



# MIKE GONE

## Alarms fail Now at UC

**MIKE**, IC's new, unstealable mascot lasted just five weeks. Between 1.30 and 5.30 am last Thursday it was removed from its plinth in the Union lower lounge. The vice-jaws, which gripped the body, were cut with an oxy-acetylene torch; the ring which circled the barrel had been broken in an attempt on the previous Monday by drilling and chiselling and was removed using the torch.

It appears that one of the thieves stayed in the Union after it was closed on Wednesday night by Acting Duty Officer Tony Duke. The Union doors facing into Beit Quad were chained to repel defenders. The other assailants entered through the back entrance which was opened by unscrewing the lock. It is estimated that the operation would take some forty minutes to complete.

The mascot was supposed to be protected by ingenious alarm system so that any tampering would set off the siren. However, on the night of the raid none of these systems was connected, the Wooden Horse Organisation, who are responsible for mascotry, were relying on the protection of the plinth and the presence of the Security guards. According to the "rules" of mascot stealing the mascot may only be removed during Union hours, which would prevent the use of torches and the other equipment. Also it is against the rules to damage the mascot—it is likely that the cutting torch would easily melt the brass body.

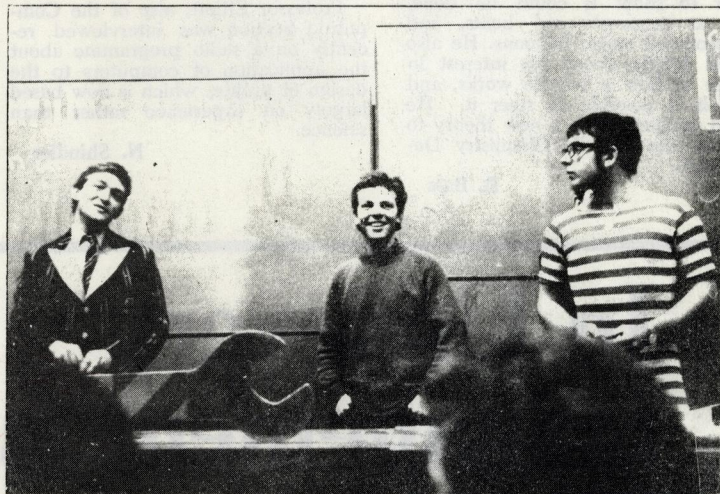
When the siren was tested on Friday (to see if it really did work) it was found to be quite weak, certainly not loud enough to wake any of the residents of Beit Hall, except perhaps someone on fifth floor Old Beit.

At the time of writing (Sunday) nothing had been heard from the thieves, although it is customary to inform the victims within 24 hours. However, Deputy President David McBain had discovered that MIKE was in the custody of University College.

In order to enlist their support in recovering MIKE, the mascot of the College of Estate Management, a concrete owl, was stolen during Friday lunch-time. The owl was found in their Union bar during preparations for a dance and it was an easy matter to effect its removal. Other IC students are making attempts to recruit mascots so that more help can be bought.

Two very embarrassed people are Tony Duke, who had placed bets with other Presidents that MIKE would not be stolen, and Ralph Cornforth, President of the W.H.O., who is being blamed for the loss of the mascot. On Wednesday evening Cornforth wrote a report on the attempt made on Monday. He concluded, "MIKE WILL NEVER BE STOLEN FROM ITS PLINTH".

Berford College, whose mascot—a unicorn—was stolen earlier this term, have still not heard of fits whereabouts, and PHINEAS, the mascot of University College has strayed from home. When the New Scientist heard of the claims for MIKE they promised the Union a firkin of beer if it could be re-tained for one year.



## Guilds at play

### 'We've mucked this place up'

The characteristic atmosphere of a Guild's Union meeting—4 parts nitrogen, 1 part oxygen and n parts paper darts, was well in evidence at the last meeting and the hornblowers, tablethumpers and chorus chanters had their usual field day. What were not characteristic of a Guild's meeting were the excesses of the meeting which was never fully under control. In their exuberance and recklessness, many members, encouraged by the Union officers, exceeded the limits of safety and decency: to set fire to a paper dart and then throw it into the audience cannot be excused on any grounds, especially in the finest lecture theatre in the College.

The noise level subsided only during the presentation of rowing colours, after which President Pete Roberts adjourned the meeting and convened an Extraordinary General Meeting to pass some constitutional changes. Without further explanation he then declared that whatever he wished to pass was passed. Monosyllabic objections were raised to this unjustifiably high-handed attitude, these were completely ignored.

also involved trampling said Weetabix into the floor and smashing one pint mug. The result was never in doubt, since Reg White, finding nothing better to do with his piece of chalk, wrote the winners, Civils, plainly on the board—and Civils it was. All parties cheated vigorously, casting sporting instincts aside, and the lure of the prize, a large volume of beer, was so great that a tussle broke out in the winning team over the distribution of the booty.

## Swimming Gala

Having thus abandoned the constitution, the meeting passed on to higher matters as Phil Marshall leapt onto the stage in a neck to knee bathing suit and cardboard banana horns, while his accomplice, Rog White, in similar dress, bounded from blackboard to blackboard scribbling sexual graffiti. 'You may wonder why we are wearing this spastic gear' said Marshall, and offered the forthcoming swimming gala as an excuse. Defending himself from a hail of paper, chalk and a probing lecture pointer, by waving his helmet, the Guild's Vice President spent a boisterous ten minutes alternatively describing future Guild's activities, and shouting for order. Characteristically, he placed great emphasis on free booze in his address.

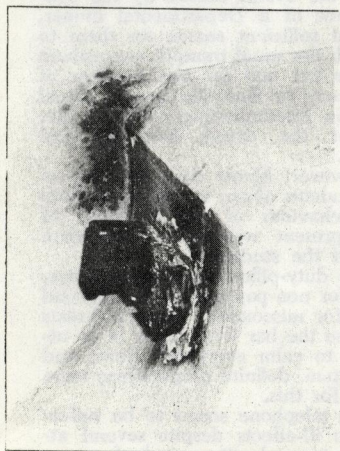
The remainder of the meeting was taken up with children's games, laughingly called a competition. The basis of these was an inter-year contest involving the bursting of balloons by sheer lung power and the eating of dry Weetabix. It

## Children

A final friendly followed, including a Presidential team of Duke, McBain and Roberts, and, on paper plates, several rounds of Bird's Instant Whip (neapolitan flavour). At the end of this contest Duke showed himself to be no more responsible than the worst of 'that crowd', when he flung one of the plates into the audience covering several people with the mixture and depositing portions of it on furniture and walls: all good dirty fun! Shortly after this Roberts appealed for some order saying 'I think we've mucked this place up quite enough.' They had indeed!

Of interest, incidentally, is that the noise level reached a definite maximum during the reading of the minutes—perhaps Guildsmen just aren't interested in the affairs of their irresponsible Union officers.

J. Mullay, C.G.H.



The damaged, empty plinth



C.E.M.'s owl



## Rubbish!

'It's all rubbish!' commented Dr. D.E.H. Jones on manufacturers literature on 'Hi-Fi' pick-up arms, as he demonstrated his own design, constructed from the tube of a bicycle pump. In his lecture on 'Rubbish Machines,' the production of useful articles from rubbish, Dr. Jones described to the Maths and Phys. Soc. some of his own products, such as his rubbish tape-recorder, amplifier, and record players. He then discussed the other side of the subject, that is, useless products, constructed in order to show it could be done, such as steam-powered boats, and his proposed steam balloons. He also talked briefly about his interest in theory of how a bicycle works, and how it is possible to steer it. He asked anybody with a new theory to contact him via the Chemistry Department.

R. Bass

## Ships from computers

A research contract worth £53,000 has been granted to Professor Stanley Gill of the Computing Section by the Ministry of Technology. The contract involves investigating the application of computers to the design of hulls for ships, and will require the purchase of graphical display equipment and a PDP-7 computer to control it.

Professor Elliott, also of the Computing Section was interviewed recently on a radio programme about the application of computers to the design of profiles which is now based largely on experience rather than science.

N. Shindler

## Memories of Wells by Lord Snow

The H.G. Wells Centenary Lecture organised by the National Wells Society was given by Lord Snow. Lord Snow gave an informal lecture, as he said Wells did not approve of formality, and spoke of his personal impressions of Wells.

He first met him in 1934, Wells was the first person to show any interest in a novel Lord Snow had just written, and asked him to lunch to discuss it. Lord Snow arrived punctually at Well's London home on a dark and miserable afternoon. Wells was not punctual but when he did appear showed great interest in Lord Snow and his writings, wanting to know where he got his

information on married life for example.

Although well entertained Snow was only invitee to Wells home once, perhaps because Wells didn't like other men talking to his wife.

Snow remembered Wells as the inventor and the writer, the man who forecasted the coming of war tanks and air battles. In his writings he told of his youth and hopes for a Utopia founded on education and science.

Although Wells is remembered as a writer he only took up this occupation because of ill health. His ambition was to become a scientist an F.R.S. and a Professor Emeritus. However, as his period of good education was short and his health poor his ambition was never fulfilled and this depressed him.

In one startling conversation Wells asked if he had ever thought of suicide. "Yes H.G." was the reply. "So have I, but not till I was past 70". Lord Snow recalls he must have been thinking only of the present as Wells had written in his autobiography that he had contemplated suicide at 16, when he was working in a depressing drapers shop.

## Recognition

In his later life Wells realised his ambition might never be achieved but he still tried. He wrote a thesis in the hope that the Royal Society would recognise him as scientist if he had a doctorate. They didn't and Lord Snow felt that for a person such as Wells who foresaw the science of the 20th Century he should have had his much-wanted recognition.

Wells said he found dying rather a messy business even though death itself did not worry him. His personal aim was not satisfied but his writings, for which he had little patience are still widely known.

J. Moont

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A manager from Unilever will be visiting your University during the Spring Term to interview students. Details of his visit can be had from your Appointments Officer.

## Southside bar brawl

A complaint has been received from the staff in Southside Bar about various customers on Swimming Gala night. It seems that the enforced absence of Mech. Eng.2 from the event, caused by the concurrence of a Departmental dinner, proved sufficient reason for them to disturb the usual tranquil atmosphere of the bar and for one member of the party to flout the normal social code in discriminating where he got rid of the excess beer he had drunk.

However, blame does not rest on the students alone; according to Stan the behaviour of the members of staff present was even worse than that of the students.

The duty-officer was called twice, once for non-payment and the second time, for misconduct. Several threats to close the bar were made in an attempt to calm everybody down and at 10 p.m. definite preparations were made for this.

The telephone seems to be suffering no ill-effects despite several attempts to render it a mischief.

F.J. Morris



# Selwyn Lloyd in fine form

Selwyn Lloyd recently visited a lunch-time meeting of ConSoc to give a general talk on the present political scene. He opened his talk on the subject of Vietnam, stating that this issue is the most important in foreign affairs. He thought that the conflict could only be settled around a conference table with the Americans and the Chinese negotiating a joint withdrawal to leave Vietnam as a flabby, central pad between these rivals. He also felt, though, that the Americans should keep up their offensive, including bombing raids, until negotiations start, as the Communists are no respecters of weakness. He did not offer a method of achieving negotiations other than giving the Chinese a full seat in the UN security council.

Continuing with foreign affairs, he thought that a settlement of the Rhodesian situation would come more easily from negotiations than from sanctions which would affect the Zambian and British economies and would solidify the white Rhodesians behind the Smith government. He felt that the coloured citizen of Rhodesia should not be given an immediate vote but Britain should send a 'large sum' to Rhodesia to be spent on a massive educational drive to fit the coloured citizen for a vote.

Concerning the role of Britain in the defence of the free world, he said that we have taken too much on ourselves and we should hand over many of our responsibilities to other nations. He did not, however, say how we were to get rid of these commitments.

Turning to domestic issues, he spoke of his surprise that we did not have a much worse balance of payments crisis in view of the way industry has been run since the war. As for the present balance of payments crisis, he gave no real solution but he warned against devaluation of the pound.

## Diwali - Asian Festivities

On December 2nd the India Society celebrated Diwali—the autumn harvest festival of fireworks, illuminations, and music. Fire regulations rule out fireworks in the Union, so the celebration had to be limited to food, dancing, music, and magic.

## Food

The dinner consisted of favourite South Kensington dishes like tandoori chicken, pilao, and shik kabab, supplied by an outside restaurant, and was attended by over 140 people, including several members of staff and the Deputy High Commissioner for India. There were, perhaps surprisingly, no after-dinner speeches, and the guests adjourned rapidly to the Concert Hall for the variety programme.

## Entertainment

This was easily the best that the India Society has ever staged, and different from anything else ever seen at IC.

Folk dances from Malabar and Rajasthan were danced with professional excellence in really gorgeous costumes; and the evening was greatly enlivened by Mech. Eng. P. C. N. Patankar's displays of magic and mime.

The show, naturally, over-ran; and as the audience waded out through the debris of the Swimming Gala they could reflect on a unique evening well-spent.

P.M.R.

## Nationalisation

Continuing, he criticised the present government for increasing the power of the state in five sectors of the economy. He slated the nationalisation plans for steel and the setting up of the new national authorities for freight, land etc; he disapproved of the abandoning of his own National Economic Development Council, the introduction of new confusing company taxes and the resulting increase in the Civil Service.

## Trade Unions

During question time, he said that he would like to see a revision of trade union law to set up a restrictive practices court for the unions and to increase the power of the fair-minded union leaders.

The meeting had to be wound up through lack of time at 4.30 and the enthusiastic applause reflected the excellence of the speech and the precise nature of Mr Lloyd's retorts to the questioning.

Dave Ormiston

## SouthSide Stomps

After this term's Cellar sessions, in which Dick Morrissey 4tet, the Graham Collier 7tet, and the Don Rendell 4tet have been guests, the Jazz Club are presenting another another season of SS stomps.

To set the stomps off with a bang, the first one (on Wed. 18 Jan.) will feature Spencer's Washboard Kings and promises to be a good evening for those who care to dance, listen, or simply drink at the bar.

Future stomps will follow at two weekly intervals. Bookings for these will include Max. Collies' Rhythm Aces, who helped to make this year's Morphy Day stomp such a great success.

## Carnival:

### Treble Results

Winters for Dec. 3rd 1966. No card was sold that obtained an aggregate of more than seven goals.

The following cards, which had an aggregate of seven goals, each win one seventh of the £7.10. prize:— Nos. 162, 258, 622, 667, 676, 797, 801. Each will receive £1.15d.

F.J. Morris (Pool Promoter)

## IC in colour

Recently a visit was paid to the college by an NBC colour television unit. The unit is making a series of two-hour films on the theme "selling Britain's future". Among the topics covered are education, music and fashion.

In connection with this, the N.B.C. unit interviewed Professor Chain and Professor Laithwaite.

The programme is similar in concept to our "24 Hours"; and it is watched by 80% of US Congressmen.

P. Munday

## Hindu Society

At the last SCC meeting notice was given of the intention to form a Hindu Society. The Society would aim to spread knowledge of Hindu philosophy and compare it with that of other faiths.

## LUCA debate

Jane Pearson and David Reich from IC won the London University Conservative Association speakers' competition last week against opposition from four other London Colleges.

# Snowdon by mini-bus



## I.C.W.A. Champion

On Sunday the weather improved and the party split up to visit the Snowdon horseshoe and Elidir Fach whilst others stayed at the comfortable Scout hut at Hafod Bach. The weekend was not without its lighter moments and we must record that the snowball match on Foel Goch was won by ICWA and a snowman was built in due recognition. The use of Mini-buses enables us to get in two good days walking in the weekend.

At various times on Saturday 3 December, 19 members of the Rover Crew arrived at the summit of Snowdon in their respective groups, glad to gain respite from the driving snow whipped up by the strong winds. The snow was about six inches deep and this obscured footpaths making climbing interesting. Thanks to the organisation of Mike Garrett we were prepared for the worst weather condition (1½ lbs of dates per man)\* and thus enjoyed the climb.

B.F. Tunbridge

\*The Crew now has a surplus of dates... any offers?

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## EDITOR'S Comment

### One is one... We are SO good

It is a dismaying experience to realise just how inward-looking this Union is. That the College as a whole should choose to isolate itself from the National Student body is puzzling enough, but when I am told by some of our clear-thinking, rational Guildsmen that the RCS debates on NUS are of no concern to them, I confess myself to be bewildered. Are they really so short-sighted or do they actually believe that if Guilds' considered joining that different arguments would apply? Members of the Union complain that FELIX has given too much space to the NUS debates—perhaps they would rather have more space devoted to the really significant events of the Union's calendar. There are those interesting incidents of Morphy Day or the Lord Mayor's Show, which show the full extent of the students' good relations with the public or there is the petty back-biting that has gone on in RCS this term. Such is the Union's consciousness of its role in national student affairs that it considers NUS to be of small concern.

Imperial College is the foremost technological institution in the country, it is famous for its distinguished academic staff, the superb Halls of Residence and its 'sweat cattle markets'. When the College was mentioned in conversation at the Margate conference, however, the delegates were puzzled about the Union's attitude. 'Why is IC so disinterested in national student affairs?' and 'Silly' were the comments. Perhaps we are so good that we can be a law unto ourselves... perhaps not. Time and again the title 'University of South Kensington' is raised in publications, broadcasts and governmental circles, IC is well-known and acknowledged throughout Europe and the world as something different, something special. But how many students realise the esteem in which the College is held and compare it with the respect due to our Union? Time and again I find that for so many people this is just a super-technical college.

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### The Piggery

Sir,

May I, through your column, appeal to those members of the Union who insist upon making the upper lounge into an absolute piggery every lunch-time to at least return it to its initial state before leaving. This room, placed as it is at the top of the Union, is ideally suited to its actual purpose of providing a quiet place of relaxation—however, this is impossible due to its permanent worse-than-slum condition.

While considering the 3rd floor of the Union may I suggest that the table tennis club apply for a supplementary grant or something to cover the cost of either a fan or respirators for those who pass through our B.O. saturated clubroom??  
 Roderick J. Redmayne

**COLCUTT**

## Looking around

The NUS question has been settled for another year, I hope. As I said in an earlier issue, one of the failings of this type of argument at IC is that few people take the trouble to find out the facts of the matter, and prepare a reasonable argument for, or against. Many were, therefore, heartened to see the points for both sides published in the last issue of 'FELIX'. However, a closer examination of these points shows that they might not be as sound as they appear. For example: '3 MP's have told us...the rise will definitely be in the form of a loan'. A pretty powerful argument. Unfortunately, when the national press showed interest in this statement and enquired of Martin Lack the identity of these three MP's, it transpired that he knew definitely of one, and, if there was one, there would probably be more, and anyway, three sounds better than one. Mr. Lack doesn't know the identity of the one MP and can't remember who told him.

As one or two people will be aware, there exists in IC Union a system of Union Duty Officers. This system is designed to ensure that behaviour in the Union bars is not unduly bad, and that the Union is closed at the appointed hour. The Duty Officers themselves are all solid, distinguished, leading members of the Union, carefully chosen for their ability to look after awkward bar situations (in other words, the Deputy President just puts all society chairmen and other worthies on a rota). This is fine, or would be if the Duty Officers ever bothered to turn up. The Duty Officers' books in Southside and the Union show that very few do bother. Is two nights a term in the bar really too onerous a task? Some delinquent D.O.'s agree that it is not, but that they never received notification that they were supposed to be on duty. Finger out, McBain!

Once again, the Ents. Committee is the object of general criticism in the Union. The complaints are many and various, but most are on the theme of lack of co-operation with societies trying to organise hops, both over the arrangements for the hops themselves and in the stocking of the Crush Hall bar. Ents. had a very bad start to the year, and Boldon and Guy did well to step in when they did and try to do something about it. Are they still trying as hard or have they become bored with the job?

As Colcutt casually glances round the College looking for some likely fellow whose failings and/or idiosyncrasies might conceivably fill another column inch, he cannot help noticing a certain college administrator, who shall be nameless. It suffices to say that he is also warden of one of the Southside halls. Amongst other things, this august gentleman has a dog, which he regularly exercises (without a lead) in Princes Gardens, quite oblivious of the notices on the gates which say 'Dogs must be kept on a lead. By Order.' Perhaps the secretary to the Parks and Gardens Committee, Mr. C.C. Seaford, could bring this notice to the attention of the gentleman concerned.

## Letters to FELIX

### Politics, bias and Match

Sir,

'Politics' seems to be a bad word at IC—ref. letter to the Editor in the last issue in 'Felix' signed by the VIP's of the C&G Union—while racialism is apparently not quite so low. Mr J.G. Fleming states that Ashok Guruswamy's letter 'stank of intolerance'—strange from someone supporting Rhodesia. While you replied to Ashok Guruswamy's letter by saying the 'support Rhodesia' advert was, in fact, an advert, and as such did not represent the views of FELIX—can I dare deduce from this that the advert did not reflect the views of IC students, 'FELIX' being the voice of the IC Union—now you make the somewhat sweeping statement that it did, in fact, 'represent the feelings of a significant number of people in the College'. If this is so, why was this not said in reply to Ashok Guruswamy's letter? Anyhow, what statistical research did lead you to this conclusion? I do, however, support you fully in the view that 'FELIX' should be a 'forum for political debate', but why the qualification: '... provided it remains independent and unbiased'? Surely, one of the functions of any journal is to present a point of view.

Apropos 'FELIX Late News'. 'Aftermath of Operation Match', the reference to '... your flat-chested neeress' was in extremely bad taste ('FELIX' unbiassed?) and I hope that there are many other letters deploring it. As for 'Operation Match', on ringing up my 'ideal date' I was informed that I was her '71st ideal date!' 19-35 seems to be the average number! Quote from blurb in Operation Match introduction: 'We would rather give you four good matches than compromise in quality!'  
 Rakesh Mohan

### The Expert

Sir,

In answer to J.T. Grey's letter in your last issue I must point out that this painting was selected by no less a person than the Dean of the Royal College of Art as being the best one on show, and he is presumably better qualified than Mr. Grey to judge. I regard the theme as a perfectly valid one to inspire a painting if the artist feels strongly about it. But of course, if Mr. Grey demands unemotional thinking we might as well throw creativity out of the window and concentrate on being machine-minded morons with no intellect, pseudo or otherwise.

C.E. Phillips  
 Organiser Art/Science Exhibition



## The end of Culture

One definition of 'Culture' is improvement and refinement by education and training; as human beings, we must always strive for improvement, towards perfection. So said Otto Karolyi at the last of his five lectures on Music and the Two Cultures.

In defining culture, he quoted many sources: for example Matthew Arnold, who said that 'culture is a statement of perfection' 'Cultus' really means 'adoration of the gods'—and culture, through the centuries, has always been inextricably linked with religion. In the words of the famous psychologist William James 'all art embodies some element of myth'. In fact nearly all early art, painting and music, was of a religious nature; the work of a Medieval composer was as much worship as art.

In fact even in the 20th century we have our 'cults'; one of those that Mr. Karolyi pointed out as being

typical of Western 'Culture' is the tendency to eulogise the interpreter of a work of art, rather than the creator—for example the conductor of a piece of music rather than the composer, or the newspaper art critics. In fact, he said, some newspapers use their journalists as 'cult-figures' for advertising—and he cited an example of railway stations where huge pictures of these individuals stare down at you from advertisements for their papers.

He went on to discuss certain common features in the way artists and scientists think, to show that culture is common to all—scientists, too, have aesthetic experiences, inspirations when they conceive a new idea. Kepler was a good example of a scientist whose theories were initially intuitive. In fact, he said, both science and art were conscious pursuits of beauty: in the words of Keats 'Beauty is Truth, Truth Beauty...'

## Management amateurs— Touchstone

**British management is 'disreputable, nepotistic, conservative, and amateurish compared to that in the USA and Germany.** This, according to Mr J.P. Carruthers, a lecturer at LSE, has been the fact, that has been responsible for the Trades Unions' continued association with the Labour Party.

Mr Carruthers was speaking at the Touchstone Weekend 3-4 December. He also criticised the Trade Union structure for being 'too democratic'—

this meant that it was impossible to have a unanimously approved policy, and that the General Secretary's position was too vulnerable since sudden pre-election scandals could easily topple him. The Government, also, came in for some criticism—it had gone too far with its deflationary measures and the inevitable result would be a rise in unemployment to over a million.

Both unions and employers do their best to keep the Government out of their consultations—this is evident from the fact that only about 20% of workers in Britain have minimum wages fixed by law—in the USA for example nearly all minimum wages are controlled.

Four of the people present were in fact Trades Union members—mature students on Trade Union scholarships at LSE—and the remaining eleven were from IC.

Dave Sullivan

## Cherry's Concrete Concepts

The primary function of language is not communication, but the 'concretization of concepts', stated Professor Cherry in his recent General Studies lecture. A great gulf exists between man and beast, he pointed out, because of this. While animals can communicate, concepts are beyond them. A bee waggles its abdomen at a rate inversely proportional to its distance from the nearest pollen source, in this way conveying vital information to its neighbour; but—and we must take Professor Cherry's word on this—a bee is incapable of even a mental concept of pollen, let alone a reasoned discussion on the subject. For parents driven insane by their child's babbling he found a message of hope in this. It pays dividends; baby is concretizing his concepts. This gives him the power to do more than just waggle his abdomen, in time; he can also talk about it, or consider it. He has a concept of it.

Professor Cherry laid great stress on this. He pointed out that such concepts vary from one culture to another. For a Russian the word 'red' evokes thoughts of heroism, for an Englishman, merely thoughts of blood; and not only our concepts of words, but our habits, our customs, and our emotional traits are bound up in our national culture, and thus, in our language. For this reason, it would, unfortunately, be futile for the world to learn English. While the average Chinese could speak simple English, the rift between Asian and British culture is so wide, that the subtleties inherent in English concepts would be too much for him.

When pressed for evidence to support his idea of the mindlessness of animals, Professor Cherry answered that he himself was quite capable of sleepwalking to the lavatory without utilizing his concept of it, by sheer force of habit. Animals, even when awake, do everything like this, without thinking. Several disbelieving voices were raised at his astounding claim of instinctive direction finding; but at this promising point discussion ended.

J. Mulialy

# A CAREER IN MATERIALS RESEARCH

The exploitation of nuclear energy clearly necessitates the application of the most advanced knowledge to ensure satisfactory performance from the materials involved. Similarly, in conventional generation systems, significant improvements in the performance of traditional materials can be achieved through basic and applied research. The demand for electricity doubles every nine years and at present the daily capital investment is around £1,500,000.

Scientists of the highest calibre are required to investigate problems such as the creep of metals, irradiation effects, corrosion and fracture processes.

There is therefore a requirement

## FOR PHYSICISTS CHEMISTS MATHEMATICIANS ENGINEERS AS WELL AS METALLURGISTS

Young scientists with relevant research experience are particularly welcome. Much of the work is comparable with that carried out in universities and close links are maintained with laboratories doing similar work. Publication of research is actively encouraged as is the implementation of its results in the operational field. There are excellent and progressive salary scales, conditions and prospects.



Further details from your Appointments Officer or W. H. F. Brooks, Recruitment and University Liaison Officer, Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London E.C.1.

**CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD**

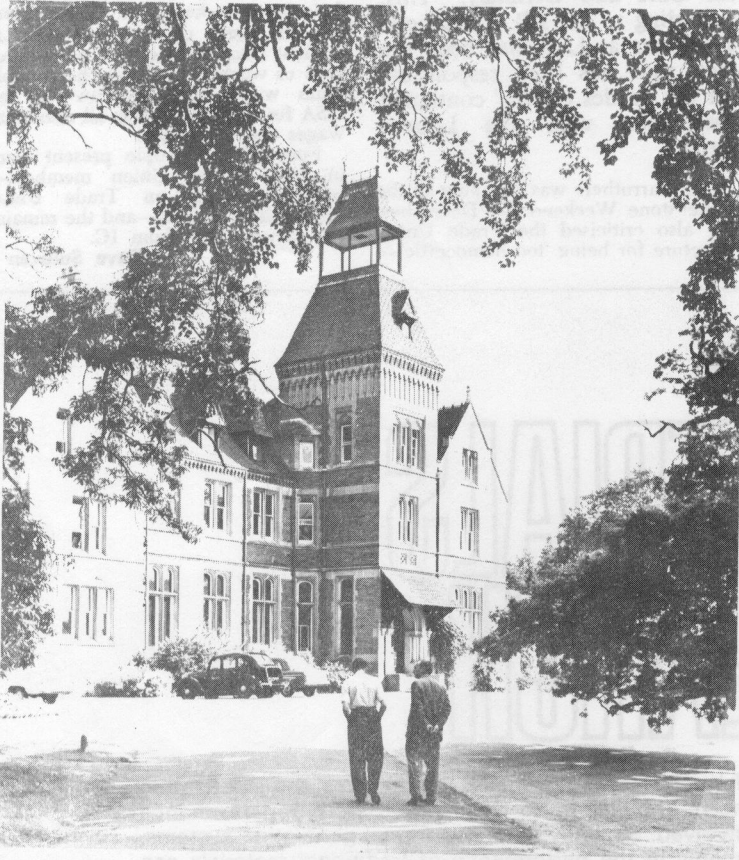


# TOUCHSTONE

## Rejuvenation at

by  
Martin Walker

## Silwood Park



"...the park and its quiet serenity remove the tension of the city."



ANDREW STONE (24), a graduate (English) of the University College of South Wales, now teaching English language and literature at the White Nile Secondary School, El Dueim, 130 miles south of Khartoum.

## Who will replace him?

VSO is looking now for 1000 graduates and professionally qualified volunteers for service from next September

**VOLUNTARY SERVICE OVERSEAS**  
(Member of British Volunteer Programme)

3 HANOVER STREET LONDON W1

The medieval assayer had a simple way of grading that most precious of metals. By rubbing a piece of gold of known purity on the touchstone and comparing the streak with that of the piece in question, he determined its purity and value. A bit inaccurate and haphazard perhaps, but it served. And so does its modern allegorical substitute, for at Silwood Park one can rub one's brains against another's and compare the resulting parks. Touchstone provides the opportunity, largely lost to technocrats who must deal with arguments that are for the most part cut and dried, to argue about abstractions, to philosophise, to relax and haggle over questions that have no simple answers, or no answers at all. The Park itself is the ideal place for such a gathering; its serene peacefulness evokes the kind of emotion that must have prompted men who travelled the world to sentimentalize about green England.

The trip from London makes the transition easily. Ugly, dirty industrial central megalopolis occasionally relieved by imaginative architecture gives way to the uniform mediocrity that is suburbia with its rows of semi-detached dwellings, neat small gardens, hedges, small newish looking cars—and finally, the countryside itself. Now the contrast is immediate. Greenness and brownness come through fresh, even in the drizzly cool of an autumn afternoon. Green fields, framed perpendicularly by oak and elm, roll through one's peaceful stupor. The gates of Silwood Park loom up to open on the sweep of a tree-lined drive. A once magnificent English country estate, stands on a rise in the land with its skirt of lawns stretching majestically away to fields beyond. The house is surrounded on three sides by recent additions. Modern brick structures housing labs and living quarters for the residents, unfortunately clash with the more ornate architecture of the house itself. To one side is a unsightly huddle composed of prefab refectory and quonset huts in which, we are informed, we will sleep. The majesty of the place lessens with the news.

Tea is served in the library which is reached by passing through the main hall with its high beamed roof and hardwood floor, its bricked-up fireplace, spaces furniture and generally forbidding air. The library, however is warm and inviting—inviting too for the sandwiches, cakes and tea spread around. Here, despite the collection of learned biological journals, the atmosphere of the country estate is retained. One relaxes and talks easily. The park and its quiet serenity remove the tensions of the city. The mind shifts into neutral and idles away happily with inconsequential.

In the small sitting room next door the atmosphere is enhanced by great bunches of flowers and ferns around the grate. In front the guest speaker, perches uncomfortably on the soap box of free speech (but not, as we were informed, of licence) and talks, the touchstone before him on a table.

Having concluded, he retreats to an armchair to fend off several attacks on what he has said. The group is lively and arguments range

from semantic difficulties to sound comments.

We adjourn for a beer in the great hall and then for supper in the low, squat refectory. The roast beef of Olde Englande accompanied by a Yorkshire pudding of more dubious origin is served by a healthy looking young wench who distracted at least this visitor's attention from the continuing argument. Dinner is completed, but the discussion continue in groups. Beer meanwhile keeps the tongue lubricated though having a more dubious affect on the mind.

The next morning is leisurely, filled with the Sunday papers, talk, or a walk around the estate. From the window at the back of the house there is a view of a small neat garden, encompassed by lawns and large trees. Walking down the lawns, one is overwhelmed by the quiet solitude; there are almost groups of Edwardian ladies playing croquet on the smooth grass. This must have been magnificent on sunny summer afternoons with frock coated butlers serving whisky and long cool concoctions made from gin...

But push on into the woods and along a narrow path, past ruined chicken coops and occasional botany experiments to the main road, and there—joy!—is 'The Cannon'. Inside, it is all rural England with thick accents; hair cropped close at back and sides unkempt on top; roughly clothed workers, playing dominoes on a long table, their hands, sundarkened and horny, around pints of beer—good beer here, and a peaceful cigarette while gazing out of the pub window towards the woods that hide the house.

From the woods one comes unexpectedly upon the house, suddenly to be plunged again into the last century. It is raining, and no-one else is about; the garden is free for the walking and savouring of its peace and calm. Too bad about the huts and modern touches, too bad...

In the afternoon, after lunch, we gather again where we started, and sum up. The conclusions we have reached are all remarkably uniform—great minds..., or do all scientists tend to conform?

Still, the return to London and reality is a trip home from a spa, rejuvenated and refreshed.



**An Open Letter to Congregation of Oxford University and Cambridge University Senate...**

Sirs,  
In the national interest I must urgently ask you to abandon this year's Boat Race and all the others to come. There's no need to put John Snagge or the rosette-sellers out of business. All I want you to do is offer the race to Liverpool and Manchester Universities on the Mersey, Exeter and Bristol on the Severn or to York and Lancaster on some stream on the Yorkshire moors (it just means using smaller boats).

My own choice is a race between Edinburgh and St. Andrew's on the Firth of Forth because there are strong offshore currents and the nation likes its boats to sink at least once in a generation. I see no valid reason why these two universities—or the others I list—should have to continue to depend solely on their fine academic records for their image in the world.

You know, gentlemen, the importance of having an image today. But Oxford and Cambridge have more than an image. They have a legend, a myth which often has nothing to do with the facts. And I think its getting out of control.

# The Oxbridge Myth

by Joshua O'Keefe

Take this term. One Saturday morning the BBC's 2 a.m. news bulletin took it for granted that lighthousekeepers, nightshift workers and anyone else still awake would need to know that: 'The Oxford Union still has a man as president'. The following Wednesday they were told that the election had been annulled and the first-ever girl candidate, Janet Morgan had a second chance. On Thursday, when the suspense on shop floors was assumed to be near breaking-point, came the news that she would not stand again.

Now gentlemen, you and I know that a woman president wouldn't make a scrap of real difference to the Oxford Union's mainly modern teenagers. The Oxford Student Council quietly elected a splendid girl chair-

man two years ago. Nevertheless, Miss Morgan was given the dramatic image of a girl storming a kind of talkative monastery. Or take the Union mini-skirt debate which a national newspaper columnist found unworthy of this shrine of great talk where great minds have forged ringing phrases and unleashed waves of wit on the issues of the day...

Embarrassing, isn't it? You and I know that when the Union wants ringing phrases it invites Quintin Hogg and when it wants wit it asks Michael Beloff. We also know that only a handful of people in any Oxford generation are great anything. The rest are learning to be brilliant, clever, competent, (crooked or arrant nincompoops at life. The

stirring of a great talent, in the Union or at a tutorial is still a rare and thrilling event.

But what counts is that people believe the myth. For implanting this belief I think we can thank the Boat Race. I heard my first one at the age of five and it was many years before I realised that Britain had any other universities. By the time I did, I was too memorised to care about them. I had graduated to the other Oxbridge myths—Jowett's Oxford, Rupert Brooke's Cambridge, Christ Church Meadow. My brother worried me by coming out of Leicester University with a better-trained mind than anyone I knew at Cambridge but perhaps that was just a personal accident.

What I suggest is that Oxbridge is now so bulging with myths that she might start believing them herself. She should get rid of at least one fabled institution. The gift of the Boat Race, one of the great primeval clashes of British life, would give an enormous leg-up to any other two universities.

And the Government would be so grateful to you that it might at last stop muttering about setting up Royal Commissions to find out what you get up to behind all those myths.

BRIDGE

## UNNATURAL NO-TRUMPS

The University of London Bridge Club runs a teams of four competition which takes place between teams from the various colleges throughout the year. This competition is divided into four divisions with about eight teams in each division. Each team plays all the others in its own division. At the end of the season the top two teams in each division are promoted, and the bottom two demoted. This year IC have entered three teams, one in each of the top three divisions. The first team after their initial draw have had two wins, and as yet, both the other teams also remain unbeaten.

The last match the first team played was against Queen Mary College. The following hand is one on which IC made one of its gains in that match.

Dealer West E-W Vulnerable

- ♠ A, 10, 5.
- ♥ Q, J, 10, 8, 7, 5.
- ♦ J, 8.
- ♣ A, 4.

- ♠ Q, J, 9, 4, 3.
- ♥ A, K, 3, 2.
- ♦ 4.
- ♣ K, Q, 7.



- ♠ 8, 7, 2.
- ♥ 6.
- ♦ 10, 5, 2.
- ♣ J, 10, 8, 6, 5, 2.

This is a somewhat laboured bidding sequence, and one which certainly lacks imagination.

The Contract of 5D was defeated when South lead a club, since declarer then had to lose two heart tricks and one club trick. Any other lead gives a chance of establishing the heart suit and making the contract.

At the other table the bidding was of a much more concise nature.

W N E S  
1H 1S 3NT —

East has a difficult decision to make after North's overall of 1S. His hand then appears to have only five losers, and obviously, since his partner has opened the bidding, East wants to be in at least a game contract. The direct bid of 3NT ensures that a safe game contract is reached. South is almost certain to lead a spade since North has bid the suit, this will then make eight tricks in East's hand. West is unlikely to bid over 3 NT unless he has a very strong hand, which means that East-West may well have missed a slam. If East had been dealer then the opening bid would have been 3 NT. This is an Acol bid which shows a long solid minor suit and one outside entry. 3 NT is often a very good contract, and if partner has nothing, and 3 NT is doubled, you can always take the contract out into 4C or 4D.

Ian Constable

The 10/- for the best Crossword goes this week to S.D. WALTER of Maths. 1. The Crossword is judged by the Editorial Board, whose decision is final. The Board reserve the right to hold over to a succeeding issue any Crossword submitted. Entries must be received by the Wednesday before publication.

When OMC were sitting East-West the bidding was  
W N E S  
1H 1S 3D —  
H — 4D —  
5D — — —

## CROSSWORD

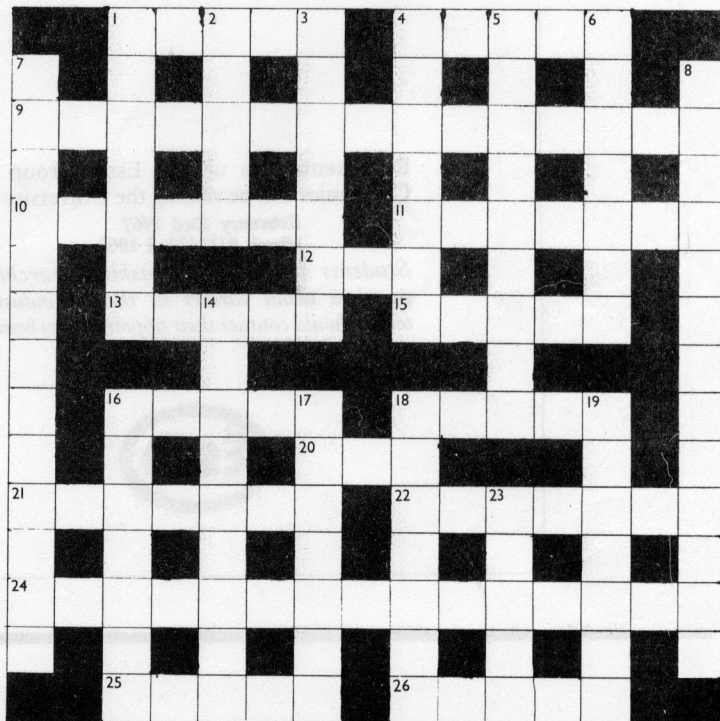
Clues Across

1. French writer of Tosca music? (5)
4. This is absolute rubbish! (5)
9. Light in the darkness? Natural-ly! (15)
10. An article from the Near East is the closest. (15)
11. Spotted this one? Very rash if you have. (7)
12. Look, one has two, too. (3)
13. A warm end to September, it seems (5)
15. You can have a try at this—if you try, that is. (5)
16. Used up in America's Pentagon. (5)
18. Crushing demand for news? (5)
20. Are back for a time, you'll find. (3)
21. See 24. (7)
22. James Bond shows none where Spectre is concerned! (7)
24. "Italia's no nation". 21 might see it differently before voting (15)
25. A car made by the Danes? Surely not! (5)

26. How many will solve this clue? (5)

Clues Down

1. Sounds like a cattle-pen for choir-boys! (7)
2. The tree is ample after the don backs up. (5)
3. It's comparatively short. (7)
4. Used for cooking vegetables, or all at see? (7)
5. 17 used this shape for fifteen. (9)
6. Reward for foul play at 15. (7)
7. Cloth-working girl is a whirl? (8,5)
8. Eagerly awaited by 18 across. (4,9)
14. Went somehow to Grood in an Essex town. (9)
16. The rest of the afternoons in Spain, perhaps. (7)
17. Ground work on the trainer. (7)
18. Hair-line departure. (7)
19. A Darwin type. (7)
23. The condition of many parts of America. (5)







"BULGE?  
WOT BULGE?"  
R.R.

## Model General Assembly

The IC delegates to the Model UN General Assembly—representing Kenya, Chile, Sweden, and Peru—were selected at the IRC meeting on December 1st. The MGA—one of the main functions of the UN Students' Association—is being largely organized by the College.

## 'Penny for a Song':

Despite being advertised under the wrong title Dramsoc's Christmas production, "A Penny For A Song" by John Whiting, managed to attract four full houses and be worthy of them.

The play, which was produced by an ex-member of IC John Webb, achieved an excellent balance between farcical comedy and its serious moral. Roger Haines, although tending to overact at times, gave a magnificently flamboyant interpretation of Timothy Bellboy's, an eccentric country gentleman. John Golder and Nick Clarke, as a town gentleman and his man servant, combined very well to fit the varying mood of the play, while Margaret Sibbick and Mike Smith were always comic as domineering wife and hen-pecked husband. Mary McPhail and Denys Bennett were well cast as Dorcas and Edward Sterne and both played their parts with great sympathy.

The set, while necessarily being a little crowded, was well balanced and realistically solid. In particular, the lookout tree, at all times occupied by a splendidly gaumless Humpage, (Martin Clarke), was a masterpiece in papier-mache.

The production was rounded off by complicated and technically good effects which always conveyed the right impression.

R.J.R.



Photo by D. Norman

## CND Committee; That Ad

On 6 November, CND Committee discussed, among other things, that Vietnam ad. It was placed in FELIX 'to promote discussion and ultimately involvement(!), with the Vietnam war'. Committee members were concerned that, although partially effective, the ad had not wholly achieved its aims.

Discussion of a change in the Society's name and policy on Vietnam was postponed until an Extraordinary General Meeting, to be held soon. The chairman reported to the committee that he had a number of addresses of contacts in North and both parts of South Vietnam. This was in accordance with the Union decision to contact students in Vietnam.

It was resolved to back Dr. Steven Rose's proposal to send a student peace corps for reconstruction work in Vietnam. Dr. Rose has presented the idea to the recent National Convention on Vietnam.

## What's On: IC

**WEDNESDAY 14**  
Anglican Chaplaincy. Communion. 0.8.30 Concert Hall.  
Folk Club. Guest John Renbourne. Ticket holders only. Tickets 5/-, 3/-. 19.30 Upper Refectory.  
Literary Society. Poetry by George Macbeth.  
**THURSDAY 15**  
General Studies. Films.  
Gliding Club. 17.45 254 Aero.  
Dancing Club. Beginners Ballroom. 19.30 to 20.45. Upper Refectory.  
Rover Crew. Last meeting of term. 21.35 303 Mines.

## What's On:ULU

**WEDNESDAY 14**  
English Folk Dancing Society. 19.30 School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Sq.  
**THURSDAY 15**  
Christian Science Organization. Testimony meeting. 20.00 ULU room 3A.

# 'let's talk careers'

Representatives of the Esso Group of Companies will be visiting the University on

**February 23rd 1967**  
**March 9/13/22nd 1967.**

*Students interested in asking searching questions about careers in the oil industry today should contact their appointments board.*





## SWIMMING GALA



A sort of organised chaos, or unorganised order,—but it's all in good spirit, or so we are told.

# SWIMMING — FOR SOME

## RACE WINNERS :—

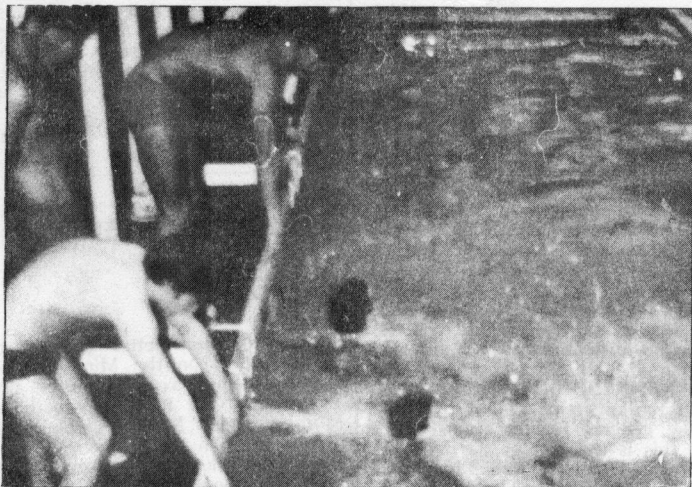
Backstroke  
Breaststroke  
Freestyle  
Butterfly  
Relays (2)  
Water Polo

J. Hooke R.C.S.  
P. Hills C&G.  
C. Hollier R.C.S.  
C. Hollier R.C.S.  
R.C.S.  
R.S.M.

## THE SPLASH OF LIQUIDS

The presidents race turned out to be somewhat farcical—Mr. Duke and Mr. Cavanagh failed to arrive, their places being taken by Mr. McBain and Mr. Conn. Anne Hay was another non-starter—even more chaos. The expected number of lunatics were leaping in and out of the pool, entertaining all who could get out of the way. The highlight of the evening was definitely Steve Motiat's dive from the top board. Another interesting show was the separation of Mr. Conn's ceremonial coat into two distinct parts, at the hands of Guilds.

The usual amount of alcohol was consumed—with a well organised hand out of drink in the Union Bar. This was achieved by a tickets only arrangement.



On the point of change-over, in the relay race.

Photographs by D. Ormiston  
Report by R.M. Conn and A.G. Robins.

## SOCCER

## FOURTH XI SCRAPE HOME

THE FIRST GOAL was not scored until the fourth minute and by half time it was only 7-0 to I.C. A minute before the end of play the 4th's had just celebrated the twentieth goal with the twenty-first, and extra-time now seemed impossible.

Through the match I.C. played excellent football, although the opposition were clearly sub-4ths standard. Only the Guy's goalkeeper and centre half put up any resistance—without these the score might have been much different. However, I.C. had to be content with 21, of which Brian Hall got 9, and Atkins, at centre half, got one valuable goal (the 17th, it is thought).

I.C. failed to concede a goalkick or corner, and Bill Caruthers in goal, started to look for another job. The 4th's now advance to the quarter-finals, and play U.C.III (away) on January 21st.

### It's the early team that gets wet

THE 7th XI IS probably the most punctual of teams in the Soccer Club. To play a cup game against West Ham, with a kick off at 11 a.m. Saturday 10th December, the players were asked to meet in the Union at 9.15. At 9.00 they were all present and correct, though soaked from the rain, and trailed off into the rain once again on their journey to West Ham.

However, the game was postponed and the third attempt to play it will soon occur. Their spirit, if not dedication, to the game is an example that the rest of the club should note.

It's a pity that keenness does not always bring its' deserved reward—but perhaps it does, even though it's cleverly hidden.

J. Garrat

## RUGBY FIVES

Although happily active this year, the Rugby Fives Club is suffering from a distinct lack of experienced players. This has been clearly brought out by our poor match record of winning only one of our six fixtures.

To balance the somewhat variable form of P. Evans and R. Haldane, J. Blackburn has played consistently throughout. D. Mathew, as well as representing IC has achieved the distinction of playing for the ULU 1st IV, during his first year at college. If practice can bring the steadiness which is at present missing, we have the potential to produce a very good side.

Despite the existing poor condition of the Southside courts, the enthusiasm shown by non-team members has been most encouraging.

R.J. Redmayne

SHOOTING-  
ON TARGET

After some eight weeks training, IC Rifle and Pistol Club has started the strenuous annual programme of intercollegiate fixtures.

To date, apart from several Postal League Matches, two rounds of the vital Engineers' Cup competition have been shot.

The 'A' and 'B' teams both won their first two rounds in this shoulder-to-shoulder competition. The 'A' team beat Q.M.C. by 566 to 556 and K.C. by 570 to 543; the 'B' team beat K.C. by 542 to 531 and U.C. by 545 to 541. The highest possible team score is 600 per team.

The competitions carry on every week until March, so it is too early to make predictions, but late enough to express confidence.

STOATS  
CLUB

FOLLOWING A MEETING on Thursday 1st. December, several Stoats went to watch the Oxford v Cambridge rugby match at Twickenham, last Tuesday. After the game they retired to a local house of good cheer having an excellent, if not memorable, evening.

Stoats are to follow this by taking a party of foreign students, who are at present the guests of RSM, to watch the wrestling at the Albert Hall.

LADIES  
BADMINTON

Believe it or not IC Ladies Team remains undefeated after a very successful term's play. The team has had good league matches against King's, Bedford, Royal Holloway and Queen Mary College, and a friendly match against Chelsea C.A.T. These results are certainly encouraging, considering there has often been difficulty in raising a team. Anyone else interested in playing badminton will be very welcome—please contact M. Parker, Aero. 3.



# FELIX WEEKEND DEADLINE

## World Government in two generations: Federalism

Speaking on 'Federalism—a System of World Government' Russell Johnston (Liberal MP Inverness) said he found it entirely consistent that he was in his lecture apparently advocating a massive centralisation of Government and that next Wednesday (30 November) he was asking to introduce a Bill giving Home Rule to Scotland.

These were both part of Federalism, a system in which a chain of decision making bodies dealt with problems within their areas with knowledge, concern and involvement. Problems would be dealt with by representatives of the people to whom they really meant something. The regional authorities and the world authority would be equal partners with their own sharply defined area of Government. This method of Government, achieving freedom for individuals and groups was a particularly liberal one. It recognised the existence of nations and communities within states, each with its own way of achieving liberty and justice for its members. There must obviously be universal standards of justice for people regardless of race, creed or wealth and these must be safeguarded by the World Authority, however, maintenance of these standards could best be affected by those with intimate knowledge of the particular abuses to which their region was most prone.

There is no easy formula for the reduction of friction between states, or in fact, between nations within states. Should a major block wish to go against the rest of the world, it would still need to be confronted by another large block. There is, however, the chance that a statutory system of international relations (such as EEC or UNO) drawn up in the presence of third parties would be better adhered to than the

existing ad hoc system of treaties and power blocks. Third parties can often see solutions to which the quarrelling parties are blind.

### UNO

The basis for such an organisation is obviously UNO. The fact that so many people in Europe have managed to forget their nationalism to think as Europeans and that movements such as UNO and OAU have formed means that at last people are looking beyond nationalism. Mr Johnston was confident that such a system of World Government was feasible within two generations.

### Wells Soc Prizegiving

With the prize-giving on Friday 9th December, the Art of Science exhibition put up the shutters for another 20 years, when the "guess the changes" competition will be judged.

The prize-giving, a quiet, respectable affair in Mech Eng concourse, was effected in the minimum of time and followed by sherry for the 25 people present.

In converse with the Dean of R.C.A., who gave away the prizes, it emerged that although impressed by the high standard of the "Art" exhibits he thought that on the whole the science-inspired works tended to be Heath Robinson and untidily executed. The exhibit he picked out as being particularly good was Phillip Painter's prize-winning music entry, (composed by random selection from telephone numbers), which he said was consistent with the modern-art opinion that a random-process creation was often more beautiful than one made by selective thought.

That the prizegiving should have been held in such an open area as Mech Eng concourse was unfortunate as it made the atmosphere very impersonal, but otherwise this was a pleasant end to Wells Society's memorial to H.G. Wells.

R.J.R.

## Mines discuss Morphy



R.S.M. Union made a loss of £50 on the Freshers' Dinners. This was the bald statement made by President Molam who cast some of the blame on the Geology Dept. for their poor attendance at their departmental dinner. The deficit could have been explained more fully.

### Trickster

A warning has been received that a confidence trickster is active in London Colleges. Description:—Age 40-45, Height 5' 7", round red face, Rhodesian or South African accent which may be assumed. Wearing a bluish mackintosh no hat. Has posed as a member of staff from some other College. In one case, he said he was a Child Psychologist and "borrowed" £5 for text books.

### More Treble Results

Winners for Dec. 10th

Only two cards obtained the maximum aggregate of 13 goals. These were No. 810 and No. 969 and will each receive £3.15.0.

The illness of Carnival's Senior Treasurer has led to a delay in the payout to last week's winners. Cheques will be forwarded as soon as possible.

F.J. Morris

### RCS referendum

It seems likely that as far as RCS Union is concerned, the NUS issue is dead. Despite the close result in last Tuesday's referendum, there is little doubt that RRCS General Committee will accept the results as final.

The referendum was held to decide whether RCS Union should again apply for membership of NUS. The final vote was 349 For and 392 Against with 45 abstentions and 10 spoilt papers. This represents a majority of 43 against which is less than the abstentions. The total vote of nearly 800 shows that only just over half RCSU bothered to vote on this important issue.

The general feeling seems to be that this is the end of the issue for this year. The proposers Mr. Boothman and Mr. Fuchs both accepted the referendum vote as final. Mr. Fuchs said that the referendum showed that RCS has some interest in external affairs, and that he would be turning his attention to other issues.

S. Barnes

Vice-President O'Reilly suitably humble, apologised for the presence of R.C.S. and Guilds at the Prospect of Whitby on Morphy Day. His humility was quite gone, however, when he tongue-lashed the gathering for the apathy shown towards the collection for the Muscular Dystrophy Research Fund. He urged support from more than just the hard-core who always support these functions. Minesmen were also urged to support the Foreign Students' visit this week.

The 'Stevenson letter' was read to the meeting and Molam commented that Morphy Day should be retained "as the only time during the year when the students, as a body, can let their hair down in public". Comments from the floor substantiated this attitude; it would be interesting to know the private views of members of the Union on this issue.

The Clem. Auction was squeezed into the remaining part of the meeting, bidding was sluggish and the highest price fetched was 32.6 for one article. In all about £13 were raised, the meeting ran late so that not all the items were sold.

P.F. Wallum  
D.I. McKirgan  
R. Hall

### Another

Another mascot removed from its rightful owners in the "Avenge Mike" campaign was that of Battersea Training College. During a convenient Hop a Guildsman ascertained the position of the seven inch high eagle which was later removed and brought back to a safer place.

F.J.M.

### The 'Stevenson' letter

The 'Stevenson letter' referred to in the report on the Mines' Union meeting comes as a result of Mr. Stevenson's visit to the towpath on Morphy Day. Mr. Stevenson, the Senior Warden, is responsible for the behaviour of IC students when not on College or Union property. He was extremely annoyed with what he saw at Morphy and at one point threatened the combatants with the demise of Morphy Day if they crossed a bridge on the towpath. The letter questions the necessity for the battles; however, putting the question to a Union meeting seems unlikely to produce a decision to abandon them.

## LAMLEY'S

technical & general  
books

art materials

drawing  
instruments

stationery

paperbacks

1, 3 & 5, Exhibition Rd.,

London S.W.7.



# FELIX LATE NEWS

Wednesday, 14 December 1966

Editors: Stewart Barnes  
Alan Saunders

## STUDENT-HOUSES AT IC?

In view of the fact that only a third of the students at IC ever spend a year in one of the Halls of Residence, a group of students conducted a survey at the beginning of this term into the living conditions of students in digs, flats, etc. The organisers were concerned about the remoteness and poor quality of some of the accommodation which was offered to IC students by the lodgings Bursar. They also bore in mind the recommendations of the Robbins report in its preferences to students accommodation and Halls of Residence.

The main recommendation of their report on the survey was that Council should investigate the establishment of student-houses. These are buildings which are run solely by students and might also be owned by the Union. Student-houses already exist in London and Hull. It would cost of the order of £30,000 to buy and convert such a house and it is hoped that it will be possible to get finance from outside the College to help with this. Council approved the report and asked the Welfare Officer to look into the financial situation.

C.G.H.

## GUEST MEMBERS OF UNION SOCIETIES?

A proposal to introduce 'guest' membership of ICU Societies was discussed at the last Union Council meeting. Mr Frank Ebbs was continuing his aim of bringing about co-operation between IC and the Royal College of Art. He suggested that clubs should charge an 'Economic' membership fee to students from other colleges which might be equivalent to the subsidy which clubs receive from the Union. He emphasised that the colleges eligible for membership would have to be approved by Council - IC would not want to be swamped by large numbers of external students.

The proposal was discussed at length, bringing in reference to organisations such as the Dramatic Society or the Opera Group, which depend on external members for their productions. The aim was to nationalise the present situation where some clubs had unofficial members from other colleges and were uncertain of the status and legal position of these people. The position of such members as regards insurance in such societies as the Underwater Club was viewed with concern.

The matter was referred to the external affairs Committee and it was decided to set up an ad hoc committee to investigate the legal aspects.

C.G.H.

## CARD-CHECKS

There will be regular card-checks in the Union areas next term.

## RCS VICE PRESIDENT RESIGNS

Dick Conn, RCS Vice-President, resigned from his post on November 5th. The news was given to a RCS general committee yesterday, by President Cavanagh. He said that Mr Conn was no longer a registered student at the College.

Elections for a new Vice-President will be held at the first Union meeting next term. If there is more than one candidate it was suggested that hustings may be held, followed by a ballot the next day.

The meeting was poorly attended, only five members being present, probably because most members were not informed until Tuesday morning.

The results of the NUS ballot were not challenged, but Mr Fuchs thought that they represented a mandate to the General Committee for it to inform RCS, that about external affairs; such as the Radical Students Alliance, and the Technical Colleges Committee. President Cavanagh, referring to the referendum said that he did not see it as a mandate. The rest of the committee seemed to agree. Secretary Jeff Warren said he thought these were matters of concern for IC rather than RCS.



### BRAIN WASHING AND VOODOO

That no normal person can withstand indefinitely the methods of brainwashing or Voodoo was a large part of the message in Dr W.W. Sargent's address to Wellsoe on Monday night.

He introduced the mechanics of brainwashing by comparing the results of his own work on war neuroses during the second World War **with** extracts from John Wesley's journal dealing with his methods of conversion to Methodism. He then went on to give a brief outline of Pavlov's theory of psychology, and explained the correlation between Pavlov's work on dogs and the effects of war neurosis.

Using films and slides, he demonstrated the various states of brain inhibition predicted by Pavlov, particularly with reference to Voodoo and Christian Revivalism. He showed that the main processes in this type of ceremony are rhythmic exercises, to drums or clapping hands, and overbreathing. At the same time he showed examples to demonstrate that people with chronic mental illnesses were unaffected by these methods. He later quoted extreme faith as the other protection against these methods, saying that a person who possessed faith, and could not be angered by the brainwasher, would hold out longest.

Dr Sargent gave interesting lecture which must have given the 120 people present plenty to think about.

### AMNESTY

There have been alarming losses in cutlery and other articles from Southside and the Union this term. It is not surprising therefore that the Executive has eventually requested that such property that has been 'borrowed' be returned immediately to the refectories and bars. No disciplinary action will be taken this time.

PS ..... and 'Mike' ?

### SIR

It disturbs me to know that, in a city with such a crime rate, even a group of amateur criminals can enter our Union building, work for an appreciable time with an oxy-acetylene cutter and then leave undetected.

Surely the Union should be able to afford better protection than this for the building and its contents.

B.L. MEGGINSON

### YHA ACCIDENT ON SCAFELL

The Mountain Rescue organisation was called out when a YHA group on a fellwalking expedition, with a party from Bedford YH were involved in an accident. Twelve people suffered from shock and minor injuries when a landslip occurred on Scafell Pike. One person was hit by a falling boulder and is now in Carlisle Hospital with a fractured skull.

### SIR

A fortnight ago I sent you the result of our 'Quiz International' match against SOAS in the semi-final.

Last night we played Bedford College in the final of this BBC World Service programme. I am glad to say we won this match 36 - 30 points and so we are now champions yet again.

DARSHAM PANDYA 8th Dec. 66

### A CAREER IN FORENSIC SCIENCES ?

Very few people bothered to attend a physics department careers talk on the work of the Metropolitan Forensic Science Laboratory. Those who did, were given an interesting and informative guide to both the basic tests used and some new techniques.

Of particular interest, were Dr Wall's remarks on the latest developments in typing blood. Using these methods, some bloods can be identified so closely that on average they would only occur once in several hundred thousands of people.

OVERSEAS STUDENTS with nowhere to go at Christmas when the Refectories close, are invited to see Miss Warner, Private Hospitality Section, British Council, 11 Portland Place, W.1. She can arrange hospitality of all sorts, meals parties, or visits. Offers of hospitality by IC students would be warmly appreciated.