however not hostile to social reform. The question "Is unemployment in this country due to the excessive fastidiousness

of the British worker, fostered by indisoriminate charity?" debated in the 1909-10 session, obtained only one vote in the affirmative; and in 1907 the Society decided that it did not view with alarm the rise of the Labour Party.

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In the inter-war period questions for debate, while remaining serious, became more terse. A unique meeting is recorded, in November 1933, at which the enthusiasm of members expressed itself in two debates. "Should abortion be legalised?" was duly discussed. At a later (much later) stage in the evening, "Should vegetarians eat Stilton?" was debated. Mr C. J. D. Shaw opened both debates in the negative. When the Society divided on the second subject there were no votes on the affirmative and none on the negative.

In making his report on the 1950 session the Secretary gave the following summary of the year's debating activity:

"The Society discussed whether widows made the best wives. Yet even had one been so ill advised as to marry one, it was decided that suicide was not justifiable nor yet recourse to drink. Malt could do no more than Milton. Rather rely on religion, for though Roman Catholicism was not the greatest enemy of Communism, yet the Nation had not replaced religion by sport.

"The Social Sphere and politics were also centres of interest. The practicability of Democracy was canvassed, and only a cynical minority hold Truth superflucus in a politician. The Sociaty could regret the passing of the benign social scene of the eighteenth century without feeling the day of literary Giants to be passed (though the days of Library Grants are numbered). Faith they declared in Sociland, refusing to acquiesce in its closing for the winter, and voting for a separate Scottish Parliament. But the day of Liberty is past; have not the elections shown it? No longer does the eccentric kindle a spark of admiration of being the true reformer; the liberal arts are tradden down by Scientific Education."

A certain weakness in logical argument appears in some of the contributions to debates; this can probably be traced to the

