

# SENNET

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# 'WE DON'T WANT WAR!'

## L.S.E. SETS OFF A ROCKET

By Our Own Reporter JOHN BARR

NO SOONER DID THE CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE ITS COURSE OF ACTION ON THE MIDDLE EAST THAN STUDENT BODIES FROM ALL OVER THIS UNIVERSITY OF LONDON ROSE IN PROTEST. That it was spontaneous and not "Communist Inspired" as Mr. Ted Leather, M.P., would have it, should be plainly seen in its speed and scale. Indeed, to brand these demonstrations of a shocked student world—yes—world, as "Communist Inspired" is to grieve the truth.

The London School of Economics, ever one of London's more militant colleges, by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, 31st, had organised a crowded protest meeting under its mainly Socialist Union. This meeting was in the Old Theatre and Peter Fletcher tells me 750 people attended. They passed a resolution, tabled by an Indian, which condemned the Government's aggression in Egypt. No one spoke for the Government. At L.S.E. too, there was an unofficial petition drawn up and signed on Thursday morning. Thursday saw action from several other colleges. U.C. sent a petition round in the lunch hour.

Within 1½ hours, this was signed by 250 students and professors. It was sent as a telegram to Downing Street. At 5 p.m. an emergency Union Forum was held with the president in the chair. Mr. Charles Longbottom, Conservative candidate for Stockton-on-Tees, spoke for the Government, while Mr. Mervyn Jones, of the editorial staff of the "Tribune," spoke against. A motion was passed condemning the Government action by 128-25.

### THURSDAY MARCH

At King's, Q.M.C., Bedford, N.E.C. and Regent Street Polytechnic, unofficial petitions were circulated.

In the evening of Thursday, the first student demonstration took place. It was to have met in Trafalgar Square at 8.30 p.m., but, due to the police laying down the "mile radius" rule, it was held just off Tottenham Court Road beside Foyles. A student official of Ruskin College, Oxford, addressed about 1,500 students by loudspeaker. He exhorted the London students to strike, as Ruskin College had done, but the response to this novel suggestion was feeble. Emotions however ran high when the subject of peace was broached. Banners and posters appealed for a cease-fire and revoking of policy.

### ROUGH TREATMENT

An example of superb organisation was the manner in which Leicester Square tube station was circumnavigated. As the police were waiting there to break up the procession, leaders came down the lines of students and warned them to break up and re-form behind the police cordons.

About 2,000 people walked down Whitehall to Parliament Square and recruited passers-by to their numbers. In the square a large number of police tried, with the aid of about a dozen horses, to disperse the crowd down side-streets. Again and again, however, students returned to chant "Down with Eden," "Eden must go." Police began to lose patience and there were many genuine cases of rough handling. I saw a screaming girl knock off a policeman's helmet. She came in for tough treatment. Students refused to disperse for at least three-quarters-of-an-hour, and I got the feeling that students were, in the main, taking the demonstration very seriously, especially after seeing the determination with which they returned to face police opposition.

### HYDE PARK MEETING

On Sunday, November 4, there was a much publicised meeting of students at Hyde Park Corner. Here, at two o'clock, about five hundred students were addressed by Peter Fletcher, President of L.S.E., and one of the prime movers of the meeting. He said that speaking as an ex-Service man, "There is not one of

us who, if our country was fighting for a just cause, would not fight. There has never been a less just cause than this one."

Geoffrey Thomas, last year's U.L.U. President, then spoke. He said that Britain had, "flouted U.N.O. and dishonoured its name."



Another coin to the S.S.E.E.S. Mile.

Terry Boston, former Deputy President of the Union, described the Prime Minister as a "Prime-Malefactor."

The (by now) vast crowd of students, some of whom were Sudanese, Iraqi and Syrians formed regular lines at Hyde Park Corner. A huge Union Jack headed the procession of artistic insults and posters condemning the Prime Minister, carried by students.

The procession marched peacefully along Park Lane and Haymarket to Trafalgar Square, where an already huge crowd thronged to hear Labour Party leaders. Afterwards students were among the crowds in the Haymarket and down Whitehall at the end of the Trafalgar Square meeting at 4.15 p.m.

Something must here be said of the five students arrested after Thursday's demonstration. A lady student, charged with assaulting a policeman, was fined £3 and 25s. costs for the policeman's medical treatment. Another student charged with "using insulting words by which a breach of the peace is likely to be occasioned," had his case dismissed. While the majority of police refrained from violence there were a few who did not. An L.S.E. student claims to have been beaten up by police. Unfortunately for Mr. Ted Leather this student is a Conservative.

It is difficult to pass judgment on a series of events which have taken place all over London University during the last few days. Undoubtedly one question to be asked is whether students have let their emotions run ahead of their reason in their forceful condemnations of government policy. But a debate like the one held in Student Movement House, when Mr. Jim Carruthers (Parliamentary candidate for Spelthorne) proposed a motion of censure on the government, and Mr. Julian Critchley (executive of the London Young Conservatives) opposed it, seems to suggest otherwise. After clear speaking and considerable restraint on both sides of the house, the motion was passed.



Photo: THE CHANCELLOR, WITH SIR LOUIS STERLING AND THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, INSPECTS THE LIBRARY

## Queen Mother Opens Library

THE Catalogue Hall of the University Library, decorated with bowls of chrysanthemums and the Middlesex Library North, cleared of its desks and filled with a sober grey crowd of professors and academic dignitaries of the University, were transformed to greet the Chancellor, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, when she came to open the Sir Louis Sterling Library last Tuesday afternoon.

On her arrival, the Chancellor was received by the Vice-Chancellor, the Chairman of Convocation, the Chairman of the Court and the Principal. The Chancellor then entered the Middlesex Library North, preceded in procession by the Chairman of the Court, Sir Louis Sterling and the Vice-chancellor dressed in their academic robes, as the National anthem was played.

After a brief speech of welcome to the Chancellor by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lockwood, the Chairman of the Court, Sir Norman Birkett, addressed the audience on the importance of the gift of the Sterling Library. He spoke of the place of a library in a university and gave a short account of the growth of the University Library, saying that this occasion marked a red-letter day in its history when it was enriched with such "a noble contribution."

The Queen Mother who was dressed in a lilac coat trimmed with grey fur and a close fitting petal hat then thanked Sir Louis for his gift, stressing the continuing importance of private benefactions, and declared the library open.

Before descending to the Macmillan Hall for tea, the Chancellor inspected the new library which includes among its treasures two books printed by Caxton.

### JIVE

15, BAKER STREET  
TYNEGATE—SMITH STUDIO.

WEL.7007.

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS,  
EIGHTISH—LATISH.

Saturday, Nov. 10: PORT LOUIS  
JAZZMEN.

Sunday, Nov. 11: SONNY MONK  
AND HIS TRAD BAND.

QUEEN MARY COLLEGE  
ENGINEERING SOCIETY

## GRAND DANCE

NOVEMBER 16 at 7.30  
IN QUEEN'S BUILDING

2 HALLS  
BANDS  
SHILLINGS

Bar  
Buffet

ENGINEERING AND MANOR HOUSE JOINT RAILWAY COMPANY  
EVENING EXCURSION TO

## ROCKET AND ROLL

leaving

BATTERSEA POLYTECHNIC GREAT HALL STATION at

7.30 p.m. on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Signals played by THE RAILROADERS, Waiting Room Music Hall  
Fare 3s. Single. Refreshment Car

## MILES OF COINS

### Hungarian Relief Appeal

A CONSULTATION between the presidents of Battersea Polytechnic and King's an approach to the President of U.L.U. and a hasty "stop-press" telephone call to "Sennet" at Nuneaton, launched the University of London Hungarian Relief Appeal for food, clothing and medical supplies last Monday.

Perhaps the first action was taken by the School of Slavonic and East European Studies who started a Mile of Pennies in the space between Senate House and Birkbeck College at 10.30 on Tuesday morning and continued in shifts till six in the evening. They followed the same pattern on Wednesday but on Thursday moved into the corridor in Senate House and into Sicilian Avenue.

The enthusiasts who collected in the buffeting wind were rewarded by the generosity of passers-by and £60 was raised in the first day, £42 on the second and £76 on Thursday.

Most other colleges have held collections and made grants from Union funds. At University College £49 was granted and collected on Tuesday mid-day and forwarded straight to the Red Cross and at London School of Economics £46 was collected in ten minutes.

Battersea, Bedford, Chelsea, King's, London School of Economics and Northampton Engineering College between them have manned the University Mile of Coins on the South Bank site. £301 11s. 0½d. was raised here in two days' collecting.

### ST. GODRIC'S SECRETARIAL COLLEGE

INTENSIVE COURSES FOR GRADUATES

The College has a special grant scheme for university graduates. For further particulars, please write to: J. W. Loveridge, M.A. (Cantab.), 2, Arkwright Road, London, N.W.3. Tel. HAMpslead 5986

## SOUTH PLACE ETHICAL SOCIETY

Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1.

Some of our activities:—  
Chamber Music Concerts,  
Discussions and Meetings,  
Dances, Rambles, Socials,  
and Library.

See Miscellaneous Advertisements  
Send p.c. for free copy of "THE MONTHLY RECORD" to Dept. "S" South Place Ethical Society, address as above.