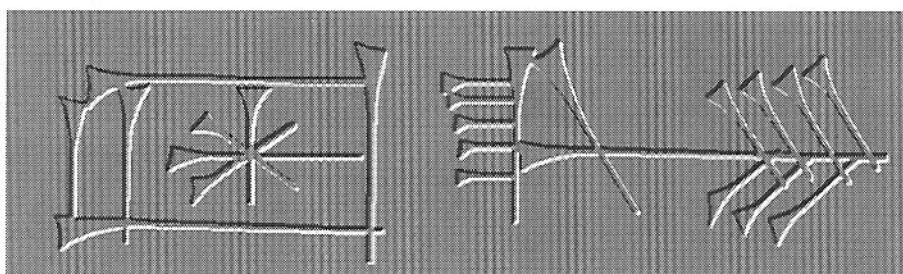


Editorial



One hundred years have passed since the academic duo of Sidney and Beatrice Webb founded the London School of Economics (LSE) to promote research into the social sciences. It was their honest belief, that in the impartial pursuit of truth, young intellectuals would conclude that socialism was the highest and the greatest of human ideals. Yet, at the end of this first century, we have come to a different conclusion from the utopia of central planning, collectivism and class consciousness envisaged by the Webbs...

The last remnants of Communism left around the world are being swept away; engulfed by the centrifugal forces of the market, like the battlements of a sand castle crumbling against high tide. Liberalism has once again resurfaced to champion the virtues of individual liberty and free market economics.

As the Information Revolution overshadows the archaic institutions of the Industrial Age, we face a new and uncharted future. Thus, it is our responsibility to tread a trail for others to follow in their pursuit for individual freedom.

In the renewed spirit of liberalism, the *Hayek Society* was founded last year to promote the Austrian School of Economics and defend the principles of Libertarian thought at the LSE. Our aim is to win the intellectual debate amongst students and in our own humble way dispel the myths and preconceptions held against the workings of a liberal society and the free market. Thus, **AMA-GI** is a continuation of our original goal, as we raise the standard of debate within the LSE and use it to reach other student campuses in the United Kingdom and around the world.

The name of the *Hayek Society's* journal, **AMA-GI**, comes from a cuneiform inscription (shown above), found in the ancient Sumerian city-state of Lagash, to symbolise "freedom" (ama-gi). The clay tablet on which it was found dates back to 2300 BC and it is the earliest example of the concept of liberty being expressed in a written language.

AMA-GI is a unique publication at the LSE; self financed and produced by students, to combine a wide spectrum of topics to introduce individuals to the liberal paradigm. It is not designed to be academically exhaustive, as it is merely an introduction to encourage others to read larger works from modern and classical liberal thinkers. As a result, the written content is edited to be readable and accessible, yet at the same time stimulating, motivating and challenging.

Hector Birchwood