and banking  
methods.

Captain P. Cowan, the defence  
Council for Ronald Littlewood, an  
ex-student of L.S.E., maintained to  
the end that there was some person,  
not in the court and not in Ireland,  
who was the organiser behind the  
scenes in this matter, and it is  
freely reported that inquiries into  
his possible identity have now been  
switched to London.

It would be monstrous to seri-  
ously suggest that this unfortunate  
young man fell into bad ways  
whilst still at the School, but it is  
not without academic interest to  
cogitate as to whether or not he  
and his shadow accomplice did not  
perhaps plan their raid in the quiet  
seclusion of the Shaw Library or  
the Graham Wallis Room.

Detective Sergeant Gurvey, the  
Officer who made the arrest, said in  
evidence that Littlewood had been  
trained in the use of explosives  
whilst in the Army and had associ-  
ated with bad company on coming  
up to London.

Several questions still remain  
unanswered. Who first inspired the  
thought that there was more money  
to be made in robbing the bank than  
in working for it? Where is "the  
remote cottage" much sought after  
by the police? And who is the  
mysterious third man? Your guess  
is as good as mine (and probably  
better!).

Despite the most patient investi-  
gation it has proved impossible to  
ascertain to which department  
Littlewood belonged whilst reading

## "UNTRUTHFUL, VINDICTIVE"

V.P. Attacks Beaver Article

by Roy Gardiner

As provocative journalism the article  
in the last issue of "Beaver" con-  
cerning Part I results rang true of  
the modern press. It was untruthful,  
in bad taste, and represented an un-  
successful and vindictive attack by  
an unenlightened. It was "unsuc-  
cessful" since the article included state-  
ments of such sweeping generalisation  
as to lay itself open to the most  
stringent criticism. It was "in bad  
taste" since I consider the interpre-  
tation of this article by Freshmen  
could only give a misleading impres-  
sion of academic life at L.S.E.

There were points at which I  
felt the article came a little near the  
truth. It is true that some of the  
tutors are not model schoolmasters  
who prepare not only your path but  
also see that your feet are placed  
fairly and squarely upon it; some  
do not even prepare your path. But  
that is not what they are there for!  
The purpose envisaged in allocating  
students to tutors is to give the  
student someone to whom he can  
go for advice upon all subjects,  
academic or otherwise. The tutorial  
system is such that the student may  
gain advice if he so desires it. If  
the system does not work it is not  
necessarily the fault of the tutor.  
The student must realise that he  
and his tutor must work as partners.  
If the tutee does not go to see his  
tutor the latter then can suppose  
that the former is happy and con-  
tented with his life at L.S.E. and  
with his academic progress. It is  
part of the tutors work to teach and  
to encourage the student; he is  
there neither to insist that he works  
nor even to conjoin him into work-  
ing.

Most students will find that if they  
show a genuine interest in a sub-  
ject their tutors will not only be  
interested in the students' work but  
also in the students themselves.  
There are exceptions to this gener-  
alisation but they are few and it is  
up to the student to report a tutor  
whom he considers is not giving  
him the proper advice. If the  
tutorial system is to work the

students must make it work; it  
is for their benefit.

With regard to the comments  
upon the admission of students it  
would appear that the writer of the  
article has got to know few of his  
fellow-students during his time at  
L.S.E. If this were not the case I  
feel sure his comments would have  
been more cautious. Would the  
writer suggest an Admissions Board  
should attempt to decide between  
two people of equal potential and  
offer admission to one and not to  
the other? Would this not be in-  
vidious? Or would the writer pre-  
fer the standards for admission to  
be raised? If this is so, his desires  
are indeed satisfied because this is  
what is happening. The last two  
years have seen the last of the  
students whose education suffered  
from the disruptive effects of  
evacuation during the war. The  
training of the Fresher generally  
has been continuous and the general  
standard of education of the  
Freshers is higher upon admission  
than their immediate predecessors.  
This was borne out by the figures  
of the failure rate in Part I which  
have shown a drop of some 5%  
over the last three years. In 1952  
rather less than 18% of Internal  
students taking Part I for the first  
time failed. In 1955 rather more  
than 12% of such students failed.  
Where, then, did the writer get the  
figure of 27%. The secret of this  
lay in the tail of the first sentence,  
which read: "as given by the candi-  
dates' numbering". The author  
had estimated from the list of re-  
sults displayed at L.S.E. (that is  
the unofficial list) that 27% of the  
examination numbers of candidates  
were not to be found either on the  
Pass List or upon the Referred  
List. Of this 27%, 12% were In-  
ternal students undergoing a full-  
time course who had sat the exami-  
nation for the first time. The  
majority of these were foreign  
students whose knowledge of the  
English language was too scanty  
for them to be able to express  
themselves clearly or whose know-

ledge was gained too late for them  
to be able to read widely enough  
during their first year. Of the  
British students there were some  
chronic failures and there were  
those who never got to the exami-  
nation room (but to whom a number  
had been allocated) but a large pro-  
portion of the failures were among  
the Evening Students who took the  
Part I as an Internal examinee.  
Either through the difficulties of  
preparation or some other reason,  
such as the inability to spend  
sufficient time reading, the Evening  
student is prone to fall by the way-  
side in the rush for honours in  
Part I.

However, the majority of the  
27% was made up of people who  
were taking the examination for the  
second and third times and who  
failed again. Once away from the  
full-time course and from super-  
vision the student meets very great  
difficulties and his chances of pass-  
ing the course are slight, but  
such is human nature that these  
people continue to sit the exami-  
nation in the hope of passing. Added  
to these various categories we may  
note the few people who were taken  
ill during the examination and only  
just failed to pass. The article in-  
sisted that of last year's people  
3 in every 11 failed. I would only  
ask the writer to remember how  
difficult it was this term to deduce  
who among the day students had  
failed and who had not: the diffi-  
culty arose solely because there  
were few.

The examination by its very  
nature calls for continuous work but  
it should not be thought that it  
needs eight separate sets of work.  
The subjects are quite distinctly  
related although some of the re-  
lationships are not obvious to the  
Fresher. It is not until late in the  
first year that one sees the clear  
dovetailing of Economic History  
with Applied Economics and  
Political History with the History  
of Political Ideas and the inter-  
relation of these groups. It is the  
student who realises these cor-

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continued from previous column

relations first and thinks in terms of  
them who does best in the Part I  
examination. To reduce the num-  
ber of subjects or to split the Part I  
into two halves of four subjects  
each, one half to be taken at the  
end of the first year and the other  
at the end of the second, would

continued from previous column

(a) reduce the B.Sc.(Econ.) from an  
Honours to a General degree, and  
(b) ruin the social life of L.S.E.,  
such as it is. The best that can be  
hoped for is either the reduction of  
the number of subjects to 7 or 6 or  
for a change in the syllabuses of the  
8 subjects.

# USIKUGOMA—TO BE OR NOT TO BE?

It has long been the tradition of the Union that some time during the Michaelmas or Lent term the Overseas Students' Societies should combine to present Usikugoma—an International Night of Festivities. For those who are new to the School I would add that in the past this occasion has been most successful, all societies co-operating to produce what has always been a most colourful and entertaining evening of International music and dancing.

## No Interest

This year, however, everything is to be different. For it would seem that the Overseas Students' Societies no longer have any interest in Usikugoma. This year the event had been planned for November 19th, at the culminating point of International Students' Week, all profits, as in the past, making up L.S.E.'s contribution to the World University Service. A letter was sent to all Overseas Students' Societies giving them adequate notice of a meeting to be held to plan the event, and asking them to send along one of their representatives. Who came?—merely someone from the Jewish Society and the Overseas Students Officer; and absolutely nothing else was heard from anyone.

## Responsibilities

Now at this rate there is simply not going to be a Usikugoma this term; this function, more than any

other is absolutely dependent upon the work done by the National Societies if it is to be successfully organised at all. It is up to them to arrange and hire artists and performers, and indeed organise the whole evening. Ents. Com. and myself are responsible only for co-ordination and routine administration. We cannot put on Usikugoma in the same way as we can a Saturday Hop or Bar Social; in this particular case virtually the whole effort must come from those students who wish to present it. If the effort is not forthcoming, then there is little that we of the Social Department can do.

## Frankly Speaking . . .

Let me be frank. Neither the Ents. Comm. nor myself would be particularly worried if Usikugoma were not held until next term. On top of the normal routine work of arranging Hops and Socials, there is still a great deal of work to be done in preparation for the Commemoration Ball; and further, we now have a mere six weeks in which to write, rehearse and present a Revue that has got to be really good. If it is not there may never be another one. In short, the Social Depart-

ment has more than got its hands full already; but we were still prepared to arrange Usikugoma if sufficient enthusiasm and assistance showed itself. Suffice it to say that it has not.

## Alternative Date?

If the Overseas Students do not want another Usikugoma that is their concern. It would be quite easy for us to raise funds for W.U.S. by holding a dance on the 19th instead; the Overseas Students could then hold Usikugoma as and when they wished. Certainly it would be a great pity not to hold it at the end of International Students Week, but the fault will not be ours. I can only add that if Usikugoma is delayed until next term, the Social Department would be able to give a great deal more assistance, when the fantastic amount of work the Revue is at present involving will be out of the way.

But Usikugoma can still be held this term, although it might now be something of a rushed job, and personally I would advise delaying it. The decision, however, rests now with the students concerned; they must wake out of their apathy and decide—SOON. We cannot afford to waste time when there is so much else to do. Unless some definite sign is given within the next day or two, Usikugoma will have to be cancelled, at least until next term.

PETER MITCHELL.



## Beaver Blunders

From Our Last Issue:—

Nevertheless, let us not forget the Delphic Oracle as conveyed by Professor Oakeshott—"Moderation in all things, especially in moderation."

## POLECONIC POST

To the Editor of "Beaver".

Sir,

We, the undersigned, view with alarm the high cost of meals in the refectory, coupled with the overcrowding and delays which occur during certain hours of the day.

Many of us find that better and cheaper meals can be obtained outside the college, but it is not often easy to do this when the break between lectures is only one hour.

The finances of most students are such that cheap but adequate meals are an essential. We feel that this problem should be given greater consideration by the authorities.

Yours, etc.,

JOHN A. PAISEY P. K. HALL  
D. RUSHTON A. FAWCITT  
R. TYLDESLEY B. PARKES  
M. CANDLISH D. E. M. WALKER  
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JOHN CHURCHILL R. BIRD  
W. R. EDMONDSON W. LONGSON  
K. SIDDLER.

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Assistant Editor:

JOHN SIDLE

Sports Editor:

GETHIN WILLIAMS

## International Forum

The formation of a new Society here at L.S.E. would not normally call for comment. Societies come and go so frequently that only the General Secretary can ever be quite sure which are still functioning at any given moment of time.

They are as a rule devoted to one section of our community, albeit at times a large section, and this quite naturally tends to narrow the outlook of the membership.

Last week, however, a new Society, all-embracing in its outlook and universal in membership, held its inaugural meeting in Room 8, and it is a mark of its virility that a room of lesser size would have been far too cramped to have contained the numbers attending.

The International Forum, founded by Karl Grossman and Honor Kibblewhite, has linked together people from all continents, parties, and creeds in a fellowship that seems quite unique, and it is hoped that the discussions arising from its future meetings will be both stimulating and instructive.

Disputes are continually breaking out throughout the world; emotions soon become enflamed, and often in cases where national prestige is concerned one's judgment may well become clouded. If Hindu and Moslem, Jew and Arab, Communist and Capitalist, are to learn to live together in peace, they must do so through the difficult process of adjustment and mutual understand-

ing, and not through military occupation.

Here in the Forum it is hoped that students of all nations will be able to discuss current problems in a quiet atmosphere of peace and understanding. There can be no welcome for the cynic; neither for the blue-eyed idealist who may hope to solve all the world's outstanding problems at a series of afternoon tea-parties.

## Wanted!

The appeal last week for a 1955 fresher model has so far met with little response. Undoubtedly L.S.E. has been blessed this year with a bevy of beauties whose natural demureness and quiet personal charm has overcome their eagerness to earn the guinea prize. However, natural shyness must be overcome some time, and to be hailed Miss Fresher 1955 is the certain way to fame and social success throughout your student career.

So don't be shy! Send in your photograph, to me, either personally or through the "Beaver" pigeon-hole. Your names are essential; your phone numbers and home addresses of considerable interest to my newly appointed staff and other Union Officers.

## Coming Events

The Entertainments Committee present for your future enjoyment:—

Hops on —

Saturday, 22nd October, to Leo Lorenz Group. Tickets 2/-, on sale all week.

Next week's Public Business. Arthur Gaitskell, member of Royal Commission on East Africa speaks on his recent book, "What have they to Defend?"

4th November, Passfield Hall Mid-term Dance.

Saturday, 19th November, Usikugoma (we hope?!).

29th and 30th November, Revue (but we need your help).

9th December, Commem. Ball, of course.

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## The Best Show in Town

by Roland Freeman

A "Beaver" columnist once remarked that Union Meetings were "the best entertainment in town." If the first Private Meeting this term was rather dull, with the customary polemics between the partisans of the International Union of Students and those who are something more than sceptical about the motives of that organisation, the second meeting certainly showed signs of returning to its old form.

As one generation of wits and hecklers passes out the vacuum soon vanishes and we perceive David Jones demanding action to promote the "welfare of the youth of Westminster" and Marshall Harris delivering a public recantation of his society's "anti-social behaviour over slips in the Refectory" (almost an ideological error, Marshall).

Question-time, as always, veers from the frivolous to the serious with startling rapidity; this week from enquiries about the bursting strength of paper towels in the Men's Cloakroom, to allegations of official obstruction regarding a proposed Communist Society meeting on Cyprus. Union Council, of course, offers to investigate and tension relaxes—for the time being.

Our Union Meeting, which is unique in the student world, bears many resemblances to the House of Commons. On a big occasion such as the famous Mosley debate last year, the same highly-charged, electric atmosphere is created and sustained. Yet there is a significant difference: votes are determined not exclusively by party allegiance, but much more by the persuasiveness of the speakers who take the floor. In the Mosley debate, for example, opinion appeared to change sharply as the discussion proceeded.

## Fletcher Resigns

The Union's Public Business Officer, Peter Fletcher, has resigned. "Beaver" understands that this has no connection with the question asked by Bill Capstick at last week's Union meeting challenging the need for a Public Business Officer, since the President now does all the work. The job now consists mainly of entertaining guests of the Union to dinner. Well—any offers?

## Round the Parties

### No. 4 THE COMMUNIST SOCIETY

Let's raise the Iron Curtain around our own little bunch of Communists at L.S.E. and find out just what they are up to.

The one reality which overshadows all others is that Comrade Colin Sweet has gone. He is now a paid Communist Party official, responsible for organising "political activities" in all of Britain's colleges. Congratulations on your promotion, Colin!

Incidentally, he got the job after the "resignation" of his predecessor, Tony Goss, whose organisation of "Student Action" was anything but successful. Just a minor purge with real interest for L.S.E. Communists.

So what's left? Marshall Harris (he got 1st in Logic) will now be the key man down among the Bolshies. He has one notable success to his credit. When everyone thought he was going right he was merely enticing Mr. Greenstreet into the fold. And he succeeded. Many observers find little difference between the aims and ideology of Soc. Soc. and Comm. Soc. Nor does Mr. Greenstreet apparently.

Step forward Comrade Nixon. She failed to be elected as a V.P. last term, and promptly joined the Comm. Soc. Who was that wicked opportunist who labelled Red Ruth a Communist during her election campaign? This is the trumirrate that will be responsible for the "education" of the uncommitted and the potential believers alike.

They started this term with a bang. At the first Union Meeting, packed with unsuspecting freshers, they organised the most innocuous lurking assault on President Freeman. I came out believing I.U.S. was a philanthropic body akin to the W.V.S. Marshall Harris and Ruth Nixon, discussing the meeting afterwards, congratulated themselves warmly on the success of their deception.

But there are stumbling blocks. To repeat, Colin Sweet has gone

and so has his subtle approach and incomparable knowledge of student affairs. Membership doesn't increase and each year's intake of freshers seem to be more reactionary than the last.

Nevertheless, L.S.E. Comm. Soc. does possess the most original poster artist in the school. Watch their notice board for this attraction alone.

To the unstable and unsuspecting—beware. The Communists at L.S.E. want to show you first how great your potentialities are. They know that at base you are only yearning for expression.

Take my advice, when you see the beacon shining raise your leg before they raise your hopes.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

#### Marriages

MARTYN-THORNTON. "Beaver is pleased to report the marriage of Mr. John Martyn, ex-President of this Union, to Miss Margaret Thornton, also an ex-student of the school. The wedding took place on June 24th and the couple are now living in West London.

SCHOFIELD-HILL. The marriage took place on August 24th of Mr. Albert Schofield, ex-student of the school, and Miss Penny Hill, third-year sociology student. Penny, a prominent member of the dramatic society, has returned to L.S.E. to complete her course.

#### Engagements

TALLINTYRE-LYONS. The engagement took place during the vacation, of Mr. Douglas Tallintyre, third-year B.Sc. Econ. student, to Miss Maureen Lyons, also a third-year B.Sc. Econ. student. We wish them well.

STUBBS-KNIGHT. The engagement is also announced of Mr. Bill Stubbs to Miss Beth Knight, a third-year B.Sc. Econ. student. Mr. Stubbs, who was a student at the school last year, has now returned to the United States, from whence he came, but we understand that Beth will join him when she has finished her course, in time for an autumn wedding.

## The State of The Union

The political system at L.S.E. is a five-party one, consequently the parties here do not correspond exactly to those in the outside world.

The Communists are the Communists, for example, but the fellow-travellers are all in the Socialist Society—Soc. Soc. Working round, we find that the Bevanites are gathered into Lab. Soc. (the Labour Society) and the Butskillites and Radicals into Lib. Soc. with the Liberals. Any politicians left over will be found forming Con. Soc.

Now it might as well be admitted from the outset that these political divisions have influenced Union decisions. Some political decisions have been inevitable, but many are merely fatuous extensions of political alliances into irrelevant fields. This can easily be corrected, of course, if the less extreme elements are as keen on attending Union Meetings as the politicians. Union Meetings may be a little hard to follow at first, but the effort always proves worth while. You will find that first year students are always welcome at Union Meetings (the second and third year students always know by now what they themselves will be saying and like to hear new views). It should, perhaps, be added that there is no discrimination by seniority in the Union whatsoever. All you have to do is to find out what's happening—and then join in. The first step is to read this article to learn the general set-up, and the second is to read the part of Standing Orders dealing with procedure at Union Meetings (all student bodies seem to over-emphasise procedure), and the third step is to attend Meetings regularly. After that you'll be in the thick of it before you know where you are!

The general political picture is very interesting this year. Immediately after the war the political

life of the Union was dominated by the Communists. Their control was soon broken by the Liberals, but the Labour Society quickly re-established the Left Wing in firm control. This Labour monopoly was broken last year by the Liberals and Conservatives, who, together, seem to be as strong as the three other parties combined. It will be interesting to see how long the new "controlling interest" will last—and this will mainly depend on how the new students are situated politically.

Perhaps we should give you a few words of warning about which prominent second and third year students to watch (graduates playing an active part in any branch of Union life are deplorably rare). Well, working down from the top, we start with the President of the Union. As such, Roland Freeman is clearly above politics, but before his apotheosis he was the most astute Conservative politician in the School. His place as main Conservative spokesman will probably be taken by Graham Gooding—a second year student who is said to have no personal ambition in the Union and therefore to be free to work for the greater glory of Con. Soc.

The Conservative Society is also said to have a Chairman called Michael Anderson.

The Chairman of the Liberal Society is also unobtrusive, but Derek Walker's influence can always be felt behind the scenes at crucial moments. He is one of our best orators—his chief rival here being John Hipkin, a reactionary "Suez Group" Old Tory. Apart from Derek the outstanding Liberal figures are Roy Gardainer, renowned for his efficiency as Welfare Vice-President, and Eric Thompson, the active political representative of the Society. The Liberal man-of-the-future, however, is

likely to be Tom Dale, the new General Secretary.

The President of the Labour Society is one, David Rubenstein, an American postgraduate doing research into the history of the Liberal Party! He distinguished himself by making his first speech in the union an announcement as to the attitude the Lab. Soc. Executive Committee wanted its members to take on the motion being then discussed; but, now he has settled down and his influence has become more moderate. In general, however, the Labour Society is bereft personality—one reason for its recent decline.

There are, however, well known politicians further to the left, for example, there is Colin Boulter, the "Teddy Boy of L.S.E." He is one of our experts on External Affairs and is a well known and well liked exponent of the Socialist viewpoint on all issues. Much further left still is Miss Ruth Nixon. She announced her conversion to Communism as soon as she was defeated in the last elections for General Secretary, and is expected to be the main Communist spokesman this year. She will be assisted by Marshall Harris, no doubt, if the rumours of his lapses from orthodoxy are not borne out.

These, then, are some of the people to watch on the political scene this year—freshers apart. You will be able to read further comments on their antics in each issue of "Beaver," this term under the heading "The State of the Union", over the tactfully anonymous signature of A. POLITICUS.

#### COPPLESTONE COMING

Mr. Frank Copplestone, President of the National Union of Students, will be speaking at the Union next Thursday, October 27th, at 6.30 p.m.

## MAINLY FOR FRESHERS

To start with, it should be understood that this is written by one student for others; it is the story of how I got through Part I. For official advice see your tutor.

We begin with an Awful Warning. Getting a degree is not as hard as almost everyone thinks at first, but don't let this discovery persuade you to go to the other extreme and think it needs no effort.

Now one or two specific points. Books. Do not buy them indiscriminately. You will be given titles by the Lecturers, and second and third year students will usually be only too pleased to unload some of their experience on to you. You should be able to meet them through your Faculty Society. If you haven't got one to joint yet, you should consult the Secretary of the Union Constitution Committee about starting one.

You should also be warned at the outset about the differences from School that will particularly affect you here. There is, for example, the fact that you will not be even expected to cover the complete syllabus in most subjects. The examination papers are arranged to give a wide range of questions—and you should check up on this now by going to Sennet House (in Russell Square—straight up past Holborn Tube Station and on the left) and obtaining copies both of the Regulations for the degree and of the actual papers for the past three or four years.

Another difference is the degree of supervision. This, however, varies from tutor to tutor—essays may be given by some every fortnight, while others only require one essay during the whole of the first two years. Generally you will find your personal tutor only too anxious to help in any way he can.

Then there are Lectures. They are not compulsory, but you will probably find it as well to attend most of them and to take careful notes. Lectures are probably the most useful as far as the Compulsory Subjects are concerned in Political Ideas and the least use in Applied Economics, but you should generally miss any sections in which you are not interested—within reason, of course. Some subjects, such as Economic Theory, suffer

particularly from a single missed lecture, and in this case it is a good idea to arrange to borrow someone else's notes. By the way, the shorter the notes, the better they usually are; and notes should never cover more than one sheet of quarto per lecture, save in special cases such as Statistical Methods II or Mathematics—and some lectures in the former can be adequately summarised in three or four lines!

The Class System is too variable for much comment here. The best classes are among the most helpful ways of learning possible: the worst are useless. There are various intermediate stages, but remember that the helpfulness of a class depends not only on the Class Tutor but also on the active co-operation he gets from the students in the class. Active participation is the only way to get the best out of the class system.

Finally a word about Libraries. Make full use of them. Remember that the Lending Library here gets new copies of books when five people have ordered them in vain at the same time, and do not neglect the University Library in Sennet House. And, please, do not use the Library here as a Left Luggage Office. E. THOMPSON.

Students have been dissatisfied with the Refectory service as long as anyone can remember. One might think that students of the Social Sciences could solve the problem of the provision of food.

But still one cannot get a meal (soup, main dish, sweet) for less than 2/11½, compared with the nearest café—substantial meal at 2/9 (3 courses)—or compared with a nearby college, 2/6. Our prices go on rising. Why?

We are told that labour costs are going up, and that clearing our own dishes keeps costs down. Yet staff is employed in the Barley Sugar Room, the Bar, and in the Refectory, providing duplicated services for sweets and rolls (a service al-

ready provided in two separate places in the Three Tuns). Perhaps the profit margin on sweets is high, but could not some of this staff be used to provide meals services? Cannot some economy be made here?

Finally, we have a right to know why the Two Shilling Lunch in the Barley Sugar Room was stopped. It was tried only in the Summer term—a notoriously bad time for experiments, when students don't come into College or are taking exams and eat elsewhere during this period.

It seems plain that a simple set meal of the egg-and-chip variety should be cheaper. Why not restore this service?

## REFECTORY REFORM

By MARSHALL HARRIS

## QUOTE NOTES

Dr. John Barnes, telling his students about a forthcoming lecture by an Oxford Anthropologist:—"Evans-Pritchard is such an incredible fellow on the subject of women".

American fresher, asked by "Beaver" reporter "What do you think of L.S.E.?" replied, after a moment's hesitation, "Well . . . I hadn't got a statement prepared,

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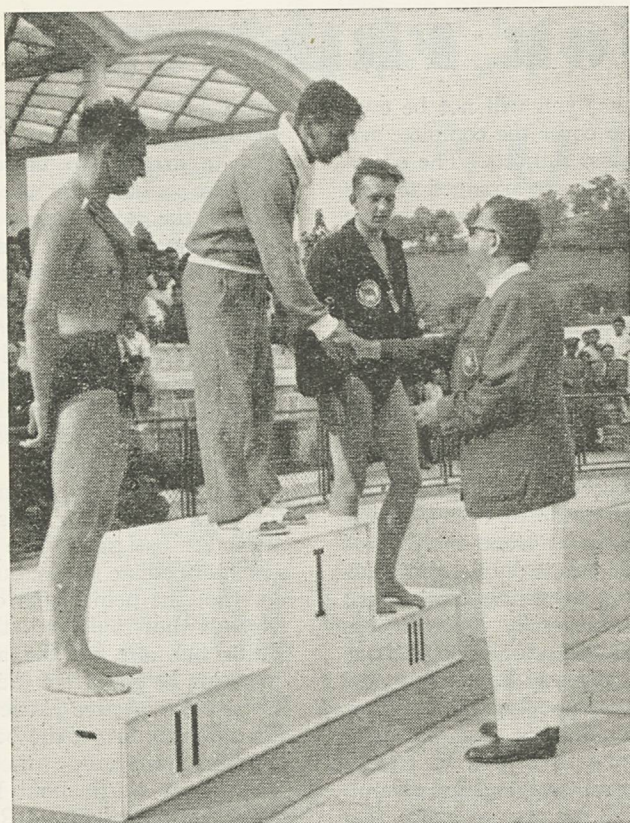
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LIBERAL SOCIETY  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20th, at 1.10 p.m.

The Editor of the Liberal News (Reginald Smith)  
will speak on

THE STATE OF THE PARTIES

This meeting is open to all.



BRECKNELL (extreme right) ON ROSTRUM.

## SAN SEBASTIAN GAMES

A week in San Sebastian is regarded as being a first class holiday; being a member of the British Universities team, a wild dream. The two together leave one wondering if it all really happened.

Yet two and a half months ago, thanks largely to the generosity of the Director, Bob Smith, a fellow swimmer, and myself were embarking on such a trip. Twenty-five hours after leaving London we arrived at a Spanish frontier town; one and a half hours later the Spanish Customs examination ended; one hour later the bus set off for San Sebastian.

After arriving at the hostel the members of the B.U.S.B. team felt immediately at home with five hundred other athletes (male) of different nationalities. The "Seminaro" was a multi-storey building of seemingly endless corridors and of course the British team was situated on the top floor. After a dinner of mysterious dishes we were taken to the Stadium in a rickety bus. Here everyone's face lit up on seeing the magnificent stadium with modern swimming pool, two running tracks, hockey pitches, basketball courts and a large Club House—a magnificent setting for the International Games.

### Swimming Events

Before the swimming, which occupied the first three days, came the opening ceremony to the accompaniment of a band that would have done the Wolf Cubs credit—but only just! For the 1,500 metres there was to be no final, the placings being determined by heat times. In the heats the Continentals excelled themselves by claiming excellent times. As I had won my heat I experienced twenty minutes of agony sitting with a stopwatch in my hand attempting to calculate the possible positions of the leading swimmers in the other heats.

Happily for me only two swimmers improved on my time and the race between these two was worth travelling half way round the world to see.

After swimming stroke for stroke for 1,400 metres Don Santos (Brazil) left G. Granados (Spain) seven seconds behind over the last 100 metres—a truly remarkable performance. The swimming in general went well for the British team. I was fortunate to secure another two third-place medals, and Britain took 31 medals in all.

### Athletics

When the swimming finished the athletes took over in the main Stadium. It became apparent from the beginning that the Germans had an extremely strong team and that a weakened British team (due to an A.A. match) would have to fight hard for success. In the 1,500 metres British runners were outstanding: Evans, Walmsley and Law reached the tape first, second and third in that order. There were several other successes and one win recorded by a newcomer to L.S.E. this term (formerly of Westfield), Miss Ann Cartwright, who gained second place in the 200 metres.

Memories of other sports keep flashing across the mind; Basketball played at midnight to avoid the heat; a demonstration of Pelota which left one convinced that the only possible attribute necessary for a player was to be an india rubber octopus.

But the most vivid recollection is that of the British sport of Beer-drinking races. At the Bal du Naciones (well, something like that) the British team arranged a 12 x ½ litre match against Germany and Holland. The course in the open-air was a full 75 yards in length. The result was a win for the British team (I am glad to say that I was a member of this team) with Germany second and Holland third. A successful conclusion to a very enjoyable week.

"BRECK."

## Freud and Sport

"No, really old man, I just haven't the time to take part in any sporting activity. I did play rugger in school but at University it's quite different—all the work, and besides, Saturday is the only day on which I have the chance of taking my girl-friend out."

This is the weak argument put forward by the student who does not know what is good for him.

An elementary knowledge of psychology reveals that it is good for a person to run about and kick something (whether it be a ball or the knee of a member of the opposing team), if only to let off the mental steam accumulated while working in the library and burning the midnight oil. Further, a study of psychology reveals that if the male is to gain the admiration of his mate, then he must present himself as a rugged, tough character—a true he-man. This he can only do by playing the barbarous game of rugby, the manly game of soccer, or the gentlemanly game of hockey.

A recent social survey carried out by the Athletic Union indicated clearly that the sportsman was by far the most successful student with the "fairer sex".

In only one case out of forty did a girl leave a boy-friend who was a sportsman (*he was too sporting*).

### Worth It

Whatever arguments are put forward nothing can take away from the fact that a few hours of recreation can do the University student a world of good. Surely out of the large number of L.S.E. Clubs there is one which appeals especially to you. Whether male or female you have a wonderful variety from which to choose—Hockey, Swimming, Fencing, Rugby, Rowing, Netball, Riding—to mention only a few. If you have been thinking of joining a club, cast away your doubts and *join now*.

## SOCCER CLUB

This year's intake of freshmen contains many footballers of the necessary ability to make this a successful year for L.S.E. Soccer Club. That at least is the conclusion which may be drawn from the trials held at Malden.

It is likely that the Club will be losing several players to the University's two teams, but despite this the 1st XI will still have many of last year's team available and will undoubtedly remain a strong one. The Club's aim is to run four teams regularly and at present it has entered four sides in the various sections of the University League. Whether or not the necessary support for the successful operation of the Club's plans will be forthcoming has yet to be seen. The fulfilment of the heavy fixture list already arranged will call for something like a turn-out of fifty people each week, as few people are available for every game, and whenever the four teams are all playing on the same day forty-four people will be needed.

Anyone looking for a game of football will be found one in one of the teams and there is no need for anyone to hesitate to put his name on the availability list.

With support the Soccer Club will have another successful season, but this is only of secondary importance, as the chief aim of the Club is to enable as many students as possible to play during the week.

## RUGBY CLUB'S FINE WIN IN FIRST GAME

The L.S.E. first XV., playing without Boorman for most of the game, gained a magnificent victory over Imperial College in the first match of the term. The extremely fast game was thrilling throughout and the result remained in the balance until the last few minutes.

Playing conditions were perfect when the two teams took the field and it was obvious from the start that both sides intended playing open football. Taking into consideration the fact that this was the first game of the season, play in the first few minutes was extremely fast.

Having played for only a short time however; L.S.E. were unfortunate to lose their outside-half Boorman who was assisted off the field with an injured ankle. Boorman, who is one of the three freshers in the side, had played very well until his injury and must be considered very unlucky. Despite this handicap the L.S.E. forwards soon got down to their job and showed intelligence and fire in the loose. They were quick to pounce upon any mistake made by Imperial players and their first-time tackling was an outstanding feature of the game.

### Only Score

The larger Imperial "eight" were by no means easily overcome, however, and led many dangerous rushes into the L.S.E. half. Play moved from one end of the field to the other, with L.S.E. securing a more than fair share of the ball in the loose and tight. When the ball was given to the "threes" the centres showed excellent potential in attack but some handling errors prevented an early score. The only score in the first half of the match was a try scored for L.S.E. by Griffiths on the right wing, after Harris had made the opening. The kick taken by Williams failed.

### Second Half

The second half was full of incident. After a period of constant pressure near the Imperial line, L.S.E. scored two quick tries—one by Harries, who took advantage of

an Imperial handling error to score near the posts, and one by Griffiths who ran well before scoring. Both kicks failed.

These scores by no means daunted the Imperial XV. for they now really put their heads down and went for the L.S.E. line.

Soon they had scored two tries after strong forward rushes, and when they drew level at 9-9 it was thought that the depleted L.S.E. side was unable to stand up to its heavier opponents. With only three minutes to go thoughts of defeat were swept away by two magnificent runs from John Harries. The first try, scored by Harries himself, started when the ball was quickly passed amongst the forwards to Harries, who gathered cleanly and running strongly for a full 60 yards, evaded many tackles to score near the post. Millar converted. The second try also started with a long run by Harries, who, when challenged passed out to Gareth Morris, who in turn showed a fine burst of speed to pass the fullback and scored wide out.

In the space of three amazing minutes L.S.E. had scored 8 points and won by 17 points to 9.

It seems unfair to pick any individual from this excellent team-win, the pack in particular playing magnificently, but mention must be made of John Harries.

This powerful wing-forward played brilliantly throughout and his running and opportunism were a wonder to all who watched. If the L.S.E. team continues to play in this form it is assured of a great season.

L.S.E. Team: Williams; Millar, McIntyre, Morris, Griffiths; Boorman, Burgess; Milton, Dwyer, Cox (captain), Pover, Greenall, Ryan, Candlish, Harries.

## Boat Club Economics

Now that we have the A.U. budget dangling like the sword of Dam-thingummy over our collective head, it might be fruitful to contemplate the awful economics of being a Boat Club.

Boats of the kind we use cease to be boats after they have had six years of L.S.E. treatment and done a thousand outings. This is not surprising when one remembers that they carry some ninety stone of violently exerting manhood and have something like a million strokes rowed in them before they finally give up the unequal struggle.

L.S.E. possesses two eights, which means that one has to be replaced every three years at a cost of over £300. This with a cost of a new set of oars means an annual expenditure of £175. This is not all, however, for to the bill must be added £60 for the upkeep of the boat-house and £30 for competition entrance fees. All in all therefore, an annual expense of £300 is incurred by the Boat Club without any results being shown.

### The Pool Coach

To get results you take eight men, preferably tall and well built and put them in a boat with a small man possessing the loudest voice possible, and a fell above average IQ. When your coach has done all he can you discard him and use a better one until he has done all he can, and then you replace him with a better one until you run out of coaches. L.S.E. always runs out of coaches and what is worse we fail to get the most from those coaches who do befriend us. This is not a criticism of your crews but simply a natural concomitant of rowing on a wide tidal river, with tricky amusements such as trees, shingle banks and all manner of sub-aqueous obstacles unfavourable to the passage of a delicately built eight.

### Cost of Launch

The coach cycles along the tow-

path shouting well meaning obscenities at a crew he can hardly see and who seldom hear him.

Riding on the tow-path, the coach will seldom be close enough to the crew to notice all the subtle inaccuracies that can render a crew inefficient and lose its races. That is the reason why we like to have our coach in a launch.

This costs 30/- per hour however, and comes as a bit of a blow to hard-up students who have to get from all over London to Chiswick and go back again seven times a week. Naturally with the perilous state of A.U. finances the Boat Club cannot ask for £60 a year to pay for a boat to float the coach in. But this is not all. It is customary for Colleges who can boat good eights to send them (subsidised) to Henley Royal Regatta, which costs the respective students Unions anything up to £100. This would bring the Boat Club's annual expenditure up to £450. This is a lot of money and the Socialist tradition at L.S.E. may make such an expensive Club seem unsupportable whilst there are clubs that spend less than one tenth of this per capita.

From each according to their ability, to each according to their need—the Boat Club needs £450. You must agree that L.S.E. ought at least to be able to compete on equal terms with other Clubs otherwise we have social injustice of the cruelest kind.

How the Boat Club men endure the heart-rending agonies that are consequent upon our humiliating position, will be told in a Boat Club saga that will sell a million copies and fabulous film rights to Hollywood. This is coming shortly. BUT WHAT WE WANT NOW IS FUNDS.

DENNIS BIZERAY.

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# BEAVER

NEWSPAPER OF THE STUDENTS' UNION, LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL  
SCIENCE (UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

NOVEMBER 3rd, 1955

THREEPENCE

# IT'S THE POOR WHAT PAYS

Why do our refectory prices compare so unfavourably with prices elsewhere? The excuses passed on by Union officers are only adding to the rising indignation. The facts are plain; meals are cheaper outside L.S.E. and students cannot afford fancy prices.

Most students have not the time to go outside for lunch but they should not be asked to pay for the convenience of eating here; prices should be lower, not higher. The last issue of "Beaver" carried some comparisons of prices. It must be emphasised that the 2/11½ quoted for the Refectory meal is in respect of the cheapest dish.

A lunch which includes meat jumps to the sum of 3/5 (2/9 was the price quoted for a three-course, substantial lunch in a nearby café). The local eating places not only expect to make a profit, but they have to pay the high rents of the district.

Compared with those of profit-making places outside this area, the Refectory charges are sheer fantasy.

## Hollow Men

The standard of the food is generally in keeping with what one can expect from this type of catering. But the prices and the quantity per portion would cause a strike in the least militant of works canteens. Students, especially those not on grants, have far less money than workers. Why should we be subjected to this gross imposition? Has somebody evolved a theory that an empty stomach is conducive to study?

## Cheese and Beer

Two fairly minor complaints indicate other sources of irritation. Last term the Refectory stall was selling cheese retail. As "Beaver" staff soon realised, a portion of this and a loaf of bread from the same stall made a lunch. Apparently this was realised elsewhere; this cheese was removed from sale and a large number of requests have failed to bring it back.

The draught bitter sold in the bar at the dances is dearer, not cheaper than outside.

## Faith

Last year the Council presented a three-point policy: subsidy, a set, one-priced meal and the possibility of bringing in an outside caterer. All of these have been rejected. It is difficult to tell how far the reasons given for the refusals were justified. The school looked into these suggestions and the results, already reported in Union, seem to justify their non-acceptance. But how much students can really get

to know about the inner workings is a very tricky matter.

## Hope

Many students have become resigned to what they feel is a very bad state of affairs. They have seen repeated efforts come to nothing.

The lack of success, however, is due to the people, who have the power, being convinced that there is no real cause for complaint. This is the one real obstacle to reform.

It is our job to convince them by all the means in our power just how wrong things are. The rumbles of discontent grow day by day; they must become articulate.

## Charity

Students, quite rightly, expect help with the necessities of life. In this case, however, they would be better off if they were paying the "economic" price. We are not begging for charity, but we are demanding a square deal.



Miss M. SYKES, star of the Liberal Society film showing November 10th.

## Beaver

Bigger and Better "Beaver". Material wanted for the next issue. This must reach the Editor by Tuesday, November 8th. Write, you clots, write!



## MISS FRESHER?

No. 2 in the contest is Miss Gillian Owen, reading for a Social Science Certificate.

We have seen many pretty Freshers wandering around college. We are wondering why the packs of wolves regularly in attendance have not submitted more photographs.

## PRESIDENT RESIGNS

### COUNCIL PROBES DEBATES SOCIETY

John Hipkin, who was last term elected President of the Debating Society, has resigned following criticisms of the management of the society and an enquiry into its affairs by Union Council.

The first indication that all was not well with the society came last month, when Council proposed a cut in their grant from £15 to £5. During the discussion it was revealed that only 14 members had been recruited and that no report had been made to the Union Treasurer on the spending of last year's money. The Deputy President and Senior Treasurer were appointed to conduct an enquiry and report to Council this week.

Mr. John Hipkin was last year a prominent speaker in Union Debates, winning the Annual Beveridge Award for the best debater in the Union. He appeared during the Budget Meeting but left before the discussion on the society began.

A programme of activities has now been prepared by Mr. Clifford Ward and includes the Annual

Inter-Varsity Debate between the Presidents of the Oxford and Cambridge Unions, on Tuesday, November 8th, at 4.15 p.m.

ROLAND FREEMAN.

## World University Service

Since L.S.E. is quite an international place, it is not surprising to find various international organisations about clamouring for student support, and helping confuse the freshers.

But one organisation has remained rather quiet this year, so far, and that's World University Service. Perhaps that's because WUS is not political, it is not trying to influence anyone's ideas, and it has no axe to grind. Based on an idea that the students and faculty of Universities everywhere

have certain interests in common, WUS seeks to further University contacts between countries, and to raise funds among students; to be used to aid newer and poorer student communities in other parts of the world. This is not charity, but mutual help. Universities which have no money can perhaps give in other ways; such as being hosts to an international seminar, as was the University of Patna, India, in 1953.

continued at column 3

## OVERSEAS STUDENTS

The Committee members will be in the Union Offices on Tuesdays from 4.30 to 5.30 p.m. and on Fridays from 1 to 2 p.m., to help any student.

If you are unable to call on them personally during these times, you are requested to contact them via pigeon holes (Main Building or Three Tuns).

Students who wish to attend "Asian Club" meetings (B.B.C. Overseas Programme) should contact me.

DUDLEY FERNANDO,  
Overseas Students' Officer.

continued from column 5

During International Students' Week, 14th to 19th November, L.S.E. will be hearing more about WUS. The WUS Committee will be selling flags, collecting money, and posting more information about WUS work. Let's support one of the organisations at L.S.E. which actually does something besides talk.

## CONGRATULATIONS

### Successful Liaison

The wedding took place at Christchurch, New Malden, on October 29th, of "Bert" Harpum, 2nd year B.Sc. Econ., the Evening Students' Liaison Officer, to Shirley Ann

Lewis, who was at Furzedown Training College 1950-52. The honeymoon is being spent at Lyndhurst. The couple met at an L.S.E. Dance!!!

## STOP PRESS

Will you be dancing by the river on Friday, December 9th?

Yes, at the Royal Festival Hall, where the Entertainments Committee are presenting the Jubilee Commemoration Ball and Nat Temple, with the help of his Orchestra, will provide the music. 37/6 is the price of a DOUBLE ticket, which includes buffet and, for the first time, breakfast . . . Tickets are going quickly, so don't be left out! Our Nadia will give us a cabaret and many stars will be among the guests.

You haven't all that money . . . then reserve your ticket the Easy Payment Way, with 10/- down and three instalments at no extra cost. The final date for the last payment is definitely December 2nd, 1955, and Thursdays are Easy Payment Days (1 to 2 p.m., 4.15 to 6 p.m.).

## GENERAL MEETING OF LIB. SOC.

The General Meeting of the Liberal Society, held last week, proved a great success.

After considerable discussion it was agreed to invite DON SALVADOR DE MADARIAGA to be Hon. President of the Society.

Don Salvador de Madariaga is President of Honour of the Liberal International and a former Spanish Ambassador. He has been invited to address the Union on November 17th, and he is giving an address: "The Cold War: a new campaign".

## LIBERAL SOCIETY

**To-day, Nov. 3rd**      **Thurs., Nov. 10th**

MR. JOHN MACCULLUM SCOTT  
(Secretary General of the Liberal International)  
Room 310 at 1.10 p.m.  
on  
"The International Aspect of Liberalism."

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