



# DUKE DESERTS

## MEETING

### Irresponsibly attacked

A heated attack from the floor at the Union meeting last Tuesday accusing the Executive of rudderless and indeterminate action over the overseas students fees increase led to personal animosity and culminated in Union President Duke leaving the chair. A large lobby was pressing for a more concerted effort from the Executive in opposing the fees increase. It was felt that Duke was using the chair to defend the action—or lack of action—of his Executive.

The lobby from the floor was lead by Messrs Duckett, Fuchs, Boothman and Mansfield. Duke defended himself by restating that the College hoped to help individual cases of hardship arising from the fees increase. A strike or rally would only antagonise the staff.

Frank Fuchs attempted to propose a formal motion for a rally only to have it rejected out of hand from the chair. This biased use of the chair by the Executive in defending itself, inflamed already raw tempers. Les Ebdon produced loud agreement from the floor when questioning Duke's right to answer criticism from the chair.

The temperature of the meeting was lowered momentarily as Mike Edwards—last year's chairman of debates—pointed out that all suggestions being proposed could only be recommendations. A Union meeting had no power to decide to hold a rally or to finance coaches. In any event a decision was impossible as a quorum was not present.

Malcolm Duckett sprang to his feet, to propose a procedural motion to lower the quorum to two hundred (there being over two hundred present). Duke, by now visibly annoyed, rejected this bluntly, whereupon Duckett to the accompaniment of cheers, challenged the chair.

### Exit Duke

In a fit of pique, Duke disrobed himself of his presidential gown and vanished wordlessly from the platform.

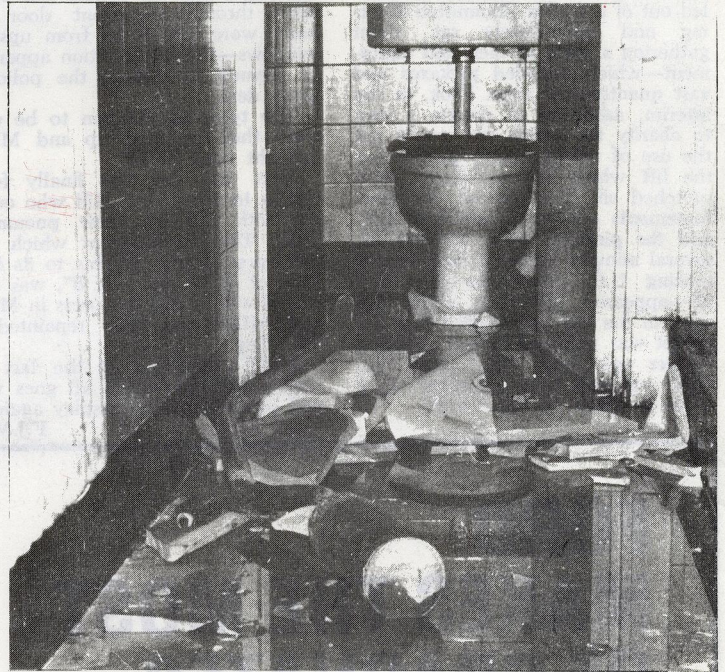
In Duke's absence, Secretary Parker took the chair. A question asking why only one member of the Executive had attended the lobby of Parliament a fortnight ago had been set down. Particularly, why was there this lack of support after the Executive had recommended support for the lobby in the first place? The reply was given: two were playing rugby; one was attending an important seminar; one was working and the last was occupied in a manner apparently so dubious that it could not be divulged.

When this reply was greeted with derision from the floor Chris Molam—President of Mines—retorted:

"Rugby is more important than politics."

Answered shrewdly from the floor: "This is not politics anyway."

Duke later returned to the chair, his humour partially replenished. He was left, however, with no doubt that there was a consensus of feeling at the meeting that the Executive's action on the fees increases was lethargic and impotent. But for the lack of a quorum at the meeting, the Executive's hand might well have been forced.



## PIGS smash Union property

In two nights last week, damage valued at about £120 was caused to the Union. On Monday night the Union bar lavatory was wrecked and made quite unusable. Plumbing was ripped from the wall and a porcelain cistern was smashed on the floor. On Tuesday night revellers leaving the Union after the closing of the bar threw two heavy wooden benches over the railings and down to the basement of the Botany Department—both were broken by the impact. On both nights many glasses were smashed and at midnight on Tuesday the Union lounge was in a state of filth and disorder rarely reached even in the bar. In Southside too a chair has been smashed and the number of glasses broken is increasing dangerously.

ed. One of the barmen said "It just happened. Somebody just went in and did it." On Tuesday the Stoats Club returned to the Union at 10p.m. having completed their "Gloucester Run" (which involved consuming at least eight pints) and when the bar closed some fifty alcohol soaked sportsmen were herded into the lounge.

It is the job of the Duty Officer to maintain order in the Union—this could be maintained if there were a Duty Officer every night. Too often the Duty Officer fails to turn up, or, having turned up, is not aware of his duties or even of the layout of the Union building. Too often there are still lights on and outer doors open at midnight, though the building should be closed by 11.15 p.m.

### Fines imposed?

By-law 24 in the Union blue-book reads "The Council may call upon any member or members of the Union to make good any wilful damage to the Union's premises or appurtenances." It seems possible that the member who smashed the Union lavatory and the members of Stoats who threw down the benches may find themselves suffering from this by-law.

### Duty Officers

The damage on Monday night is alleged to have been caused by a party celebrating a twenty-first birthday. The Duty Officer, Roger Lethbridge, was in the building but says that he was not aware of the occurrence until after it had happen-



Tony Duke returns to take chair at the invitation of Mr Duckett.

## The return of MIKE

As reported in last FELIX (Late News), MIKE was collected from U.C. Union Bar on Valentine's Day. The misalignment then evident has now been corrected and he will return to his plinth in the near future.

When the five W.H.O. members arrived at U.C. to find MIKE's frame practically encased in half-a-ton of reinforced concrete they phoned back to IC for tools and reinforcements. Phil Marshall was called out of a Guilds Committee Meeting and immediately set about gathering a team of men and equipment—which included pickaxes and vast quantities of rope. Pook, in the interim, asked us to donate a sum to charity for which we would get the use of rollers, ropes, planks and the lift which had previously been switched off. This ignored, the reinforcements arrived around 9.00 p.m. and the pickaxes were welded for several minutes before a rather smart looking U.C. gentleman—D.J. and all—appeared protesting about the mess in the bar and insisted that the carpet was removed before anything further was done. The carpet was duly removed and promises were made to clean up afterwards.

Meanwhile, unknown to us, certain U.C. students had walked off with MIKE's carrier and let down the tyres of the van we were going to use to bring MIKE back. After twenty minutes' further work with the picks it was found that further work might render permanent damage to the ceiling beneath the bar. It was then decided that MIKE was ready for removal.

Unfortunately, the lift was not working (the bar is two floors up) and so after threats to ruin the stairs by dragging MIKE down them the lift was miraculously restored to working order. As MIKE was being taken through the front door fire hoses were turned on from upstairs windows—the latter action apparently seemed to interest the police a great deal.

The tyres on the van to be used were then pumped up and MIKE brought back to IC.

Next day he was finally freed thanks to Higgs and Hill who cut it out with one of their pneumatic drills. The misalignment which had got worse during all this to its final state of 3/16" out over 8", was corrected with a 150 ton press in Mines and MIKE was then repainted in Civ. Eng.

MIKE appeared at the last IC Union Meeting and if all goes well will soo be back on display again.  
F.J.M.

## Of pots, Poohs and Heffalumps

The SCC meeting on 15th February was dominated by two items of world-shattering significance—firstly Mr. Duckett's request for a special tankard, suitably inscribed, for the chairman of the CND Group—i.e. himself. The second controversial talking-point was an application to affiliate a new club to SCC. Yes, you've guessed it—the Pooh Club.

Mr Duckett's request for a "pot" was the first item to be discussed. The SCC Executive were clearly disinclined to let him have one—ostensibly because they thought the CND Group might disappear from College when Mr Duckett did, but probably in fact because they hoped Mr Duckett would disappear instantly if they closed their eyes. It was pointed out that although Mr Duckett had applied for a pot before January 1st (the latest date for applications), SCC's Constitution stated that "SCC may award a pot..." "may" being the operative word. The Executive breathed again, thinking "and may not" But someone else, in a flash of interpretative genius saved Duckett's day by reminding us that the Committee had the option—not the Executive. A vote was taken, ad in a spirit of apparently perverse delight, the members of SCC awarded Mr Duckett a pot.

There followed a light and pleasant interlude while something rather minor about "Associate Membership" was discussed. Outsiders, not necessarily students, were to be allowed to join clubs, but not in such large numbers that the College membership was swamped. Brendan Parker

said that he would rather not see, for example, 50-50 affiliation with a club in RCA. Each applicant for membership would have to be considered by SCC Executive as well as the chairman of the relevant club, and economic subscriptions would also have to be decided.

The Committee then got back to real business. Mr Mackman and "seventeen others" had requested that their Pooh Club be affiliated to SCC. They undertook to organise the National Poohsticks Championship should this be necessary. Mr Duckett asked if this were a Red Plot, presumably because Mr Andrew Jordan was involved.

## N America Club

It was decided to give the Pooh Club application a second reading when a Constitution was forthcoming. Another application was then read, from the North America Club, which wished to affiliate to SCC. The initial reaction was "Is there any point in this?" because, as Miss Selwyn asked, "Is there any culture in North America?" We were assured that there was. Mr Eseller commented that the International Relations Club did a lot to acquaint people with places like North America, and Mr Duckett said that he would indeed like to find out more about America—at the moment he didn't understand it. He also asked if this were a CIA plot, which seemed rather funny at the time, but doesn't now. The Committee decided to give the N.A.C. a second reading when they presented a constitution.

Other points covered included a request for something to be done about the difficulty of booking rooms for meetings, in College Departments. It was suggested that a directory of rooms suitable for meetings of various sizes should be compiled.

N. Shindler

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## C.E.M.

## favour fee increases

The College of Estate Management have recently come out against the current wave of anti-Crosland motions by defeating such a motion 101-76 at their last Union meeting, reversing their decision of the previous meeting. The final defeat of the motion deploring the rise in fees was largely due to a few effectively emotional speeches against it, maintaining that all U.K. university places should be kept for the U.K., and it seems that the NUS representative for the motion delivered a poor speech. The C.E.M. Executive were almost all in favour of the motion, and Mike Slade, C.E.M.'s president dissociates himself completely from the result, expressing complete surprise and incredulity. The number of overseas students at C.E.M. is small a little less than twenty.

J. Mullaly

## The unsuccessful "Day of Protest"

### IC's contribution

Malcolm Duckett's telephone "siege" of the Department of Education and Science appears to have been one of the few successful features of IC participation in the NUS sponsored national day of protest over overseas students fees last Wednesday; it seems likely now that the final decision will be left to individual colleges and universities. The telephone siege was one of a number of suggestions offered to the previous Tuesday's inquorate Union meeting. This particular proposal was that as many students as possible should telephone the Department on Wednesday afternoon to offer ideas, tell of problems and register protests. The response on both sides to this scheme seems to have been worthwhile. A number of IC students telephoned and all were given a fair hearing. It transpired that contact between Crosland and the Office of Universities at the Department had been minimal, and that as far as the Secretary of the Office, Mrs Sanders, could ascertain, the final decision rested with individual colleges. Since the principle of the London colleges is that all students should pay more, this could mean that all London fees might go up, or it could result in no rise at all taking place. About Mr Crosland's suggested hardship fund to help overseas students in difficulties, Mrs Sanders only knew what she had gleaned from Hansard; in general she had been kept remarkably ill-informed by Mr Crosland. Nevertheless it is likely that news of the telephone siege, will received as it was, will filter through to his august ears and have some measure of effect.

Other suggestions made at the Union meeting were less successful. A proposed student strike and a rally in the Union Quad failed to materialize, mainly due to Executive disapproval, and the rally at UC was attended by only a handful of IC students. The basis of this rally was a speech by a Labour Back-bencher criticizing Crosland's policy. At the same time and apparently without the knowledge of IC Executive, a rally was held in Downing St. and a petition delivered. Another lobby of Parliament was held; no IC students were present.

### Chelsea meeting

Finally at an IC supported rally at Chelsea two IC students were present, a speaker, who was Brendan Parker, IC Honorary Secretary, and a reporter. This poor attendance may have been due to the fact that although IC Executive received notice of the rally six days before, news of it was only released on Tuesday to the Union. There were three speeches, to an audience of eighty; most of the speeches being in favour of militancy over the problem and the increase came under heavy fire as a shortsighted piece of nationalism and 'a move to inequality' Parker's speech was short and favoured consideration of the proposed 'hardship fund' rather than attacking the main issue, the rise in fees. He was against militancy and broadly speaking accepted the fees rise as an established fact. He added that he did not represent the voice of IC Union.

J. Mullaly

## Tizardians and the Goldsmiths

The historic connections between City and Guilds College and the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths is being kept alive by the residents of Tizard Hall, who feel that their relationship with the Goldsmiths is particularly close since Sir Henry Tizard, from whom the Hall takes its name, was at one time a Prime Warden of the Company.

In the past few years the members of the Hall have been the guests of the Company at receptions at Goldsmith's Hall where they have had the opportunity of finding out more about the work of the Goldsmiths and meeting some of the members of the Company. The residents of the Hall have reciprocated this generosity in their modest way by entertaining some of the members of the Livery at their annual Mulled Wine Party held on St. Nicholas's Day.

This relationship was strengthened recently when two members of the Hall, A.J. Smith and D.C. Howell, were invited to the Livery Dinner at Goldsmith's Hall on February 1st. The residents of Tizard Hall felt themselves to have been honoured by this gesture, and the two guests were greatly impressed by the lavishness of the hospitality accorded them.

A.J. Smith



## Dancing club's success

A team of four couples from Imperial College Dancing Club gained third place in the London Inter-collegiate Ballroom Dancing competition held at Q.E.C. last week.

This is a notable achievement since this is the first time the club has taken part in a competitive event for many years.

The final positions of the teams were as follows:

U.C.	32 points	1st
Q.M.C.	12 points	3rd
I.C.	12 points	3rd
Q.E.C.	11 points	5th
Kings	15 points	2nd

Our best achievement was in the Waltz where our two couples were placed 2nd and 3rd. As the results show, the competition was closely fought apart from the convincing victory by U.C. They, however, have had considerable competition experience.

The improvement in the I.C. team since it was first conceived a few months ago has been remarkable and with this encouraging result there are excellent prospects for the future. In particular this competition provided good experience for the Intersvarsity competition at Liverpool this week, in which the same team will be competing.

The club congratulates the team on their success and hopes that in the future I.C. Dancing Club will be able to play a greater part in inter-collegiate competitions, at the same time continuing to cater for everyone interested in ballroom dancing, from the beginner upwards.

Late News: IC were placed 8th out of the 15 universities competing at Liverpool.



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CHA 6081**COLCUTT**

It is perhaps fortunate that most of the people reading this column did not attend last week's disastrous Union Meeting. If they had, they might have come to the conclusion reached by many who did go: that the Union is dominated by a group of hot-headed, militant extremists, anarchists or what-have-you. On Tuesday, IC Union looked like all those other Unions we have hitherto looked down upon—those Unions whose activities are regularly reported in the national press, and which are very largely responsible for the bad public image of the student.

IC Union has tremendous power in this College compared with the powers of most Student Unions. This is the result of two major factors. Firstly, the Union has almost always been well run. Four people, Messrs. Duckett, Jordan, Boothman and Ebdon have decided that all this shall end. Their attempt to destroy the excellent staff-student relations which have been built up over the years has almost succeeded. Their aim of making IC Union and the students of IC appear to be a mob of irresponsible and selfish hooligans has almost been achieved.

Duke must take a large share of the blame for the chaos that reigned last Tuesday. Not because he's a bad President, but because he is a bad chairman. He has the unhappy knack of being domineering without dominating. The chairman of a Union meeting must have the ability to trample on the trouble-makers without annoying the remainder of the meeting by the way the trampling is done. It is Duke's domineering manner that makes the barrack-room lawyers of the Union so bitterly against him. Losing his temper and walking out in a huff didn't really help matters either. Let us hope that at the next meeting he can use his authority a little more effectively.

The posters advertising that fateful Meeting illustrate the other cause of the Union's near-capitulation to the extremists. "Your Union Needs You" But You weren't there. One must expect the Union to be represented as extremist if only extremists attend the meetings. A more representative group of people would have prevented such a farce. Your Union Needs You.

I believe that our Union is important. We need it as much as it needs us. I also have a certain degree of faith, naive though that may appear, in the people who run the Union and make it worthwhile by dint of sheer hard work. Like the Labour Government, they make mistakes, sometimes bad ones. The mistakes are nothing, though, compared with what they achieve on our behalf. I don't like to see all their work, and that of their predecessors, destroyed by some little upstart invoking the magic words, rights and democracy, when that same person is not prepared to do anything more constructive than shout abuse.

**Letters to FELIX**

Sir,

When is IC Union Executive going to stop making pious noises and actually do something? Their showing at the Union meeting on Tuesday (the 21st) was beyond the bounds of credibility.

Brendan Parker said that only two people have come forward to explain cases of hardship. It is hardly surprising that there are so few cases when one considers the fact that virtually no publicity has been given to what IC Union intends to do. Besides this, many foreign students are here on a one year post-graduate course and will not be hit by Crosland's measures. What really matters is students who would have intended to come here at some future date.

Mr Parker then went on to say that full publicity would be given to what IC intends to do to investigate the effect of the new measures. Unfortunately this is going to be of use only if these measures are publicised in India, Pakistan, Iran and all the other countries with students

here. About this problem, the Executive had nothing at all to say.

On future action, the Executive, whose job it should be to give the Union a lead on such matters was equally blank. Bradford University are rumoured to be shouldering the extra costs themselves. Could not IC join them in this action, and then go on to persuade all other colleges, to do the same? This now seems the only way out, since if all colleges were to act unitedly in this manner, Crosland would be faced with the choice of cutting back on teaching and research work, which he would be loathe to do, or giving an extra grant to the colleges and universities which would bring us back to the position before December 21st last.

It is now up to Duke and the rest of the Executive to get down to some hard work on these problems. If they intend to do so, albeit belatedly, then it is to their credit and that of IC. If not, let them resign and be replaced by others who will take the necessary action.

Derek Boothman

**EDITOR'S  
Comment**

Tuesday 21st February surely mark a nadir in the responsibility of IC Union. We have the example of a horrifyingly farcical Union meeting at which it was demonstrated that Duke has little or no regard for his position as President of the Union but only for his personal feelings and that there is an active group within the Union, whose sole function appears to be to reduce its working to anarchy. There followed an incident, I am informed, in the Union office in which Duke would not approve a suggestion that the person who had wrecked the Union bar lavatory the previous night, if he be found, should be banned from the Union for the rest of this term. It appears that he did not think the situation justified such "severe" action.

It is not fair, however, to criticise the President of our Union alone. This year a considerable amount of damage has been done to the Union building and also to Southside by drunken members of the Union. The Executive's solution to the brawls in Southside was to recommend that such affairs be confined to the Union bar. Is it more reasonable to inflict over £100 of damage to the Union in two nights than to do the same to Southside? It is costing the Union money to replace the glasses, fittings and furniture and it is costing more in its relationship with the College. Why should the College give £1000 to a Union which will spend a significant fraction of this on repairs caused by a drunken minority?

Who is this minority? It is easy to say the Rugby Club or the Stoats Club, but these are not accurate descriptions. There are members of the Union who drink with the sole intention of becoming drunk and who then become vandals. Why does IC have this problem, which is not shared by other colleges? I suggest it is because of example. What is the image caught by a Fresher each year—that every night there are "men" in the bar who drink ten pints or more. These are the "men" and he, the Fresher, if he wants to become a "man" must emulate them. Some of these "men" can hold ten pints—an inexperienced drinker cannot—hence some of the unpleasant sights one sees in the Union. But who can stop this "tradition" of drunkenness, who can command sufficient authority to clamp down on vandals? The executive. At the beginning of the year Duke wrote in FELIX: "At this time it is vital for us to

maintain the high standard in the life of the College of which we are proud. We must show that we are a strong and united Union by our sense of loyalty and responsibility." When has the Executive made any attempt to follow this line?

In the Executive we have one member who is often drunk and aggressive when so, another who, according to his friends, drinks a lot, but is not violent, a third who has been observed on one occasion this term, throwing beer mugs the length of the Union lounge, two others who are sober types but rarely seen in the Union after 6 p.m. and Dave McBain, who is a social drinker, a powerful and efficient duty officer and whose current absence correlates with the outbreak of vandalism in the Union. Does the Executive as a body deserve respect from the average Union member?

The time has come when the Executive can no longer allow the Union to run itself—it is running itself into disgrace at the moment. I call on them to face the situation—the vandals need dealing with, the knockers need to be shown you are not a weak as you appear.

President Duke is reported to have said after the Union meeting that he had begun the year with a permissive attitude which he now realised was wrong. If the Union didn't like his new attitude he would resign. It would be a shame if he did resign since his position should be strong enough to be able to control reckless elements—with the respect of the Union and a sound set of arguments, it should be impossible to confuse him as was done recently.

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## Letters to FELIX

### Fees – two opposing views

Sir,

Mr. David Potter's emotional article condemning fee rises for foreign students dwelt mainly on the moral issues—our duties to developing nations and our community awareness to all mankind. While he had every right to express his emotion on this issue, I fear that they would not carry much weight in Whitehall. Surely, however, there is a far more specific ground for deploing the rises, this being the future welfare of British Universities.

About half of IC students are postgraduates and a very high proportion of these are from abroad, carrying out research in this country. These students obtain University places by the same process of competition as do those from the United Kingdom, therefore attain the same high standard in their studies and add considerably to scientific knowledge. Discouraging such students to study in this country may increase the availability of university places, but as the demand for these places drops, it might be inferred that the calibre of students will fall.

Furthermore, at all University levels exchange of problems and ideas among students from differing backgrounds, be they from developing African nations, from the United States or from Great Britain, can only be conducive to progress.

The 5 million pounds spent on foreign students should be regarded as an investment bringing its due return and not as a charity. It is interesting to note that West German Universities, which, like those in Britain have a high proportion of foreign students, charge fees for everyone of the order of £20 per annum, and of this half is medical insurance!

The brain drain is already troubling Britain. With the new measures, some of the potential flow will not even be caught in the run-off.

Having lived here all my life, I feel I speak as an English student.

Dimitris Alatzas

Sir,

In the past weeks the action taken to persuade the Government to abandon the proposed increases in fees for overseas students seems to have reached the level of mass hysteria. The arguments for and against this rise seem to have been lost in the fury of the stampede against Mr Crosland that followed his announcement of the increase. Whilst it is doubtless morally laudable that we should show complete disregard for our English brethren and show concern only for those who inhabit other parts of the globe I doubt very much if your countrymen think of others and not themselves. Mr Crosland's duty is to represent the people of this country who elected him.

In Britain there is a shortage of university places available if the Robbins Report is to be believed. Britain is also in economic difficulties. Does the British taxpayer pay his large taxes so that a foreigner who pays practically nothing may attend a university which has no room for his own sons? Charity is fine, but

Due to the lack of space this week, many letters have been withheld. It is hoped to publish them in the next issue.

charity begins at home. Whilst we have a shortage of university places should not those who pay for them have the opportunity to use them?

It is, however, disagreeable to charge the fees for those part-way through a course of study. Once we have quoted our price we should stick to it. However, it would seem reasonable to charge new students more.

I would further suggest that overseas students lobby their own governments to pay this reasonable increase (there is still a heavy subsidy.) For it is the duty of their people not ours to educate them, after all it is their government which collects taxes from their parents.

Rob Collinge

P.S. Perhaps a quorum of one at Union meetings would enable motions supporting militancy in this matter to be passed more easily.

### Safety

Sir,

During November '66 FELIX carried an article containing reports of interviews with the Chairman of the College Safety Committee and myself, as Secretary of the College Branch of the A.Sc.W. Subsequent to this your article was reproduced and officially circulated to the members of the College Safety Committee. This was excellent, since it conveyed students' opinion direct to the College Safety Committee.

I believe it is timely to bring the question of safety at Imperial College once again into your columns.

It is, for example, worth restating the fundamental principle that as safety matters directly concern students, they, as a well-defined group have a right to representation. Indeed, a recent conference on safety matters organised jointly by the T.U.C. and the Confederation of British Industries, supported by the Ministry of Labour, reaffirmed the same principle. It appears that legislation along these lines of

direct representation on industrial safety committees was introduced in 1927, but later shelved, and the Conference thought that some such legislation should be brought in during the 1960's. This has so stimulated the T.U.'s in the educational field, that joint discussions are now taking place.

Probably the most important question in safety is what happens if an Imperial College student has such a serious accident that his or her future life and/or career is shattered. We know that Imperial College is insured to some extent against accidents to College staff and students, but it has never been made clear what would happen in such a serious accident. We would argue that Imperial College has the responsibility to make the normal substantial cash payment if such a tragedy occurred, so that the student concerned would not suffer subsequent economic hardship. Further, we would like to see this situation carefully clarified before there is any test case.

Finally, may I say that students should be light-hearted and full of 'joie de vivre' in many things, but in some things they have to be responsible, and safety is one of these.

H. Fairbrother

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Write to: Miss Huart, Staff Careers Section,  
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., London S.W.1.

## PROFILE OF A BIOCHEMIST

Martin Walker Interviews

# PROFESSOR E.B.CHAIN

Unlike many of us Prof. Chain has had no doubts about the direction of his career. Stimulated from the age of four by an environment of chemical laboratories in his father's factory, his future lay naturally in the world of retorts and chemical symbolism. It was, however, towards a field that was to expand with exciting results that he turned—the chemistry of living matter.

Thus, interested in natural products chemistry, he took a degree at the age of twenty-four in Chemistry and Physiology from the Friedrich Wilhelm University in Berlin and later in 1933 emigrated to England to begin the research at Oxford and Cambridge that was to lead him to sharing the 1945 Nobel prize in physiology and medicine. Prof. H.W. (now Lord) Florey and Prof. Chain had discovered the remarkable property of penicillin to destroy infection. Prof. Chain is the scientific director of the International Centre for Chemical Microbiology in Rome, and has been Professor of Biochemistry at Imperial College since the establishment of the present research block in 1961.

**It has been suggested that a scientist is most likely to make a significant contribution while young, since beyond a certain age—30 has been mentioned—one ceases to question critically one's previously held concepts. Do you think that there is any truth in this?**

This applies only to the theoretician. An experimental scientist is likely to improve with age since in experimental work, "Experience is more important than concepts"

Professor Chain for instance, regards Professor Warburg, now over 80, as the greatest living biochemist. An experimenter relies not only on his ingenuity in devising new techniques, but also on his cleverness in avoiding pitfalls, and it is this critical attitude to one's work that grows with age. However, he agrees that "The biggest enemy of experimental or theoretical science is the acceptance of established schemes of whatever nature." It is unfortunate that students do not like the idea that concepts they learn will often have to be revised maybe even before they finish their studies, and lecturers who emphasise too much the ephemeral nature of schemes presented as final solutions in their textbooks, are not popular.

**What interests do you have outside biochemical research?**

Professor Chain is an accomplished pianist; his special interest is chamber music. He also reads widely, enjoying travel books and biographies.

When I asked him if he read any technical literature outside his own field, we got on to the topic of the enormous proliferation of published scientific papers. He estimated that between 20 and 30 thousand pages

a year at least were produced in biochemistry alone. Thus, "One can never be competent in more than a small field. However, no man can accomplish more work than any one man is capable of carrying out, and one should not be unduly frightened by the numbers of people working in one's own field" He cited as an example the four thousand people employed in radiobiological work at Oak Ridge in the US... but, "Provided the facilities are equally good, one has an equal chance. It is the individual who counts."

**What is biochemistry? What are its general aims?**

Biochemistry is concerned with the study of the mechanisms of the chemical reactions, functions and structure of the components of living matter, animals, plants and micro-organisms.

The practical aim of biochemistry is to discover methods of treatment of disease, infectious and metabolic, by means of chemical substances. One of the most important problems in the realm of metabolic diseases is the study of regulatory mechanism. Biochemistry has also important applications in agriculture; the development of plant growth hormones, weed killers and pesticides are typical examples. Other examples are the study of nitrogen fixation by soil bacteria, photosynthesis, interactions between plants micro-organisms etc. etc.

**Do you think that after the recent rapid advances in biochemistry and molecular biology, research will now slow down, or do you envisage more rapid progress?**

The big spurt in molecular biology—which at least in part is the modern version of natural products chemistry—is over, at least, as far as novel concepts are concerned. However, a vast amount of work on macromolecules of all kinds remains to be done with the known techniques, and such studies will undoubtedly lead to interesting results. Greater knowledge for instance, of



amino acid sequence and spatial configuration of proteins—and there are thousands of these to be investigated—will lead to a better understanding of their function, catalytic as well as structural components of the cell. The same applies of course, to nucleic acids; our knowledge of their structure is as yet very incomplete, despite all the progress made. However, it should be remembered that there are many other aspects to biochemical research, apart from molecular biology.

We are bound to make important discoveries in the course of study of the chemical functions of intact organisms—this approach has been neglected to our great disadvantage in favour of the study of all free extracts of molecular fractions.

**Many non-biologists are very interested in the question as to whether it will ever be possible to synthesize living organic matter from non-organic compounds. Do you, as a biochemist, consider this an important question? Do you think that such a synthesis would have serious religious, moral or social consequences?**

Professor Chain regarded this question as primarily one of semantics and definition:—what is 'living matter'? "People have synthesized self-replicating viruses from non-replicating parts. But this cannot really be called an ex novo synthesis of life, because the nucleic acids of the inactive components contain already built in all the complex structural features required for the replication process occurring once they are joined together. In any case, such syntheses are a very far cry from obtaining complex animated living matter, and still farther remote from the synthesis of a being with a conscience, or endowed with the sense for ethical or moral principles. The synthesis of anything that complex is so remote as not to be worthy of serious consideration;

consequently speculation on the significance of such hypothetical "achievement" is futile.

**Some people fear the misuse of our knowledge of the fundamental life processes. Do you think such fears are justified?**

"Any invention in any field can be misused. Of course you can misuse biological phenomena; see for instance the misuse of drugs for poisoning people or as narcotics for inducing stupor or other psychopathological conditions in young people. If an invention can be misused, sooner or later someone will surely misuse it, and this applies to all inventions, biological ones not excluded. However, this is no reason for stopping discoveries or inventions; in any case, this is impossible and if the times are mature for a particular discovery to be made, someone will make it somewhere. Is it the job of the scientist, more than anyone else to govern the use of an invention? A scientist has no more moral responsibility than any other citizen... and we have science writing as a profession to make people aware of the social implications of new discoveries. A scientist must have a conscience, but not more of one than anyone else"

**What is the significance, aside from the obvious medical applications, of biochemistry to man?**

The significance of biochemical research can hardly be overestimated. Some of these jargons have become very irritating. It has led, through the use of weedkillers and knowledge of soil microbiology, to vast crop improvements. It has helped solve fishery and veterinary problems, and has led to improvements in food technology. Food preservation alone is tremendously important.

**What are the effects of pesticides on the balance of nature?**

"This, he agreed, was a real biochemical problem" but "much rubbish has been written about it" The real problems are of resistance

to biological control, for example with flies that are resistant to all known killers. "But the danger of changing permanently the biological equilibrium in the kingdom of microbes is less acute: on a world scale you cannot affect microbes as you can rabbits or flies because of the rapidity with which microbes multiply."

**You mentioned in your inaugural address that a lack of collaboration between biologists and chemists has delayed important progress. Has this situation improved? What do you think would be the most effective way of overcoming this problem?**

"You have to make people aware of the existence of other disciplines. One should be able to spot problems outside one's own field and be able to take them to someone who can solve them. In biochemistry, we have an interdisciplinary approach, and trying to integrate the system is a very important task. For example, if a microbiologist finds an interesting system, a chemist isolates it, an engineer produces it in large quantities and biochemists and biophysicists then study its structure and function. Integration is the key word for success." But here again we came up against the communication problem, and I asked about jargon in technical literature. Professor Chain holds strong views on this point. Some of these jargons have become very irritating. People talk of "melting" of nucleic acids, but nucleic acids do not melt... 'melting' is a well defined transition. What they call 'melting' is the dissociation of the two strands composing the nucleic acids." Another example: "We use computers quite a lot and run up against the electronics jargon... they talk of 'software' and

'hardware' He made a gesture of dismay. "International Commissions are set up to establish conventions for notations. Mind you, you have to be a specialist to understand chemical nomenclature!"

As to overcoming the problem of communication: "You must meet and talk to people. This is in many ways more important than reading the literature."

**Do you think that there exists a serious gap between sociological and technological development?**

"I don't know whether this gap is bigger now than it was in the past. Ever since the introduction of machines there has been a gap of this kind, and there must always be one". He suggested that restrictive practices were one result of this gap. "We have to convince people that improved technology gives more jobs, not fewer. But this is not a new problem."

**Professor Salam was upset that people in positions of power in the Western countries did not make effective use of the technological means at their disposal to attack world problems. He suggested that scientists should try to do this. How do you feel about this problem?**

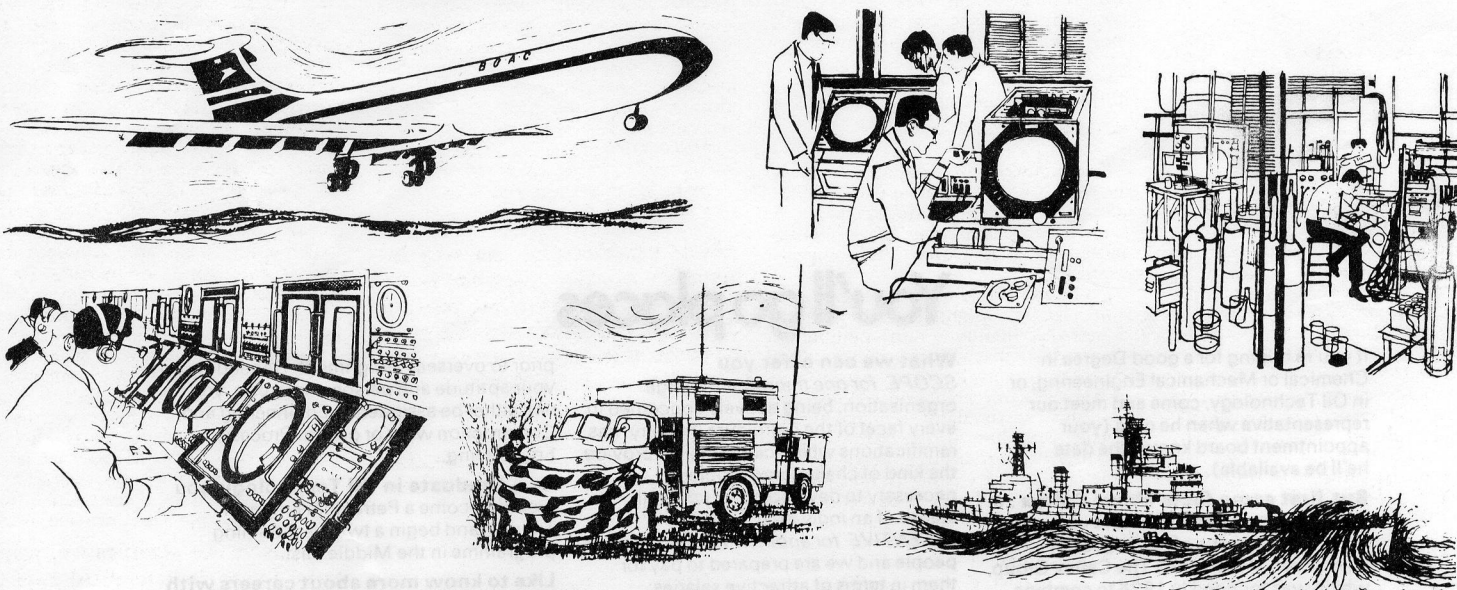
"Scientists are in no way better qualified to direct human affairs than anyone else. In fact, many are more prejudiced and more emotional than their non-scientific colleagues. Scientific thought does not make one more logical in matters outside one's scientific subject, more balanced or a better human being. On the whole, a scientist is often worse off than a non-scientist since he does

not have to deal directly with people. It is important, however, that politicians should have scientific knowledge, just as it is important that scientists should have non-scientific knowledge. But I don't believe, for instance, that scientists alone are in a position to relieve world suffering. For example, starvation: this is not a scientific or technological problem. "Professor Chain does not believe in the special agencies of the United Nations... "since they make people believe that you can do things you can't. What is the use of international organisations if their proposals are rejected by the governments they are designed to help on social or religious grounds?" He cited as an example the refusal to use cow dung as fertilizer in India. "This means", he said, "that nitrogen from the soil is not replaced. It is simply burnt." The problem of starvation "is not a technological problem, it is a political and religious one. People must realise this. Monkeys and cows in India consume vast quantities of food". On the 'population explosion' "Effective methods of birth control wouldn't be used in many countries..." again on religious or social, not scientific grounds. Disease? "There is no scientific reason for tuberculosis to exist. All you need to do to get rid of it is to abolish overcrowding and under-nourishment. But it is not up to the scientist to solve these problems. "As for improving sanitation, this is useless unless you also feed people. The fact is that unless you feed people as well, you merely disturb a biological equilibrium... something you must pay for later. To fight poverty, disease and starvation effectively you must attack simultaneously from all angles. We in the West are blamed, but we can't solve people's problems for them. All our suggestions are futile if religious or social taboos forbid their implementation. Moreover, one cannot aboli

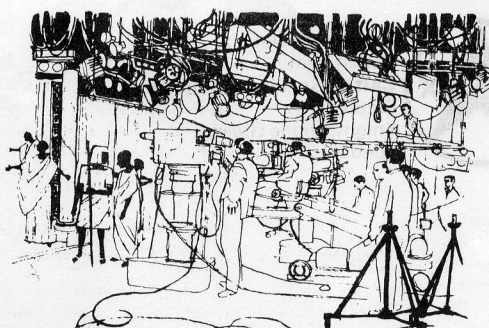
such taboos by decree... witness the caste system in India." Professor Chain was particularly concerned with the myth of the omnipotence of science. "Worship of science as a panacea for all evils is grossly exaggerated."

**In your inaugural address, you mentioned that "Imperial College would develop into the most broadly conceived technological university in Europe." Would you expand on 'broadly conceived'?**

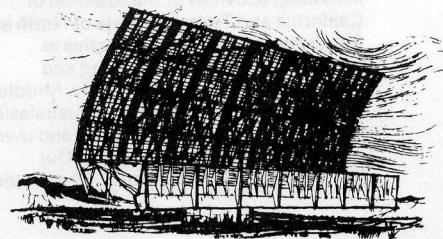
"The College has suffered a terrific loss through the death of our former Rector, Sir Patrick Linstead, and for me, this has been a severe and personal loss as well." Sir Patrick Linstead was strongly opposed to the 'two cultures' idea, and wanted to make Imperial College into a broad College, in which the humanities had its proper place." This College has a marvellous galaxy of scientists, but we must strengthen the humanistic approach... as has been done at MIT in America. We must not allow ourselves to become mere technicians. Sir Patrick Linstead conceived that the expansion programme of the College should include the incorporation of the Architectural Association; this would lead through architecture to the arts—painting, sculpture and the history of art. We already have a department of management problems which provides contact with psychology and the study of human relations." Professor Chain regarded the introduction of some measure of humanities into Imperial College as of great importance. "We hope that our next Rector will follow the path towards broader education, initiated by the late Rector" he concluded.



## encyclopaedic Marconi



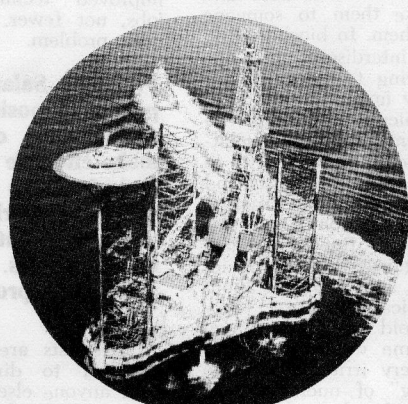
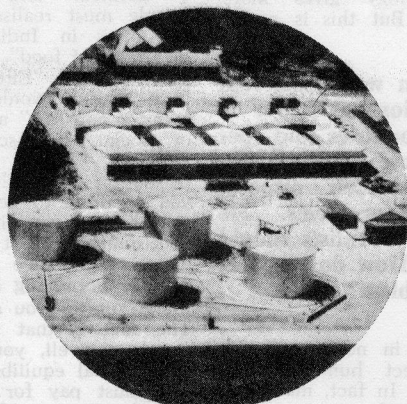
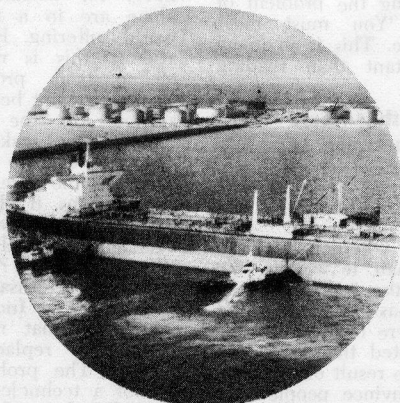
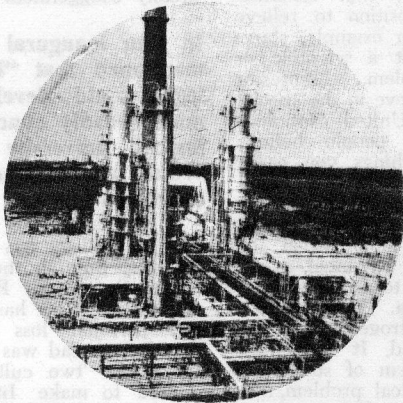
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## Carnival so far

The '67 Carnival is now finalised, and a report on what has happened and on what is going to happen is called for. So far, great efforts by the constituent colleges have resulted in Guilds and RCS collecting about £470 each, and Mines some £230. The football pool has paid out over £90 in prizes and the raffle tickets are selling very well. So far everything has been very encouraging and everyone who has taken part has derived enjoyment and satisfaction from helping the unfortunate victims of Muscular Dystrophy.

We have invested the money so far collected at over 7% to bring in a useful £60 or so by May.

The football pool promoter is anxious that everyone who paid their first half share, sends in the other five shillings to complete the season. Send the money to Frank Morris 122 Falmouth. Year reps are asked again to renew their efforts to sell more raffle tickets. If we sell out we will make £3000 on this venture alone. The leaders in the individual book selling competition are around the 30 books mark in Mines, and about 15 in Guilds and R.C.S. Even if you don't intend to sell any more, hand counterfoils to your rep. as soon as possible so that we can invest the money.

The colleges are holding collecting times again to finish this term. Last term a fortnight's collecting realised £1500, so I call on everyone to go out once at least to collect a similar total. It is the public who have got the money. If you can't go out collecting, sell raffle tickets in other colleges, halls, pubs—anywhere will do!

## Carnival week

And so to next term. The rag mag will be published, and on May 8 the Carnival week begins, with the International Evening in the Union. This is an unusual but very enjoyable function and well worth the price. Next day is the focus for the week, the Folk-Concert at the Albert Hall. The Dubliners, the Watsons, the Young Tradition, Bob Davenport, Anne Briggs and John Steel have been engaged. The prices will be moderate and everyone in college is urged to go and sell tickets to his/her friends. There are thousands of tickets to sell, and since it will cost over £1000 to stage the concert, everyone's support will be needed. The tickets will be available from the Albert Hall and agencies from the end of March. Any enquiries about block-bookings etc. should be made to Steve Grant, Keogh 268. The Wednesday will see a Southside Stomp and a Midnight Film Show in the Union. Thursday and Friday are set aside for the Dramatic Society Revue and so on to the final day. During the morning, it is planned to hold a series of money collecting stunts in Kensington High Street and along Knightsbridge. Anyone with ideas for this should direct them to Ralph Cornforth in Beit Hall. The Fete is being held during the afternoon in Princes Gardens. Various clubs and societies have been asked to organize stalls, though any year wanting to help will be welcomed by A.C. Sinha in 135 Falmouth. The finale dance is the last big event of the year before exams. Everyone will be there, dancing to the Alan Price Set.

That's the menu. More details will be given in later issues of FELIX and in programmes. Meanwhile I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard up to

now, and plead with every single person to do his best towards making this year's Carnival the best, most enjoyable and most profitable ever. There is no target, we want to hand over as much as possible, though I see no reason why, with everyone's co-operation, the previous all-time record of £2,400 shouldn't be doubled or even trebled.

You are Imperial College Carnival.

J.C. Stockbridge

## Mild Mines Meeting

A very quiet Mines Union meeting was presided over by top-hatted Chris Molam on Thursday 16th February. The preliminary business including the introduction of Social Colours was quickly eliminated.

The main business consisted of reports on visits to Mines by foreign students and the reciprocal visits. Mike Rowlands thanked those who had assisted in entertaining the visitors but criticised Mines for its general apathy. Reports on visits to France and Sweden were given by the Minesmen involved.

## Minesmen abroad

The visit to St. Etienne seemed from the various reports to have gone off well apart from chaos during the journey. The visitors were well entertained, both socially and

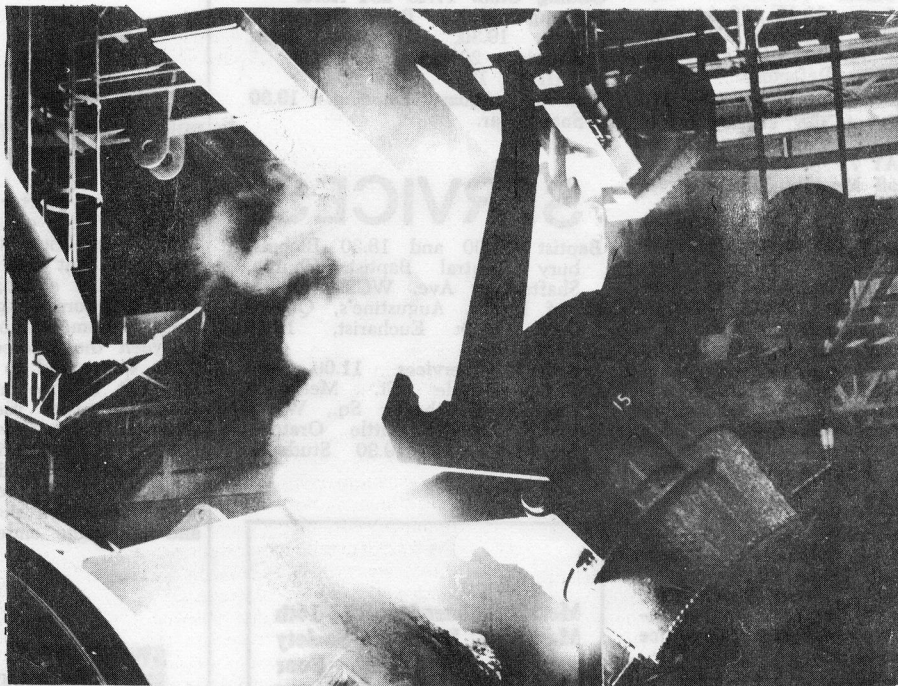
educationally. The visit culminated in a formal ball with free champagne.

The Paris visit was poorly arranged with little organisation. The only thing that the visitors seemed to remember was a dinner and initiation ceremonies in the catacombs of Paris. One souvenir of this trip is a skull now in Southside bar.

The visitors to Stockholm went by car via Hamburg. The visit seemed to have been a social success and to have been fairly well organised.

After some discussion, it was decided to go to Brighton on the Mines outing on 21st March—University of Sussex beware! A vote of thanks for his efforts in running Ents. was given to Goldie Smith—a small overall profit is expected. Owing to the presence of another meeting in the vicinity, the meeting closed without the Mines song and chant.

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IC

## WHAT'S ON

ULU

## WEDNESDAY 1

Underwater Club. Baths session, Marshall St. baths 19.30, transport leaves Union 19.00.

William Pengelly Cave Research Centre. "The Growth of Calcite in Caves" by Mr A.W. Wells. 19.30 Physics.

Southside Stomp featuring The New Sedalia Jazzband. 20.00 to 23.00. Bar and dancing in Southside upper refectory. Jazz club members 2/- non members 3/-.

Con. Soc. Annual Theatre Visit to "There's a Girl in my Soup"

## THURSDAY 2

FELIX Staff Meeting. 12.45. Press Room.

General Studies. Agricultural Problems of the Common Market. Traditions of Judaism.

Gliding Club. 17.45 254 Aero.

Rover Crew. Investiture 17.45 Baden Powell House. (Corner Queens Gate & Cromwell Rd.) AGM and Dinner 20.00 Southside

The Culture of the British Iran System. A talk by Barbara Cas. Minister of Transport. 19.00 3rd Mech. Eng.

Buddhist Culture Soc. "Zen Buddhism:—The Western Approach" by Mr J. Swan-Foster. 19.30 Elec. Eng. Common room, level 6.

Dancing Club. Beginners Ballroom. 19.30, Beginners Latin American 20.45.

## FRIDAY 3

Folk and Square Dancing. 19.30 Snack bar.

## SUNDAY 5

Folk and Jazz in the Union lower lounge. From 20.00.

## MONDAY 6

Christian Union. "Missionaries" by Dr. Iva Lowe. 13.10 266 Aero.

Dancing Club. Beginners Ballroom 19.30 Beginners Latin American 20.45, Upper Refectory.

Wells Soc. "Plasma Physics" by Mr H.J. Pain of the Physics Dept. 19.30 408 Elec. Eng.

## TUESDAY 7

FELIX Staff Meeting. 12.45. Press Room.

General Studies. English History Between Two World Wars:—Foreign Affairs. Points of Reference:—8 Art and Fantasy. Men Behind the Music:—History and the Dance Pianist.

Wine Tasting Soc. "Burgundy" by P.M. Longhurst of Robert James and Son Ltd. 17.45 Snack Bar.

Dancing Club. Intermediate Ballroom 19.30 Intermediate Latin American 20.45.

Con. Soc. AGM. See notice board for details.

## WEDNESDAY 8

Underwater Club. Baths Session, Marshall St. baths 19.30, Transport leaves Union 19.00.

Huxley Soc. "Prison Psychology" by Mrs M. Smith, Chief Psychologist to Brixton Prison. See notice board for details.

## THURSDAY 9

FELIX Staff Meeting. 12.45 Press Room.

Rover Crew. "Maps" with an Ordnance Survey speaker. 12.35 303 Mines.

Gliding Club 17.45 254 Aero.

Dancing Club. Beginners Ballroom 19.30 Beginners Latin American 20.45.

## FRIDAY 10

Folk and Square Dancing 19.30 Snack bar.

"Science, The Lock or the Key to the Future?" Conference organized by Maths and Phys. Soc. at High Leigh Conference Centre. Contact Helen Lewis Phys. 1 via Physics dept. or Union rack off Thurs. 2 for details.

## SUNDAY 12

Folk and Jazz in the Union lower lounge from 20.00.

## MONDAY 13

Christian Union. Bible Reading—Elisha with Rev. J. Goidingay. 13.10 266 Aero.

Dancing Club. Beginners Ballroom 19.30 Beginners Latin American 20.45.

Wells Soc. Ergonomics by Dr. Gordon Pack. 19.30 408 Elec. Eng. Wine Tasting Soc. Annual Dinner.

## TUESDAY 14

FELIX Staff Meeting. 12.45. Press Room.

General Studies. English History Between Two World Wars:—2 Foreign Affairs. Points of Reference:—9 Artistic Possibilities. The World of Mozart.

Railway Soc. R.M. Robbins Esq. on "London Transport Railways" 17.40 664 Mech. Eng.

Dancing Club. Intermediate Ballroom 19.30. Intermediate Latin American 20.45.

Huxley Soc. AGM. See notice board for details.

## WEDNESDAY 15

Underwater Club. Baths session, Marshall St. baths, 19.30. Transport leaves Union 19.00.

Folk Club. Guests are Cyril Tawny and Lou Killen. 3/- and 5/-. 19.30 Upper Refectory.

## THURSDAY 16

FELIX Staff Meeting 12.45 Press Room.

Rover Crew. "Nutrition" by a QEC speaker. 12.35 303 Mines.

Gliding Club. 17.45 254 Aero.

Dancing Club. Beginners Ballroom 19.30, Beginners Latin American 20.45.

## FRIDAY 17

Folk and Square Dancing. 19.30 Snack Bar.

## SERVICES

Baptist 11.00 and 18.30 Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, Shaftesbury Ave. WC2.

C. of E. St. Augustine's, Queens Gate 9.00 Eucharist, 19.30 Evensong.

Methodist. Services 11.00 and 18.30 Hinde St. Methodist Church, Manchester Sq., W1.

Roman Catholic. Little Oratory, Brompton Rd. 19.30 Students' Mass.

Monday-Thursday, 13-16th March. IC Dramatic Society presents "Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mamma's Locked you in the Closet and I'm Feelin' so Sad" by a Kopit. Tickets 3/6-4/6.

Malcolm Muggeridge will not be appearing at IC on 2nd March as was stated last week but on Thursday 23rd.

## TUESDAY 7

North America Club. General meeting and election of committee, followed by social. 19.30 ULU.

## WEDNESDAY 8

English Folk Dancing Society 19.30 School of Pharmacy, Brunswick Sq.

## THURSDAY 9

Christian Science Organization. Testimony meeting 20.00 Room 3A ULU.

## FRIDAY 10

Film Soc. "Virgin Spring". "The Ghost" (Laurel and Hardy) "Paladins of France". ULU.

## WEDNESDAY 15

English Folk Dancing Society. 19.30 School of Pharmacy Brunswick Sq.

University of London Orchestra. Concert with works by Sibelius, Vaughan, Williams, Britten, Holst and Dawson. Tickets 3/6 and 5/6 from members or at door. 19.30 Friend's House. Euston Rd. WC1.

## THURSDAY 16

Christian Science Organization. Testimony meeting 20.00 Room 3A ULU.

Folk Song Club. Ian Russell. Members 2/- non members 3/6. 20.00 Middlesex Hospital Medical School. Cleveland St. W1.

## FRIDAY 17

QEC Commemoration Ball, starring the Baron Knights. Also: Eric Delaney Band, Fourmost, Spencer's Washboard Kings etc. 21.00 till 06.00. 4 gns double.

## TURBULENT GAME ENDS AS A DRAW

IC 2 : KINGS 2.

**THIS WAS** a close game of water-polo, although IC were unlucky not to win, owing to some doubtful decisions by the referee, especially in the final minute.

The first quarter ended with no goals having been scored, as the defences were on top. However, in the second quarter IC took the lead, when Price went up to centre forward. IC looked like keeping this lead, but half way through the third quarter Collier was sent out, for impeding a Kings player. With an extra man it was only a matter of time before Kings scored, but the manner in which they did so was open to some doubt. As a result of this there was some disagreement between the referee and Mills, in the College goal. This ended when Mills was asked to leave the water, and with Collier returning, this still left IC one man short. The prospect was rather black but Kings failed to make use of their advantage, and the third quarter ended with the scores level.

With the opposition in this mood IC were able to fight back, and went into the lead through Maycock. The College were now back at full strength, but couldn't keep the lead. In the last 30 seconds Kings were awarded a penalty, albeit doubtful. Mills had no chance, in goal, and the game ended a two all draw.

## AND THEN

SWIMMING IC 37 pts R.M.A. SANDHURST 40 pts.  
WATER-POLO IC 7 pts R.M.A. SANDHURST 1 pt.

THE COLLEGE were entertained to a very good swimming and water-polo match by the R.M.A. Sandhurst and were unlucky to lose a very close swimming match, but won the water-polo easily.

After the individual swimming events the points were quite close, IC taking first and second places in the Individual Medley, through Hook and Maycock. Collier and Fairburn did likewise in the Butterfly, and the former pair finished first and third in the Backstroke. However, Sandhurst had taken maximum points in the Breaststroke and had won the Freestyle. Thus the result depended on the relays, both of which were won by the R.M.A., and this gave them an overall victory. The Medley relay was only won by six inches, but the Freestyle was a much easier victory for Sandhurst.

Although the swimming was lost, IC gained an easy win in the water-polo game, by 7 goals to 1. There never seemed to be any doubt who were to be the victors. The scorers for IC were: Collier 5, Mills 1, Howarth 1.

J.R. Hook



The start of the Hyde Park Relay sees a hundred teams set off to run over the eighteen mile course. When the inaugural race took place, in 1949, there were only nine entries.

## HYDE PARK EDINBURGH AGAIN

The Sir Roderic Hill Cup was again won by Edinburgh University, who bettered their record-breaking run last year by 28 seconds, with an overall time of 85 min. 24 secs. They took the lead on the fourth lap and never looked back. Every member of the team, which, incidentally, won the B.U.S.F. Cross Country Championship on February 4th, returned lap times below 14 min. 25 secs., so that, at the finish, they were 1½ minutes clear of the second team, Sheffield University; Loughborough Colleges took 3rd place. Earlier in the race the pace had been set by St. Catherines College, Oxford, whose two stars, John Waterhouse, and Fergus Murray led the field during the first and second laps.

The IC team were placed higher than last year, but could only manage 20th position in the highly competitive field of 88 teams from universities and colleges all over Britain, plus seven teams from Germany, France and Belgium. The college cross country club's top man Nick Barton, running the third 3-mile lap, pulled them up from 38th to 13th with a time of 13 min.

54 secs., which was the fastest lap up to that stage. He handed over to Tony Mason who ran a very good 15 min. 8 sec. lap and moved the IC team up to 11th place. The pace from this stage, however, became too hot, even for the gallant efforts of IC's two Godiva Harriers runners, Howard Smith and Ian Jones.

University College, traditional rivals of the IC club, were the best placed London college at 4th, with Borough Road College finishing hard on their heels at 5th, to retain the Imperial College Union Cup. This was Borough's third consecutive success in the competition which is for colleges with less than 500 male students.

The strong, cold wind was, no doubt, one of the reasons why the individual lap record of 13min 35 sec., set up last year by Mike Turner of Queen's, Cambridge, was not broken. Mike Tagg of Reading University, probably Britain's most promising young distance runner, came closest with a time of 13 min. 41 sec.

The innovation of a computer this year, to check the results was not particularly successful, as might have been expected for the first attempt, and in fact it was 4 a.m. on Sunday before the results were completed by hand. Nevertheless, the experience gained will be valuable and next year should produce the full fruit of subsequent modifications to the programme.



As the field thins out the loneliness increases, but for some there is company.

**Late Flash: Computer produced correct results two days later.**

### ATHLETICS

## LEAGUE WIN

But it won't be this easy in the summer

At the first full winter league match for some time, on Feb. 11th, IC proved to be the dominant college, winning all the jumps and most of the track events.

As usual, Richard Beck asserted his authority on the track commencing with a win in one of the 220yd. races, in a time of 23.1 sec.—fractionally better than his previous best this winter. Later he shattered the opposition—including reigning U.L. Champion Chris Marchese—when he stylishly speeded round the track to win the 440 yd. in 50.7 sec.

Our other outstanding competitor was Paul Jones who showed now he has benefited from consistent training by winning the triple jump, with a personal best of 43' 10", in spite of taking off before the board. Chris Power was second with a best jump nearly three inches less than Paul's.

A dissatisfied Derek Ward again won the long jump but was still unable to jump much more than 20'—well below his best. Dave Downie dragged himself out of bed to reach Motpur in time to compete in the pole vault, retiring, the victor, after clearing 10 ft.—approaching his personal best, when still at school. He later was second, with 5ft6, in the high jump, won, as usual, by Mike Evans who, because of a slight injury, was unable to better 5ft9.

Dave Dallman easily won the 880 against minimal opposition, having made the running virtually from the start and had no need to push himself at all. Dave Everitt and Ian Winship also competed.

It was a successful morning for the college though it must be remembered that the standard of the opposition at these meetings is not truly indicative of the highest available in the university, as many athletes do not appear until the summer term—so that our athletes won't find it so easy to win in the University Championships.

Running on boards for the first time Richard Beck realised his ignorance of this art and was beaten into second place in the 300yds, more by tactical, than athletic, superiority.

Nevertheless, vital experience was gained and the competition was worthwhile for all concerned.

I.R. Winship

## RECORD SHOT

THE RIFLE CLUB are faced with a full term, as far as fixtures are concerned. The intercollegiate matches continue, and on top of those there are the annual internal competitions. The College will be well represented at the London Small Bore Championships, and the U.L. Full Bore Trials, which are being held in March. . . . .

The club is progressing well in the shoulder to shoulder matches of the Engineers' Cup. The first team has been doing particularly well, and against U.C. (acknowledged as the leading opposition) set up a new IC record of 576 points. The College won the first round by one point, 572-571, and drew the second on 576.

Results to date are:—

A TEAM, ENGINEERS' CUP  
Shot 7; Won 5; Drawn 1; Lost 1;  
Match points 11; Aggregate 3973.

FIRST TEAM, STANDING AND KNEELING LEAGUE.

Shot 5; Won 5;

SECOND TEAM, STANDING AND KNEELING LEAGUE.

Shot 5; Won 4; Lost 1; Match points 8.

## JUST TO REMIND YOU . . .

We will be visiting your University on

Tuesday 7th & Tuesday 14th March

for the purpose of discussing the career prospects we can offer. We are particularly interested in studying the following:

- AGRICULTURE
- ARTS
- BIOCHEMISTRY
- BOTANY
- CHEMISTRY
- ECONOMICS
- HORTICULTURE
- MATHEMATICS
- MICROBIOLOGY
- ZOOLOGY

# FISONS

## INDOORS

As a result of their performances in the league match, a number of IC athletes represented the University in an indoor match at Cosford, against the R.A.F. and Loughborough Colleges, the following Saturday.

However, they did not have a greatly successful time against these stronger teams, with the exception of Derek Wade who, in winning the long jump, returned to his best form with a leap of 22ft. Our representation did not disgrace itself at all—Mike Evans and Malcolm Weaver cleared 6' and 5'11" respectively in the high jump, and Dave Downie managed 10ft6 in the pole vault.

# FELIX WEEKEND DEADLINE

## Plans for student houses

The Union sub-committee investigating student houses have found a way for the money to be raised entirely within the College. Welfare Officer Pete Finch believes that £100,000 would pay for eighty places in houses and that this could be paid off over thirty years by increases in Hall fees of between 5/- and 10/- per week. The committee recommends the forming of a Housing Association to which 100% mortgages should be readily available at 7% interest. Several other schemes for raising the required capital are proposed including appeals to the Universities Grants Committee, the Overseas Students Welfare Expansion Programme, and to industry. Before beginning such appeals, however, a feasibility study would be conducted by a Public Relations Organisation to determine the likely yield.

The proposal to increase Hall fees is currently being discussed by the Halls residents who will determine whether the suggestion should be put to the Halls of Residence Committee by Rex Lowin. A report by the sub-committee notes that "such an increase, while painful to the residents, would not even make their rents comparable to those already being paid by students in similar lodgings"

This report is a comprehensive survey of the student housing situation as it affects IC students. It embodies the Collinge Report, a description of a student housing scheme in operation at Hull University, and

detailed proposals for setting up student houses at Imperial College. It was presented to the Executive on Monday for their approval.

One difficulty which the originators of the scheme did not foresee is that if the College is asked to help with the administration of the houses (which is essential as the problems are so complex for the Union to handle alone) the Governing Body would almost certainly require control of the discipline, etc., of the residents. A warden would be needed to be responsible for each house, but it is hoped that he could be a married postgraduate rather than a member of staff.

On March 11th there is an NUS conference at Liverpool on student co-operatives, housing associations and other means of providing non-traditional types of accommodation. It is thought that Tony Duke or a member of the sub-committee may attend.

## Cenotaph Demonstration

Saturday 4th March is to be a day of universities protest against the continuation of the Vietnam War. I.C.C.N.D. is joining with student groups from other colleges in organising a London demonstration.

The demonstration will lay a wreath to the Vietnamese dead on the Cenotaph at 11 a.m. It is hoped the group will be led by Fenner Brockway and that several M.P.'s will be there. Students and staff will form the body of the protest and it is hoped IC will produce a large contingent. Further details will appear on posters in the Union.

## FELIX & FACTOR

FELIX has joined the newly-formed organisation FACTOR. As was revealed in last week's SENNET, FACTOR is an inter-collegiate news agency created initially by the editors of Pi (U.C.) and Beaver (L.S.E.) to circulate news among college newspapers. So far, as well as those already named, three other colleges have shown interest in joining. The giving of news to other colleges should not detract from the value of FELIX since those papers which print it will not be read by members of IC. On the benefit side, it may stimulate interest in IC in what is happening in other colleges. The scheme is still in its early stages and may not function for a few days.



## Boldon resigns from Ents.

Pete Boldon has resigned his post as Ents. Committee Chairman and left College. He did this in order to get a good degree by coming back next session to repeat his final year, as otherwise he feels sure he would have failed come June. His county have already promised him a full grant for next year. He says that this should act as a warning to some people not to let Union activities take priority over academic work and that next year he will do very little work for the Union.

The next Chairman will probably be Stew Chapman, the present Booking Officer for IC Hops. Other likely candidates are Keith Guy, present Secretary, and Martin Lack, Publicity Officer. Pete, himself, would like Chapman to take over but the decision rests with IC Council.

F.J.M.

## Canoeing ?

At the present moment IC does not possess a Canoe Club. However, several Union members feel there is a need for one and are actively trying to get members for this proposed Club.

The Club, if formed, will provide opportunities for all forms of canoeing (touring, slalom, racing, etc.) as well as advice on building canoes when required.

If you are interested in this new Club please contact either R. Saxton or R. Lansley via the Union letter rack.

F.J.M.

## SMALL ADS

FELIX will accept SMALL ADS from 5d. per line. For details apply to adman Robin Hall c/o FELIX rack.

TANGIER—Holiday flat to let. Sleeps three. Phone Little, CHI 2890 evgs. for further details.

At ICWA's Annual Party Andy Powell, Vice-Captain of Rugby, was elected Mr ICWA 1967 despite overwhelming prior publicity by—or for—Mr Pete Franklin. The party was attended by various members of the College of Estate Management as well as most of the Rugby Club and interlopers from the "Valentine's Rave"

## ICU — the experts on RSA?

As ever, the members of IC quickly and accurately learn of doings outside the College. In this instance I refer to the Radical Student Alliance (RSA). So full of knowledge on this are the members of IC—after all there was a letter in FELIX last issue about it—that only five people and myself attended a meeting on RSA organized by the Liberal Society on Thurs 16th.

The five who were there all knew a good deal about RSA and were in fact expecting to be able to answer the questions of others on details, some of them having been in contact with people closely connected with RSA.

However, they obviously needn't bother. IC students know all about RSA, anyway it doesn't concern us. RSA's main objective is to kick some more life into NUS and get students en masse to take a more active part in student affairs. Not being a member of NUS this is obviously no concern of ours. We could never rejoin NUS, even if it were to become totally acceptable to IC students. We must certainly be pig-headed and ignore the foolish efforts of students of the other inferior universities in the country to gain a voice in the educational policies of the nation. Equally, the action RSA has taken on the question of fee increases for overseas students is no cause to learn about the alliance, or is it?

Comments on RSA in the Press, a "Red Smear" campaign as I have heard it called, true or false, it is no concern of ours. Who cares if a bunch of Communists, under the thumb of Moscow or Peking, gain control of NUS. The rest of the country's students can hardly expect us, sitting right in the middle of London, to help them.

Doesn't anyone care?

K. Simpson

## OH DAD POOR DAD

mamma's hung you in the closet, and I'm feeling' so sad.

by A. KOPIT

presented by Imperial College Dramatic Society

Monday — Thursday 13th-16th March at 8.00pm Union Concert Hall

Tickets 4/6 & 3/6 SPECIAL

PARTY BOOKINGS—1/- off each ticket for parties of 8 or more.

# FELIX LATE NEWS

Wednesday 1st March 1967 No. 224

EDITOR S.E. Barnes

## Mines Win Balloon Debate

By a small majority Dylan Thomas (alias Chris Moalm) retained his place in the balloon to win the Inter Collegiate Debating Competition. Oscar Wilde (Pete Roberts) based his case on his suitability as a basis for civilisation at the other end of the journey and his "natural bouyancy", whilst Brendan Behan (Keith Cavanagh) pleaded youth and possible future works. Chris Molam gave a rather poor speech of many repetitions, but quoted "himself" at length.

Tony Lunn supported Oscar for his looks (like Mick Jagger) but Ho Chi Duckett stated him as "not just a bourgeois, but a bankrupt bourgeois," and quoted Dylan on himself: "Chaps like me sink like bricks."

In the second round of supporters, Behan was attacked as the heaviest present, an unrepentant drinker and "All Irishment are pigs," (a hotly refuted claim). Dylan was attacked as a "sadist at the age of 8," and a sodden Welshman, whilst Oscar's reputation as a Sodomite drew fore. Mr Wells produced an interesting theory that if Dylan went, the balloon would continue to descend, Oscar's departure would cause equilibrium and the loss of Behan would cause ascension.

The judges decided to throw Brendan Behan overboard. After short speeches attacking each other, the two survivors were told that Chris Molam had won by a very narrow margin.

R.S. Hall

## R.C.S. & U.C. at Bristol

On Thursday the R.C.S Team will leave for Bristol, to compete in the second National Pedal Car Race. After last year's victory many modifications have been made to the car and a team of very able pedallers has been chosen and extensively trained.

Also leaving London shortly is a research unit from the Physiology Dept. University College. They are going to Bristol to undertake research into the effects of continuous exertion for 24 hours on the human body.

The link is, of course, that U.C.'s observations are to be made on R.C.S. pedallers.

Blood, breath and urine tests will be taken regularly, as will pulse rates, weight, temperature etc. throughout the 24 hours. This is a joint effort and is a serious scientific investigations. It will, however, add greatly to the spectator appeal of the race and Bristol Rag organisers are giving their full support to the venture.

There will be a coach leaving the Union for Bristol at 6.00 a.m. on Sat. 4th., after R.C.S. Carnival, for supporters to see the later stages of the race and to cheer on their tired team in these vital last hours.

For a thoroughly enjoyable day out approach D. Wilcox., R.M. Cornforth or M. Lansley (in Physics or Old Beit 49 & 51) for coach tickets - 7/6 return.

D. Wilcox.  
(Team Manager)

## Quote:-

Carl Seaford "Chris Molam is such a sweetie!"

### I.C. Victory

I.C. Council member Dave Reich was elected Chairman of the London University Conservative Association at their A.G.M. last week, beating Peter Watherstone - who is now standing for the Presidency of L.S.E. Among the two L.U.C.A. Vice-Chairmen returned unopposed was Jane Pearson, former member of the Felix staff and current Chairman of I.C. Con.Sec.

### Sexual Difficulties of Undergraduates

Dr Peter Hays gave the packed Mech Eng lecture theatre 220 a fatherly or perhaps not so fatherly talk on "How to seduce your first girl for the absolute beginner." Unfortunately decency and the feelings of I.C.W.A. stop us from giving fuller details. Never mind Dr Hays' next lecture is this Thursday in Mech Eng lecture theatre A. S.E.B.

Sir,

As some people might know, City & Guilds College Radio Society applied this term to become an I.C. club next academic year. This was considered necessary because of the large number of R.C.S. members (about 50%) who have no voting or representative rights in the Society, this had lead to a ridiculous situation, that the C & G members etc (the only members allowed to vote) elected an R.C.S. man as their President this year.

The obvious way to solve this dilemma is to make the Society an I.C. club and to hold fresh elections as soon as possible. However, the executive of I.C. and C & G are taking too long to decide one way or the other. They cannot agree on the amount of compensation for the loss of capital from C & G.

C & G and R.C.S. must become an I.C. club by the end of term if justice is to be done.

Philip Painter

### Small Adds

Wanted. One way trip overland from India to England. Starting India approx. 5 - 10 Sept. 1967.

Contact R. Mohan. Elec Eng I.

### Reward! Reward!

Lost last term red file with first year physics notes, returner receives couple quid reward.

S.E. BARNES via FELIX RACK.

### Missing

Missing black ladies bike, with a saddle bag, disappeared from cycle rack Imperial Institute Road, Thurs, 16th Feb.

Miss Paluch C.E. I

### Missing

Brown Briefcase missing from Garden Hall Entrance could the years notes be returned via Mines Porter to D.M. Waughter - Mining II.

### What's On!

#### March 2nd

Dr Peter Hay (Consultant Psychiatrist I.C.) Neurotic reactions in science undergraduates.

#### March 9th

I.C.N.A.C. Films in Mech Eng 220 at 7.30. p.m. on March 9th.

#### March 10th - 12th

Maths Physics Society Weekend conference 10th - 12th March "Science - the lock or key to the future."