

4^d FELIX

EVERY FORTNIGHT



No. 116

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

JANUARY 31, 1958



FRUSTRATED WOMEN ASK FOR MORE

BUT WE'RE TONGUE-TIED, LEADEN-FOOTED

AND IMMATURE

SCENE IN THE LOUNGE

I.C. MAN WITH FUCHS AT THE POLE

Last week the College Flag flew in honour of Dr. Jon Stephenson, an ex-R.C.S. Geologist who had just reached the South Pole with Dr. Vivian Fuchs and the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, thus making yet another contribution to the great pioneering record of Imperial College.

Jon, or "Steve" as he is known here, was born in Brisbane, Australia, in 1930 and educated at Queensland University where he won the medal for Geology two years running before graduating in 1952.

During his course of study he spent a great deal of time out in the open. He became President of a select society known as "The Queensland Bush Walking Club" whose activities ranged from rambling through unknown bush country to "knocking off" virgin peaks.

The award of the 1851 Exhibition Scholarship brought Steve to I.C. in 1954, and he made an immediate impact. While studying Petrology here he devoted much time in organizing and taking a leading part in the Mountaineering Club's activities, which included a successful meet in the Alps in the summer of '55. He later became Vice-President of the club. He also rowed for the Boat Club and won the I.C. Novices and Junior Sculling Championships, at the same time being President of the Overseas Students Association and a member of the Library Committee. In addition he was one of the primary movers in the formation of the Exploration Board.

Although he had had no previous experience of Arctic conditions, he was selected in 1955 to go on the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition, and he left London in November 1956 on board the Magga Dan.

He spent the winter at South Ice in a temperature of minus 100°F., and carried out geological surveys by sledge. On one occasion he was lost in a "white-out" for 14 days before being located by aircraft just before his food supplies ran out.

During the main expedition with Fuchs this summer, from Shackleton Base to the Pole, Steve and another member of the party travelled with dog teams up to 40 miles in advance of the mechanised party in order to



JON STEPHENSON

(Photograph by courtesy of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition and Fox Photos Ltd.)

survey the route. I.C. can be justly proud of Jon Stephenson's achievement in the same arduous conditions that provoked his illustrious predecessor, Captain Scott, to write: "O God! What a hell this place is!"

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Did you go to the Dancing Club hop last Saturday? What did you think of the girls? Three FELIX staff reporters went along to find out what the girls thought of you. Twenty-seven members of the gentle sex were asked their honest opinions of the men. How interesting are they? What do they talk about? Can they dance? Will you come here again?

To the everlasting credit of I.C. no distressed damsel actually came out with "Not at all, nothing, no and never" but most had their doubts on at least one score.

Perhaps the frankest and certainly the least complimentary were voiced by a not unattractive girl who had been to I.C. hops before. "Most of the men can't dance. Only one in seven is at all interesting — most are quite young mentally and their conversation is very trivial." "Will you come again?" "I suppose so. They don't drink as much here as at other places."

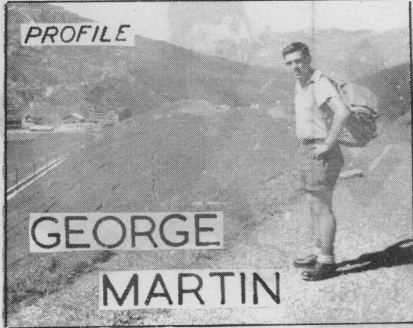
In contrast were some self-possessed dramatic students who had come up from Sidcup for the evening. Oh yes, the men were quite interesting, thank you, and the dancing above average. Most were very young, though. They just stood around most of the time, and their conversational repertoire, when brought into action, did not extend beyond "Do you come here often? Which college are you at? Where do you come from?"

One very charming girl thought that the men were "pretty awful — very dead." Her equally charming friend was more sympathetic: "I think they're just shy." They both wanted older men. Oh, and did we have any taller ones about? (Entertainments Committee please note.)

So much for the men's ineptitude. Why on earth did women come at all? Many liked the friendly atmosphere, although one or two thought it a bit strained at first, and the numbers were about right for comfortable dancing. "Your hops are better than the average college hop, I think." Anyway, there were usually one or two interesting men around.

NEXT ISSUE — THE WOMEN EXPOSED





PROFILE

GEORGE MARTIN

Gateshead, an inconspicuous Tyneside town was wakened to life on the morning of March 9th 1937, - a violent explosion, otherwise known as George Martin, took place. The tremors are still being felt in such far-flung districts as France, Switzerland and Kensington.

Gateshead Grammar School, a co-educational establishment, was the first victim of this seismic catastrophe. It was here that George made his mark in sport. He swam, played rugby for one 1st XV for 3 years, and, was reserve for Durham Schoolboys. Towards the end of this school career he was thrown out of the girls' Prefects' Room seventeen times and finally left school with a State Scholarship, a

collection of rugby songs and a sigh of relief from the staff. Soon after, and in the light of previous experience, the school reverted to the segregation of the sexes.

On coming to I.C. he played for the 'A' team, 2nds and 1sts. He is now captain of I.C. seconds and Guild's first teams, playing prop, and took part in the I.C. Rugby Club tour to France last Christmas.

However, George's interests are not limited to the rugby field. He has been known to drink a pint standing on his head, and is the resident "Blayden Races" singer of the College. He enjoys "muckin' about in foreign parts". He has hitch-hiked through Switzerland and Italy, being arrested by the carabinieri on one occasion. His hostel room is adorned by 71 beer mats, 6 sherry labels, a mirror kindly donated by Messrs. Tellemaoche, a Keep Left sign and a Belisha beacon (a present from the Metropolitan Police), and a life size photograph of Miss Brigitte Bardot.

His likes are a quiet pint of beer, teddy bears and Ursula. His dislikes include mild, teddy boys, women who smoke and "Goons who try to interview you". His plans for the future include research and rugby. We wish him luck.

LADIES' ICE HOCKEY

The Ice Skating Club held a meeting at the Arosa Rink, Richmond, on January 17th. In retrospect, over a pint in the local tavern, it was considered by those present, some twenty members of the Club, that it had been one of the most enjoyable and successful meetings ever held there.

Several vigorous sessions of Ice Hockey were interspersed with general skating. Two teams of Ladies were formed by military persuasion and the resulting game, though bloodless, would have put St. Trinians to shame. The referee was ignored and one of the goalies, having let the puck through early in the game prevented a recurrence by removing the goal with the assistance of a group of male supporters.

Altogether about 55 were present, including skaters from some of the women's Colleges; the next meeting is in March. The membership of the club is increasing rapidly, apparently as a result of the recent cold weather.

MOURNING IN

There was great lamentation and gnashing of teeth in R.C.S. on the afternoon of Thursday January 16th. The object of their sorrow was the untimely exposure of their president to the prying eyes of the public. Responsible, of course, were the men of C. and G., still enraged by the removal of their pride and joy. But let us recapitulate the sequence of events leading to this startling revelation.

Near 1 o'clock on the aforesaid day Mr. Stevens invited Mr. Butters to his room, so that they might attend the C. and G. Union Meeting together, the latter to collect a pair of his trousers recently acquired by the former. However, on entering the R.C.S. president was bound and gagged by a selection of the best C. and G. drawn.

Hence, wrapped in a shroud, not unlike a hostel curtain, and tied with a large red ribbon, he was transported into Guilds. With the solemnity befitting the occasion he was borne into the Union Meeting and lay in state while the official business began at 1.15 p.m.

The meeting was dominated by talk of the Spanner and the advisability of mounting it; another committee was formed to consider the matter more fully.

Mr. Stevens gave details of the loss of the Spanner. He had received a somewhat juvenile



letter last term that R.C.S. had the Spanner, but was given no clue as to its whereabouts, which are still unknown, even to R.C.S. He found the whole business "distasteful."

Indicating the shroud, Mr. Stevens remarked: "We have here a great friend of mine who kindly volunteered to attend this meeting." He added that an ultimatum had been issued to R.C.S. to the effect that they had until 2.05 p.m. to produce the Spanner in return for their president. "Non-compliance with this will lead to our Guest being released in less than his usual attire in a prominent locality."

There being no sign of the Spanner at 2.05 p.m., the meeting was asked for suggestions of places where Mr. Butters might be unshrouded. Harrods, Buckingham Palace, Downing Street were among those suggested, but it was felt that the Albert Memorial would suffice due to its proximity.

THE AFTERNOON

The Corpse was borne to Bo' and the "mourning" procession meandered to the Memorial via R.C.S. causing complete cessation of vehicular traffic. The doors of R.C.S. were bolted and secured, deathly white faces peered at the multitudinous procession. As a "Boomalaka" thundered to a caterwauling crescendo, the very walls reverberated with fear.

Triumphantly the procession moved to the Albert Hall, whence the "Corpse" was borne into the hallowed precincts of the Albert Memorial. Here he was unshrouded, deprived of his dignity and made to walk between two lines of Guildsmen to the Albert Hall, where he escaped into a taxi.

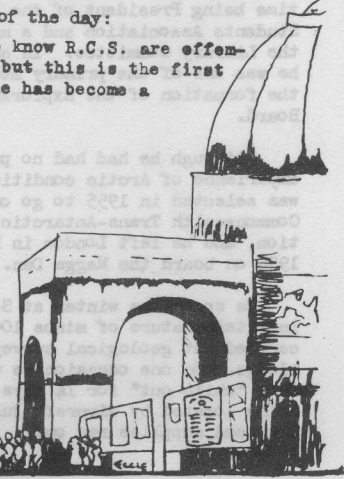
A band of expectant girls, held in pregnant suspense by the spectacle were unfortunately unable to catch more than a fleeting glimpse of the detrousured president.

A bouquet for Derek Butters for being such a sport.

A raspberry for the Chelsea Police who arrived too late to join in the fun.

Quote of the day:

"We know R.C.S. are effeminate, but this is the first time one has become a mummy."



FUN AND GAMES IN GUILDS MOTOR CLUB TRIALS

The City and Guilds Motor Club held a driving test meeting at Heston Aerodrome on Sunday 19th January. About 20 cars turned up, varying from a T.R.3 to an Austin 7 some 30 years older. The Conditions on the airfield were fairly good, although a cold wind made a saloon car the most enviable prospect.

Some light entertainment was provided before the start by John Thurston, who decided to try out his brakes without realizing that he was on a patch of gravel. The result was some very interesting circular motion culminating in a tyre burst. The start then had to be delayed while he put his spare wheel on, which appeared to have the air showing through in several places.

The first test was a forward and reverse wiggle woggle, in which the smaller cars found that they had a definite advantage. It was followed

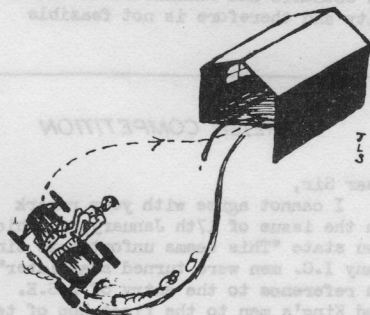
by a width judging test, where the competitors had to estimate from a distance of 25 yards the least gap through which they could get their cars.

In the third test, competitors were timed from passing one line to stopping astride the next. Here spectators were treated to the sight of a T.R.3 disappearing into the distance with locked wheels. Next came a garaging test, in which John Thurston put up the fastest time, bald tyres notwithstanding.

The wheel changing test which followed really separated the sheep from the goats; T. Wadsworth took 63 seconds with his Austin Nippy, while G. Rothman in a T.R.2, having never changed a wheel before, relied on the skill of his lady passenger!

After tightening remaining wheel nuts, competitors proceeded to a "Le Mans" start and 100 yard sprint. The best time was put up by G. Howard in a Volkswagen.

The simplest, and most entertaining test followed immediately after lunch. Competitors had to describe the smallest possible circle, starting and finishing in a garage as shown. The best time was put up by J. White, in a Morris special, at the expense of a good deal of rubber.

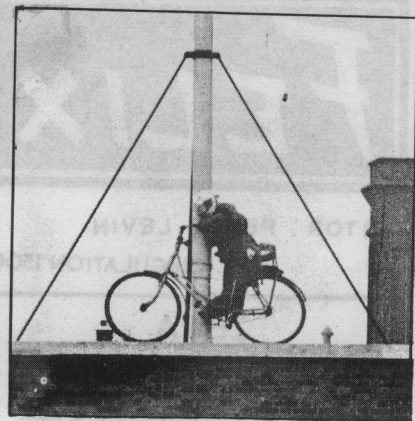


The next test defies description, involving a little bit of everything. The final one was a sprint including a figure of eight, in which W. Wiltshier managed to lift one wheel of his Vauxhall 10 saloon at least 12 inches in the air.

H. Pantan, despite a leg in plaster, in an Austin Ruby, and the opposition of several modern sports cars, was the outright and handicap winner, G. Howard obtained the second prize on handicap.

SUGGESTIONS

We have received a number of suggestions as to what should be done with the Colcutt tower. Have you any bright ideas? FELIX offers a small prize for the most original. Send yours in to the Editor via the Union rack.



DRUNK AGAIN

MOTION DEFEATED

On 21st January the Society debated the Motion "That this House believes that Man made God in his own Image." Dr. Allan, who proposed the motion, made out the case for the application of the scientific method to religious questions. He did not think that man's concept of God could withstand such a rigorous examination.

The Rev. Cleverley Ford thought Dr. Allan was off the point, and that when he had been on the point, his explanation of life had been far too small. Mr. J.D. Cole spent his time in demonstrating items of illogicality in Mr. Ford's speech, while Mr. David New said that the law of discovering the truth of things also applied outside the laboratory.

Speeches from the floor had to be curtailed, unfortunately, owing to lack of time, but the Chairman, Mr. Peter Jarman had a distinctly realistic approach to this problem. The Rev. Cleverley Ford in his summary pointed out that some Christians work as well as pray, while Dr. Allan, in summing up, said that the number of ears deaf to religion was increasing. At this point a frightful bearded gentleman entered the Geology Lecture Theatre and said: "Time, gentlemen, please" so loudly that not even the deafest ears could fail to hear. The motion was defeated by 16 votes to 10 with a large number of abstentions.

The remainder of this term's debates will, it is hoped, be held in the Concert Hall. On February 11th the College is being visited by a touring American team, who are said to be first class. It is also hoped to have a joint debate with Westfield College at some time.

OOO! YES!

Let it be made known to the men and women of Sherwood and all others who dwell thereabouts, that on the

DAY OF SAINT VALENTINE

there will take place much Sportive Merriment under the title of

"ROBIN REVELS"

or 'A NAUGHTY KNIGHT IN SHERWOOD FOREST.'

Three Bands of Musik Makers will be in attendance and a short farce will enacted by a troupe of Merric Jesters

ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES UNION.



MOCK

PARLIAMENT

At the first Mock Parliament which sat in Ayrton Hall on Thursday a government provided by the Conservative Society was assailed and supported by about forty allegedly independent M.P.s.

After a statement of policy by the Prime Minister and a reply by the leader of the opposition, the house debated a motion of confidence in the government's financial policy. The government was itself oozing confidence but could not spread any of it to the opposition.

A bill to restrict the capital of Trade Unions failed to get its second reading after a violent debate which served principally to expose the main differences between government and opposition.

The last item on the order paper was a debate on foreign affairs, with particular reference to the hydrogen bomb. All the current topics received mention, some in great detail. Perhaps however, the suggestion of replacing the Suez Canal by bicycle-borne watering-cans was intended to be frivolous. The debate was prolonged by many interjections on points of order and information of varied nature.

The opposition pressed for a division in which the government suffered a major defeat. No more business being possible in this event, the session ended.

FELIX

EDITOR: PETER LEVIN

CIRCULATION 1500

ZETA

The control of the hydrogen-bomb reaction in Zeta, the zero-energy thermonuclear appliance, is a tremendous scientific accomplishment. It will be recalled that a group in the Physics Department here was working on this project under Professor Sir George Thomson until 1950, when it became too hot to handle, and then removed to Aldermaston, where Sceptre, a gadget similar to Zeta, is now in operation.

In contrast to the sputnik, this achievement is tremendously important in that it signposts the way directly to a rise in the standard of living of millions of Asians and Africans who now dwell in mud huts and exist on next to nothing. However, the applications of technology to the betterment of man are very much neglected nowadays, and our own society has fully demonstrated its inability to cope with automation, for example. The moral is that while scientists and technologists may produce these marvellous things, it is vital that we concern ourselves with their application as well. Otherwise the benefits of Zeta may easily be lost.

The third of the model study bedrooms for the Prince's Gardens Hostel is at present under construction by the architects, Richard Sheppard and Partners, and will probably be used as the prototype for the Hostel. It is due to be completed shortly. We hope to have a complete description in our next issue.

MORPHY BOAT LATEST

The I.C. Boat Club light clinker eight, which was severely damaged on Morphy Day by a Wandsworth Borough Council lorry, is now being repaired, but will be of no use as a racing eight in future; the boat builders cannot guarantee that the boat will be fit for use at all. The loss of the club's best eight clinker at a time when our expansion scheme is in operation, is a severe blow.

Wandsworth Borough Council has been approached over the matter but denies any liability. At an Extraordinary General Meeting the Club Captain and Vice-Captain were unanimously elected the plaintiffs for the club, in the event of a court case. A writ has been issued on the Council.

Although the behaviour of the Council employees is not condoned it is to be hoped that in future a little more sense may be used in the throwing of flour on such occasions.

VIEWPOINT

GUEST MEMBERS OF THE UNION

Recent visitors to Touchstone weekends may have noticed that it has become part of the Policy of the General Studies Committee to invite a small proportion of outsiders, from neighbouring colleges, to take part in our discussions.

This has proved very successful, our visitors have shown themselves very able and interesting people, bringing with them new ideas and viewpoints which are unlikely to be encountered in a purely scientific gathering.

We are, without doubt, rather a biased College from the point of view of education, yet our neighbours with different backgrounds and traditions might just as well come from outer space, so little do we see of them.

I feel that this is a sad reflection on our organization, and I hope there are none among us who are so narrow minded as to think it an advantage.

The Union and the College spend considerable amounts of money on ways and means of broadening our outlook, but the ugly fact remains that I.C. is a specialist's paradise, with few outside interests apart from sex and beer.

One of the causes of this, the 9 to 5 student is being tackled energetically, by both Union and College authorities by the provision of New Hostels and Union facilities, but another, our complete subservience to the disciplines of science and its applications, has not been touched. That we should remain the Imperial College of Science and Technology is an economic and administrative necessity and therefore is not feasible

for the College authorities to assist our education here.

It is true that Union fees might prove a stumbling block, but one would hope it is not beyond the ingenuity of Union Council, if so directed, to formulate a change in constitution covering this.

Education has been said to consist mainly of contact between students - the older provincial universities are typical examples.

Our degrees may be on a par with those of these institutions, but I beg to suggest we are not educated.

Even when we reach the promised land of a residential College, the prospect of 2,000 half-fledged scientists in their cubby-holes can hardly be said to be alluring.

It has been suggested that to lighten this somewhat doughy mass some hostel rooms be reserved for members of, say, the Royal College of Art. This seems an excellent idea but at present of little use, because our Societies are closed shops, and cliques would be inevitable. It is time that the student body gave a lead in this matter. Our neighbours would provide a welcome shot in the arm for most of our societies; no one genuinely interested would mind competition and the difference in viewpoint would prove most stimulating. Perhaps until such time as a new concept of our Union can evolve we could invite our neighbours as Guest Members to our societies.

As I see it, the only losers would be our narrow minded friends disturbed from their rut of self sufficiency.

D. Bridgwater.

FOREIGN COMPETITION

Dear Sir,

I cannot agree with your remark in the issue of 17th January, in which you state "This seems unfortunate since many I.C. men were turned away later" in reference to the entry of L.S.E. and King's men to the first hop of term.

If I.C. men wish to attend the hops they have ample opportunity to purchase tickets in the preceding week. Do you suggest that "foreigners" should be turned away in case some I.C. men haven't made up their minds?

We are frequently urged in your columns to mix more with non-scientists, and quite rightly so. However, unless men are prepared to go to the trouble of seeking out fresh minds outside the College - by attending U.L.U. functions, or by joining a University Society - they are left with the Saturday hop as the only alternative. I would suggest that men who attend only I.C. functions are precisely those who need to meet outsiders, and who stand to gain most from the conflict.

By all means let's have I.C. hops for I.C. men, but don't discourage outsiders just because some I.C. men are too idle to think two days ahead.

Yours faithfully,

Ted Bates.

VITAL STATISTICS

Dear Sir,

According to a bank statement I have recently received, I have had transactions with the following:-

"City Guilds College"
... That typist can't type ...

"City College"
... must be the one "Felix"
employs ...

and "In peril a College"
... she has a sense of humour
anyway.

She also has a very nice figure.

Yours etc.,

F. Peacock.

APOLOGY

Dear Sir,

Mr. J.K. Taylor is correct: the Church Society is not yet entitled to prefix the name of Imperial College.

We apologise for this misuse, which occurs in the Provisional General Studies programme for this term.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Evans.

BLOODY RUBBISH?

Dear Sir,

Phoenix has received an abundance of vague censure of the "bloody rubbish" variety, and since the primary object of any magazine is to satisfy those who buy it we must admit that there is something wrong. However, the only really constructive comments were those on p. 4 of FELIX, and even this rocket was ineffective through lack of guidance. The fifteen hundred agreed with every word as if it was someone else's can. Let us be quite clear as to where the blame lies or we shall make no progress.

There seems to be a widespread impression that the mag. has been corrupted by a perverted editor or editors selecting only the worst for publication. In fact, 'the activities and interests of the college' have been reflected only too well, and they apparently do not include writing. Without wishing to deny a hearing to any critic who is not also a contributor, I would estimate that if one per cent of our connoisseurs of literature would demonstrate their perfect taste by producing a few items as good as "Short History of Space", our troubles would be over. If we want Phoenix to rise again we must first identify the ashes.

Yours sincerely,

Fred Wheeler.

LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS

Dear Sir,

If The Phoenix should get the bird then the students' magazines I have just read, The Isis of Oxford University and Lucifer of Kings College London, should get the brontosaurus. Neither had even a single page about the societies and sport of their readers; indeed, The Isis, which is a smaller magazine than our own, had twice as many words about Albert Camus than Ian Hill wrote for The Phoenix. Who, in Imperial College, had heard about this writer who had just won the Nobel prize for literature? Hardly anyone except Ian Hill who wrote a brilliant readable biography of him.

No, no, no Mr. P.H.L., The Phoenix is not another FELIX, it is not another Rector's Bulletin, it is a platform where any students can express themselves in any way. And if Mr. P.H.L. cared to read the last edition of The Phoenix, and I sincerely doubt whether he has read even a quarter of the words, he would then see what a variety of expression there was. Yes, here was original thought reflecting the life and interests of a wide set of live and interesting students. The Phoenix had for once ceased to grovel at the bottom of the Imperial College test tube; it had tried to breathe the fresh air of the university outside.

The last issue was the Autumn edition which is inevitably short of society and sports news as so little happens in the Summer term. Add to this the extreme difficulties of producing The Phoenix last term because of the late indisposition of its Editor and the lack of co-operation from sports writers, and you will realise how it came about that The Phoenix had less of this kind of material than I had wanted. I am looking forward to receiving contributions from all those like Mr. P.H.L. who were disappointed.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SCRAP IT

I am glad to learn that there was a spark of originality about Clotty. For me it was a great pleasure to have encouraged a valiant band of writers whose versatility and originality was a veritable beacon of light in our darkness.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Jarman.

Mr. Jarman appears to be reading into my review things that I just did not say. However, I fully comprehend his inability to understand simple English, and will therefore try to clarify matters.

First of all, in maintaining that THE PHOENIX should reflect the activities and interests of the College, and citing "Light Metallurgy" and the Guinness advertisement as examples, I was NOT proposing that it should contain accounts of social and sporting events.

Secondly I emphasised originality. THE PHOENIX should certainly be a platform for originality but not for Ian Hill to stand up and recite quotations in praise of Albert Camus.

(The profile in THE ISIS -- twice the length: ten quotations? -- is obviously more suited to an University in which the Faculty of Arts predominates. How about a profile of Professor Blackett or Sir Alexander Fleck for THE PHOENIX?)

Mr. Jarman makes the usual taunt that those who criticise should contribute. I would gladly submit an editorial saying exactly what his said and using one fifth of his words to do so, did I think that it merited any words at all.

We have the clue to Jarman's attitude in his letter. "Who, in Imperial College, had heard about this writer who had just won the Nobel prize for literature? Hardly anyone...." Here is Jarman in a nutshell. Here is Jarman's opinion of his fellow men. HERE IS JARMAN THE INTELLECTUAL SNOB, the instiller of culture into the grovelling masses. I would surmise that it was the aura of intellectual snobbishness enveloping the last PHOENIX that has irritated so many readers. A beacon of light in our darkness? Hardly a glow worm!

P.H. Levin.

FUMIGATION

Dear Sir,

We wish to report that "City and Guilds" was successfully disinfected on the 20th January. It was also noted that Guildsmen were seen staggering about with tears in their eyes, probably weeping over a "Loet Spamer."

4. CHE. MISTS.

Dear Sirs,

It seems reasonable to assume that the Imperial Institute tower will have to remain in the new Imperial College, so as to satisfy the Victorian lovers of the Kensington Society. I wish, therefore, to put forward the following suggestions for making the eyesore as un-noticeable as possible.

1. Dig a pit 280 ft. deep and sink the folly completely, providing hydraulic lifting gear for ceremonial occasions.
2. Build a high parapet wall round the top of the highest building to be built on the island site, and erect the top part of the tower, including the bells, for sentimental and ceremonial occasions.
3. Dig a long trench and bury the whole thing in a horizontal position; then convert the inside into a rifle range, so we can have shooting practice on the persons who want it retained.
4. Sell the whole of Imperial Institute to an American oil king for £250,000, and then we could have a new income for cultural purposes in the College.

Yours faithfully,

K. G. Reader.

HIGH FINANCE

Dear Sir,

In the last issue Nelson reports that a cross-country runner suggests running behind a taxi to save the maximum fares. This joke is, of course, well known, and as old as some of the taxis. It may interest Nelson to know that a similar amusing illogicality is often put forward seriously, as an attempt at conversation. As a non-smoker, I often meet the remark: "How lucky! Think of the money you save!"

However, Nelson and I know that the amount is chicken-feed, compared with what I save by not investing in dud gold-mines, and by not keeping two villas in the South of France.

Yours sincerely,

R.F. Streater.

WOT NO LIBRARY

Dear Sir,

In the October issue of the "Rector's Bulletin," I read that there is now a College General Library. Apparently this has been formed on the basis of the old Union Library which no longer exists.

This change has, to my knowledge, never been announced to a Union Meeting, although it is a matter of considerable importance to all concerned.

It may well be that the Union will benefit by the change, but should it not have been discussed at a General Meeting, instead of being presented as a fait accompli?

Yours faithfully,

John K. Taylor.



SKI CLUB IN THE ALPS



Thirty members of I.C. Ski Club left Victoria on Saturday 21st December for a fortnight's ski-ing (and she-ing) in the Tyrolean Alps.

On arrival in the small winter sports resort of Soelden (4550 feet) the party, which included several attractive female members, split into



two, one half remaining at the Hotel Post and the other going on to the Pension Gystrein. That evening the first of many encounters was made with "Wiener Schnitzel" and "Spezial Bier," and the peculiar Austrian bed covers.

The following day was spent in hiring skis and boots and in trying to find some snow to ski on. Through some hard work by Otto Jakubovic some snow was finally found, and on Christmas Eve the whole party started ski-ing lessons under the instruction of the local "Skischule," Wayne Platt getting into the top class.

That evening a very pleasant time was had in the Pension Gystrein, which was decorated with a local Christmas

tree, and many well known and some lesser known carols were sung.

On Christmas Night the management didn't share the festive spirit, and after unplugging the "Juke Box" threatened to throw everyone out. However, Clem Lemayre came to the rescue and produced, seemingly out of a hat, a party complete with strong drink, hot music, and French women, in a neighbouring Guest House.

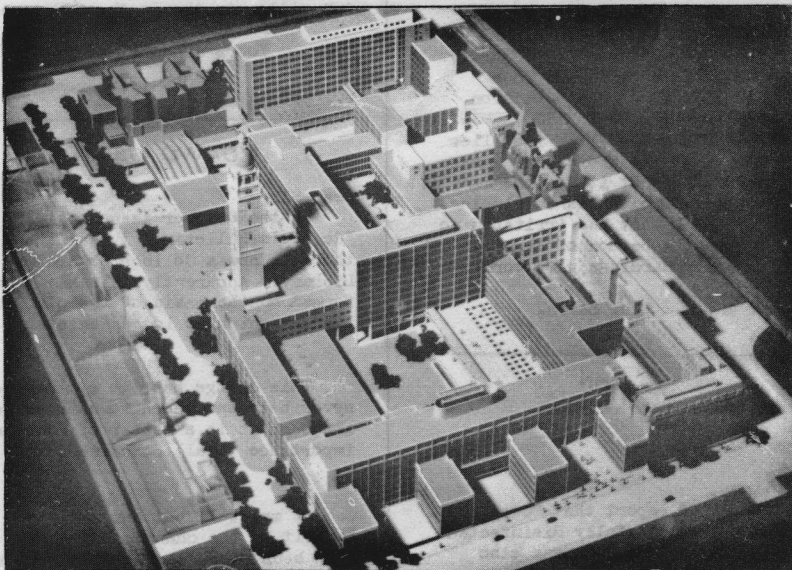
Although snow conditions degenerated and in spite of the gay nights, most of the beginners graduated to higher classes at Hochsoelden (6830 feet) after a few days. This latter resort is over 2000 feet higher than Soelden, and virtually the only way of reaching it is by a 20 minute ride in a "Sesselbahn" or chair-lift, the second longest of its kind in Austria. Passengers are apt to get very chilly in transit: on one occasion a certain member of the club had several beers before leaving the top, and was forced by the cold air to relieve himself, on the way down.

By New Year's Eve everyone was on intimate terms and the Old Year was seen out in the conventional and some unconventional manners. Even the shy American girl let her hair down on this occasion.

The large number of sprained knees and twisted ankles reflected the worsening snow conditions after the New Year. Happily no one was seriously injured, but several people can still be seen limping around the college.

A comfortable journey back to England was marred by an extremely rough Channel crossing during which most people lost their breakfasts. However a very enjoyable time had been had by all and the standard of ski-ing in I.C. has been greatly improved.

THE ISLAND SITE - LATEST MODEL



Last Monday the revised development scheme for the island site was laid before the Planning Committee of the L.C.C. The photograph above shows the model of the new plan as viewed from the East. The Colcutt tower, set in a two-acre lawn, figures prominently. As can be seen, it will serve as an excellent sundial. Perhaps the Planning Office can be induced to calibrate the row of windows facing it.

CLUB REVIEW

IC AWEIGH

Many members of the Sailing Club are to be seen discussing boats in the Union during the lunch hour. This is an indication of their interest in the College fleet of 5 Fireflies, which they sail, race, and maintain.

The Firefly is a light twelve foot racing dinghy which, for its size, has a very high performance. In a strong wind it will lift up and plane over the water like a speed boat, giving its occupants a tremendous sensation of speed and a generous cold shower; it will also give the unwary a cold bath when it is least expected. Being a racing boat, comfort is not very well catered for and there is little space for stowing more than a bottle of beer and a packet of sandwiches (well wrapped up in something waterproof). Although such a small boat, it will sail well on the sea, but on such a trip the bailer is the most important member of the crew.

Most of the club's sailing is done on the Welsh Harp, a reservoir of dubious origin and use, near the North Circular and Edgware Roads. It is about three-quarters of a mile long and wide enough for people to get lost in a mist.

Last Summer most of the I.C. boats were taken to Herne Bay to give members experience of sailing on big waves. This turned out to be quite some experience and many tales will live on. There was the time X gave a thrilling but uncontrolled exhibition of aerobatics in a Firefly before disappearing in a cloud of spray. There was also the time that Salome, a rather temperamental and very unladylike lorry used for carrying boats was apprehended by the Police for having no silencer and "no audible warning of approach" - as if she needed one! The Police were more friendly later: one constable helped to push Salome along Southend Promenade to start her.

Salome's presence at Southend was the result of The University attending the Firefly championships at Westcliff, all five I.C. boats being present.

Dinghy racing is a very satisfying sport as it demands both physical and mental agility together with a sense of humour. Stephen Potter would, no doubt, be able to write a good book on racing tactics, especially those used in team racing, where it is the aggregate position of a team of three boats and not an individual boat's placing which counts.

Sailing is essentially a sport to take part in and not to watch - a race is very hard for an onlooker on the shore to follow and is usually regarded as somewhat of a mysterious procedure by the general public.

The natives who frequent the shores of the Welsh Harp seem completely amazed by the queer beings who go out sailing the foulest of weather. All I can say is that we wouldn't risk a swim in January if it wasn't worth it!

SADADS

Mr. Cozens would be extremely grateful if the person who borrowed the leg of his night coat would return the same.

RAILWAY SOC. VISITS REDHILL TRAFFIC CONTROL

When eight members of the society caught the 1.48 p.m. slow train to Redhill on Wednesday, the 22nd January, they were lucky to have a snowy day. This caused certain delays to traffic and made the visit more interesting than if everything had been going to plan. Arriving there, we went to Traffic Control Offices where we were met by the District Operating Superintendent and an assistant who acted as our guides for the visit.

The control room is staffed by about a dozen men at a time throughout the twenty-four hours of the day. Redhill supervises the operation of the Victoria and London Bridge to Brighton, Eastbourne and Portsmouth main lines. In addition, it controls the coastal line from Hastings to Portsmouth, the cross-country route from Tonbridge through Redhill and partway to Reading, and connected branch lines.

Each controller has a specific job. Some of them handle passenger

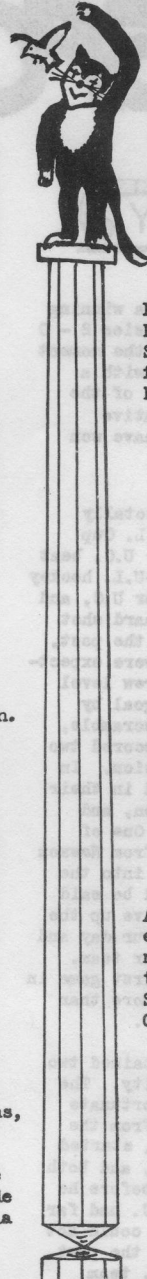
trains in a particular area, others freight trains. One man regulates the locomotives and their crews. Together they act as a team to ensure that the working timetable is adhered to as far as possible. They must ensure that every steam train has its locomotive, carriages and crew, that every electric train has a motorman and a guard. The controllers are also responsible for initiating fog services and other emergency procedure.

It is in time of emergency that the control room is needed most. We saw this on our visit. It was a day of heavy snowstorms in Kent resulting in the late running of trains from Tonbridge, in particular the Margate and Brighton to Birkenhead express. The Margate portion was badly delayed by snow-grifts and arrived at Redhill more than three hours late. The Brighton section was only slightly behind time. As a result a freight train had to be cancelled to provide an engine for the latter part between Redhill and Reading as it was sent ahead of the more badly delayed portion.

These hitches, together with more minor ones resulting from frozen points, among other causes, made the visit one of exceptional interest. On a normal day, the average lateness of passenger trains at their terminal points is less than half a minutes. This is in a district where the traffic is very heavy all the year round. One late train can delay many others behind it.

Another hold-up on this day was caused by a bent conductor rail near Arundel. This meant that only one line could be used between two stations, causing delays of up to half an hour to the Victoria-Bognor service. Here the control had to try to minimise the delay as far as possible and to provide extra stock and train-crews at Victoria so that outgoing trains could leave punctually.

NELSON'S COLUMN



Bicycles must not be parked under the Beit archway, in the quadrangle or on the roof of the New Hostel. President please note.

Rumour has it that the proposed Hedonist Society intends to ask S.C.C. for a grant to purchase four dozen turquoise dinner jackets. Will the S.C.C. see red?

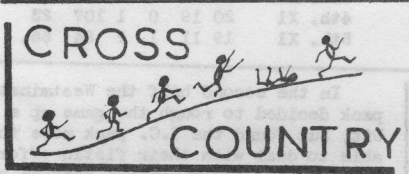
Have you seen the teeth-marks in M.k. G.r.b's shoulder?

Will "Miss S. Kitchener, Imperial College Hotel, London, W.7" please collect her mail from the Union rack.

"Your tiny hand is frozen." Will the midget ICWarian who lost her glove please collect that from the same place.

Avid readers of the College Calendar will have noticed that a member of the administration has the degree of M.A.(Acting). Surely a promising recruit for Carnival cabarets.

Young man to shy girl in car:
"Haven't you ever been in love?"
"No."
"Haven't you ever been kissed?"
"No."
"Hasn't any man tried to reach your heart?"
"Is that what they were after?"



The past fortnight has been very successful. The Club successively defeated London Hospital, Westminster College, and Marjons, and provided the first man home in the Q.M.C. 7½ mile race.

London Hospital was defeated on Wed. 15th January. The Individual winner was J. Collins with A. Brown and G. Tilly together third. The Club easily beat Westminster on Sat. 18th with a triple tie for first position between J. Jaeger, K. Wall, and A. Brown. The return match with Marjons was held over the old university course at Roehampton and a very close struggle resulted in victory for I.C. with J. Collins winning, A. Brown 3rd, and G. Tilly 4th.

On Sat. January 25th, I.C. were third in the important Q.M.C. 7½ mile fixture, which was won by U.C. However John Collins did magnificently to win, defeating Jackson of Bristol and Gilligan of U.C. in a time only 1 sec. more than J. Evans' 1956 time, in spite of the heavy conditions which have made this course notorious. The team was unlucky when J. Conway and R. Landbeck went off course whilst positioned 2nd and 3rd; nevertheless they did well to finish 5th and 6th respectively.

The second team, competing away at Romford met strong opposition from Woodford, Plessey, and Romford Athletic Clubs. To cut a long story short, I.C. came 4th.

COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY 31st. JAN.

ENGINEERS' BALL
GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Film Show, "The Moving Spirit" and "Le Mans 1957." Room 15, 5.05.

ROVER CREW Evening Meeting for a tour of the City Of London. Meet in Room 3, Old Hostel, 5.10.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY Closing date for Photographic Competition.
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY Colour Criticism in the Botany Lecture Theatre, 5.15.

SATURDAY 1st. FEB.
Rifle Club Dance

MONDAY 3rd. FEB.
LIBERAL SOCIETY Taxation Policy Study Group in the Lounge Committee Room, 1.15.

TUESDAY 14th. FEB.
SKI CLUB Christmas Meet reunion in the Chemical Engineering Lecture Theatre, 5.30.

WEDNESDAY 5th. FEB.
RAILWAY SOCIETY Visit to Devons Road M.P.D. and to Bow Works. Meet in C.G. entrance hall, 1.30.

THURSDAY 6th. FEB.
FILM SOCIETY "The Sheep has Five

Legs" and Alec Guinness in "Kind Hearts and Coronets", Room 102, Chemical Engineering Department, 7.00.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY Student Lecture Competitions in the Botany Lecture Theatre, 5.30.

FRIDAY 7th. FEB.
LIBERAL SOCIETY Colonial Policy Study Group in Committee Room B, 6.30.
ROVER CREW Wood Badge Questions.

SATURDAY 8th. FEB.
R.C.S. Winter Dance

MONDAY 10th. FEB.
LIBERAL SOCIETY Taxation Policy Study Group in Lounge Committee Room, 1.15.

CHRISTIAN UNION "The Purpose of Miracles" by Rev. C. C. Kerr, M.A. in the Metallurgy Lecture Theatre, 1.15.

TUESDAY 11th. FEB.
JEWISH SOCIETY "Aspects of Judaism, 1. The Liberal Viewpoint" by Rabbi L. I. Edgar, 1.15.

FRIDAY 14th. FEB.
GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Film Show, "Motor Cycle Sport" 1956" and "Overhead Ordeal". Room 15, 5.05.
LIBERAL SOCIETY Colonial Policy Study Group in Room B, 6.30.
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY Talk entitled "Physiology of Plant Growth" by Dr D. G. Watson of Rothamstead Experimental Station. Botany Lecture Theatre, 5.30.

CIRCULATION 1950

Let it be known that as from 12 noon Friday 31st January 1958 Syd Lenssen will not offer or accept any cigarette or for anyone except in extraordinary circumstances This is not an anti-social whim but a decision caused by fluctuating finances should any other students feel ask Mr Lenssen on this question could they please contact him through the Union Rack in this way as one of our recognition could not doubt be arranged for the tobacco paupers.

SPORTS NEWS

HOCKEY

The 1st. XI continued in a winning vein when beating Epsom Gypsies 2 - 0 on Sunday Jan. 12th. From the moment when Solway put I.C. ahead with a cracking shot from the edge of the circle they held the initiative throughout and might well have won by more than two goals.

The following day was a totally different story. In the U.L. Cup match (2nd. round replay) U.C. beat I.C. 5 - 1. Newson, an ex-U.L. hockey captain, was on top form for U.C. and opened the scoring with a hard shot from the right just inside the post, when all the I.C. defence were expecting him to centre. I.C. drew level almost immediately from a goal by Holmes after a goal-mouth scramble, but before half-time U.C. scored two more goals in quick succession. In the second half U.C. rubbed in their lead in no uncertain fashion, and scored another two goals. One of these was an amazing shot from Newson reverse-stick, on the run, into the roof of the net. It should be said that at no time did I.C. give up the struggle. It just wasn't our day and we were beaten by a superior team. Incidentally this is the first game in which the 1st. XI has had more than two goals scored against it.

On Jan. 15th. I.C. entertained two teams from Reading University. The 1st. XI lost 2 - 0, in unfortunate circumstances; the coach from the Union being very late, I.C. started without Jim Carter in goal, and both Reading goals were scored before he arrived. From then on, I.C. had far more of the play, but just could not score, although Holmes hit the post with a good shot. The 2nd. team beat Reading 2nd. 4 - 1.

I.C. 1st. XI beat Old Creightonians 4 - 1 at Harlington on Jan. 18th. The result never seemed in doubt, even though the team did not show quite the form they had been showing earlier in the season. It was particularly pleasing to have the captain, Graham King, back in the team, and on good form, after his enforced lay-off; he scored two goals. The 2nd. XI beat Old Creightonians 4 - 1, and have won all their three games this term. The 3rd. XI, drew 3 - 3 against the same Club.

Hockey Club Record:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1st. XI	20	15	1	4	57	25
2nd. XI	11	5	2	4	22	26
3rd. XI	9	3	2	4	16	12

TABLE TENNIS

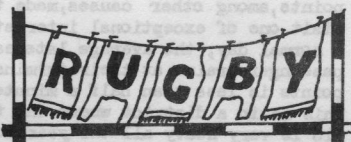
At the beginning of the term the positions of the I.C. teams in the U.L. League were as follows:

	P	W	L	D	Pts.	Pos.
Div. I.						
I.C.II.	8	5	3	0	20	2nd.
I.C.I.	6	4	1	1	15	3rd.
Div. IIB.						
I.C.III.	6	2	4	0	8	8th.
Div. IIIA.						
I.C.VI.	4	3	2	0	7	4th.
Div. IIIB.						
I.C.IV.	5	3	2	0	10	7th.
Div. IIIC.						
I.C.V.	7	3	4	0	15	4th.

SOCCER REPORT

During the past two weeks the Club has struck a bad patch as far as the results of the 1st. and 2nd. XI's are concerned. The 1st. team has suffered two successive defeats, to St. Mary's College and Southampton University. Some readers may be interested to learn that good relationships with Hook were well maintained at the Dorchester Arms, on the way down to Southampton. At Southampton, I.C. played much below standard and provided no answer to the home team's continuous attacks. I.C. were finally defeated 7 - 0.

The 2nd. XI, at Christmas well placed in the League, have since lost two important League games, but improved at Southampton to hold the University 2nd. to a draw.



I.C. Ploughing Steadily Towards the Cup

Westminster College - 0
I.C. - 6

Westminster having wangled their way out of playing the 2nd Round of the U.L. Rugby Football Cup when unable to field their full 1st XV, due to injury, last term, it was left to I.C. to fix the date of this match. The 15th January was decided upon. It was for this reason that the match was played in conditions where a postponement would normally have been made for fog reduced visibility to 15 yards at times, and the pitch was waterlogged.

Having successfully appraised the conditions, I.C. decided that it would be suicide to throw the ball around in the backs and so left it to the forwards to slog it out, and it was from forward play that I.C.'s two scores came. Right from the start the I.C. pack hammered away at its Westminster counterpart and successfully held the game in the Westminster half, only long touch-kicking on the part of the opposing full-back bringing the play into the I.C. half. Whilst the ball was reasonably dry, and visibility allowed, the backs had one or two runs, with Milward making one excellent break in the centre before being pulled down. It was, however, from a scrum infringement near the Westminster posts that I.C. were able to open the scoring, with a good penalty from Hearn, who played an excellent defensive game at fly-half. The score remained 3 - 0 until half-time.

ARE YOU FIT ?

Physical fitness is a great asset, as a Cross Country Club member has recently discovered. He had to cut down his training because of a bad cold, then on visiting the Doctor he was told that he was recovering from pneumonia. Obviously YOU can benefit from keeping fit.

The several defeats mentioned should have provided some lessons to the players concerned, and it is to be hoped that I.C.'s performance in the coming matches will show the recent lapses to be only temporary.

The third team are still continuing their successful run, and in spite of dropping a point against Woolrich, still have a commanding lead in their division.

On Saturday 25th. Jan., the long unbeaten run of the 4th. XI ended when they were beaten by School of Pharmacy by 3 - 2, after a close game. Prior to this match, the 4th. team had scored 24 goals in three games.

Soccer Club Record:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1st. XI	21	12	3	6	63	47
2nd. XI	18	11	2	5	67	50
3rd. XI	20	15	3	2	75	32
4th. XI	20	19	0	1	107	23
5th. XI	19	11	1	7	84	66.

In the second half the Westminster pack decided to rough the game up a bit, but found the I.C. pack more than able to deal with their fistic efforts. The I.C. front row, in the persons of Evans, Gibbons and Wronksi, played a tremendously powerful game, so much so that their opposite numbers literally cracked, and the I.C. pack as a whole played so well together as to administer a lesson in forward play to Westminster. Our second try was scored by Lanz, then from a difficult angle, and with the posts invisible in the fog, Hearn only just failed with the conversion, and after a further period of forward battle the final whistle went with I.C. the winners by the convincing margin of 6 points to nil.

I.C. meet C.E.M. in the semi-final to be played away on February 12th.

ROAD RELAY

The Annual Hyde Park Road Relay will take place on March 1st. at 3 pm. The Organiser, Mike Barber, (Chem.P.G.) would be glad to hear from anyone - especially Cross Country or Athletic Club members - who is willing to help with the work which is involved.

This year the Relay promises to be the largest yet; we are expecting about 45 Universities and Colleges to enter teams.

Last year we had a large "START & FINISH" banner, which was erected at the start of the Relay course. It is now missing, but is presumably somewhere in the Union, so will anyone who knows anything about it please contact Mike Barber.

RIFLE CLUB

Record Score

In the sixth round of the Engineers Cup against Battersea Polytechnic the A team set up a new Inter-College record with a score of 596 out of 600.

With four rounds to go the A and B teams are still first and second in the First Division, and our lower teams lead the Third and Novices Divisions.

In a friendly match at Cramwell the A team won a close match with a score of 789. The pistol team won easily, and I.C. acquired a suitable R.A.F. souvenir.