



# BEAVER

## NUS: INVASION!



Guess who's hiding behind the door!

### OCCUPATION RUBBISH

WHEN The Occupation fizzled out last week, seven days' accumulated debris from jam sandwiches, cups of coffee, and king-size filter tips was left behind. As the improvised barricades (smashed door, etc) were still intact the New Board Room really did look like a landlocked Marie Celeste.

You've got to assume that the ex-occupants' reckoned that the School porters would soon clear it up. Anyway, the porters quite rightly refused and contacted the Students' Union asking them to clear up the mess they themselves had made. So a small band of people (who shall remain nameless) did just that. Notably, the clean-up was going on while most of the candidates for the sabbatical elections of the following day were amusing themselves (nobody else turned up) at hustings.

The fact that the occupation area was left in such a state is disheartening for two reasons. A lot of hot air is expended about worker-student solidarity. It seems that when some action is required, most of the hot airists are elsewhere. The second point is the harm done to the principle that the occupation was supposed to be about. LSE Students' Union opposes discrimination against overseas students. This means that we are demanding that everyone be treated equally with thought and consideration; everyone but the School porters?

GRAHAM WILDRIDGE

IT was with profound excitement that a sturdy band of revolutionaries surfaced from the Kings Cross to assault the offices of that incompetent and moribund organisation that claims to serve student interests, the NUS.

This initiative stemmed from a motion put to the Union in those heady days of yesteryear when the LSE was once more catapulted into the thriving, vital, dynamic, and indeed passionate atmosphere that only an occupation imparts. Detailed planning followed the decision to carry out the operation; though all the while the need for the upmost secrecy was stressed in case the puerile hirelings of NUS should thwart our aims. And so it came to pass that on 3rd March, with the first glows of the summer sun gleaming over Houghton Street, a gathering of well dressed comrades gathered for their briefing. Whilst there was an outward show of calm and good spirits, with many promising their comrades that they could have their eggs for breakfast should they not return, secretly everyone knew that they were embarking on a considerable undertaking. The motive for the occupation was clear, an attempt to wake the NUS up to the fact that whilst they grow older sitting in ivory towers the Government is proposing to implement policies which are not in the best interests of students. The specific issue chosen was quotas because LSE was at that time in occupation primarily because of opposition to them. Quotas are discriminatory and are merely a part of the Government's attempt to reduce the number of people in tertiary education so as to make massive cuts in expenditure more palatable to the public.

At NUS the advance party of Daud Khan had successfully made entrance to the rather unalubrious

offices on the pretext of handing in amendments to NUS motions. Regrettably the front door had a guard in the person of the Deputy President, Ashby. I was able to persuade him to open the door by telling him that I wanted to see someone from the Publications Department (they kept telephoning me all week to find out if LSE was going to occupy and of course I assured them that their fears were unfounded). Then Mart Peacock (no relation) came to the entrance and Ashby slowly began to realise that all was not well. Suddenly he yelled out a few expletives and indicated that he would not be unhappy if we left. Given the fact that we had all got dressed up in our suits, it did seem a bit of a pity to go. With spontaneous revolutionary fervour we all surged forward, spurred on by the battle cry of one of our greatest contemporary revolutionaries, Mr Roger Galloway who was regrettably absent, "fuckin' scandalous". I was able to rush upstairs to greet our great, glorious and correct General Secretary in the reception. Ashby, later to be joined by Cooper, blocked the stairs. Nervously Daud and I waited for the arrival of the others who we could hear questioning Ashby. From his replies, one might conclude that his nanny must have been ill-bred. Shortly the spirits of the Gang of Two were raised by the noise of scuffling from the stairs and then to our delight Abhay Desai appeared with a smile carrying Bruno, Carol Saunders' teddy. Ashby and Cooper were disappointed by this success and became much less well disposed to the comrades who waited below. Will Richardson, continued the verbal onslaught, aided by Ed Walker, Guy Elliott, Jane Hawkins and others.

After several hours, during which

the conduct of Ashby was not at all appreciated, indeed extremely unpleasant and abusive was the little chap, it was decided that we should return to LSE Union meeting. We were heartened to note that Cooper is reported to have said that she is responsible to the membership and trust that this means that she is in agreement with the aims of the occupation. As for Ashby, well really, the fellow is somewhat beyond the pale; particularly after he observed that his concern with the welfare of overseas students was not as great as I know we would all hope for. However, it is perhaps a little unfair to assume that someone under twenty-five is really expressing his true thoughts when in rather a tiff. I think that the occupation achieved something; one national paper mentioned it, all others were informed and maybe NUS will try to think about doing a little more for its membership. After all, he who pays the piper calls the tune.

BRUCE FELL

#### STOP PRESS

Results of the recent elections:  
**General Secretary: Will Richardson (Libertarian Socialist)**  
**Senior Treasurer: Julian Ingram (Liberal)**  
**Social Secretary: Steve Bradbury (Independent)**  
**The Executive:**  
**Abhay Desai (Non-aligned Independent)**  
**Christos Solavounis (Left Independent)**  
**Liz Baltiesz (SWP)**  
**Deborah Cohen (Labour Club)**  
**Steve Robinson (Liberal)**  
**Dave Barton (Labour Club)**  
**Guy Elliott (Independent)**  
**Naf Farey (Independent Looney)**  
**Chris Faulkner (Tory)**  
**Andrew Smith (Labour Club)**

The day we were extremely abusive and unpleasant (Photo courtesy of Andy Evans)

### King's students 'offensive'

THE racist and sexist comments of four students from King's College have twice caused bad feeling around LSE in the last few weeks.

The students, who are described as being "smartly dressed", on one occasion claimed to be "18th-century Whigs". Will Richardson has commented that "if they carry on like that they'll find themselves kicked back to the bloody 18th century."

The first incident occurred in the Three Tuns after the benefit disco for the firemen, where the students approached an Asian LSE student calling her a "whore" and asking to see her British passport. Only

great restraint on the part of her companions stopped a full-blooded fight and later Ted, the bar manager, literally carried one of them off the premises.

The second incident occurred last Wednesday when another Asian student was leaving the Third World Women's Rally. Outside the main building she was stopped by the four, who tried to put their arms around her. When she resisted they showed "surprise" that she could speak English and demanded to see her passport.

The Women's Group and ACAR are very perturbed that these incidents should have happened, particularly in LSE.

carol saunders





# ENTERTAINMENTS



## Roy Harper

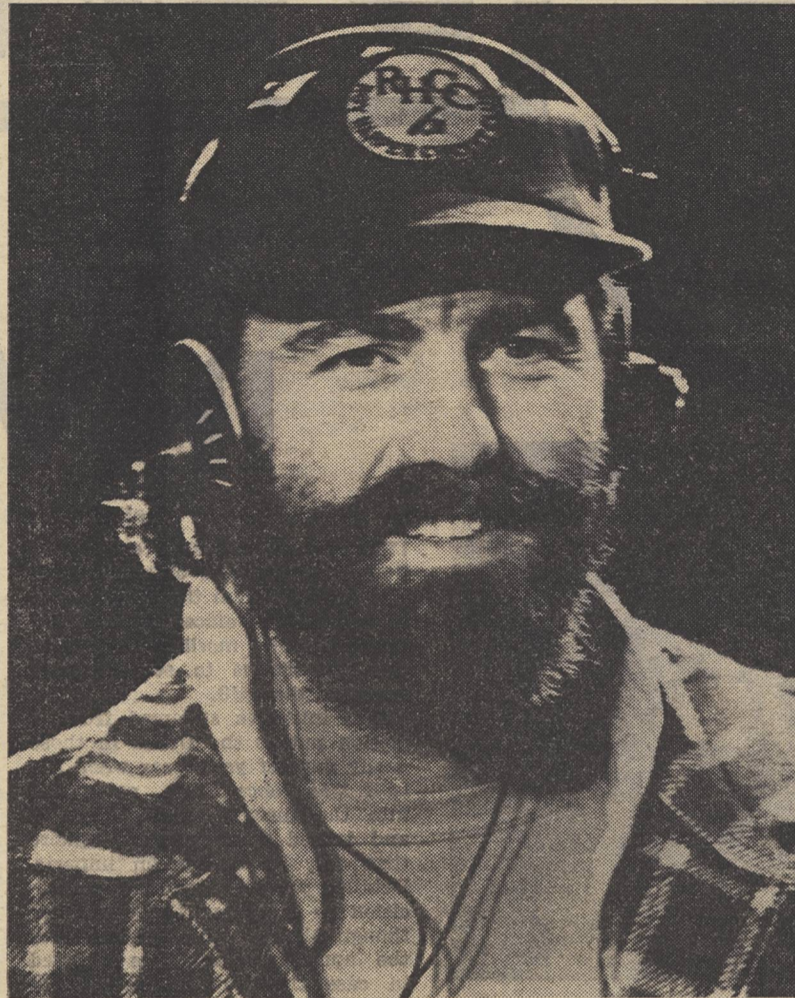
ALL in all it was unanimously agreed that this was a very worthwhile and prestigious concert. Such was the intimacy of this particular evening with Roy Harper and Andy Roberts that it seemed as though they were performing in someone's front room rather than on the Old Theatre stage (yes, it was pretty crowded...) An encouragingly 'high' proportion of LSE students were observed in the audience although as usual it was students from other London colleges who were first in the queue for advance tickets and the first to recognise the exclusive nature of this particular Ents coup.

With the very able backing of Andy Roberts, a remarkable display was given of the range and textures available from the acoustic guitar. It was one of

those rare gigs where you can not only hear every lyric effortlessly but also absorb the nuances and structures of the songs. The clarity of the PA ensured that the tremendous power and expression of Harper's voice was audible even to those who stood by the Porter's lodge. One porter was even heard reminiscing about Harper's free appearance at the 1968 LSE occupation!

Harper himself rated the concert as easily one of the best on his European tour. The satisfied audience of almost 700 felt no apparent urge to cause £8,000 of damage as they vacated the Old Theatre. Souvenir posters disappeared into the night only seconds after the encore, "When an Old Cricketer Leaves the Crease," had drawn to a close a truly memorable concert. EMI are releasing a tape of the event next week.

Andy Cornwell



## TOURISTS

Wed., 15th March, 1 p.m., Old Theatre.

A FREE lunchtime concert to round off the term. (All members note the time). With a major record deal in the pipeline the TOURISTS have chosen to rehearse intensively and make literally one or two selected live appearances. They are a versatile five-piece band who recall to my ears some classic American influences—Byrds, Jefferson Airplane, Big Star, Velvet Underground, etc.—and in addition they perform with sufficient vitality and energy to warrant the new wave label. Ents cannot reveal the exact line-up for 'contractual' reasons, but when the relevant lawyers have eventually got together the Tourists will be in a better position to add a little quality to the Radio One playlists.

## LIVE REVIEW

THE BOYFRIENDS plus the Speedometers at the Marquee

Arrived late, as per usual, but in time to catch the last four or five numbers of the Speedometers set. Those who saw them when they played support to Sh\*m 69 at LSE would have been suitably impressed by the quality of their songs and the dexterity of their lead guitarist, neither of which has deteriorated in the least. The usual Marquee crowd, however, kept to its rule of never going wild over a support band. A short wait and the Boyfriends bounded on stage, full of boyish enthusiasm (Ho Hum).

The set opened with a couple of well-constructed, melodic, easy-listening songs. In other words, after listening to about four pleasant tunes, I was bored off my arse. Swift adjourn to bar to watch pinball and push melodies to back of mind. Once or twice the set almost got going, but always seemed to be let down immediately afterwards. The Boyfriends showed that they have the capability to produce good driving songs with a boppy touch, but there were all too few of these, and so I made my way back to Saunders Bar, unconvinced.

## ALBUM REVIEW

GUILLOTINE

YE Gods, what a peculiar record! This is a 10-inch sampler album released by Virgin presumably to showcase their latest talents. Side one opens with the Motors thundering along in their usual hard-hitting manner with "You Beat the Hell Outta Me." Quite good, but don't listen to the lyrics too closely or you will be treated to a very clichéd rhythm of 'alley' and Sally. Groan! Next is probably the best track on the album, "Don't Dictate," by Penetration. Fine effective guitar, courtesy of Gary Chaplin and superb vocals from Pauline.

Naf.

Now we've got "Do the Standing Still" from the Table. It is all right I suppose, but not anything to write home about. The last track on side one is not worth writing anything about at all. It is called "Strange Gurl in Clothes" (what?) by Avant Gardener (who?) and could be described as a speeded-up dirge.

On to Side Two, which is kicked into action by a previously unreleased XTC track, "Traffic Light Rock," which is well up to their usual high standards though not quite as memorable as some.

Next comes Roky Erikson's contribution, "Bermuda," which is fine if you're not really listening to it, and after the first few lines, I wasn't.

After this is, wait for it, a REGGAE track, "All Wi Doin' is Defendin'," by Poet and the Roots. This should be a pleasant change. Wrong again. It's so awful it makes Bob Marley sound superb.

Luckily, the last track, X-Ray Spex classic 'Oh Bondage Up Yours!' leaves you thinking that the album wasn't so bad after all. It's only £2.99 anyway. Well, with only three good tracks (Penetration, XTC, X-Ray Spex), three mediocre and two awful, it's not really good value, other than for the supposed novelty of a 10-inch album.

Personally, I think your £2.99 would be better invested in a copy of 'Stiff's Live Stiffs.' At least you get twelve inches.

Naf.

## Cornwell's Column

"EASTER" from the PATTI SMITH GROUP and the solo debut album from RICK DANKO have proved to be a reminder of the depth of American talent signed to the ARISTA label.

Released to tie in with her concerts at the Rainbow Theatre (April 1st-4th), Easter sees the Patti Smith Band in full flight thanks to the kind of beefed-up production not found on the first two albums. This should widen her appeal considerably and hopefully the track which is co-written with Bruce Springsteen should also gain her the all-too important radio airplay. Ms. Smith has returned after a year's absence with yet more classic pumping rock 'n' roll.

In a more mellow vein, Rick Danko's solo album simply oozes the kind of quality you would expect from a musician with his pedigree. Guesting with the former Band bass player are Clapton, Wood, Doug Sahm and a host of other West Coast luminaries. The subtleties of this album are still revealing themselves after countless plays hence it is well worth the current price demanded by record shops. With luck you might pick up either of these albums in the review racks of OASIS RECORDS, 18 Newport Court WC2, near Soho Market.

Early April is the scheduled release date for the long awaited BAND triple album on WEA. The same label has released a double live at the Hope and Anchor compilation as a reminder of the recent fortnight of gigs held at London's premier pub rock venue.

ANDY CORNWELL

**NAF**

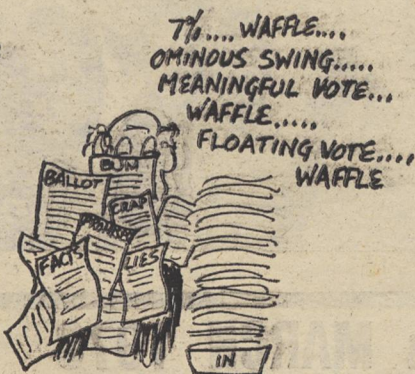
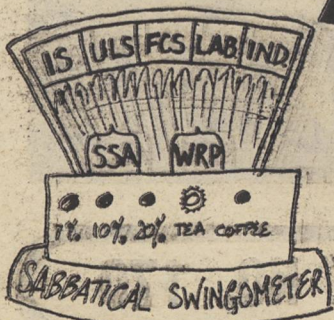


I'M TAKING A BREAK THIS WEEK - LET'S HAVE SOME POLITICAL ANALYSIS....



ELECTION PROPAGANDA.... WAFFLE.... BASIC ISSUES.... RHUBARB.... POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS... WAFFLE..... SABBATICALS....

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7%.... WAFFLE.... OMINOUS SWING.... MEANINGFUL VOTE... WAFFLE.... FLOATING VOTE.... WAFFLE



WHO WON? HE DOESN'T KNOW.





"Now, remember, son, as soon as you get in there, shout Quorum!"

# Hands off Beaver

LSE NAFF MEMBER DEFENDS OUR ORGAN

THE following letter was submitted by Mr Hampson to "The Free Nation" paper of the National Association for Freedom who did not see fit to publish it on their letters page.

AN article in the London School of Economics Student Union newspaper, BEAVER, claimed that NAFF was a racist organisation. As a consequence of this, NAFF proposes to sue the BEAVER for libel, which would make my position, as an LSE NAFF member, untenable.

BEAVER is a commendable student paper, although it is run by students of political bias. One can expect personal views to be printed, emanating from the full range of the political spectrum. It was one such personal view which declared NAFF racist; an opinion generally held among socialists.

On the ultra-left, many regard those accepting the "establishment" as "fascist" and with this other derogatory terms, such as "racist," "imperialist," "bourgeois," "sexist," etc., inevitably

follow. The Tories are regularly confronted with this and I expect it as a matter of course.

One must accept that publications will exist equating NAFF with racism, if freedom of speech is to be the rule and not the exception. Furthermore, BEAVER did publish a reply "In defence of NAFF." NAFF should not be seen as Goliath menacing David; court action will make LSE SU the martyr for freedom not NAFF.

ROBERT E. HAMPSON  
Undergraduate, LSE.

## POINT OF INFORMATION

The Editors would like to point out that the working members of the Beaver Collective include the following:

- 3 Anarchists
- 1 Libertarian—Socialist.
- 2 Labour—voters.
- 3 Conservatives.
- 1 Independent.

We might be politically biased (who isn't?) but in no way is our approach as a team anything other than a balance of opinions within LSE.



**RIPPLE—Leicester University.**  
SURPRISED to learn that David Wilks, chairperson of FCS, is encouraging FCS branches to work towards abolishing UGMs in favour of Student Representative Councils (how many of our readers saw that hilarious poster just outside the main library?) a correspondent has written to RIPPLE to remind Leicester students that when Wilks was President of their students' union he spent "most of his time" encouraging higher attendance at UGMs whilst "berating" the Council for its inefficiency and lack of effectiveness. He was once quoted as saying that the Council was comprised solely of hacks. Why the reversal we wonder?

Another reversal on Wilk's part was shown up when he spoke at Sheffield University recently. Apparently he told students there that "FCS supports Margaret Thatcher's attitude to Immigration"—not at all what he told The Sunday Times a month ago. Far be it from me to condemn Wilks as an opportunist...

## REDBRICK—Birmingham University

A report in Redbrick states that at Pennsylvania University they are financing a Take-a-Professor-to-lunch scheme to improve staff-student relationships. The University is prepared to foot the bill to the tune of up to £3 per person. Might be the answer to poverty-stricken students here. How about it, Ralph?

## NEPAM—North East London Poly

It is believed that ten students have been expelled from North East London Poly for non-payment of tuition fees.

NALGO and NATFHE have offered to loan the students money to prevent them from having to leave the Poly, but the money would have to be found by the Students' Union which is already in deficit.

Two spontaneous occupations on the subject last week were dismissed by the President of the Students' Union as "unconstitutional" and "irresponsible" but two of the occupiers, who were censured for their part in the action said that they were "proud to be censured for doing something by an exec who have achieved nothing."

## LE NURD—Brunel University

BRUNEL University have just awarded the Herman Krass Award for Unsolicited Stupidity to physicist, Professor D. R. Feltham. Those with a desire to study the theory of escalation in a crisis (C. J. Hill please note) will be doubtless interested in this tale. Apparently two Brunel students decided to try out a new skateboard near Feltham's laboratory when they were accosted by the said gent and had their skateboard confiscated (Shame).

The students went to the Student Councillor and requested that a meaningful dialogue be opened. This failed, as did the Union attempt, so the Vice-Chancellor was called in, after the head of physics proved inactive. Weeks passed and so eventually the Union confronted Feltham, who refused to talk! Blows were struck as the confrontation reached all-out war and in good old MacNamara style massive retaliation won with the police being called to investigate the theft of a skateboard!! Look out for shock horror drama mystery probe no doubt.

## Christian Union

Populist takeover in obscure mystical sect

THE Christian Union at LSE is not perhaps the most well known of all the groups here — or wasn't, at least until the last few weeks. In an intensive campaign we have tried to bring ourselves and, more importantly, the message we have for LSE out into the open. To do this we have concentrated on one issue, the meaning and relevance of Easter and within that on the historical fact of the resurrection of Jesus.

We have made "The Evidence for the Resurrection" widely available. This booklet presents Sir Norman Anderson's (an eminent lawyer) view of the evidence and is surely a challenge to your faith that this unique historical event never occurred. The assumption which most people make is that such an event could not happen, an assumption based on personal experience and one which ignores the proof offered by history.

Can you honestly reject this evidence and if so on what grounds, particularly if you refuse even to examine it? Is your conclusion merely the result of irrational prejudice or reasoned argument? These are the questions which we are trying to pose and we believe the answer is important.

Bertrand Russell also thought his own answer important enough to write a book. Could you write a paper giving your reasons for not accepting the evidence and expect

it to stand up to a vigorous examination? We want you to consider the consequences of being wrong.

If you do think about the possibilities there are many opportunities for you to ask members of the Christian Union and find out exactly what we believe. We meet every week (we have been described as the most active group in LSE though this was based on the number of rooms booked through the Union. Perhaps in future we can justify the title by meeting more people) and have a bookstall on Thursdays.

In the Christian Union our aim is truly to communicate our belief and to hear the response because the nature of that belief is that it can withstand man's attacks. Our dogma is not the upholding of a set of ethics or a moral code or an economic analysis but a reliance on an historical event.

We do not wish to present Christianity as an alternative to politics but as parallel and an avenue dismissing it as a mere sociological phenomenon. It is Easter and most people will celebrate something soon. What that something may be is likely to vary between individuals but it is one occasion which unites Christians in remembrance of the most important occurrence since the world started. Spare a moment to consider the possibilities.

Will Underhill

## Union sketch

Suppose you held an occupation and nobody came

WHY did the occupation fail? The Union meeting of March 3, held in the inauspicious surroundings of the Board Room, provided at least part of the answer to this question. For practically nobody—including the chief occupiers themselves—appeared to know what the occupation was trying to achieve.

The tactic used by those trying to justify the occupation, and to explain away its failure, was the time-honoured one of those in a fix: blame someone else. In this instance, the scapegoat was Daud Khan. Daud, we were told, hadn't helped with the occupation at all; all the work had been done by a handful of revolutionary and not-so-revolutionary comrades.

This, of course, diverted the subject away from a potentially awkward point: that the occupation was a purely opportunist tactic by certain middle-class "revolutionaries" who wanted to do well in the following week's elections, and that maybe Daud had better things to do with his time than assist these people in their aims.

There were angry scenes when Daud told the occupiers that 'you got yourselves into the shit and you can get out of it.' He argued that there was no logic in ending the occupation the following Monday.

Roger Galloway (SWP) was loudly applauded by the Tories when he asked "what's the point of staying here?" (the Boardroom). Of course, many people had wondered what was the point of the occupation all week, but let that pass. Anyway, this naturally led to the suggestion, on the part of the more lunatic-inclined members of the meeting, that we should invade Connaught House "NOW" (i.e. 4.05 p.m.), with Daud leading!

This suggestion was justified on the grounds that we would "only" have to

break down three doors in daylight, instead of five by night. However, Richard Shackleton (Tory) rather put the dampers on this fine plot by pointing out that a certain well-known student "went home last night for his breaking-in tools — has anyone seen him since?!"

After a few more abusive exchanges, the meeting narrowly voted against an amendment proposing that the situation be 'reviewed' the following Monday, rather than automatically call off the occupation. So the occupation was killed.

Incidentally, although the meeting had earlier decided to debate the emergency occupation motion first, it subsequently passed a motion proposed by the Beaver editors calling for a Sabbatical Communications Officer, which would be accompanied by a weekly Beaver. Just imagine if these Union Sketches weren't almost two weeks out of date by the time they were read!

## EDITORIAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

PEACOCK with worried expression, as he searches, knee-deep in the photographic file — "You can never find a pteradactyl when you want one..."

## Quotas: A reply

I have been asked by the Inter-Halls Committee to correct the inaccurate impression given by the article signed by Jim Gee in your issue number 169, 28 February, 1978.

The Inter-Halls Committee, whose membership includes students from all three halls of residence of the LSE and its two blocks of flats, receives a detailed breakdown of students in these units each year and tries to consider these figures quite carefully. This session the relevant paper was presented at the meeting on 25 November, 1977, and it showed that the proportion of overseas students and the proportion of female students in LSE accommodation closely reflect the proportions in the School

as a whole, i.e. 37.4 per cent overseas and 32.8 per cent female students.

These proportions, which are more or less the same as those in the previous two sessions, would not seem to indicate any real racist or sexist bias, and if any such bias does creep into future allocations of places, the Committee is likely to discover this fairly quickly.

Yours faithfully,  
Edward A. Kuska  
Chairman  
Inter-Halls Committee



# Bleak times

LEARNING that Beaver had "unlimited" space for this issue, it struck me that this in itself was symptomatic of this time of year at LSE, and thus a golden opportunity to share some lessons about the second term. One can ask just what has happened lately that people no longer rush to write articles, scurry around Houghton Street and even raise tired eyes to acknowledge a friendly greeting? Nor is this invisible plague merely the figment of one person's imagination, for quite truly I am convinced that this is the most difficult term for some people rather than the first term of adjustment or the last one of entering the correct examination room with enough pens to guarantee against any mass-production failures.

If I can elaborate, it seems that the first-term people are too busy to be really bothered personally. After all, there is the "excitement" of formal and informal gatherings, running the accommodation gauntlet and trying frantically to recall which are the familiar faces you can safely smile at in the refectory queues. These marvellous distractions consume most students during the first term, and naturally free time is taken up with reporting home about the new experiences.

And then what happens? Christmas suddenly descends upon reality and, like a house of cards, the façade seems to collapse. In only the first two weeks of this term, no fewer than eight students reached the breaking-point of coming to my office to talk about dropping out of school. While only one did decide to actually leave LSE—the others surely felt like doing so for a time. Why?

Some of the answers lie in the questions posed in this post-Christmas period—as the doubts reared their ugly heads and one wondered, "What am I doing here?" In the absence of distractions,

the reading lists increased in length, let alone weight, the available library books diminished rapidly, the teaching seemed even more abstract and incomprehensible and, to make things ever so much more traumatic, there was the key chorus line of "Everyone else seems to be managing brilliantly—it must be me—ugh, I've made a mistake. Help, I'm not even certain I want to be a student. And even if I do, I'm not sure this is the right course for me. And, anyway, why bother when just looking at the unemployment figures in \_\_\_\_\_" (complete this sentence by saying aloud your own course as you read it).

Nor was thinking about leaving the LSE the only dramatic sign of unrest this term. A higher number of people than usual for this time of year (approximately 30 per week) have consulted the accommodation lists in the hope of locating a "better place to live and work." Does being caught midway between an optimistic beginning and the onset of exams always have such a pervasive influence? Did similarly dwindling enthusiasm affect any of the resignations of elected Student Union executive officials at the end of last term also?

If any of this is familiar to you, then so too must be the bleak prospect of the Easter vacation looming like a chasm of limited time in which to complete a "year's work" as some people might say, or as other add with appropriate panic, "And the library is closed too!" Matters are not made any easier by the tempting change of weather now either. Having survived the horrible winter—one's frustration at not being able to enjoy the occasional sun is yet another injustice!

If I could only convince some of you that really surviving this term is as equal a crux as getting through your examinations, then my goal is accomplished. Just ponder, please, the idea that if you are still a registered LSE student while reading this, then you've probably already made it!

Elana Ehrlich

# ALL GAUSSEN GAITERS

## ELECTION RESULTS DRAMA BID

The election result for the post of Senior Treasurer seems to indicate a narrow victory for Julian Ingrammatical (sic), the moderate Liberal-Labour-Tory candidate. Out of a total of 947 votes cast, Julian received 928. He was closely followed by ex-Governor Bruce Fell, the Ever-So-Slightly-Silly candidate, who got 14 votes.

Hard on Bruce's heels was the Extremely-Silly Independent Loony-Left-wing candidate, Field Marshal Jim "Monty" Python Lee Jackson with one vote. "Monty" later attributed his unprecedented success to the fact that all his supporters (J. Montgomery, no relation) had turned out to vote for him!

After the result was announced, a tired but triumphant Julian Ingrammatical pledged "I love ya all" in true Jimmy Carter style, denied that the votes had in any way been rigged, and claimed that the result was "a clear vindication of all the policies I've been following in trying to bankrupt this great Union of ours." His victory was, he claimed, the "greatest landslide in human history since good old Dick Nixon pulled off a fast one in 1972."

A statement was issued from ex-Governor Fell's office, which thanked all his loyal supporters (J. Gausсен, no relation) for their help. He promised to continue his fight to make the Union a "more representative one—one which represents my ever-so-slightly-silly views" for the rest of his life. He attributed his defeat to the closure of the Pizzaburger, which meant that many people who would otherwise have been kept away by food poisoning were able to turn up and vote for Julian; and "because this damn democratic system means that bloody ignorant peasants are allowed to vote for whomsoever they wish."

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 Meanwhile as I write, in the corridors outside the Beaver complex, I hear the first mutterings of a new mass movement, the "Gotta Do Something Brigade". Watch this column for further details—another Beaver Shock Horror Exclusive!

## RIGHT-WING BACKLASHES OUT

Is this column as Roger Galloway and Jim Gee have alleged, a pernicious anti-socialist propaganda weapon, part of the vicious smear campaign mounted by the Tories against everything that is radical and good in our beloved Union? Is it CIA financed? Is it merely an extension of "The Free Nation," upright organ of the National Association For Freedom?

The answer to all these questions is the same: NO. This column is totally independent of any political force, although generous donations from philanthropic persons or organisations are always welcomed. And as for the claim that ex-Governor Bruce Fell has any influence over this column—words fail me.

I have also heard moans from Julian Ingram that this column is "unproperly structured"; and that it is failing to provide a "meaningful and relevant service to students." It is, he claims, "out-of-date." I can only reply that this column is proud of its ancient and noble traditions. Perhaps it is somewhat creaky and fragile in its old age; maybe the same old gags every time do become rather tedious and repetitive. But one thing is for certain: this column will continue in its policy of complete independence of anyone—unless the bribes are high enough.

James Gausсен.

# WILL: Our new Gen. Sec.

## BEAVER'S EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW



which together with his answers are reproduced below:—

**J.G.:** How would you describe your political beliefs?

**Will:** I have always been a socialist, though I may at times have called it anarchism. I believe that the method of analysis used by Marx was broadly correct and it irritates me to hear socialists jeopardising what I regard as a cast iron case by overstating details at the expense of the broad outlines. Libertarianism is what I want: total freedom within society. That's a platitude, but then most political ideals are. Let's just say that I think that socialists can't afford to leave personal freedom until after the revolution.

**J.G.:** Some people (Jim Gee) have suggested that your leaving SWP was an election ploy. How true is that?

**Will:** The truth is that I was persuaded to stand for General Secretary and with so many points of contention between us, I'd have been certain to leave SWP before my term of office ended. I thought it would be more honest—and, I

admit, better tactics as well — to declare my political stand openly and run as an independent.

**J.G.:** What are your main aims as General Secretary?

**Will:** I want to strengthen the Union mainly by combatting apathy. The best method I can think of would be by making people aware of what the Union can do, by informing them. A sabbatical communications officer will be very useful in that respect. That's in general terms — there are particular issues like discrimination and academic freedom and Union autonomy. And I have my own hobby-horse as well — postgrads are terribly badly represented and have massive financial problems, because so few of them get any form of grant.

**J.G.:** How do you see the role of the Union Meeting and the Executive?

**Will:** I think that part of the problem with attendance at Union Meetings is that the meeting doesn't seem very powerful. It has power, but lots of people don't realise how much, and perhaps they feel

disinclined to attend because it seems to be a talking shop. And that kind of ignorance allows the executive to get away with a lot, too. Constitutionally, the union meeting is sovereign, and I think we should make people appreciate that sovereignty.

**J.G.:** What do you think of the procedural complexity of Union Meetings?

**Will:** Most of it is actually there to safeguard democracy, though it does seem very clumsy. We could use a little judicious simplification, just to make the machinery more accessible — and stop hacks using obscure devices for their own ends.

**J.G.:** Do you think you'll be able to work with Julian Ingram — given his political beliefs (if any)?

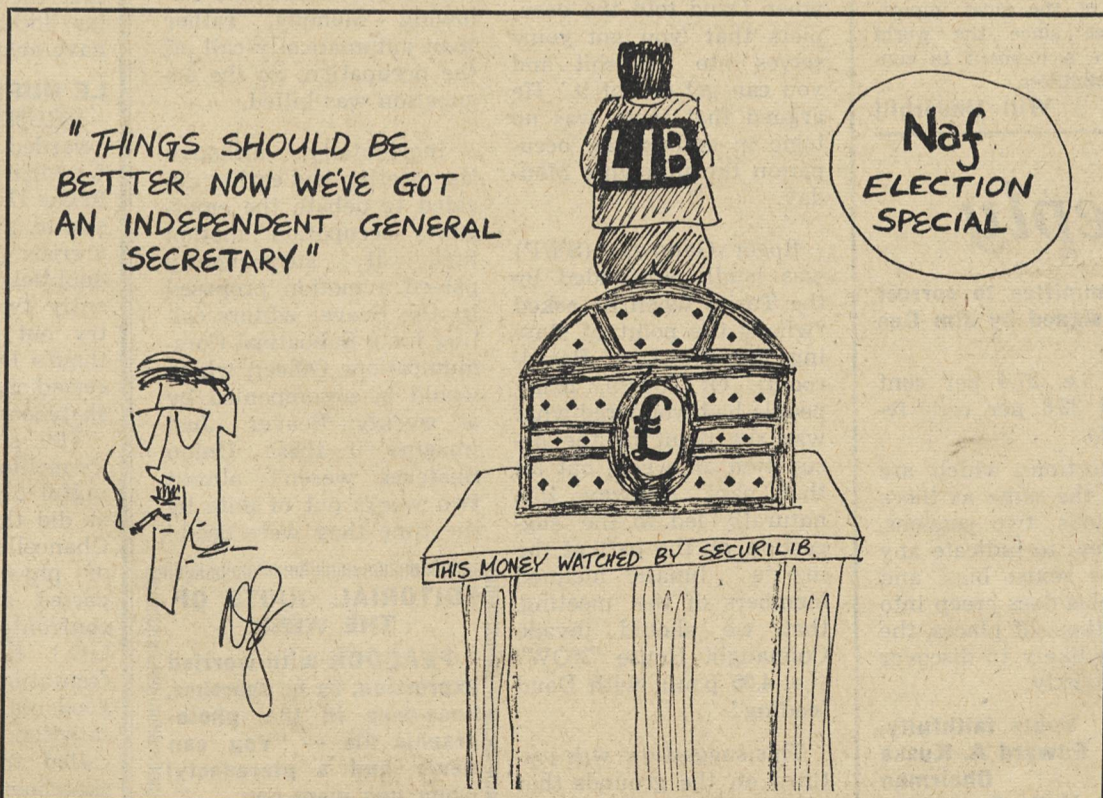
**Will:** We get on very well personally. My only objection is to the dangerous precedent of running twice as a sabbatical. Julian appreciates that too, he says, but he apparently thought it still worthwhile to run for a second term.

Interviewed by James Gausсен

'Twas on the evening of Tuesday, 7th March, 1978, as the last feeble rays of a dying sun flickered hesitantly over Houghton Street, that the votes for the two most important posts in the land—General Secretary and Senior Treasurer of LSE's Student Union—were counted. As the early returns flashed up on the television screen, the assembled multitude (Roger Galloway) discerned a distinct trend in the voting pattern, which was confirmed many hours later: Mr Julian Ingram was to remain Senior Treasurer for the seventh year in succession. However, enough of Julian. The big news was that WILL RICHARDSON, who describes himself as a libertarian socialist, had been elected as General Secretary of the Union.

Why did Will win? Was it due to the tacit support lent by ex-Governor Bruce Fell? Or the fact that the other candidates were Kay Forrester, Pete Crockford, Jim Montgomery, Jim Gee and Steve Robinson? Or because of the widespread (and erroneous) belief that Will had a secret craving for "good ol' Kentucky Fried Chicken, Colonel Sanders style", and wanted to set up a branch at LSE, possibly in place of the Pizzaburger? Only history can decide. But who, you clamour, is Will? He was born 25 years ago into a working-class family. Unlike some well-known Lefties, he actually went to a comprehensive school, and he has been at LSE on and off since 1972. He is now a postgrad without a grant (SHAME).

Will claims to have kept out of the "bureaucratic limelight till last year." He became Chairperson of the Union this term. He also resigned from the Socialist Workers' Party about three weeks ago. I asked him some searching (snigger) questions,





# How to win an election

BY SOMEONE WHO'S RECENTLY DONE IT

JIM CALLAGHAN can put this down: the method is only guaranteed to succeed in LSE sabbatical elections. First you need a personality (sorry about this, comrades, but all the evidence points to it). You can get one almost anywhere, although some sources are better than others. Lots of people get their first one at infant school—some LSE hacks obviously did this and never bothered to have it changed.

Then there are certain pubs and bars where you can pick up a personality, though not so cheaply. The Three Tuns is excellent since it allows one to combine the first necessity with the second, which is getting to know the hacks. This isn't because they will be of any use—they always less useful than any randomly chosen tramp. The reason is that you'll be able to spot their weaknesses (that's what makes them hacks).

The third necessity is to choose your ground well. Standing as an independent is best because it keeps your conscience clean: when in office you won't have any bunch of berks breathing down your neck—funny how they always seem to like garlic, isn't it—telling you that you should do as the party says. But do be sure to make your political leanings clear, otherwise everyone will assume you are a Tory in disguise.

Of course, some of them will say this anyway, especially if they aren't sure what Libertarian means.

Now that you are running against all the party machines, you'll need help. The best solution to this is to run in tandem with someone you can trust—they do not have to agree with you politically as long as you trust them. Best find someone who does not really like "mealy-mouthed, hypocritical, party orientated little time-servers, without the ability to run a whelk stall," if someone with those opinions happens

to feel like standing.

Now let us get on to the campaign (good word no. 739 in the Hacks' Book of Political Phraseology). A good start is to get an article into Beaver (since the editor and returning officer are the same person, there is some suspicion that he only calls elections to fill up the paper during periods of copy shortage). A better start is to get three articles in Beaver, but this is the kind of coincidence that only providence can provide.

The final step, absolutely crucial, is to tell all your friends to vote for you. Certain candidates, short on friends, may accuse you of mobilising (good word no. 364) a fan-club vote. Try to smile when they forget to congratulate you on winning—if you do win. Because there is still one hurdle to jump. The voters have to express their preferences in a democratic election (good words Nos. 654, 812, 902, 566). This is often annoying to the candidate—only one can win—and the electorate often disagree with the candidate over who should win. I can think of only one way to avoid this bitter disappointment. Stay out of the contest unless you either think they want you, or you think you can persuade them to. Unless, of course, you or your party do not mind being disappointed.

**WILL RICHARDSON**  
(the new General Secretary).

# SOUR GRAPES?

BY SOMEONE WHO HASN'T

FOLLOWING the recent election of Will Richardson to the post of Sabbatical General Secretary as a "non-aligned Libertarian Socialist" and the rash of independent candidates in both Sabbatical and Executive elections the time has come to say something in favour of party politics—the only way of clarifying the issues which confront us as a student union.

We have heard a lot recently about how terrible party lines are, how they prevent self-expression and lead to narrow dogmatism and a lack of democracy. It's a very easy argument to make, but unfortunately it is wrong.

The easiest thing about refusing party labels is that the individual does not have to take up any position on many controversial issues. Whenever the argument gets a little bit rough, whenever doubts enter the independent's mind, he or she takes a back seat.

Not having a clear position of controversial issues sounds very reasonable but unfortunately it does not help a student union which at times has to fight against DES bureaucrats, anti-abortion campaigners and racist organisations who seem to have already made up their minds. Under an independent the student body is effectively leaderless and divided, incapable of fighting for its own rights.

Far from being an apolitical stance, the soggy eclecticism that results from "free and independent" minds working in isolation is the surest support the system has. It is neither socialist nor libertarian; nor for that matter is it independent, for the isolated individual is immediately swamped by bourgeois ideology and the realities of a bourgeois trend.

No-one criticises the independent for

having doubts, no-one claims that unquestioning acceptance of a party line is the right way to arrive at decisions. But people in responsible political positions should have some sort of policy on issues which are likely to affect the people they represent. Party candidates do have policies which are widely known, and this lends them a certain reliability.

The sabbatical election results fully endorse this view. Separating candidates into "Left" and "Right" party candidates and "Independents", we find that each group gets about a third of votes cast in both elections.

The lesson seems to be that the same people who voted for Will Richardson also voted for Bruce Fell and Stephen George in spite of the fact that Will is generally considered a socialist and the other two are reckoned Right-wing.

What happens, then, when Will takes up the post of General Secretary and decides to initiate socialist campaigns? Can he rely on the support of those who have voted for him or will he have to do all the donkey work himself? Can Will really tackle the problems he will face, in a socialist way, when he lacks any organised support?

I suspect that we have elected another "nice bloke" and that his reign will do nothing to advance those principles which Will himself evinces.

**PHIL HEPBURN, SWP**

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**BERNARDO  
BERTOLUCCI**

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AND IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER: FRANCESCA BERTINI · LAURA BETTI · WERNER BRUHNS  
STEFANIA CASINI · STERLING HAYDEN · ANNA HENKEL · ELLEN SCHWIERS · ALIDA VALLI  
ROMOLO VALLI AND WITH STEFANIA SANDRELLI AND WITH DONALD SUTHERLAND  
AND WITH BURT LANCASTER

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**PART TWO**

From THURS. March 30  
**Classic 4**  
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THESE PAGES CONTAIN THE DETAILS OF THE BUDGET SUBMISSION WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE DISCUSSED AT THIS TUESDAY'S UNION MEETING. YOU MAY THEREFORE FIND IT HELPFUL TO RETAIN THIS CENTRE FOLD SO THAT YOU WILL HAVE THE RELEVANT INFORMATION AT YOUR DISPOSAL SHOULD YOU REQUIRE TO EXPRESS YOUR OPINIONS ON NEXT YEAR'S FINANCES.

# THE BUDGET

This is what the Union is trying to get for next year - Court of

## Staff and related costs

WELFARE PAY	-	-	£6,750
WELFARE TRAINING COURSE	-	-	£70
ADMIN. PAY	-	-	£17,000
FIN. PAY	-	-	£12,900
STAFF CONFERENCE	-	-	£100
SABBATICAL PAY (x4)	-	-	£15,900
OFFICERS' EXPENSES	-	-	£40
GRATUITIES	-	-	£60
STAFF AIDS & EXPENSES/RESERVE	-	-	£200
			<hr/>
			£53,020

STAFF and sabbatical pay dominate this section and the whole section takes up over a third of the Union budget. The reason this section is so large, and is such a large increase on last year's budget is for the following three reasons:

Firstly the contracts under which the staff are employed are of the gilded luxury form being index linked and incremental. This has meant that the cost of employing the staff has risen faster than the rise in per capita income.

Secondly we are applying for another member of staff, a secretary, as the Union has decided that it wants weekly Union meetings with published agendas which we have not got the resources to produce with the present staffing levels, in addition the pressure of work on the Finance Office has reached intolerable levels and much of the administrative work is being done by Tom Bruin, which is not his

job and stops him from doing his actual job of forecasting and analysing efficiency for example. Thus, without this new member of staff the trading enterprises are suffering as we cannot monitor their performance accurately or quickly.

Thirdly we are asking for another two sabbaticals in the fields of entertainments and publications. This is an example of the new Union policy of trying to contact the students and provide them with what they want and not what the Union élite think the average student wants. It is vitally important that these sabbaticals are given the backing of the Union as the first few years will determine much of the job definition and style of the job.

Thus the Union is trying to meet the demands of the Union hacks in providing the resources for their petty bureaucracy and at the same time trying to provide a direct service to students that will actually have a tangible benefit for 3,500 students.

## Publications

BEAVER	-	-	£8,000
HANDBOOK	-	-	£500
CLARE MARKET REVIEW / RESERVE	-	-	£500
ALTERNATIVE PROSPECTUS	-	-	£1,000
POLICY HANDBOOK	-	-	£200
BEAVER DAILY NEWS	-	-	£50
NATIONAL STUDENT	-	-	£205
STUDENT PAPER DISTRIBUTION SCHEME	-	-	£50
NUS STUDENT PRESS CONFERENCE	-	-	£50
PRESS OBSERVER	-	-	£90
			<hr/>
			£10,645

IT is the Publications' Section of the Union budget which affects the maximum number of students. On the other hand its benefits are dispersed so that there is no specific group which will leap to the defence of this section of the budget. Consequently it has suffered in recent years.

This budget sees the reassertion of publications as a necessary service to LSE students. With the Sabbatical Communications Officer and the expansion of our budget we can see a service which is much better.

The Beaver sub-section (£8,000) will practically mean a weekly Beaver (20 issues) with more pages and improved layout. The Editor will have to be a sabbatical to enable him or her to carry out the work. The handbook

and Daily News will also be his/her responsibility, and there is room for great improvement this year.

The Student Paper Distribution Service is a form of news service which not only serves us but also provides a service for other (less well-off) colleges. It is a service which NUS says "it can't afford to Provide."

Clare Market Review, Alternative Prospectus and Policy handbook are all items on which we have declared policy, but which we have been unable to implement in the past due to lack of money and time, the latter factor largely due to the absence of a sabbatical communications officer.

Finally the NUS press conference is a sort of training weekend and the press observer is for NUS major conferences.

## Central administration

AUDIT	-	-	£550
ADMIN. EXPENSE/RESERVE	-	-	£115
INSURANCE	-	-	£420
TELEPHONES	-	-	£2,000
POSTAGE	-	-	£100
EQUIPMENT	-	-	£2,650
REPAIR AND RENEWALS	-	-	£350
STATIONERY	-	-	£1,100
ELECTIONS	-	-	£250
			<hr/>
			£7,535

CENTRAL administration is the inescapable commitment that any organisation enters into when it attempts to function in a proper and orderly manner. Audit fees are a legal requirement and compared to the costs of other Union auditors surprisingly cheap. Also insurance is another legal commitment so as to ensure that the Union is covered against any claims made against us.

The three areas that stick out in this section are stationery, telephones, and equipment. To take the largest first (which seems logical) equipment is so large this year due to the fact that the Union's equipment has finally decided to give up the ghost and fall apart. This can be illustrated by the fact that the Union has no photo copying facilities, and the Union's only adding machine was built just after decimalisation and its handle keeps falling off!

We will also need new equipment for the new secretary and the sabbaticals. Telephones are the monopoly of one company in this country and the charges are one of the most expensive. Also we have problems of security which mean that people keep on telephoning New York, Chile and India at some late time at night which we have to pick the bill up from. At this point in time I must make it quite clear that anyone being found 'phoning abroad will have David Southwall let loose on him/her, which is surely a fate worse than death.

Stationery is occupied mainly by producing minutes minutes minutes agendas agendas agendas and minutes, all for the few people that bother to attend Union meetings. So this bears little relevance to the 3,000 students who never attend the spectacle on Friday afternoons.

## Ents and hospitality

TV RENTAL	-	-	£160
PORTERS	-	-	£100
SUNDRY RECEPTIONS	-	-	£100
NEW STUDENTS	-	-	£500
ENTS COMMITTEE	-	-	£3,300
DISCO (CAPITAL)	-	-	£250
			<hr/>
			£4,410

THIS section is basically all about the Entertainments Committee and its financial policy. In the past the entertainments team have combined a large amount of professionalism with unpaid hard work to make this college a prestige venue.

This has changed now for two reasons: Firstly band prices are rising fast after being in a stationary position over the last two years. This means that the budget margin that Ents works on has become smaller and the old risk capital element of £500 that used to see Ents through has no longer the fail safe effect it used to have.

Also this means that the capital that has to be put behind a gig is much larger meaning that the risk element is higher and the financial strains on the Ents budget are such that one mistake in the beginning of the year might in future preclude any further events through the year.

Secondly, competition is getting fiercer and we are tending to lose our competitiveness with other venues due to our lousy lighting system for example. This means that we have to

hire equipment for bands or accept a higher band cost if they bring the gear with them. This again eats into the margins.

However, the above factors apply mainly to Saturday night concerts, and the Ents Committee have other plans up their sleeve. These include an improved disco with more lighting embellishments, a revue (if you know what this is, please tell me), and the traditional lunch-time free concerts and the bar socials.

Other parts of the Ents and Receptions budget include the rental for the TV (when it's not being nicked) in the room next to the T.T.C. and the Porters' Party for all our hard working and much abused porters.

The New Students' Conference is the only other area of major expenditure and covers the Union costs of organising the Overseas Students' reception, the Postgraduates' Freshers' Week and the Freshers' Ball to name but a few.

This is a section of the budget that actually affects you and tries to bring you some light in your dismal existence in the L.S.E.

## Welfare

GENERAL	-	-	-
ACCOMMODATION	-	-	-
HARDSHIP	-	-	-
NITEL	-	-	-
S.C.A. L	-	-	-
C.E.S. M	-	-	-
PLAYO	-	-	-
UNION	-	-	-
LEGAL	-	-	-
NUS CO	-	-	-
PREGNA	-	-	-

DESPITE the majority of students the Union is no ground for percentage of to Welfare, after the incidents at LSE.

This year welfare increases in the purely inflationary by hoping to welfare without the area of the budget the past.

The Welfare areas:

(1) Advisory welfare officer out her advisory means production as well as a Other advisors

## The

COMMITTEE	-	-	-
SOCIETY	-	-	-
CLEANING	-	-	-
PROVISION	-	-	-
JELLY B	-	-	-
ATHLETIC	-	-	-
RESERVE	-	-	-
STAFF &	-	-	-
CENTRAL	-	-	-
WELFARE	-	-	-
EXTERNAL	-	-	-
PUBLIC	-	-	-
RECEPTION	-	-	-

NOW the F stunned you v can see that it £142,000, which money.

The way the levying a per the School on giving body. T imately £42 fo at L.S.E. and student.

This is, of course from this year time students the services t given the polit this Union has



# BUDGET SUBMISSION

next year — Court of Governors permitting

## Welfare

£550	GENERAL	-	-	£200
£115	ACCOMMODATION BUREAU	-	-	£350
£420	HARDSHIP FUND	-	-	£5,170
£2,000	NITELINE	-	-	£75
£100	S.C.A. L.S.E.	-	-	£100
£2,650	C.E.S. NURSERY	-	-	£6,831
£350	PLAYGROUP	-	-	£225
£1,100	UNION FEE REBATE	-	-	£840
£250	LEGAL SERVICES	-	-	£100
	NUS CONFERENCE	-	-	£100
£7,535	PREGNANCY FUND/RESERVE	-	-	£300
				<b>£14,291</b>

DESPITE the fact that probably the majority of students believe that the Union is nothing but a training ground for political careerists, a large percentage of the budget is allocated to Welfare, concerned with looking after the individual welfare of students at LSE.

This year we have tried to limit increases in the Welfare budget to purely inflationary adjustments, thereby hoping to maintain our standard of welfare without squeezing any other area of the budget as has happened in the past.

The Welfare budget covers three areas:

(1) Advisory — the S.U. employs a welfare officer. To enable her to carry out her advisory and counselling roles means producing welfare pamphlets, as well as a large stationery element. Other advisory services provided by

the S.U. are Niteline (a phone-in Samaritan-type service) and free legal advice.

(2) Financial—this is where most of the money goes. The Hardship fund exists to help self-financing students that the School system misses.

The S.U. also pays a subsidy to the C.E.S. to enable student parents to continue their courses. Each parent still has to pay £8 per week per child.

There is also a S.U. fee rebate fund for self-financing students, and a pregnancy fund which can be used to finance a termination or provide a maternity award.

(3) Miscellaneous — This includes the new heading "student community action" designed to increase LSE's links with outside community groups. It also pays for a playleader for half-term holidays and minor N.U.S. welfare conferences.

## The grand total

£160	COMMITTEES	-	-	£1,000
£100	SOCIETIES	-	-	£10,000
£100	CLEANING	-	-	£3,187
£500	PROVISIONS	-	-	£3,650
£3,300	JELLY BABIES	-	-	16p per ¼lb.
£250	ATHLETIC UNION	-	-	£19,105
	RESERVES	-	-	£4,955
£4,410	STAFF & RELATED	-	-	£53,020
	CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION	-	-	£7,535
	WELFARE	-	-	£14,291
	EXTERNAL	-	-	£10,222
	PUBLICATIONS	-	-	£10,645
	RECEPTIONS AND HOSPITALITY	-	-	£4,410
				<b>£142,020</b>

NOW the Finance Committee has stunned you with all these figures you can see that it all adds up to around £142,000, which is rather a lot of money.

The way the Union gets this is by levying a per capita fee approved by the School on students or the grant-giving body. This works out at approximately £42 for every full-time student at L.S.E. and £14 for every part-time student.

This is, of course, a large increase from this year's £27 per head for full-time students but if we are to provide the services that students want, and given the political and legal restraints this Union has we must have this sort

of per capita fee. We realise that many students who do not have a grant will be forced to pay this money and for those in hardship we have a special fund in the Welfare Section to rebate all or part of the Union fee.

This Union is one of the most under-developed in the country, having a per capita fee which rates in the bottom 10 per cent when compared to the 50-odd universities in this country. The average in England alone THIS year is over £36, and next year will be somewhere in the region of (yes, you have guessed it) £42. So really all we are trying to do is provide the services that students want at L.S.E. and get at the other universities in the country.

## External affairs

LONDON STUDENTS' ORGANISATION	£611
AFFILIATIONS/RESERVE	£150
NUS	£7,921
NUS CONFERENCE (MAJOR)	£1,100
NUS CONFERENCE (MINOR)	£300
NUS PUBLICATIONS	£50
MISC. CONF.	£60
SPEAKERS	£30
	<b>£10,222</b>

This section is dominated by the affiliation and other related costs of NUS and the regional sidekick L.S.D. (London Student Organisation).

N.U.S. is our national Union and whilst many people are critical of its political stance it does provide us with a great deal of benefit that this Union could not provide if it was left in isolation. Over the past years N.U.S. affiliation has risen drastically due to the vagaries of N.U.S. affiliation systems, which they are at present trying to iron out. We do pay over the odds, but it's an all-or-nothing situation and our money is used to good effect by subsidising the affiliation rates of smaller colleges who are not in the same luxury (!!!) premises.

The regional variant of N.U.S. is the L.S.E., not to be confused with the lunatic Maoist group, L.S.M. L.S.O. is the co-ordinating body for colleges in the London region and if we re-affiliate they will be able to employ a full-time secretary which will enable people to be able to contact L.S.O. at any time in the day, which will be a significant improvement on the present situation, again we are in a situation

where our affiliation fee subsidises the small local colleges.

The Affiliations Section covers our affiliations to bodies like N.U.S.S. (National Union of School Students), N.A.C. (National Abortion Campaign), A.L.R.A. (Abortion Law Reform Association), N.C.C.O.S. (National Co-ordinating Committee of Overseas Students), N.C.C.L. (National Campaign for Civil Liberties), C.A.C.T.L. (Campaign Against the Criminal Trespass Law). All these bodies provide us with an input to supplement the N.U.S. information over specialist topics.

Unfortunately the rest of the section is basically a hack's paradise, paying them money to go galivanting around the country on junkets which are known as conferences. In addition, however, they do form a valuable part of our representation within the wider student movement and within N.U.S. particularly.

This is our avenue of representation and the old adage of reform from within (or infiltration) is the policy that seems to have most success (ask the Tories, they tried and succeeded).

## The budget submission

We now come to the time of year when mere mortals think of exams but your boring hacks on the Finance Committee have to think of exciting things like next year's budget and how much money they can get for their pet projects.

This year it's all different, folks, for you are actually reading our proposals—that's democracy if you didn't know. This document will be submitted to the School and their views on this document combined with specific amendments by the Union will be collated to form the substantive submission document which will be given to the Standing Committee for its consideration in early May.

Well, that's the timetable, and now to the boring financial facts: this Union is in a state, it has too few resources, which are all allotted to the Union meeting system and not to ordinary students. Well, is this going to change overnight? The answer is, of course, qualified (good politician's trick) but if the School grants us the size of increase we need then the answer will be yes.

If this submission is accepted we will be in a totally new field, being able to involve students, not alienate them, contact them not ignore them, and help them, not harm them . . . that will be a change that no union hack (even Will Richardson) will ever have seen before. This Union is in a watershed position, for if the submission is not granted we will not be able to afford to move our offices let alone represent our students and provide them with the services that they need and should demand if they had a chance. If we win it will be a landmark, and the end of the slogans of irrelevancy for we will have the chance to prove ourselves rather than defend ourselves.

Julian Ingram—our Senior Treasurer.



# SPAIN: Syndicalists rebuild

ONE aspect of the "liberalisation" of Spanish society which has received very little coverage in the British press (including, or rather especially, the "left-wing" press) has been the resurgence of the CNT.

Until the end of the Civil War, the CNT (National Confederation of Labour) was the largest union organisation in Spain, with about one-and-a-half million members.

As an anarcho-syndicalist union, it differed from reformist trade unions in its horizontal organisation, i.e. it was not controlled from the top down, but by all its members, by means of workers' councils and local branches.

Most trade unions are controlled from the top, and therefore can easily be integrated into any authoritarian system. Hence the Trotskyists' and Maoists' emphasis on capturing the leadership of reformist trade unions, and on authoritarian principles such as the imposition of closed shops. When a genuinely revolutionary union appears, based on rank-and-file control, they are shown up in their true colours.

What is the present strength of the CNT, and what role can it play in the class struggle? The CNT is now only a minority union. It is considerably smaller than the Communist-controlled Workers' Commissions and the Socialist UGT.

Nevertheless, its present membership of 200,000 is quite staggering considering the disadvantages it has had to face.

After years of exile and inactivity the remnants of the organisation had lost its libertarian and anti-bureaucratic character. This was especially apparent in the CNT's condemnation of the armed anti-fascist campaign of Anarchists such as Sabaté and Faceries.

Therefore, the CNT has faced problems in rebuilding as a revolutionary syndicate. Meanwhile the massive foreign financial aid that has been made available to the UGT (especially from West Germany) and the Workers' Commissions, have given the reformist trade unions an enormous head start.

The CNT is organised essentially to lead the struggle against capitalism on the industrial front, and is organised in such a way that (come the revolution) workers would have ready-made councils to run industry without any need for a centralised "workers' state" (we all know where that leads).

However, Anarchists regard this as only one side of the struggle—the state's organs of repression can only be defeated by force of arms—hence the rebuilding of the FAI (Anarchist Federation) and the JL (Libertarian Youth) is also essential. Furthermore, the libertarian movement as a whole must build on community activities to gain a broad base of support outside the industrial sphere.

The bourgeois press worships the sycophantic politicians of the left such as Carrillo and Gonzales, portraying the Spanish proletariat as totally conciliatory towards liberal capitalism. The left-wing press hunts around for small vanguard parties composed mainly of students to "lead" the Spanish workers.

However, the CNT, the only union not to have entered the Spanish social contract, now appears to be Europe's brightest hope for the formation of a mass working class social-revolutionary union.

We are not in the least afraid of ruins!

ED WALKER  
LSE ANARCHIST GROUP



## Civil Liberties: fact or farce?

IN this so-called free country of ours, personal freedom is being eroded away at a horrifying rate. We all assume that we have freedom of assembly, freedom of expression and freedom of movement. We assume rights for ourselves (which do not exist) in our dealings with the police, the courts, and that we have privacy and a free press. The truth is that we do not have any freedoms. Each of our 'basic rights' has a catch 22 to stop us exercising it. Anyone who has had any dealings with NCCL, PROP, MIND, Amnesty International, etc., finds themselves presented with a catalogue of state repression of the individual.

Freedom of assembly seems to be the easiest right to remove from us. When violence is threatened then it is reasonable to stop such meetings, but it seems that the policy at the moment is to perform a blanket ban on all demonstrations when in fact only one has threatened violence. This seems a clever tactic to stop politically embarrassing demonstrations from taking place, regardless of how peaceful by associating them with crude threatening fascist marches.

Equally we notice that the police are very keen to protect the National Front's right to assemble in halls all over the country, and prevent peaceful picketing of such meetings. But our police seem unwilling to protect Gay groups from National Front attacks. Left-wing groups have had their

headquarters attacked, meetings disrupted, bookshops befouled, they seem unwilling to prosecute anyone from the right except in the most blatant and uncompromising of situations.

Freedom of expression? — D notices sort that out. Film censorship prevents not only the exposure of human bodies but government ones as well. The libel and slander laws protect our rich from exposure and at times keep our papers from exposing important social issues (e.g. Distillers and the Thalidomide scandal). We see that access to the media is restricted, many groups are not only prevented access to the press, but, are prevented from having outlets for their own papers.

Freedom of movement, this seems to be a farce, when large numbers of Britons cannot even get into this country, or in certain areas of London black people cannot walk the streets in safety because of fascist thugs. The freedom of entry and exit that was once a right of all has been more and more restricted.

Anti-black laws have been passed in Xenophobic fits of madness. If we are to remain a free country then freedom must extend to all.

These are important issues, but we have a real horror story. The Mental Health Act 1959. This legislation allows any government to remove its opposi-

tion from the streets and keep them locked safely away for ever without the right of appeal, at the same time taking over the running of any property that they might hold, whilst the Court of Protection have discretion in appointing receivers for any long-term mentally-ill person. MIND suggests that even under Sunny Jim's government, receivers do not act in the best interests of the person concerned.

We assume that mental health tribunals are there to monitor all mental patients, in fact they monitor only a small fraction of those committed.

It supposedly takes two doctors, a social worker, etc. to get a patient committed. In fact, many hospitals allow the senior nurse to carry signed committal forms that allow them to commit a patient without reference to a doctor.



Public demos: fast becoming a thing of the past?

## The Anti Anti-Nazi League

"THE Anti-Nazi League is the most important organisation fighting fascism". This is possibly true, however the events at Ilford prove that the ANL has joined the ranks of the "responsible" right.

When the ANL first started at this college I considered it a reasonably good thing. It was mobilising opinion and its leaflets were quite well produced. I did not join because I did not consider that you need a membership card and badge to fight racism. Paying a pound for your beliefs seems a curious way to emphasise your common humanity.

But look what happened at Ilford. Before it started we were told that we were being put under the control of ANL stewards. These were appointed from the ranks of the SWP (incidentally next time it colonises an organisation it could pick a different printer).

When an SWP (and non-ANL) member told the stewards to jump they all cleared off, except for one that is, who wasn't in the SWP. Next anti-Nazi demonstration I'm taking a roll of yellow tape so everyone can be their own steward.

We can see the way the SWP stands at the fore of the revolution in the way they lined up in front of the police to protect them from "irresponsible" anarchist and Maoist attacks.

Then there was the way our leader (you can always tell a leader by the megaphone) "instructed" us to move aside for the police. We were vastly outnumbered but I fail to see why we should do the police's job. We were there to protest against fascism not to "move along." Towards the end our humble leader told us that "it had been decided" to disperse on police orders. "Who decided?" the crowd screamed back — it certainly wasn't us.

Join the Anti-Nazi League and you get stewards who direct you, leaders who tell you what to do, and an organisation which seems more inclined to gain a "responsible" reputation than to fight fascism. Is this adequate compensation for those pretty yellow badges?

What is required is not any "disciplined" organisation, but individuals who are opposed to fascism and will fight it wherever and whenever it appears. This is what happened at Lewisham. The "organisation" which the Anti-Nazi League provides is nothing but a sham.

PEACOCK

### COMPETITION

☆☆☆

Design an Inn Sign for the Beavers' Retreat Bar and win £25

☆☆☆

Competition details from: John Kelly, Assistant Bursar, Room H.506.

Closing date 15th May 1978.

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Steve Robinson, the Lemon and Barley water kid of the Liberal Party, wears a flat cap to disguise a flat head."

WILL RICHARDSON.



## Covent Garden Proms

### IDOMENEO

**IDOMENEO** did have teething problems. One of the singers could sing well but was a dreadful actor, who also happened to be 65. The other tenor could act better than he could sing, and the singer of Idamante was very young and had never been on the stage before, having "no intelligence for music or anything else" according to the Mozartian commentator, Dent. Mozart didn't get on well with the librettist, Varesco, and, as often was the case, the music was not finished until the opera was actually in rehearsal. Despite all this, the first performances were a great success.

**Idomeneo** is dramatically continuous. Arias are not isolated events but fit into the music structure to create a "wholeness" greater than the sum of the parts, an identity which does not allow the audience to split up the continuous line of play with unruly applause. In many ways this puts **Idomeneo** well ahead of its time. Although, for example, the characters in **Così fan Tutte** are shown with far greater psychological exploration and subtlety, later operas lack the passionate fervour of **Idomeneo**. A neglected work, it deserves greater recognition, which I hope the new production will help it to get.

We need have less fears about the abilities of the cast than Mozart, for at Covent Garden, Stuart Burrows is to sing **Idomeneo** and Janet Baker **Idamante**. The producer will be Gotz Friedrich who produced the spectacular **Freischütz** currently in the repertory, the conductor, Colin Davis. There will be a promenade performance on March 28 when prom places will be sold one hour before the performance starts for only £1.00. The Royal Opera will also be performing **Il Trovatore** and **Death in Venice** at the Proms. Best value of the year at the Royal Opera House. See you there!

JONATHAN RICHMOND

## Elana's view: the nursery

**THERE** is no doubt that nursery provision for under two-year-old children is a growing concern. The present situation is that there are eight places at the CES Nursery subsidised by the students' union. In November last year those eight places were full while the waiting-list showed nine more needed. At the present moment, the eight places now filled consist of five parents who will want to continue next year (78-79) at CES and **ALREADY** there are four parents awaiting places for '78-79.

The Students' Union has policy calling for the expansion of the LSE Nursery to cater for this age-group. The School has been aware of the demand and need for expansion—accommodation has been requested following the move to Strand House ('78-80?) and the first floor of Parish Hall could utilise plumbing facilities already existing in order to expand for babies and the nursery matron is costing such expansion already. The Nursery Sub-committee has constantly been reminded of the need for expansion and seems quite positive towards this idea.

If action is needed now, then it has to come forward from both the School and the Union. If the Union could

raise some money for the LSE Hardship Fund for the nursery (May 2nd possible collection date) and the School also move concretely in this direction, then we may see implementation of such ideas as expansion.

A review of other nurseries from an NUS document shows that in two-out of three cases where the nurseries take children from under the age of two that the students unions concerned do make contributions. These are: Goldsmiths where the SU raises anything above the college subsidy of £7.50 per week; University College where the SU pays £1,500 and the college pays gas, electricity etc. At Imperial College, the student union does not contribute, but the college pays £4,500.

It seems to me that higher staff ratios for under two-year-olds means by definition that such nurseries cost more money to run than nurseries for older children. It is also obvious that the university age range demands places for smaller babies due to the age of the population involved. The stark facts then are that money and action are really necessary—fund-raising or painting furniture or just real practical concern are a part of implementing the obvious requirements that people with smaller children should not be denied the right to an education, to a career and to real facilities which are necessary, however expensive or time-consuming.

## Lawyers all

**RUMOUR** has it that some of you plebs that hang around St Clements and the Three Tuns don't know what the Law Society is, don't know any lawyers, and don't want to either because you think we're a boring load of old farts.

Well, that might have been true last year, and it was the year before that, but definitely not this year, since I have some news for you: by a strange system of transferring power which, (for want of a better word) we will call an election, the Law Society is now under new management, which means action. Now, last year's committee were great, but only we lawyers knew what was going on. This year, however, we are acquiring the common touch: not only are we favouring you with this article ("this load of bull", I hear you cry?) but we are also on the lookout for new members, and even better, we are extending a general invitation to our end-of-term party on Thursday 16th.

Not only is the party going to have loads of wine, pints of beer and tables groaning under the weight of all the food, but there is also going to be a superlative disco — and I don't mean a King's College type disco, pirouetting to Tchaikovsky. Details of this glorious bacchanalia are to be found on posters all over the place. If, of course, you don't want to come (as is your privilege), you can sod off.

# Covent Garden Proms

"£1: pay at the door, take your friends and sit on the floor."

Four performances by The Royal Opera:

Monday 27th March at 7.30 pm

*Il trovatore (Verdi)*

Tuesday 28th March at 7.30 pm

*Idomeneo (Mozart)*

Thursday 30th March at 7.30 pm

*Il trovatore (Verdi)*

Friday 31st March at 7.30 pm

*Death in Venice (Britten)*

Two performances by The Royal Ballet:

Wednesday 29th March at 7.30 pm

*The Sleeping Beauty (Tchaikovsky/Petipa)*

Saturday 1st April at 7.30 pm

*Manon (Massenet/MacMillan)*

700 Stalls Promenade places available on the day of performance one hour before curtain up.

£1 each, including VAT. Seats: £1 to £11.

Further details: 01-240 1911 (24-hour information service).

**Bargain offer for promenaders**

Stalls seats for Amphi prices!

Proms ticket stub will entitle you to drastic reductions on seats for a number of performances by The Royal Opera and The Royal Ballet.

Full details supplied with tickets.



Royal Opera House

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# ATHLETIC UNION

## RUGBY UNION

QMC 1st XV 13 — LSE 1st XV 23

AFTER a horrendous trip out to the dark depths of Ditchleys the L.S.E. 1st XV put up a performance full of guts.

In a match of two halves, the L.S.E. finally triumphed over a Q.M.C. side who were lacking in the finer arts. The first half was spoiled by inconsistent refereeing and a tendency of both packs to forget about good possession whilst they laid in to the opposition. This culminated in the removal from the field of L.S.E. star hooker Paul Davies when the obvious Q.M.C. culprit managed to con the referee into yet another bad decision. Things looked bleak now with L.S.E. trailing to an undeserved 13-0 deficit.

By sheer determination, the pack launched a series of massive onslaughts on the home defence despite being reduced to seven men. The first try went to Bani Brandolini, whose long stride carried him through after concerted forward pressure.

Moon had kicked a penalty

and Q.M.C. began to look distinctly rattled as L.S.E. pulled back into the game. The next try summed up the determination of the pack when they scored a push-over try with top scorer Derbyshire getting the touch down. Moon's conversion brought the scores level.

With ten minutes remaining L.S.E. strung together a move involving all 15... whoops, 14... players culminating in John "Junky" Darnell crashing over in the corner. This sounded the death-knell for Q.M.C., who never again threatened to score.

And so, the final score 23-13 was a suitable reflection on the following team:

Thompson; Little, Darnell, Johnston, Bani; Page, Moon; Gavins, Davies, Evans; Joshua, Confrey; Hyde, Derbyshire, Maxey.

P.S.—The Seconds returned a good 8-4 victory against Q.M.C. 2nds that same day.

PATRICK MOON.

## Convincing win

LSE 2nd XV 40 — ST GEORGE'S HOSPITAL 2nd XV 7

LSE took an early lead with a fast crossfield move involving Thomas, Costelloe, Darnell and Newton before Ian Brown touched down in the corner. The Don popped up twice more in the next ten minutes to score two tries.

Darnell added a further try and successfully converted this one before George's struck back just before half-time with a surprise try. However, the 18 points to 4 lead flattered the LSE forwards, who had really not had the better of the first half despite giant lock forward Howard James throwing up in the tight.

The second half turned out to be a different story though with the LSE forwards settling down to their task to the extent where they even managed to set Bob (Vatican Roulette) Joshua up for his very first try for two years. Further tries came from skipper Thomas, Mart Costelloe and two from Karl Williams. In the end the LSE dominated this game and deserved the convincing margin of their win.

P.S.: Congratulations to Ray Oakey on getting his Ph.D.

LSE 2nd XV: Scott; Williams, Anton, Darnell, Brown; Costelloe, Thomas; Oakey, Kirby, Abercrombie; Mooney, Joshua, James, Cutts; Newton.

## LSE left flank overwhelms UCL

ONLY half-hour from Skateboard-city (District of Waterloo) lies the fair suburb of Berrylands/New Malden which on Saturday, 25th February gave its usual muted welcome to an embryonic LSE Rugby team. Pre-match foreplay (one must humour the eager Beavers)... took its usual relaxed, inadequate form.

The game began (well it does help) with a competent society referee (ie mixes with GBS, Oscar W., look-alikes) and UCL scoring a try and converting. Despite this set-back LSE's three-quarters started running the ball strongly and forcing occasional breaks in the Oppo's defence.

2nd Half: with the wind behind (where else) the gallant company and the motivation provided by a half-time reading of 5th London Workers Bulletin, UCL's lead was challenged. Further encouragement from loyal rugby supporter Roger "Linctus" who pointed out that

UCL were not a rugby side but a potential force for reactionary, neo-pseudo - quasi - fascioeurocommunism in sheep's clothing (or pure new wool rugby shirts) spurred the team's collective effort. Realising the match to be an ideal forum for expressing their new found socialist beliefs LSE ran in 6 tries to win 26-6.

After the match various team members compared their discovery of the "true path" while playing to Mao's long march experiences while comrades in the co-operative... er... team actively participated in an SWP book of anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-political, anti-humorous jokes. In a spontaneous meeting the team with a spirit of egalitarianism (?) unanimously decided to change its name to LSE socialist revolutionary rugby commune.

POPCORN O'MAHONEY  
(SOLECISMS LTD)

*Never mind the muppets....*

## HERE COMES THE McSKI CLUB

**KEN RIVKIN** left Passfield at 3.00 pm on Friday, 24th February. Having missed the reception committee on arrival at Hendon Central 3½ hours later, he boarded the coach to desperate cries of "Have you seen Toby or Steve": "Who the fuck are Steve and Toby" — the Ski-Club are Scotland bound.

After countless excursions to the 3 Tuns we felt ready to tackle the Cairngorms. With Norman and Doris well installed in their bindings, longing for a Derek, and the rest of the party hunting Haggis, we arrived in Newtonmore 13 hours, 125 bottles, 51 piss-stops (Mick) and no sleep later.

We were directed to our respective room with assembly kits and having rearranged our equipment, Spike came into his own. Spike, our resident punk "philosophe" nibbed the Mac Waitress' sporan up the wrong way Nomise. After our waitress, McRatty, gave us our porridge oats, we were whisked off on two wheels along windy roads through undulating pine forests to the glimmering ski slopes of our fondest dreams.

"Ain't much like St Moritz" exclaimed our flabberghasted Swiss contingent.

Razivan, once told which end to point downhill, was never seen

again. Martini the flying Dutchman, was well equipped to lead the LSE ski aces down Voive Na Ciste, despite the treacherous conditions. The snow, although plentiful, was wet and heavy; visibility was down but beginners and expert alike survived without injury. The only minor incident was Hew Byron who, despite the disability of a broken stick, still did his bit for international relations.

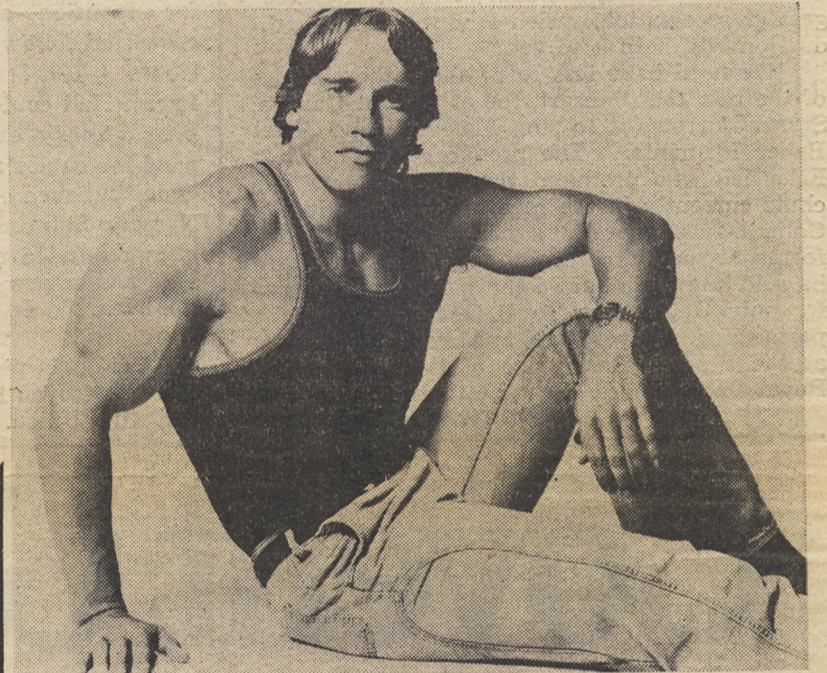
Toby, still not quite into the Scottish atmosphere, gave our Davis an aborigine/cowboy fling in front of the strobe, which set the standard for the evening. Our sensational new act the Muppetational chairman was doing well until he

bust a wire and lost all control, much to Doris' dismay — and so, our one night in Scotland flew by altogether too quickly.

On Sunday morning the lift queues were longer; the snow, wetter; and the visibility shorter but skied all the same. Fortunately it cleared up in the afternoon and the sun even shone making the last few hours a fitting conclusion to a great weekend.

We hope to make the trip again next year, Scotland permitting. Next term heralds the start of the grass skiing season so keep an eye on the notices board all you enthusiastic skibums.

STEVE AND TOBY



Al Newton on an off day

## WHAT BRIAN MOORE WON'T BE TELLING YOU

THE chances are that even if you are not a football fan you won't be able to avoid the enormous coverage in this year's World Cup Finals.

The Finals are in Argentina this year and Brian Moore, Jimmy Hill and all the rest will be there telling you about the football skills and the beautiful pitches. What they won't be telling you is what's going on outside the stadia.

Two years ago there was a military coup in Argentina. Monetary economic policies were forced through. They involved the now familiar "Friedmanish" slashing of public expenditure, outlawing strikes and holding down wages in a bid to encourage investment from overseas (ie USA, Japan and Europe). From these forms of economic repression inevitably follow the violation of political and human rights. Information in the hands of the United Nations says that there are 10,000 political prisoners (of whom only 15% have been charged), 15,000 "disappearances" and 10,000 assassinations.

Nobody knows how much the World Cup is costing the country. But we do know that workers' houses have been bulldozed to make room for the stadia. And we know that selected prisons are being "cleaned up" to show to any inquisitive foreign journalists who will be "looked after" by an Army man to make sure they see the right things.

You can be sure that none of this will be on the BBC or ITV. However, having read this article you will know a bit of what is going on.

GRAHAM WILDRIDGE

## CEEGST SAYS

I would like to thank all those who voted for me in the recent elections for the sabbatical post of Senior Treasurer for their support and would like to convey my congratulations to Julian on a good win and wish him a successful second term.

I would like to thank all those who lobbied for me informally, and especially those on the Committee to Elect the Ex-Governor Senior Treasurer (CEEGST), notably Abhay Desai (Campaign Manager), Ed Walker, James Gausson, Richard Butler, Guy Elliott, and of course my "unofficial" running mate, Will Richardson, who I congratulate on winning his race for General Secretary.

It was a good campaign, thoroughly enjoyable even though I did not eat a decent meal from the time nominations closed to the time the ballot closed, was mentally and physically exhausted at the end of the day, and could not face another election for at least a week.

I thought that I could contribute something desirable to the Union and so resolved to ask the electorate to grant me their confidence and invest me with the responsibility necessary. Yet I became increasingly disillusioned with the politics of party and was grateful to Abhay Desai for the moral support he offered during the last few months. As I did not wish to be lumbered with one of the "whelk stall" brigade in the other office I was happy that Will was running. Indeed, I think we both recognised the possibility as long ago as last October at a Governors/OSAC joint meeting where we each saw similarities in approach, if not in substance, to politics. Nevertheless, without the skilful negotiations conducted by Mr. Desai the link may not have been established.

I am of course sad that I shall not be able to play a part in the revitalisation of the Union that I am confident will take place in the future, but am happy that the few real politicians that we have at LSE will now be able to play a fuller part.

BRUCE FELL.