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POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCE

BEAVER

N 58

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

DECEMBER, 1953

3d.—MONTHLY

OUR ROLE IN THE RAG

Shocking Attitudes of Commissioner and Magistrate

THE Guy Fawkes Rag was a protest against the infringement of the liberty of the individual by the police. It was a demonstration for the freedom to celebrate an historic occasion in a reasonable manner. The right was refused by the police who denied us the natural privilege of holding a bonfire, and as a result, of the right to hold a procession. The question that immediately springs to the mind is "Why were we denied a bonfire?"

The police answers to this question were numerous. Many suggestions for sites were made to them by the Phoenix Committee; but always an excuse was found. For example the waste ground at the Castle was proposed, but here the reason was that the celebrations might upset the Irish population. This was said in spite of the fact that last year the Scouts held a bonfire there. These police reasons sounded more like excuses than explanations. When told of the police action the Mayor of Southwark commented that he could not conceive the police giving such a statement. He was appalled by their conduct.

THE COMMISSIONER

Probably the true answer lies in the recent appointment of new Commissioner of Police, sixty-one year old Sir John Nott-Bower, who succeeded Sir Harold Scott earlier in the year. Nott-Bower is a unique Commissioner in that he gained his position by steady promotion from the ranks. At the age of nineteen he joined the Indian Police Force. After twenty years of service he began his ascent to the top when in 1933 he was appointed Chief Constable in the Metropolitan Police.

Sir Harold on the other hand reached the position by a different route. He was a student at Jesus College, Cambridge, and was therefore sympathetic to student practices. He understood us unlike his successor. Sir Harold who was liked and respected by all, realized that it would be a

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Ceiling's Collapse Hastens Bar Opening

"BEAVER" regrets to have to record that as a result of a fall ground floor common room of the Students' Union Building, one student, Miss Beatrice Margurite Watkins, was slightly injured and the room had to be taken out of commission whilst repairs, which involved the removal of the rest of the plaster, were being effected. It is hoped that the room will be reopened early in December.

The precise cause of the incident is not known. There had been no signs of a weakening of any part of the ceiling although the precaution had been taken some years previously of restricting the use of the Common room above in order to reduce any risk that there might be of a loosening of

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Petition to Parliament Assembled at Westminster

We, the loyal subjects of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, do humbly petition her Majesty's servants in Parliament here assembled to enquire into the attitude of certain Constabulary Authorities in attempting to prevent a proposed demonstration of loyalty to Monarch and Parliament in commemorating the foiling of a dastardly plot against Crown and State in the year of grace Sixteen Hundred and Five on the Fifth day of the month

Signed by the following citizens of London on the Fifth day of November in the year of grace 1953. of November.

L.S.

Above is an authentic copy of the petition that was introduced into the Palace of Westminster by an L.S.E. student on 5th November. The bearer was promptly ejected. Attached to the petition, which was on white parchment in black, gold, red, and blue, were three typewritten sheets of signatures.

Eye Witness Account of the "Insurrection"

By DAVID FARMER

IF THERE were many King's College students who wondered why they are the butt of the other colleges' jokes, then the Guy Fawkes' demonstration must have depleted the number of the wondering. It was apparent at Bow Street on the following Friday that King's College regarded the Rag as its offspring. Its students were chanting their achievements and proudly admiring the long list of their arrested comrades, whose names are now recorded on a towel within the sanctum sanctorum of the Chesham.

The King's students' inability to escape the arm of the law and the agility of our colleagues have concealed the truth that we were largely responsible for the organisation of the more peaceful part of the Demonstration, which King's students tried to convert into a riot. Our college was the chief factor in co-ordinating the individual and otherwise ineffective actions of the other colleges.

When the police announced on the Monday that all bonfires and, as a result, all demonstrations were banned, the L.S.E. leaders, who have no connection with the Union, telephoned the other colleges, arranged meetings and generally organized the Rag Night routine.

L.S.E.'s PART

We were responsible for the quiet and orderly march from St. Paul's Cathedral to the Aldwych, where the riotous spirit of King's College invaded the saner instincts of the head of the procession, which attacked the police cordon.

Here occurred the most astute move of the evening, a move which saved

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NO CONFIDENCE MOTION FAILS

A MOTION of no confidence in the Union President, one of several similar motions relating to the other Union officers caused a heated debate at a recent Union meeting. It was described as "trivial", "mean" and "unnecessary", and was eventually defeated.

Moving the motion, Mr. Bob Williams said the President Mr. Gideon Ben-Israel had heightened respect for the L.S.E. in other places to an amazing extent during his year of office; but that his conduct of Union meetings was bad. He had made many mistakes because he did not know procedure. Mr. Williams alleged that the previous Thursday no discussion was allowed on a motion of urgency and that a point of order which he raised was ignored.

Seconding the motion, Mr. Lustig said that time and time again the President had ignored the constitution.

"TRIVIAL"

Mr. Walters said he had never heard a motion moved in a more apologetic manner. The president had made a constitutional blunder; but he had the full support of the Union.

Mr. Colin Sweet described the motion as "trivial". There are a number of people who don't know the constitution themselves, he said, and the time to complain was at the meeting not a week later.

A member who said he was a fresher declared that he had been appalled at the activities of a group of

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TACITUS SOUNDS OFF AGAIN

THE Presidential election comes but once a year; and—to paraphrase an old adage—when it comes it brings with it speculation, gossip, and just a little mutual recrimination on the part of the many; and much earnest talk, high endeavour, and self-righteous character assessment on the part of the few. But what of it? and indeed, Why not? A little controversy serves to clear the air. However the election of the President is not taken all that seriously. No one really searches his heart, forsaking a close friend, to embrace the cause of a "better man". One may indeed spend hours ruminating on the intrinsic as well as the declared qualities of each candidate; but few do, and such is the way of the world—and elections! But election time is an entertaining time and much amusement is derived by the irresponsible many at the expense of the earnest few.

This year, there was an air of general satisfaction at the remarkably high standard of most of the candidates. It was a case of "anyone's game" rather than the best of a bad lot. As interesting as ever were the methods adopted by the candidates in their campaigns—from the obviously earnest Mr. Martyn to the "I-am-cut-for-your-eye" Miss Wheeler; with Messrs. Hoskins and Watkins attitudes of "let the best man win, but I hope it's me." What a hearty English atmosphere prevailed of brotherly love and good cheer. This was made more manifest at the count where the candidates, sitting together, vied with each other in offers

RESULTS of the Election for Union President, General Secretary and Deputy President for 1954 were announced last month, as follows:

PRESIDENT—J. Martyn, 361 votes; B. Watkins, 308 votes; P. Hoskins, 98 votes; E. Wheeler, 85 votes. **Mr. JOHN MARTYN elected.**

DEPUTY PRESIDENT—B. Watkins, 351 votes; J. Sheerin, 112 votes. **Mr. BRIAN WATKINS elected.**

GENERAL SECRETARY—A. Pelling, 178 votes; B. van Arkadie, 112 votes; R. Chadwick, 105 votes. **Mr. A. PELLING elected.**

of cigarettes, and patronising nods of encouragement to anxious supporters; and the result announced, much hearty shaking of hands and patting of shoulders.

Election issues this time were seemingly in abeyance. No major issue, political or academic, predominated; no cries of injustice rent the air. There was general dissatisfaction with the way the Union is run, but then there always is, and the perennial criticism of small attendances palls somewhat when one considers that L.S.E. has one of the few Unions in the country that meets weekly. It was generally agreed that Mr. Watkins made the best impression at the Hustings—held before a packed audience, anxious as always for entertainment and high verbal explosives. Of the actual "Poster" attack, Mr. Martyn was the winner by a short head with Miss Wheeler's unusual and enterprising—though doubtless expensive—attempts a close second.

And so another election is over and another Presidential Year lies ahead. Such are the responsibilities and tribulations of office that the defeated candidates may take consolation in the fact that they can now sit back, casting a somewhat cynical eye on the Chair. To the occupant of the Chair go the very best wishes of members of the Union.

TACITUS.

BEAVER

The Students' Union
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Gowns A-billowing . . .

To the Editor of "Beaver"
Dear Sir,

The photograph in the last edition of Beaver, showing as it did half a dozen girls wobbling precariously on cycles while their gowns billow in the rear, was not calculated to help the cause of "gowns for L.S.E." If its purpose was to prejudice our own student's against gowns then it no doubt had the desired effect—can anything look more ludicrous than young women clad in mortar boards and gowns, apart that is from their normal habit, struggling to preserve their dignity on bicycles?

I should like to emphasise that this is not the usual milieu in which gowns are worn, and personally I have never failed to be impressed by Oxford undergraduates wearing this academic insignia in the "High". It would certainly be a good tradition for L.S.E. to adopt, and if it is impracticable for everyone, then certain facultist, for example, Law and Arts geography, could recommend the custom to their own students.

These, the two most select departments at L.S.E., could no doubt start the ball rolling, and the B.Sc.'s (whatsoever) would then follow their lead.

The expense difficulty is not insurmountable, and for a modest outlay a small, jacket length, "commoner" type gown could be purchased. With this reduction in size would go a corresponding reduction in price, compared with larger variety and these would also be less cumbersome in manoeuvring through L.S.E.'s narrow corridors.

How can these reasonable suggestions be refuted. If they can't, why not go ahead?

Yours etc.,

L. GRIFFITHS,
B.A., Geog. 3rd year.

Aldwych.
23rd November, 1953.

Appalling Manners . . .

To the Editor of "Beaver"
Dear Sir,

As a mere fresher coming from a Convent where great stress is laid on good manners, may I say how appalled I was at BAD manners afforded Miss Elizabeth Wheeler by the President, the three male candidates, and the gentlemen all sitting on the President's right at the Hustings on Thursday, November 12th.

My points, Sir, are these:—

(i) Surely Miss Wheeler and her proposer should have made their presidential speeches first, not last.

(ii) The male candidates marched up the steps on to the stage in front of Miss Wheeler did not even turn and give her any assistance in climbing those steps, walked to their places and sat down without waiting for Miss Wheeler to be seated first.

(iii) Neither the President nor the second gentleman rose when Miss Wheeler climbed on to the stage.

(iv) When the same question was put to all four candidates, only twice did the President ask Miss Wheeler to answer first although from her actions it was obvious she often wished to do so.

In all humility,

Yours etc.,

"AN OLD-FASHIONED GIRL."

Aldwych.
13th November, 1953.

("Beaver" heartily endorses all efforts to make L.S.E. males more chivalrous and L.S.E. females more maidenly.—The Editor.)

Letters to the Editor

Communism or Christianity . . .

To the Editor of "Beaver"

Dear Sir,

As University students, we surely had a right to expect a more objective and scientific approach to the question of "Communism and Mankind" than Mr Gallacher gave us. In fact his lecture contained remarkably little to justify its title. He avoided any intellectual discussion of the principles underlying Communism and confined himself to an attack upon the evils of Capitalism. Granted, there are evils connected with Capitalism. Mr. Gallacher told us some of them which we could not deny, such as the exploitation of colonies. "Working men have been surrendered, isolated and helpless to the hard-heartedness of employers and the greed of unchecked competition . . . so that a small number of very rich men have been able to lay upon the teeming masses of the labouring poor a yoke little better than slavery itself". It was not Karl Marx but Pope Leo XIII in his famous encyclical "Rerum Novarum", who wrote these words even though Mr. Gallacher tried in his brief reference to the clergy to identify them with Capitalism. The evils of Capitalism are evidence against Capitalism, not evidence for Communism. Indeed, F. J. Sheed in "Communism and Man", thinks that they are "evidence against human nature and we cannot dismiss the possibility that they might continue to show themselves in any new system made by men."

"CURE FOR DANDRUFF"

An emotional and loud-voiced declamation that Communism is the answer is hardly a convincing argument. Communism is an answer to Capitalism, but then, as F. J. Sheed said, "So is the guillotine a cure for dandruff". Let us examine the Communist answer. It is based on the theory of Dialectical Materialism, the practical interpretation of which means that the will of the State is morality. The will of the State is not the will of the majority . . . "The People stand precisely for the Party that does not know what it wills". Its will must be interpreted to it by "the great men" . . . the "world historical individuals" who carry out the great deeds required by the Idea. This kind of ideology entirely rules out individual freedom which Mr. Gallacher euphemistically terms "freedom not to have Capitalism."

FRIGHTFUL COLLISIONS

Mr. Gallacher attacked Britain's defence programme, implying that Russia only wants peace. If anyone believes that, let him consult Lenin. "We are living," he said, "not merely in a state, but in a system of states, and the existence of the Soviet Republic side by side with imperialist states for a long time is unthinkable. One or the other must triumph in the end. And before that end supervenes, a series of frightful collisions between the Soviet Republic and the bourgeois states will be inevitable."

Then there is the Communist doctrine that "the end justifies the means". For this reason they are prepared to use hatred, falsehood and anything else that seems likely to serve their ends. They believe that class hatred is the cause of all progress and development. Hatred is certainly a dynamic thing—but it is not constructive. It is very useful for smashing all existing social orders, but it will never create a satisfactory one.

"GROTESQUE SITUATION"

Marxist theory on marriage and the family, when put into practice in Russia, brought about "a simply grotesque situation"—according to an ex-Communist writer, so that "a great propaganda for stable marriages and large families was begun", and "for expediency's sake" Marxist practice in Russia, "has been put into cold-storage for the moment."

The only answer to Communism is the Christian answer. None have de-claimed more stringently against social injustice than the Popes in encyclicals of recent years. Moreover, they have set forth a programme for a new Christian Social Order which is notable for its sound commonsense, its sanity and its reasonableness which avoids extremes "whilst conceding nothing either to those who would maintain the present social system as it is, with all its misery, poverty, squalor and frustration, nor to those who exploit these evils in order to achieve the destruction of the very memory of God". Only in Christianity can be found the answer to Communism. Yet Christians themselves do really appreciate this, for if they did, as Douglas Hyde says, "they would have to proclaim it from the house-tops! And the signs that they are doing so are still too few in number."

Yours etc.,

R.G.S.

Aldwych.
26th November, 1953.

Politics in the Union . . .

To the Editor of "Beaver"
Dear Sir,

I very much enjoyed reading your main article in the October edition of "Beaver" on politics in the Union. It is always amusing to see oneself as others purport to see us, but some of the statements therein are simply not born out by any evidence—it is therefore not surprising that none is produced, indeed the article would be most misleading to the uninformed. I therefore crave permission to write a few comments in reply.

Few people seem aware of the origin of politics in the Union elections. Shortly after the end of the war the Union Council was so dominated by one extreme left-wing minority society that the Labour Society decided to nominate its own candidates as the only way likely to get representation of the rest of the student body on the Council. The attempt was successful, but the last strictly political elections, which were strongly deplored by many people of varied opinion, occurred in December 1950. The resultant Council was not a successful one as I and other "party" members of it would freely admit.

It is of course to be expected that Council members are often budding political figures. Both Union work and politics require people to be competent public speakers, to be prepared to do a considerable amount of drudging donkey work and above all to have a sense or disinterested public service. It is also hardly surprising that the largest proportion of Councillors are Labour Society members since, taking last year's figures, there were approximately three members of Labour Society to every one in Conservative Society and six for every member of the Liberal Society. But this has not produced a "closed shop" on behalf of the Lab. Soc. At the last general election for Vice-Presidents the gentleman at the top of the poll was a keen Liberal. The current Chairman of the Cons. Soc. is an ex-Vice-President, whilst at the last Presidential election one of the three candidates to get over two hundred votes had no political affiliations. A past President, Mr. Keith Bolderson, was also non-political, whilst Mr. Hoskins was elected Vice-President with an overwhelming majority as an Independent.

ROLE OF ORGANISATIONS

It should however be appreciated that unless societies are constantly on the lookout for promising people and unless some organisation provides a medium for them to be proposed, seconded and made known to the Union at large, then the vacancies are not likely to be filled by good people and an apathetic Union is the result. This is a function provided in the past by the political societies at L.S.E. but it could quite well be performed by other societies. It may be mentioned that in the case of the Lab. Soc. they have always insisted that the members elected should put the interest of the Union before that of the Society, and I am prepared to believe that this is the case with most, if not all, other political societies. And with due deference to my political opponents, I think they have put forward candidates of equally good quality and have often got them elected.

It is also wrong to presume that the party caucus issues voting instructions to their members. I stated at a Lab. Soc. general meeting at this time last year

that I considered it an insult to the intelligence of students to tell them how to vote and the dispersion of members' votes at the last Presidential election would appear to have pretty well conformed to the total dispersion of votes amongst the candidates.

Anyone who has stood in an election would readily admit that a political qualification is in many ways a disadvantage and that membership of cultural, religious and A.U. societies is much coveted for this purpose. (It also accounts for one or two Y.H.A. members who discovered that it has the smallest sub!) Above all, past service in a major or minor capacity of the Union undoubtedly carries more weight than anything else, which is wholly right and proper. However, membership of a political society is a good guide to a person's outlook on life in the same way that membership of Cath. Soc., S.C.M. or the Arts Club is—so let's have as much information as possible about the candidates put up on the board, rather than whispering it about that X is a Communist. The more that is known the easier it is to pick the best.

FATUOUS TACITUS

How fatuous it is then for Tacitus to suggest that our liberty is in jeopardy! What does he mean by petty intrigue? What is unnatural about rash speculation in an election? Surely idle gossip is the essence and joy of an election and of student life. Will he please give me an instance of a candidate standing down to prevent splitting the party vote? At the last election there were four Lab. Soc. members for three seats. Two were elected and both had many other merits. I know of only one instance where political considerations have influenced the appointment of a minor Union official. That was a case in the External Affairs Committee where a certain small political group has a particular axe to grind which the Union does not wholly endorse. I know of no other instance and I challenge Tacitus to provide evidence of his very serious allegations. And whilst I cannot speak for other societies than the Lab. Soc. I should be most interested to know which societies are supposed to be losing their sense of proportion and be seeking to impress their political imprint on Union members and infringe their freedom. I can just imagine that discussion runs riot as to whom the largest party is supporting since they are usually supporting nobody in particular though their members may choose to help any candidate in this campaign. Finally it is obvious that Tacitus cannot remember the "clean, unbiased issues" at the last Presidential election such as the Union constitution, improving Public Business, the welfare of overseas students, the new degree, the Refectory, etc. I look forward therefore to more concrete evidence in further issues of "Beaver," but meanwhile I am forced to the conclusion that Tacitus' lack of knowledge and his worldly generalisations and platitudinous prognostications do him no credit.

In the forthcoming elections (the largest for two years) I would urge all Union members to vote for the best people according to their own lights and if they should be Lab. Soc. types it is hardly surprising. They are a common species and the society is not ashamed of its past record of service to the Union. And when all is said and done, no Union Councillor has yet kept Clare Market Review solvent or prevented the refectory from giving us physical and mental dyspepsia.

I am, Sir, your obedient reader,
STEVE R. McCOMBIE.

Chairman of Labour Society, 1952-53,
Member of Union Council 1950-51.

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people who treated the Union meeting as their private playground.

"MEAN"

Hr. Harold Cohen thought the motion was "mean" as the President had only two weeks of his period of office left and had done great things for the Union.

Mr. Dolley expressed dissatisfaction with the way meetings were run. He alleged partisan handling of the business and complained that too much was crowded into the agendas.

Mr. Rose said a small faction were abusing the procedure of the Union. They were deliberately placing the President in a very difficult position.

A member then rose on a point of order to ask the Deputy President, Mr. John Martyn (who was in the chair), what would be the result if the motion were carried.

Mr. Martyn: The President would resign.

A voice: What would happen then?

Mr. Martyn: That would depend on what happens to the motion of no confidence in me! (Laughter.)

The Union President, Mr. Ben-Israel

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Budget Meeting Crowds Agenda

Treasurer Fails to Balance Books In Flurry of Motions

LIVELIEST Union meeting of the month was, as might be expected, the Budget meeting. Over £1,500 had to be allocated including nearly £300 in grants to societies. A hot war between societies quickly developed. The Chess club was assailed for demanding too much, C.M.R. successfully resisted a proposal to cut the number of issues, and while Jazz and Music societies clashed discordantly "Beaver" got off quietly with an extra ten pounds.

THE UNBALANCED BUDGET

Consternation broke out when Senior Treasurer, Arthur Driver, announced that the alterations proposed by Union members involved spending eight pounds ten shillings more than the total income! "This" said Mr. John Sparrow with unusual wisdom "is ridiculous". Somebody suggested that consideration of the budget should be adjourned (applause)—and that the Treasurer should sort it out afterwards (prolonged applause). The Hustings for Deputy President and General Secretary also had to be postponed causing some dissatisfaction the last of which has not yet been heard.

TIME, GENTLEMEN, PLEASE!

It was unfortunate that so little time (just over an hour) was available for discussion on the Budget. As Deputy President John Martyn remarked: "This is the most important meeting of the year and we are just tearing through it". True. But the fault must lie partly with those who prepared so formidable an agenda: Returning Officer's Report, Questions to officers, Statements by officers, Motions on External Affairs, the Budget itself, and then Hustings for General Secretary and Deputy President just for good measure! This gave the "hold up business at all costs" brigade a golden opportunity to raise the frivolous points of order and the usual motions to move the President out of the Chair in which they specialise. More time appeared to be spent arguing about procedure than on the real business of the meeting. The moral of which seems to be that the Budget should have a special evening to itself next year. Rushed meetings, especially on money matters, satisfy nobody.

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 1)

degradation of his position to act like a petty tyrant and so he permitted student celebrations.

Neither Nott-Bower's background nor his hobbies (shooting, fishing, and sailing) provide him with the necessary qualities to understand the people whom he controls. He regards people not as individuals who are entitled to some degree of self expression but rather as a mass which must be controlled and regulated in as many ways as possible.

Nott-Bower, unlike Sir Harold, did not realize that it is dangerous to forbid absolutely the expression of student feelings. He somewhat resembles a Victorian father with the people as his family, who must be beaten when they attempt to act without his approval. But even the iron Nott-Bower must now be convinced that serious repercussions will follow if he pursues his policy of suppression.

We suggest that he takes a leaf from Sir Harold's book and acts in a more considerate manner in future.

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 4)

was invited to speak; but simply rose and said "I am content to leave the matter in the hands of my Union."

The motion was put to the vote and heavily defeated amid loud applause. The motions of no confidence in other officers were not proceeded with owing to the late hour.

N.U.S. Council Cuts Book Shop, Delays Grants Campaign

THERE were two outstanding matters to be discussed at the National Union of Student Council meeting held in Bristol last month. First and foremost was finance, in particular in relation to this year's loss on the N.U.S. Travel Department. The whole matter was discussed seriously and soundly—there was little of the panic which some had feared. The main decision taken was that the Executive and Finance Committees in consultation with the auditors, solicitors and trustees should investigate the possibilities of registering the Travel Department as limited company and that the decisions reached should be implemented by them. Our attempt to get these decisions discussed at the next Council, before they were implemented, was overridden.

The bookshop is being wound up with a deficit of £1500. The Vacation Work Department, by making very commendable economies, has made a profit and on the basis of this in future the women's registration fee for canning factory work will be reduced from 12/6d. to 10/6d. This was the Budget meeting and no Budget ever goes through a student organisation unscathed, for where there is comparatively little income, expenditure must be carefully scrutinized. Various cuts were proposed and, chiefly due to the united efforts of the L.S.E. delegation and the Institution of Education, over £200 has been budgeted in the reserve fund.

The second memorable decision of this Council was the acceptance of Associate Membership of the International Union of Students, with terms to be negotiated along the lines suggested in a very sane and reasoned motion from Birbeck. The eventual vote was 70—19—6; a happy and decisive victory.

The invitation of the Anti-Fascist Committee of the Soviet Youth to send a delegation to the Soviet Union has been accepted most probably for the Easter vacation and that delegation will include one member of this Union. On this context I should like to report that the exchange with the Karl Marx Institute

(Continued next Column)

(Continued from Column 1)

Sir Laurance Dunne, who is no doubt an honorable man, was guilty of several indiscretions when he was trying student cases at Bow Street on the following Friday. These indiscretions reflected no credit on British Justice and were therefore not commendable.

Almost all the students pleaded guilty but one brave soul decided instead to fight for justice. He pleaded that the police were just going round making arrests at random. He alleged that he heard one police officer say to another "Let's have a big one now". That, he maintained, explained his presence in that court. The magistrate replied "I realise that on such a night mistakes are made, but I intend to accept the police evidence."

UNBALANCED SCALES

We have always been told that the defendant receives the benefit of a doubtful case, and that, in practice, the scales of justice are weighted in favour of the defendant. But it appears from the magistrate's statement that the whim of a man dressed as a protector of the peace can more than balance a vast weight of truth uttered by a poor unfortunate who has run foul of the caprice of the police.

One lady who was not a student, was arrested on a charge of loitering. On being convicted she asked Sir Laurance if she could appeal. To this the magistrate replied "I would not advise you to do so because it will cost you a lot of money."

INSULT AND TRAGEDY

How meaningless is the supposed fairness of our legal system if such an attitude is adopted by those who administer its justice. It is an insult to the people; an insult that should be eradicated. It is a tragedy that an honourable man like Sir Laurance should soil his hitherto unblemished record with such irresponsible statements, which reflect upon the fairness of the student trials.



NEW UNION PRESIDENT IS A MAN OF PARTS

Escapes African Native Wedding

of Economics in Bulgaria has been accepted for next term.

L.S.E.'s motions were not so successful. The Executive argued that our motion asking that vacation allowance be paid as one with the total grant to students was already N.U.S. policy. We were not satisfied that this was so on the proof given. However, our motion was not put but the Executive have given us an assurance that they will be writing to the Minister of Education on this matter of "agreed policy."

Our motion calling for a national grants campaign was defeated 41—103—4, but it produced the best debate on grants and fees for many years. The arguments against us were mainly on the matter of timing, with particular reference to the events of November 5th and the arguments from what has been described as the pacifist attitude that N.U.S. had been making steady progress in the field of grants and to make a public campaign now would not aid our position—we need patience not tub-thumping.

It is said that our motion welcoming the Southern Rhodesian Scholarship fund was moved to lie on the table. The chief reason for this was the lack of any detailed proposals on the legal and academic aspects of the fund. Other delegates felt that if they voted for this motion they would be committed to vote money to it in their Unions and were not willing to do so in its present slightly nebulous form. However, there was a call from the Chair that Unions should continue to vote moneys to the funds. Since the Council meeting, money has continued to be voted by other Unions for the fund, although not so much as we might otherwise have expected. We will take definite proposals to next Council in April and I have no doubt that the fund will then receive near unanimous support.

In closing I think I can say that this Council has again furthered the position of this Union in the N.U.S. towards our aim of being accepted and respected for our value in the way other more conventional colleges are and yet holding our own usually progressive and sometimes recalcitrant views with sincerity and steadfastness.

DEBORAH JONES.

Vice-President External Affairs.
November, 1953.

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the Demonstration from degenerating into a fiasco similar to the King's Beer Race of the early afternoon. The leaders quickly spread the word for everyone to disperse and to re-assemble at Westminster at 8.30. This move baffled the police, who were surprised at the apparently tame ending of the affair.

At Westminster we were joined by the group, which under the admirable direction of University College, had raised the banner of student freedom, at Piccadilly Circus. Here L.S.E.'s chief function was to protect the petition, and to try to take it into Parliament. Both these objects were achieved, but no results emanated from the latter, except that the bearer was ejected.

BRUTALITY OF POLICE

Many incidents occurred of policemen attacking students and students attacking policemen. But the brutality of the police was almost inconceivable. For example, one student was attacked and badly beaten by seven burly policemen, one of whom had apparently lost his helmet.

But it is difficult to find adequate praise for the police. The way they herded students together and then rode horses into both sides of the group was admirable. Eventually, however, by using charts, diagrams, horses, fists, and vile language, the police drove everyone out of Parliament Square and into Trafalgar Square.

After a while, the Demonstration gradually broke up after involving the Strand Corner House and the Underground Station. We broke up hoping that the Commissioner would now be convinced that even he could not infringe our rights without serious repercussions.

AFTERMATH

A CROWD of about five-hundred students congregated outside Bow

(Continued next Column)

IT HAS been said of John Martyn that his fanatical devotion to duty is his sole asset. Certainly to those who have known him only as Deputy President his sincerity and competence are most apparent. But beneath the pose of dignity and serious-mindedness lies the personality which at University College earned him the name of Mad Martyn. Since his election to President of the Union, he has revealed to us facts which previously he was obliged to conceal. It was known that he had been at University College before coming to L.S.E., but few people realised that he had had the good sense to be sent down after one year, spent in improving his already expert knowledge, of the art of entertaining the opposite sex. He rented a £6 6s. od. flat.

The next six months he spent in the porters canteen at Euston, where the Station Master brought him his "Times" every day (except Sundays when he brought the "Observer"). Tiring of this strenuous activity, John put himself on a train for Liverpool, where he got a job with the Electricity Board as a complaints clerk. This experience should prove useful in trying to justify his policies.

It was in the army before ever he came to University that John developed a partiality for nuts. Being of good English stock, he was posted to the Welsh Guards. When he had failed to instil in his Commanding Officers any Socialist principles he placed himself on the transfer list. We make no comment on the fact that he was then accepted by the Intelligence Corps and posted overseas. Interspersed with his horseriding in India and skiing in Austria, John gained a sympathetic understanding of the problems confronting the turbulent sub-continent demanding freedom and an exhausted Europe crying for peace. He left the army with a taste for travel, and set off at once for South Africa in search of gold. In Swaziland he found it and a chief who nearly robbed us of the privilege of having John as our President. The chief lined up his five daughters and, prodding them and pinching them to show them off to the best advantage invited John to choose one as his wife. Thereupon John decided that goldmining was too hazardous an occupation for a man of his sensibilities, and went south. Peniless, he developed his fine muscles stevedoring in Cape Town while awaiting for a boat back to England.

On his return, he felt the need for security and a steady income, so he went to University on a grant, and here he is today.

ROSEMARY SANDS.

(Continued from Column 3)

Street Police Court on the Friday following the Rag, hoping to gain admission in order to hear their fellow students standing trial. They sang songs, threw fireworks and generally annoyed the officers of the law. The policemen could be divided into two categories—the pleasant type who had let off their fireworks in the privacy of their back gardens on the previous evening and the sour individuals who had been on duty in Parliament Square on the Thursday. However, a more affable relationship existed between the police and students, and only two arrests were made.

But this proved too good to last when one Inspector, after having been greeted by prolonged hissing, lost his temper.

He ordered his men to drive the students away. After a few preliminary failures, he began to threaten the crowd with all kinds of physical tortures and Black Marias. His language, combined with the weaker physical force of his men eventually won and the Guy Fawkes' Rag was over.

Sports Reports

L.S.E. Rugby Club Reaches Semi-Finals, Swamps North Poly

L.S.E. 18; Northern Polytechnic 0

THE L.S.E. team, in this quarter-final match of the University Cup, continued the good form it has been showing this term. The team has to date won eleven of the twelve matches played, in which 232 points have been scored with 41 against.

After an even first twenty minutes in which the Poly forwards played with plenty of spirit, during which time the L.S.E. were kept almost wholly on the defensive, the mobility of the L.S.E. pack, urged on by the example as well as the invective of the captain, Hewson, gained the initiative. This supremacy the forwards were to keep for the remainder of the game, and the plentiful supply of the ball which the backs received as a result was put to good use.

After about twenty-five minutes a quick heel enabled Barnes to make an opening for Jones, G. to score, which try was converted by Smith with a fine kick. This was the half-time score but soon afterwards Barnes took advantage of a defensive mistake by the Poly to score under the posts, Smith again kicking the goal. Almost immediately a bout of short passing in the forwards gave Harry an easy chance to score, Smith adding the goal points. The match was extremely one sided now and another break by Barnes enabled Little to score in the corner. The last fifteen minutes, played in something of a fog, was very uninteresting, most of the play being quite aimless.

The L.S.E. team is as a result of this match in the semi-final of the Cup and since no L.S.E. team has reached the final, at least since the war, some support would be welcomed next term. Some cynics have said however that since the prizes are tankards any further encouragement to play hard is superfluous.

Students' Revue Makes Big Hit

Reviewed by ANDREW MAYS

"MILD and Bitter" was everybody's cup of tea. Tony Herbert's edition of the annual L.S.E. review was a real "funforall": fast, slick, with a little sugar, much spice, and a convey of long legs too long wasted on economics. (Let's put first things first, after all!)

It was the real co-operative effort on the part of all concerned—audience included—which put the show over. Director—writer—actor Herbert deserves first credit for making it go. But everybody put out.

Leading off in personal mentions must be Tony Edwards—the keystone of the review, without whom it's hard to even imagine this show. He's a natural, this one, the kind every director soon realizes he's not got enough of. He does everything; a takeoff on pedants unnamed in "Mother India" (such mimics are born, not made), a Cockney barber, a female sound effects technician who puts her all into her work (one of his best). He does what he likes, likes what he does (its obvious), and takes his audience right with him. If it were possible to name a star in a type show which depends as much on the man who pulls the curtain (and it was Barry Ziff) as it does on its lead comic—then Tony Edwards would be that star.

Those Laurie girls, Mary and Jennifer, deserve a very special word. Everybody around us said they were show-toppers, and that's just what they were. It's hard to believe that the old chestnut of every amateur skit night—the mimed gramophone record—could be so good. The Lauries are a perfect team: Jennifer a straight to Mary's comic. An inspired mugger, this Mary. She must have studied a

(Continued next Column)

SWIMMERS SINK KINGS: 35-15

THE L.S.E. Swimming and Water polo club has had three fixtures this term. We opened with a very encouraging draw in water polo with U.C. who were last year's champions in the University League. U.C. scoring two quick goals in the first few minutes seemed to be racing to victory but the defence held firm. Early in the second half L.S.E., growing increasingly confident, took the initiative and maintained a dominance which was not lost. From being 1-3 down a 4-4 draw was forced and only fine goal-keeping prevented an L.S.E. victory. Smith was outstanding in attack and scored the best goal of the match with a perfectly placed lob from the left-wing. Team: Robertson, Jarrett, Norman, Turner (Capt.), Brecknell, Smith, Kirby.

A fortnight later a return match was held against U.C. Though unable to field a full team owing to the illness of both our breast stroke swimmers we again held the champions to a draw.

The third contest of the term was a swimming match against Kings at the Y.W.C.A. There our superiority was unquestioned. In only one event did L.S.E. fail to touch first. Victories were won by Norman (backstroke), and Brecknell (breast stroke). The team events were emphatically L.S.E.'s.

Norman, Brecknell and Smith triumphed in the relay and the squadron of Turner, Jarrett and Brecknell had an easy victory. Beaver swamped Kings by the wide margin of 35 points to 15!

(Continued from previous Col.)

professional—it was too good to be original.

The Gay Timers, the show's chorus line, got a great reception; when in the history of modern man did eight such legs not? An extra gold star to Mary Hicks, who can be very funny. And two to Jenny Owen, who put a shot of adrenalin in the chorus. The Charlston number might not have been so happy without her. This ski-jump nose sprite is a joy to watch. Pure champagne; bright as an Elizabeth II sixpence. The Gay Timers were at their best in the "Sugar Daddy" number.

Kate O'Donnell brought her special touch to several bits. She was a Shakespearean gun moll, and a smart young thing prone to her analyst. Frustrations couldn't have caused her neuroses, she purred. We didn't think so, either. Such an interesting character that we hope she's just being herself.

Dennis Bloomberg was always good for a laugh. He reminds us of Oscar Levant. Dennis combined with Tony Edwards in the "Cause and Effects"—probably the funniest piece in the review. (Credit here also Valerie Chaney, Don Ford, and Jimmy Green).

There were many many others who did yeoman service all the way. Sheila Barnes and Jimmy Green were especially smooth. Faces we saw over and over: Joyce Clompus, Valerie Chaney, Bob Williams. They all worked hard. "Etchings", Rosemary Sands' solo, had its points.

Clever lyrics, of which the show had more than a little, were especially evident in "Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Wallis," "An Englishman in Paris" (director Herbert in a smart solo), and "Ladies in Waiting." We liked this latter better than the audience did. A good idea, and a nice change of pace. "Flicker" was another clever idea, and hit the mood of the old magic lantern melodrama exactly.

A show like this starts and ends with its people backstage. Credit John Sparrow as stage manager, and others too numerous to mention. And first and last Director Tony Herbert. It was his show.

Four L.S.E. Paddlers On University Team

AN athletic club is judged on the achievements of its first team, be they 15, 12, or as in the case of table tennis, 3 in number with the season now well advanced, the results so far available may be regarded as a fair reflection of its ability.

In the upper playing strata our all-round strength is exceptional this term, and, in fact, no fewer than four of our players have been chosen to represent the University, and have all been awarded badges. Can any other Athletic club of the school boast greater numerical representation?

In the inter-college league, results to date have been most encouraging, and with victories over King's I (8-2); Westminster I (10-0); and L.S.E. II (9-1), the 1st team is among the leaders of Div. I. The 2nd team has not fared as well as hoped, and in contrast to last year, a marked gap is now noticeable between 1st and 2nd teams.

Welfare V.P. Comments On International Night

ON THE night of Friday, 20th November a mixed horde of London students packed into the Refectory for L.S.E.'s own night of international festivities—the Usikugoma. With a second great success it seems that the tradition of Usikugoma is established as our own contribution to the integration of all our national groups into one community.

From the point of view of organisation, we were frankly worried: we managed to co-ordinate the programme the day before only to witness our wonderful schedule disintegrate on the night to what we hope was to the benefit of the show. Usikugoma achieved not only the integration of the national groups but an integration of the Union departments. Social Affairs and Welfare ran in together and gathered everyone else who was interested.

Not least among our worries was the explanation of the title. A new generation of students had come into the School and it was surprising how many people did not know that "Usikugoma" was Swahili for "night of festivities"! Once the explanation sank in, the tickets began to sell out—but that was not before the Friday afternoon. In the evening the Refectory packed itself out with a polyglot audience of some 400. Although the dancing had perforce to be limited—the language barriers went down and the song and dance of five continents proved as acceptable to all as their own.

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the plaster. In view of the age of the building and the fact that it has been converted to a purpose for which it was not intended, the possibility of such an incident could never be completely eliminated as long as the customary lathe and plaster construction of the ceiling remained. This will now be replaced by plaster board which overcomes most of the deficiencies in the older method.

Remembering that the "Three Tuns" only ceased to function as a public house in 1947, it is interesting to find that the presumed attempts to "raise the roof" have in time produced exactly the opposite effect.

Advantage is being taken of this providential happening (though not for Miss Watkins, to whom we extend our sympathy) to hide behind the new ceiling all sorts of unsightly pipes in preparation for the establishment, on the ground floor of the "Tuns", of a bar, which "Beaver" is pleased to be able to announce has progressed to the planning stage. Actual designs for the Bar have been prepared and are being discussed between the School Authorities and the Students' Union. It would therefore seem that it is now only a question of time (and building licences!) before alcoholic liquor flows again in the "Three Tuns."

SOCCER TEAM TRIMS MERTON BY ONE GOAL

2nd Round Surrey Senior A.F.A. Cup
THIS Soccer game was almost a replica of last year's, when L.S.E. won by the odd goal.

For the first 15 mins. Merton did most of the attacking, but then L.S.E.'s inside forwards White and Stephens gradually brought their wings into the game. Half-way through the first half Young, after receiving the ball from Boulton, centred to the far post where Weddop headed home a neat goal.

Play swung to the other end as the result of a Gardiner clearance, where Young dispossessed the home goalkeeper and scored.

Half-time: L.S.E. 2; Merton 1

Although L.S.E. attacked, Merton were the next to score with a well-taken shot from the left-wing. Merton gradually dominated the game and scored again through their centre-forward. The L.S.E. defence of Gillam, Finnie, Bartlett, and Gardiner was being sorely tested, until Davies sent Brockhouse away, Young equalising from the resulting centre.

With 15 mins. to go both teams fought hard. White fastened on to an L.S.E. clearance, passed to Young who drew his man and then slipped the ball to Widdup who steered the winning goal home.

Young was the pick of the forwards, Gardiner was outstanding in defence.

Result: L.S.E. 4; Merton 3.

Pain and Pleasure Among Hockeyites

MEMBERS of the first team were not among those who deplored the loss of the English Soccer record in never having lost at home. Not having won a game this season, indeed, they think the breaking of records to be a desirable object, although that same fact makes them sympathetic to all losers.

But if they have not won a game, they have, and this is perhaps more important, enjoyed every game and given of humble best (and very much so say uncharitable critics). Comparison with the Rugger Club—noted elsewhere in this paper—is quite unfavourable. But then the Rugger Club train in the bar after each match and take it far more seriously.

Why the Hockey Club should have this rather surprising record is not easy to place. Two of their members have played for the University while the Captain, Allan Warren, is an outstanding player surely destined for representative honours next year. Fate is, like all women, an unpredictable mistress, and who knows what the future may bring. Did not Burnley, after having lost eight on ten successive games go into a winning run that lasted two seasons? We hope the parallel holds.

SIVREJ TREBOR.

The Women's Hockey Club has pleasure in recording the following match results:

1st XI: University College 2nd XI, 9-0, won; Wye College, 11-3, won; Southampton University, 5-6, lost.

2nd XI: Westfield College, 1-0, won; Shirley Ladies' Hockey Club, 4-2, won; Bexley Hospital, 7-8, won.

New members will be welcomed, and any prospective goalkeepers will be given every encouragement.

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Published by the Students' Union of the London School of Economics, and printed by A. J. Hurley Ltd., 119/121 Chalmont Road, Tooting, S.W.17.