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# Beaver

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE - UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Special  
Book Supplement  
Issue

## SPOTLIGHT ON PASSFIELD

### ANTIGONE FOR NUS FINALS

It is with great jubilation that news of 'Antigone's' entrance into the finals of the NUS competition has been received by the Drama Society.

At the time of going to press we could not locate any other occasion in the past when our Drama Society has been so privileged.

#### Bristol

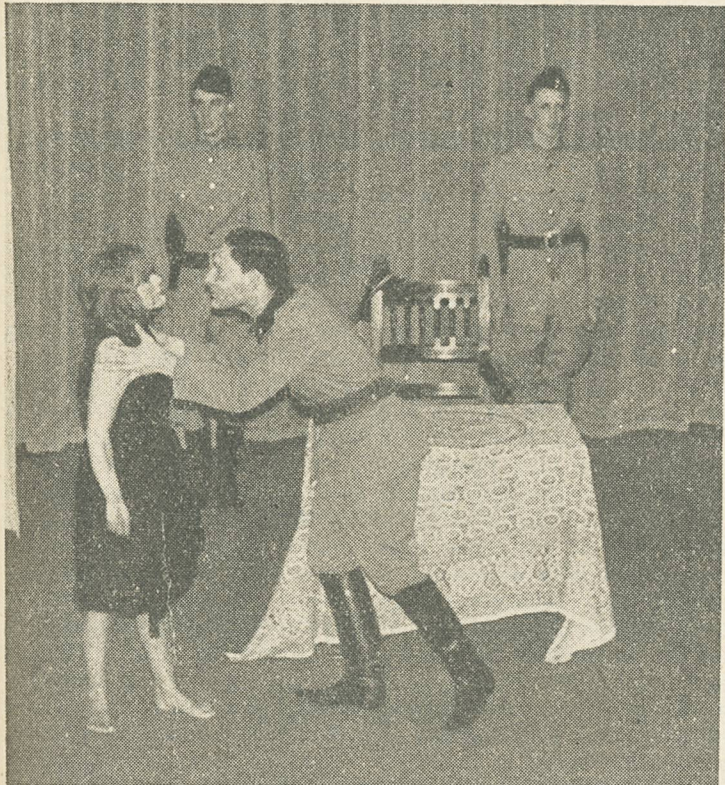
Now, during the first week of January, 'Antigone' will be performed in Bristol, in the distinguished presence of eminent personalities, a special feature being the entries from Russia and Yugoslavia.

Produced by Kishore Bhimani, 'Antigone' was performed in the Old Theatre on the 29th and 30th of November. Among those present was Mr. Christopher Logue, the author of the play who bought the cast drinks at the Three Tuns after the performance and expressed his satisfaction with the production.

#### Outstanding Performances

Brian Meadows, playing the Sentry in the play, was nominated for the Best Actor award, and Graham Buckley from 'Streetcar Named Desire' has also been nominated for the same award.

Liz Swain, Stanley Katz, Lawrence Isaacson and Tessa Blackstone, as well as the supporting cast, have thus been rewarded for the work they put into the play.



Stanley Katz as Creon and Liz Swain in "Antigone"

Passfield Hall has come into focus as a result of several expulsions from this men's hall of residence of the London School of Economics.

Several queries were raised among the people immediately connected with the incident as well as among those whose interest begins and ends at the coffee bar tables.

It is believed that as a result of this action and several other lesser known incidents, a house meeting was held, and a motion adopted by overwhelming majority, to the effect that the house was disturbed by the actions of the warden in the expulsions mentioned above.

This was thought to be an opportune moment to discover the relevant facts which led to this decision and present the facts to those interested in the welfare of the Hall.

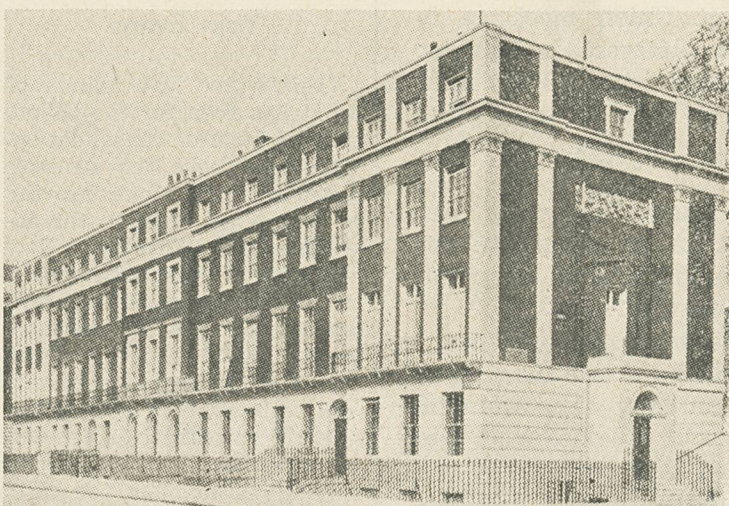
There is a body of opinion in the Hall itself which feels that the strictures imposed on the residents and the show of force on the part of the authority is quite uncalled for and the questions asked are whether this is merely the beginning of an effort to impinge upon the liberal traditions of Passfield Hall?

The large number of students who voted for the mo-

A feature of the production was the excellent lighting effects and the music, especially during the interrogation scene.

We wish all success to the production as well as to Mr. Meadows and Mr. Buckley in their respective nominations.

### TENSION IN THE HALL AND SEARCH FOR REMEDIES



Passfield Hall

tion shows the strength of the concern which prevails among the residents as to the future of the Hall.

The text of the two motions:

1. "This House is disturbed by the action of its Warden in expelling two members of the Hall, namely R. P. Brown and Trevor Jones, having regard to certain aspects surrounding their expulsion, and thereby feels that the Warden's present interpretation of the regulations governing the Hall insofar as it can be determined is such as to undermine the security of individual members in the Hall and to put them in a position of fear of arbitrary judgment".

2. "This House suggests that the motion discussed be brought to the attention of the Director".

#### The Warden

In an effort to present a fair picture of the situation, the Warden was asked to comment on the occurrences and the feeling of insecurity that exists in Passfield.

He is reported to have said that this was not an effort to clamp down distasteful regulations and make examples of stray resurgents, but an endeavour to maintain the prestige of the Hall and enforce authority only when the liberality which is embodied in the rule book is abused and repeatedly infringed. Although the authorities were not concerned with the private lives and actions of the residents at Passfield, they were concerned with the welfare of the residents, and anything which caused disturbance and annoyance to them, or anything which was detrimental to the good name of the Hall

would be summarily checked, and if persisted with, would lead to extreme measures.

It was possible, he added, that a closer communication between the Warden and the residents would enable all to understand that what he wished to do was not to throw the rule book in the faces of wrong-doers but use it as a guide to create a liberal but responsible community.

It is very encouraging to note that at the time of going to press, the Warden has decided to address the residents once again in an effort to achieve their co-operation and communication, and it is hoped that this will lead to a better understanding and prevent such unfortunate incidents from happening again.

It is the view of the House Committee that any action of such gravity might be anticipated and prevented if it is confided in and allowed to act as a liaison between the authority and the students. Also that an attitude of openness and frankness on the part of the Warden would be a better means for achieving the objective. It was also felt that a greater consistency in policy would lead to an understanding and probably an acceptance of the status quo.

It may be noted that there have been many improvements in Passfield lately including the allowance for overnight visitors after due permission, and a great boon to overseas students in the ability to stay at the Hall throughout Christmas.

Unfortunately, the sincerity and endeavour behind these and other actions is veiled by the feeling of uncertainty which seems to prevail at the moment.

### EMERGENCY MEETING

A house meeting was called at short notice on Sunday evening, in view of the private discussions which had taken place, concerning a boycott of the Dinner at which the Director and Lady Caine would be present. The President (Trevor Habeshaw) explained that the Residents Committee were not trying to impose any policy upon the Hall, but were simply anxious to discover the feelings of the Hall on this issue. In the rather disordered discussion which followed, the speakers opposing the proposed boycott were generally more effective than the advocates. They pointed out that it was better to wait and see what the position of the Director was concerning the motions laid before him by the Residents during the previous week. They also argued that such action was discourteous and irresponsible and would weaken the position of the Hall in the eyes of the Director. Those in favour of the boycott attacked the complacency and passivity of the opponents and denied the irresponsibility and discourtesy of such action.

The Committee then decided that an informal vote should be taken on the principle of the boycott. The result of this vote was:

- 34 — in favour
- 32 — against
- 9 — abstentions.

In view of the narrowness of the majority the Committee decided that the matter should be dropped, as a large majority was essential for the boycott to be effective.

The Secretary then reminded the Hall that the boycott issue was merely an argument concerning the means of achieving the objectives of the Hall; and that although opinion was divided upon this part issue there was no real division over the ultimate aims of the Residents as stated in the motion presented to the Director. Therefore he asked them to reaffirm this support for the original motion (now in the hands of the Director) in a formal motion. The motion was immediately passed — voting as follows:

- 90 — in favour
- 1 — against
- 2 — abstentions.

**Beaver—15**

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**APATHY**

As a sequel to the hope expressed in the last issue that the Council 'elections' would be of some substance, it is felt necessary to comment on the complete apathy expressed by the absence of any contests at all in the Vice-Presidential elections.

The lively attendance at Union meetings is significant of the prevalent interest in student affairs of an extra-curricular nature. It is also noticeable that the slightest error of an officer is immediately noted and made a cause for public censure.

Is it in keeping with the rules of the game that those who are willing to criticise, should at the same time show their desire and ability to do the same job when offered the chance?

The charm and distinction of filling Council positions is greatly diminished by the absence of any form of competition and any expression of majority approval and choice. It is hoped that this was merely a coincidence and that elections in the future will be attributed the substance and importance they deserve.

\* \* \*

The efforts being made to do something towards famine relief in Kenya deserve the attention and participation of all of us. It is believed that a drive is being launched by many organisations to contribute materially and morally towards minimising the sufferings of a nation.

A student can hardly contribute substantially in such an event but the fact that we care has a tremendous morale-boosting influence on people struggling for their very survival, making this struggle worthwhile.

**PRESIDENT'S****COLUMN**

Tom Evans

This is the last column of what has been for the Union, a quiet term of consolidation. Only ten weeks ago we were faced with the move into the new building, with all the accompanying difficulties. Now this change has largely been accomplished despite the still unfinished state of the basement. I hope that during the Vacation the final adjustments will be made. But, despite the overall readiness there will obviously be minor difficulties arising throughout the next two terms or so. I hope that any complaints or suggestions will be directed to us in the Students Union Office.

**Council Members**

It is unfortunate that in welcoming the new members of council, that complaints should be made. I am sure that Dilip Dalal, Gerry Kemp, Mike Keenoy and Dave Packer, will not take it as any reflection on their abilities if I express my disappointment at their being returned unopposed. Having experienced

the same thing myself, in my previous office, I can be certain that they too are disappointed that Union's support for them could not have been expressed in a stronger fashion. Anyway, I wish them all the best.

**Broader Problem**

However, this is a part of a rather broader problem. A number of people to whom I have spoken confessed that they did not even know that elections had taken place. The formal organisation of the Union can go only so far in disseminating information, and thereafter the responsibility lies on the interest of the individual student. I am not pretending that the Union does all it can, or that there is not room for improvement. The involvement of practical means whereby this can be done, has been one of my biggest problems during the last few weeks.

**NUS Conference**

The problem is highlighted in the case of NUS. I was astonished to realise at the NUS council in Margate, just how significant a feature it was at that level also, and the LSE delegation's principal criticism of the Executive was that their determination to powerfully influence the passage of each motion, often by means not primarily designed to inform, stilted the development of any initiative or imagination from the floor. This, in the long run, can only reflect harmfully on the National Union. In the same way, the problem exists here. In precise, planned terms, I do not know what can be

done. But it is a perennial problem which must occupy the mind of anyone with the responsibility of administering an organisation of this size. We can only hope that at each stage we progress a little.

**Passfield**

Elsewhere in this paper this is a factual (I hope) story of the difficulties in Passfield. I think it is, at the moment, inappropriate for me to discuss it at length, but may I just say that I hope the problem will be tackled not as a personal issue, but as part of a wider problem. It needs to be clarified to what extent a hall of residence is the responsibility of the students in the practical terms of running, or whether it is sufficient to rely on the communal sense of responsibility of the people living there.

These and other problems (and the extent to which they may be resolved by the design of a hall) must be considered fully before the erection of a new hall of residence.

**Standardisation**

The General Secretary is attempting to standardise the copies of society constitutions as required by Union Standing Orders. Since any society not complying with the regulations on this matter is likely to be de-recognised, I would urge secretaries of societies to co-operate fully with the General Secretary.

On this note of hopeful co-operation I will close my comments for this term, and wish everyone an enjoyable Christmas Vacation.

**INDIAN DEMOCRACY**

by Yeshwant L. Rajwade

A person who is brought up in the traditions of a certain civilisation requires a considerable degree of imagination to be able to raise himself above his environment and look at a different way of life from a dispassionate angle. Not seldom does one find people judging other countries with a very rigid adherence to their own political standards, or the norms of their own country.

There are, popularly, several assumptions that are made about the pre-requisites of parliamentary democracy. It is said, with some justification, that parliamentary democracy is a system of government that is peculiar to the temper and ways of life of Western Europeans in general and the British in particular. It has evolved in Britain, for example, after a protracted struggle between the King and Commons, the King's Government on the one hand and the House of Commons on the other.

The Parliamentary Act of 1832, the first major attempt at democratising the popular

chamber, only added part of the rising middle classes to its pre-eminently aristocratic club-members. Real democracy was yet to come, in gradual but perceptible stages at the Reform Acts of 1867 and 1884. A growing interaction between what we today call public opinion and the legislature was a catalytic influence on the passage of reforms.

The Industrial Revolution preceded this; the essential foundations of economic growth being laid in the latter half of the eighteenth century. The historian can, I think, say that democracy in Britain followed the onset of rapid economic growth, or at most accompanied it, but did not precede it.

The model we see today in Britain is a Cabinet-dominated parliamentary government which is faced by a relatively homogeneous but refreshingly vigorous opposition. There exist in the country an increasing number of pressure groups and vocational and professional organisations which influence the Depart-

ments of Government in policy formation and execution.

Political democracy in India was essentially a transplantation of British institutions. What took three centuries or more to build in Britain was erected in the course of less than a century in India. Certain basic requirements have often been alluded to. There should, it is said, be a minimum degree of literacy, a roughly homogeneous population, a regular inter-regional intercourse, a growing standard of literacy and adequate hopes of rising standards of life.

Not all of these factors are realised in India. Political democracy there has, moreover, preceded economic progress, whereas it was almost the reverse in Britain. Social homogeneity does not exist nor does cultural racial homogeneity in the same manner as it does in Britain. Literacy rates are very low indeed.

Over and above all this are the stronger linguistic loyalties. My view is that they do not constitute a threat to India's unity or progress. They can, it is true, be exploited for political purposes and may give rise at times to antagonisms, inter-state or

inter-communal.

Political alignment has also taken shape in the form of caste loyalties and caste voting. The caste system is exercising its influence in a new form.

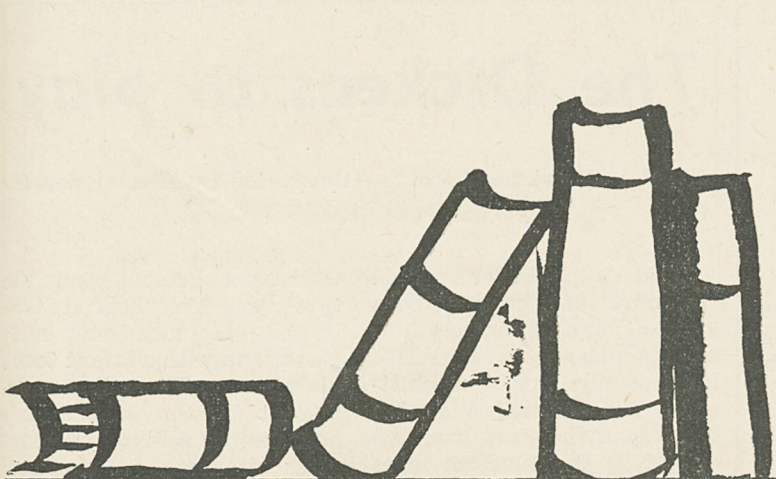
There are thus strong arguments against parliamentary democracy in India. At the same time, the parliamentary system is the only national political experience that she has had. Most of the leaders of the ruling party, as well as many other parties, have been educated in the liberal democratic traditions of the West.

The Constitution of India is amongst the most advanced political documents in the world. It is true that there are embodied in it all the provisions necessary for the establishment of a liberal democratic state in the context of social and economic progress; yet at the same time one cannot help witnessing a certain gap between theory and practice; between, that is, the aspirations and ideals expressed in the Constitutional document and the various statutes and laws passed in accordance with it, and the actual practice in terms of either social consciousness, or

social enforcement and acceptance. In many cases, vast areas of the society are altogether unaware of the statutory ideals.

In the political arena, the Congress Party, as the successor to the National Movement for freedom, is yet struggling, though increasingly successfully, to adapt itself to the role of a parliamentary party. There are bound to be, and have to be, some modifications in the conventions and even the institutions that India has adopted from Britain. For example, although charges have often been made against the Planning Commission as having arrogated to itself the authority that makes it virtually the third Chamber of Government, it is difficult to see how, in the light of the absolute need (at least for the present) for coherent, one party democracy, too much separation can be effected between professional-technical advisers and the Governmental apparatus. The distinction between policy and administration, if there is any, is very precarious indeed. There can certainly be improvements, in

(Continued on page 3)



# Book Supplement



Photo — John Davenport

## BOOK SUPPLEMENT

edited by Mark Dickson and Richard Stevenson

It is hoped to make this book supplement a regular end of term feature in "Beaver".

This issue contains reviews on 'Does Pornography Matter' by Raymond Chapman, and 'History of Fabian Socialism' by Richard Pear, together with many articles by the "Beaver" staff



# Reader's Digest

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## The Problem of Pornography

by Raymond Chapman

(Lecturer in English)

"Does Pornography Matter" edited by C. H. Rolph (Routledge and Kegan Paul — 18/-)

Rhetorical questions do not always get answered, but the contributors to this symposium all, from their various points of view, answer, Yes. Since pornography is a problem which is generally examined with more heat than light in this country, any attempt to treat it seriously and comprehensively is to be welcomed.

The editor and his six collaborators have legal, psychological and moral reasons for saying that pornography is bad; and in spite of their different presuppositions there is a good deal of agreement among them. Although pornography is seldom enjoyed in company—except on the simple and probably harmless level of rude jokes and rigger-club songs—it has considerable social implications, whether it is suppressed or allowed to flourish. None of the contributors likes the idea of censorship but all realise that some form of control is necessary.

\* \*

It is a pity that more attention is not given to the scope and powers of censors, though this is not within the terms of reference of the book. Again, the question of whether literary merit can excuse a work which is also pornographic is not explicitly asked. Nevertheless, several of the writers bring out their own literary loves and hates: Joyce and Lawrence have to suffer dissection for the wrong reasons once again.

A good deal of familiar ground is covered, but some useful new ideas are also brought forward. Several contributors make a reasonable distinction between 'obscenity', which touches all forbidden areas of social life and conversation, and 'pornography', which is deliberate and uses the techniques of art.

\* \*

Herbert Read remarks that pornography, being dependent on the creation of erotic images, is 'graphic' rather than purely literary. Geoffrey Gorger, in a very sensible chap-

ter, comments that the danger from pornography is not so much that it may incite to sexual activity but rather that it may cause introspection and sterile gratification that turn away from normal love. Donald Soper manages to bring in one of his tirades about the evils of drink.

Dom Denys Rutledge, giving a reasoned and thorough theological answer, comes to the root of the matter when he demands a higher set of values in modern society. As he says, advertisements, films

and popular magazines that never come near danger of censorship put out subtle incitements to lust that can be much more harmful than grosser presentations. Some of the contributors might have considered in more detail the healthy quality of laughter in this connection.

So the struggle between freedom of expression and the protection of public morality will continue to trouble liberal minds, but this book has made a valuable contribution in its own way.

## THE STORY OF FABIAN SOCIALISM

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MICHAEL YOUNG, *New Statesman*

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HEINEMANN

## BOOK SUPPLEMENT

ECONOMICS—ANALYTICAL  
AND APPLIED

"Essays in Economics" by Ely Devons

(Allen and Unwin, 30/-)

This volume consists of a selection from the writings of the well-known author of 'British Economic Statistics'. Most of the essays have been previously published elsewhere but three of them appear in print for the first time.

Although the volume is divided into a section on 'economics' and a section on 'statistics', there is no clear division between the essays in the two sections. They are all non-technical so that even the non-economist could benefit from reading them.

Prof. Devons has made a special study of the relationship between economic statistics, economic analysis and policy formation. Many of his essays are concerned directly with the uses and abuses of statistics and economic theory.

\* \*

His sceptical insight, coming as it does from a leading statistician and applied economist, is indeed welcome at a time when political pressure groups and economic theorists alike tend to throw figures at each other, each new set of which seems to 'prove' their respective causes.

We live in an age when the 'U' words are 'measurement' and 'econometrics'. Because of this, it is all the more important that the pitfalls involved in over-enthusiastic statistical inference be made clear.

Whatever the future of predictive economics may be, it is well worth remembering, with Prof. Devons, that our qualitative understanding of the working of the economy is very largely based on a very few simple principles. In other words, to repeat an old adage, 'it's all in Marshall'.

\* \*

Before condemning this view one would do well to read the various essays which deal in one way or another with the way in which economists handle such problems as rationing in times of shortage.

One can get a long way by simply knowing supply and demand analysis and applying it sensibly. Whilst some of us have qualifications with regard to Prof. Devons' strictures on 'high-powered' theory, we must agree with him

that the refusal to recognise the simplest principles of economic analysis can (and does) lead to disastrous consequences. A study of the popular daily press will convince anyone who doubts that a large number of people are completely ignorant of even the simplest principles of economics.

The simple idea of interconnectedness which found formal expression in the beautiful theoretical system of Walras is probably the most important idea in science. Awareness of this principle would prevent many of the more obvious howlers from ever being uttered.

\* \*

Of those essays which have not previously been published, perhaps the most topical is the one on 'Treasury Control'. Here we have a lucid comment on the important evidence relating to government

financial control which was submitted to the Select Committee on Estimates in the Parliamentary Session of 1957-8 by the various departments.

\* \*

Prof. Devons gives us many important insights into the problem of the 'lay critic' versus the 'expert' approach to Treasury control. Anyone at all interested in the problems of governmental financial administration in relation to the current discussions about national economic planning could not do better than to start his reading with this essay.

This very readable series of essays should be on the book shelves of anyone interested in the role of the economist in society, with all his limitations and potential. For we can only realise his potential by first understanding his limitations.

## GULLIVER UNBOUND

"Law in the Making" by C. K. Allen

(Oxford Paperbacks, 10/6d.)

This 'classic in its own time' has gone through six editions since it was first published in 1927. The paperback edition, published this year, is in substance, identical with the most recent hard-cover edition published in 1958; the only change being in Appendix II where it has been possible to include a brief resumé of the effects of the Tribunals and Inquiries Act, 1958, on the topic of subordinate legislation dealt with in Chapter VII.

Professor Allen deals with the sources of law individually and in considerable detail. Law is seen variously: as the creature of custom "growing upwards" from those subject to it; as legislation standing in harmony with the "popular consciousness"; as the outcome of the authority of precedent and as the manifestation of that "kind of common denominator of just instinct in the community" which is equity.

The value, and, at the same time, the appeal of this book are the product of the enormous scope of its author's scholarship. Historically, it is precise without being boring. In its comparisons with foreign systems, it is compre-

hensive without being overwhelming. In its treatment of the present state of the law and the machinery for formulating it, it is sufficiently iconoclastic to stimulate all but the most reactionary.

The 'sophisticated language' so beloved of lawyers is like the bonds with which the Lilliputians captured Gulliver and, with a surgeon's dexterity, Professor Allen cuts through them one by one to release the essence of the living law.

This incisive, analytic approach reaps its greatest rewards, perhaps, in the section on precedent. Professor Allen combines the attributes of logician and of realist to show that the apparent conflict between the so-called 'inductive' and 'deductive' processes of reasoning in the application of precedent are not only compatible but, necessarily complementary. He sees their operation as an example of 'a characteristic national tendency to compromise between logic and practical stability'. After reading his exposition, few of us will be inclined in future to speak of 'the lawless science of our law,

That codeless myriad of precedent,  
That wilderness of single instances'.

This book should be read. And, once read, it will be read again not only by the lawyer but by anyone who can lay claim to an interest in social phenomena and in the social sciences generally.

The cause of 'Justice' is pleaded too often and with too little understanding for this book to pass unread. 'How can you love justice', asks Fortescue, 'unless you first have a sufficient knowledge in the laws, whereby the knowledge of it is won and had, for the Philosopher saith, 'that nothing can be loved except it be known . . . ?'

MARTIN W. PLIMLEY

## The Dickens to play

"A Christmas Carol" — Illustrated by Ronald Searle

(Perpetua, 21/-)

Dicken's pot-boiler has, in the course of a century, been given as many interpretations as has "Hamlet" in its five hundred odd years of existence. The original Victorian cosiness of the story has been distorted in modern eyes which see the small print and the spidery drawings of 'Boz.' as the hall-mark of a "Classic" (in its denigratory sense), thereby investing the tale with the forbidding nature of a row of Waverley Novels. It has been glamourised, televised, serialised, and filmed (Alastair Sim's eerie portrayal of the miser made my twelve year old flesh creep) but never has it been allowed to retain its full Dickensian flavour. "A Christmas Carol", though it has become part of our Christmas tradition, is still a dark shadow hiding behind the Christmas tree as the ghost of "Christmas? Humbug!"

\* \*

This new edition with Ronald Searle's illustrations has turned the wheel full circle. One has only to look at the picture of Fezziwig cutting a caper in his office to realise that the Pickwickian atmosphere has once again permeated the story. Searle's cartoons are reminiscent of the drawings of the 1843 edition (he adopts the original images of the ghosts of

Christmas Present and Future), and his whole attitude is one of sympathetic early Victoriana with a latent touch of Regency. There is a magnificent cartoon of Scrooge's housekeeper selling his things after his death (A vision of Christmas yet to come), captioned, "To profit us when he was dead. Ha, ha, ha!", and contrasted with his, full of pathos, the picture of the starving waifs sheltering beneath the mantle of the ghost of Christmas Present, taken I believe, straight from 'Boz.'. There are many happier pictures especially of the Cratchitt family.

\* \*

The greatest compliment that one can pay to Searle's illustrations is that they in no way detract from the colour of the text. Indeed, one can picture more vividly the "Misanthropic" ice, the "jocund" travellers, and the children, "meagre, scowling and wolfishly, yet prostrate in their humility."

Both "Pickwick" and "Bleak House" are apparent in "A Christmas Carol" and Ronald Searle has brought out both aspects with sympathy and admirable economy in one of his best and most enjoyable productions so far

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(SECOND EDITION 1957)

Alfred W. Stonier &amp; Douglas C. Hague

'For the intelligent budding specialist the *Textbook* is admirable. Nowhere else is he likely to find so clear, comprehensive and authoritative an exposition of the construction and use of economic models... The book deserves, from its necessarily limited but ever-renewed audience, a warm and lasting welcome.'

*The Economist* reviewing the First Edition  
27s. 6d. net

Longmans

# PIECES OF GREAT

"Great English Essays" edited by James Reeves (*Cassell, 30/-*)

'The essay although created by Montaigne, has since been used with greatest effect by English writers (the word English refers to a language not a land) and the seventy examples contained in this anthology cover three centuries from Francis Bacon, Viscount of St. Albans to Paxul Jennings of "The Observer".'

Thus in his introduction Mr. Reeves sets out his somewhat chauvinistic, conviction about English essay writers and presents us with the scope of his collection.

There are many collections of great essays on the market and I cannot say with any confidence that Mr. Reeves' is any better than the rest — however, it certainly has much to commend it. The majority of the pieces are short and although some are snippets from longer works, all satisfy the major requirement of the essay form in that they are complete in themselves.

\* \*

The masters of clear, concise, graphic prose such as Hazlitt, Addison and Orwell and it is a delight to see Swift's, 'A Modest Proposal' included, perhaps the greatest piece of sustained irony ever written, by the greatest English prose-writer who has ever lived and who unfortunately had to be an Irishman.

But what of the omissions — and glaring ones they are

too. Where is an essay by Gibbon, a colossus among writers, and although Mr. Reeves apologises for failing to find a peice by Defoe surely an extract from 'The Journal of a Plague Year' could stand by itself (especially since he has taken an extract from Laurie Lee's, 'Cider with Rosie')?

Despite this criticism, however, the essays which are included, though not necessarily the best of the individual writers, are certainly typical of them.

\* \*

Orwell's essay on the differences between northern and southern England is bound to be the delight of every sociologist who has to plough through jargonised texts. And could anything be more endearing than Chesterton's pithy eulogy on the delights of living in bed which begins with this brilliant observation,

'Lying in bed would be an altogether perfect and supreme experience if only one had a coloured pencil long enough to draw on the ceiling.'

\* \*

Mr. Reeves has prefaced every piece with a short biographical note on the author concerned. Often these are lucid in chronological perspective, giving brief details of the background against which he wrote. But the Editor gives vent to certain

Nash's satire seems to be almost incidental and apart from the one or two pieces which really hit the mark (i.e. his quote about bankers, repeated in Samuelson). His occasional seriousness on topics of present day concern seem somewhat démodé and half-hearted.

\* \*

He is not at his best when he gets away from his peculiar word-play and his typical rhymes (parsley is ghastly) which, although sometimes amusing, cannot be maintained throughout the entirety of his longer poems. It is in these poems, however, with such glorious titles as 'A Watched Example Never Boils' and 'Absence Makes the Heart Grow Heart Trouble', that he often seems like a writer who has been using a metaphor for at least six sentences and is desperately trying to find some way of killing it without too much bloodshed — the result is that the verse finds it very difficult to live up to its title.

\* \*

To compare Ogden Nash to Lear or Belloc is slightly unfair, but one cannot help feeling as one wades through this 508 paged, closely printed

by Mark Dickson

"The Collected Verse of Ogden Nash" (*Dent, pp.508, 30/-*)

tome that some of his material has worn less well than that of the former two.

If Mr. Nash will permit the effrontery, I present my reason thus:—

**His satirical bite  
On this age's ventures  
Is not made with teeth,  
Merely dentures.**

This perhaps becomes more evident when one is presented with such a mass of material extending from 1929 to the present day and covering a period which has given a shoal of satirists an infinite and varied repertory to chew on.

\* \*

Nash however, shows his true genius, as in fact do most writers of nonsense verse, in his shorty pithy poems and limericks, where word play does not become an end in itself but an integral part of a tremendously telling observation of his subject matter:

**'The turtle lives 'twixt plated decks  
Which practically conceal its sex.  
I think it clever of the furtle  
In such a fix to be so fertile.'**

Or to give an example of

the anti-romantic scalpel, which he so deftly wields, here is a short verse which for me puts a definitive comment on all cage-birds and their human 'progenitors':—

**'The song of canaries  
Never varies,  
And when they're moulting,  
They're pretty revolting.'**

\* \*

The main fault with this book, however, is that Mr. Nash startles us, by showing quite openly how many oysters have to be opened in order to extract a few pearls.

The devotee of Nash, who blinds himself to criticism (and I confess that my inclination was along these lines prior to reading this volume) will receive a sharp eye-opener and will perhaps be all the better for it.

My main fear is that those unacquainted with the enormous pleasure Nash has to offer, may be somewhat disillusioned by the present volume. Even so, it is my belief that Ogden Nash has no equal alive today and perhaps this a more satisfying conclusion to reach having read a book entitled 'The Collected Works of Ogden Nash' rather than one entitled 'The Best of Ogden Nash'.

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### BOOK SUPPLEMENT

## FARMING HISTORY PAST AND PRESENT

by Richard Stevenson

"English Farming, Past and Present" by Lord Ernle and O. R. McGregor (*Heinemann, 50/-*)

If, as Tawney said, 'all flesh is grass and historians wither quicker than most', then Prothero has had a good run for his money.

This classic history of English farming by Lord Ernle — or Mr. Prothero, as he was then — was first published in 1913. Ever since then it has been the standard, indeed the only, history of farming from Anglo-Saxon times to the turn of this century. The present edition is a reprint of the 1936 version with lengthy introductions by Messrs. Fussel and McGregor.

It is probably a book which has become a classic by accident. It is unlikely that he intended to write a work which would remain a main source of reference fifty years later. This has come about primarily because no one has attempted a similar work and perhaps because of the 'picturesque yet solid style', which Fay commented on in 1913.

\* \*

Prothero was a busy man. As a politician, journalist and bailiff of the Duke of Bedford's estates he had little time for writing. He described the book as 'the product of a life devoted to fields other than literature'.

As a by-product of other fields it contains some of the characteristics of its raw materials. Prothero had definite views as to the course agriculture should take in the twentieth century and it is natural that these should protrude into the later chapters. Fortunately, and this has certainly contributed to the permanence of the book, Prothero did not quarry his political salt-petre from the early periods of history. The early part of the book is passionate and quite removed from the squabbles of Edwardian England and even the later period is treated with a detachment quite remarkable for a man with Prothero's views.

The important question is, of course, how accurate can such an old book be? Naturally enough a vast amount of research has been carried out since it was written. While it would be ridiculous to criticise Prothero for being wrong in the light of modern research, his sources are open to question.

## 'A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE'

DECEMBER 5th, 6th &amp; 8th

He did not use the valuable work of contemporary scholars, Round and Vinogradoff, nor did he consult the better local histories which were available to him. The sources he did use (apart from rather doubtful secondary ones) were mainly contemporary farming tracts. While there is nothing basically wrong in this, Mr. Fussel, himself a considerable expert in this field, considers that he was not critical enough in his use of them.

Even so, many of Prothero's conclusions have been confirmed by modern research. His chief fault is that he makes the general unqualified statement where we now tend to be more cagey.

The few real mistakes, such as the little attention he gives to enclosure for arable in the sixteenth century, his failure to give enough credit to the improving farmers of the seventeenth century and his exaggeration of the importance of people like Tull in the eighteenth century, are all errors of emphasis and timing rather than detail. In any case these examples of wrong thinking are by now too well-known to be a real danger.

The other troublesome aspect of the book is that it is a history of farming, pure and relatively simple. This may be unfair criticism since the book claims to be nothing more than this, but the questions which Prothero asked are not the questions we ask today. His attempts to relate agri-

culture to the economy as a whole are only token ones. Our concern with living conditions and social structure and such things as the supply of money and economic growth, were not his.

Although this may not be a sound basis for criticism, it is this approach, perhaps more that of an antiquarian than of an economic historian, which makes the book unbalanced and at times misleading.

The introductions to this new edition are largely bibliographical and as such are rather disappointing. One might have hoped that Fussel and McGregor would have given a summary of that recent research which modifies Prothero's conclusions so that once again it would become a reliable text-book. In fact, apart from interesting studies on Ernle's life and sources, they merely point the way to further reading. Anyone who can tackle the reading they suggest has little need of Ernle.

Thus we are left with the text of Prothero, scarcely embellished by its new introductions. It is still a remarkable work; a fact to which the absence of a rival bears witness. Bearing in mind its weaknesses it is still worth reading. Although it will one day be superseded the still uncertain state of modern knowledge and the increasing tendency to specialisation is unlikely to provide a historian

## CHARLES GOLDEN DAYS

by Barry Tomalin

"Thomas Wentworth, A Revaluation" by C. V. Wedgwood (*Jonathan Cape, 30/-*)

Probably no period in English history has been so subject to historiographical partisanship as the Early Stuarts. The great battle over the Royal Prerogative is one of the most absorbing and vital developments in English history, rising from climax to climax, to Tower Hill as the bloody head of Charles I follows those of his closest adherents into the basket. Nor have personalities been overwhelmed by the tide of events; Charles himself, noble, gentle, and principled, intractable and ungracious, Pym, the wily parliamentarian, and Strafford, perhaps most of all befogged with legend.

\* \*

To Parliamentary historians he is "Black Tom the tyrant", and "Satan of the apostasy". To Royalist historians he is the blemish on the noble countenance of the king.

C. V. Wedgwood's book is the first re-appraisal of this romantic conception. Making use of new material available over twenty five years (notably Strafford's own papers and statistical research into

records) Miss Wedgwood attempts to show that the extraordinary cunning and passion for self advancement were not the dominant stability of the state in accordance with his estate and background.

The achievement of this book is that the thesis is put forward without overshadowing the grasping subtlety of this complicated character and in this respect is an important revision of her first, rather idealistic view of Strafford, written in 1935.

\* \*

The importance of "Wentworth" is not that it presents an aspect of Strafford hitherto unrecognised in modern historical circles, in April of this year a searching re-appraising article on Strafford was published by Terence Ranger, but that it is the first complete biography written in accordance with the modern interpretation. Previous writings have only been concerned with the mature Strafford. These are notably Kearney's monograph on "Strafford in Ireland" and Miss Wedgwood herself in

with enough knowledge, or courage, to rewrite it for some time to come.

R. C. STEVENSON

"Principles of Social and Political Theory", Ernest Barker, (Oxford Paperbacks, 7/6)

Professor Barker in his book presents what might be described as a fairly classical, liberal view of the theory of the state. It is well written and presents fairly clear arguments on such questions as political obligation, legal theory and individual rights.

But at the same time it can also be misleading for, to my mind, it is plausible, yet misleading. An instance is Professor Barker's treatment of legal theory. For him law expresses what is just. Law ought to be obeyed because it generally conforms to the commonly accepted standards of justice. This is equivalent to saying it is just. But surely it is dangerous and wrong to equate justice and "what is commonly held to be just". To concede Barker's point would be to deny individuals or groups the right of progressive intellectual reform. Just as Tocqueville feared the tyranny of mass opinion so should we bear its dangers in mind.

I also feel he takes a somewhat unquestioning line on the State, Society and associations and the distinctions to be made between them. It shows the liberal idea of the State as something external.

In fact for a balanced viewpoint this book should be read in conjunction with Professor Laski's book "Grammar of Politics" and Benn and Peters "Social Principles and the Democratic State". For despite the fact that Professor Laski's book was written in 1925 it takes a more up to date and challenging viewpoint.

R. D. EGLIN

"The King's Peace" which deals only with the last three years of his life. Therefore this development and revaluation of his life in the light of new information is an important work of historical scholarship.

\* \*

It is Miss Wedgwood's great asset that she writes stories rather than theses. The dramatic intensity of Strafford's impeachment and trial compares favourably with the passing of the Petition of Right and the opening of the Long Parliament, in "The King's Peace". Had Miss Wedgwood not been a historian she would have been the finest historical novelist of the day.

\* \*

Though I feel sorry that Miss Wedgwood should have concentrated on personalities before completing her trilogy on the early Stuarts (we still await "The King's Death") I feel that this is a book that will hold an important position in Stuart historiography with few modifications, for years to come.

# THE OLDEST SOCIALIST SOCIETY BOOK SUPPLEMENT

by Richard Pear  
(Lecturer in Political Science)

## History of Fabian Socialism by Mrs. Margaret Cole (Heinemann pp 353. 30/-)

Founded in 1883, the Fabian Society started as a minute down-to-earth group of inquisitive young men who found the ideas of the 'Fellowship of the New Life' a little too ethereal for their taste. The 'Fellowship's' object — 'the cultivation of a perfect character in each and all' — perhaps brought a blush to the cheek of Edward Pease (a young Stock Exchange partner).

The Fabian Society's aim was a state less subtle — just the 'reconstruction of society in accordance with the highest moral possibilities', a sound and reasonable Victorian objective.

\* \*

For Victorians the Society was epitomised by its respect for diligence, brains, rational argument, by its distrust of political 'enthusiasm' and mass action and by its assumption that England was the centre of an Empire on which the sun would never set. Intellectual insularity, the permeation of the ruling class, the joy to be found in thought and argument about politics with ones intellectual equals (rather than in the passionate dogmatics of political warfare) these are still the main Fabian characteristics.

But what of Fabian Socialism? It is difficult to say whether such a thing exists.

Hundreds of tracts, pamphlets and articles in Fabian journals have poured out from the Society in its long history. There is a certain consistency about the product. They are addressed to the mind and they assume a democratic polity, but these apart, there are

no common standards to judge them by.

Fabian Socialists are socialists (self styled) who join the Fabian Society and they range (or have ranged) from Lord Woolton to Mr. Ivor Montagu and from Mayhew to Mikardo.

The Society has no political line; it could have, but by a self-denying ordinance it deprives itself of the right to pass political motions, unlike any other group affiliated to the Labour Party.

It has its achievements none the less. But the difficulty is whether to attribute to the Society that which should properly be credited to individual Fabians.

Shaw as a socialist propagandist put the Fabians on the map, but he would, as a dramatist, lecturer, agitator and pamphleteer have been the greatest destructive influence on Victorian bourgeois values without the useful assistance of the Fabian platform.

\* \*

But Webb? To him perhaps the Society was more important, for it kept him in contact with the Labour Party — and he needed the Party more than it needed him. But if one thinks of two great Webb triumphs, the (Tory) Education Act of 1903 and the founding (as a non-socialist academy) of the LSE, it is difficult to find much of Fabian Socialism in either. Indeed if one takes these two cases one could say that the other Fabian Socialists, had they known what was going on (Webb did not tell them) would have disapproved.

Why has the Society, the oldest extant Socialist society in the world, endured? It has small income, unimpressive premises and it has known in its history unsatisfactory offices too.

The answer is to be found in the intellectual life of London and in the need for an alternative intellectual Establishment, some of whose members are also familiar with the corridors of the Athenaeum and the Reform. But such a need does not guarantee a permanence for a Counter-Establishment; it makes it possible.

\* \*

What makes it secure is the sundry (or indeed non-existent) rôle which the Fabian Society plays in political leadership, the tolerance shown to eccentrics — see the appendix on Summer Schools — and the sharing by most Fabians of a common cultural background.

It is held together by an intellectual attitude towards

inquiry in the social sciences, by a respect for individuality and by an irreverence (not a cynicism) for established idols.

\* \*

With these admirable tolerances it can contain many varieties of socialist thinkers: to mention just a few who have held high office, there are Shaw, Webb, Laski, and Cripps. Other left-wing groups split on doctrine; the Fabians re-edit, disclaim responsibility, fail to publish, take no corporate responsibility, etc., but why split?

Mrs. Cole's history is a most readable account of the Society for which she and the late G. D. H. Cole did so much. LSE students will of course want to know about the origins of the School, Sidney Webb appears as a pretty cool operator who took risks which, however successful the results, no responsible teacher could recommend as a model for his students!

## Life and the Mind

"Cezanne" by Henri Peruchot (Perpetua, 42/-)

The Impressionists were not a school of artists in the narrow sense, but a group of men seeking to escape the old style of painting (typified by Ingres) and splitting up to search for new ways of depicting life.

The importance of Cezanne in this movement is that he hit upon the method which has influenced most great painters since and made him of supreme importance in the development of European contemporary art. Yet in his lifetime Cezanne was reviled and ridiculed and his, and others, fight for recognition is one of the great stories of art history.

It is the story that M. Peruchot describes. He emphasises the good background of his subject, notes the friendship of Zola and Baille, dwells at length on his father's disappointment, and later hatred, at his son's way of life.

Nevertheless, however good an art historian M. Peruchot may be I would feel that a biography of an artist must be, in the main, the story of the artist's development within himself. M. Peruchot allows Cezanne's artistic sensibilities to develop unnoticed and concentrates on the efforts to get these sensibilities recognised.

Hence we have no idea whether his difficulties enhanced, matured, or impaired his work but are left to guess from the way his personality appears from his struggles.

Such neglect may be permitted where scope is limited but in a biography that may well become definitive it is fatal, particularly for Cezanne, whose importance lies in his influence on future generations, manifested through his artistic development.

Even so, with this qualification, as a chronicle of the Cezanne's part in the 19th century art scene M. Peruchot has written an absorbing and informative book, beautifully produced and well worth reading.

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\* \* \*

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(Continued from page 2)  
the structure of the Planning Commission, but its influence on Cabinet and Parliament seems to have become a permanent feature.

The danger of one party rule is, that there is a tendency for the institutions of the state and those of the party to overlap. Many important policy decisions, for example, are taken in the Congress Working Committee, the ruling party's highest policy making body, and are then transferred into the Cabinet where they are almost always accepted. Leading amongst such departures from Cabinet - Parliamentary responsibility was the decision in 1956 to make Bombay a centrally administered city. Again, the recent appointment of the Congress National Integration Committee has not quite clarified its status vis à vis the Administrative and Constitutional machinery of the State.

But these trends can be exaggerated. Although constant vigilance is necessary, they do not pose a direct threat to democratic practices as such, so long as this practice does not establish a convention which any other party, or combination of parties, should it come into power, feel disposed to uphold.

### Consensus

There is in India, I think, a general consensus of opinion about the direction in which the State should move. Requirements of social justice and economic advance make it imperative that the principal organs of the State should be geared to the fascinating but immensely difficult tasks confronting the Nation. This requires a basic ideological consensus. The establishment of a secular, democratic socialistic order in which privileges by virtue of caste, creed or religion have been wiped out for ever, requires that reactionary views shall be shown to be harmful, and reactionary groups shall thus be democratically eliminated.

India's is a new experiment in the world. There is illiteracy, but electoral studies have suggested that illiteracy is not a necessary obstacle to political judgment, naive though such a judgment might tend to be. There is poverty. That does not need ethical implorations to donate sums or hold wealth in trust in charity—important though such means might be—but, when necessary, positive state action. There is vast disparity between industrial concentrations and remote rural areas, although this is being met by a diversified and balanced development of the economy.

There is, above all, the imperative need to enthuse dynamism into the Indian society. As the educational opportunities expand and percolate down to the poorest sections of society and as industrialisation grows, this change is bound to come.

The test that democracy faces in this great and ancient land is not merely the ability to remould its traditions and heritage, nor even the number of peace messages it can send all over the world, but the vital necessity to give economic, social and material content to the system of Government that, with all its shortcomings, India has persisted in practising since independence.

## PAPERBACKS

A few years ago someone carried out a survey on the amount that students spent on books; they confirmed what publishers had always known about students—that little was spent on books by students. Instead, they borrowed from others, from libraries; in all the percentage was about 8% of the total funds at their disposal. The main reason for this minimal amount was simply that hardback editions cost a great deal more than they were willing to pay.

Faced with this fact the book publishers took a hint from the American scene and tentatively introduced a few paperback editions of their standard books with a fairly constant sale over the year. For example Methuen published their St. Martin's Library in paperback form mainly for sale to schools. Amongst the titles carried in this series were books such as 'Rogues Herries' by Hugh Walpole, 'Portrait in a Mirror' by Charles Morgan and 'Shakespearean Tragedy' by A. C. Bradley. Books such as these having a steady sales over a period.

Applying the maxim of mass production means cheaper prices it was a pleasant surprise to the publishers that the sales of books in paperback form did not mean that their sales of hardback editions declined. Indeed, in some cases it was found that sales of both hardback and paperback went up. The whole point about paperbacks is that the actual cost of production is only slightly less than a hardback of the same book but that many more can be run off thus spreading the costs over a larger number.

In this country alone some eighty million paperbacks will be sold this year. In America the figures are in the order of one million EACH DAY actually sold. This represents about 180 million dollars coming in to American publishers each year through paperback sales. So this is not "just a sideline"; in itself it is a specialised branch of publishing.

In its early years one could find only mystery novels and detectives among the paperbacks. Today, however, books of a more permanent literary value are found in paperback form. Indeed, some college textbooks in America are found ONLY in paperback form. Soon it became apparent that there was an untapped market for books amongst people who normally would buy a book at rare intervals. Thus it was that the gigantic sales in the US were built up. It became a sign of success that an author had reached the top of the tree when a paperback edition of his works appeared on the bookstalls.

In Britain the publishers suddenly realised that here too, was an untapped market just waiting to be served. The pride of actually owning a book which was for years out of the question for many students became a thing of the past. Publishers realised the need for a supply of good books at low prices and accordingly they set out to supply the need; with the result that most students can now actually buy books which formerly they would have to wait for while someone else finished reading them.

America had little to teach the British publishers about book production and the design of books in general. In the last three or four years a revolution has taken place in the publishing world. What happens on many occasions is that the hardback edition AND the paperback edition are brought out on the same date of publication. What generally seems to happen is that the hardback edition comes out and about two years later the paperback edition appears. A very surprising feature of the whole business is that there is no decline in the sales of the hardback edition. These editions normally go to the libraries and to the buyer who feels that the paperback edition is not permanent enough.

This last point raises the query whether these paperback editions are able to stand up to the wear that a book normally gets in the hands of students. Rest assured that these editions are well able to stand up to the normal treatment that a book gets. Gone are the days when a book literally "fell to pieces" as soon as it was read, with whole sections coming out at one go.

In this paperback revolution both sides seem to have got themselves a bargain. In the fiercely competitive world of the publisher we can expect to see more and more hardback houses turning to the production of paperbacks. This "Lusty infant of the American publishing world" has grown into a giant and he intends to stay. The eighty million of this year's sales show us that he is very welcome indeed.

## Chess Club Win Over Belfast Is Impressive

Another convincing victory, this time against Queen's University, Belfast, by 9½-2½, has strengthened LSE's claim to possessing one of the strongest college chess teams in Britain. The trip to Belfast was undertaken in the traditional chess club manner, that is 'hitch-hiking most of the way, and without any financial support from the Union.

The first team plays regularly in the first division of the University League and in the fourth division of the London League. In the University League, matches against Sir John Cass and University College resulted in overwhelming victories. In the London League the club also has a 100% record. Victories against the two strongest teams has meant that LSE are now firm favourites for promotion to Division 3.

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## Championship Play

As last year, LSE will enter in March for the British Universities Chess Championship, along with the London University team and although the University will claim one or two of our top players, we hope to improve on last year's position of 10th out of 18.

The second and third teams, participating in the second and third divisions respectively of the University League, are also unbeaten this session. To maintain these positions, the club is constantly looking for more players and would welcome any applications to play for these teams.

### FILM PREVIEW

The Seven Samurai has become recognised as a masterly blend of art and entertainment since it was filmed in 1954. It has achieved enormous world-wide success, even (to the lamentably limited extent that a sub-titled film can manage) in this country.

LSE's Film Soc. has again managed to book the film;

it will be shown next Monday at 6.45.

Renewed demand for this film since the anaemic Hollywood remake, **The Magnificent Seven**, appeared last year, is such that it proved impossible to show it earlier than the last week of term.

It is an epic film by any standards — including length (157 minutes) — and the way director Akira Kurosawa (who also made **Rashomon** and **The Hidden Fortress**) has managed to give it a humane perspective is remarkable.

The story concerns a set of impoverished professional fighters, each sharply characterised and far from being an out-and-out hero, who defend a peasant village against a band of raiders. Events, from romantic sidelights of rapturous beauty to ferocious scenes in the mud, reflect the real feeling and genius for cinema which pervades the film.

The Seven Samurai is the most entertaining — and perhaps the best — film booked by the Film Soc. this term.

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# RUGBY TEAM FAILS IN CUP PLAY

## Cross Country Club Weakened By 2 Losses

Mannheim and University calls have left the team much weakened of late with the result that potential success has not been realised.

Although Ord led in the early stages of a match with QMC and Shoreditch TC, LSE was well beaten, Smith being the first man home for the School.

In the match against Reading and Shoreditch, LSE were again placed third. Harvatt's performance was the best for LSE.

Fortunes were agreeably reversed at Oxford, where, in a match against Queen's and Goldsmith's College (London Univ.) LSE was placed first. This performance was particularly creditable in view of the fact that three regular team members were running for the University and could not therefore provide their usually invaluable assistance.

Even when these athletes returned to the team for the match against King's College their presence just failed to swing the balance in favour of the School. King's won by 1 point—40 to 39.

All eyes are focussed on the University championship's match to be held on December 9th. This event incorporates the race for the LSE trophy. No doubt there will be a tremendous battle between reigning champion Mike Heck and co-Sheffielder Dave Bagshaw.

## Golfers Drop Match to King's But Prospects Look Bright

This year the Golf Club has undergone a considerable revival. Not only has the club obtained an extension of membership from the usual 15 but also it has been presented with a gift from the school in order to purchase some badly-needed golf clubs for the use of clubless beginners.

The first match of the season was played on Wednesday 21st of November when LSE lost to King's College by 3½ to 2½. In previous years King's have been virtually 'untouchables' so far as the LSE golf club has been concerned. This year, largely due to the brilliance of A. J. Fielding and the consistency of new-comer Dudley Kessel, the School only lost by the narrow margin of half a point.

### Winter Golf

Providing the weather holds good—winter golf is often very disappointing in this respect and at times assumes the nature of a polar expedition—the club can look forward to an interesting session. There are several important local fixtures which in previous years have been a formality for the opposition but which this year the School may provide surprise performances.

The club has weekly 'softball' practice sessions in the gym, and during the year

### Table-Tennis

## Five Teams Enter League

For the first time for several years the Mens' Table Tennis Club has enough keen players to enter five, instead of the usual four teams in the University League.

Apart from the crushing defeat administered, as usual, by Mannheim, the season has so far been quite a good one. In general the standard of play is higher than it has been in the last two years. The Club is very fortunate in having five or six players of a similar standard which means that the first team always has a stock of good reserves while the second team is so strong that it can already reckon on promotion at the end of the season.

### Good Record

The second team's record is perhaps the happiest feature of the Club's record. So far they have played 7, won 6 and drawn 1. Not only this; all but two of the won games were 10-0 victories.

Mainstay of the team is first year student Robert Kingston, an ex-Middlesex Junior who has yet to lose a game for the College. If it comes to that, his team mates Litz and Mehta don't make a habit of losing either.

### UC Ahead

The 1st team, having played 7, won 5 and lost two, also looks in a strong posi-

tion in the 1st Division. Unfortunately the bare results hide the fact that the team still has to play UC, Woolwich and Battersea, the three strongest Colleges in the University. With this in mind the top team will have done well merely to have maintained its place in the Division against such high powered competition.

Although Misra's erratic brilliance is missed from the team post-graduates Eric Williamson, ex-captain of Edinburgh University, and Laurie Mosely, just down from Cambridge, are a fair swop. These two, together with wearied veterans Oyediran and Stevenson take it in turn to win or lose.

### Caribbean Cup

Both the 1st and the 2nd teams are entered in the Caribbean Cup, the Intercollegiate Knockout Team Trophy. The 2nd team have had an easy passage to the third round with crushing victories over QEC and King's II. The 1st team beat QMC comfortably in the first round and should enter the third round with a win over CEM. Both teams will then find it rather difficult to reach the fourth round since they are likely to meet Battersea or UC and Woolwich in the quarter finals.

### Mixed Standard

It is more difficult to say anything about the progress of the other three teams. The 3rd and 4th teams have scarcely played enough matches for any pattern to emerge. The 5th team has played 5 matches with results varying from a 10-0 defeat to a 9-1 win. This mixed standard of play is a common problem in the lower divisions in which the first teams of the smaller colleges, often quite good, are trying to work their way up amongst the lower teams, usually pretty poor, of the bigger colleges.

RCS

## Loses First-Half Lead To Rallying U.C. Club

The Rugby Team was hopeful this year of doing well in the Gutteridge Cup. From the first ten minutes of this match it seemed that their optimism would not be disappointed. Apparently superior, both in the pack and the threequarters, LSE were soon a goal ahead, P. Thorne scoring a well taken try and S. Coure converting.

## Tennis Team Has Encouraging Performances

The Men's Lawn Tennis Club has managed to play a number of matches this term, despite the uncertainty of the winter fixtures and has made a very promising start.

Results at this stage of the year are less important than trying out new players, but so far we have been fortunate with both. We beat University College 4½-3½ and King's by 4-3. The margin of the victories would probably have been greater had time and the weather allowed us to finish the games.

### Freshers Join

More freshers have joined the Club this term than have done for many years, and this should mean that the difficulty of raising teams will not be so pressing as in the past.

Among the new players, Karl Larenz, a German student, has shown himself to be a strong contender for a regular first team place, having played a prominent part in this term's victories. We are also strengthened by several American students who should find the fast grass courts at Berrylands to their liking next summer.

### Falkus is Captain

Malcolm Falkus is captain for the 1961-62 season, with Roger Allan as secretary and John Watson as treasurer.

Full colours for the season 1960-1 have been awarded to R. Stevenson and M. Falkus, and half-colours to R. Allan.

LSE domination of the game continued throughout the first half and by half-time they deserved a higher score than the three points obtained so far, when R. Bullen dived over an ill-judged wheel by the UC pack from a set scrum on their own line.

However, some chances had gone begging.

### Reverse Tactics

The second-half heralded a complete reversal of fortunes. UC adopted quite different tactics to those employed during the first-half, being much more skilful and, hence extremely rewarding.

Very accurate kicking by the UC backs replaced their ineffective running of the first-half. Consequently, UC was soon 15-8 up.

Now, the LSE backs were being harried into making mistakes, and the pack was being gradually worn down by a faster and fitter UC scrum, which was very successful in keeping the ball from the LSE backs.

At this point, LSE was unfortunately disallowed a try by a referee who had difficulty in achieving a position from which to view the ball.

### Clinch Victory

Despite LSE's brave efforts, UC made sure of victory by scoring another try, this time unconverted, which resulted from perhaps the best three-quarter movement of the match.

UC certainly deserved to win this match and must be reckoned as one of the two strongest sides remaining in the Competition. Yet one cannot but help think that the result might have been very different had the LSE XV played as well as they have done on previous occasions this season.

## Squash Club needs Men

The Squash Club is maintaining its position as one of the most successful in the Athletic Union. All league matches have so far been won, 4-1 v. UC, 5-0 v. King's and 5-0 v. Battersea. In friendlies a narrow win of 3-2 at Guy's Hospital was followed by the team's only defeat, at Oxford, with a depleted side, 2-3 v. St. Edmund Hall.

Fresher "Charlie" Isarangkun is the star player of the club, undefeated in ladder matches and defeated only once in college matches.

The 2nd V has won more matches than it has lost but regularly suffers from lack of support. Squash players of average quality should volunteer to the Secretary if willing to play for the second team.

## Sailing Club Heads for Fine Season Team Remains Undefeated So Far

The sailing club have now settled down to a successful season. Three matches have been sailed this season and all have been won.

King's were heavily defeated by LSE who took 1st, 2nd and 3rd places in the final race. King's have now failed to win a match against LSE for the last two years.

### Important Win

The second and most important victory was over Southampton University. LSE won this sailing match by half a point. At one crucial point in the match Southampton appeared to have clinched the victory but due partly to carelessness on their part and

partly to a stirring effort by the LSE team the fortunes were reversed and LSE went on to win.

### Slender Victory

In the match against Exeter University LSE again only grabbed victory by the slender

margin of half a point. It appears that the after-effects of the Commemoration Ball were more responsible for this close result than any brilliance on Exeter's part.

At the start of the match only one LSE boat was pointing in the right direction when the gun went off.



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## 'Birth Control' Provides Lively Debate Topic

"Contraception is an art of the possible, not necessarily of the ideal," said Mr. Reginald Trevitt, author of "Sex & the Christian", who proposed the motion that "Self-control is preferable to birth-control" at the Debating Society on Monday, November 20th.

He asserted that birth-control had the effect of an emotional and spiritual attack on the unity of the partners, although he accepted its use where health might be affected. He concluded that, "Man should take himself in hand, and not call upon the rubber company to do it for him."

Dr. J. Dominian, a psychiatrist and a Roman Catholic, seconded the motion, and condemned contraception as "an offence to the dignity of the human body." Moreover, he advocated the use of the safe period or abstinence where some method of control was vital.

The opposition, led by Mr. David Pyke, Editor of "Family Planning", declared that the dangers of overpopulation clearly justified birth-control and that, of all known methods, contraceptives were the most effective and the least demanding.

Mrs. Freda Parker, Organising Secretary of the Family Planning Assoc., seconded the opposition. Her main point, in giving the attitude of the ladies, was that the opponents of birth-control did not understand the meaning of marriage.

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Several members of the House expressed the view that the matter was purely a question of choice and one's attitude towards love.

There was, however, a regrettable lack of wisdom from the House on this occasion, and a number of the arguments put forward were rarely enlightening.

Voting was: 82 for the motion and 100 against, with 18 abstentions.

## Prof. Speaks on Common Market Affect on English Law

The Law Society is now under entirely new management and is intent on disassociating itself from a somewhat undistinguished past. In pursuit of its policy of seeking out buried treasure on our academic staff, it brought to the surface that virtuoso of Comparative Law, and expert on Labour Law, Professor Kahn-Freund, to speak on "Some Legal Aspects of the Common Market" on Thursday last.

Professor Kahn-Freund made it clear that the aspirations behind the Treaty of Rome envisaged the Treaty as merely one step along the road towards an eventual political union. This was why English Law would be affected by the United Kingdom entering the Common Market, and why it was not affected by our membership of E.F.T.A. a purely economic union.

### Vague Provisions

It was the vaguer and more political provisions of the Treaty of Rome which would have the most affect on the English Legal System - such as Article 48, with its insistence on the free mobility of labour, equality of opportunity for employment, and the right of each citizen of the Common Market countries to an equal share in the social services of any member country. There are various interpretations of all these requirements, and the practice of the Six as yet provides no useful evidence on the matter,

# 'A STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE'

'The streetcar wound its murky passage through the dank back streets of desire and violence. When it stopped, to pick up passengers, they forgot where they were going and became a limb of those very streets . . .'

This is Tennessee Williams at his best; and a very difficult play for the Drama Society of an economics institution to produce. The reaction, therefore was one of pleasant surprise. It was an excellent production and any criticisms are within the framework of the standard set by Mr. Lucas' directional technique.

### Graham Buckley

Graham Buckley as Stanley Kowalski was ideal for the role, and stood up well to the subconscious tendency the audience has to compare the acting to professional standards set for the same play. His scenes with Stella were touching without being overplayed. He has a powerful voice and, but for the occasional lapses into 'stage-absence' gave a competent performance.

May Clarke as Stella, Stanley's wife, struggled against her natural elegance to portray the mate of an animal-human. Hers was a perform-

ance of notable consistency and studied restraint.

### Miss Weitz

It was with great trepidation that I watched Blanche, made a commonplace word in dramatic vocabulary by Vivien Leigh. But Jeannette Weitz, in a difficult role left little to be desired. Her lapses into retrospection and self deception, her occasional tenderness, and the ability to be liked showed a deep understanding of the part. In the scene where she describes the death of her former husband, Miss Weitz is superb. You could not only hear a pin drop but hear it reverberate in the new corridors of emotions opened to you.

### 'Superior Animal'

Paul Curtis as Mitch shows that even a complete departure from type casting can be made the best of. One can hardly imagine Mr. Curtis in

a gymnasium, but on the stage he gives a convincing rendering of the 'superior' animal.

The supporting cast is up to standard, of special note being the performances by Steve Rhodes and Joan Patten.

### Smoothed Out

The little technical lapses, of sound and lighting will have been smoothed out by the time our readers see the production. Of special note in the 'streetcar', is the haunting music which lures you into the atmosphere until you become part of it, and feel the joys, the sorrows and the passions of the actors. Mr. Michael Dacosta's knowledge of jazz and his experience in this field prove of immense value.

A brave production meeting the fate it deserved (nearly sold out at time of going to press!), and here's hoping that The Drama Society will give us more such productions in the future.

K.B.

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