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BEAVER N 58

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

DECEMBER 8th, 1955

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WHO ATE THEIR WORDS?

A SPECIAL ON-THE-SPOT REPORT

The boycott has been a complete success. A new spirit pervaded the School to-day. Floods of willing helpers reported to the committee H.Q. set up at the information stall. The co-operation was undreamt of. Armed with this evidence nothing should stand in the way of Union pressing for a catering service which will accord with student needs and finances.

We Couldn't Miss

The day started with a hand-out on the steps; on one side was a list of local eating places (46) and on the other the main argument for the boycott was presented. This explanation is so important that it is worth repeating its basic point that the boycott was not an attempt to embarrass the Refectory management but to prove to the School authorities that students are really discontented with the Refectory service.

Any doubts about the success of the action were rapidly dispelled. A small minority in the Union had voiced disagreement with the method, but their discontent with the Refectory was such that they not only did not use the Refectory but many worked actively to ensure success. The loyalty of these people must be commended and the excellent work of one of them, John Goss, should be especially mentioned. Not so the few blacklegs. About 20 students used the Refectory services for morning and afternoon tea and about 15 more for lunch. This compared with the 800 to 1,000 meals usually served by the Refectory indicates a major triumph. In fact, in this age of overworked superlatives it is difficult to find words to describe the results. No doubt the blacklegs are wondering about their popularity rating.

Over the Top

Thanks to the superb work of the committee the operation was planned in detail with the thoroughness of a military undertaking. Publicity in addition to the hand-out ensured that day students knew what was afoot and why. The Three Tuns expanded its range to include tea, coffee, cakes and special snacks. At peak times there were three selling points. If Charlie and his helpers are still alive it is a wonder. This is just one more debt that students owe to their steward, who serves them so well.

The call to action stations met it is known that I was the author of at least part of the article, and though I delight in my own publicity, like any actor, I deplore it when it is at the expense of a colleague.

Yours, etc., TOM DALE.

with an amazing response. Many societies lent their notice boards. Picket volunteers rolled up in their scores. Emergency catering helpers slaved in the Three Tuns.

The College has had an almost festive air, apparently not only confined to students. One gets the impression that this is due to the feeling that at last the deep discontent which has long been felt can be registered in a concrete form.

Pickets laughed and chatted and animated groups gathered with cups of tea in the Union lounge. The place became infested with reporters, who accepted the cries of "No statement" with good grace. Of course they have written their own stories and at the time of writing some of these have already appeared in the evening press. The one complaint received was of people going into the third floor bar merely to eat the sugar. Tradition dies hard at L.S.E.

Co-operation

The final reports have just come in. The pessimists have been confounded. The Committee estimates that only 50 students have failed to co-operate. All picketing has been very peaceful and nobody made their role an unpleasant one.

The work of "Beaver" in putting the facts before students and enabling them to see a way of approaching this problem, has been praised on all sides. In fact the Committee has stated that the advance publicity given by "Beaver" has been of invaluable assistance.

Let us not be so busy congratulating ourselves however, that we fall down on the big job ahead. The point has been proved that there is something really wrong with the catering service. WE MUST NOW PRESS FOR THE INAUGURATION OF ONE THAT WILL MEET OUR NEEDS.

NEW REFECTORY CATERERS

Resulting from the publicity which the boycott motion gained, the Union has been approached by a firm of caterers with a view to taking over the Refectory. The directors of this firm (Staff Caterers Ltd.) have been interviewed, and at their suggestion Roland Freeman, Tom Dale and I went to St. Thomas' Hospital where the firm is already employed. We were quite impressed by both the services proposed by the directors and the food offered at St. Thomas'.

Union Council has decided to submit the proposals to the Director and to ask for a meeting of the Staff-Student Committee to discuss the possibility of negotiating with Staff Caterers. One word of warning: everything so far has appeared very good and acceptable and the inevitable snag has not been found.

STOP PRESS

I wish to thank all for their amazing response and help which made to-day's "Operation Boycott" a startling success. It would be impossible to thank the countless helpers who devoted hours of their free time to this operation.

I would only remind everybody of the necessity of following up and ensuring that our final ends are achieved. So, folks, on behalf of the committee and myself—sincere thanks.

K. C. PEARMAIN, Deputy President,
Chairman Boycott Committee.

In our editorial last week we referred to a *Daily Telegraph* article as "obviously meant to appear as coming from a member of Union Council". At last week's Union meeting the President reported that the article in question had originally included the phrase "Members of Council said they were not allowed to make statements to the Press". This sentence was, however, omitted in the final published copy, owing to a Press rule forbidding references to "the Press" as such, and thus the article was left open to misinterpretation.

Clearly, therefore, no deliberate move by the *Telegraph* to implicate Members of Council was intended.

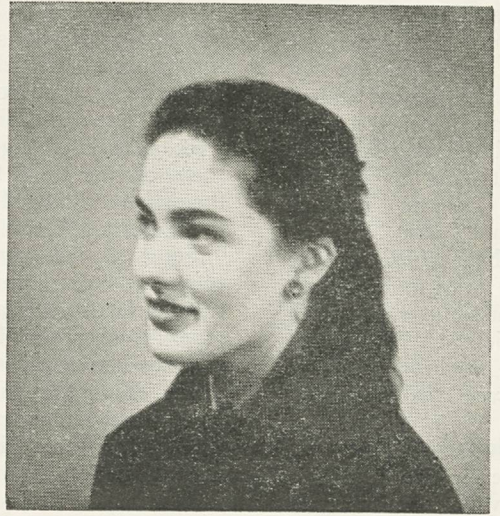
Union members accepted the President's statement without further comment.

On the motion "that this house is of the opinion that there is no room for a spirit of adventure in modern politics" a L.S.E. debating team of Miss Jill Baker and Mr. Richard Whitehouse passed into the semi-final of the N.U.S. 3rd National Debating Tournament. They were taking part in a four-cornered match last Friday with Queen Mary College and Wye College, and a second L.S.E. team.

Sir,
I must protest at your article in the last issue "From Success to Success".

It is unfortunate, Sir, that the article which I submitted on the Dramatic Society was edited to such extent that it appeared that Mr. Tony Battishell, who is in fact playing the lead in "Night Must Fall", appeared to be playing only a bit part and that it appeared that I, Sir, was playing an important part, which is incorrect.

I feel that this is unfortunate, as



MISS FRESHER

MISS AUDREY CHANEY, 1st year Social Scientist, has won the "Beaver" Miss Fresher Competition for 1955.

Jubilee Conference

As the second main item in the Diamond Jubilee Celebration this year, a week-end Residential School will be held next term at Beatrice Webb House, near Dorking. The "School" will begin on Friday, February 17th at 7.00 p.m., and close at tea-time the following Sunday.

There will be four lectures by distinguished speakers on some contemporary and controversial aspect of each of the main social sciences, and these will be followed by discussions. They will also be published in a special commemorative issue of "C.M.R."

The Director will officially open the School on the Friday, and Professor R. H. Tawney will be giving

the first lecture that evening on "Some Great Figures of L.S.E.'s past." Some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining speakers for the School; but the Director has kindly agreed to help the Union in this matter.

A committee is being set up under the Public Business Officer.

SIR DAVID ECCLES

Sir David Eccles, Minister of Education, was prevented from addressing the Union on Thursday last by an attack of 'flu.

In view of the fall-off in attendance of Public Business Meetings it was decided not to secure a substitute, an Under-Secretary or Senior Civil Servant. As many students were disappointed at missing this chance to question the Minister on the subject of grants, it is expected that he will visit the School next term.

A six-page
BEAVER
will appear on Jan. 19th.
Bring your copy back
from the Vac.

(continued from previous column)

It will turn up somewhere, and for this reason it would be wrong to presume that there will be a change in the organisation of the Refectory.

All I can say is that on the face of it, the scheme is a lot better than that proposed by Intel, last term.

ROY GARDNER.

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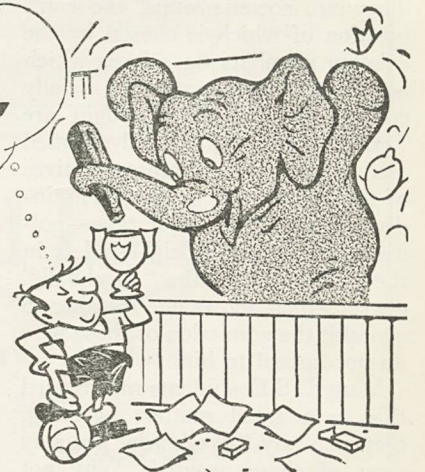
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SPOTLIGHT ON PETER MITCHELL

Just by luck there seems to be another issue of "Beaver" this term, and so with his usual hopefulness the Editor has asked me to turn the "Beaver" Spotlight on yet another member of the Union.

Gasting around for a suitable unfortunate, I happened to pick up this picture of Peter Mitchell. Grasping my prize, I hurried to put pen to paper before I was discovered.

Peter Mitchell is, as we all probably know for our sins, the present Social Vice-President of the Union. He was elected last Lent Term, when he was second in the poll, getting 243 votes, only ten behind Graham Norton. His period of office ends this term, and he will then be one of the Senior Statesmen of the Union. Peter is a great success as Social V.P. and has fully realised the faith put in him by Tony Pelling (former General Secretary of the Union, and an Honorary Member) whose protégé he was. Elected as an independent, Peter soon joined the ranks with the Tory Society. "Intellectual Conversion" it has been called—I rather fear it was the "dreaded lurgi!"

At Home . . .

He has made good use of his office in more ways than one. It was remarked early in the term at



the number of guests he introduced for dinner at Passfield Hall. Many of the more glamorous of us must by now know the disadvantages as well as the advantages of the small room on the third floor, and also the artistic nature of the Murals in the Lounge!!!

Fond of his own voice, Peter spent a whole morning recently in the Three Tuns playing with the tape recorder the Union had on loan, and to any reader who went to the Revue the Mitchell face and voice seemed to appear rather often. The Police Force will have to look out! Speeches from the Platform and from the floor seem to grow longer and longer. The small book

of jokes in W. H. Smiths seems to be as unending as the cruse of oil. Nevertheless, Peter has certainly blossomed forth as one of the best speakers, on any subject, the Union seems to possess.

Studying for his B.Sc. (Econ.), Peter is in his third year and is specialising in International Relations. What Professor Manning really thinks about him I don't know, but Peter certainly seems to have original ideas. Fond of a good argument, he has been known to pursue the discussion far into the night.

. . . and Abroad

President of the Motor Club, he spends a great deal of his spare time running round on various Motor Rallies. At one time he owned a car, now sold to Lionel Simons. This car, I understand, was involved in three accidents with Peter at the wheel. Every time it turned over, and he came out unhurt. I wonder how many lives he's got? Apart from cars, Peter's other love is Shakespeare and he frequently visits the Old Vic.

When asked by a close friend what he wanted to be he replied "I want to be a success". This, I think has been true. I only hope he will continue to be one, now that I have written this, for the rest of his University career.

AUTOLYCUS.

political friends habitually employ. Mr. Mitchell writes in one sentence of the L.S.E. "Communists and Socialists". In the next sentence, he suggests that "just for once our resident Reds and fellow-travellers did not pack the meeting". Such utter rot, such absurd inferences are hardly worthy even of an outgoing Vice-President. But let it be set down very clearly that about nine-tenths of the political left at L.S.E. is no more Communist or fellow-travelling than he; in fact, less so, for we have thought out our attitude towards the vital challenge which Communism is presenting to the world and have rejected it. We know why we are Socialists and not Communists. Mr. Mitchell, patently, does not know what he is or is not. He is incapable of anything constructive; where we try to lay the foundation of a peaceful student co-existence, his only contribution is to sling mud. Writing as Chairman of the Labour Society, I assure the Vice-President and Union members generally that Socialist co-operation with Communists at L.S.E. is in large part a function of the activities of the Right. We refuse to vie with them in McCarthyism or to allow the fruits of their vindictive ignorance to deter us from the principles to which, as Socialists, we are pledged.

Yours, etc.,

DAVID RUBINSTEIN.

"Little by Little"

Sir,

This speech announcing the conversion of Eric Thompson to Conservatism was never delivered for a non-existent candidate for the secretaryship of the Conservative Society at the A.G.M. of that Society. We feel it deserves a wider public.

In proposing Eric Thompson for secretary, I am putting before you the name of the man who is probably the most famous convert to Conservatism in L.S.E., and his presence to us to-day is typical of a trend to the right in L.S.E. politics. The Secretary of the Liberal Society to-day—one Robert Asher—is, you may be aware, a convert from the Labour Society. In like manner Mr. Asher's predecessor but one, Eric, has not after a lifetime spent in circles of reactionary Socialism and antiquated Liberalism come over to the Right, to the home of all progressive, loyal, patri-

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BACCHANALIA

A fortnight ago there was a Wine Festival in the Three Tuns. This was an excellent idea on the part of the bar committee. An attempt was made to popularise wines by a hand-out extolling its merits and booklets issued by the Friends of Wine Society, and every effort was made to give people a chance to have a really enjoyable evening: there was a late extension in the bar, the Arab Society was giving an exhibition of Arabian dances in the first floor lounge, and a band was playing on the second floor.

Till 10 p.m. everything went as planned. People became a little merry, danced, sang and generally enjoyed themselves. However, in the last half-hour a minority of those present behaved so badly that the whole evening was spoilt for some people. It is always that small group of people who cannot take much drink and whose stupid pride will not let them stop when they have had enough, who cause the trouble on these occasions. These people generally made a disgusting exhibition of themselves and also argued with the Evening Dean and Charlie.

Charlie works very hard for the Union. He is always cheerful there in the bar, and always ready to go to great lengths to oblige members of the Union. There is no prospect of personal gain in all this extra work Charlie does, because he is paid a fixed salary, not on a commission basis. On Friday night Charlie served the interests of the Union much better than many of its members know, and it is a very poor show that these members should insult and try to bully him, besides

giving him no help in such small matters as the return of glasses to the bar.

Ownership and Possession

As a result of the evening's events it is quite possible that the School Authorities may close down the Three Tuns bar altogether, or turn it into a soft drinks bar. The action the bar committee intend to take to try and avert this is bound up with the question of the ownership and control of the Union building. It is very anomalous that the School should control and own the building, as it does at present. While the Union grant remains as small as it is, it will be impossible for the Union ever to own their own building. Under the present system of control every time there is to be a late extension the School Authorities' permission must be obtained so there will be an Evening Dean to look after things. It must be said that the authorities are always very reasonable in their attitude towards these requests, but it would be much better if the Union owned its own premises, as many Unions do.

At present the committee only has the power to suspend members after any disturbance and with the Director's approval. They have decided to ask for power for any member of the bar committee or Union Council to eject any unruly person from the bar, and for the committee to suspend members subject to an appeal to Union Council, excepting those who are also on the bar committee or who have themselves been suspended.

POST BAG: Readers Write

Good! But . . .

Sir,

The issue of December 1st was such as to justify the hopes of those of us who supported the additional grant to *Beaver* this year. Further, it was one of the best issues that has appeared in the last two sessions. The standard of excellence, however, while generally high, suffered at the hands of several of your contributors. I refer in particular to two instances.

An article entitled "Fraternalities in American Universities" should not be allowed to go unanswered. While the writer, Mr. Gracey, is fair enough to admit several defects, he ends his article by complacently outlining progress made by eradicate, undemocratic characteristics by these societies. He then concludes with the preposterous statement that "if such progress continues these organisations stand to become ever more popular and respected both within the scholastic world and without".

Let me be very explicit: the institution of fraternalities and sororities in American University life is the most pernicious and undemocratic device in its existence. It is no use talking of "progress" being made to "allow" religious, racial or national minorities to membership. Nor is it fair to becloud the issue by dragging in the vandalistic and usually sadistic initiation and other ceremonies which form so characteristic a part of fraternity life. These are merely an excrescence, an example of the more fundamental *raison d'être* of these societies. They are social groups, the composition of which is chosen by the existing members on a basis which is at once undemocratic and socially compelling. What are sought are "good guys", "well-rounded men", and similar representatives of the conforming groups. The individualist, of whatever type—political, intellectual, social—is left in the cold, often by the "blackball" device which allows one member to prohibit the admission of those who do not appeal to him.

Many L.S.E. students may regard this as a small matter; agreeing, they may say "Well, why not stay clear of these groups? Why not recognise them for the evil they are and avoid them?" It is not this simple. Picture an eighteen-year-

old, away from home for the first time, set down amidst an institution in which almost all of the students are or wish to be members of fraternalities or sororities. The result is a feverish seeking for entry which exhibits social pressure at its worst and which causes entire nervous breakdowns and suicides by unsuccessful aspirants. It takes an unusually strong minded individual to resist the seeming attractions of the Greek-letter groups and most people at such an age have not developed the will-power and moral determination to understand and combat the social pressures which thus attack them. Social conformity is probably the worst and most prevalent evil existing in the United States to-day. Amongst large groups of the population fraternalities and sororities must bear the heavy responsibility of being the chief cause and manifestation of this social conformity. The only possible way to reform them is to abolish them.

Mr. Gracey's article, while (to me) wrong and misleading, has at least the excuse of being serious and sincere. It is hard to believe that the letter by the Social Vice-President of the Union, Peter Mitchell, possesses either of these qualities. The case for co-operation between the Western and Eastern student groups is so patent and so obvious that it requires neither political conviction nor great intellect to comprehend it. It is perhaps possible to forgive Mr. Moran's equally obtuse letter, but Mr. Moran (who is one of the best-liked members of Union) is at least not a member of Council. Really, Peter, we expect better from you! We who believe in I.U.S.-L.S.C. co-operation are attempting to exercise on a student level only the same functions which that fellow-traveller Mr. Macmillan, and that ever-redder ogre, Mr. Dulles, are exercising on a political one. We believe that the continuation of the cold war is a wrong and possibly fatal course and wish, as students, to do our share in ending it.

This much seems common sense and should be plain. Even if, however, it were possible to share the Social Vice-President's attitude, it is unforgivable to indulge in the mud-slinging which he and his

otic Englishmen, the Conservative party. Firm in his new political faith, Eric is prepared to sacrifice himself wholeheartedly in the Conservative Cause, devotedly loyal as he has always been to the twin pillars of Conservatism, the Throne and the Church. It was Eric, Mr. Chairman, Sir, who a week ago to the Debating Society described the Church as the Conservative party at prayer; how glad we are that this man, who in a moment of youthful virationality was one of the founder members of the L.S.E. Rationalist Society, has now in the wisdom of maturity consented to pray with us.

Even before his welcome into our ranks, Eric was a firm protagonist of those features of our policy particularly dear to (our new Hon. Pres., if appropriate) Sir Winston Churchill, Internationalism, with particular reference to European Unity and proportional representation. Whether this made Eric a good Conservative or Sir Winston a good Liberal is perhaps a moot point; shall we suggest, Sir, that the truth is that Sir Winston is not, as has been alleged, the last of the Whigs, but that the mantle of Whiggism has descended on Eric Thompson to be borne by him in the Conservative party now that its traditional home, the Liberal party, is dying, its vitals eaten away by the cancer of impractical *laissez-faire* and anarchical Radicalism.

You may feel that it is somewhat precocious of Eric to offer himself for election at this early stage of his Conservative career, but I would appeal to you not to dispense with, indeed to waste, the talents of this brilliant convert. During his tenure of office the Liberal Society rose from the status of an insignificant splinter group to become the most

broad based body ever to sit on a fence. Having during the period of his Liberal Secretaryship elected with Liberal support the first Tory president of the Union, to say nothing of two vice-presidents, we have already had reason to be grateful for Eric's organising ability. Furthermore, his imposition upon the Liberal Society and U.L.L.F. last February of terms for a Coalition Government of Liberals and Socialists, so unacceptable to the Liberals (to say nothing of the Socialists) was a major factor in securing the Conservative victory in the University Mock Parliament. It was with good reason, Sir, that a mutual friend of Eric's and mine was able to inform me that Eric had declared that his patron Saint was St. Thomas, Duke of Newcastle.

In the most recent Vice-Presidential elections—despite the trend to the right I have referred to—we have failed to elect a Conservative V.P. The Liberals, still operating the electoral machine bequeathed to them by Eric Thompson, and still fired by the spirit of enthusiasm which was no less an important part of his legacy to them, elected their Chairman. I suggest that our failure was due to lack of effective organisation resulting in our polling nothing like our potential support in the Union. Who better than Eric to rectify this state of affairs? There is one man alone, Mr. Chairman, Sir, who is capable of assisting our new President in the arduous task of building and organising an effective, efficient Conservative force in L.S.E. That man, Sir, is Eric Thompson. I therefore beg to propose E. T. for the post of Secretary of this Society.

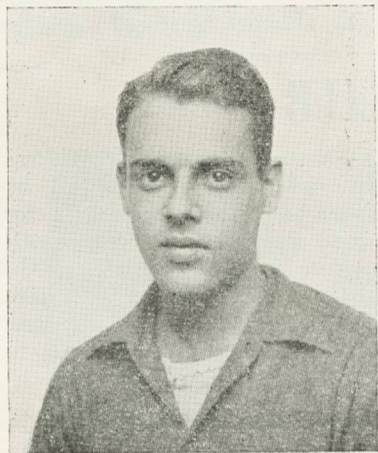
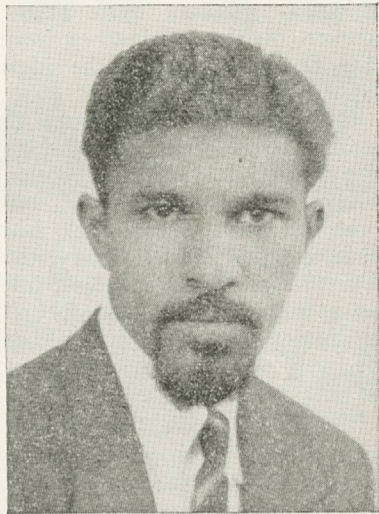
TOLERANCE AND THE I.U.S.

I write to comment upon the article from Mr. Marshall Harris which appeared in the last issue under the title of "A Plea for Tolerance". I was surprised that Mr. Harris took up so much space to say so little; that he supports the I.U.S. proposal for a Conference of Co-operation between that organisation and the International Student Conference. Mark you, there was method in it—for though the kernel of his argument was contained in two short paragraphs, the soft and fleshy fruit which came before was carefully calculated to beguile the more unsophisticated of his readers into believing in Mr. Harris's final thesis.

Now read on. The I.U.S. was formed at the end of the war, mainly by the student organisations of the victorious allies. As Mr. Harris says, "Developments were not what were hoped for". They were most certainly not. For after the Communist coup d'état in Czechoslovakia (the Secretariat Building is in Prague) the I.U.S. began to reflect completely the line of the Communist powers. For a year or two the National Unions of the Western countries stayed in, in the hope, vain as it was proved by events, that they would be able to put their own view inside I.U.S. effectively, and that they would receive tolerance and understanding from the Executive and the Council. But, the tirade of vituperation continued, at Councils and in the multifarious and increasingly more glossy publications of the Secretariat. Finally, in 1950, the Yugoslav Students' Organisation was expelled from the I.U.S., and some of its leaders visiting other Communist countries were arrested, as the I.U.S. dutifully followed the Cominform Line against a country that dared to express its sovereign right of independent action. This was the last straw, and in the same year 21 National Unions met at Stockholm to form the International Student Conference, with a constitution carefully constructed to ensure that never again could a minority capture the Secretariat, and then, formulating policy themselves, claim to speak for all the students of the world.

But now the line for tactical reasons has changed. For the bitterness, the blatant propaganda brought no results, and each year the membership of I.U.S. in terms of representative national unions declined, and its Councils had to make do with unrepresentative and partisan groups from those countries whose students refuse to be associated with such a political organisation.

Mr. Harris's fine phrases about no intolerance and hate have little meaning when put in the context of I.U.S. policy even to-day. For, in spite of the new soft line, the Executive report at the Soviet Council contained a particularly vicious attack on John Thompson, the Secretary of CO-SEC, while at the same meeting, as pointed out by our own President in his report on that Council, many other speakers



Top Left:
DUDLEY FERNANDO
(Social V.P.)

Top Right:
BILL CAPSTICK
(External V.P.)

Below:
DAVID RUBINSTEIN
(Welfare V.P.)

THE THREE VICES

To our three new Vice-Presidents who will grace the Union Council next term, "Beaver" extends congratulations and good luck, and hopes they will get their copy in on time when they write for us next term!

attacked I.S.C. and CO-SEC, often without showing any real knowledge of the organisation. That Council, held but three months ago, showed little tolerance or real attempt towards "removing the barriers of prejudice and past disagreements".

In my view the Conference of Co-operation, even if the proposal did succeed, would prove abortive, and would serve to pump fresh irritants between the two organisations. The I.U.S. is homogeneous and political; the I.S.C-CO-SEC combination is purposely loose and free, decisions being made after democratic debates, the Co-ordinating Secretariat only being able to act after being instructed to do so by the Conference.

The ill-feeling caused by a political group seeking to seize control of international student affairs for their own ends cannot be cured overnight by some magic Conference of Co-operation. There must be a slow building up of confidence, step by step, until the suspicions between the two sides are overcome by plain and indisputable actions, as well as words, proving beyond doubt the sincerity of professed good intentions. World student unity cannot be built in a day—at least not a genuine unity. Let the members of the I.U.S. realise this, and, for a start, send observers from their Union to the International Student Conference.

GRAHAM NORTON.

stein as Chairmen of the Liberal and Labour Societies.

Conversions

The period of the Vice-Presidential elections seems to be becoming the fashionable time for the announcements of political conversions. Last time we consoled ourselves for having nothing to say about the elections with the news of Miss Ruth Nixon's conversion to Communism: this time we can merely offer Eric Thompson's conversion to Conservatism. Elsewhere you can read the speech which was to have announced this at the Con. Soc. A.G.M., and we would merely add that the humorous tone of the speech (which is said to have been written by a prominent Liberal as a "going-away present") should not be allowed to detract from the seriousness of any decision it may disclose.

Well, Happy Christmas to you all. See you next term.

A. POLITICUS.

The Dam' Beavers ... Damned Good!

After a shaky start the 1955 L.S.E. revue proved to be the snappiest, slickest production seen in years. Unfortunately on the first night it did not get the audience it deserved and here one of your critics willingly sticks her neck out and risks being labelled a prude to say that never in her life has she

seen such an unruly and childish mob of students behave so inconsiderately. Toilet paper, torn-up telephone directories and wise-cracks are very funny and all to the good for a very short time, but very soon become monotonous and spoil the evening for everyone. It is to be hoped that in future the students who work so hard to give us a revue will get the sort of response that makes it worth their while to produce it. On the second night, however, the audience was all that the cast could have wished and they responded to give the performance of their lives, which was greeted with tumultuous applause and repeated encores.

Our Nadia

On the whole the lyrics and songs were a cut above the sketches and those concerning ourselves were top of the bill. Full marks to Peggy Longbottom for the words of "Old Masters" and "Carmen Gettit", and on the second night she added additional verses to both numbers which raised them to the heights. Messrs. Mitchell and Spinks scored as two of London's smartest cops and the Hon. Mimi had a part made to measure for her as Lady Robinson of Crusoe, of which she took full advantage. Nadia Cattouse and her Caribbean Dancers were received with the acclaim that L.S.E. reserves for its favourites and scintillating describes their performance. With great enthusiasm, Jill Beeching typified the spirit of the revue with

her good humoured contributions to ten scenes and a shapely part in the glamorous chorus.

Sid and Bea

Above all, Peggy Longbottom emerges crowned with laurel. Her individual humour, combined with the numerous qualities of Robin Fox (who is surely entitled by now to the title of "Old Trooper") in an excellent sketch, "Old Masters", and as actress, chorus-girl, lyric-writer, co-producer and (on the second night only) soloist in what can only be described as a magnificent Calypso à l'Anglaise, entitles her to the biggest bouquet critics can present.

Team Work

It is perhaps invidious to single out personalities in what is essentially a group effort, but it would be unjust not to mention the pleasing tenor of Louis Minster and the melodious voice and ability to do almost anything with a guitar of Franco, the Assisi Pedlar (but why did he sing in Spanish?). Also deserving great credit were the costumes and the L.S.E. Orchestra, who added spice and swing to the evening.

Unqualified praise of an L.S.E. revue is perhaps unprecedented but Mesdames Barnett, Foot and Longbottom must be praised for welding the considerable talent and boundless enthusiasm into an hilarious and memorable whole.

DAVID S. MORRIS.
SALLY SHULMAN.

QUOTE NOTES

"You must excuse me—something terrible has happened to the Revue, and I must dash to Piccadilly." Peter Mitchell.

"The junk I keep in my pocket! I'll pull out something embarrassing one of these days." Peter Holden, looking for a drawing pin.

"In loco parentis! Doesn't that mean artificial insemination?" David Morris in a law class.

"We'll go back to rags, when we've finished with the Refectory." Roland Freeman.

"Irresponsibility! I'm all for it." Eric Thompson.

"Roland, how do you register as an out-patient at this place?" Liz Williams, of Westfield.

"Have your boycott and eat it." Mrs. Ellis.

Liberal Society

Chairman: Bill Capstick. Vice-Chairman: Tom Dale. Secretary: Bob Asher.

TO-DAY—Thursday, December 8th, 4.30 p.m.
OLD THEATRE
ANY QUESTIONS?

Team:

Deryck Abel, B.A.

(Directing Secretary of the Free Trade Union, former L.S.E. Student)

G. Granville Slack, B.A., LI.M.

(Vice-Chairman Liberal Party Executive)

Air Vice-Marshal Donald Bennett, C.B., D.S.O.

(Member of the Liberal Party Council)

Lady Beveridge

Lord Beveridge, K.C.B., M.A., D.Sc. (Econ.)

(Vice-President of the Liberal Party, former Director of L.S.E.)

Question Master: Tom Dale (General Secretary of the Union).

THE STATE OF THE UNION

"Senior Members" of the Union may remember that at the time of the last Vice-Presidential Elections we passed the results over with the comment that they had "surprised few informed observers". This is certainly not the case this term! Almost everyone was, of course, aware that Messrs. Fernando and Capstick would be elected—the only non-Anglo-American overseas student and the Chairman of the Liberal Society and Secretary of Passfield could hardly be defeated—but the next two candidates on the poll were a shock to us all.

That a Communist should be elected to Council is something that will surely give food for thought on all sides of the Union—as will the

defeat of the Chairman of Ents. Comm., who was generally thought likely to challenge Mr. Gooding for the third place.

Chairmen

That Graham Gooding should be defeated is perhaps the result of too many Conservative-labelled candidates; but it will be a shock to many of us who had looked forward to his succeeding Roland Freeman to the Presidency. In our opinion, at least, he was the best qualified of the candidates at this election; and it is most earnestly to be wished that his services will not now be lost to the Union. As it is, we can merely pass on our best wishes to him in his tenure of office as Chairman of the Conservative Society—with, perhaps, a thoughtful glance at the left to see who will follow Messrs. Capstick and Rubin-

THE A.U.—A TERM'S JOB

The Union, with the pluck and skill akin to sportsmen, has been able successfully, to sail through what yet may prove to be its roughest waters. The problems have varied from financial to constitutional matters.

At recent Executive Committee meetings several matters of general interest have been under discussion. Having received the promise of an increase in its funds from the Director, it was generally resolved to comply with the recommendations which the Director made as to how the extra funds should be allocated.

The first step was the formation of the Rifle Club. At the first available opportunity its constitution was ratified and its budget passed.

Subs. and Constitution

Also in accordance with the Director's recommendation a review of all club subscriptions was decided upon, with a view to raising some of them to conform to a standard pattern, which is to be brought into force at the beginning of next session.

Another important decision was one instigated by Mr. L. Simons, namely, to completely redraft the A.U. Constitution. This is a matter which has been too long ignored and it is greatly to the credit of Mr. Simons and the committee appointed to deal with this matter that this problem is at last being tackled.

It might also be a good idea if at the same time the various clubs in the A.U. revised their own club constitutions so as to get away from the usual stereotyped constitution used by most of the clubs.

Entr' Acte (Y.H.A. Club)

The grand finale of this term's programme will be at Tanners Hatch, for which mysterious preparations are going on behind the scenes.

There may be an additional constitutional transformation scene, being hammered out in the wings at present, but between this and attractions of the beginning of term there was a less exciting period which offered a chance for planning, and for new members to get to know each other. A film show on ski-ing in Norway, and a talk on walking in Cornwall stimulated the former, arousing thoughts of holidays and of the Cornish tour in the last week of the Christmas vacation, still open to all paid-up members of the Youth Hostels Association. A ramble, on Sunday, Nov. 29th to Virginia Water and Windsor Great Park, gave all walkers and cyclists, including non-members, a chance to join in the Club's outdoor activities without going to the expense of a week-end out of London.

Material is being gathered for a second edition of the club's magazine, re-christened with regrettable aptness "Down and Out." Meanwhile speculation about this year's

Colours

Finally, it has been brought to the notice of the A.U. that some of its members have been endeavouring to obtain colours pocket badges to which they are not entitled, unless they are in possession of a colours certificate issued by the A.U. It must be pointed out that these certificates are awarded only for meritorious participation in the various sports with which the A.U. is concerned, and therefore cannot be issued *ad lib*.

The Sailing Club Barbecue

This celebration was undoubtedly one of the most remarkable events in a festive term. The plan was conceived many weeks before the tortuous processes of the S.C. Committee allowed it to become reality.

In spite of the cold weather and the fog which made distinction between the path and the pontoon almost impossible, many people groped their way towards the newly erected U.L.S.C. boat house. It is new no longer.

Eating and Drinking

Inside they found a large ring of variegated students gazing hungrily at certain frantic L.S.E. females, who were simultaneously slicing onions, pricking sausages, and counting heads and beans. Their combined tears and oaths had no effect on the originator of this scheme who squatted peacefully in front of a huge heap of heterogeneous biscuits and cream crackers for the visitors. Behind them, Messrs. Pearmain, Harry and Smith concocted a foul brew of V.P. ruby, watered down beer, orange squash, and meths., which they offered to the hungry but hopeful guests as a slight aperitif. A little later they were able to wrap the recumbent forms in sail-cloth and put them in a corner, while they consumed vast quantities of charred sausages and slowly congealing beans. Beer, cider and meths. still flowed merrily and Mr. B. Smith added the tuneful twang of a guitar to the sound of general chewing and gulping. When he snapped his second string he retired behind a barrel to regard the behaviour of his "friends" with righteous disgust. Mr. Pearmain's blind and innocent exterior proved to have very little connection with either the songs he sings or his conduct. At least Mr. Harry's diabolical smirk and filthy chuckle convey the nature of his intentions.

party at Tanners is growing. Over 30 people have booked beds at this small and secluded "primitive" hostel. Some actually intend to camp out, if there is no room for them inside. The group will very nearly monopolise the hostel, and the social programme is intended to be bigger, better and more prolonged than ever before.

SHIRLEY JACKSON.

L.S.E. 1st XI v. Goldsmiths College—Wed., Nov. 30th.

L.S.E. 3, Goldsmiths 0.

Continuing their improved form in recent League matches, the 1st XI coasted to a comfortable win over Goldsmiths College.

Despite thick fog the game produced some good constructive play. Early in the first half the L.S.E. forwards spoil some good movements by bad finishing, but Mike Stallard redeemed their display with two excellent goals, both following from strong solo runs.

Weary Revellers

Visitors who evaded his clutches amused themselves by singing, dancing, or contemplating the Harp by moonlight. The fact that the fog was still dense did not deter them. Others found a better excuse by offering to do the washing up in the adjacent R.A.F. hut. Finally the naval passion for tidiness prevailed over the general sleepiness and the boathouse was restored to its original clutter and the weary revellers staggered off leaving the moon to rise over a suburban scene restored to its original sanity.

J. MULLINS.

RUGBY CLUB

Records

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
1st XV	15	10	1	4	232	82
"A" XV	12	7	0	5	185	71
Extra						
"A" XV	8	2	0	6	69	165

Review and Prospects

From the point of view of the club as a whole this has been a most encouraging season so far. Playing membership is higher than for many years and it has proved possible to run an Extra "A" XV fairly regularly. Unfortunately the composition of this 3rd team has varied considerably and this has proved an impossible handicap, particularly in the backs. A further snag has been the difficulty involved in getting suitable fixtures. However, even if the results are disappointing, the fact that a 3rd XV is being run at all is pleasing.

The "A" XV, as is apparent from their record, have been having

HOCKEY

On Wednesday, the 16th, the L.S.E. Hockey Team journeyed to one of the last outposts of civilisation to play their humble part in the University Cup Competition. Meeting a Goldsmiths side flushed with the confidence which only success can bring, L.S.E. were defeated by two goals to one.

These are the bare facts of a game, which, never outstanding from the viewpoint of hockey craftsmanship, did manage to provide the few spectators with a moderation of entertainment. Goldsmiths soon established themselves as a fast, tough team, who countervailed a lack of finesse by an overwhelming rigour; L.S.E., on the other hand, in the absence of Kofi and Rudolph, utilised the tactics of four forwards well upfield with right-half Rees in the role of mid-field schemer, but it came as some surprise to L.S.E.'s lone touchline enthusiast to see his side one goal down at the interval.

At Par

After the break, there was little to choose between the two teams, despite the neat combination of Rizzo-Gull, Boaden and Reid and some devastating spurts up the right wing by half-back Dick Aspa. Midway through the half, Goldsmiths added their second goal from a short corner, with a shot

In the second half a beautiful movement originating in mid-field split the Goldsmith defence for Stallard to score again.

In goal Hopkins made several excellent saves, particularly one which he diverted for a corner kick after a flying leap in true Continental style.

With gaining confidence the L.S.E. 1st XI should do well in both League and Cup matches. *Birkbeck 0, L.S.E. 8.*

L.S.E. superiority, in this match against the bottom team of the premier division, led to a very lethargic game, despite the ideal conditions.

The defence had little trouble in coping with a forward line lacking in constructive ideas and shooting ability. Price, at centre half, and Jones and Strutt at full back, laid the foundation of the victory, the latter pair providing an object lesson to the rest of the team in ball distribution. Ward and Boulbee effectively controlled the middle of the field, but distributed carelessly.

Despite eight goals, the forwards disappointed. Owen popped up at the right moments to score a typical hat-trick, whilst Harris at inside-right scored two very good goals. Stallard at outside-right was unlucky, although he scored a goal, as

quite a successful season. At times they have been handicapped by players not turning up (usually for a good reason) and this has contributed to some of the defeats. On many occasions, however, they have played extremely good Rugby, and they have several fine victories to their credit.

Best Side for Years

The 1st XV have perhaps been a little disappointing. Their record is good, but it could have been much better. At times, as in the 17-9 victory over Imperial College and the 0-0 draw with University College, the whole team has played brilliantly, but in other matches the backs have made far too many mistakes, while the forwards have been lifeless. At their best the team play an extremely attractive brand of open Rugby, with the forwards joining in with the backs in spectacular passing movements. If the strain of playing twice a week does not begin to tell, the material undoubtedly exists to carry the side through the rest of the season unbeaten, for potentially this is the best L.S.E. side for many years.

that Flower appeared to have covered. Still, there was time for a reversal of fortunes, and in turning in the best display of the day in the last ten minutes of the game, it seemed likely that L.S.E. would at least force a replay. But L.S.E. had to content themselves with a solitary goal from Boaden which reduced the defeat, inspired the side, but remained L.S.E.'s total asset at the final whistle.

2nd XI Stride Onwards

Scorn has been hurled at the L.S.E. Second Eleven section in the past for their inapt displays or their inability to field a full side. This year the gibes have died to a cautious whisper. For the Second Eleven are experiencing one of their most successful seasons in years.

Recent victims of the Second Eleven Juggernaut were Southgate Adelaide—whose premier side beat ours on the same afternoon. Fielding a team of ten men in which Klaus Bockmuhl substituted (very successfully it was to prove) in goal, L.S.E. held one of the finest reserve sides they have yet met to a goal-less draw to half-time, and followed this up by exerting pressure in the last ten minutes which enabled Smith and Foster to hammer two home.

he was left to contend with poor passing in his direction.

Holden and White, at outside and inside-left, were the pick of the forwards, each scoring one. Holden was a dangerous raiding wing striking the posts and crossbar on a number of occasions, and his excellent courses laid on plenty of opportunities for his inside forwards. White formed a very good link between attack and defence, whilst his goal was a masterpiece of quick thinking and opportunism, shooting the ball well wide of an unsuspected goalkeeper from twenty-five yards.

More Pep Please

The game was not satisfactory from an L.S.E. point of view as Birkbeck had only 10 men for thirty-five minutes of the first half, the player's injury occurring just after L.S.E. opened the scoring through Holden. If the stronger teams of the Premier Division, and particularly U.C. in the Cup, are to be beaten, distribution must be more precise, and quicker understanding and interpositional play must be developed.

Referees for Cash

The Club appeals to any qualified soccer referees in the School, and to any other person who is willing to referee an odd game or two (N.B.—He should be aware of the existence of the rules), to contact Brian Holden at once. We pay cash, plus free travel, plus a delicious free tea. Roll up!

Subs. are due—to Mike Hutton, please.

Rallying

The police of Essex had been warned; the villagers in Epping Forest had barred their doors; every publican in Essex had thrown open his doors—the London School of Economics Motoring Club had organised a rally for Sunday, 13th November.

At 10.30 a.m.—on a cold, damp morning—the cars began to assemble at the "Royal Oak" at Chingford—at least two of the entries came from the School—a signal commentary on the poverty of students of economics. Entries ranged from Healeys and Mercedes down to Ford 8's and Austin vans—and indeed the latter looked a little intimidated alongside their more resplendent brethren.

Skill was to tell, however—skill in navigating and driving—both of which were put to severe test by the very well organised rally—thanks for which organisation goes primarily to Bernard Levy, the Motoring Club's President. By evening, by Section III of the rally, many had fallen by the wayside, no longer did the Mercedes compete, vanished was the Healey (actually the Healey was only mislaid—turning up some hours later to win its class—it is necessary to add that in its class it was the only finisher!).

Ford Triumphs

Winner of the Rally—none other than the Ford 8—was brilliantly rallied by its owners from Queen Mary's College. Second place, too went to another college (their car: Jowett Javelin), but to uphold the honour of L.S.E. third place went to the Austin van, thanks both to inspired navigation and to the skilful driving of Tony Herron.

And so—back to the "Royal Oak"—ended a most enjoyable if tiring day. Thanks must go to the organisers for their most competent arrangements—and before concluding I would extend to all students of L.S.E. a sincere invitation to join the Motoring Club—a club which can provide more satisfying pleasure, I think, than any other—and membership of which has never been dependent on absolute ownership of a motor propelled vehicle.

JOHN CLEMENS.

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