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MEDICS FOR I.C.?

Report of Royal Commission

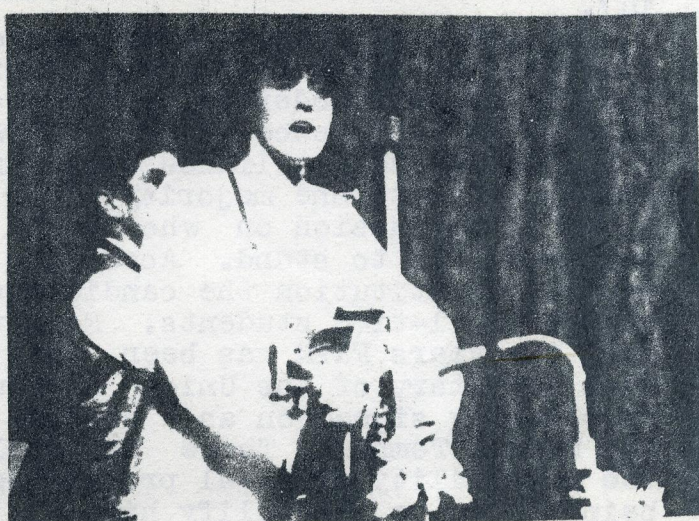
A medical faculty for IC is recommended in the Report of the Royal Commission on Medical Education published this month.

The Report recommends that the number of London Medical Schools should be halved by merging St. Bartholomew's with London, University College with the Royal Free, Middlesex with St. Mary's, Guy's with King's College, Westminster with Charing Cross and St. George's with St. Thomas's. Each of these should have an intake of about 200 students per year and around 1000 total, and each should become the medical faculty of a London college.

If these recommendations are carried out the Westminster - Charing Cross combination would become the medical faculty of I.C. The Charing Cross Hospital at present has plans to rebuild in Fulham and has recommendation for an intake of 70 - 80 students per year. The report recommends that if, as seems likely, no room is available on the I.C. site, that the pre-clinical departments able to take around 200 students a year should be built in Chelsea by the Royal Marsden and Brompton Hospital on Fulham Road.

The proposed I.C. - Westminster-Charing Cross Hospital teaching group would also take in the Royal Marsden Hospital, the Institute of Cancer Research, the Brompton Hospital, the Institute for Diseases of the Chest, the National Heart Hospital and the Institute of Cardiology. The Institute of Dental Surgery and the Eastern Dental Hospital would be associated with the group.

Even if the recommendations of the Report are acted upon it is likely to be many years before they materialize.



Donovan makes £1450

Donovan's concert at the end of last term was a huge success by any standards. A profit of £1459 was made all of it from ticket sales, programmes and a collection.

John Peel introduced the first guests, The Flame, to a capacity audience. This couple turned out to be disappointing. Possibly because of nerves, they didn't seem at their best and they also performed beyond their time. They were followed by Tyrannosaurus Rex. This is a group I would go far out of my way to see again, although no doubt their style doesn't appeal to everyone. Marc uses his voice as an instrument as well as a singer of words. Their current single, "Deborah", is an example. The one unmitigated flop was John Peel's poetry recital in one song.

There followed a brief pause for recovery of the senses, during which I spoke briefly with Donovan. Three minutes' conversation scarcely constitutes an interview, but I did find

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE.

NUS MODERATES WIN

The more militant elements in NUS were heavily defeated at the NUS conference at Leicester University from April 5 - 9.

After Geoff Martin had warned of "mob rule" by a minority, in his presidential address on the opening day, the conference rejected both a motion of no confidence and a weaker one of censure in the NUS executive over their handling of the grants campaign. It had previously been thought that the second motion stood a good chance of success, being tabled by 23 colleges and universities, but it was defeated by 251 votes to 147.

A moderate, Trevor Fisk, was elected as President to succeed Geoff Martin, another moderate. Fisk was elected in preference to Jack Straw, a Radical Student Alliance sympathiser, by a two-to-one majority after a night of discussion on whether he was qualified to stand. According to the NUS constitution the candidates must be full-time students. For the past two years Fisk has been full-time secretary of the Union although he recently signed on as a student at the Middle Temple. There is still the possibility of legal proceedings being taken to disqualify him.

All the major posts went to present members of the executive. Jack Straw was elected deputy present, Ian Cunningham, at present treasurer, was elected secretary and Albert Preston treasurer.

On the Monday the conference was addressed by Mr. Edward Heath, Leader of the Opposition, who, in answer to questions said that the Conservatives, when returned to power, would not substitute loans for grants to undergraduates but would "keep an open mind" about loans to graduate students. Mr. Heath was given a warm reception.

On the final day of the conference Geoff Martin warned of outside interference in student affairs and revealed that he had received letters sent to students at Liverpool University by a Conservative ex-MP asking for details about student leaders and the RSA.

ED: This report is disturbingly reminiscent of the situation in the USA where a file on student leaders and activities is kept by the FBI.

On policy matters the conference threw out the idea of book vouchers to replace the present allocation of £30 per year in the grant and expressed dissatisfaction with the present system of examinations. ("You might as well give a first to everyone over six feet tall" was one sentiment expressed) and with the B.Ed degree.

GRANTS RISE - FOR SOME

What 'The Times' described as a 'major concession' has been won by NUS in negotiation with the department of Education and Science. This is the raising of the means test starting level from £700 to £900 p.a. This will benefit some 30,000 students but parents earning over £900 will have to pay a greater amount as their contribution, though no parent will have to pay more than £6 a year extra. It seems that this will not cost the country any extra, and could well be just a sop to pacify students. However, the change is at least in the right direction.

TECHNICIANS STRIKE THREAT

Technicians at IC are threatening to strike if the University of London refuses to increase their special London cost of living allowance. The dispute has been dragging on for five months now and involves technical staff at colleges all over London. It is believed that if the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (recently formed a merger between A.S.S.E.T. and the A.Sc.W.) sanctions strike action, a work stoppage could be financed to the tune of £10,000 a week, enabling the 500 Union members to stay out for a considerable time.

Union Branch Secretary, Mr. Harry Fairbrother, said that the University Grants Committee have agreed to pay the increase if the University wish, but the University decided to refer the matter to the Prices and Incomes board, although they think the claim is reasonable. The University is also insisting on a corresponding increase for academic staff, although the Association of University Teachers has not asked for one. The Ministry of Labour has said that the reference of the claim to the PIB by the University is an outrageous procedure. Mr. Fairbrother called the University action "illogical and unjust", especially as the cost of the increase can be claimed from UGC. The technicians are also annoyed because the London allowance for workers in similar categories in the Civil Service, has recently been increased.

Miss Anne Nolan, College Press Officer, said this was primarily a dispute between the Unions and London University but that the college authorities were aware of the possibilities of a strike.



Andy Jordan sitting on a column

Since the death of his creator, Des Pond, twin of James Bond, has been tortured by Stinkley Hammay. Hammay recently started his auto-biography which should be read at 78 W. Pond....

I stretched myself out on the hot sand at Jane's feet and sucked the toes she had just dipped into the ice-cold Vieil Cur. I felt her body come alive between the soles of my feet. "There are only five nibbles to each foot," I murmured through the sand-drenched drink. "Talk to me," she sighed. "I'm just reading the Royal Commission on Medical Education" I said. BOAC always fly such things to me on holiday. They rarely hold much interest for me: that seems to apply to the Government as well. "Maybe I can tell you what you want to know," she whispered. "They've recommended the amalgamation of the Westminster and Charing Cross Medical schools and they want to turn the mixture into the Medical Faculty of I.C. A quick flip reveals .." "Ooh, do that again," she moaned. "A quick flip through the statistics reveals" I continued, "that 25% of the students going into our new medical faculty would be women."

I started to draw a map in the sand. "What's that?" she rasped, running out of verbs. "The central block on the South Ken site," I told her; "It's a pity no one pointed out what a bad idea it was to have more student recreational facilities there. Another bar, another lounge, another cafeteria. How are the students meant to act in concert when they're split in three?" "The enlarged concert hall," she suggested. I never found her funny. "But," I said, "I suppose with architects and medics, we'll have another thousand students and we'll need these things. The problem is where to put the new students. I was just chatting on the phone to Peter Mee" "Ooh, you mean that lovely man with the white MGB," she sighed. "The Registrar," I said coldly, forgetting my Jensen; I was just chatting to him and he said they've enough problems placing the architects. The Royal Commission suggested putting the medics on our

site. If there isn't room there, they suggest a place down by the Brompton Hospital." "But then all those lovely medics would be miles away." "Quite," I said, wondering if it wouldn't be better that way. "But," I said, "if they were to join us and then go down there, we might as well not have them. It would be like my antique stall owner mate who got some brass candlesticks from his grandmother for a wedding present. He got five quid for them a week later. "What a short honeymoon," she drowsed.

"Somebody missed their chance a while ago," I said, "when they didn't have all the student facilities put together like everywhere else. Look at Sheffield, Newcastle, Nottingham. They've everything under one roof. And it isn't even certain we'll have society meeting rooms provided in the future. All the present Union rooms of any size are throughways to somewhere else. Having meetings there's like playing rugger on the M4. We'll have a scrum down where he got run over. So this time, let's jump in and try to get a medical faculty. And let's have it right there in South Ken." "It seems a long way away." "A decade, perhaps," I said. "I meant three thousand miles." "Seven hours is not long," I said. "I wasn't expecting that when I said 'talk to me'" she said. "Just a Jane reaction," I said. "Why must you always be making plans?" she asked. "Right now I'm planning a non-event nine months ahead," I said.

Footnote: the characters her portrayed represent no known personalities - Baron Corvo.

MAY BALL BILLED

After weeks of doubt the bill for the May Ball has finally been arranged.

The main musical attraction will be Julie Driscoll with the Brian Auger Trinity. They will be supported by the Fairport Convention, the Shevelles, the Kytes, the Don Brewer Quintet and Tyrannosaurus Rex of Albert Hall Concert fame. Cabaret will be supplied by the Scaffold.

Application forms for tickets, which cost 4 gns double are available from the Union cloakroom. The Ball is on May 3rd and dress is of course formal.

EDITOR'S Comment

There has recently been a great deal of speculation and suggestions on how to improve the Union constitution. A number of motions are down for Tuesday's Union Meeting to change the constitution, some of which comtradict others. Several people have written to FELIX expressing their views on a revised Union structure and the Socialist Society (why this one of the 80 societies in IC I haven't discovered) went so far as to produce its report.

We are to be treated to the marathon Boothman-Duckett multi-clause motion at the third attempt on Tuesday which, if passed, in toto will be a drastic alteration of the bye-laws, and indeed their whole complexion. Without wishing to comment on the merits or demerits of this motion or parts of it, it seems to me that to attempt such a fundamental change in this way is most inadvisable. It is impossible to have detailed and well-informed discussion of such a large motion at a Union Meeting. The inevitable effect is that the various portions will be put to the vote without anything like proper discussion. It will also not be possible to discuss genuine alteratives (rather than amendments) both to the motion and to the present arrangements. What is needed, if a comprehensive motion to change the bye-laws is to be introduced, is a motion which has been thrashed out between a committee about the size of Council representing all shades of opinion. This could then be easily endorsed by a Union Meeting and much less time would be wasted by all.

FELIX

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Letters to the Editor

VIETNAM TEACH IN

Dear Sir,

We feel it was rather a poor piece of sophistry on the part of your reporter covering the Viet-Nam teach-in to equate anti-war protests with anti-Americanism. In dismissing Sir William Zak's speech as a "tub-thumping" exhibition of "scorn and predjudice", he allowed his own prejudice of trade unions to blind him to one important fact: William Zak's "juggling of figures" demonstrated effectively that the regime the American Government is defending at such appalling cost is corrupt and unpopular to the extent that it must throw even non-Communist opposition into jail. Senators Robert Kennedy and Eugene McCarthy also maintain this. Are they anti-American too?

Your reporter is wrong in thinking we do not hear the views of the Saigon Government very often. These are the official views of the American State Department that we hear reiterated parrot-fashion in almost every daily newspaper. These are the views that condemned the execution of police officials as an atrocity but dismissed the maiming and slaughter of tens of thousands of Vietnamese civilians by indiscriminate shelling, by napalm and anti-personnel bombs, as an unfortunate incident of war. We feel that sympathy for Mr. Nguyen Van An is misplaced.

When we object to double standards such as these, the cause is not anti-Americanism. Our protest is against the minority clique of military commanders and politicians who are prepared to see an entire nation annihilated to serve their own self-interests.

If your reporter feels a certain intellectual weariness with the "by-now predictable" anti-war arguments, we would beg him not to come to teach-ins on Viet-Nam. But if he does choose to come, we would ask him to at least treat them with the seriousness they deserve.

Francis Okoh (Min 2)
A. Nagui (M.E. PG)

CENSORSHIP AT IC?

Sir,

The article in the last issue of FELIX Late News was incorrect. There was censorship imposed on I.C. Peace Action Group. The two most likely culprits are Mrs. Robinson, the Union factotum, and Lord Penney, the Rector.

Neither had any business interfering with the interception and diversion of Press telephone calls from an official Union SOC club, IC Peace Action Group, without, at least (although this is questionable) telling an official of the club.

The argument that Miss Anne Nolan, the College Press Officer, to whom the calls were diverted, knew better how to handle the wily pressmen does not stand up to inspection. It was IC Peace Action Group representatives who got the two articles in the Guardian about the incident, both factually correct. Miss Nolan could have only given the official College views since she had not found out from anyone in ICPAG their views. This is an example of the worst sort of blanket censorship typical of nefarious government establishments.

Philip Painter.

ED: When seen by FELIX Mr M.J.Davies, Secretary of the College, stated that no derective had come from the College to put the calls through to Miss Nolan. Mrs Robinson admitted to instructing Pam, the Union receptionist, to re-route the calls, but said that she was acting "under instructions", but refused to say from whom. Ray Phillips denied that it was he.

Warden Wells Weds

Ian Wells, President of Mines, has been appointed warden of I.C.U.'s second student house, situated at 40-44 Evelyn Gardens, which will be ready for occupation at the beginning of next session.

Ian forever-in-the-news Wells recently added to his claim to press coverage by joining Malcolm Spooks Duckett and Keith Entertainments Guy in the state of Holy (?) Matrimony - oh ducky! Felix wishes them every happiness!

Non Phreaky

Phoenix

During the Easter vacation a Government minister declared that it was necessary that the future technocrats of this country should be educated in 'liberal arts'. This is not a new idea; the Americans have been striving for years to produce an 'all-round man' but in Britain this is still considered to be a 'progressive' ideal. The publications at IC show that the college's only inventive trait is in a strictly scientific field.

PHOENIX, which sets out to be a literary magazine, appears at the beginning of this term and while it is an improvement on previous years' efforts it seems to contain articles rejected by a paper like the New Statesman. It is painfully un-freaky. Articles on 'Suicide' and 'Television and the News' are quite interesting but are best left to the Sunday newspapers. Where PHOENIX can score is by printing short stories and poetry. In the present issue there are a few poems and only one short story. The latter is quite pretty, but little more.

Possibly the most interesting article is one by Andy Jordan, which verges on a self-analysis and shows that however much we may fancy otherwise we are all cast in a similar mould.

John Sommer

ARC FLOATS TO IC

The Agricultural Research Council has agreed to finance an insect physiology study group at the College Field Station at Silwood Park. This is occasioned by the break-up of a similar group at Cambridge following the retirement of its director, Professor Sir Vincent Wigglesworth. Two senior members of the Cambridge Unit, Dr. J.S. Kennedy, F.R.S. and Dr. A. D. Lees, F.R.S., will be moving to Silwood.

DONOVAN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that he is an extremely pleasant person; he seemed amazingly relaxed for someone about to sing to several thousand people. He appears to have few plans for the future.

I returned from backstage to find flowers being laid on the stage, by Jennifer Juniper amongst others. A few minutes later John Peel was introducing the musicians, and then Donovan. So began an hour or so of pure delight - it's not often one sees a jazz group, a folk singer and a string quartet performing together on one stage. This eclecticism was one of the best aspects of the concert - after singing some jazz, he brought on Jon Hendricks "to show how it should be done". More joy. In "Preaching Love" the jazz group ran free, with drum, clarinet and trumpet solos. A great deal of credit must go to John Cameron, the arranger, and Harold McNaire, the flautist. McNaire featured quite prominently in the concert,

in numbers like "The Tinker and the Crab". I particularly liked "Bad John", "Hampstead Incident" and an unnamed song about Leda and the Swan. "Bad John" is on Donovan's new LP, "Gift from a flower to a garden". The culmination of the show was "Mellow Yellow", which finished me off. Don ended the show with a Mantra, and took no encores.

Then he threw great bunches of flowers to the audience. Cynics might decry this gesture; I think he was trying to touch the audience with his own happiness. Indeed, that's what the whole concert was about, and I think he succeeded.

Your Baghdad corresp.

Pat Rotherham

Commem Day 68

The Special Visitor on Commemoration Day 1968 on October 24th will be Sir Denning Pearson, Chief Executive and Deputy Chairman of Rolls-Royce Ltd.

Published by J.D.Cooper on behalf of I.C.Union Publications Board

WHAT'S ON

MONDAY: 29th April.

IC Safety Committee Dr J.W.Daniel on Toxic Hazards:1630: Mech Eng Theatre A

Tuesday: 30th April.

IC Union meeting: 13.00: Concert Hall

Thursday: 2nd May.

RCS Dinner with Lord and Lady Beeching and Lord and Lady Penney: Tickets from your year reps or 422 or 424 Tizard. A course of three lectures on Aspects of Materials Design by Professor A.R von Hippel: 1730; Mech Eng lecture Theatre A.

starting on:

Tuesday 7th May:

Lecture 1: From Atoms to Condensed Arrays.

Wednesday 8th May:

Lecture 2: Insulators and Conductors.

Thursday 9th May:

Lecture 3: A path towards living systems.

Tuesdays: FELIX press meetings: Press room: Anyone without exams especially welcome.

SMALL ADS

NOV. '60 TRIUMPH 5TA No. PBR 592. Modified to full 1965 specification at considerable expense. Excellent condition, engine perfect, recent de-coke, good for the Ton. Brought from Slocombe's 9 months ago for £110 (The thieving gits wanted £119). £75 or offers. Regret no G.S. stamps. Probst ME2 via letter rack.

SHACKING-UP? Beautiful almost new fridge for sale. Also small couch Crockery. BAY 6902

KODAK RECORDING TAPE. 2400 ft, D.P. 7" SPOOL. 55/- cost 77/-.
Dick Middleton, 95 Beit or Mech Eng rack.

Spring is still here! NEWTHINK 2 (Supernewthink, review FELIX 257) has had a second printing and is still on sale in the Union Book-stall. BUY NOW!!!