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EVERY FORTNIGHT

FELIX



No 115

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

FRIDAY JAN 17 1958

A QUARTER OF A MILLION FOR COLCUTT'S FOLLY

WILL THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDE THE MONEY?

Speculation on the fate of the Colcutt tower, crowning glory of the shortly-to-be-lamented Imperial Institute, has recently been revived as a result of the publication of the estimated cost of keeping it.

It will be recalled that two years ago the proposal to completely demolish the Institute aroused much antagonism among the natives of Kensington, whereupon the Government decided that the tower should be left standing. The College was requested to plan the development of the site accordingly and to investigate the cost of the retention, both of which have been done. The estimated price of this compromise will be £250,000, to which most of course be added the detrimental effect on the development scheme as originally put forward. One is reminded of the caption to a cartoon in the EVENING STANDARD of March 15, 1956: "If they'd get as worked up about the Empire as they do about its monuments, we might still have an Empire to get worked up about."

While the Government has stated that it wishes the tower to be kept, it has not said whether the money required will be forthcoming. It is not altogether inconceivable that another compromise be suggested.

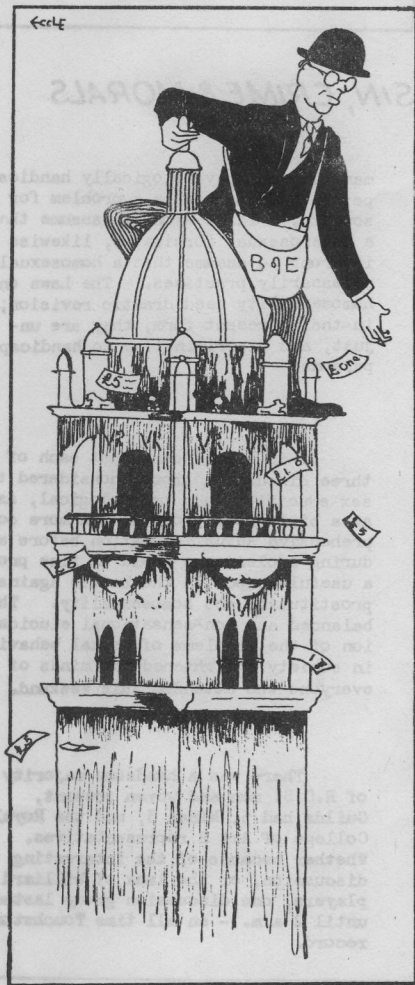
Not unsurprisingly then, the position with regard to the island site is somewhat unsettled. However, considerable progress has been made in the last two years with the plans for the site, and latterly with the buildings for the new Physics and Engineering blocks.

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The building for the Physics Department is under way and is on time, so far. There appears to be nothing at the moment that could affect the completion dates, although there are still some points under discussion between the Department and the Architects. The block facing Queen's Gate should be finished by the start of the Spring Term in 1959, and the block facing Prince Consort Road by the beginning of the session 1959-60.

There has been some delay in the progress of the new Engineering block, as the design of the steelwork is being modified following upon comments by the University Grants Committee. However the original completion date, i.e. the start of the Session 1959-60, is still envisaged.



RUGBY CLUB INVINCIBLE IN FRANCE

On the evening of Boxing Day, 24 good men and true met in the Queen's before delivering a challenge to the formidable rugby playing talent of the Bordeaux region of France. The channel crossing was uneventful except that Otto Gilbert studied his Landing Ticket carefully for some minutes before realising that it was not a telegram, as he had originally supposed. The first evening was spent in Paris where the party joined in the gay and varied night-life with uninhibited enthusiasm and considerable versatility (details censored).

After the long coach journey to Saintes, during which it was hoped the after-effects of Paris would wear off, proceedings began with the first of two vigorous training sessions.

In a 12 a-side trial the "Drunks" (without Hoeksma) beat the "Sober" (plus Hoeksma) 13-12. Reassured that they could still play rugger, the party went on to Sarlat, a town in the

wooded hills of the Dordogne, where enthusiasm for rugby runs very high. Greeted by large banners bearing the word "WEL'COMES", I.C. were plunged into a New Year's Ball, where those selected to play on the following day revealed commendable restraint.

At this function, and on many other occasions, I.C. made brave efforts to converse with the French in their own language, and made many friends. The Entente Cordiale has never been stronger. Barry Lanz astonished his men by his fluency at French, although some others seemed miraculously to acquire similar powers after a few vite Dubonnets. However the vocabulary of D. Phillips appeared to extend little beyond "oui", "combien", and "Qu'est la toilette?", while Milward was in frequent trouble. Once he was given oysters when he thought he had ordered soup, and on another occasion thought the company was estimating the distance of Sarlat from Paris when in fact it was discussing the price of mushrooms.

Continued on page 7 ...



Mrs. Bennett

HEATED DISCUSSION AT UNION MEETING

An ordinary I.C. Union meeting was held on Thursday December 5th. The accounts for the previous financial year were presented and approved; Mr. Garnett managed to explain how £142 were inadvertently "lost" at the 1956 Commemoration Ball.

Mr. Chadwick informed members that in the future spot checks of Union Cards would be made.

GUILDS DO THEIR NUTS
OVER SPANNER.

"If the Spanner goes up in this bracket it will disappear within three days".

This prophecy by Dave Stevens at the last C. and G. Union Meeting was fulfilled. Mounted on the last Tuesday of term, it had gone by Thursday evening.

There were two attempts to 'lift' it that day, one in the afternoon - when a band of R.C.S. boys and girls assembled below the bracket.

Watched by at least three guildsmen, one of the maidens climbed up the wall, but went round the bend on the appearance of the Guilds porter.

Late that evening (at 9.15 pm) R.C.S. returned to Guilds and, while one of the girls led the porter into the basement (!), took it and bracket. The booty was taken for coffee, whence it reached R.C.S., and was hidden in an open locker.

Next morning it had gone from the locker, leaving the "Spanner-lifters", going around in ever-decreasing circles, finally vanishing in their own confusion.

Apart from a rumour that "some nasty little fellow has threatened to chop it up and float the pieces down the Thames," and a statement from Chad in the bar "I know where it is", there seems to be no clue as to the spanner's whereabouts at the time of going to press.

Guilds had a Union Meeting yesterday!



The distribution of political pamphlets by societies and individuals was discussed at length and Mr. Chillow proposed a motion that Union Council be instructed to take action against the person or persons responsible. Action against societies could, as at present, take the form of suspension of funds, and against individuals of suspension from the Union.

Mr. Blok introduced the subject of petty thefts and needless damage to Union property. Mr. Chadwick commented that, "We are getting to the stage where we need to police the building." Someone cited an example at the R.C.S. Smoking Concert when, although there were only two free pints per person, over fifty glasses were broken. "The drinking of a little beer is no licence for hooliganism!" A motion proposed by Mr. Blok instructing Union Council to take stronger action against the vandals was carried.

Mr. Emerson expressed disquiet at the present cloakroom system having himself lost a duffle coat on the night of Guilds' Carnival; he thought that a small charge might be instituted. In reply, Mr. Stevens informed him that the matter had been discussed and if necessary the regulations would be tightened until they became a matter of habit.

Commenting on Union lighting Mr. Chadwick said that all Union rooms should be lighted (this, however did not apply to the hostel - "Far be it from the Union to restrict social activities").

The meeting closed with questions on the Refectory situation.

TOUCHSTONE

Dr. Bailey took the Wolfenden Report as a point from which he plunged his audience into Sin, Crime and Morals. After reviewing the history of the Wolfenden Committee and Report Dr. Bailey explained why it was decided to deal with homosexuals and prostitution together, there being no visible link on the surface. However they should not be isolated from antisocial behaviour.

The effect of the part of the Report relating to Criminal Law is to declare a kind of no-man's land in sex behaviour where actions can be sinful and immoral but not criminal. On this basis prostitution is not a crime. The criminal element arises in solicitation and the problem of street order. The Committee felt the need of action by driving the prostitute off the roads, and therefore treating it as a female problem and not as the male problem it is. Men are at both ends, as exploiters and clients. If prostitutes are driven underground rackets would start endangering the women. A prostitute is not a depraved and a licentious woman but an inadequate person who drifts through without finding a niche for herself and who cannot be reformed.

Dr. Bailey carefully differentiated between homosexual condition and homosexual behaviour. A homosexual is a

PRESIDENT SETS
PRECEDENT

On January 3rd a select company assembled in the Bar to celebrate the first anniversary of its re-opening in the Union. As on the October Commemoration Day, the Student Orator was Richard Garnett, who delivered the opening proclamation with the dignity and zest we have come to expect of him.

From his hot seat in front of the roaring fire our August President, Mr. Chadwick himself, announced that, as befitted the occasion, he would stand a drink for all those present. When the gathering had regained its composure he expressed the hope that future Presidents would see fit to follow suit - this was received with acclamation and the fetching out of diaries. A toast was drunk to The Bar, and to Ted Smith, who has served behind it so faithfully, and whose last year with us this is.

Later in the evening, by courtesy of the Union, hot sausages with rolls and mustard were served to the Assembly. Some diversion was caused by a tremendous conflagration. All the logs having been consumed, a certain Mr. Oggi picked up the carton in which they had reposed and thrust it upon the flames. Not quite, however. A portion jutting out of the fireplace caught alight, and smoke rose billowing to the ceiling. Ted Smith, however, rose equally to the occasion. Sounding the Alarm on the Cricket Club Bell, he snatched up a soda siphon and poured in a broadside. The inferno, thus threatened, cowered and then subsided. The soot remains on the ceiling - a moment of heat is recorded for ever.

SIN, CRIME & MORALS

mentally and psychologically handicapped person and as such is a problem for society. It is wrong to assume that a heterosexual fornicates, likewise it is wrong to assume that a homosexual necessarily practises. The Laws on homosexuality need drastic revision; in their present form, they are unjust, and discriminating to handicapped persons.

It is significant that each of the three discussion groups considered that sex education is a psychological, as well as a biological problem. A more comprehensive sexual education before and during adolescence would in time prove a useful weapon in the battle against prostitution and homosexuality. The balanced and non-sensational elucidation of the problems of sexual behaviour in society enlightened the minds of everyone who attended this Weekend.

There was a handsome majority of R.C.S. men and women present, Guilds had 5, Mines 3, and the Royal College of Art 2 representatives. Whether because of the interesting discussion, or the lack of billiard players, one discussion group lasted until 2 a.m. - an all time Touchstone record.



SUCH IS CULTURE

To 23-year-old William Green, still a student at the Royal College of Art, paint is something to be trodden in.

Mr. Green only paints in black. His three pictures - Asphyxiation 1, Asphyxiation 2, and Asphyxiation 3 - were done on hardboard laid flat on the floor.

"I throw on stove enamel, sand and rubble, put on an old pair of shoes and skid about in it. The marks are fundamentally accidental - but interesting." His three large pictures each took about half an hour to do and he is asking 100 guineas each for them.

(From the NEWS CHRONICLE, 9th January)

THE FIRSTBORN



COUNCIL SLOG IT OUT PAST CLOSING TIME

One of the longest Council meetings on record took place on December 9th. It lasted from 6 p.m. until 11, with a break for dinner. Most of the time was taken up by the presentation and discussion of the reports of representatives on committees - there were thirteen of these.

On the subject of Exploration, Council felt that there was insufficient scope for student discussion and planning. The Board was not able to make suggestions, and disclaimed all responsibility, although a leaflet was being produced for the benefit of students and firms. However, the advice and contacts of individual members of the Board were valuable and the proposed Society ought to co-operate fully with them. Feeling was that the Secretary of the Board was the best person to handle the urgently needed national publicity.

Presenting the report of the Entertainments Committee, its chairman, Mr Streets, said that they felt that the term's hops had left something to be desired. They had been overcrowded and low in tone, and the women's colleges were complaining. Accordingly the number admitted would be reduced from 450 to about 350, of which 150 would be on double tickets, and an effort made to keep out non-I.C. men. Council were not unanimous in their approval. Did the opinion of Council represent that of the Union at large? Obviously many people liked the hops as they were. Replying, Mr Streets said that his committee had no dogmatic ideas and, while they were resolved to improve matters, would experiment to find the best ways of doing so.

Mr Hodgson, chairman of the Social Clubs Committee, reported that four new societies had received preliminary approval; they were the Billiards, Exploration, Chinese and Church of England. This brought up the question of the organisation of S.C.C. The general opinion seemed to be that S.C.C. was quite unwieldy, and the fact emerged that some members had been walking out of meetings after their own business had been dealt with. Accordingly two motions were passed: (1) That S.C.C. should submit proposals for streamlining and for the existence of clubs to be clarified each year (ii) That the

S.C.C. executive should investigate the formation of clubs with respect to the number of votes in favour.

Following the discussion at the Union meeting on the organisation of the cloakroom in the Union, several suggestions were made on how this could be improved. It was decided that two attendants were necessary at rush hours and one at all other times; it will also be necessary to have someone to man the telephone when the extensions are put in. A proposal that the President should engage sufficient staff was carried.

It is proposed to hold an international Student Conference in the College from April 11th to 19th. About twenty visitors from European universities are being invited and the projected programme includes discussions on university life and visits to places of interest.

POINTS FROM THE MEETING

The Old Students' Associations will in future not be allowed to book Union premises in advance for their functions during term time, but can book as far ahead as they wish otherwise.

The Boat Club is to have 3 new Trophy type light clinker V111's over this and the next session; and 6 new single scullers in the next three years.

The Hostel will be getting six or so extensions to an external telephone line sometime in the near future. They will be on the KEN 2963 line; this is the official Hostel number.

There is a House Committee Recommendation that all furniture and fittings for the Union should fulfil a specification three times as stringent as normal. This was not followed when the lift was ordered.

The Tours Committee has approved three tours: of the Rugby Club to France, of the Hockey Club to Delft and of the Gliding Club to the Gliding Championships in Derbyshire. A fourth tour - of the Jazz Club to Paris - is still under consideration pending further details.

Towards the end of last term, the Dramatic Society (vigorously assisted by two members of the Rugger Club) presented "The Firstborn" by Christopher Fry. Set in Egypt around 1200 B.C., the play, concerned the struggles of Moses with the Egyptian Pharaoh.

Despite a pot of paint being emptied over one of the completed flats on the day of the dress rehearsal the curtain went up (almost) on time. Although perhaps getting off to a rather slow start the play gathered in momentum and was enjoyed by the small but, on the whole, appreciative audience.

Following the final night of the production the Society revived an old custom of having a semi-formal dinner. During the brief speeches praise was given where deserved, and in particular to the quiet efficiency of the producer. After dinner the members and guests returned to the concert hall for the stage hands play (a mimicry of the actual production), and one or two surprise ditties by members of the cast. Then ensued an all-night party, much enjoyed by all.

JOKES VERSUS JAQUES

The General Studies lecture, on Thurs. 9th Jan., by Prof. R.V. Jones (Prof. of Natural Philosophy at Aberdeen) on the "Theory of Practical Joking and its Application in Physics", was extremely well supported, having an audience of roughly 400 as compared with an attendance of only 15 people at the more serious alternative lecture on "The Social Structure of Industrial Concerns" by Elliot Jaques. The latter lecture was highly praised by those who attended.

As Prof. Jones entered the Physics Lecture Theatre a young lady ascended a ladder encountering some difficulty through her high-heeled shoes and tight skirt.

The Professor gave a most interesting and amusing lecture which incorporated an unusual number of jokes, while in the background fireworks exploded at intervals. After a vote of thanks Prof. Jones produced a revolver and indicated that he had come fully prepared for any out-of-hand situation which might have arisen.

FELIX

EDITOR: PETER LEVIN

CIRCULATION 1500

COLCUTT

The disclosure of the estimated cost of retaining the Colcutt tower again brings forcibly to our notice the obstacles which confront progress in this country. Already many of our scientists and engineers emigrate to the United States and Canada where scientific development is fostered by every conceivable means. If a concession to Victorian sentimentalism at the cost of a quarter of a million pounds is thought to be realistic, it is hardly likely to encourage fewer to do so.

PHOENIX GETS THE BIRD

Following so soon after the report prepared by its sub-editors, the latest PHOENIX came as a great disappointment. Rudimentary principles which should have been taken for granted seem to have been completely dispensed with. First, THE PHOENIX is the magazine of Imperial College and as such should reflect the activities and interests of the College. Second, it should provide scope for original thought. Third, articles should be clear and concise (a scientific principle), interesting and readable.

At one extreme we have Maurice Davidov's incomparable "Light Metallurgy". This is a beautiful example of what I mean by reflecting the activities of the College (The Guinness advertisement alone attained success in this direction). The idea was original and expounded with simplicity.

At the other extreme stands, or rather falls, the profile of Albert Camus. There is no connection between M. Camus and Imperial College. This article, something under a page in length, contained no fewer than five quotations, five pickings from other people's brains. Readable? At least it was short.

Unfortunately M. Camus's profile is by no means alone in its extremity. There is no need for me to give a catalogue here.

No review of this PHOENIX could possibly neglect "Clotty". Nothing to do with I.C., anything but concise, it nevertheless contained a spark of originality — the use of words for purposes other than that for which they were originally intended is something achieved only accidentally by most people.

P.E.L.

OBITUARY

We were very sorry to hear of the death of John Perkins a second year Chemical Engineer. He was a regular member of the 1st XV and his loss will be keenly felt.

VIEWPOINT

MONEY FOR THE ARTS

Any member of the College who thinks for a moment about the offerings of Touchstone and General Studies, will realize that a not inconsiderable amount of money is involved in keeping up the high standard of speakers invited.

This money is in the main provided by the Governing Body and is believed to total about £2,000 per annum. About half of this is spent on the general studies lectures, and the remainder on grants for various activities around the college. We thus have the position that less than £1 is spent for each member of the student body throughout the whole year, but far worse than this is the fact that non-scientific culture is thought to be less than the worth of one professor, and any look at the Calendar will show how many of these high gentlemen are apparently floating around.

Is this an equitable expenditure, or should our facilities for broader education be expanded? The question of shortage of money may be raised, but surely this cannot be a valid argument in view of the insignificant amount already spent as compared with the general expenditure on teaching staff as a whole: would it not be of much greater benefit to all concerned if some of the relatively useless members of the present Academic Staff were disposed of and the money diverted to the furtherance of the Arts and the Humanities? I fear that this is another case of a dictatorial civil service deciding that a scientific institution shall teach nothing else but science. It is just as necessary for us to have a good non-technical library as it is for the wide provision of scientific books and journals. The union library, good though it is, is half-strangled through lack of finance.

The Record Library supplies a much needed service to the whole college, and indeed seems very well-patronised, but once again finance is its stumbling block. Purchases of new discs can only be made infrequently and the smallness of its grant precludes the widening of its catalogue much beyond the popular repertoire. What support do the Art Club and the Photographic Society get for their furthering of the Arts? None, so far as I know. One could work through any cultural activities of the College and the Union, all along the line one finds this same paucity of support.

What can be done? The answer is simple, make available more money which surely cannot be so difficult for our well-financed Governing Body. Any suggestions that these Touchstone grants may be cut must be strangled at birth, and every possible means adopted for the Governor's equitable support must be furthered.

J. K. Taylor

WALLET THIEF GETS FIVE YEARS

At the December Sessions of the Old Bailey, a man was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment for the theft of a wallet from the gymnasium changing room in the Union. He had previously been convicted, in 1947, for stealing from the same place, and altogether 30 cases were taken into consideration.

The thief gave himself away by using a driving licence taken from a wallet belonging to an R.C.S. man as an identification when passing worthless cheques. He was arrested by the Police and questioned, but would at first only admit to passing the cheques. Eventually, however, he did confess to the thefts. None of the stolen property was recovered.

SOBER

Dear Shir,
We wash not shloshed.

Yoursh,

Guildsh Cabaret.

Editor's note: Sherry.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Last Saturday's hop was the first one to be held under the Entertainment Committee's improvement plan. It was unfortunate that many of the women's training colleges had not yet restarted, as a result of which there were about 50 more men than women present. All the single men's (100) and double Tickets (75) were sold, but only 50 of the 100 women's tickets. About 50 men were turned away; some of the more venturesome stood by the door and introduced themselves to the first girl who came along, returning in triumph to buy a double ticket.

There was no inspection of Union cards, and men who came along wearing L.S.E. and King's scarves were not refused tickets while they lasted. This seems unfortunate since many I.C. men were among those turned away later.

There was room to dance in comfort in the Concert Hall, for a change, but there were few people upstairs, where the Jazz Band was playing. With a full complement of women things might have been quite different. Certainly one cannot judge the E.C.'s plan on this one hop; the popularity of their innovations remains to be seen.

HALOS FOR ROVER CREW

Eight members of I.C. Rover Crew saw in the New Year in rigorous fashion in the Borrowdale region of the Lake District. Four of them camped at Sprinkling Tarn (2,000 ft.) on the nights of January 1st and 2nd. It was very cold in camp — a tent, damp when pitched, froze solid and two pairs of boots were frozen overnight and had to be thawed out over a Primus. On New Year's Day, the party climbed to the top of Scafell Pike, from which they saw the spectre of the Brocken, a kind of misty mirage effect that bestows a halo on one's shadow.

EXPLORATION

Dear Sir,
Whilst agreeing generally with Xenophon's views on Exploration, I should like to make the following comments.

Although it is desirable that expeditions be of the most general kind, so that members with the widest range of interest may participate, no attempt will be made by the New Exploration Society to discourage expeditions which are largely specialist in nature, since these may go to a region quite unsuited to a general expedition. In addition it is the specialist type of expedition which yields the greatest amount of scientific information.

The impression of the Exploration Board which is given is also misleading, for despite their "bureaucratic trammellings", they have succeeded in giving the leaders of past College Expeditions admirable support.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Smith



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I.C.?

Dear Sir,
When is a society an I.C. Society? As I understand it, not until their provisional constitution has been read and passed by two successive S.C.C. or A.C.C. meetings. On this pretext therefore the Church Society is not entitled to call itself an I.C. Society, as their constitution has so far only been read once.

They should thus be severely reprimanded for wrongly describing themselves in the General Studies programme.

Yours faithfully,
J.K. Taylor.

XENOPHOBIA

Dear Sir,

The viewpoint of one "Xenophon" on Exploration contained an inaccurate statement with regard to the financing of the 1958 Ghana Expedition. Although the Exploration Board has given money to the extent of one third of the original estimated cost, the remainder has to be made up of individual contributions from the student members and donations from industrial and commercial organisations.

Next he argues that future expeditions should be of a research nature. By definition, expeditions involve investigation of unknown "territory" - whether it be geological, geographical, meteorological, geophysical, biological or any other - "ical" is immaterial. Exploration is therefore either synonymous with research, or at least an integral part of it. To suggest the divorcement of the two is meaningless.

In a badly punctuated and obscurely worded sentence he inferred that specialist expeditions were undesirable, and also that their members jealously opposed other groups planning expeditions. This firstly shows his ignorance of the problems involved. Sponsors do not give money out of charity. They ask and deserve reasonable results. As shown above, there is a wide range of topics to explore. With such limited numbers, only a few can be dealt with adequately if the reasonable results are to be obtained. Hence specialisation is inevitable, if only from the financial angle. As to his second point about opposition from so-called "vested interest", I know of none and would be interested to learn precisely what he means.

He next took upon himself to speak for the proposed Exploration Society, a Society which didn't even exist when he wrote the article. Further, the initiators of the Society disowned the article when it appeared.

I correct the writer of the article on getting a few points correct, especially the aims of the Exploration Society - perhaps it was because these latter were up on a notice board in the Union at the time.

Finally he complained of the "mere bureaucratic trammellings of the (Exploration) Board". This is my second year of dealing with the Board and I have yet to experience these "trammellings". On the contrary, where an expedition has been jeopardised by delays, they have mercifully by-passed any red tape to give all possible aid.

I believe FELIX aims at producing controversial articles to promote discussion among readers. It is however, the duty of the writers to check their facts and thus avoid inaccurate or half true statements. These can only mislead readers who are not in a position to check the facts for themselves.

Yours sincerely,

Robert F. Sturrock.

Editor's note:

To quote the first paragraph of the "Viewpoint" to which Mr. Sturrock refers: "Several highly successful expeditions have been run by students from this college during the last few years. But what of future plans? - To judge from the Exploration Board's in-tray only a follow-up expedition of a research nature, which might well have been backed from other sources, is forthcoming." No mention at all was made of the financial outlay involved.

Mr. Sturrock refers to bad punctuation and obscure wording. We have printed his letter in its original English, apart from correcting the more elementary mistakes, of which nine were spelling errors and ten grammatical. We wish he would confine himself to the subject under discussion.

CHURCH SOCIETY PARLIAMENT

Dear Sir,
We should like to draw the attention of your readers to the Mock Parliaments to be held in Ayrton Hall on Thursday evenings at 7.00 pm.

Conservative Government	Jan. 23rd
Labour Government	Jan. 30th
Liberal Government	Feb. 27th
Communist Government	March. 6th

In each case the speaker of the House will be provided by the Literary and Debating Society.

We would like as many as possible members of the Union to attend, either as Independent M.P.s when they will have an opportunity to speak, or as observers.

Yours faithfully,

Laurie Pretty Conservative Society
Frank Thilo Socialist Society
David Thompson Liberal Society
David Leigh Marxist Sub-group

PUT UP JOB

Sir,

In the Prince's Gardens' column of your issue dated December 6th, you refer to "put-you-up type" beds as being wholly unsuitable for your hostel project. Your advisers suggest that, in other hostels, such beds "were virtually worn out" after four years of contact with the student body.

We are relieved that you write of "put-you-up type beds" since, as manufacturers of the original PUT-U-UP settee-bed, we have many imitators. And although we are a little long in the tooth to remember precisely the strains which student furniture must bear, we are confident that a genuine PUT-U-UP would stand the test of many more years than four. Even under Cite Universite conditions - which, we imagine, are unlikely ever to be duplicated in the I.C.!

Yours faithfully,

GREAVES & THOMAS LTD.

DIRTY LINEN

LETTER TO THE FEATURES EDITOR

Dear Madam,

We are in receipt of your enquiry for a pair of pants, and we beg to advise you we are forwarding to your local depot a pair of pants for inspection.

We trust these will prove to be your correct article.

Yours faithfully,

S.NL.GHT L.NDRY

Personal Advertisements

FOR SALE

GENT'S 3 PIECE DARK GREY SUIT

to fit 36" chest, trousers 32/32. Infrequently worn, excellent condition. £5 10s 0d o. n. o. cleaned.

APPLY J.A. HOBSON
Room 34 Hostel
for demonstration

Jumping spikes, size 8.
M. GORB. UNION RACK

**COMING
EVENTS**

FRIDAY 17th. JAN.

GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Film Show, "Mille Miglia 1955" and "Motor Race Marshalling" Room 15, 5.5.
R.C.S MOTOR CLUB Film Show, "Le Mans 1955" and "Kick Start". Chem. Lect. Th. 5.15.
ICE SKATING CLUB Arosa Meeting at Richmond, 7.00.
ROVER CHEW Surprise Item. Comm. Room B. 1.10.
PHOTO SOC. Colour Group Meeting. New Chem. Eng. Lect. Th. 5.15.

SATURDAY 18th. JAN.

Ice Skating Club Dance
Y.H.A. Jordans-Ivinghoe weekend with Bedford.

SUNDAY 19th. JAN.

GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Driving Tests at Heston Airport. Sign by 10.30, start 11.00.

MONDAY 20th. JAN

LIB. SOC. General Meeting. Lounge Comm. Room, 1.15.
I.C.C.U. "Why should I pray?" Rev. Douglas Clarke.

TUESDAY 21st. JAN.

R.C.S. MOTOR CLUB "History of fire brigades and fire engines" Mr Trust of the London Fire Brigade.
WINE TASTING SOC. "Port" Mr Cook, Ayrton Hall 5.50.

WEDNESDAY 22nd. JAN.

RAIL SOC. Visit to Redhill Traffic Control.

THURSDAY 23rd. JAN.

JAZZ CLUB "Four's Company" Mr Tony Brookes.
JEW. SOC. Joint party with U.C.J.S. in Upper Refectory U.C.
I.C. Mock Parliament, Conservatives in office. Ayrton Hall.

FRIDAY 24th. JAN.

PHOTO. SOC. "Colour - realistic and abstract" Mr R.J.Pearce.
ROVER CHEW The Rover Vigil. Comm. Room B. 1.10.

SATURDAY 25th. JAN.

Dancing Club Informal Dance.

MONDAY 27th. JAN.

LIB. SOC. Talk by Mr Richard More of the "News Chronicle". Lounge Comm. Room, 1.15.
I.C.C.U. "Is decency enough?", Prof. M.Guthrie.

TUESDAY 28th. JAN.

RAIL. SOC. "Locomotive performances in the Race to the North, 1895" Mr O.S. Mock.
JEW. SOC. "The changing face of Israel" Mr A.Frank.

THURSDAY 30th. JAN.

I.C. Mock Parliament, Labour in office. Ayrton Hall.

FRIDAY 31st. JAN.

ENGINEERS' BALL
PHOTO. SOC. Colour Criticism.

MIXED HOCKEY TRIUMPH

The Sunday Mixed hockey team had a miraculous win against Chelsea Poly. on Dec. 15. Although two short they lost their beaten record by 4 goals to 3 in a spirited display.

There was also considerable spirit at a party afterwards. For details please contact the Metropolitan Police and the Chelsea Fire Brigade.

**THE FIRSTBORN
REVIEWED**

Since Fry first became a "must" on the book-shelves of the theatre-lovers of I.C., the possibility of attempting *The Firstborn* has presented itself whenever choice of a play was discussed. Here we have the post-war "shot-in-the-arm" of English theatre exonerating himself from any accusation of shallowness that might follow such whimsical pieces as *The Phoenix Too Frequent* or *The Lady's not for Burning*, both previously seen at the College.

A tirade, based on the oldest and most impressive "birth of a nation" story of Moses in Egypt and clothed in the effervescent *Verse* of Fry, calls for virtuosity in the cast - and, most important, in their voices. The advent of a "type-cast" handful of senior members and a very promising group of freshers apparently launched the venture, and the production seen at the end of last term should have left past members of the Society satisfied with decision to go on where others had feared to tread.

Direction was in the hands of Colin Dixon for the first time - his experience of stage matters showed clearly in well-conceived sets making full use of the new theatre's height and facilities. Especially striking was an opening scene on the palace balcony where the much-vaunted cyclorama lent the final touch to an Egyptian summer. His stage crew backed him well with structures of plausible solidarity and excellent colour - but the timing of scene changes needed reducing to more professional limits. More rehearsal seemed a remedy and it is in this that I found the weak link of the play.

Spence and Allen were formidable and obvious corner-stones of the cast - Moses, the sincere and idealistic orator got all the oratory needed from the now-familiar, rich Allen voice. Joining him in authoritative use of voice and movement, Mike Spence's 'Ramases' gave conviction to the whole Royal household. The newcomer, Sheila Burbidge, next claimed attention - a very successful sketch of the young Pharaoh's daughter and one that bodes well for the future strength of the company. Peter Morgan played Shendi - one of the most difficult parts in a difficult play - as perhaps no-one else could have done. Iris Dickinson joined the ranks of the "known" actresses and grappled in an assured manner with the discrepancy in years between herself and her part. Angela Lence had a similar problem and I warmly applaud this fresher for her attempt.

If I have left Desmond Turner to the last it is to make a general point rather than a particular criticism. As with other activities in the College, the experienced "old hand" is becoming rarer and here was a case of enthusiasm and potentiality largely lost by gross short-comings in technique. The voice was strong - at times - but confidence will not clear a throat. And, oh those gestures An hour's firm correction would have doubled the value of his performance - this year we see an unusually talented "crop" of new arrivals, it is to be hoped



SOCIAL PREVIEW

Socially speaking, last term was one of the best for some time -- the success seems likely to continue. As far as major functions are concerned, *The Ball* is set rolling by the Engineers on January 31st. The dance will be preceded by dinner in the Upper Dining Hall, where the tables will be arranged as for Hall Dinner, and in the Upper Refectory, where there will be separate tables for parties.

On February 14th (St Valentine's Day) the Miners present a Carnival - perhaps the Queen of Hearts will bring some of her tarts along for breakfast.

One month later, on March 14th, the R.C.S. gives birth to another Carnival. Can even I.C. men survive two such carnalvalistic orgies within such a short period? There can be little hope for the survival of I.C.W.A. - their Formal Dance is on March 7th.

THE YEAR'S BEST BALL
THE ENGINEERS' DINNER & DANCE
WHY NOT MAKE UP A PARTY?
RECEPTION 7.30pm
DANCING UNTIL 2.30am
FRIDAY 31st JANUARY
TICKETS 35/-DOUBLE
APPLICATION FORMS FROM J. BLOK, M. GORB, J.A. HOBSON, BOOKSTALL, GUILDS PORTERS' LODGES.

that every effort will be made to nurture them. Terry Wright showed how observation and control can lead to a character in a few moments.

Finally, I welcome this play which can give much to both players and audience - just recompense for the expenditure of valuable university time.

Two last bouquets - for the success and economy of the home-made costumes - and for the Rugger Club, long may then continue to grace the Imperial stage.

J.L.S.

RUGBY



....continued from page 1.

This match was played on a firm brown-coloured pitch in Spring-like conditions, with a cloudless sky. I.C., described in the local paper as "les vainqueurs d'Oxford et Cambridge" felt that something was expected of them, and provided a good display of clean, open rugby. Dai Phillips, a tower of strength to the backs in all three games, kicked a magnificent penalty goal, loudly acclaimed by the 1,200 crowd, and Sarlat equalised with a much easier kick just before half-time.

The I.C. forwards, with Gibbons, Crozier and Gilbert much to the fore, obtained a large share of the ball. An injury to Brougham forced a re-organisation of the backs, but they threw the ball about well and Gibson had some good runs down the left wing. Several times I.C. came very near to scoring a try, but the Sarlat defence was keen, so a draw was a fair result.

After the match Sarlat threw a magnificent banquet. They had made no secret of the fact that their intention was to eat and drink I.C. under the table. Sarlat is described in some guide-books as "renowned for its gastronomy", and when I.C. were called upon to drink soup-plates full of red wine in one swig, it looked as though extremely hardy constitutions would be required to withstand the onslaught. At the end many I.C. men looked groggy and some suffered fearful repercussions later. One was even found snatching forty winks in a side-street. However seven or eight were left upstanding and willing to continue when the last remnants of Sarlat had clearly had enough. This gastronomical triumph was also notable for the first of three diplomatic speeches in French by Lanz during the exchange of presentations, and some entertaining singing by persons of both nationalities.

I.C. 6. SAINTES 5

Saintes were not described on the advertisements as "renforcés" for nothing, as they included seven borrowed players, including 4 from Cognac, a first-class club. The local paper had proclaimed I.C. as among "l'élite de la balle ovale". It was gratifying to find that the rugby correspondent of "La République" appeared to think this title well justified, as, heading his description of the match "L'IMPERIAL COLLEGE A FAIT UNE BELLE EXHIBITION DE JEU OUVERT", he praised I.C. for keeping the game open despite "l'état du terrain qui rendait la balle glissante et le jeu à la main parfois difficile"

After an even first half Saintes led by a try to nil. However, the I.C. forwards, playing uphill, then staged a magnificent rally, thanks in no small measure to the sterling front row of Martin, Gibbons and Topping. After a complicated series of events, Gibson scored in the left corner, and shortly afterwards Lanz pounced on a defensive mistake by Saintes to put I.C. ahead. Phillips just missed with a dropped goal and was once pulled down a yard short of the line. The Saintes team, now jabbering heatedly among themselves, had one chance to equalise with a fairly simple penalty, but the ball sailed wide and we had won!

I.C. 3, ROYAN 5

Despite pouring rain about 2,000 watched "le grand match international", and in very slimy conditions the Royan backs gave occasional glimpses of high-class handling and running which might have spelt disaster in dry conditions. As it was, the pitch soon became a morass, with both sets of forwards covered with mud (so much so that at one stage two Frenchmen had a fight together for some seconds before realising they were playing for the same team). The I.C. forwards and half-backs all played with great vigour and a sensible appreciation of the conditions, and one forward dribble in the second half provided the equalising try, scored by Hoekma (to the delight of all Ex A members present). Royan had scored a fine dropped-goal in the first half.

So ended a memorable tour, highly successful on and off the field. On the field our players rose to the occasion. Particular praise is due to Dai Phillips, Ray Gibbons, Barry Lanz and George Martin who played in all three games and were always in the thick of the fray.

Off the field many and diverse were our activities, and they will be discussed for many years in the Bar. But the vital factor was that, whether we were swilling Dubonnet or merely sipping black coffee, whether we were resting inertly on our beds or rushing madly about in dodgems, whether scrambling up hills in the Dordogne or inadvertently alerting the fire-brigade in Paris, fun and good humour abounded, and it was the grand team spirit which set the seal on a great tour and made it unforgettable.

THE RUGBY CLUB HAD...



...A SUCCESSFUL TOUR

NELSON'S COLUMN



Recent marriages:-
Roger Sykes (ex-Editor of Phoenix).

Who are rich people?
Poor people with money.

The Press Secretary of the U.S.A.E. C. was reported on the B.B.C. as having said "You can't take a scientist's baby away from him without his getting disheartened." Surely this applies to all of us.

Prof. Jones talking on practical joking remarked that the C-in-C Eastern Mediterranean said to the C-in-C Gibraltar (who was already a K.B.E.) after the latter had been made a K.C.B. "What, twice a Knight, at your time of life?"

During some filming by M.G.M. in Prince's Gardens Nelson overheard the following "O, here come some actresses" only to find they were ICWarians. We don't know what we're missing, do we?

Mr. A.V.S. (Tony) de Reuck, seven years on I.C. council, now a sub-editor of Nature, has been appointed a governor of an L.C.C. school by the London University Convocation. Our congratulations go to him in this his latest appointment.

A cross-country runner remarked that "You run behind a taxi and look at the fares you save". Presumably this accounts for their recent successes.

Once again Oggi hits the headlines, he now sports a growth of beard.

WHILE I.C. WATCHED

The annual concert of carols and Christmas music was given shortly before Christmas by the Musical Society's Choir, accompanied by the Jacques Orchestra, under their conductor Dr. Eric Brown,

It was very satisfying to note the marked improvement in their rendition over the past year, which is in no small measure due to Dr. Brown's leadership and his understanding of student idiosyncracies. Along with the traditional carols, in their usual guise, was the original setting of "While shepherds watched ..." which came as a pleasant relief from the rather hackneyed version usually sung, and an arrangement of a Americal carol.

They also performed Parry's "Blest pair of sirens", previously heard in the Albert Hall on Commemoration Day; the improvement in this work was such that one wondered if it were the same choir that was being heard.

In conclusion, it is to be hoped that their improvement will continue, and that a performance worthy of their capabilities will be given of Bach's B Minor Mass later this term. It is unfortunate that the Musical Society is so dependent on the financial support of the Union and the College Authorities that it cannot have an Orchestra whose size is in keeping with the work performed, rather than the small string orchestra and piano with which they have to make do.

SPORTS NEWS



University Champions Again

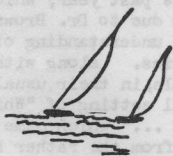
The flag flew again above the Union when the Club won the University Championships on Dec. 7th., for the second year in succession. The expected close struggle with L.S.E. did not materialise due to the unfortunate illness of some L.S.E. men, and I.C.C.C.C. walked away with the Cup, unchallenged. No praise is too high for the magnificent performances of the I.C. first team. John Evans was the individual winner for the third year in succession, and the whole team had the incredibly low score of 36 points. Their positions were:
J.S.Evans 1st., J.H.Collins 3rd., J.Genway 6th., R.Landbeck 10th., A.Brown 16th.

The second team also did well to finish sixth, being beaten only by the five major College first teams.

The annual Club handicap race was held on Wed. 11th.Dec. and, for the first time in many years, the handicaps were determined on a fair basis giving all an equal chance of winning. This caused a very close finish, and McClare is to be congratulated on his victory.

In the vacation a team of eight travelled to Dover, in one car and a reluctant vehicle which absorbed all its passengers' energy in getting it there, so that the team were defeated by Dover A.C. in the match that followed.

The first match this term was on the home course against Lloyds Bank and Pearl Insurance. The latter defeated our second team, whilst the result against Lloyds was declared void due to several runners going off course.



SAILING

I.C. Sailing Club narrowly beat Hampton Sailing Club at the Welsh Harp on Sunday, Dec. 12th., after two of the closest races seen for a long time.

In the first race I.C. had the first two boats home - the whole fleet of six finishing within 50 yards. The second race looked like giving Hampton a runaway win, until on the last leg of the course Graham Taylor, by clever tactics, reversed the race positions, giving I.C. a win by one point.

I.C. 37½ pts. H.S.C. 36½ pts.

The I.C. crews:
**J.Webb (capt.) M.Moorhead
 A.Danbury G.Taylor
 C.French J.Farrow.**



With the Club started on the second half of the season, it is an opportune moment to look back and review the Club's progress during the Autumn Term. Very few matches were lost and there was an abundance of goals. All four teams were well placed in the Intercollegiate league. Indeed, it was easy to visualise at least a hat-trick of divisional championships by the end of the season. However, it is unwise to count one's chickens, etc. and last term's excellent record must be maintained before the championships become reality.

The Club spirit has never been higher, and there is little difficulty in fielding 10 teams per week. The fifth XI, newly created this season, have performed very creditably, fully justifying the Hon. Sec's. efforts in arranging many fixtures at short notice.

The 1st XI ended last term with matches against Heidelberg University and Finchley 'A'. The German side brought Continental football to Harlington, the first for a long time. The Germans, with the wind and rain behind them, played fast, attractive football giving the I.C. defence much to contend with. Heidelberg took an early lead when the wind curled an apparently harmless centre into the I.C. net. After this rather fortunate goal, Heidelberg asserted their superiority and scored two more excellent goals, both from 20 yards range. In the second half, the conditions favoured I.C. and it was the Germans' turn to come under constant pressure. I.C.'s many efforts at goal were foiled by a packed defence I.C. did score what appeared to be two perfectly good goals, but the referee

was not impressed. The final score of 3-0 to Heidelberg was I.C.'s biggest defeat of the season. After the match and the lunch the German side was taken to Wembley to see the Varsity match and thereafter back to I.C. for dinner and beer. Heidelberg were most impressed and expressed their desire to return this hospitality in the future.

The final game of the term against Finchley was played in the impressive surroundings of Finchley Stadium, and, I.C. felt indeed honoured. The College provided football worthy of the occasion in the first half and three good goals were scored to the opponents' one. During the second half, which was goalless, the game deteriorated somewhat, and I.C. appeared content with a 3-1 win.

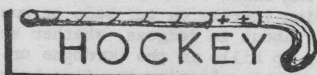
The Spring Term began with a 2-2 draw against Q.M.C. and so another league point has been lost. Perhaps I.C.'s performance can be put down to the Christmas break from regular football as in the next match, against the powerful St. Mary's College side, I.C. played much better football and finished winners by 2-0. The first goal came from an incredible move involving only Jeff Moss, Dave Young and Keith Codling who put the finishing touch to the movement.

The 1st XI have a very strong programme ahead, but the present combination should be equal to the task.

The Fourth XI, who have attracted attention by their 100% record of last term, have since added another resounding victory to their tally.

Record to date:-

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
1st XI	18	11	3	4	58	33
2nd XI	15	11	1	3	58	40
3rd XI	17	14	1	2	63	23
4th XI	16	16	0	0	61	20
5th XI	15	9	0	6	62	55



The 1st. XI have continued their most successful season by beating both Royal Naval College, Greenwich, and Guy's Hospital. The Greenwich match was played in exceptionally muddy conditions and a score of 4 goals to 1 (King 1, Miller 1, Bhatnagar 2) was an apt reward. Guy's were also beaten decisively by 4 goals to 1, the scorers being Holmes (1), Lee (2), and Miller(1).

In a recent U.L. Cup match, I.C. drew 2 - 2 with U.C., after being 2 - 1 up only twenty seconds before the final whistle. In the subsequent extra time Macrae saved a penalty bully.

The 2nd. and 3rd. teams are maintaining a high standard of hockey and are, on occasions, able to win their matches. A recent 3 - 1 win against the Institute of Education gave the 2nd. team renewed enthusiasm, and they are expected to do well in the coming term.

Jim Carter (1st. goalkeeper), proud of his good record with the 1st. team, was asked about his achievements with the Sunday mixed team - he made no comment.

ICWSC

NETBALL



It was with great trepidation that I.C.W.A. approached their first Netball match of the season. Not only were they nine months out of practice, but their captain was down with 'flu, and Chelsea Polytechnic had a reputation for excellence. When, therefore, they suddenly discovered that they were playing quite a good game they were very encouraged.

Although relying more on accurate shooting than on organised teamwork, they kept level with Chelsea throughout the first half, first one then the other team drawing ahead, but never with more than one goal lead. In the second half, however, Chelsea adapted some of I.C.'s own tricks and I.C.W.S.C. were not able to improve their speed or accuracy of throwing, so that the final score was 15 - 9 to Chelsea.

Obviously a little more practice as a team could bring I.C. some Netball victories.