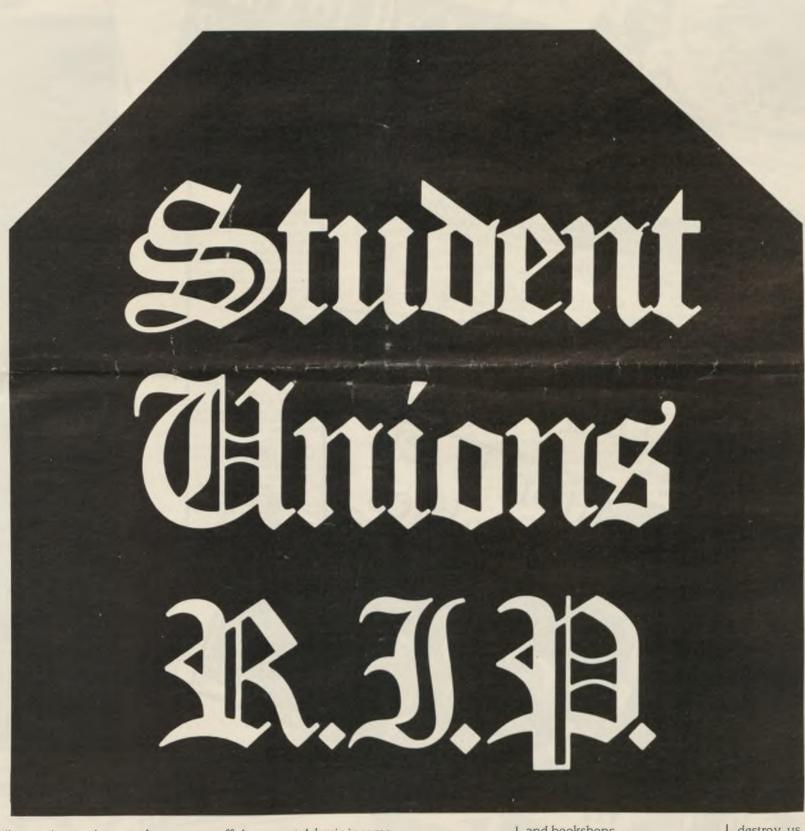


Leeds Student Special Issue 24 November Free

Student Union Finance Special



Student Unions will soon house nothing more than coffee bars and sweet machines. This is the warning issued by the National Union of Students (NUS) this week after failing to stall the new student union financing scheme proposed by the Government and to be implemented next year.

To back up this warning was further news of cuts in the education sector aimed at saving a further £80m for the Treasury. Already this term courses have been closed down in several colleges, students on Foundation courses have been refused gran-

ts, replacement staff have not | basic income. been employed, heating levels in lecture theatres and Halls of Residence have been reduced and, to cap it all, leisure and sporting activities are being drastically cut back.

The new scheme, which suggests that Student Unions should compete for their income with all other sections of the academic establishment, has been heavily criticised by student officials throughout the country. It seems highly likely that student life, as we know it now, will soon disappear, as unions are starved of even their the possible cinqure of the record

The University Union, which has always enjoyed the best student facilities in Leeds, looks like going through a major crisis. Major concerts, for example, will disappear, probably economic restrictions may mean that only small unknown bands will be able to play. Sports whose operations necessitate a high expenditure of the Union's income, will have to play all their matches in Leeds. Other facilities will be badly hit, including a severe cutback in the bar and catering operations, and

and bookshops.

The Polytechnic and college unions will be even harder hit, and the latter have appealed to their larger and stronger neighbours to fight on their behalf against the new proposals. Most of the college unions will probably collapse depriving their former members of help and advice on such matters as accommodation, health, social security and so on. One of the Presidents angrily claimed, With the introduction of two new systems at the same time, union financing and student loans, the Government is out to destroy us. If we don't act we will have no future to worry about.

Mike Goodman, the University Union Deputy President, added, "It should be pointed out that there is only a small step between these proposals and the introduction of voluntary student union membership. The vast majority of students will not be able to pay a £53 union fee, and the whole thing will collapse. It will be only a matter of time before the NUS suffers the same fate. Unions will become sherrydrinking clubs for upper class students.

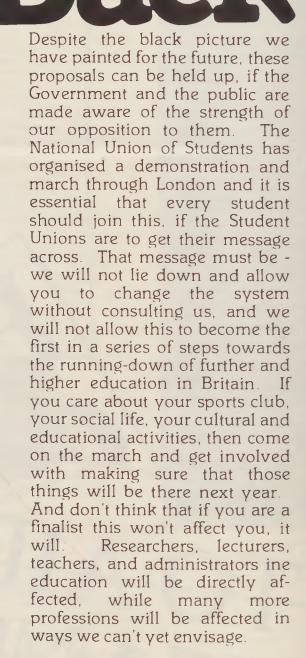




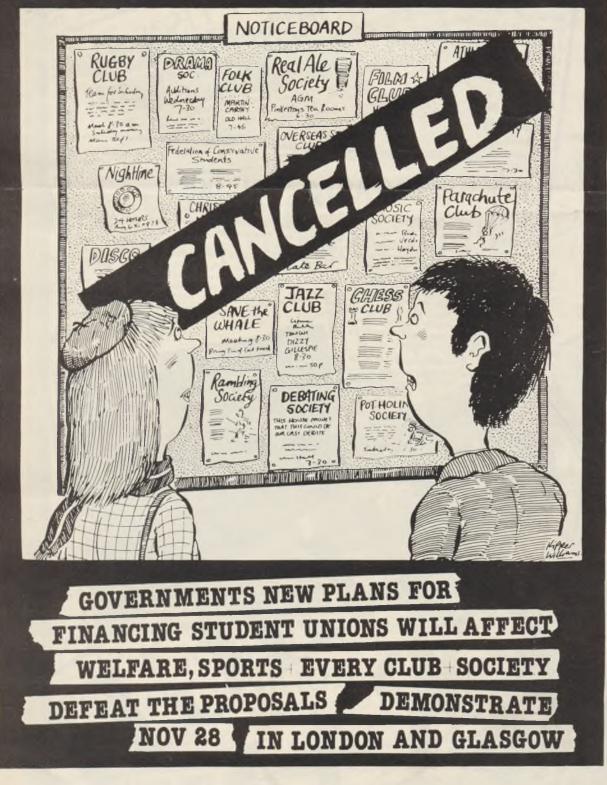
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Time To Fight Notice BOARD N



The march is in London on November 28th (this Friday), and if it is successful it will make the Government think again. Its success depends upon **your** support.



November 28th-Be There