Since my last column, headlined "Why I won't vote", I've received hundreds of emails from others who feel politically homeless. I've also heard from many who have voted Democrat or Republican their entire lives and, for the first time, in 2020 will vote for the opposite party. Lifetime conservatives are voting for Biden. Independents are being radicalized to vote red or blue. Sir: On reading Philip Hensher's review of Paula Byrne's The Adventures of Miss Barbara Pym (Books, 10 April), I was reminded of the sad occasion when I typed (at Jonathan Cape's dictation) a letter to Miss Pym informing her that as her previous novel had not sold 3,000 copies the breakthrough figure for profitability in those days - a long line of rubber. Sir: I was surprised to read in the Spectator's Notes that germinated rubber seeds shipped from Kew to Ceylon "failed" (10 April). They did not fail but thrived, as do their descendants to this day. Royston Ellis Induruwa, Sri Lanka. The Spectator ostensibly records the activities of the Spectator Club, which is made up of several fictional characters, each representing a distinct segment of society. Through the eyes of Mr. Spectator, a shy observer of the others and of London society, the authors comment on social and cultural issues. Events in History at the Time of the Essays. The Essays in Focus.