

Why I left the humbug cult

THERE must be many people who have left the School of Economic Science (SES) organisation who are grateful to see that someone has had the courage to take the lid off it.

I was a member who left a few years ago.

Probably the greatest disservice of the sect came through the sycophantic attitude of the senior members, permitting the leader, Leonardo da Vinci McLaren, to become isolated in an unreal world of extraordinary personal ambition (so it would appear), posing as the god-like leader of a group dedicated to psychological and spiritual development. This more or less undid all the good that might have resulted from the school's activities.

The near absurd lengths to which members, old and young, went to maintain the accepted views and the accepted manners of conduct, few of which were either believed or followed, especially by the young is one of the startling experiences one underwent and evidence of the prevailing humbug which one had to tolerate or get out.

As the Standard's article stated, to seek the good is worthy and one of life's goals, but to distort and manipulate it is a form of evil. During eras of cultural change like the present one cults spring up by the dozen. This par-

ticular cult, it would appear, has become a bit of a menace. —A. Grimble, Putney Hill.

What a debt

IF IT IS true, as stated in last week's Standard that rent debts owed by London council tenants may well exceed £100 million, then not only is there supposedly one law for the rich, and one for the poor, but also one law for council tenants and one for those in the private sector.

Should one's arrears of rent occur in the private sector, bailiffs are called in and action taken. It seems that this does not happen with the chosen council tenants. No one tries to repossess their television sets, radios, deep freezers, cars or any other items, without which they could still live quite comfortably.

Either there is some massive error in the council's book-keeping or some reason exists of which the public is unaware for no action being taken against the defaulters.

Indeed, it is also stated that

Now who's out of a job?

NO WHAT the shouting and heckling of the election market place has died down and we prepare ourselves for a new circus to take up residence in Westminster, do we, I wonder, ever give a thought for those whom we have voted out of a job.

last year boroughs wrote off more than £420,000 and the GLC nearly £1,500,000 of irrecoverable dues.

Of course there are some tenants who find it difficult to cover their liabilities, as there also are in the private sector. But what has happened to the rent and rates rebate —Maggie Thompson, West Heath Road, Hampstead.

I accuse...

IN ANSWER to your article about Councillor Joe Simpson of Islington who bought his house from the Labour council, it was I who accused him of being a hypocrite and I stand by it.

The point is that it doesn't matter when he bought the house, it is a question of principle. He is a member of a council which presides over one of the heaviest concentrations of council housing in Great Britain. A council which is one of the slowest to sell off housing under the Right to Buy scheme and which has a policy of buying up old houses and keeping them empty and

For the first time in my life I have taken a close look at politicians trying to sell themselves into employment. It is an unenviable task which I am sure many will say they deserve.—D. Forrest, Cloudeley Place, NL