



# FELIX

40

7 FEBRUARY 1968

NEWSPAPER OF THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE STUDENTS UNION

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## COUNCIL COOLS

### - Duckett Resigns

What must have been an all-time record number of observers—12 in all watched the Marathon 5-hour Council meeting a week last Monday

Rumours of mass resignations and no confidence motions in the President proved to be unfounded and most members appear to be fairly satisfied with the outcome.

After the copious corrections to the minutes (another record?) including one motion corrected to passed instead of defeated, matters arising finished one hour after the start, the only information of interest not generally known being that an appeals board of three will probably be set up for offenders in Halls of Residence. The probable constitution of this would be Mr. Stephenson, the Senior Warden, the President of the Union and a warden of a Hall not involved in the dispute.

And so to the motions. Working parties were set up to produce Standing Orders for Union Meetings, to look into the revision of allocation of Union places in Hall, the constitution of the Felix, Phoenix and Carnival Boards and the Student Finance Committee, the arrangements for Freshers Day and the provision of special facilities for P.G.s especially out of term time. A motion to set up a working party to look into the possibility of student representation on the Gov-

erning Body was withdrawn when the President explained that he had consulted the Rector about this. For full details see story on page 4.

A motion proposed by Malcolm Duckett that Council should meet at least once a fortnight, thus taking over many of the duties of the Executive, which would be replaced by an "emergency committee" was considerably watered down and it was finally decided to hold at least three this term as an experiment. Another part of the same motion that Council meet year reps once a term became that a pilot meeting with year reps will be held soon.

A rush of people seconded Miss Pearson's motion approving the principle of mixed Halls of Residence, which was passed nem con. Ian Wells, President of Mines, proposed that one rep from each constituent college should be elected at the Union AGM, this narrowly squeaking in on the President's casting vote.

Other points worth mentioning were that the owners of approximately 30 parking places, which are vacant each day, mostly belonging to students, would be likely to lose them if they were not used. The Rector is looking into the question of careers advice, as well as lectures on civil rights, insurance and taxation for General Studies.



Malcolm Duckett

A motion by Andrew Jordan regretting that a council meeting was not held in the second week of term, when 20 student members of Council signed a letter requesting one, was passed by three votes to two, and that this shall not be construed as a precedent was passed nem con.

Finally, after a little obstruction by the chair, a letter handed to Mr. Phillips by Mr. Duckett, before he left the meeting during a short break for refreshment, was read. This was Duckett's resignation, read at yesterday's Union Meeting and amplified in a statement printed in this issue. A vote of thanks for his work on Council was given to him.

tant reform motions placed for the meeting. Instead he made a mockery of the whole affair by calling an informal meeting at which no business could be done. He then proceeded to tell Council what was wrong with it and also discussed motions for the next Council Meeting. The whole affair was a farce, and in no way amusing.

In an attempt to bring about constitutional revision to combat the rot at the top of the Union and to check the illegal action of the Executive certain action was proposed. This action was supported by a majority of Council outside of an actual meeting even down to a no confidence motion on the President if he failed to hold the requested Council Meeting. I did not table such a motion as, with one or two exceptions, these people (all "representing" student interest) backed down, with one or two notable exceptions, as they did on the measures to restructure Executive control.

So these people who agreed to do something constructive, which they agreed was in the best interests of the Union, failed to honour their verbal bond. I can only conclude that they are neither honest nor acting in the interests of the students. It is mainly disillusionment with these people, who claim they are progressive, that has led me to resign. I am unable to work with them to do the things the union knew I stood for when they elected me. At least the Executive (with one exception) is straight-forward and

## NUS Protests Grants Cut

Two weeks ago Barbara Hedge, IC External Affairs Officers and Mike Edwards formed the IC delegation at the NUS organised meeting at Birmingham University to decide about action on the grants cuts. The following is Barbara Hedge's Account of the meeting:—

The NUS Executive was of the opinion that we should not accept the 50 per cent cut in any increase proposed by the Grants Advisory Board without negotiation. This meeting was held so that the Executive could find out the wishes of the majority of students and act accordingly.

Speakers were heard from the regional groups of NUS and the major student political societies and finally from individual universities.

Nottingham is the only university which as a whole dissociates itself from any campaign to raise the grant. The points considered wrong with the grants system at the moment were:—

- (1) In 1965, the grant was cut by £30 from the standard considered necessary in 1961 and the probable increase in 1968 will not bring us up to the 1965 level. There seems no point in having a Grants Advisory Board if its findings are ignored.
- (2) Even if students can manage in '68 will they be able to in '71 when the next grants review will be undertaken.
- (3) The Local Education Authorities have had to cut expenditure. This is liable to cut discretionary awards e.g. for vacation courses.
- (4) Some students e.g. married or mature students suffer badly in some counties but are alright in others. By devaluation students abroad lost £30 overnight. These are just a few anomalies.

The reasons why a grants campaign should be supported, and how, are:—

- (1) The cut is imposed "for the time being." If this means 3 years, students will be hit badly. Ask for a review after 1 year.
- (2) London Intercollegiate Hall fees have already gone up to certainly more than the increase in the grant if the cut takes place. Other hall and refectory prices are sure to go up for next session. If we don't ask for an increase in the grant, it was proposed by a number of factions that we ask for a freeze on such prices.
- (3) Students will find that they have to take evening jobs as well as vacation jobs in order to pay their way. This could result in

open. So too are one or two other Council members, the ones I am in basic disagreement with and therefore cannot work with. But these people who promised support, but failed to give it, or, as in one case, opposed it, have proved themselves incapable of carrying out their duties.

Resigning from Council was not an easy decision, but one I had to make. We should all be concerned with the rot at the top (these are an RCS Fresher's words), as if there is disinterest and bad handling at the top, what can anybody expect but apathy in the Union?

I am making this statement because I am worried at what is happening here, and think you should know. Basically it is up to all of us to put things right so please take an interest and some action. The last Colcutt was too true to be funny.

MALCOLM DUCKETT

an increased failure rate and a bigger waste of public money.

(4) Class distinction will occur as working class families will not be able to rely on parents giving them extra money so they won't come to university.

(5) If we accept the cut we are in effect saying that we can manage without it and that we had too much in '61.

The reasons we should accept such a cut are:—

- (1) A student only has to live on a limited income for 3 years whereas old age pensioners etc. have no increase to look forward to.
- (2) If we say we can't live on the grant we are offered, the alternative is loans.
- (3) Such a campaign will give us a really bad public image.
- (4) We don't need the money.

The majority of views agreed with a campaign to make sure that students had enough money to live on with the anomalies in the grant system removed. Very few people wanted immediate militant action. Reasoning with the government was thought the most sensible idea as the claims are justified.

### Kings' Estimate

Graham Searle, President of Kings Union, has written a report giving the average minimum expenditure for students in London, allowing only 10/- a week for concerts, theatres, tobacco, alcohol, wireless licence and other forms of entertainment. Altogether £69 10s a year (27/- a week) on personal expenditure is allowed, these items are not catered for in the NUS recommendations, but Searle writes, "trunk calls home, going home for a weekend or half-term, dental or optical treatment, extra fuel needs during an illness, contributions to charities and appeals, travelling expenses for society visits, fares or teas for sports fixtures, the celebration of a 21st or an engagement etc." are all outside the expenditure allowance catered for in the NUS recommendations, although most people of our age would regard these as essential.

He suggests £450 for living in Hall, £460 in lodgings and £345 at home.

### APOLOGY

Unfortunately, due to lack of space, a large amount of copy received for this issue has had to be held over until the next one, or cut altogether. FELIX apologises to those people who have contributed material which has not been included.

## Duckett Hits Out

Mr. Duckett wrote this letter to FELIX explaining the reasons for his resignation.

Sir,

Following my resignation from Council I wish to make a statement as to my reasons; and make some comments on the present state of the Union, and, more particularly, of Council. I wish to do this as I feel the Union is totally uninformed as to what goes on, and as their representative on Council, I am in the position to inform them.

I have resigned from Council because of the greatest possible disgust and disillusionment in the way the Union is managed. The management (i.e. Council, not the Executive as they seem to think) is incompetent to run the Union in a way beneficial to most students here.

From the top to the bottom the majority of Council members, with one or two exceptions, are incompetent, reactionary and fail to act in the interests of the Union, and even fail to hold any respect for the Union as a whole.

The Executive is guilty of failing to carry out their duties properly, and have shown a flagrant disregard for Student opinion and the Union Bye Laws. On at least four occasions they have ignored Bye Laws, formulated to prevent the abuse of Executive power and to protect the welfare of ordinary student members. Three (and possibly another one) of these

concern discipline, which is Council-controlled, on which the Executive took action. Twice this was after a warning from Council to cease this practice. On the other they failed to publish an agenda to a Union Meeting, the one concerning parking charges (which should have drawn large numbers), resulting in yet another iniquitous meeting.

The Secretary has failed to write a letter when instructed to by Council, although he did very much later when he was "reminded." This concerned an apology to another college for inconvenience caused to them, and therefore a very urgent matter.

The President has continually acted as though the Union was an autocracy, and shown total disregard for the wishes of Council. His behaviour at Council Meetings has been appallingly flippant and discourteous to all, and has thus failed to gain the respect of any large fraction of students. When asked by Council, the body which elected him, or at least twenty of the twenty-two student members, to hold a Council Meeting in the second week of this term he refused to do so. Instead he made it abundantly clear that he did not feel answerable to Council. This was in the face of a large number of impor-

### UNACUSTOMED CULTURE



Teaching Week shows its influence on Guilds Festival of Music and Culture.

## Kraken Overboard

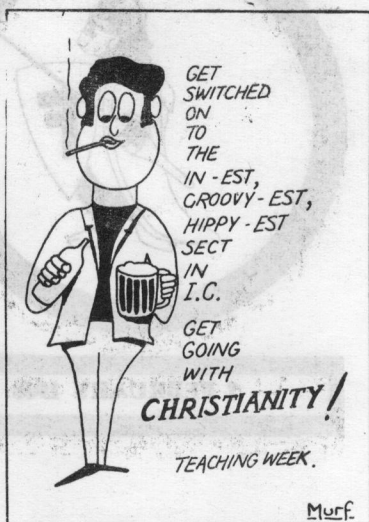
The recent cuts in Government spending have dealt a severe blow to the prospects of **KRAKEN**, the undersea living expedition being planned at I.C.

It seems that the Underwater Club will no longer receive the indirect Government support they were hoping for and are now back to square one with regard to obtaining finance for the project.

It was previously expected that the Government would give the British Aircraft Corporation a grant to build a hull for **KRAKEN** which would be made available to a team from this College for research work. However, this arrangement now seems to

have been thrown overboard. Brian Ray, leader of the project, said last week that the **KRAKEN** team still hoped to obtain the necessary sum of money estimated at £10,000 at most, from "Industrial or private sources."

Because of the various special features of **KRAKEN**, such as it being the first underwater lab open to visiting scientists, it will be a matter of regret if the project has to be cancelled because of lack of financial support. The fact that underwater experiments are of paramount importance in marine research is undeniable and nobody can seriously suggest that Project **KRAKEN** be allowed to die.



### Read MURF on Teaching Week

## Student Power in IC

The Rector is at the moment analysing minutes of past meetings of the Governing Body in response to requests made by Council members through the President on student representation on the Governing Body. It seems that as these meetings must, by the conditions of the College Charter, be confidential, no discussion of business will be possible in the Union, which would defeat the aims of student representation. Much of the work of running the College is done by the Finance and Executive Committee, a committee of the Governing Body, and the Rector has suggested that students may be able to play a more satisfying role on this, although a lot of "homework" would be necessary. He has also proposed informal meetings between himself, the Deans of the constituent Colleges and Council, so that student views could be represented.

At present students are represented on the Athletic Committee and the Refectory Committee out of the nine committees of the Governing Body; on the General Studies Committee and the Haldane Library Committee out of the thirteen Board of Studies Committees; and on the Exploration Board, the Halls of Residence Committee, the Overseas Students Committee, the Outside Bookings Committee and the Parking and Traffic Committee out of the nine Rector's committees.

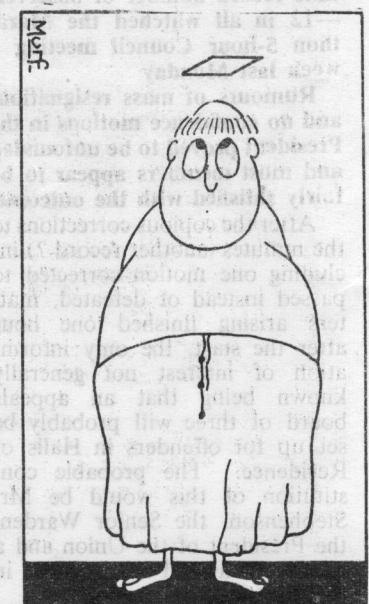
### MAY BALL

The star attraction at this year's May Ball will be Georgie Fame. Also booked are Julie Driscoll and the Brian Auger Trinity and the Shevelles. Tickets will cost four guineas double.

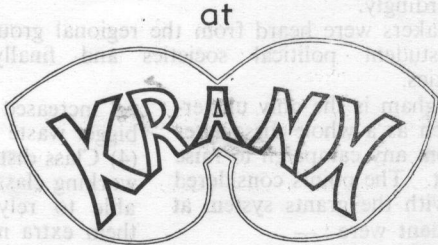
### NO DONOVAN

With the date for Carnival's Albert Hall concert fast approaching it is disturbing that the Carnival Committee have not yet announced any artistes for the programme. Rumour has it that Donovan, their first choice, will probably be unattainable and that the Harold Davison Organisation has offered them a FREE pop-package (with Procul Harum and others).

The Carnival Committee are not saying anything, but they will probably run into trouble as regards cancellation charges for withdrawing their booking of the Albert Hall if they do not finalise a bill soon.



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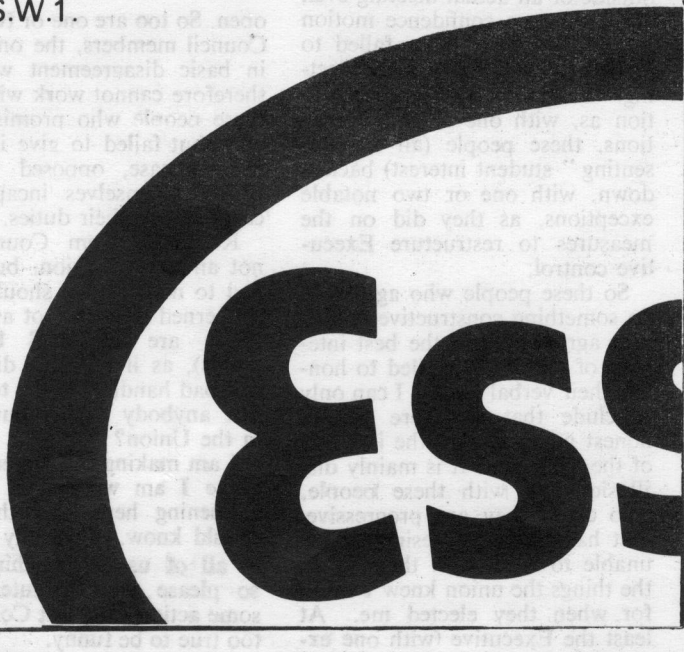
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# CONSTITUENT COLLEGE COLUMNS

## MACKMANIA

### GENTLEMEN OF MINES

Yea! Blessed be the Royal School of Mines  
For they hath and always shall—See the light.

R.S.M. is showing another two films tomorrow night at 6.45 in Mech. Eng. 220 i.e. the large and lovely Samantha Eggar in "The Wild and the Willing," and also the excessive and erotic, Mai Zetterling in "Only two can play." So Minesmen ask, persuade, bribe or threaten people to come along, as well as yourselves, so we can make some money for Carnival and have a superb evening.

On Sunday Mines will be defeating Gild? (or something) in

the Technology Cup at Harlington Stadium starting 2.30. There are still some tickets left, but unfortunately no razors, flickknives, darts or coshes are being allowed, nor is the singing of lullabies or fighting on the terraces as their supporters have threatened to go and tell Mr. Seaford if this happens.

Footnote: The opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of R.S.M. Union but you never know.

### GUILDSPOT

After last weekend, memorable for the Engineer's Dinner and Dance—but also half session, a quick glance around the Guilds Sports scene shows a healthy situation. The two rugby XV's are both having good seasons, with a good balance of victory over defeat. The first XV, led by Terry Stephenson and Vice-Captain Bruce Kettle have won many games, including getting the better of the police on two occasions—revenge for Morphy Day! Guilds have their eyes on the Sparkes Cup—bets may be placed in the Union Office!

Hockey, under Nigel Varian, is having an equally good season with a record of twice as many victories as defeats—they have already defeated Mines 4-1 in the Stephenson Cup and are confident of dealing with RCS in a similar manner.

The Soccer team, led by Graham Squires, have defeated RCS 2-0 in the Tech Cup with similar intentions for Mines when they meet this week.

Finally just a mention that Guilds-Mines Carnival tickets will be on sale shortly—make sure you get in there fast because the numbers are strictly limited.

### ICWords

Oh Pete if you know what I thought about you,  
Your knees would turn scarlet  
Your nose would turn blue,  
The hairs on your legs would turn white,  
Oh Pete I dream of you all the night,  
I suffer from nightmares that drive me insane,  
Will next year's knees set me aflame?  
On Feb. the Fourteenth at the ICWA party  
For three bob a go you can choose the next smarty.  
His knees must be knobbly, not plump and round,  
A new Mr. ICWA must be found.

Random bird.

Management studies got off to a flying start much to the satisfaction of Dave Wield our 13½ st. Academic Officer. Miss Woodward has given 3 lectures so far, average attendance has been about 200. The lectures form a series but each one is complete in itself so it doesn't matter if you have missed the first few. They are intended mainly for 2nd and 3rd year students but any P.G. who wishes to come along may do so.

There was a young lady of Exeter  
So pretty that men craned their necks at her  
One went so far  
As to wave from his car  
The distinguishing mark of his sex at her.

Limericks—better than this one—are required for the RCS Smoking Concert to be held on 15th February and the best limerick will win its writer a bottle of whiskey. Sketches are also required—not to mention people to appear in them. Any contribution should be sent to Terry Fox c/o Zoology or Spooks c/o 78 Beit.

The RCS Annual Dinner has for its principal guests, Lord and Lady Beeching. Lord Beeching who was an RCS student for 6 years obtained a PhD in Electron Physics. Since then he has held many important posts in Government and Industry and at the moment is Deputy Chairman of I.C.I.

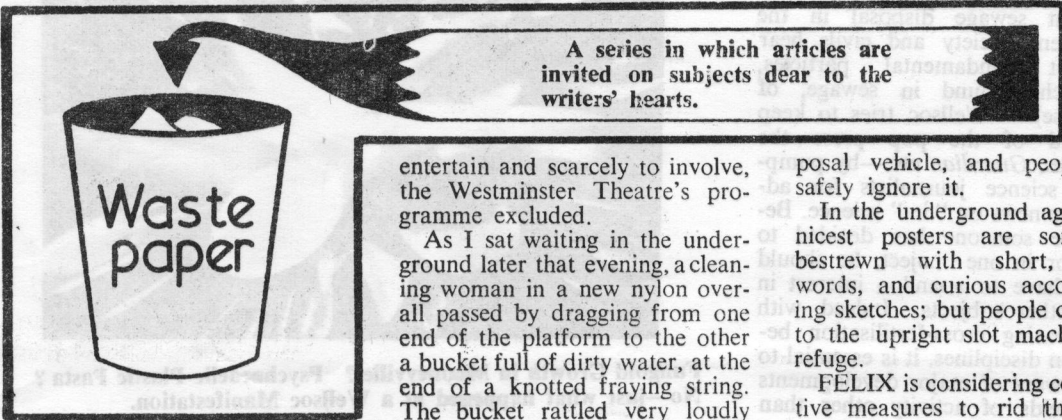
The dinner will be held on Thursday 2nd May. This year we hope to have several members present. The Rector and Lady Penney have already agreed to attend. Tickets will be available soon from year and Departmental Reps.

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### Sordid Trivia

I went to see "Fiddler on the Roof" recently, having booked a mere five weeks ahead for the privilege. It was a show worthy of its success, this due largely to Topol, who sang "If I were a Rich Man" with surprising sincerity for one in his position. The show ended with the scattering of the Jewish village of the storyline, by command of an intolerant Czar. Inside five minutes, however, the village was reunited for the curtain call, at which the appreciative audience put aside its chocolates for a lengthy session of clapping. It destroyed any of the reality of poverty and persecution that the show, perhaps accidentally, had created for me. This was just as well, since London shows are meant just to

entertain and scarcely to involve, the Westminster Theatre's programme excluded.

As I sat waiting in the underground later that evening, a cleaning woman in a new nylon overall passed by dragging from one end of the platform to the other a bucket full of dirty water, at the end of a knotted fraying string. The bucket rattled very loudly and the dirty water splashed, but the woman's face remained blank, despite the quick flood of jokes about Neolithic mechanics. It seemed an absurd task, since surely the underground, of all places, has heard of wheels? In fact, it seemed so absurd that I half expected her to break out into a song-and-dance routine for the last great encore of the evening: "I like working on the underground, the people always say hullo!" She did not; nobody likes cleaning the underground; and nobody would say hullo—except on the stage. Life ticks over in sordid, unpleasant sights, which as many people as possible do their utmost to avoid. Washing from the slums waves in the diesel fumes as the crack Pullman express rolls into King's Cross. Outside the glass-fronted heights of Southside a yellow pool marks the end of a twenty-first birthday party. The dustcart carries an aura of dirt about it; but now it is called the refuse dis-

posal vehicle, and people can safely ignore it.

In the underground again, the nicest posters are sometimes bestrewn with short, rough words, and curious accompanying sketches; but people can look to the upright slot machine for refuge.

FELIX is considering constructive measures to rid the Londoner of the jarring features that intrude upon a melted-chocolates world of disposable reality from the stage, or the cinema, or television. At least 36 per cent of the editorial board are actively considering the issue of free sachets of deodorant and india-rubber erasers with each copy of FELIX. With these weapons odious smells from the debris of the Union bar will be easily removed, at no cost to the viewer. Efficient dark sunglasses are obviously the next step. We should follow the example of the late Roines' campaign to clean up London and kill a pigeon a day. Better still, kill two hundred and export them.

A poem by Christopher Logue is about a rich widow who lives cleanly in her meticulously swept house; the last line runs, approximately: "But thank God, the shit's still in her."

JOHN MULLALY

Next Issue: Pete Ruhemann on Bureaucracy.

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FROM THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 8th

**CAMEO VICTORIA**

Opposite  
Underground  
VIC 6588



# EDITOR'S Comment

I find it difficult to write this comment this week, not because there is nothing to comment upon, indeed there is all too much, the latest Council rumblings, the continuing Ents turmoil, the proposed constitutional changes, the grants cut. The difficulty is that this has, due to the vagaries of the printing profession, to be written almost a week before most people will read it. In that one week there is a Union meeting, which could change the circumstances of any of these subjects.

Assuming nothing unexpected happens two motions presented to the Union meeting were, to have a ballot throughout the Union for the President, and to lower the quorum at Union meetings.

Like the "shall-we-or-shan't-we-join-NUS" debate, the election of a President from the body of the Union rather than, as now, by Council, is a hardy perennial and arouses a lot of feeling, mostly irrational. A lot of red herrings are strewn about; in this case the chief one is presented by the "Democracy at any Price" brigade. Democracy is not an end in itself, purely a means to the end of getting a good President. Assuming it was passed yesterday then you have another chance to vote on the matter at the next Union meeting. The issue at stake is whether Council, most of whose members know the candidate personally, is better equipped to choose a President than the whole Union.

It seems to me that lowering the quorum of Union meetings is attacking the problem from the wrong end. The emphasis should be on attracting people, not on reducing the quorum to fit the number attending.

The quorum of Union meetings is there to protect you, the members of the Union, from small groups of people taking advantage of the rest of the Union. Lower it at your peril.

The public image of students is, if not at an all-time low, then something approaching it. The reasons for this are two-fold. Firstly, we suffer from the ill-informed attitude that we lead an easy life, reinforced by the fact that many students do lead such a life. However, most students probably work harder than their contemporaries in employment. The fact that he has been working until 2 a.m. is not obvious to anyone seeing a bleary-eyed student at 11 o'clock in the morning. The only thought to enter the mind of the general public is that everyone else has to be at work at 8 o'clock and the lazy student isn't even out of bed. The second, and more rational, reason is that in the public's view students are irresponsible, and many are. In the last few months 450 plastic parking cones, a large number of parking meter covers and at least one complete meter have been stolen, probably by I.C. students. If you add to this the nuisance caused to the general public at such times as Morphy Day and the regular chaos emanating from the Union Bar at closing time, is it surprising we are not the best-loved section of the community?

All this, of course, puts us in a weak bargaining position, since, whether we think of it as such or not, the grant is not given us as a right and if we really do waste vast quantities of other people's money, those people have the unquestionable prerogative of withdrawing their support. If we are, as a whole, irresponsible, then obviously no one will give us power and responsibility.

I do not think that we do waste vast amounts of money, nor that students are irresponsible as a body, but those elements of the student body who are not responsible are those who are noticed.

Which brings me to the question of the proposed cut in the grants rise. Are we being irresponsible in objecting to it? I don't think so. However, there are some points which must be considered. The country, of which most of my readers are a part, is in an economic mess; the causes of this are irrelevant here, the responsibility for getting back to a healthy economy is as much ours as it is that of everyone else in the country. One of the methods the Government has decided to use is a cut in the standard of living. Clearly a cut in everyone else's living standards accompanied by a rise in our own is just ridiculous. Most students are not poverty-stricken, anyway, although many are having great difficulty in making ends meet. It would be difficult to find a similar sized group of people of comparable age who are as widely travelled as students, for instance, although in general this is achieved with the aid of large student reductions.

No, the reason why the cuts are unacceptable in their present form is because, as I mentioned above, some students are suffering grave financial difficulties. There can be few students in the College who manage solely on their LEA grants and vacation earnings. Most of us rely to some extent on our parents for free or cheap accommodation in the vacations, some clothing or just hard cash. Not everyone's parents can afford to subsidise them like this and these are the ones who lose out.

The long-term solution is obviously a raising of grants to a level where students can be completely self-supporting with the abolition of the means test. No one over the age of 18 should have to be partially dependent on his parents. A short-term solution in line with the economic situation of the country is difficult to find, but perhaps an acceptance of the cuts, providing a guarantee of a review in a year, rather than the normal three years, coupled with a "means test in reverse" to selectively increase the grants of those who would be unable to live on the new rate is reasonable.

The H. G. Wells Society, the largest club in the college, has just had its 100th meeting. To mark this occasion FELIX asked Sinclair Goodlad, President of Wells Soc., since its inception, for his view of the society.

## MONDAY NIGHT IS....

**Wells Soc Night!** And so it has been every Monday night of the Autumn and Spring Terms since 7th October, 1963. Since Sinclair Goodlad and some Touchstone arguers dreamed the society up, 100 plenary meetings have been addressed by a gallimaufry of the weird and wonderful ranging from Phil Haskell—the only undergraduate to have addressed the society—to the President of the Royal Society. Prof. Blackett was not only the 20th member of the college to speak, but also the 14th Fellow of the Royal Society.

Average attendance at meetings has been 100—the lowest ever being 6 for a talk on the problem of force in politics, the highest (500 plus) for live demonstrations of explosions and hypnotism. (Moral?) The talks alone represent some 10,000 man-hours of edification and enjoyment, to say nothing of the many hours of questioning, discussion, eating, drinking, experimenting, etc. What's it all about?

### Features of the future now

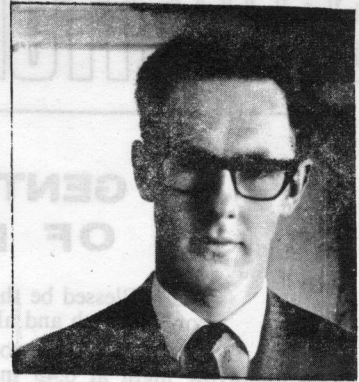
Wellsoc tries to provide a live equivalent of "New Scientist" or "Scientific American," a forum for the discussion of subjects of general scientific interest, where botanists can hear about lasers and engineers can hear about tropical disease, physicists hear about sewage disposal in the effluent society and civils hear about fundamental particles, (which abound in sewage, of course). Wellsoc tries to keep ahead of the pop press—the *Times*, *Guardian* etc.—by pumping science journalists for advance news on "in" science. Because someone has decided to major in one object, he should not have to abandon interest in all other subjects. Indeed, with increasing cross-fertilisation between disciplines, it is essential to be aware of major developments in fields of activity other than one's own.

### On tap or on top?

Churchill wanted his scientists on tap but not on top; Wells dreamed of utopia governed by engineers—the homogenised society with salvation through air-conditioning. Wellsoc holds neither such extreme doctrine, but believes that science and engineering are of compelling interest when directly linked with the satisfaction of human needs. Some of these needs can be readily identified—artificial foods; problem of ageing; land use; population control; etc. Others are the subject of economic/political debate—how to forecast for technology; how much of the country's resources to spend on R & D; the technological gap between rich and poor countries; etc. Still other needs can only be identified by the direct study of motivations—through anthropology, sociology, psycho-analysis, psychiatry, psychology, (neuro)physiology. Wellsoc has persistently tried to relate the enjoyment of science and technology as mind-stretching activities to the purposes they exist for.

### Lapses into Lunacy

Science is most challenging when up against the most difficult subjects; that's also where science encounters the lunatic fringe! Wells more or less invented British Science Fiction; by contrast Wellsoc is getting a national reputation for sympathetic debunking in the shadow-world between science-fiction and science-fact—LNM; mediumship; ghosts; flying saucers—trying to distinguish the genuine from the crackpot. The only University Vice-



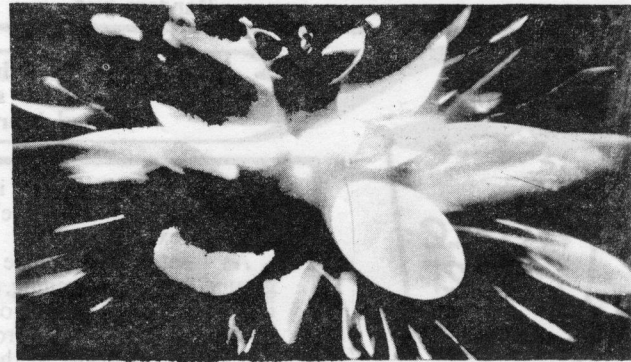
Sinclair Goodlad

joined—i.e. 1 in 4. This makes economic sense because publicity is a minor expense. There's no point having a decent speaker if you keep it secret. Our posters haven't been up to much this year; but it seems that the hard-core membership of lively minds prefer facts to psychedelic sex stimuli.

### Swell Soc?

Depends on what you want, there's terrific room for improvement:

1. I.C. is too parochial. It would be a terrific stimulus if meetings could be shared with other colleges and students (male and female) of the social sciences, philosophy, etc. Is there a Union policy on this?



Fungoid Growth in Mooneyville? Psychedelic Plastic Pasta? No—just what happened at a Wellsoc Manifestation.

### Success Secret?

No room for complacency; only 25 per cent of the college come to any meetings at all. But some items of deliberate policy may help:

1. Subjects for discussion which are not dehydrated and dessicated for iron-ration text-books where the lively mind can make original suggestions by penetrating questioning;
2. Meetings every week—not irregularly—at the same time and (usually) in the same place. The whiz-kids and firebrands keep Monday nights free!
3. Decentralisation: approximately 35 separate operations go into the mounting of a meeting. Large and active committee with clearly-defined responsibilities ensures smooth running—usually(!) The guy who keeps the coffee hot is as important as the chairman who comforts the speaker.
4. Massive investment in detailed publicity. Wellsoc statistics show that 1 in 4 of those who received detailed programmes in 1966 joined; in October 1967, everyone in the college got a programme and 800 have

2. We haven't succeeded in making attractive the very important meetings on the cost of science, technological gap, etc. In fact, attendances at meetings are almost inversely proportional to the political importance of the subject. If I.C. graduates aren't informed and concerned about such matters, God only knows who is.
3. Serious study groups need to be developed more fully. The IC 2000 group attracts less interest at present than the one on UFOs. Lord Ritchie-Calder on problems for technologists in the Year 2000 drew only 30 at an open meeting—less than 1 per cent of the student population (and 0.5 per cent of the staff. These are the subjects where one would expect vigorous dialogue between staff and students.
4. More social contact needed between members. The committee is working on this and trying to avoid the exhausted lapse into beer-sodden cacophony where any intellectual exchange is systematically drowned by decibelligence. Maybe 100 meetings represents achievement. But it's only take-off. More. Bigger. Better. Faster. Furiouser. As Wilde said, Nothing succeeds like excess.

## FELIX

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# Letters to the Editor

The editor reserves the right to withhold all or part of any letters from publication. The views expressed in these letters are not necessarily those of the editor.

## The Colcutt Clique

Sir,  
There was a time (or so the story goes) when "Colcutt" gave vent to some much needed and relevant criticism on the state of affairs at I.C.

Now, however, it seems to have become a mere extension of the sort of cliquish introspection which it purports to despise. For an article to attempt to satirize the actions of a body of people supposedly divorced from the mass of students is obviously futile. Since few people know the personalities involved few people are going to appreciate the analogies drawn.

It's about time Colcutt stopped boring the average I.C. student and wasting his allocated space. If he must air his enormous wit, perhaps he could distribute a fortnightly quip-sheet to his fellow council members.

Meanwhile, perhaps we could have more constructive criticism from him in Felix.

JONATHAN SHIELDS  
Maths 2

## COLCUTT

An interesting letter from the Director to our Resident clown came into my hands the other day:

Dear Flippant,

It has come to my notice that you and council are staying up beyond your bedtimes. How do you do it when you accomplish so little? I note also that there is a resignation epidemic among council. One down, three or four with heavy fevers, and who knows how many to come. Most of you started your jobs around the same time as myself. Perhaps the resignations are a result of disillusion due to the obstacles which rise before anyone who attempts to change anything: I too have discovered the apparent immobility here. I therefore wish to inform you, Mr. Resident, of my decision to resign.

Yours, P.

After this startling revelation, anything else shades into importance.

Are you looking for entertainment? Try one of I.C.'s most amazing shows, now in its eighth fantastic month: The Crazy World of Keith Guy, with his own group, Ents.

And who's the promoter? The executive? The promoter doesn't always approve: Martin Lack told Ents "Last year we had cattle-markets for people hurt like me; this year you're trying to make them into dances." And Ents don't always approve. Seems the exec. with council's backing has stopped them using the Union lower lounge for hops. Why? Maybe so that all those alcoholic Icwarians you see lying drunkenly around the lower

Sir,  
Since my first day at I.C. last October, I have had "apathy" stuffed down my throat, one way or another, and I am sick to the back teeth of it.

Everywhere I turn I hear the moans and groans of frustrated and lethargic second and third years, complaining bitterly about this amorphous apathy from which I.C. is suffering. And when I retort that they have only themselves to blame, when I declare that I do not intend to allow my mind to be anaesthetised, they smile patronisingly, as if to say "You're a fresher (—distasteful word—), you wait until you've become old and wise like us and see what you think then."

"Old and wise" my sweet—! Apathy is what one associates with morons, not with intelligent young people—or did I get it wrong about the "top five per cent"? Either way, it's the last thing I would have expected to have found here.

In fact, it's not apathy at all that has I.C. by the throat. What it all boils down to is that life at I.C. is not as cushy as we expected it to be, and this has led some people to adopt negativistic attitudes and to blame their own laziness on such a conveniently nebulous thing as apathy. And it is those few rotten apples which have spoiled the barrel.

The amount I could write on this subject you wouldn't have room to print, but let me briefly

## APATHY

say what I think could be done lest all of us—Mr. Malcolm Duckett included—are drowned in this "apathetic" cess which is I.C.'s heritage.

The prime objective should be the unification of the student body. As it stands at the moment the word Union is a misnomer, and the blame for it is shared equally between the totally uninspiring and wet-blanket leadership of the Union Exec., and those who have allowed these people to obtain such office. Radical changes are needed, in addition to changing the Presidential Election system, I advocate the introduction of a sabbatical year as the only way of getting an undergraduate President without it becoming the consolation prize for a Pass degree.

Inter-college rivalries should be revived as a means of encouraging active participation, and greater involvement in student affairs; for an active body is a healthy body, and active minds will become stagnant if we choose to ignore the facts.

The potential dangers of negativistic and couldn't-care-less attitudes in such a renowned seat of learning as I.C. are frightening, and unless the myth of apathy is exploded I can only imagine that this, my generation, will become as void, as sterile as the one which runs this, our country, at the present moment.

C. J. KENT

## Emancipation

Sir,  
Reverend the incident of the four awards in the Union Bar, I find their action commendable, and your comment on it deplorable.

Whether or not you and others like you consider the fair sex to be inferior, they do have equal rights, and as there exists no Union bye-law which forbids their presence in the Union Bar they are free to use it—though I'm not surprised at the revulsion which the mere thought of doing so normally causes them.

So for your fears that women are trying to dominate us, have you stopped to consider that it may be simply that they are dissatisfied with the way in which we men handle things. Maybe a Lady President of I.C.U. would be a vast improvement—she certainly couldn't do worse. And why otherwise should I.C.W.A. find the purpose of its existence to be "to safeguard . . . the interests of women students?"

C. J. KENT.

## and concessions

Sir,  
With reference to the Editor's comment in the last issue of Felix, I should like to put it on record that I support the emancipation of women at I.C. I will support their use of the men's lavatories, providing reciprocal facilities are granted.

Yours lustingly,  
DAVE GRATTAN,  
Chemistry III.

## Surgeries

If all goes well, Council floor reps are to hold so-called "surgeries" twice a week. The plan is an attempt to increase exchange of ideas and information between Union member and Council man. Two floor reps will be in Committee Room A between 1 and 2 on Tuesday and Thursday to listen to any grievances, ideas or information from the Union floor, and to explain or clarify any situations necessary. The idea of Andrew Jordan, the scheme should begin soon.

## Linstead Hall

A framed portrait photograph will be presented by the Union to Linstead Hall at its opening ceremony next autumn. Originally, a painting was to be presented, but with a collection realising only £18 from Union members, the Union could only afford 50 gns. for it. The painting was then found unacceptable and is now mouldering in the Union Office.

## Secretaries

Mr. C. C. Moore, an Assistant Secretary of the College, left on February 2nd to take up the Secretaryship of the Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine.

Mr. B. L. Lloyd Davies, at present Assistant Registrar, University College of Swansea will succeed him.

FELIX wishes Mr. Moore great success in his new appointment.

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# SPORTS NEWS

## Soccer

It was dull, overcast, windy and cold when eleven fit, strong and virile young men donning the bright red shirts of Imperial College took the field at Q.M.C. last Wednesday. After a couple of days of rain the pitch was wet, sticky and somewhat heavy, but this caused no trouble to those red-shirted demons from South Kensington; mud could not slow down these powerful men.

The game commenced at a fast and unbelievable pace, the few inside forwards undoubtedly covering at least a mile of ground in the first five minutes. When the I.C. inside-left had been revived by smelling salts, the game continued at a slightly slower pace but still scintillating football was produced.

The referee was fantastic and some of his decisions had the crowd screaming in amazement; the climax of his magnificent performance came after a chest high tackle on I.C.'s inside right when he awarded a drop-out from the twenty five.

After ninety minutes the eleven I.C. heroes trooped proudly off the field, heads held high after their superb performance and if Q.M.C. had not scored 6 goals to I.C.'s 0 they would probably have gone completely off their heads.

However, I.C. has vowed to win the next three sets 6-2, 6-3, 6-1.

DESMOND HACKETT

## Hockey

### U.L. CUP REPLAY

At the end of last term, I.C. played Barts Hospital in the first round of the U.L. Cup. It was a hard fought game, coloured by memories of our defeat in the final last year by the same side, and it resulted in a 1-all draw.

On Wednesday 17th January, the replay was played at Harlington. The pitch was moist, but firm, thus the ball ran well and the players were hard pushed, after the Christmas vacation, to keep up with it. Barts played the 4-2-3-1-1 system which seemed to give them much more room and they grasped control of the game. Half-way through the first half they scored and, as often happens in a Cup game, they closed the game up, concentrating much more on defence.

I.C. tried very hard to break this defence and in doing so were awarded a fair number of short corners, but none of these were taken full advantage of. Thus the game was allowed to labour through the second half with no further score.

Result: St. Bartholomew's Hospital 1, I.C. 0.

## Cross Country

After their convincing win in the UL championships the first team were determined to overhaul Borough Road College in the London League. Unfortunately international Barry Jones was unable to run because of injury and IC finished second only a few points behind Borough Road. The race was run on IC's home course in Richmond Park and the going was very firm, resulting in an extremely fast pace. The scorers for IC were Nick Barton 3rd, Norman Morrison 4th, Tony Mason 12th, Howard Smith 18th, Ian Jones 24th and Ashley Deans 31st.

Entries are now pouring in for the Hyde Park Relay which is the largest road relay in the world and organised by Imperial College on February 17th. About 110 teams are expected to be competing and this means almost 800 athletes!

Each team consists of 6 runners who each run a 3 mile leg round the serpentine. Last year the race was won by Edinburgh with IC twenty first. However this year IC have one of their strongest teams ever so please come and cheer the race which starts at 3 p.m. by the Serpentine. Would anybody who is willing to put up a member of one of the German teams coming over for two nights please contact me at the Board Hall.

## ICWS

### Netball:

Royal Holloway came to I.C. to play Netball in the morning of Saturday 27th January. The teams were evenly matched and a hard, fast game ensued with the score even throughout most of the game. Towards the end of the match, Imperial deservedly pulled away to win 20-17. The netball team is having its best season for a long time, and supporters from Weeks Hall played their usual part.

### Hockey:

In the same afternoon the ladies hockey team played Royal Holloway II team. Imperial were one player short and the team included players who had never played before, but what they lacked in experience they made up for in enthusiasm and tenacity. The eventual result was an eight-three win for ICWA.

### Badminton:

On Wednesday 31st January the ladies Badminton team played Royal Holloway at Nine Elms Baths. In a close game ICWA played well to win 6-3. This was probably due to the presence and support of the I.C. Men's Badminton team—who also won their match.

Special congratulations to a certain Icwarian who played in all three matches.

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# WHAT'S ON

## THURSDAY

8 FEBRUARY

I.R.C. presents a film on the Chinese Cultural Revolution, followed up by a talk by Mr. Derek Bryan of S.A.C.U. panel of speakers. 19.30, Civil Eng 201.

Scout and Guide Club meeting on River Police by Sgt. Wills of the River Police. 12.30, Mines 303.

General Studies—"Art and Science, V.: Impressionism and Cezanne—Light in a non-Euclidean space," by Pat Carpenter. "Aspects of Jazz, V," by Humphrey Lyttelton (part of jazz week).

FILMS in Mech Eng 220. "The Wild and the Willing" (Cert. X) and "Only Two Can Play." Only 4/-. Profits to Carnival.

## SATURDAY

Maths and Physics Soc. party on Level 8 in the Physics Department at 20.00. Reduced rates for members.

## MONDAY

Christian Union talk on "Christians in Industry" by Mr. Ian Blaikey. 13.10, Mech Eng 542.

Socialist Soc. "Socialist Policy for Labour" by Mr. Peter Taaffe of Militant. 18.00 Botany Lecture Theatre.

Wells Soc. "Animals and Man," by Prof. Robert Hinde, F.R.S. A talk on similarities between animals and man. 19.30, Elec Eng 408.

## TUESDAY

Jewish Soc present Prof. Eilon's much-awaited talk on "Science in Israel." 13.15, Botany Lecture Theatre.

Railway Soc. "Problems of Introducing New Rolling Stock on the Underground" by Mr. J. G. Bruce. 17.40, Mech Eng 664.

General Studies—"Seven Makers of the English Mind, VI—G. E. Moore," by Rev. Prebendary Gordon Phillips. "A Standard of Pronunciation of English—A survey of standards from Shakespeare to the Beatles," by Prof. A. C. Gimson of U.L.C. "Beethoven's Sketch-books—A composer at work, I," by Denis Mathews.

L.U. One-Act Play Festival including I.C. Freshers in "The Hole," by N. F. Simpson. Tickets available in the Union at lunchtime, price 3/-, or at the door. 19.00 at U.L.U.

## WEDNESDAY

U.L.U. One-Act Play Festival, including I.C. entrant "Little Brother Little Sisters." Tickets available in Union, price 3/-, or at door. 19.00 at U.L.U.

Folk Club presents Johnny Silvo. 19.30, Upper Refectory. Members 3/-, Non-members 5/-.

## THURSDAY

15 FEBRUARY

I.R.C. "The Australoids"—film and talk on the indigenous people of Australia. 19.30, Civil Eng 201.

Wells Soc Special Meeting. "The Origins of Man" by Prof. L. S. B. Leakey.

General Studies—"Art and Science, VI—Cubanism and Relativity" by Pat Carpenter.

R.C.S. Smoking Concert—4/-. inc. 1 pint of beer. 8 p.m. Concert Hall.

## MONDAY

B.U.N.A.C. "Years of Lightning, Days of Drums"—a feature-length documentary showing the years in office of President John F. Kennedy. 19.30, Mines 303.

Christian Union—"Christianity—Only a Western Religion" by Mr. Walter Moody. 13.10, Mech Eng.

Mining and Metallurgical Soc.—"Training for Management in Mining," by Mr. K. Ridell of N.C.B.

Wells Soc.—"New Uses for Computers," by P. L. Clout and Mr. E. B. James. 19.30, Elec Eng 408

## SMALL ADS

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Lost—one microfilm in the region of IC. Please return to D. Corr, Tiz. 418.

Sidney Staveacre lives, but only just. See Ant. Soc. next FELIX.

"Be ready for 3rd May. The biggest social function of the I.C. calendar. Tickets limited."

Newthink Spring issue out Feb. 19th. Improved printing, larger pages, (10 in. x 8 in.). Contributions include Professor MacIntyre on Comprehensive Education; Tom Fawthrop (author of book "Education and Examinations") on examinations, Nitim Som (Vice President UNSA 1967) on the U.N. More agents in other colleges and help with distribution in I.C. needed. Commission available. Contact P. R. Corbyn, 62] Tizard or Union racks.

AND DON'T FORGET — WHEN WE DIVE, YOU RUSH DOWN THE FRONT AND 'OLD ITS NOSE!



Murf





Issue No. 256 = 2<sup>8</sup>

# FELIX LATE NEWS

ED: DICK REEVES  
WITH Patsy  
Anne Wheatley  
Ken Simpson  
Paul Miller  
John Mullaey  
Paul Heath  
John Probst  
John Sommer

## UNION MEETING ADJOURNED TO THURSDAY 1-15 p.m.

Motions to be discussed are: Derek Boothman's marathon (see "What's wrong with our Union" notices around the College), Ian Wells on another constituent college rep on council, and Barbara Hedge on action on the grants cut.

## CORR'S MOTION FAILS IN QUORATE UNION MEETING

Dermott Corr's motion that the President of ICU should be democratically elected by all members of ICU failed to achieve the necessary 2/3 majority by 3 votes after a paper ballot at yesterday's Union meeting.

Proposing the motion, Corr pointed out that election by the Union floor would lead to greater student participation in the Union, and would mean the President was better known. Opposing, Chris O'Donnell based his arguments on the assumption that students were not to be trusted with such an important matter, and that it was better left to those who knew to wit, joint council. Several good speeches followed, producing among them an expose of the petty politicking and lobbying of the present system, and - for the opposition - the valid point that large-scale campaigning before exam time would mean that the candidates' exam results would be somewhat affected; this might act as a deterrent to good candidates. The final result: 206 for, 108 against: 209 votes were required. There were also a few abstentions. The meeting was, incredibly enough, quorate. Dayglo publicity really works!

Other points of the meeting in brief: two technical motions passed were, first, that 'disguised' or part-time students be members of ICU, and second, that the welfare officer, External Affairs officer, and ULU agent be elected from the union floor. The UGC has given ICU a £9000 furniture grant for the student houses. Surprisingly enough, the minutes of the last meeting were incorrect; at least somebody noticed.

The meeting was adjourned for a continuation next Thursday for a marathon motion from Derek Boothman. Whether Thursday's meeting will be as lively, worthwhile or quorate, is very dubious. Thursday's motions will give a chance for another crack at getting Presidential elections from the Union floor.

## LETTER

## "ALL THE WAY WITH RAY"

Dear Sir,

Although a lot of Editorial in FELIX has been in connection with Ray Phillips, our Union President, I have failed to notice any credit given to him, or appreciation for his work.

Do I get the impression that certain members of Council are trying to run Mr. Phillips down? If this is so, I think it is time some of us took time off to show our appreciation. Ray Phillips has proved himself time after time to be very efficient and capable of doing his job in a very competent manner. I am sure that his whole interest is in helping us to 'get a better deal' and yet how many of us take an interest in the Union or attend its meetings - and how many of us take the trouble to show Ray that we DO appreciate all he does for us, and that his efforts are not in vain?

May I say "Many thanks for your efforts in helping to acquire the long needed Student Houses, Mr. Phillips, and many thanks for all you have done for us."

Three cheers for our President, and I hope I am speaking for all of us when I say, "We're behind you all the way, Ray."

Yours faithfully

P.B. Baker - Chemical Engineering.

## ANOTHER FIRE

Early last Monday evening, the Fire Brigade received several reports of a fire in the new Sports Centre under construction in Princes Gardens. Five fire appliances duly arrived to investigate and found that a workmans hut had caught fire for some unknown reason. The fire was swiftly extinguished and the rest of the site checked before the Brigade left.

## CHINESE NEW YEAR

Around 240 people, mostly Asians, celebrated the Chinese New Year in semi-traditional style in Holy Brompton Church Hall last Saturday night.

The main attraction of the evening were an excellent seven-course Pekinese-style meal and the Ribbon, Sword and Lion dances, all performed with enthusiasm and energy. Dancing was to a Chinese group, the Jets, who played strictly non-Chinese music. ATV television were there to film the proceedings. In the words of Chinese Society chairman, Au Chao Shu, the Chinese Society exists to propagate Chinese culture. This being so, it is a pity more British students did not partake of the festivities.

PIRATES OF PENZANCE: ANOTHER FULL HOUSE FOR I.C. OF SOC

Monday was the first night of the Gilbert and Sullivan Group's production of the "Pirates of Penzance" The Opera is about a gang of pirates who lose all their battles because they will not attack anyone weaker than themselves. One of their rules is that they will not hurt an orphan. It just so happens that the ships they meet all appear to be manned entirely by orphans. The fun begins when the pirates discover a bevy of beautiful maidens in a deserted cave and decide to marry them on sight. The hero, Colin Davis, and the Heroine, Susan Browne, both sang beautifully and the pace of the opera was such that interest was never lost. The Pirates will run till Friday and makes a very enjoyable evenings entertainment. The Producer was Ambrose Winship and the musical Director Robin White.

BATHS MANAGER

As announced in yesterday's Union Meeting a Baths Manager has been appointed for the Swimming Pool in the Sports Centre, due to open in the summer. He is Mr. E.C. Spooner, at present Baths Superintendent at Wolverhampton. Mr. Spooner is a Welsh international water polo player and was in the 1956 Olympic team. He numbers aqua diving, rugby, badminton, sailing and shooting among his other interests.

CHANGES IN ENTS : DANCE SUCCESSES

Despite rumours of unrest in ENTS, chairman Keith Guy presented a new constitution and a 'declaration of intent' on informal dances to ENTS committee meeting on Monday. After a few additions had been made it was decided that this should be presented to Council. These changes will be discussed in the next issue of FELIX.

Last Saturday's dance was a massive success-almost 800 came and none were disappointed with the Marmalade whose 3KW of amplifiers gave Dramsoc electricians some nasty moments. This is the third great dance this term: Saturday's promises to be a bonus one. In two dances ENTS have made £200, almost doubling their profits for this year.

WELFARE COMMITTEE SURVEY ON GRANTS : MAJOR POINTS ARISING

(i) If student grants do not increase as much as the cost of living increase, then University and College expenses such as halls of residence fees and refectory prices should be tied.

(ii) Where students are required to undergo professional vacation training, their total income in these periods should not fall below their term time income.

(iii) As a small number of IC students lose more than £30 per annum as a result of the means test, ways of helping them should be investigated.

In view of the present economic situation it is hoped that the required cutback in spending is not affected by the removal of Discretionary Grants. At present these grants cover cases such as an extra grant for a repeated year, or field courses.

For the majority of IC students present grants are just sufficient for those living at home or in ICI halls of residence, but students in lodgings are beginning to suffer. Main recommendation, therefore, is that efforts should be directed towards alleviating the effects of rising costs of living on students. Extension of the use of the Rent Tribunals, and increasing the accomodation in student houses and halls of residence is suggested.

Discretionary grants, university and college expenses, vacation training and of the means test are being taken up with the college authorities. The support of any national action on these issues is recommended.

LETTER

Dear Sir,

It is regrettable that your report of Dr. Rose's talk to the I.R.C. on "The Abuse of Science in Vietnam" did not extend to cover the discussion which followed. In this not only were some of his basic facts queried but also the conclusions which he drew from other, unchallengeable, facts. ("The United States has conducted research on Plague organisms!..." In the last few years, in South Vietnam, cases of Plague have markedly increased"... Thus? Dr. Rose did not complete this logical sequence but, when invited to do so, had to admit that there is no evidence whatever to suggest that the U.S. employs the use of such organisms in South Vietnam).

In his efforts to portray the U.S. as a particularly nasty Goliath to the pristine-white Viet Cong "Freedom Fighters" David, Dr. Rose revealed himself as more interested in disseminating anti-American propaganda than discussing the basic moral questions involved in the use of Science to conduct modern warfare. The interests of the scientific community would better have been served if Dr. Rose had argued the case that any type of war is an abuse of Science, no matter who pulls the trigger or throws the bomb.

Yours faithfully  
E. Lavin - Postgraduate.

WHAT'S ON

TUESDAY 13 Feb Concert Hall  
Political Societies Council Meeting.  
"Student Finance." With NUS President,  
ALSO Joint meeting of Huxley Soc and UIHS  
7.30p.m. upper Lounge S/Side: William  
Hamling, M.P. Plaid Cymru.

SATURDAY 10th Feb Group's Arnold's Downfall  
Party level 800 p.m. Physics Dept.

FOUND

In RSM a Parker pen: would all the owners  
please contact T. Marples via the Union Rack

SMALL AD

ELMER GANTRY'S VELVERT OPERA I.C. FEB 17  
8.00 p.m.

XOXOXOXOXOXOXOXO UNION MEETING ADJOURNED TO THURSDAY 1-15 P.M. OXOXOXOXOXOXOXO