

Leeds University Union

BYE-ELECTION FOR

One member of Union Council

Candidate's Name ... **DICK PENNELL**
 Candidate's Dept. ... **ARABIC/SPANISH**
 Year of Entry to
 Leeds University ... **1972**
 Proposed by **ABDUL HAI**
 Seconded by **WAXUM**

Union positions held:

Welfare Secretary 73/74 and so an ex-officio member of U.C. (non-voting).
 Member of various University and Union Committees (e.g. Health Board, Services Board, Nursery etc.). Fairly regular attender at N.U.S. Committee.

As students we face a series of very serious problems — money (i.e. grants), our own education, accommodation and health. If you raise these points with the Government or the University you've got a potential fight on your hands.

As welfare secretary I've seen the inside of these problems because in the end they're all connected with welfare. Unfortunately, when it comes to taking action or making policy I often don't have a vote on U.C. — this is pretty frustrating!

If I am elected I will concentrate on welfare — we must get a higher standard of living for ourselves (and our fellow students in techs who're on absurdly low grants). We must have

higher grants. We must get better (and free) health facilities in the University. We must get more accommodation — and fight higher rents. But we must realise that we won't get these in isolation — the standards in the big outside world must go up too.

Everything comes back to welfare — it really needs a full-time officer. Because it is so important it doesn't seem right that I should be elected by U.C. rather than the students as a whole. I'd like to feel I was representing the Union! Please vote for me.

Thanks,
 Dick Pennell.

Candidate's Name ... **CHRISTOPH SCHLIACK**
 Candidate's Dept. ... **CHINESE STUDIES**
 Year of Entry to
 Leeds University ... **A.D. 1971**
 Proposed by **A. GUPTA**
 Seconded by **R. SPENCER**

Union positions held:

None.

Reluctant tho' I feel to submit myself to the indignities of the democratic process, I deem it incumbent upon me to make this sacrifice in the interests of the neglected majority.

It has long been apparent, and is no longer denied by any responsible quarters, that this University of ours has of late witness'd a deplorable decline in style and attitudes amongst too many undergraduates and even postgraduates. No longer is she accustomed to the sight of academic gowns in her halls of learning; no longer is the spectacle of undergraduates partaking of afternoon tea in conclusion to the day's labours familiar to her; no longer can she point to many able to pretend to any genuine appreciation of port wine or claret. In fine, the standards of University life have declin'd, and loutishness is come to the fore.

Which of us has not experienced, having occasion to walk through the Union building of an evening, the uncouth hordes of beery inebriates littering the steps; which has not beheld with wonderment and, mayhap, some sadness, the unkempt appearance of so many of our fellows; which is not at times nigh to despair at the prevailing boorishness?

I cannot promise to stem this tide unaided, or to bring about an immediate resurgence of civilis'd standards if elected. Some measures, however, might in time aid such a resurgence.

One desideratum must be the setting aside of at least two rooms in the Union building in order to serve afternoon tea. The subsidisation of port and claret for Union members would enable many to partake of these habitually. To encourage the wearing of gowns, at the least on the University grounds, these should be suppli'd by the Union to its members. As regards other specific measures to be considered, I make so bold as to invite suggestions from amongst the electorate.

While I shall find much of my time pre-occupied with my duties as Treasurer of the Cockaigne Dining Club and other social engagements, I shall make it my endeavour, if elected, to attend as many Council meetings as will be possible.

It need hardly be added that I shall strive to hold myself aloof from political Faction, while of course remaining firmly oppos'd to Whiggery and Radicalism in all their forms.

All Union members who subscribe to similar sentiments are invited to cast their vote in my favour.

Christoph Schliack.

Candidate's Name ... **ALAN LENTON**
 Candidate's Dept. ... **SOCIOLOGY**
 Year of Entry to
 Leeds University ... **1973-74**
 Proposed by **MARK TURNBULL**
 Seconded by **GREG BENTON**

Union positions held:

Leeds University Staff/Student Council.
 Leicester University Staff/Student Council 1969/70.
 Leicester University Union Council Member 1969/70.
 Leicester University Union Assistant Treasurer 1969/70.

I AM STANDING FOR UNION COUNCIL BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT I CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION IN A DIRECTION WHICH IS BENEFICIAL TO STUDENTS' INTERESTS IN BOTH THE LONG AND THE SHORT TERM.

I REGARD THE FACT THAT I AM A SOCIALIST AS THE BASIS OF MY CONTRIBUTION. OF COURSE, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT IF ELECTED I WILL SPEND MY TIME IN PURELY THEORETICAL DISCUSSION. HOWEVER, IT IS NECESSARY FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL TO UNDERSTAND THE ORIGINS OF THE CRISIS OF SOCIAL EXPENDITURE WHICH HAS CUT BACK ON SUCH ITEMS AS OUR GRANTS AND THE UNIVERSITY FACILITIES. THIS CRISIS FELT IN AN EVEN MORE ACUTE WAY BY THE STUDENTS AT THE POLYTECHNIC, AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE BACK THEM TO THE HILT IN ANY ACTIONS, LIKE THE CURRENT OCCUPATION.

STUDENTS CANNOT SOLVE THE PROBLEMS THAT FACE THEM ALONE,

THEY MUST LINK UP WITH OTHER SOCIAL GROUPS SUFFERING FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE CURRENT CUT-BACKS, IN PARTICULAR THE WORKING CLASS. THIS, HOWEVER, CANNOT BE DONE IN A MECHANISTIC WAY, AND ONLY IN STRUGGLE CAN EFFECTIVE LINKS BE FORGED.

THERE DO NOT SEEM TO BE ANY PROVISIONS AT THE MOMENT FOR ORDINARY MEMBERS TO RAISE BUSINESS ON UNION COUNCIL UNLESS THIS IS RELATED TO SOCIETIES OR SOME SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE UNION IT IS MY INTENTION THEREFORE TO BE IN THE MOUAT JONES COFFEE BAR BETWEEN 2.30 and 3.30 EVERY MONDAY, SO THAT MEMBERS CAN SEE ME ABOUT ANY BUSINESS THAT THEY WANT RAISING. I WILL, OF COURSE, BE IN THE COFFEE BAR AT MANY OTHER TIMES WHEN PEOPLE ARE ONLY TOO WELCOME TO DISCUSS UNION BUSINESS, OR POLITICS, WHETHER I AM ELECTED OR NOT!

ALAN LENTON.

POLLING TIMES

Polling will take place on Monday and Tuesday (5th and 6th November, 1973) at the following polling stations at the times stated.

UNION BUILDING
 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MEDICAL SCHOOL COMMON ROOM
 12 noon to 2 p.m.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 12 noon to 2 p.m.

PARKINSON COURT
 12 noon to 2 p.m.

Members who are unable to vote at the times stated must make personal application to the Returning Officer.

BYE-ELECTION FOR

One member of Union Council (cont.)

Candidate's Name ... **JEREMY MICHELSON**

Candidate's Dept. ... **HISTORY**

Year of Entry to
Leeds University ... **1972**

Proposed by **DAVE SELBY**

Seconded by **R. HASSALL**

Union positions held:

Secretary of Liberal Society 1973-74.

The last time I stood for UC was in MARCH when I failed to get on by only 12 votes. I said then (as I say now) that one member out of 25 cannot hope to achieve miracles. What I can say is that I will consistently urge UC to propose motions to OGM's that are relevant for students such as the awful housing situation that the students of Leeds are faced with.

"Leeds Student" does not say too much about UC meetings because nothing of consequence is really spoken about. If elected I will report back to you regularly through "Orange Peel" and if the debates are inconsequential I

will say so and suggest ways of remedying this after that you can accept or reject my advice as is your desire.

If the union is to recover the respect and the confidence of the student body it must reflect the wishes and aspirations of the people they represent. I will try my best to make them see this fact for themselves, please give me a chance.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Michelson.

Candidate's Name ... **SARAH WARD**

Candidate's Dept. ... **ENGLISH**

Year of Entry to
Leeds University ... **1973**

Proposed by **SUE SLIPMAN**

Seconded by **J. CHANNON**

Union positions held:

Halls of Residence Committee.

Grants Campaign Action Committee.

National Union of Students Policy Committee.

I am a first year student at Leeds — my first impressions of union organisation are that the union is removed from the concerns of the vast majority of students. I am committed to the mobilisation of the broad mass of students within a particular perspective. That perspective rests on the analysis of students as a group within society whose interests are increasingly coming closer to those of the working class. This does not mean that I see students to be themselves working class, or that I see them to be inevitably loyal to the interests of the ruling class. In terms of students situation living within a wider community; they are affected, as are all sections of workers by price rises, increased rents, inflation, and Government policies against the rights of both the labour and the student movement to organise collectively — such policy as shown in the Government's economic policy, and the increasing use of legal structures to enforce such policy with the trial of the Shrewsbury Building Workers on conspiracy charges.

The great importance of the Grants Campaign for students is that it must be seen in a wide perspective — it is not simply a question of the access to education, although the very real danger that education could become the preserve of the rich makes this central it is also a question of the role of education in our society. Students are engaged in a process of study which is imbued with the ideas of class society and promotes the acceptance of the status quo; thus the grants campaign questions assumptions made about students in our society — we are no longer a privileged group, the decreasing value of our grant tells us that; we need to organise collectively and promote unity within all sectors of the student movement — the united opposition we face shows us that; we need to extend that organisation to alliance with the working class. Government policies show us that, and to do all this we have to challenge

the individualistic ideas which are instilled through the education we receive. Thus it is important that all the demands of the grants campaign have equal priority and that we fight for all sections of students. Since I have been in Leeds I have worked on this campaign and intend to go on doing so — not just to win an economic demand, but also to promote the interests of all sections of students.

To build the unity of the students' union in Leeds we need to involve far more students than at present; thus to reverse a process whereby the union organisation becomes more remote from students we have to extend the concerns of the union to include a far wider range of interests than has been tradition within student unions. The General Meeting should be the general forum of debate on all issues including discussions on the content of education. Increasingly education within Universities is less relevant to students needs and discontent which from time to time made itself felt through alternative seminars and courses has not usually been founded within the students union, giving it a firm base amongst the broad movement. It is within this context that questions of representation on University committees must be seen — whether educational or administrative, and principles of mandation and electoral recall insisted upon. We do not simply seek to play a game of numbers — we seek to make that representation meaningful in terms of what we eventually wish to achieve — objectives which include democratic control of the campus by all sections involved — academic staff, students and campus workers. Likewise the question of autonomy is important, because unless we are autonomous we cannot play a strong part in the process which makes this change possible. Thus working from a local level we can strengthen the whole union of students — the role I would play on union council would be within this perspective.

Sarah Ward.

Candidate's Name ... **IAIN A. MUIR**

Candidate's Dept. ... **ECONOMICS**

Year of Entry to
Leeds University ... **1971**

Proposed by **JIM BEWSHER**

Seconded by **CAROL JELLEY**

Union positions held:

Secretary of Sub-Committee Against Racial Discrimination 1972/73.

Ex-Officio Member of Union Council 1972/73.

Member of Record Shop/BookShop/Union Shop Board.

Union Rep on Senate Overseas Students Committee.

Union Council Rep on University/Union Joint Committee on Union Investments.

I have served on U.C. as S.C.A.R.D.'s representative in an ex-officio non-voting capacity for the past ten months. During this time I have come to see that U.C. plays a crucial role in the government of the union, responsible mainly for the day to day running of the union and consequently taking decisions of importance to all union members. Although the majority of the business U.C. discusses might appear to be about unimportant trivia, seen as a whole the decisions taken determine in what general direction the union moves and how the union finances are run. Consequently a U.C. member should at all times hold the interests of the student foremost in his mind.

My own major interest within the union is its attitude towards combating Racism. I have worked for S.C.A.R.D. in the time I have been at Leeds and during that time we have seen several successes. Much more work needs to be done however, as regards publicising the activi-

ties of the British Government, British firms and even the University in the support of the racist regimes of Southern Africa and in the treatment of Black and Asian immigrants at home. I will do my best to increase the unions involvement in Anti-Racism.

Although this is my main interest, I am by no means insular in my approach to the union, up to now I have involved myself in the running of the Union Shop's, Union Finance and the University Overseas Students' Committee. I believe I have the ability and the experience to make a good representative on U.C. (even if I can't type!). I can only say that I will use my judgement to the best of my ability for the benefit of union members, present and future. I make no wild promises, as it is not within transform the union overnight or to immediately the power of an individual U.C. member to solve its problems.

Iain A. Muir.

OTHER CANDIDATES:

Candidate's Name ... **B. GIBBONS**

Proposed by **M. H. JONES**

Seconded by **K. TUNSTALL**

Candidate's Name ... **D. H. LESWER**

Proposed by **P. LOW**

Seconded by **T. W. M. BAYLISS**

DON'T WASTE YOUR VOTE