



FELIX SPECIAL ISSUE

Number 254

1^p

WEDNESDAY 10th JANUARY 1967

Parking Free

decision reversed

It has been announced that the proposed charge for car parking on college premises has been abandoned.

At the end of last term various sectors of the college expressed profound dissatisfaction with both the college parking arrangements and with the reconstitution of the Rector's parking committee - It is hoped that the whole position will be clarified in the next issue of Felix when a statement from the secretary of the college, Mr Davies, will be printed.

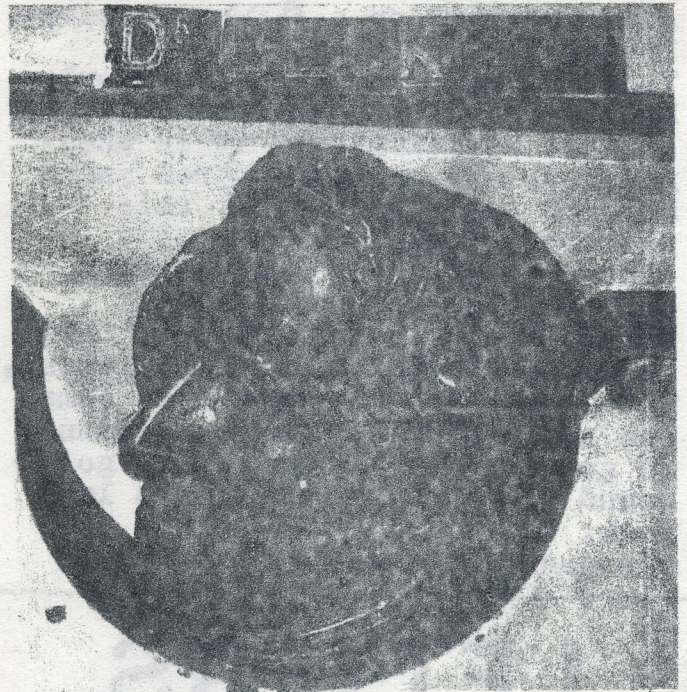
Student Houses

A student House has at last been bought at 54-56 Evelyn Gardens, about 15 minutes walk from College. It will house 61 students plus student warden Dave Harris and his wife at a rent of £2/10/- to £3/10/- per week.

The College is also hopeful of obtaining numbers 40-44 Evelyn Gardens for a second house.

RECTOR BECOMES DIRECTOR

FELIX congratulates Lord Penney on being appointed a director of Tube Investments, who produce most of the bicycles in Britain. With the new parking regulations coming in on Monday these may well be an ideal mode of transport for I.C. people.



Did anything good happen to you recently? This free gift to the Wooden Horse Club appeared on Mike's plinth at the end of last term. But where is Mike? (And just who is Dr. Beck anyhow?)

Council Letter

At the beginning of the vac a letter was handed in to the Union office signed by twenty students members of Council, that is all except President Phillips and Secretary Harris, requesting a Council Meeting in the second week of term.

According to Peter Ruhemann, who, with Bob Mackman, was one of the authors of the letter, this was because the last two Council Meetings have been mainly taken up with routine business, leaving little time for anything else such as Union representatives, Halls policy, the role of the Welfare and External Affairs Committees.

When asked to comment Dave Harris said he thought that a Council Meeting at this time was "impractical".

COLCUTT

Have you noticed that it's a leap year? Pray it will be a jumping-off point for better things. But it's ging to upset the balance here. I.C. is out of equilibrium primarily because we're all scientists. And when we get outside, we talk on a different wavelength to many other students. Tune in, man, but not many people have the capacity to do it. You can see how difficult it is when you hear the sarcasm poured and here on non-scientists. This primary instability induces a secondary unstable equilibrium (Did this guy ever do any science?) in the sex ratio. This is around 14:3:001 at the moment. This works okay because like someone said, there are enough women to go around as long as they go round fast enough. But in a leap year, the women can make the proposals. So maybe this is the

LETTERS

The views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those held by the Editor.

Sir,

Thank you for the 'Felix Food Forum'. However Mr. Mooney's comment that lack of variety is to be expected if one arrives at refectories as they are closing, has puzzled me. Who put the 'Eat off Peak' notices in the refectories? I have tried eating off peak, but not when refectories are about to close, and I find that I encounter a lack of variety.

I regret that I cannot suggest a solution to this problem, but I hope that someone will,

Yours etc.

Ross Maxwell
Elec Eng I

P.S. You omitted one important statistic in the 'Food Forum'. If everyone dining in Mooney's emporia each year paid in half-pennies and they were laid end to end, they would stretch for 2070 km. i.e. from Vienna to Odessa via Belgrade, Sofia and Constanta!

best year to put Frank Fuchs' suggestions into operation. An open day for girls' schools. Here. See them going home: "When I asked him, he said he wouldn't" This lack of women aids the science graduate's failure to contribute fully to today's society. He's not used to working with women. And he's not used to working with non-scientists. But so that we can pull our weight later, the influx of architects must only be a start.

RCS Devalued

R.C.S.U. clubs are now obliged to charge a membership subscription, but meetings of most, if not all of them will still be open to members and non-members alike. In their pursuit of financial security, will these clubs find themselves in the same position as I.C. Wells Soc. where only freshers and Committee members pay?

SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Dear Sir,

The student group of the I.C. branch of the A.Sc.W is soon to set up a working group to consider the possibility of relating some of the research done at the College to the outstanding social and economic problems facing the country. Realising that a very large amount of time and money is spent on research here, and that not all of this expenditure can be justified in anything but the most general sense, the idea is to look into the possibility of setting up inter-departmental groups with the specific task of finding a scientific solution to a current problem.

Such problems which have been suggested so far include:-
Disposal of public and industrial wastes as effluents;
Water resources and pollution;
Land Use;
Urban Transport,
Mechanised building (of dwellings) and use of new materials in such buildings,
Computer controlled machine tools,
Control of Animal diseases (eg foot and mouth),

Anyone interested in participating in this study should contact me via The Chemistry rack.

Keith Cavanagh.

EDITOR'S Comment

Cooper's Dictionary of I.C. Expressions defines "apathy" as "an imaginary state of mind amongst the majority of the student body invented by Union Officials who have failed to capture the imagination of the said student body".

Nowhere is this in evidence more than in the deplorable attendances at Union Meetings. A serious situation exists when constituent College Union Meetings attract, from less than half of I.C., more than an I.C.U. General Meeting.

So what has caused this state of affairs? The most popular scapegoat has, at least since I have been here, been student apathy, a universal scapegoat capable of explaining virtually every failure which has happened. It is a nice sort of scapegoat because no one can disprove it. However, identification (if you can call it that) of the cause of this malaise hardly contribute towards curing it since one is then left with two possibilities either it is an intrinsic property of I.C. students that the majority are apathetic; or it begs the question of what causes the apathy.

If the former is the case then we might as well all pack up and in monastic studiousness get on with our work. I'm sure the chuck out rate would drop dramatically. Very good things degrees. Or perhaps the second alternative is nearer the truth. Perhaps all that is wanted is a feeling of interest and relevance to the average Union member. Worthwhile as it may be to write letters to Vietnam, set up ICSASAF or protest about Overseas Students fees these concern very few students directly.

Given the premise that students are not intrinsically Apathetic, what is needed to capture the imagination of the Union? Certainly the periodic outbursts of Mr Duckett have, in the past 18 months failed to have this effect as have the stirring sessions of the "politicians". Perhaps the introduction of "sport" would enliven these meetings. This seems to be the main attraction at Constituent College Union Meetings and RCS, for one,

also manages to do some serious business. Maybe the sight of an executive in their underpants and a few paper darts would pack the concert hall. As an experiment it could hardly be more disastrous than secretary Harris's of not publishing an agenda for the last Union meeting.

But without going to such lengths and extending the pantomime season all the year round, there is it seems to me much that can be done. First and foremost we need business that will be of interest to most Union members, which in general means relevant to them. Secondly we need publicity; a start on this has been made by using the year reps; posters should have been put up not more than a week before the meeting so that they have not become part of the scenery by the time that it arrives; and they should concentrate on the business rather than Superman pictures. I think FELIX here by keeping everyone informed on what is likely to come up, thus helping to form an organised opposition, sadly lacking recently, and also by acting as a forum for discussion through the letters column. This should in no way detract from discussion at Union meetings, but would give the subject a complete airing and give people time to think it over, before a vote.

FELIX - LAST ISSUE

It is regretted that a number of errors were printed in the last issue of FELIX. These were:-

Union expenditure during the previous session had risen by £600 and not by £1600.

George Assimakis is not secretary of Selkirk Hall Committee although it was he who was referred to in the story of the Selkirk search. Our apologies to Roger Cress who is the Selkirk secretary. In the same article it was stated that Dr. Cameron said that he may search Tizard Hall. Dr. Cameron did not in fact say this.

The RCS General Committee decided (not denied) that it is feasible to have a girls' Open Day.

Finally, congratulations to all those who worked out the correct frame for the crossword, and in particular to those who guessed glue number 22 down. The solution (and frame) appear on page

IRC WORDS

The first week of the Spring Term is hardly the time to talk about Christmas parties but the I.R.C. one deserves to be mentioned. About ninety people came including a suitably high percentage of women. The success of the party indicated that at least in one of its aims - that of promoting friendship between students of different nationalities, the International Relations Club is well on its way to succeeding.

The few I.R.C. members who have been with us for five or six years remember the very successful but largely social activities of the club in the early sixties. Since that time more politically-minded officers of the club have pressed for meetings devoted to international politics. As the I.C. branch of the United Nations Student Association, the club has also responsibility for promoting interest in U.N. affairs at I.C. Thus a dilemma arises. Should I.R.C. merely provide a meeting place for students of all nationalities or should it actively try to interest students in international affairs? For the present the dilemma has been solved by compromise. Half the meetings of the current session are on some aspect of world affairs including U.N.O., and half of a social/cultural nature. As everyone knows political meetings at I.C. do not draw big crowds, but by arranging such meetings as the Teach-In on Race Relations jointly with Pol. Coun., we have been able to guarantee our speakers a reasonable audience.

Of the purely political programmes of last term the most interesting was probably that given by Mr. Mbeki, of the African National Congress, on South West Africa. The most successful cultural evening was undoubtedly the Turkish Evening arranged jointly with the Turkish Society. At this members saw films about Turkey, refreshed themselves with Turkish wine, sweets and coffee, and watched a display of folk dancing.

In addition to the weekly Thursday evening meetings, I.R.C. is active in other ways. At the beginning of term, members helped



JOAN RUDDOCK - IRC PRESIDENT

to run the reception centre for overseas students, organised by the new Union Overseas Students Committee. Money was raised within the club for the purchase of a U.N. flag and I.R.C. Christmas Card sales in aid of U.N.I.C.E.F. reached a record total of £92.

This term's programme will be similarly varied. Unfortunately, despite a very pleasant reception at the Charge d'Affairs office of the Peoples Republic of China, we did not obtain a speaker. However, we shall be showing a film, loaned to us by that office, of the recent cultural revolution. The first meeting on Jan. 11th will be on 'Vietnam and the abuse of Science' - a talk given by I.C.'s Dr. Rose. The following week a feature film will be shown to raise money for the club's social activities.

Although all future programmes will be advertised in Felix, one of them deserves to be mentioned here. This is a special meeting, arranged for Wednesday Jan. 17th. On that evening, I.C. is host to all London U.N.S.A.s and the speaker will be Lord Caradon, Britain's permanent representative to the U.N. This is a great honour for I.C. and it is hoped that members of the union will give their support to the meeting.

Joan Ruddock

In the next issue an article on Human Rights Year by Mrs Ruddock will be printed

ED.

Grants Survey :

MEANS TEST FAIR TO STUDENTS

The survey conducted under the auspices of the Welfare Committee by Rob Collinge on grants has been completed and a preliminary report given to FELIX.

The main conclusions of the survey are:

1) The means test is fair in operation.
2) The need is for reducing the cost of housing rather than increasing grants as a long term policy.

3) The wage paid for vacation employment is inadequate

The survey was held amongst 300 undergraduates taken at random from the college lists. Replies were received from 200 of them, representing 9% of the undergraduate population.

Means Test

The vast majority of parents paid their full contribution under the means test. Many parents exceeded this. Those parents who did not pay their full contribution usually made up for it in some other way e.g. providing clothing, free accommodation in vacations or the student was able to make it up by vacation earnings.

Vacation Employment

The average profit from this was £70 p.a. However 25% of students obtain no vacation employment and others lose on it.

Living Expenses

The average expenditure of students on essentials:- rent, food, heat and light, travel, books, clothing and other essential extras was as follows:-
Students living at home £3/-/- p.w.
Students living in hall £8/10/-p.w.
Students living elsewhere £9/10/- leaving £2/10/-, £2/10/- and £1/10/ per week respectively for spending on non-essential items.

The point is made that one of the reasons for siting a University here is that students can take advantage of the facilities of Central London and 30/- per week is inadequate for this.

It is interesting to compare Collinge's findings with those of a similar, but more comprehensive survey conducted by Keith Cavanagh for the A.Sc.W three years ago.

Then, as far as it is possible to determine, and exact comparisons are difficult to make the average profit from vacation work was £89 and the expenditure on necessities for the three groups was £4/1/- for students at home, £6/12/- in Hall and £7/7/- in lodgings (presumably including flats and bed-sitters).

As stated above, this is only a preliminary report and FELIX hopes to do a more comprehensive coverage on the final version when this is available.

J.D. Cooper.

Quotes of the Fortnight

"I feel I would rather be buried than eaten." Barry Bradshaw, chairman of O.S.S.

"I try not to represent the people who turn up to R. C.S.U. meetings, as they're bloody idiots in general." Stew Barnes, R.C.S. rep on I.C.U. council.

"A portable hazard to shipping". Secretary describing captain of the Gliding Club.

"I don't believe in taking women out except when absolutely necessary". Bob Mackman, President R.C.S.U., mate of Betty.

"Four quotes in three issues is enough for anyone." Pete Hall.

FELIX COMPETITION

A £1 prize is offered for the best design or idea for a new front page heading for FELIX. All entries to be submitted to the Editor by 1201 Wednesday 17th January.

SMALL AD

For Sale 2 new Sinclair Q14 speakers £6.0.0. ea o.n.o.
Apply S. Kuparimonkol E.E.2.

WHAT'S ON

THURSDAY 11th JANUARY

Dr Barnes Wallis: Design study for a radio telescope. Mech Eng 542, 1130.
R.S.M.Films in aid of "Leukaemia Research Fund". "Gambit", starring Michael Cain and Shirley Maclean. "The outrage" starring Paul Newman. Tickets 4/6 from 461 or 463 Selkirk or in the Union. Mech Eng 220, 1845
Mr P. Carpenter: Art and Science. Physics Lecture Theatre 1, 1330.
IRC "Vietnam in the Abuse of Science". Dr S. Rose, Civil Eng 201, 1930
Tagore Trio: Schubert String Trio. Frances Mason. Library, 53, Princes Gate, 1330.
Mr G.F.G. Twistleton-Wykhams-Fiennas: Much to say. Mech Eng, 220, 1330
Scout and Guide Club: "Project Kraken", Brian Ray. Mines 303, 1230

MONDAY

Christian Union: "Why should I bother with a Local Church?" Rev Mallory Makowen. Mech Eng 542, 1310
Wells Soc: "Biological Warfare", Dr J.H. Humphrey FRS. Elec Eng 408, 1930

TUESDAY

Railway Soc: "Joseph Mitchell and the Highland Rhy". H.A. Valence Mech Eng 664, 1740

WEDNESDAY 17th JANUARY

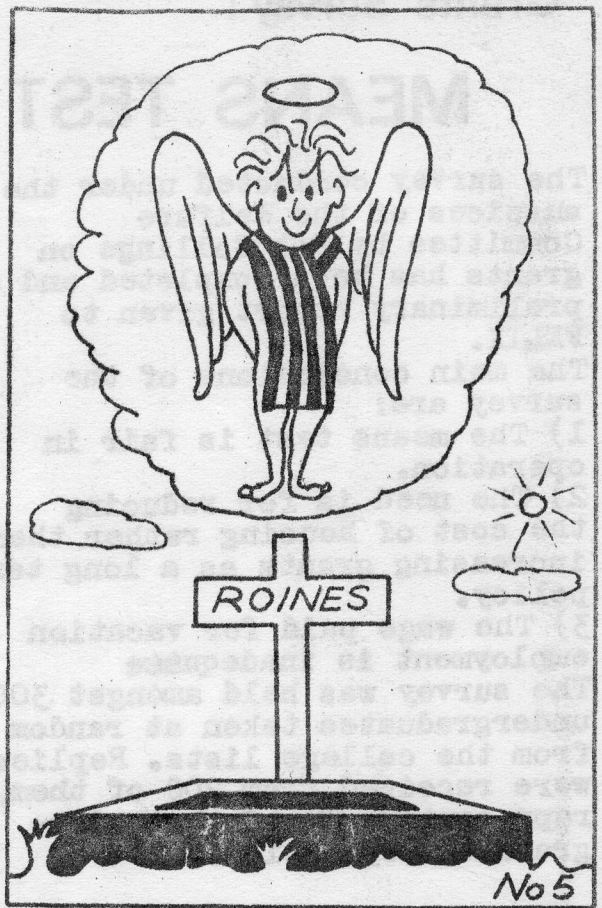
Any Questions on UN's British Foreign Policy with Lord Caradon, Britain's permanent representative in the UN. Mech Eng 220, 1930
Southside Stomp with Spencers' Washboard Kings and Bar. Tickets 5/- at door 4/- in advance. Women 4/- and 3/-.

THURSDAY

Scout and Guide Club: "London's Traffic", B.V. Martin G.L.C. Dept of Transport and Highways. Mines 303, 1230
IRC: "Kanal", feature film. Mech Eng 220, 1930. Tickets 2/6 from members, of IRC.

MONDAY

Christian Union: "Whats on this Summer" discussion. Mech Eng 542, 1310.
Mining and Metallurgy Soc "Channel Tunnel", Prof Bruckshaw from Geophysics. Mines 303, 1730.
Wells Soc: Plenary meeting. Science, Technology and Economic Growth". Prof PMS Blackett, President of Royal Society. Tickets (numbers controlled) from Andy Parsons 626 Tizard Hall.



OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we record the death of one of Felix's most faithful contributors, Roines.

A victim of Christmas spirit, he was apprehended by police, having sped through red traffic lights on his Triang Trike. On being asked to take a breathalizer test he sucked instead of 'blowed', and being of negligible size, sucked himself into the plastic bag and slowly turned green.

Although not long on the staff of Felix, he could always be relied upon to provide the same reaction from his many followers - that of utter revulsion. This paper will never be the same, for which we must all be eternally grateful.

R.I.P.

214.12 (1A)

Association of Scientific Workers

15 HALF MOON STREET W.1 Tel: GROsvenor 4761

APPLICATION FORM FOR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP (This form is for full time students only)

Name _____

Address _____

Home address if different from above _____

Date of birth _____

College _____ expected date of graduation _____

Nature of Course _____

I the undersigned, hereby make application for student membership of the A.Sc.W. The particulars given by me on this form are true and I agree to abide by the rules of the Association.

Date _____ Signed _____

A registration fee of 6d. is payable with this form. The annual subscription for student members is 7/6d.

This form when completed should be forwarded to the branch secretary or to a Regional Office of the A.Sc.W. or to The Association of Scientific Workers, 15, Half Moon Street, London, W.1.

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MEETING

ROOM 408

ELEC. ENG

THURSDAY

JAN. 14th

1.15 - 2.15

REMINDER!

The Association of Scientific Workers was formed by groups of scientists in the year 1918. In World War One groups of scientists were formed within government service for the first time in history. No-one in the Government really knew how science could be used nor what scientists should be paid. When the scientists raised the question of reasonable but higher salaries they were told that the Government only negotiated on salaries with a Trade Union and so the scientists formed such a Trade Union.

From 1918 to 1939 the Association campaigned ceaselessly for scientists and engineers to receive decent salaries and conditions..which they had not... and for industry and government to use science..which they did not.. Among our successes during this period can be recorded the formation of the Parliamentary Scientific Committee, which brought Science to M.P.'s. In addition it was left to the Association to sponsor a Private Bill in Parliament to make it illegal the award of spurious science degrees by commercially minded individuals. There was, for example, one lady who, if she approved of you after an interview, would award you the D.Sc.(London) for a fee of 3 guineas. In 1936 the Association made its first representation to D.S.I.R. on behalf of D.S.I.R. financed post-graduate students. At this time also the Association attempted to persuade the Government to increase its money spent on research from £1 million to £2 million but failed because the Government thought that such a sum was much too large.

During World War Two the Association campaigned for the use of science in war and in the peace that would follow. Many of the post-war patterns in the development of science and technology first emerged from conferences organised by the A.Sc.W. In 1946 the Association produced as a Penguin the first attempt to prepare a scientific plan for the development of Britain combined with a rapid increase in science and technology students. It may seem strange in 1968, to realise, that just over 20 years ago there had to be a campaign for the rapid increase in the number of such students and for the rapid increase in the amount of money spent on scientific research and development. It was only 10 years ago that the first governmental surveys were carried out to determine how much the country was spending on scientific research and how many scientists and technologists there were.

In the past ten years the Association, whilst dealing day in and day out with the salaries and conditions of service of its members, has produced documents on all kinds of Science Policy topics (Science Policy = Policy for the application of the Scientific Method to any general social and economic problem.) and has made some impact on Government and University thinking.

Dealing specifically with Transport during this period there was an A.Sc.W. study group formed in the London Area which included as members..an adviser to the Ministry of Transport, a member of of the G.L.C. Planning Department, a member from the Operational Research section of the British Transport Commission, a member from a N.E.D.C., a lecturer in economics etc.

It is a basic axiom of the Association that it exists as an organisation to meet the needs of its members and to advance the use of science and technology within Britain. Currently our members are voting by ballot to amalgamate with another technically based trade union to form the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs and already 50% of our members have personally voted. This is an example of the democratic spirit of the A.Sc.W.

As specific examples of what the College Branch alone has done for I.C.Students we can point to the dropping of the £5 breakage deposit, the insistence by I.C. for students to report Safety Hazards and the care that I.C. takes to ensure that P.G. demonstrators are always paid for their demonstrating work. What we have achieved has arisen from the discussions and activity of the Student Group of the Branch. Our student activity is complementary to that of the College Student Unions and only a technical difficulty has prevented our Student Group from becoming an I.C. Union society over these many years of its existence. Our Trading scheme offers wide discount facilities and membership has other advantages.

There is much to do..the Association is dedicated to constructive changes and has an exciting history to prove it!

So join now using the printed form on the back of this page and ALSO COME TO OUR MEETING...THURSDAY..TO-MORROW..ROOM 08, Electrical Engineering Department...1.15....

WE HAVE SOME NEWS FOR YOU ON PARKING.....

Jan.1968