

3^D
EVERY
FORTNIGHT

FELIX



No. 18

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY 1951

REFECTORY COMMITTEE TRIES AGAIN

CATERING FIRM CALLED IN.

As foreshadowed in the last issue of FELIX, the Refectory Committee has proposed and the Governing Body has agreed to a major change in the management of the I.C. Refectory. The Committee has been considering for some time a series of plans, based on figures and information worked out in great detail by the present Management, which were designed to reduce the yearly deficit. Several were discussed at considerable length and the eventual choice fell between two.

Briefly, the first plan took the Hostel catering away from the Refectory, which would then have been used only for lunches, teas and "functions". This plan was finally shelved ----- in favour of the second--- for various reasons, the principal one perhaps being that support for it was less unanimous than the Committee felt was necessary to warrant recommendation of so drastic a step.

The second plan was to call in the firm of caterers who had been successful at U.C. and see if they could tackle our problem with equal success. This has been done; and from Easter the firm will be in charge of the Refectory. They will be working with and through the present Refectory Committee, which will still be responsible for all matters of policy and for any changes and reorganization which may from time to time be necessary.

The catering firm will take over after Easter; and for the first term no drastic changes are envisaged. At the end of the Summer Term, they expect to be in a position to make proposals to the Committee as to ways and means of dealing with our problem.

The Union Bar and the Ayrton Hall Refectory (Queenie's) are not affected by this new arrangement and will continue under their present managements.

IMP. COLL. EXPEDITIONS

More news is now available concerning the proposed I.C. expeditions this year and next year. The Natural History Society say that the destination of the major expedition during the Long Vacation of 1952 will be East Africa. It is hoped to make an ecological survey of a selected region.

To provide experience for possible members of this expedition a pilot scheme is being organized for 1951, to be run for 10-14 days during August. The destination of this expedition has not yet been definitely fixed but it will not be Little Cumbrae as stated in the Christmas issue of FELIX. It will most likely be around or near the British Isles. Among localities under consideration are the Isle of Arran and the Earne Islands (off the N.W. coast).

Those interested should apply to the Head of their Department, before Friday, March 2nd, 1951.

L.U.D.S. Festival

L.U.D.S. provided us with two very pleasant evenings last week, in sponsoring the fourth Annual Festival of One Act Plays, presented by various individual Colleges. The second evening was easily the best. I.C. gave a performance of Shaw's "Passion, Poison and Petrification" at least equal to that of Goldsmith's College on the previous night, but on the whole we considered that outstanding successes of the festival were Kings production of Chekov's "The Proposal", and Westfield's presentation of "The Florentine Tragedy" by Oscar Wilde.

S.C.M.T.

FELIX requires the services of a photographer. He would become a member of the Editorial Board and would be responsible for the commissioning of photographs and their subsequent processing (screening) for reproduction in FELIX.

Anyone interested should contact the Editor or Production Manager (Mr. J.W. Midgley) via I.C. Union Rack.

INTER-COLLEGE EXPERIMENT

As announced in FELIX no. 16, the inaugural 'South Ken. Link-up' - of the Royal Colleges of Art, Music and Science - took place on 5th February in I.C. Union. It was the first 'public' result of the deliberations of an intercollegiate committee, formed to organize closer social relations between the colleges. A debate on the relation of Art, Music and Science to each other and their students was followed by an informal buffet-dance. R.C.A. and R.C.M. students were somewhat outnumbered by R.C.S. A considerable number of Miners and Guildsmen were also present. The meeting was favoured with the presence of Lord Falmouth, Chairman of the Governing Body, the Rector, and members of the academic staff of the R.C.M. and R.C.A.

The chairman of the meeting was Mr. Frank Howes, Music Critic of 'The Times', and also a member of the R.C.M. staff. He reminded I.C. of their great start in already combining three colleges into one, and then introduced the subject for the meeting:

How the students of Art, Music and the Sciences could best get together, and learn something of each other. Tony de Reuck (R.C.S.) then spoke on the broader purpose of the scheme: on the merits of specialization v. generalization, on pure, narrow advancement of learning v. social benefit, and concluded with overwhelming support for having the broadest grounding in principles, enabling the individual to choose the niche that finally interests him.

Mr. J. Warrack (R.C.M.) opened his remarks with an outline of an internal problem of his college. They lack a Union, and have first to bridge the divisions of 'craft' - of pianists, singers, composers and orchestral players. Mr. Ampura (R.C.A.) chose as his main point the necessity of getting to know each other's aims before attempting to share and understand views. He denounced a present-day tendency to accept second-hand opinions as knowledge, for lack of first-hand experience, and stressed the need for international exchange and travel generally in students' education.

Speakers from the floor variously advocated special (optional) lectures, such as those on History of Science now running in R.C.S., but wider in scope and treatment, on each faculty's principles and methods. Others took the opposite view, that lectures would be a busman's educational holiday at home, and suggested that exchanges would better be arranged over coffee and lunch. One speaker wished that the broad range of 'school' subjects should be continued to a higher stage; another prophesied that the schemes might produce 'Specialists in everything but their own subject'. Another speaker was overheard to say that in the few minutes remaining he would just survey human knowledge!

Professor Levy, Dean of R.C.S., summed up, taking this on at short notice due to the illness of Mr. L.A.G. Strong. He pointed out how Science has to eliminate the human element from its methods - the very contrary of our present attempts to 'humanize' our education. He picked out the point of the need for understanding where others' attentions are focused, and suggested the plan of action should be the bringing together firstly of people: then of their ideas; and then of their work.

The next function will be held at 5.30 next Monday, 26th February, in the Botany Lecture Theatre, I.C. Union. Mr. L. Roth, M.A., of the Maths. Dept. who spent some years in Italy will talk on 'Opera in Italy'. This will be followed by a discussion and a light buffet. The chair will be taken by David Hall, President of the R.C.M. Students Association.

Imp.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LECTURERS TAPED

Sir - Your account of Prof. Wiener's recent lecture on Cybernetics did not mention that the proceedings were preserved for posterity on a tape-recorder - an excellent innovation, to be extended, we understand, to other important lectures.

May we suggest that it would conform to the spirit of Prof. Wiener's thesis if you were to use your undoubted influence to persuade The Authorities (whom God preserve) to record some of the ordinary course lectures delivered in the College? To have these lectures played back to them could scarcely fail to have a most salutary effect on certain lecturers - and might enable others, whose repertoire is a Constant of Nature, to retire forthwith. The addition of recent material could be made by the already current device of speeding up the delivery of body of the lecture, and adding a series of codae at the end.

Yours etc., A.V.S. de Reuck.
Imperial College Hostel, Feb. 16th, 1951.

WHICH TURNING?

Sir - I have been asked to reply to your correspondent who requests that a sign board should be placed on "waste ground" opposite the Red Lion at Harlington.

At the beginning of this session an application was made to the local authority and also to the owner of the garden at the end of Sipson Lane for permission to erect suitable direction boards. The local authority would not grant permission and the owner of the garden at the end of Sipson Lane was not in any way co-operative.

The matter has been considered by the Athletic Ground Committee who felt that the difficulty would be best met by having a large number of printed directions available in the Union so that Club secretaries could send these to visiting clubs.

Yours faithfully, S. R. Sparkes,
Hon. Sec., Athletic Ground Committee.
City & Guilds Coll., Feb. 14th, 1951

APRES MOI - LE DELUGE

A M. le Président.

Ce sujet Cabinetologie m'intéresse infiniment. L'expérience que j'ai obtenue de trois pays doit être utile à la société. J'ai perfectionné des méthodes pour employer le minimum de papier, et d'autres choses pour faire confortables les petits séjours au cabinet.

On peut me trouver sous le nom U. Deluge dans le système postal de l'Union.

Je reste, Monsieur,
Toujours votre serviteur humble et obéissant,
Un Deluge.

(Editor's Note: The Hon. Sec. of the Societa de Gabbinettologia wishes to state he has had many similar letters and thanks the writers for their interest. Application forms for entry are being forwarded to them all.)

COLLEGE MASCOT ?

Sir - The Council of the Albert Hall recently wrote to Mr. Gaitskell, asking for a loan of £320,000, saying that their bank overdraft was £100,000, and pointing out that unless some aid was given soon, there might be no alternative but to close the hall.

With a masterly grasp of essentials, Mr. Gaitskell refused to lend the money, neatly blaming this off on to the new burden of increased defence expenditure.

I congratulate the Chancellor and suggest that if the Hall is closed the Union should offer to buy it, for, say, £1,000. It would make a good college mascot, being handy for odd occasions. For instance, the president of the Mountaineering Club might be required to make the ascent on the inside up to the dome top as proof of his prowess on the night of the Annual Dinner. Also it would come in handy for the Saturday Hops, providing more seats for beginners, more floor-space for the intermediate couples, and more odd corners for the advanced couples. Moreover, so far as I know, no other college has an Albert Hall for its mascot.

Yours faithfully, 'Informer'.
R.C.S., 5th Feb. 1951

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

Sir - In the last issue of FELIX there was a thought-provoking combination of letters, two on the 'Paper University' being printed alongside two on N.U.S. This is interesting because many of the arguments brought forward in discussing the place of the individual London college in the framework of the University also apply to the place of that college and University in the larger field of the N.U.S.

If it is desirable that the colleges in London combine for their mutual advantage, is it not also desirable that the Universities of the country should combine to the same end? To draw the line of cooperation at the boundary of Greater London is parochialism of a kind particularly virulent in London and is exceeded in short-sightedness only by the drawing of boundaries in Kensington Gore. The fact that there has been some rather strange behaviour on the part of the national executive does not alter the desirability for participation in the National Union. On the contrary, it suggests that our representatives with their experience of self-government in student affairs could play an important part in the councils of the Union.

The essence of the matter is that if we are prepared to cooperate with students outside our own college we must first strengthen our ties with the other London colleges but we should not forget that we have much to gain from cooperation with the other Universities and colleges outside our own city.

Yours etc., Louis Cohen,
Chem. Tech., 13th Feb., 1951

BOUQUET

Feb. 13th, 1951.

Sir - May I propose a large bouquet (or a "pint on the house") to the very able artist who prepares your numerous FELIX posters?

Is he at liberty to illustrate theses and lab. report books?

Yours faithfully, Peter Rowe, Chem. Tech.

SOBERING THOUGHTS

"The Brewers' Society stated yesterday that the output of beer during 1950 was 25,167,508 bulk barrels; 1,112,723 bulk barrels fewer than 1949. The fall is one of more than 320 million pints. An official of the society said last night that the decline was due mainly to excessive taxation, and partly to the increased strength of beer". - The Times, Sat. 10th Feb., 1951.

Our Brewing Correspondent writes:

"Taking a pint bottle of 'Kent's Best' pale ale as measuring 3" dia. by 10½" height, the 320 million pints, if stood side by side, would reach 15,150 miles - 10½ days' continuous travelling at 60 m.p.h.; or if stacked in the tennis courts would tower up 1,350 ft. high, more than 4 times as high as St. Paul Cathedral; or would make a wall from I.C. Union to Harlington one L.P.T.B. bus high, and two buses wide.

The total sales in 1950, side by side, would go more than 13 times round the Equator; or be enough to build a wall from London to Brighton 3 buses wide and 4 buses high; or piled one on another would reach further than five times to the moon. 2d. on the empties would be £60,000,000 - just about enough to build 5 Brabazons.

If the 320 million pints drop in consumption were stacked on the tennis courts, at the Union rate of drinking, it would take just over 8½ months to drink a passage 2' x 6' right through.

HIC

LUNCH-HOUR RECITALS
C & S BOARD ROOM 1-15 THURSDAYS
1MAR. PIANO QUARTET, MOZART
PIANO DUETS.
5MAR. PIANO RECITAL, SCHUBERT.
PETER STADLEN.

There was a young lady musician
Who read books on nuclear fission.
While trying to experiment
With uranium - off it went
With her and her flute to perdition.

FELIX

THE NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE.

CIRCULATION: 1200



THE REFECTORY

At last the Refectory Committee have taken a positive move to counter the appalling losses of the I.C. Refectory during the past few years. The peculiar difficulties of college catering - the 'seasonal' turnover due to vacations and the wide disparity in the numbers of meals served at breakfast, lunch and supper - must be remembered when assessing the reasons for the Refectory losses. Furthermore, one cannot deny that the meals served compare very favourably both in quality and price with those served in the average restaurant.

The decision to call in outside caterers could hardly have been taken earlier as the unfavourable terms of previous quotations made them unacceptable to the college. It now seems that the present catering firm - John Gardners - after successfully feeding U.C. for a year are willing to try their hand here - and on terms acceptable to the Refectory Committee.

We are glad to note that the Committee rejected the previous plan which involved the separation of Hostel residents from the rest of the college. The college is a single entity and whether we live in the Hostel or dig with Mrs. Sprogget or live on our parents it is essentially a Good Thing that we all mix together over meals.

We have got to see the consequences of calling in outside caterers. Some changes must result: if they are not always to our liking they can hardly be serious when weighed against a loss of £6000 a year.

ARTS & SCIENCE

The organising committee of the Intercollegiate Experiment, reported in this issue, are to be congratulated on their venture to bring about closer ties between R.C.A., R.C.M. and R.C.S.

The first meeting was well supported and more successful than the organisers had dared to hope. If R.C.A. and R.C.M. were outnumbered we must remember that they are only small colleges and that some extra effort is always necessary to go along to a function outside one's familiar haunts. It was interesting and encouraging to see a considerable number of Miners and Guildsmen present at the meeting - indeed the President of I.C. Union, in congratulating Mr. Peter Haskell on the success of the evening, has asked him to act in future in the capacity of Vice President of I.C.; and representatives from both Guilds and Mines will shortly join the inter-collegiate committee.

We emphatically do not share the view of our contributor on p.5 that these efforts are "so much waste of valuable time". In spite of the alleged artistic inertia of the average I.C. student the present experiment can hardly worsen the situation. There is no question of trying to ram culture down the scientist's throat or science down the artist's: rather is it an attempt to facilitate a better understanding of each other's fields of activity by getting to know each other.

It is up to individual clubs and societies with common interests to put these ideas into practice. The first step has been taken by the Musical Society. Let us hope that our Dramatic Society, Jazz Club and many others with counterparts in the other colleges will successfully get together in the future.

PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Entries for this column must be accompanied by cash. For members of I.C. the charge is the merely nominal one of 6d. up to 20 words, 1/- up to 40 words. Outside Advertisers: 2/- and 4/- respectively.

A CONTINENTAL HOLIDAY - Individual and group arrangements with special reductions for students. Paris - 7 days from £11-19-6; Brittany Coast - 10 days from £15-16-0; other countries at moderate cost. Business and Holiday Travel Ltd., Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, W.C.2. Whitehall 414/5.

FOR SALE - 4 VALVE personal portable superhet. Amateur made, needs lining-up and finishing off. Complete with batteries and 4 spare valves. Price £3-10-0, worth treble. A.F.Giles, RCS or I.C. Union Rack.

CARRIED OFF by mistake, from Silwood Park bathroom after last 'Touchstone' weekend, an ODOL toothbrush. Owner please apply Miss Helen Spalding, 1st Floor Beit.

EPIDEMIC ?

From a survey of current literature it is apparent that there are many great moments in a young girl's life, depending on what she discovers where, and when. But men have their moments too!

It occurred to some of us that the Types-who-live-in-bars should know that drops of brandy are not merely delectable nectar, and that an eightsome reel is something more than the tortuous path of a 1/8 inebriated newt.

It is equally essential that the young ladies of R.C.S. should be able to recognize frolicsome Paddy, or a dashing white sergeant when they are around, and should realize that one may strip the willow without being obscene!

It is with these thoughts in our minds, and the kind permission of the Union Committee, that we hasten to introduce these terms into the I.C. vocabulary, and the dances themselves into our coarse work. We have demonstrated this most enjoyable and efficient method of dissipating surplus energy in the New Lounge for the last three weeks, and have tested the strength of the floor.

We think Scottish Dancing has come to stay, and if you're at all interested a Highland Schottische is much easier to do than spell.

Ashley Bean.

C & G ENGINEERING SOCIETY

presents a DEBATE on the motion that

"THIS SOCIETY CONSIDERS THAT THE CURRICULUM OF THIS COLLEGE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR TRAINING ENGINEERS"

in Room 17 on Thursday, 1st March, 1951 at 5.10 p.m.

All members of the academic staff of Guilds are particularly welcome at this meeting.

JAZZ CLUB

At long last I.C. Jazz Club commenced active proceedings, when the President of the National Federation of Jazz Organisations, the Marquess of Donegal, visited the club. He was accompanied by the Marchioness and Sinclair Traill, the celebrated jazz critic of 'Jazz Journal' fame.

A most enjoyable record recital 'illustrating the sundry facets of jazz through the years' was greatly appreciated, as was evidenced by rapt attention, by an audience of some 50 enthusiasts and others who were 'interested'. Via Jelly Roll Morton and Fats Waller, and the range of Louis Armstrong from his 'Hot Five' days until today, the experts travelled from the original New Orleans Jazz to Ralph Sutton's fine present-day ragtime. The programme included several long-playing discs issued both in this country and America, as well as the conventional 78 rpm records.

A word of praise must go to our artist, C. D. Bracewell who produced the first class posters.

We hope that even more of you will enjoy our next meeting, which will be fully publicised in due course.

P.G.T.

T.B. APPEAL CONCERT

A concert in aid of the British Students' Tuberculosis Appeal was given in the Royal Albert Hall on Friday, 16th Feb. The hall appeared to be filled to capacity, and the concert was almost certainly a success financially. Whether it was a success musically is rather doubtful. The London Student Orchestra has only recently been formed and their playing seemed rough, particularly in the overtures at the beginning and end of the concert. Schubert's 'Unfinished' Symphony received quite a good performance although some members of the woodwind appeared to imagine they were playing Lehar. The orchestra were at their best in the Vaughan Williams and in 'Peter the Wolf', where Margaretta Scott was an uninspired narrator. The other soloist in (of course) Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto was Abbey Simon, whose performance was rather unsatisfactory: his playing of the third movement was by no means faultless technically. Boyd Neel was an excellent conductor throughout.

PROFILE ~ "J-B"

In the Mines we have a lecturer who tells us not to take notes - it stops us listening to the lecture - and still gets us successfully through the exams. He is none other than J.B. Richardson.

J.B. came to the R.S.M. as a student in 1907 and even then was exceptional in that he did not come from a mining family. In fact, it seems he was persuaded by a friend, L.P. Harding, to come here because of a strong dislike of office work, and a strong desire to play rugger.

At that time the R.S.M. played fixtures such as would now make the I.C. team justifiably jealous. Consequently it was no mean achievement for Jack Richardson to be selected as left wing $\frac{3}{4}$ outside Harding.

In 1910 he received his Associateship, and went out to Nigeria with a "tin farming" concern, aptly named Lucky Chance Mines. The country had only recently been made a British protectorate, and was still the "white man's grave". When the party of newcomers arrived in Nigeria they were met by a government guide, a certain Mr. Finch, who, taking advantage of their inexperience, fooled them into travelling heavily armed and posting sentries all night round their camps. This joke was greatly appreciated by the old hands, who promptly nicknamed them "Finch's Boy Scouts".

However the rest of J.B.'s work there was not so humorous. During one job his only European companion, also from the R.S.M., died of dysentery. But J.B. survived two years in West Africa, which gave him plenty of scope to practice his hobby of sketching. An account of his journeys was published in the Mining Magazine and the accompanying drawings prove him to be no mere amateur.

In 1912 he returned to England and married. He and his wife then went out to a Bolivian tin mining company, for which he worked until the outbreak of the first World War.

He volunteered for the Army, and, after various engineering posts in Britain, was sent with the R.E.'s to France in '17.

After the War J.B. went back to Bolivia, this time to an isolated mine in the Andes. While he was there the natives went on strike and tried to assassinate the Europeans. For half a week, both day and night until support arrived, they had to defend themselves with Mausers - this time it was not a joke.

After various jobs abroad he proved his versatility by changing to metallurgy (1924-28), but as he readily points out only so as to be with his wife and three children.

Many students will feel sympathetic when they know that J.B. once narrowly escaped being put in jail. He was General Manager at San Telmo in Spain during the time of the Popular Front Government. One day a local tax-collector arrived at his office and started to be obstreperous. J.B. replied a little forcibly (Spanish can be such a picturesque language) and was promptly charged with "Defamation of the State". He managed to talk his way out of being jailed, but it was a near thing.

When the second World War came he was too old for the forces, so was put in charge of a Royal Ordnance Factory in Yorkshire. After the War he returned to the R.S.M. as a lecturer, in Mining, and was elected as Old Students Representative on Council. His son did not follow his father's profession, but went to the Guilds instead. J.B. now hopes to have a grandchild at the R.C.S. to even things up.

TOUCHSTONE

Lord Beveridge, at the time of his Social Insurance Report, divided the world into three classes: those who agreed with the Report; those who disagreed with it; and those who had read it. The same classification probably holds good for his recent enquiry into Broadcasting, and for the purpose of the next Touchstone week-end it will be assumed that Those Who Have Read It will be in no danger of swamping the rest of the party. The date is March 10/11th. Place: Silwood Park. Cost: 10/- (including transport both ways). Subject: BROADCASTING, in both its technical and social aspects. The name of the opening speaker will be announced later. Make a note of the date now if you would like to come; names should be given in at the Union Office not later than 2nd March. The number of places is limited, but preference will be given to people who haven't been to a Touchstone week-end before.

GAI PARIS

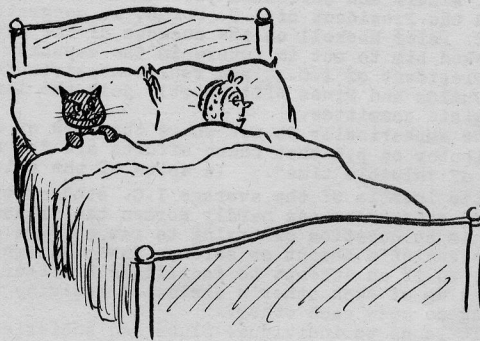
"On Friday evening he took her to old Montmartre and they danced, with fairy lights twinkling down on them through the trees, with soft music in their ears, and wine . . . yes, the mystery and gaiety of Paris."

Such was the theme of the latest carnival. A theme which provided the atmosphere of "Gay Paris" and indeed captured "la vie française" itself. The atmosphere created was largely due to the truly magnificent decoration carried out in our well-worn gym. What is more Parisien than an open-air café, with its brightly coloured awning, its round tables, and its shaded lights? What could have been more characteristic than the newspaper stall, with its entertaining reading matter, and the . . . well, perhaps, if is convenient to forget that one! To David Allen must be attributed the idea, the scheme and the plans of this fairyland. He was definitely the midwife of the carnival. The confinement, however, was a different matter, and here due recognition must be given to the co-operation and productivity of many Guildsmen. On the shoulders of Chief Administrator Marcus Hull rested the smooth running of the evening. His early nervousness, and tendency to flap were soon overcome, no doubt as a result of his militant uniform and his entertaining manner. Full marks to Marcus.

The Fancy Dress Parade came at the climax of, much eating and drinking and spirits could not have been higher. A special word of praise for Chien Clive Newman, and his Chienne. It has been said that in Paris the mannequin and the canine go hand in paw - Clive preferred paw in paw, and deservedly won the first prize.

Cabaret turns are not easy to select for carnival audiences in the early hours, and, although Line Reynaud and the Windmill girls would have been desirable, the feminine charms of the mighty mannequin were well appreciated. Not only did she bend bars, and tear up 'phone directories, but also showed ready wit and repartee. The "Skating Dexters" repeated their television show of the early evening and were thought to skate quite well.

So passed the late hours . . . the early hours were soon overtaken. Many were still dancing, others by now were content with simpler delights. Then Dawn through striped awnings shot a timorous ray, which closed most eyes and thus eclipsed their day.



"DID YOU PUT THE CAT OUT, DEAR?"

PHOENIX

On enquiring of a friend what he had thought of the new PHOENIX the following reply was obtained: "Not bad". There's at least one good article in it." It would show a fine cynical spirit to invite readers to attempt to identify the article in question. It would also be most misleading and unkind, for this is a PHOENIX among PHOENICES, the swan-song, perhaps, of the retiring editor, and almost everything in it is good. If there must be economies in form as reluctantly predicted by the Editor, no such bogeys, either in quality or quantity, have cast their shadows before to darken the pages of this issue. The general appearance and presentation keeps up with the high standard we have come to expect during the last twelve months, although it is perhaps a pity that major articles sometimes have to begin halfway down, or at the bottom of a page.

Those who are becoming awake to the spiritual deficiencies of I.C. life will find much that is thought-provoking in the current issue. Those who are already exasperated by the least mention of such words as Liberal Education will find much that is merely provoking.

J.C.M.T.

VIEWPOINT

The Editor takes no responsibility for views expressed in this column.

CULTURE IN I.C.

'Touchstone', 'Ends and Means', and now 'The University of South Kensington' - culture is indeed in the air at I.C. these days. The latest PHOENIX is filled with articles exhorting us to leave our technological prisons to breathe deeply the refreshing air of liberal education, and extolling the efforts now being made to introduce the students of I.C. to the delights of culture. For everyone is agreed that this aim is very laudable; in fact, the agreement is so unanimous that it might be as well to take a detached view of these efforts.

'Touchstone' is an attempt to induce students to discuss subjects outside the normal college curricula; how far it retraces ground already covered by the Literary and Debating, and Political Societies is a matter for speculation. Indeed it seems that the majority of supporters of 'Touchstone' are stalwarts of these societies and it is difficult to see what beneficial effect it can possibly have on the mass of Imperial College. The purpose of the 'Ends and Means' lectures seems even more obscure; one is led to believe that they were introduced so that a head of a particular department could enlighten those studying other subjects on the nature of his work and its relation to science in general. Recent lectures, however, may well have persuaded the uninitiated to avoid the lecturer's subject at all costs; the organisers should remember that professors are not always appointed because of ability to discuss their own subject in public in an interesting manner. This series seems to me a classic example of well-meant futility.

The latest and most fantastic suggestion is 'The University of South Kensington'. Briefly, the idea is that students of the Royal Colleges of Art, Music and Science should come into much closer contact with one another than hitherto; this, it is claimed, will benefit not only the scientist but also the artist and musician, (for we all know how important it is that an opera singer should have a knowledge of the Second Law of Thermodynamics). Exactly how this closer contact will be achieved has yet to be decided. The way regarded as obvious by all interested seems to be for the students to mix together, talk over coffee, hold joint functions etc.

Yet if a lady from the R.C.M. who knows nothing of science is dancing with gentleman from the R.C.S. who knows nothing of music, the two things which they will not talk about will be music and science. If this is the way in which this project is to be tackled, it is doomed to failure from the start. What other way is there? At the meeting on Feb. 5th, the RCS speaker suggested lectures - on aesthetics for students of the R.C.S. and on philosophy and scientific method for students of the R.C.A. and R.C.M. Could anything be more inept? As far as the R.C.S. is concerned, the introduction of lectures on aesthetics would simply be a marvellous recipe for technical sausages. In fact, it is quite evident that the whole idea of this university can never be more than a pleasant dream.

Having poured cold water on all the 'cultural efforts' being made in I.C., I can fairly be asked what I propose should be done instead. The answer is: nothing. The apathy towards culture at I.C. is too deep-rooted for any remedy to be effective. Instead of considering culture as a whole, let us look at the position of the arts in I.C. With the exception of music, they might as well be non-existent. A very important exhibition of Turner water-colours is on show at Agnew's. How many of I.C. will go to see it? A Swedish ballet company are presenting a most controversial ballet in London now. How many of I.C. will go to see it? Menotti's dramatic opera 'The Consul' is being given at the Cambridge Theatre, an event of great operatic importance. How many of I.C. will go to see it? You know the answers to these questions as well as I do - a negligible proportion in each case. The average student at I.C. has no interest in these sorts of things. Yet if he wishes to enjoy the arts, or, more generally, culture, there is nothing whatever to prevent him. Equally, if he does not wish to enjoy culture, nothing whatever will persuade him to make the attempt. Fatuous projects such as 'Touchstone', 'Ends and Means' and 'The University of South Kensington' are just so much waste of valuable time.

D. G. R.



COMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, 23rd FEB.

I.C. Boxing Club. Preliminary rounds of the inter-college competitions. Union Gym, 6 p.m.
"History of Science" by Prof. Levy. Main Lecture Theatre, Huxley Building 3.0 p.m.

SATURDAY, 24th FEB.

I.C.R.F.C. v. Royal Vet. Coll. Home.
I.C.H.C. v. New College, Oxford. Away.
I.C.B.C. v. Reading Univ. (four VIII's), at Reading.
I.C.A.F.C. v. Westminster College. Home.
I.C.W.S.C. Netball v. Royal Free Hosp. Home, 10.30.
I.C. Ent. Ctte. "Hop". Union, 8.0 p.m.

SUNDAY, 25th FEB.

I.C. Mountaineering Club. Walk from Berkhamstead Leader G. Lester.

MONDAY, 26th FEB.

L.I.F.C.U., I.C. Branch "The Church" by Alan Crane. Botany Lecture Theatre, 1.15 p.m.
Guilds Radio Soc. "The generation of a television waveform" by M. Lehman. Room N.26, 5.10 p.m.
R.C.A. Theatre Group present "The Tempest". Students Common Room. Queen's Gate 7 p.m. Tickets from 2/6 to 10/-.

TUESDAY, 27th FEB.

I.C. Chem. Soc. "Rational Chemotherapy" by Dr. H.N. Rydon, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C. at 5.15 in RCS.
I.C. Railway Soc. "Modern Permanent Way" by M.G.R. Smith at 5.15 in C. & G., Room 22.
I.C. Lit. & Deb. Soc. Brains Trust. Gym, 5.15 p.m.
"The Tempest", R.C.A. Students Common Room, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 28th FEB.

I.C.H.C. v. Reading University. Away.
I.C. Chem. Soc. Visit to J. Lyons & Co. Ltd.
I.C.A.F.C. v. Kings College. Away.
Guilds Radio Soc. Visit to B.B.C. Brookmans Park Medium Wave Transmitters.

I.C. Riding Club. Ride, Richmond, 2.30.
"The Tempest", R.C.A. Students Common Room, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, 1st MARCH.

I.C. Mountaineering Club. Film Show of French Alps etc.
"The Tempest", R.C.A. Students Common Room, 7 p.m.
Music Soc. Lunch-hour Recital, C & G Council Room.

FRIDAY, 2nd MARCH.

I.C. Youth Hostels Group. Joint meet with Bedford College to Chaldon Youth Hostel.
Ends and Means Lecture. Prof. D. Williams on "Minerals in World Affairs". Large Chem. Lect. Theatre, 4.15.

I.C. Jazz Club. Record recital by Mr. A. Fox. Committee Room A, 5.15 p.m.

I.C. Beaver Club, Bar 6.30 p.m.
"History of Science" by Prof. Levy. Main Lecture Theatre, Huxley Bldg. 3.0 p.m.

"The Tempest", R.C.A. Students Common Room, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, 3rd MARCH.

I.C.R.F.C. v. Wasps, Vandals. Away.
I.C.H.C. v. Royal Naval Coll., Greenwich. Home.
I.C.A.F.C. v. L.S.E. Home.
I.C.W.S.C. Netball v. K.C.H.S.S. Away. 10.30.
I.C. Ent. Ctte. "Hop", Union, 8.0 p.m.

"The Tempest", R.C.A. Students Common Room, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, 4th MARCH.

I.C. Film Soc. Film Show, "Ninety degrees South" and "Daybreak in Udi", at 7.30 in the New Lounge.

MONDAY, 5th MARCH.

L.I.F.C.U., I.C. Branch, "The Christian Faith: its view of the future." By Metcalfe Collier.

Botany Lecture Theatre, 1.15 p.m.
Joint Meeting Guilds Radio Soc. & I.C. Musical Soc. "Electronic Organs", by L. Brown, to be followed by a short recital. Room 15, 5.10.

TUESDAY, 6th MARCH.

R.C.S. Maths. & Phys. Soc. "The age of the Earth" by Asst. Prof. J. McG. Bruckshaw. Small Physics Theatre, 5.15.

WEDNESDAY, 7th MARCH.

U.L. Hockey Cup final
I.C. Railway Soc. Visit to P.L.A.
I.C.W.S.C. Netball 2nd team v. London Hosp. Home.
I.C. Riding Club, Ride, Richmond, 2.30.

THURSDAY, 8th MARCH.

Ends and Means Lecture, Prof. W.G. Bickley: "Mathematics and Technology", R.C.S. Chem. Lecture Theatre, 4.15.
Musical Soc. Lunch-hour Recital. C & G Council Room.

FRIDAY, 9th MARCH.

"History of Science" by Prof. Levy, Main Lecture Theatre, Huxley Bldg. 3.0 p.m.





SPORT



I.C.H.C. CUP FINALISTS AGAIN

Westminster Hospital 0 - Imperial College 5

I.C. are again in the final, this being the third year in succession, and if they play as well on March 7th as they did in the semi-final they stand an excellent chance of winning the cup for the second year running.

The pitch was sticky after the rain, but in spite of the hard going the first half was played at a good pace made possible to a large extent by the successful passing and stick-work of the whole team. All five goals were scored in the first half (Bentley 2, Purslow 2, Jones 1) and although the opposition goal keeper was not strong, the movements which led to the actual shots were the result of good passing, good timing and quick decisions.

There was more hard hitting and less constructive work in the second half, when the pitch was rather the worse for wear, but the I.C. defence kept at it and did well to keep their opponents out of our goal entirely.

There is some very good talent in the I.C. team, and in this match it was evident at the right time and in the right place, and we hope it will all re-appear in the Final. Good luck, I.C!

Team: D. Hardy; R. Palmer, P. Justesen; W. Pike, G. Bennett, S. Mossman; B. Purslow, R. Bentley, N. Jones, K. George, E. Green.

SOCCER

The weather of the last few months has resulted in many sports grounds disappearing in whole or part under the surface of the floods. Harlington inevitably succumbed and this has caused the postponement of numerous I.C. games together with the Technology Cup match between Guilds and Mines which should have been played on 14th Feb. At present a new date for this game has not been fixed.

I.C. 1st XI have played two matches, losing to St. Mary's College and beating Q.M.C. The 2nd XI, who have gained 11 points in 11 league games to date, only had one match in Westminster College (4 - 2). I.C. 3rd XI lost two league games, against Westminster Hospital (3 - 0) and St. Thomas's (2 - 1) and have collected 10 points from 12 league matches.

1st Team: v. Wimbledon Lost 1 - 4
v.

1st Team: v. Wimbledon Lost 1 - 4
v. U.C.H. Won 3 - 2
v. S.O.A.S. Won 4 - 1
v. Kings College Won 4 - 1
v. O. Aldenhamans Won 5 - 0
v. University Coll. Won 3 - 2
v. St. Edmund Hall Lost 2 - 3

To date: Played 14, Won 10, Lost 4.

2nd Team: v. Q.M.C. Won 5 - 0
v. Kings Coll, II Won 4 - 1
v. Q.M.C. Won 3 - 2

To date: Played 8, Won 5, Lost 3.

SQUASH RACKETS

The club is having an extremely successful season, the only losses being inflicted on us by the extremely strong Wimbledon Club (2), Kings College and St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. The latter match was lost in the last tie by the narrowest possible margin! The second team has been equally successful, in spite of the numerous players who have represented it at one time and another. It is regretted that one match had to be cancelled owing to lack of support - this is the first occasion this has happened this season, and it is hoped it will not be allowed to occur again.

A social fixture with I.C.W.S.C. at the end of the Winter Term was enjoyed by all, though it clearly showed who were the dominant sex at Squash Rackets! (even against a handicap of three points and a hand).

The practise of the sweeping of the courts being carried out by the Club captain - (a traditional duty) - has lapsed. A member of the non-academic staff has been at last attracted by the princely wage offered by the club - there is however no hope, as yet, of anything being done about the seasonal shower bath in court B.

BOXING

I.C. 3 - Kings Coll. 3

In the gym on Tuesday, Feb. 13th, I.C. Boxing club staged a number of bouts the majority of which were between I.C. and Kings, although other colleges of the University were represented. The I.C. boxers acquitted themselves well as the score will show, and the evening can be considered as being most successful.

A certain military gentleman's sobriquet of 'Blood and Guts' might well be applied to Philip Purser (I.C.) who in his first fight representing I.C., displayed plenty of courage and a sanguinary complexion. That he lost to K. Mackerell (I.S.E.) is no disgrace. Few fights can, in all honesty, be called beautiful, but Mike Humphreys (I.C.) gave a display that really was a pleasure to watch, though W. Robinson (Kings), his well matched opponent, might disagree, having lost on points. Gaby Gales (I.C.) ultimately went down for good against the extremely rapid punches of J. Reavey (Kings), after having repeatedly come up for more. Bill Cook (I.C.), another first-timer, laid a hen's egg beneath the eye of C. Figg (Kings), the doctor stopping the fight for fear it might hatch.

The most colourful fight of the evening was that between Anton Brown (I.C.) and R. Gray (Kings). This is the first time, as far as we know, that red has been obtained by mixing Brown and Gray. Next, Gordon Tait at 7 st. 12 lbs. laddled out his particular line in beauty treatment to J. Wilde (Kings) at 9 st. 7 lbs. The course of treatment was concluded in the first round. "Killer" Hulme lost on points to A. Dujon (Kings). However, considering Dujon is U.L. champion!

Today (Feb. 23rd) the Imperial College Boxing Club are holding the preliminary rounds of the Inter-College Competitions. The Finals are being held at 6 p.m. on Thursday March 1st in the Gymnasium. Come and support your College on both of these occasions!

CROSS-COUNTRY

I.C.C.C.C. v. University College, Southampton(A)
Won : 40 points to 41 pts.

This race was run over a very sticky course of about 5½ miles, and resulted in a very creditable win to I.C. Southampton fielded their strongest team for the first time this year, and provided the first man home - E. Downer, an International Runner. Ted Whitlock of I.C. was second some 30 seconds behind, and Hayton (S) was a distant third.

Final placings: (1) Downer, S. (2) Whitlock, I.C.
(3) Hayton, S. (4) Goater, S.
(5) Kay, I.C. (6) Bagley, I.C.

London Colleges Trophy Race.

This race was run on Wed. Feb. 14th, and the team was feeling the effects of its hard work against Southampton. I.C. were placed third behind Kings College and Q.M.C. Ted Whitlock again ran a very fine race, he broke the course record by over 40 seconds, but no-one else was able to back him up. M. Garrod ran well to finish eleventh, in a field of over fifty minutes.

I.C. placings: (1) E. Whitlock, (11) M. Garrod
(21) F.C. Bagley, (J.P. Davies
(25) G.C. Kay (28) A.B. Watts.

LAWN TENNIS

In view of the strong support given to the film show run by the Guilds L.T.C. last year, the I.C.L.T.C. have decided to organize a similar event this year.

The films to be shown are: - '1950 Wimbledon', 'Ski Skill', and 'Once again at Wimbledon'.

In addition to these films it is hoped to welcome as guest Dan Maskell, England's number one professional Lawn Tennis coach, to give a talk and answer questions. All members of the Union will be welcome.

Time: 5.15 p.m. Place: Room 15, C & G.
Date: Friday, 2nd March.