

# 4<sup>d</sup> EVERY FORTNIGHT

# FELIX



No 119

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

MARCH 14 1958

## TWO MORE U. L. CUPS FOR I.C.

### RUGBY, RIFLE CLUBS COLLECT TROPHIES



THE WINNING TRY

Imperial College has once again shown that without any shadow of doubt it is the strongest sporting college in the University. In the past few weeks I.C. teams have won the U.L. Rugby Cup, Rifle ("Engineers") Cup, a half share in the Boxing ("Blott") Cup, and come second in the Hyde Park Road Relay. The result of the latter event demonstrates that the Cross-Country Club, which in December won the U.L. Cup, can beat any college or university in the country, with the single exception of Liverpool.

Although not so fortunate in their respective cup competitions, the I.C. Hockey and Soccer clubs have also enjoyed very successful seasons.

### I.C.-3: KINGS-O

A MOST EXCITING CUP FINAL ENDED WITH I.C. PROUD HOLDERS OF THE CUP FOR THE FIFTH TIME IN SEVEN YEARS - A REMARKABLE RECORD.

A large crowd of supporters (whose presence was much appreciated by the team) saw I.C. fight magnificently against a King's XV which won a large share of the ball, but which could not equal I.C.'s fire in the loose. 'Bo' and Jesebel were there - and so was the I.C. Jazz Band (leader Balaclava Leston). Mr. Leston will be sorry to learn that he missed most of the victory celebrations, which, at the time of writing (Sunday afternoon) are still in progress and show few signs of abating.

Although I.C. won the ball from hardly a single scrum and very few line-outs, their vigour in the loose and sound defence won the day. King's had the advantage of a moderate breeze in the first half but failed to score. The fine touch kicking of Seed and Hearn was a great asset to I.C. Our forwards seemed to be stung by their inferiority in the set-scrams and line-outs into unsurpassed achievements in all aspects of loose play. The back row (Gilbert, Wright and Parker) was here, there and everywhere, and Evans and Gibbons, from the front row, were also very prominent.

In the second half I.C. kept King's pegged inside their own "twenty-five" almost continuously. King's repeatedly gained possession only to find themselves tackled relentlessly and harassed so much that they lost as much ground as they gained.

Ten minutes from the end came the moment of glory. Ted Wright picked the ball up in the loose, ran round the blind side of the scrum, threw the ball to Otto Gilbert and John Gibson, who, between them, dribbled the ball over the King's line, Gibson scoring the try ten yards in from touch. Oggi failed with the kick.

Continued on page 8 ...

## ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE UNION

An ordinary Union meeting was held in the Concert Hall on Thursday March 6th. Once again the refractory situation was raised, and the question of mascots was also discussed.

Mr. Barber held forth for some time on the subject of eating and food, both of which, he said, were essential. However, members seemingly come to meetings to be entertained; when they had tired of Mr. Barber, he was howled down.

It was suggested from the floor that Herbert be done away with and that a miniature Colcutt tower be constructed to serve as a College rag mascot, but a motion to this effect was rejected. After some discussion on what should be done with Herbert, a motion that he should be placed in the bar was carried. Mr. T.C. Smith asked whether a committee might be set up to inquire into the subject of ragging. However, Mr. Butters pointed out that there were unwritten laws which were usually adhered to.

### EXIT MINES NIGHT

The audience at the Mines Night of the Dramatic Society's production of "Misery Me" distinguished itself by an appalling exhibition of bad manners.

The organised interruptions which are the essence of Mines Night were amusing; but persistent coarseness and obscenity from irresponsible elements caused much distress to the ladies in the cast and in the audience.

It is unlikely that there will be any further Mines Nights.

Tony Hodgson proposed that at the end of each academic year the Union should elect a Provost. His function would be to entertain the Union, although it was not made clear exactly what was meant by this. The motion was carried.

The Union is discontinuing proceedings in the matter of the boat damaged on Morphy Day because "we do not want to incur the displeasure of the Wandsworth Borough Council" as it is hoped to obtain from them permission to extend the Boat House.

This term the lift has broken down eight times. Waygood-Otis are on to a good thing, repairs often being carried out after normal working hours and charged accordingly. The provision of anti-overloading devices will cost about £200. Should any more trouble be caused, the whole thing may have to be rebuilt.

Bo, Clem and Jesebel will be going to the W.U.S. Carnival at Bedford early next May. I.C. will be erecting and manning a sport-palace.

Political literature has again been circulated, this time relating to Algeria. It was pointed out that on-the-spot action by members would probably effect the desired desistance.

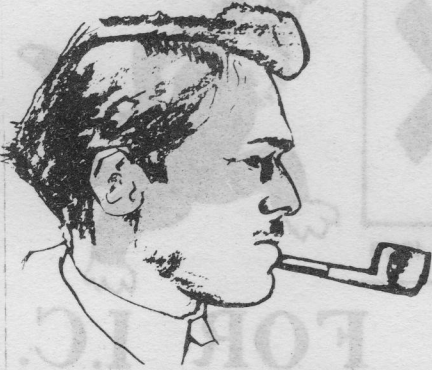
An Union card check for the following Monday was announced.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE ART CLUB  
ANNUAL EXHIBITION

WILL BE HELD IN THE I.C. UNION  
EARLY IN THE SUMMER TERM



## THE RAKE'S PROGRESS



A PROFILE OF JOHN HOBSON

John Hobson was born many years ago in what was then the tiny hamlet of Barnet, Herts. The son of the Hertfordshire 100 yds. sprint champion, he inherited from his father the athletic torso which was to stand him in good stead in later life. At the age of fifteen he was a promising long jumper, being the Herts. junior champion, and when seventeen was placed second in the Southern Counties junior championships. Although basically a jumper and sprinter (his best 100 yds. was then 10.4), his one mile was 4.45 sec., he was a member of his school cross-country team and played for his 1st XV on the wing. Even at school he had the promise of good organising ability; he held the post of vice-captain, and later, captain of the athletics team, and finally ran several illicit sixth-form dances unknown to the Headmaster.

John came to I.C. as a mechanical engineer in 1951 and during his first two years threw all his interests into the Engineering society and the Railway Soc., of which he was the treasurer in 1952. Though playing rugby regularly for the old Boys XV he found time for occasional games in College, and represented Guilds in the long jump in the College sports, gaining a half colour.

At this stage in his career his Part II examiners saw fit to elect him a member of the most popular club in I.C. John repeated his second year, and became "visits secretary" for the Railway Soc. and gained his first I.C. athletics colours (he has had rewards every year since then). During his final year in 1955 John was treasurer of the I.C. Athletic Club, and, as ever, faithful to the locomotive, was chairman and visit sec. of the Rly. Soc.

John's proliferous term-time activities are almost equalled by his vacation pursuits. His love of Scottish scenery is attributable to his having cycled over most of the Scottish Highlands. He has visited Norway as a member of the 1956 I.C. Athletic team, and his two visits to Denmark have given him a fine appreciation of Danish beer and food. John has had a series of vacation jobs the worst of which he tells me "was working for Civil engineering excavation manufacture - I spent a fortnight on blading bulldozers."

He has a few views on what he likes which include:

Steam engines, classical music and opera, cheesemaking, buttered crumpet, wienerbrød, strong tea, natural cellars, Charrington's Burton, lager and ice, circuit training, and social and athletic intercourse.

He has definite views on what he dislikes which include:

Dull stereotyped thinking, red tape, dogmatists, crawlers, habitual toppers, cliques, smoochy bands, the Piccadilly line and the B.S.S. index.

He has even more definite opinions on unde graduate life, which he feels people do not appreciate until their third year, and which he says, is second only to Post-Graduate existence. He is of the opinion that at least one year at College should be spent in the hostel, and would like to see more people, including P.G. students, participating in one or two college activities. His views, I think, are worthy of the notice of anyone, but particularly of the first-year student who finds difficulty in orientating himself in the tangle of social activity and academic work that is college life.

Quite prepared to leave college with his 2nd class honours, John was unexpectedly invited to do a 3 year course of research in corrosion fatigue, non-metallic protective coatings, and the durability of latex substitutes. Hereafter, John indulged in a profusion of activities. His first two Post-Graduate years he was the P.G. representative, lectured Higher National courses in evening classes and was vice-captain, then captain of the Athletic Club.

John has been the Guilds organiser of the last two Lord Mayor's Shows, and is the present president of the Athletic Club. Never having attended a carnival as an undergraduate (shame!), he decided to rectify this and has been a member of the last two years' Guilds Entertainments Committees.

## THE DEBATING TERM

Debating has proved to be a popular College activity this year, and the Lit. and Deb. Soc. has been pleased to see the increase in the number of people attending. Audiences have varied from some 250 at a joint debate with Bedford College, down to 40 at a discussion of a religious motion. It is interesting to note that the smaller houses have produced some of the best floor debating: large houses seem to be attracted by more frivolous motions, and these are more difficult to speak on than those in which one has a serious concern.

Three debates have been held so far this term. On January 21st the motion was "That man has made God in his own image" with the College Chaplain the Rev. Cleverly Ford, and Dr. Harold Allan, as the principal speakers. There was some hard-hitting debating of a very high standard, and the motion was rejected with a large number of abstentions.

On Feb. 11th, the College was visited by the American Debating Team, which toured the country, I.C. being one of the two individual London Colleges at which they spoke. About 120 people heard the discussion of "That women's suffrage was a mistake, and should be revoked." This produced some exceedingly witty speaking from the platform, both from Popofsky and Stokes, the Americans, and from Finch and Allen of I.C., who were by no means outclassed. The floor speeches, unfortunately for our transatlantic reputation, were few, and of poor quality; even if all possible allowance be made for the difficulty of speaking on a weak motion.

The third meeting this term, on Feb. 25th, was to have been a debate on Trade Unionism, with the well-known right-wing politician Edward Martell opposing a speaker from the T.U.C. This had to be changed into a Brain's Trust, in which three speakers together with two provided by the Socialist Society, sat and answered questions put by the audience. Both questions and answers were keen and pointed, and several really good arguments were heard. There was an audience of 150, and its enthusiasm to some extent belied the current political apathy at this College. It is a pleasant commentary on the climate of controversy at this moment, that the three outside speakers after fighting a fierce verbal battle on the platform were able to share the same taxi home.

The Society's progress in competitive debating ended early this term when we were beaten by Birkbeck in the second round of the U.L. debating tournament. Our defeat was not a crushing one, and the presence of the Birkbeck team in the final of the nationwide N.U.S. debating tournament attests to its excellence.

It would seem that I.C. debating is in a reasonably healthy condition, but it probably would be considerably better. The nucleus of experienced speakers is growing, and paper speeches are almost always good, but if the people who attend debates would come to regard themselves less as an audience and more as active members of the House, then the general standard of debating would increase in leaps and bounds.

P.K.

# THE MIKADO

BY

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN

MONDAY TO THURSDAY MARCH 17-20

CONCERT HALL AT 7.45 PM

Tickets price 5/-, 3/6 and 2/6 on sale in the Union every lunchtime

or on the night



JENNY AND THE WREN

There has been considerable in-quietude among I.C. males during the last few weeks, the *raison d'être* being the fair sex in general and I.C.W.A. in particular. For once the pattern of Society had been re-versed, I.C.W.A. would be inviting a limited number of eligible males to their piece de résistance - the I.C.W.A. Formal Dinner and Dance.

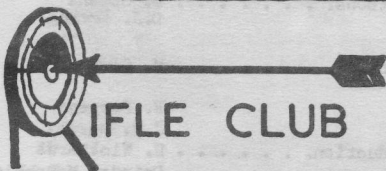
This had a truly remarkable effect on I.C. men; trousers were pressed, ties were worn, hair was cut, and their appearance improved several hundred per cent. The mere sight of an approaching Iowarian prompted the straightening of a tie, and the smooth- ing of hair. Courtesy abounded, in- deed, males were often seen battling

for the honour of opening a door for Them, the victor being rewarded by that dazzling smile which only They can give. They, delighting in this unobscured attention, became more serene, more aloof, more critical of the I.C. male. As the day drew near the tension mounted, pulses quickened, until at last They swooped, causing unbounded delight for the lucky and the utmost misery for the rest.

The Dinner was excellent, a fine example of Mr. Mooney's haute cuisine. After-dinner speaking began with Mr. O. Jewiss who proposed, after many amusing ramifications, the toast of I.C.W.A. Their President, Miss Jennifer Heywood replied, and surveyed their pro- gress over the last year, leaving us in no doubt as to the superiority of women in I.C. society. The Hon. Sec. Miss Rosalind Lathbury proposed the health of the guests, particularly that of the special guest Dame Mary Lloyd, who re- plied to the toast, giving a brief account of her career in the W.R.N.S. from a Rating to Director in 1954.

Dancing then continued until 3.30 a.m.; near the end the dancers were "entertained" by Mr. Basil Evans; he received several requests, but des- pite these, he sang. The whole evening passed very pleasantly, and I.C.W.A. may well be satisfied with the fruit of their labour.

CLUB REVIEW



The history of the Rifle Club goes back to 1901 when the Engineers Cup for intercollege shooting was won by I.C. in the second year of the com- petition. Since then the cup has re- turned to I.C. many times, including six times in the last seven years.

The present home of the club is a twenty-five yard range in a cellar under the Unwin building, and is not a continuation of the tunnel from South Ken. Station. This cellar is also used as one means of access to the adjacent boiler room. Consequently shooting is sometimes interrupted by workmen who, despite the safety pre- cautions, insist on walking through between the firing point and the tar- gets.

At times during last year shooting was further interrupted by flood water from the nearby building site, which filled the whole range to a depth of several inches. It was suggested that certain people might do better if they aimed at the reflection of the targets in the water, but this was discouraged.

In an effort to brighten up the range many souvenirs have been col- lected over the years and various rag trophies now adorn the walls. Of course these are all removed and carefully hid- den before the club's annual match with the Metropolitan Police.

Most of the shooting is with .22 rifles from the prone position and I.C. has six teams in intercollege leagues and five in the London County leagues. All have done exceptionally well this year. Recently, intercollege leagues have been started for firing from the standing and kneeling posi- tions and with pistols at twenty yard range; and again I.C. lead in both events. Standing and kneeling shooting is more popular abroad, but it is now being encouraged in this country as all three positions are used in the Olympic Games.

The big event in the club's calen- dar is the University Championship meeting at Twickenham next term, using ranges up to a hundred yards. In the three previous years that the meeting has been held I.C. has never managed to win the team event. The results of this year's meeting will appear in FELIX next term.

A.H. Conroy-Jones.

"QUEEN" ADDRESSES MOCK PARLIAMENT

The last of this series of mock parliaments was held in the Ayrton Hall last Thursday evening. This time a Com- munist Government was in office and the Conservatives were the main Opposition party.

The parliament was opened by the Queen who read a speech beginning, "As this is the last time I shall be ad- dressing you . . ." and continued by out- lining the Government's proposed elec- toral reforms. On these the Opposition did not call for a division, but did so for the abolition of the Monarchy and the House of Lords, on which motion the Government was heavily defeated. The Queen, on being re-instated, assumed dictatorial powers and abdicated in favour of the Communist Government.

The second debate was on the Sec- ular State. A list of amendments from the S.C.M. was submitted and it was found that most of these corresponded to the Government's propositions. The Opposition was divided on this and a division was not called for.

Finally the Government introduced a Bill to nationalise I.C.I. and al- lied industries. One aspect of this was to place the manufacture of ar- maments in Government hands in order to prevent profits being made from their manufacture. The other aspect was that the profits from the pharm- aceutical industries be used to fin-



No doubt there are many who prefer to listen to recorded jazz, but for real enjoyment jazz has to be played. The Jazz Club activities this term have at last been widened to include performances of lunch hour concerts, as well as the usual record recitals.

The first Jazz Concert was held on Thursday Jan 30th in the Concert Hall and a certain amount of trepi- dation was experienced by the organisers in wondering if they would get any sup- port at all. However, all their fears were groundless, as by about 2 p.m., 250 people were in the Concert Hall and all obviously enjoying the music. The I.C. Jazz Band, playing a traditional style, started rather frigidly but soon improved during its first 3 numbers. The skiffle group played 3 numbers but were unfortunately not appreciated by the audience. Modern jazz came from an impromptu quintet which was spoilt by a certain amount of lack of cohesion within the group. The Jazz Band played for the final 15 minutes and this time really got going, so much so in fact that they had to play an encore.

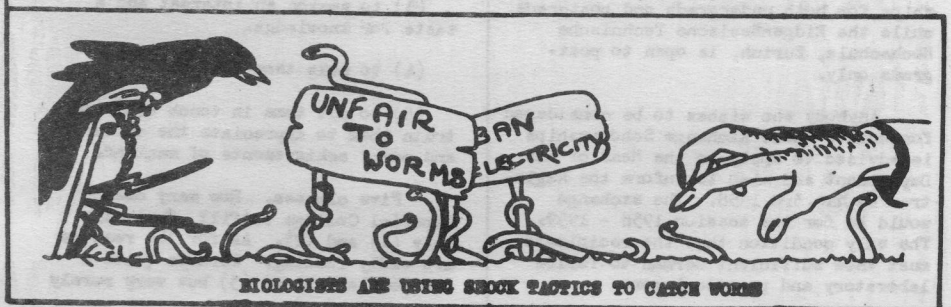
In view of the success of the first concert a second one was held on Thurs- day Feb. 20th. This time the musicians were relaxed and soon got over the ner- vousness which marred parts of the first concert and a full hour and a quarter of traditional, modern and 'jump' music was produced. The modern jazz was provided by a newly formed quintet comprising, A. Hodgson (clarinet), R. Rushton (piano), L. Irons (bass), G. Pritchard (drums) and J. Farnsworth (guitar), and in ad- dition a mainstream group, led by an "ageing sociologist", provided some comedy for the audience.

The various outfits have recently played at a number of outside functions; the Jazz Band at the Inter-University Contest at Bristol where they were beaten but certainly not disgraced, and also at the Humphrey Lyttleton Club, the Modern group at Bedford College as well as at hops at I.C.

There is no doubt that with the wealth of talent that exists in the College, the outlook is very bright and the only difficulty now, is in be- ing able to accommodate everyone who wishes to play in some form of group.  
L. Irons.

since the National Health Scheme. A division was called for and the Gov- ernment defeated by one vote.

One unfortunate feature was the appearance of several new and unorth M.P.s reminiscent of the P.J.d.st M.v.m.nt both in manners and political knowledge. It is to be hoped that this will not appear in future.





EDITOR:

PETER LEVIN



CIRCULATION

1500

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LENT TERM 1958

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## PROF. SKEMPTON GOES TO CAMBRIDGE

The Rector's Bulletin usually contains some interesting facts about goings-on in the professorial world. In the March issue, for example, we read that Professor Skempton has been to Cambridge to give a lecture on "Canals of the Middle Ages and Renaissance" as part of their History of Science course. Civil Engineers will know that the Prof. gives a third-year course of eight lectures on the History of Civil Engineering, drawing applause and a consistent maximum attendance. While this is encouraging in that it shows a demand for such courses at I.C., the fact is that of all the lectures given annually in Guilds, a meagre eight are devoted to the human side of engineering (the Roman viaducts, the development of the Gothic cathedral etc.).

Comparison with the situation at Cambridge reveals a different state of affairs. To them a course on the History of Science is so important that it is worth inviting a professor to come from London to lecture on a relatively minor topic. However, while I.C. and Cambridge may have their different syllabi and methods of teaching, the competition between graduates for the best jobs affords some measure of comparison and one wonders whether the rumours that employers are going for the Cambridge men first may not be without foundation (not every firm is run by Old Centralians). Is the governing body going to wait for industry to say bluntly that there is something wrong with I.C. men?

Two years ago the first-year failure rates received so much publicity, from Phoenix and from failed students themselves, that headmasters of grammar schools were recommending their sixth-formers not to come to I.C. This state of affairs was somewhat rectified, will such adverse publicity be needed again?

## UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE

If one can take the results of the Sir Arthur Acland English Essay Competition as an indication of the literary abilities of the various departments of the College, the Physics block can consider themselves the present leaders in this field. It was found necessary to divide the prize of this Essay Competition between three Physics students. D.J. Irving (1st year) chose the intriguing title "Paddy on the Building": this essay being published in the current Phoenix. "The Bayeux Tapestry" was the subject of S.J. Wright (2nd year) and Miss D.F. Jackson, (3rd year) elaborated the theme of "Man's Picture of the Atom."

We extend our heartiest congratulations to these writers for their excellent performance, but hope that in future the prizes will not be restricted to one department only.

PHYSICISTS SHARE  
ESSAY PRIZE

Information has been received by the Registry regarding Exchange Scholarships at European Universities. The Aachen Technische Hochschule is offering Exchange Scholarships for post-graduate students in Mining, Metallurgy, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. The Technische Universität, Berlin-Charlottenburg offers scholarships for both undergrads and postgrads, while the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule, Zurich, is open to post-grads only.

Anybody who wishes to be considered for one of these Exchange Scholarships is advised to apply to the Head of his Department and also to inform the Registrar by Mar. 3rd 1958. The exchange would be for the session 1958 - 1959. The only condition that the recipients must know sufficient German to follow laboratory and practical work.

## VIEWPOINT

In the last issue of FELIX the Editor made a spirited and well thought out criticism of some aspects of education at Imperial College. There are many who support him, but unfortunately criticism of this nature is often regarded as either a sales gimmick or as immature nonsense coming from undergraduates. The current criticism was certainly not.

It is common practice to attack students for their apathy to the life that goes on around them. They are called narrow, specialist and irresponsible. They are thought of as beings without any interest in humanity as a result of the bullying abuse of position made by many members of staff, who seem to forget they are training human beings, not robots or talking vegetables. Probably more students stand up to this criticism than the critics would like to imagine. They become well-educated, adaptable and competent. But there is a large residue who do need better education.

What are the aims of education? Professor D.J. O'Connor (Philosophy, Liverpool University) summarises them as follows:

- (1) to provide men and women with the minimum of skills necessary for them to (a) take their place in society and (b) seek for further knowledge.
- (2) to provide them with a vocational training that will enable them to be self-supporting.
- (3) to awaken an interest and a taste for knowledge.
- (4) to make them critical
- (5) to put them in touch with and train them to appreciate the cultural and moral achievements of mankind.

Five clauses. How many does Imperial College fulfill? Obviously only (1) and (2). As for the rest we are sadly lacking. Perhaps quite a few people achieve (3) but very rarely

## THE AIMS OF EDUCATION

because they are inspired by the way members of staff conduct their research or teaching. The critical faculty is very much suppressed by demanding ridiculous "cramming". Heads are stuffed full of facts instead of being trained to think. Worst of all is the way Imperial College attempts to carry out (5). All these five aims are closely interwoven and the higher the form of education the more important (5) becomes. Train a scientist the present way; turn him loose into a job. If it is soap powder perhaps it is amusing; if it is munitions research then we hope he is aware of what he is doing.

Some students are awake to this problem but they are powerless to effect any direct change. They can only give voice to their ideas. We don't want cultural cotton wool; we want a better educational system. We must have a better, more humanistic approach to science or the vast new buildings will do more harm in the world than good.

Science and technology are culture, if taught properly. In the words of D.H. Lawrence: "Even the real scientist works in a sense of wonder. The pity is, when he comes out of his laboratory he puts aside his wonder along with his apparatus, and tries to make it all perfectly didactic. Science in its true condition of wonder is as religious as any religion. But didactic science is as dead and boring as dogmatic religion."

In other words we must learn to fit science into its proper place in society. We certainly haven't done so yet. It is all very well blindly training more scientists and engineers for jobs, but where is it leading us? Some of us would feel more optimistic if we could have some indication that it wasn't up the garden path.

Sir Winston Churchill expressed these ideas very well: "The first duty of a University is to teach wisdom, not a trade; character, not technicalities. We want a lot of engineers in the modern world, but we do not want a world of engineers."

A.M. Hodgson



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## NELSON'S COLUMN

## BARTON DEFENDED

Dear Sir,

I was surprised to read in your last issue that Prof. Barton expects his students to work seventy hours per week. As a member of his department, I feel I must point out that he has never stated such a figure, or anything like it. Normal working hours in the department are all that he has asked for, namely 9.30 a.m. - 6.0 p.m., five days a week. A figure of 60 hours per week has been mentioned for another department; this is gross, and includes time for reading, calculating, lunch, natural functions, etc.

As to the implication that Barton is narrow-minded and thinks only of chemistry, this is completely untrue. Of course, he is interested in his subject, otherwise he couldn't be one of the best chemists in the world, but one only has to look in Who's-Who to see his range of interests. He is also married, with a family, so he has obvious outside activity. In any case, is it not rather bad taste to launch what amounted to a personal attack on a man who, a fortnight previously, had left on a three month lecture tour of the United States?

Yours faithfully,

Organic Chemist.

Editor's note:

As one would expect, the demand for a seventy-hour week was not made in front of a class and is not official policy of the Organic Chemistry department. Nonetheless, it has been impressed on our informants, by personal contact with Professor Barton in the lab. and in tutorials, that his post-graduate students are expected to work a seventy-hour week.

We did not imply that Professor Barton was narrow-minded; we did state that such demands were guaranteed to produce narrow minds. We wish that we did not have to consult "Who's Who" to discover his range of interests. One doesn't just work in an university; one is part of it. It is a pity that so few people seem to realise this.

We greatly regret that our article coincided with Professor Barton's lecture tour in the U.S.A. Had we been aware of his impending absence, we would have brought this matter up sooner.

## CARNIVAL?

Dear Sir,

I wish to comment on the advertisement concerned with the R.C.S. Carnival, that appeared in the last edition of FELIX. May I say that I found the illustration in very bad taste and thought it to be entirely unnecessary.

The picture appeared on the front page of what was otherwise one of the best editions this year, including an excellent editorial. The rest of FELIX was completely out of touch with this vulgar illustration.

I feel sure my view is shared by many students at I.C.

Yours faithfully,

R.J. Nesbitt.

## FOUR YEAR COURSE

Dear Sir,

Congratulations on your leader "Problem of the one track mind". It contained some of the best-thought-out comments on this matter that have yet appeared.

The suggestion that the governors be forced to resign unless they act to remedy the present situation, goes straight to the heart of the problem. However, I see little chance of the resignation of any of the present governors and, to my mind, the best line of attack would be to try to make them see the probable consequence of a continuation of the present system.

The present drive for more and better technical education means that there will soon be more institutions of a similar nature to I.C. At present I.C. owes its lead in the field of technical education almost entirely to its academic superiority. If we continue as we are now we shall cease to be the best College of Science and Technology and become merely the biggest, if that. No, I.C. can only keep its lead by turning out true intellectual leaders, not "highly-trained morons".

Another problem which can be tackled at top level is apathy, both real and apparent, of the students. Many students have little time for non-academic activities simply because of the sheer quantity of work which is heaped upon them. Furthermore, many get to the state in which they simply do not want to include in their relaxation anything involving intellectual effort (have you ever tried to persuade anyone to go to a Touchstone weekend?) Hence to genuine apathy, which undoubtedly does exist, is added this "apparent apathy" which is in fact as frustrating to the student as it is bad for the College. A possible remedy has been suggested in PHOENIX - extend the present undergraduate course to cover four years. It is significant that some of the more progressive provincial Universities already have four year courses in Science and engineering. I.C. must follow suit eventually, and the sooner the better.

These and other problems will, however, remain unmet unless the governors make an effort. It is up to the student body as a whole to do its utmost to make it clear to them what changes are necessary and why. Only by doing this can we remedy our situation.

Yours faithfully,

Anthony L. Brookes.

## RIPPING

Dear Sir,

Is it too much to ask those who enjoy taking newspaper apart and scattering the odd sheets to the winds to practice on their own papers, not those in the Union Lounge?

Yours etc.,

John L. Sellars.



NELSON CONGRATULATES Peter Scott, Chairman of Mines Entertainments Committee, on his recent marriage.

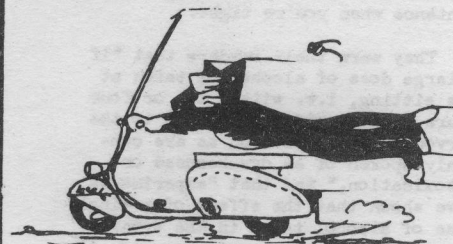
CONGRATULATIONS ALSO to the FELIX Board member who splashed some vivid paints on to a piece of paper and had it hung in the U.L.U. Art Exhibition as a self-portrait.

FOLLOWING UPON the success of the Hyde Park Road Relay, the first floor of the New Hostel has challenged the second floor to a "Round Pond Relay", to take place in Kensington Gardens next Thursday at 1 o'clock. Dress informal.

WHAT WOULD YOU do with Police telephone boxes? A man in blue recently found one couple enjoying themselves under the flashing red light.

A VISITOR from the London College of Secs. complained that the Photo. Soc. Exhibition did not provide "enough of what I like." If this suffering young lady cares to meet Nelson he will ensure that she gets PLENTY of what she likes.

The Editor has acquired a scooter.



## BO - THE LAST WORD

Dear Sir,

It is interesting to note that both the letters you published about the Southampton affair were apparently based on misunderstandings. Mr. Emerson appears unaware that Bo was believed by Southampton to be the mascot of the London Engineers; hence the availability or otherwise of Herbert was of little consequence. It is of course true that Herbert ought to be available; I feel nevertheless that the Union archway might be a place a little too available; witness the recent fate of the Spanner.

Mr. Kilner obviously does not realise the difference between a mob fight and a charity rag. Bo was to go to Southampton not essentially as a mascot but as an object of very definite public interest. Interfering with the proceedings of the rag would not have helped I.C.'s already bad publicity. I personally think it was quite fair, if we felt strongly enough about Bo, to invoke the law in demanding his return; but whether this was fair or not, it would certainly have been most unparliamentary to follow up successful legal compulsion by free-for-all retributory violence. One or the other, but not both.

Yours faithfully,

Roger Loveman.



## THE AFFLUENCE OF INCOHOL

Water is the best of gifts that man to man can bring,  
But who am I to have the best of everything?  
Let princes revel at the pump, and peers with ponds make free,  
Whisky, wine, or even beer is good enough for me.  
(Anon.)

Browsing through a second-hand bookshop the other day, I picked up a volume whose title "Alcohol and the Human Body" promised some interesting reading. Written in 1906, it was well worth the money I didn't pay for it, and for those who bother to read this far, I noted some of the more interesting sections.

In case you didn't know, "Alcohol is a poison, so is strychnine, so is arsenic, so is opium," and it is "useful to nobody; it is harmful to all." This is endorsed by the following experimental data: "A drop of alcohol in more than a pint of water acted injuriously on the growth of cress, and even one part in a thousand of alcohol was found to affect geraniums adversely. There was less colouring matter in the leaves and premature withering of the lower leaves occurred."

Also "cray fish, placed in 2% solution of alcohol succumb within a single day; perch placed in a 2½ to 9% solution rapidly become intoxicated, fall to the bottom and die." The authors were members of the "so called temperance party, whose disinterested public work on behalf of their fellow citizens has only been required by obliquity and has obtained for them such abusive titles as 'extremists' or 'fanatics' or even 'fools'."

(Author's note: try reciting the last sentence when you're tight.)

They warn their readers that "if a large dose of alcohol is taken at one sitting, i.e. within two or four hours, the symptoms referable to the nervous system are such as are commonly spoken of as drunkenness or intoxication," and that "experiments have shown that the effect of a single dose of alcohol taken in the evening persists until the morning or noon of the next day," and that "alcohol lengthens the time taken to perform complex mental processes."

Alcohol is "such a narcotic that there soon occurs loss of the essential regulation of control of the limbs and especially of the lower limbs, which feel heavy and no longer move with precision," and "it has a prolonged depressant after-stage." The authors correlate the results of many medical men, and have listed over ten diseases caused by alcohol, and over forty ranging from Homicidal



Mania to Sunstroke which are indirectly caused by alcohol, while "to frequent a public house is one of most certain ways of receiving frequent and large doses of infection." "D.T.'s occur as a result of repeated debauch. The ideal physiological drink is water."

"Finally" they write in their last chapters "all parents and teachers ought to bear in mind that one of the most frequent causes of evil habits and sexual immorality among young people is the taking of alcohol."

Nick Clarke.

## WINE TASTING SOCIETY

Continuing its trail blazing, the Society introduced the practically unknown wines of Cyprus to its members.

The typical wines of this Island are as rich and sunny as the climate, although there are a few dry beverage wines. These have an extremely high alcoholic content, due to the fact that the sugar content of the grape, which is high because of the climate, is totally converted to alcohol.

The Cypriot wines have retained their character since the Roman times, as the dreaded phylloxera plague, which swept Europe in the '80's, miraculously missed this Island.

Perhaps the most famous of the wines are the Commandaria's which take their name from the Crusaders. This is a luscious desert wine, which makes a delightful aperitif, or a change from port after a meal. (It is also relatively cheap, being about 8/6d. a bottle). Cyprus also produces a variety of sweet and dry Sherries, which are extremely good for the price. Why not try some yourself?

## PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

With subjects ranging from the Queen Mother to obsolescent locomotives, the Photographic Society Exhibition provided an impressive record of how far I.C. men have roamed with their cameras.

Most of the prints and transparencies making up the display reached a good technical standard, but the exhibition left a feeling of dissatisfaction. It seemed far more a snap-shot display than a photographic exhibition. In the black and white classes particularly there were very few deliberate pictures; even some of the most pleasing probably owed more to luck than to real planning.

This impression was supported by some prodigious and unselective personal entries and by the fact that there were so few 'experimental' photographs. Only A.J. Eycott's interesting "See ourselves as other see us" and R.H. Linnell's less successful "Perspective" made any attempt at trick effects.

Technical and Record seemed an unhappy merger and one would have thought that a college of science and technology could have supported a full technical section. In fact there were few 100 technical photographs, but of these Mr. Eycott's "Electrolysis" demonstrated how well colour can be used in this class. Record shots on the other hand give scope for snap-shooting at its best, and judged in this context many of the entries were most impressive.

The deliberate photography of the portraiture section was dominated by T.P. Kovattana's charming studies. No other entry matched these for ease of posing and technical finish.

The black and white display was marred by a number of prints which sadly lacked exhibition finish. There were several stained prints and numerous dirty mounts (organizers to blame?) while the standard of mounting and inanity of some titling spoilt many an attractive picture.

In part, the exhibition was redeemed by the colour section. The transparencies abounded with well planned and carefully photographed pictures. Above all, the entries showed a fine sense of colour.

The society should think carefully how it can bring the standard of its black and white section up to that of the colour transparencies. A limited entry with a higher admission standard of mounting and preparation would almost certainly help.

## REFECTORY CLOSING

The Union refectories will close for Easter after lunch on Wednesday, April 2nd, reopening for lunch on Wednesday April 9th.

Queenie's and the Snack Bar will close after tea on the last day of term and reopen for coffee on the first day of next term.

## RIDING HOLIDAY

Will anyone interested in a 14-day riding holiday after the end of the summer term please contact J.L. Sellars via the Union rack. The cost will be about £20.

### I.C. POLISH SOCIETY

PRESENTS A

## GOING DOWN HOP

SATURDAY 15th MARCH

AT 7.30 p.m.

IN THE NEW CONCERT HALL

BAND CABARET BAR

TICKETS:-

SINGLE 2/- DOUBLE 3/6d.

Has anyone got a cheap squash racket for a beginner? Box 57.



**DOWN WITH CHEM. ENG.**

People leaving the hop early two weeks ago had their entertainment rounded off by an excellent pageant put on outside the Union by the L.C.C. Fire Brigade.

A woman taking her dog for a walk had apparently noticed a flickering light in a top floor window of the Roderic Hill Building and made a 999 call, and generally set the wires a-buzz. Meanwhile the Rod. Hill porter made his rounds in blissful ignorance as his phone rang unheeded.

Not to be put off, four fire engines arrived in Prince Consort Road and an intrepid fireman ascended a turntable ladder while a dozen young maidens held their breath. Having completed their inspection the Brigade withdrew as did a couple of Black Marias which had turned up, perhaps by force of habit.

The Porter told our reporter that the nocturnal glow is due to firey implements of some research workers and is a nightly phenomenon. However what the research workers thought when a face peered at them from the outside of their fourth floor window is not known.

**COMING EVENTS**

**FRIDAY 14th, MARCH**

R.C.S. CARNIVAL "Kimono My House"  
GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Film Show, "Operation Boomerang" and "Nurburgring, 25 years of Motor Racing". Room 15, 5.5.  
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY "Luck, Skill and Disaster" by Mr C.L.Clarks.  
Botany Lecture Theatre, 5.15.

**SATURDAY 15th, MARCH**

Polish Society Informal Dance.

**SUNDAY 16th, MARCH**

GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Spring Rally.

**MONDAY 17th, MARCH**

MUSICAL SOCIETY production of "The Mikado". Concert Hall, 7.45.  
CHRISTIAN UNION "Why believe the Bible?" Metallurgy Lecture Theatre, 1.15.  
CHINESE SOCIETY Film Show. Chem. Eng. Lecture Theatre.

**TUESDAY 18th, MARCH**

"The Mikado"  
JEWISH SOCIETY Joint function with Chelsea Polytechnic Jewish Society.

**WEDNESDAY 19th, MARCH**

"The Mikado"  
RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB Annual Dinner.  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS CLUB Film Show, "Mauritius" and "Sansabelle" (Grand Prix - Venice). Chem. Eng. Lecture Theatre, 5.15.

**THURSDAY 20th, MARCH**

"The Mikado"  
R.C.S. NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
Lecture by Miss A. Grandison of the Natural History Museum. Botany Lecture Theatre, 5.30.

**THURSDAY 27th, MARCH**

COXWAINE SOCIETY Sixth Annual Informal Dinner. Upper Dining Hall, 8.

Will someone capable of investigating and subsequently repairing an important television set please contact occupant, Room 58 New Hostel. The recompense will be adequate if not lavish.

**BY RAILCAR TO SWINDON**

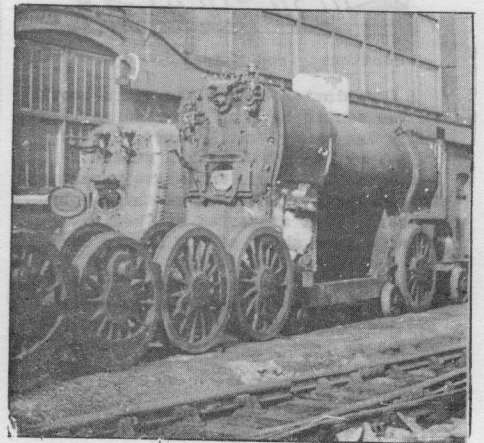
Last Sunday was the occasion of the Annual Diesel Railcar Excursion of the Railway and Engineering Societies. The venue this year was the Swindon Works of British Railways Western Region; these, the largest locomotive works in this country, cover an area of 326 acres and were erected originally for the Great Western Railway at the approximate half-way point of the London - Bristol run. Many of the original workshops are still in existence, and these show the massive scale on which Brunel and his fellow engineers worked.

Some of these shops have been modernised to a certain extent, but in view of the forthcoming electrification of the railways there will be a progressive run-down of the facilities provided and a gradual conversion to the servicing of diesel-mechanical, diesel-electric and electric locomotives and the associated rolling stock. At present they are fabricating low-cost, light-weight diesel stock on almost production line methods in that all components are fabricated away from the fitting bays.

In the locomotive shops many famous steam locos were in various stages of repair, some being stripped down to merely the boiler shell and firebox. Modernisation is on the way however, in that they are building several Maybach diesel-mechanical locos with mech-hydro transmission under licence from the German firm. These are of revolutionary construction and at first sight appear to be of insufficient strength to stand up to the 2000 drawbar H.P. that they are said to develop, which shows the excessive factors of safety that have been employed in the past in railway engineering. Although many members of the Engineering Society who signed the original list of applications failed to come on the visit those who did turn up spent an enjoyable, albeit rather tiring, day.

J.K.T.

Give some girls an inch and they're clothed.



The previous Wednesday the Society visited the works of the Pullman Car Co. Ltd. at Preston Park, Brighton. They saw elaborate veneer work being renovated, and proposed interior designs of new cars.

Appropriately enough, most of the party returned on the "Brighton Belle" but one member, who confessed he'd never been to Brighton before, stayed behind to see the sea.

R.D.W.

**N.H.S. DINNER**

A most successful and enjoyable evening was had on Wednesday, 26th February, when Mr. Gerald Durrell, the well-known animal-collector, author and broadcaster, was the guest of honour at the Society's Annual Dinner.

Before the Dinner Mr. Durrell gave a very entertaining talk, illustrated by rapid charcoal sketches, about some of the many animals he has come across on his travels.

The seventy-five people attending the dinner listened to, among others, Mr. Durrell and Dr. C.A. Pratt, who is soon to retire after more than thirty years in the Botany Department.

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... continued from page 1.

A few minutes before the end a break in the centre by King's looked terrifyingly dangerous, until Peart, I.C.'s full-back, ended it with a superb crash tackle. I.C. immediately resumed the onslaught, and a burst-through by Gilbert, well supported by Crozier, ended a yard short of the King's line.

This was a fine climax to a great season, and it was very bad luck that the I.C. Captain, Barry Lanz, was prevented by injury from participating actively in the crowning triumph of a memorable year.

**LOST:** One small metal man, in rugby-playing attitude, who screws into the lid of the U.L. Rugger Cup.

**WANTED:** Some-one who can re-shape, free of charge, a mass of metal into the configuration formerly recognizable as the U.L. Rugger Cup.

## HOCKEY

P. Bhatnagar, who played for U.L. on Saturday, brought the total of I.C.H.C. players who have played for the University this season to eight. The others are P. Mantle (U.L. Secretary), A. Powell (Fixture Secretary), R.C.J. Stanton, N.G. Holmes, D.M. Rees, M.J. Lofting, and R.B. Lee.

Without these men, however, the I.C. 1st. team is enjoying its best season for several years, having lost only 5 of its 28 matches. Two strong teams will be sent to the U.L. sixes, and we are hopeful that one of these will bring back the Cup, which would make a fitting end to the season.

Sat. 8th. March: Ealing Dean 1, I.C. 4.

## ATHLETICS

One of this term's two matches was held on Wed., 5th March. The result was that we lost to U.C. by 72 points to 91. The full results are not yet available.

The second meeting this term will be at Hurlingham Park on Sat., March 15th., a three-sided competition with L.S.E. and Q.M.C. The Inter-collegiate 3,000m. Steeplechase Championship will take place before this meeting, at 2.00 p.m., and supporters are invited to cheer their college runners(?) through the water and fences.

## CROSSCOUNTRY

On Wed. March 5th. the Club defeated London Hospital in an away match. Landbeck and Collins successfully dropped the leader of the opposition, and ran in together for first place.

The first team defeated Cranwell on 8th. March, but lost to Milocarians. The race was run on a flat 5-mile course near the Cranwell airfield, in a blizzard. Collins was 2nd. and Conway 4th. in a field of 20. On the same date a rather weak second team lost to Bancrofts School over a muddy  $\frac{3}{4}$ -mile course in Epping Forest.

## ROAD RELAY

The tenth Hyde Park Road Relay on 1st. March was the usual great success. It was quite obvious that, with 42 teams running, including some of the best athletes in the country, records were sure to go. The pace was set from the start by Shaw (B'ham), who sped round the  $2\frac{1}{4}$ -mile course in 13m. 6s. So hot was the pace in this first lap that the first 15 men were under 14 mins. John Collins ran a magnificent leg for I.C. handing over to J-F. Jaeger in 4th. place, with a time of 13:31. Jaeger held his place well, gaining on Liverpool who had moved into the lead. Only 4 secs. separated the leading five teams at this point, and Jaeger handed over to Dave Briggs after doing an excellent time of 14:00. Dave quickly went into the lead, only to be overtaken by Adams (Sheffield).



John Conway took over from Briggs (who did 13:37), rapidly passed the Sheffield man, and retained the lead for the rest of the lap, sending John Evans on his way with a 10 yd. lead. (Conway's time: 13:53). Evans, with the second best time of the day (13:01) built up a big lead. A feature of this lap was the amazing run by Martyn Hyman (Southampton) who returned 12m. 39s. to break the lap record by 16 secs. This tremendous performance means that Hyman should be within 20 seconds of the **WORLD RECORD** for 3 miles.

Roger Landbeck went away on the final lap with the cheers of about 200 I.C. supporters speeding him on, but before Hyde Park Corner Wesenraff (Liverpool) had caught and passed him. Roger gave chase, and from Victoria Gate was gaining on the Liverpool man, but I.C. had once more to be content with 2nd. place, 5 secs. behind Liverpool (81:37). This shattered the previous record of 82:28 set up by Loughborough in 1955. Southampton, 3rd. in 81:51, and Loughborough, 4th. in 82:26, also beat the previous record.

Of the other London Colleges, L.S.E. were 9th., U.C. 11th., King's 18th., Guy's 20th., and Q.M.C. 23rd. The Imperial College Union Cup for Colleges of less than 500 men was won by Selwyn College, Cambridge, who were 15th. The Wooden Spoon was gloriously won by Sir John Cass College.

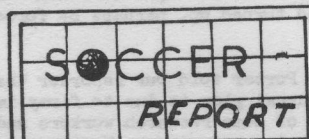
## SPORTS DAY MAY 14th.

Will all sportsmen please look at the individual College Athletic Club notice-boards for details.

## ENGINEERS CUP STAYS AT I.C.

For the 6th. time in 7 years I.C. has won the **ENGINEERS CUP**. Although the results of the final round are not yet known, it is certain that the 'A' team has won the 1st. Division with a record average, and probably the 'B' team will be second. I.C. teams are also well on the way to winning the 3rd. and Novices Divisions and one of the lower Divisions in the County of London League.

In the Courtman Shield competition between the three constituent Colleges Guilds gained a decisive victory by dropping only one point in each round; Mines were second.



As the season is drawing towards its end, the 1st XI have lost the goal-scoring power which was an encouraging feature of the earlier games of the season. Ironically, the team have played good football recently. Sufficient goals were scored to beat L.S.E. 2 - 1, and draw with Christ's Coll. Camb. 4 - 4, but in recent matches with King's College, I.C. outplayed the opposition for long periods but could not turn the superiority into goals and in the end it was King's who demonstrated how to convert a few chances into as many goals.

The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th XIs have been unbeaten in the last 28 matches, the chief credit being due to the 3rd XI who have not been beaten since Nov. 16th. The result of this excellent record is that the 4th XI have gained promotion, the 3rd XI are champions of division II of the intercollegiate league, and compete next season in division I with the 2nd XI, who need to win the next two games to win the Div. I championship.

Recent visits have been made to Oxford and Cambridge. The 1st and 2nd teams were entertained by Christ's (Camb.) and the following week the 3rd and 4th visited New Coll. and Brasenose Oxford, whilst Brasenose 1st were trounced and entertained by the 2nd XI in London. Judging by reports of these excursions, I.C. men considerably enlivened Oxford and Cambridge.

On Sunday, 23rd February, two teams played a soccer "sport" match v. the Rugby Club. Both games provided amusement for all concerned. Having won the soccer battle the club await the return match at rugby with much trepidation and little knowledge of the rules.

On Saturday 8th March, I.C. staged a six-a-side competition for Kensington Colleges, including R.C.A. and C.E.M. Fortunately the Stephens Shield remains at I.C. in the possession of R.C.6. whose "A" team won the final against C. & G. "B". The losers competition was again won by R.C.S. "C". Altogether it was a most enjoyable afternoon's soccer and good practice for the University sides on 15th March.

### Soccer Club record:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1st. XI	29	15	4	10	87	70
2nd. XI	25	17	2	6	100	66
3rd. XI	29	23	4	2	108	39
4th. XI	29	24	1	4	142	42
5th. XI	26	13	1	12	101	93