

# FELIX ROAD

SIMON HOYLE



## ASTMS Gets Pay Increase

Last term the Imperial College branch of the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs took part in a national one day strike and a further three day stoppage coinciding with Open Day. The A.S.T.M.S. claimed a 10 per cent salary increase. They are now pleased to say that they have gained a 7 per cent increase composed of a 4.4 per cent interim increase and a further 2.6 per cent part payment for any salary increase arising from a "job evaluation exercise" to be run under the guidance of the Manpower and Productivity Service of the Department of Employment and Productivity.

The aim of the exercise is to produce a factual report on the jobs that the universities technical staff actually do. The exercise, taking place at Imperial College from October 13th to 17th, will be supervised by a college monitoring committee consisting of two from I.C., two from A.S.T.M.S., and a chairman from the Manpower Services. In each department there will be a committee of two—an A.S.T.M.S. representative and the Head of Department. Each member of the technical staff will be interviewed by one of 17 field workers, composed of postgraduates from other colleges paid a fee of £5 per day plus expenses. The interviews will last for about an hour and a half and there will also be a confidential questionnaire to fill in.

If the whole exercise is completed by April 1970 as hoped for, it will be an outstanding achievement as similar exercises in the motor industry have taken up to two years. On completion negotiations for further salary increases will start again, backdated incidentally to April 1969. Both the college authorities and A.S.T.M.S. are confident of the schemes' success.

## Famous Anniversary Celebrated

The traditional two minute darkness in memory of the well-known RCS scientist, Dr Spiggy Topes, was held at the RCSU freshers Union meeting last Thursday. Despite the extreme thinness of the excuse, the darkness was accepted in silence (and darkness) by the vast throng and also by the large audience.

This revered period of abstinence from light was just one of the many totally irrelevant and irrelevant happenings at the meeting. It was followed by several amusing sketches by well-known RCSU personalities. As they did not appear to need to use a script, one must draw the inescapable conclusion that such behaviour is normal to them! The standard of the fun side of the meeting was considerably improved upon last year.

Earlier on, the various Union officials addressed the packed lecture theatre and explained to the freshers the workings of RCSU and its

associated committees. These speeches, the only serious part of the meeting, were generally very straightforward, and should go a long way towards introducing the newcomers to RCSU.

At the end of the meeting, the only long-haired skin-

head Butty in captivity attempted to sneak out without a rendition of a Kangela. He (it?) was quickly brought back to "do his thing", but since the freshers had not been taught the words, the audience reaction was not overwhelming in volume.



The only long-haired skin-head ever to be President of RCSU!

## Nowhere to Stay?

Dear Editor,

I have seen a few tatty notices strewn around the college, attributing the present shortage of lodgings to (1) the decision to tell land ladies that they would be struck off the register if they demonstrated racial demonstration, (2) the prejudice of landladies, and (3) the inadequacy of the U.L. Lodgings Bureau.

Might I not more accurately attribute the shortage to lack of vision on the part of those persons responsible for that decision? It would not have required much intelligence for those persons to have anticipated that their decision would result in landladies withdrawing from the register.

I think perhaps that these pioneers of 'equality for all' might do well to do penance, by sleeping with the other homeless students who have been so generously offered the Union Lounge as a temporary dwelling.

C. J. Hogger, C.C.A., P.G.

## Select Committee Reports

The Parliamentary Select Committee Report on Staff/Student relations is due to be published in mid-October. The Committee was set up to investigate the causes for student unrest in colleges and was received with a great deal of opposition at some of the colleges it visited. A section of the Committee visited I.C. in mid-May.

possible, in such dedicated work.

After all this you may be wondering why you haven't seen any strange people about the college with suffering faces and bright haloes. The answer is simple: they enjoy doing it and don't need any other reward.

For further details please contact Miss S. Narasimhan, 91 Old Beit.

C. C. Banks, Linstead 532.

## Organisation for Social Service

The first thing about the organisation is that we are not really a club or society. We have no formal meetings, except the obligatory general meetings, no entry fee, in fact not really any members—just helpers. At the moment, some would doubt that we even have any organisation, as two of the committee members did not satisfy their examiners and another is news editor for Felix. However, organisation is our raison d'être. If anyone wants to spend time helping others, we try to provide the opportunity or put them in touch with someone who can.

Perhaps the most spectacular of our activities are the regular blood donating sessions. Anyone who has seen these going on must realise how much work they require. However, blood is often needed quickly, so we also organise an emergency scheme, with volunteers from the Halls of Residence.

### Work Parties

Work parties are another of our activities. At weekends, groups of three or four go off to decorate a room in Notting Hill—often for an old widow living alone in just that one room. If this is so, we put her on top of her furniture at one end of the room, while we start at the other. It soon becomes apparent that everybody assumed that someone else knew how to hang paper. A little later, it generally turns out that anyone who puts his scientific training to it can turn out a pretty good job. By Saturday lunchtime, about 3 o'clock, calculation puts the finishing time about next Thursday,

but it usually turns out that on Sunday afternoon, four good friends wash their brushes and rearrange the furniture in a bright new room.

Odd things have been known to happen. I remember one young lady who was sent out by three men on Sunday afternoon to buy a packet of razor blades!

### Help for the Blind

Have you ever wondered what would happen if you were blinded tomorrow? For some young men and women the courageous answer was to take up physiotherapy. To qualify they must reach A level standard in physics and know a great deal of anatomy and physiology. Some of us go every week to read text books to them. For those who cannot manage such a regular commitment we need help tape recording books for the Royal Normal College for the blind. Grundig gener-

ously gave us a tape recorder, so that anyone with half an hour to spare can help.

Every so often we are asked to visit an old person. They would usually like someone to go regularly, to talk to them over a cup of tea and relieve their loneliness. Although we operate a rota, they appreciate the continuity of regular visitors.

Youth work is another of our activities, normally through a youth club. One of the rewarding jobs in this field is to help and encourage bright children from dull homes. I heard that that one of our members enthralled her charge with a visit to a pond to find tadpoles and water beetles.

There are students in the college who have special interests in jobs such as organising the families in sub-standard accommodation in Notting Hill, helping meths drinkers, or running soup kitchens in the East End. We give them as much help as

## The Anatomy of a Student

On 12 October The Sunday Times begins an eight week investigation into higher education and careers. It begins with a survey of 5,000 students; the higher education they chose and why; the guidance—and misguidance—they received, and how they feel about it today. It continues with a dissection of 44 universities and 30 polytechnics: their strengths and weaknesses, their courses and conditions. The inside story on careers that the glossy brochures gloss over—from TV and foreign service to management and teaching. An exhaustive eight part survey that asks the whys, whats and hows—and answers them. The Anatomy of a Student is about how it is.

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# Letters

## Parking Confusion

Dear Sir,

I wish to make a strong complaint through your columns to those people who run (sic) the car parking applications for students.

I applied for a parking space well before the advertised first allocation date, and two weeks later when I planned to leave home for college, I still had not heard whether I had been allocated a place or not. It was only after an expensive trunk telephone call that I found that I had not been allocated a place. At the time of writing, well into the first week of term, I have still not heard officially whether I have a place or not.

I do not wish to complain about not getting a place. What I will complain about

is the inefficiency in dealing with a matter that is of great concern to many students. It is the difference between bringing half a ton of luggage relatively easily in one's car, or travelling by train; it is the difference between coming to a car parking space in College, or arriving here and finding that you have to park two miles away in Fulham.

Just as a point of interest, just how are the car parking places allocated? How many people have any idea of what goes on? Is the system as democratic (sic) as some of the Hall selection procedures?

Yours sincerely,

Paul F. Mellor  
Elec. Eng 3

## "Height of Stupidity"

Sir,

I feel that I cannot let pass without comment the information given in the last edition about the lodgings situation.

While few people at IC can have anything but disgust for racial prejudice, I feel that it was the height of stupidity to alter the system used for many years by the lodgings bureau of keeping a separate list of landladies willing to accept coloured students. Surely it is better to send a coloured student to lodgings where he is reasonably certain of a good reception than to send him to lodgings where his reception would be, at the least, one of mistrust, more probably one of open hostility. And what of the students from this country? Lodgings were at the best of times never easy to come by. Now, with only freshers receiving help from the lodgings bureau, as 90 per cent of the landladies in the West London area have been struck off the list, the situation is chaotic. The number of students arriving back at

College with nowhere to stay is frightening.

The way in which landladies were informed of the decision to insist that they accept coloured students was, to say the least, tactless. I saw the letter that was sent to my last year's landlady and it in effect took the form of a threat. My landlady, who had taken in a coloured student in the past, took what must have been a typical attitude—that no-one was to tell her what to do in her own house and that the lodgings bureau could go to hell.

I cannot see that anything but harm has come through this action. Very few landladies can now be taking coloured students, who did not take them in the past. A large number of landladies have been antagonised and are now less willing to take in students at all. This means that all London students, coloured or not, are now finding it more difficult to find lodgings.

Yours,

A. SKEATS,  
Linstead Hall.

## Unfair on the Taxpayer

Dear Sir,

Most of us are aware that 90 per cent of the addresses of the Lodgings Bureau in the West London area have been struck off due to the reluctance of Landlords to take overseas students. This attitude of the landlords has been "righteously" condemned by London University, but nobody seems to consider that there are reasons why British Universities should not accept overseas students in the first place. (Let us define here that an overseas student is one who does not hold and is not entitled to hold a UK passport, i.e. an alien. This is a non-racial definition, as one does not have to be a white anglo-saxon to have a UK passport.)

The main reason why we should not accept overseas students is that there are not enough places in our Universities. The minimum entrance requirement for most Universities is 2 A level passes and as yet our Universities cannot offer places to all the Britons who have these qualifications. If anyone doubts this contact UCCA clearing scheme!

Other countries, notably West Germany, are obliged to give anyone who has passed the national school-leaving exams a place. In Britain we can do nothing like this, so it would appear unfair on the British taxpayer to keep British students out of places occupied by an overseas student.

It has been pointed out that many of our best students are from overseas; are they, however, better than our best? Furthermore, will these excellent students contribute anything to Britain? What overseas students pay in extra fees is nothing compared to the loss to Britain of a trained technologist.

When we have enough places to train our own people, then we can offer places to overseas students. Until then it is intellectual genocide to refuse places to eligible Britons because their place is occupied by someone who will return to his own country when his education is finished.

Yours faithfully,  
"GEORGE X",  
Physics 3.

## A-MAZE-IN COLLEGE BLOCK

(Or: Central Site For Sore Eyes)

Congratulations to the powers that B. on the efficiency of the new College Block. For the benefit of those who have not yet ventured in, perhaps a short tour would help clarify the situation slightly.

You arrive in the main foyer with the intention of obtaining a meal in the lower refectory. You stride into the ante-room and bump into the queue. This seems rather long and very static, so you decide to try the upstairs snack bar, or "buttery" if you're that way inclined. You climb the outside stairs and walk along the covered promenade. "Ah", you think, "I've found the bookshop at last. Perhaps they've got that book I was recommended this morning." No such luck, so you decide to leave and walk towards the door. Oh! There doesn't seem to be a handle on the inside of the door, so you have to wait in the queue to pass the cash desk.

Having escaped you try to find the snack bar. Again, no luck; there doesn't seem to be such a place. However you realise that the way in may be through the wide open spaces of the students' common room. Propelled by the elastic properties of some of the temporary wooden paving stones, you try to find the door to the

common room. "At last" you think with saliva dripping from the corner of your mouth, and you thrust your hand against . . . a locked door. You confidently thrust your hand against the other side of the double door and sprain the other wrist.

Having eventually found your way to the snack bar and queued for only about 20 minutes, you arrive at the service area. You obtain your meal and a cup of tea and miscellaneous extras on your new style tray, stop abruptly, and the whole lot falls off the edge. Having replenished your stocks you are at last ready to sit down and enjoy your meal. But wait! What are all those people doing standing around with meals on trays. They are waiting to sit down (whatever did happen to those comfy sofas?)

Now enjoy your meal — it may be your last unless you the lucky enough to find the bank.

Seriously, though, the refectory facilities appear to have been seriously depleted and the closing of the Union snack bar has left a great void, especially in the morning when only coffee may be obtained at a time when most people are in need of breakfast. Surely it would be possible to reopen the Union snack bar in its original state.

M. G. Lambert.

## WHAT'S ON

### THURSDAY 9th OCTOBER

IC Union Meeting, Mech Eng 220, 1 p.m. See elsewhere in FELIX for the items to be discussed.

Scout and Guide Club—a talk given by the sail training Association, Mines 303, 12.30 pm.

Christ on Trial—His Death; Rev Cyril Bridgland, EE606, 7.30 pm. Exhibition of Photomontages by the German artist John Heartfield, has now opened at the Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall.

### SATURDAY 11th OCTOBER

IC Hop in the Union featuring Fat Mattress.

### SUNDAY 12th OCTOBER

Please, please come and listen to Jazz Folk and Blues in the Union Lower Lounge this and every Sunday you can play too if you want and its all free and theres a bar so please come!

### MONDAY 13th OCTOBER

Dancing Club—Intermediate and Advanced dancing classes in the Concert Hall, 7.30 pm.

Christ on Trial—His Resurrection. Arthur Pont, ME 542, 1.10 pm. I.C. Christian Union. Wellsoc—Paper Transistors.

### TUESDAY 14th OCTOBER

General Studies: New architecture in London, 1931-1969. Dennis Sharp.

War and Social Change, Professor Michael Howard. The Ring(I) Miss Else Mayer-Lismann.

Photographic Society—Portrait Session, Models and lighting supplied, bring camera. 6.30 pm, Physics 737 or 630.

### WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER

RCS Motor Club . . . meets every Wednesday Afternoon at the garage, behind Biochem. All welcome.

Art Club meets at 6.45 pm at the RCA, behind Huxley Building in Exhibition Road. Also tomorrow.

IC Folk Song Club invite you to a "Come All Ye"—Union Upper Lounge, 7.30 pm. Everyone Welcome, Singers and Players.

Henry—in the old Union Snack Bar, or as advertised, 6 pm.

Dancing Club—Beginners classes in Concert Hall, 7.30 pm. Also classes tomorrow.

### THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER

Scout and Guide Club—Pictures of Andorra taken during the

summer exhibition will be shown in Mines 303 at 12.30.

General Studies: Poetry for Pleasure, 1909-1969. 1—John Betjeman, given by Mr. Patric Dickinson.

### FRIDAY 17th OCTOBER

Film Soc will be showing Blow-Up and A Question of Rape, two open-ended mysteries in colour. Union Concert Hall, 7.30 pm. Members 1/6, guests 3/6.

### SATURDAY 18th OCTOBER

IC Hop.

### MONDAY 20th OCTOBER

ICCU—A Warning to the Nation, David Gardner, ME 542 at 1.10.

Wellsoc—Echo hunting in the Albert Hall.

### TUESDAY 21st OCTOBER

Jewish Society—Mrs. P. Granger on Architecture in Israel. Illustrated by slides, 5.45 pm.

IC Railway Soc, 'Railway Photography'. A talk by G. May, Esq. Civ Eng 207 at 5.40 pm.

Photographic Society—Introductory lecture 3, prints and dark room techniques, by Ray Sachs.

### General Studies:

London: the Fun-City. Dennis Sharp.

200 years of piano playing. Sidney Harrison.

Poetry for Pleasure—C. Day Lewis. By Patric Dickinson.

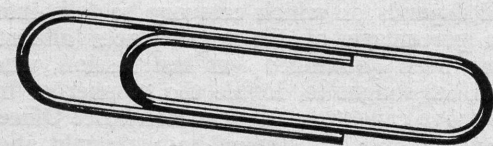
### WEDNESDAY 22nd OCTOBER

Henry in the old Union Snack Bar or as advertised, 6.00 pm.

IC Folk Song Club invite you to a concert featuring The Tinklers in the Union, top floor, 7.30 p.m. Members 3/-, non-members 5/-.

YHA—trip to St. Briavels YH in the Wye Valley coming week-end Oct 24th to 26th. See South-side Notice board.

Closing date for entries in What's On, for the period up to 5th November, is 11th October, i.e. Saturday morning. All clubs should have received What's On information on Freshers' Day. However, very few entries were sent in. Wake up, publicity officers!



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# FELIX

## Graft in Hall Selection?

An editorial on the Halls of Residence, and the selection of people for places might seem rather premature at this early stage of the session, especially in view of the fact that those who obtained places for this session have only just moved in. There are, however, many disturbing reports from people known to FELIX about the methods of selection last year in particular Halls. Coupled with this there are other reasons important enough to call for a working party to be set up to investigate Hall selection and to gather a consensus of student opinion on the subject of those sections in the Hall of Residence dealing with who is allowed into Hall and for how long.

Firstly, two mistakes known to FELIX which confirm that far from being fair and democratic, the selection system favours those who are on friendly terms with the committee. In the first case two of a selection committee of three actively disliked a particular reapplicant and despite the fact that on paper alone he was worthy of a place (even according to the two selectors who marked him down) he was not given one solely because of the antagonistic attitude of these two selectors. Although this is a case of only one individual it surely suggests the possibility that personalities have a greater influence in election (or non-selection) than is desirable if the system is to be fair to every applicant.

My second report involves a number of people and is much more disquieting. In the Hall in question the committee had selected all the applicants who obviously deserved a place in Hall, but were left with a number of rooms to fill. One would have thought that if the credentials of all the remaining applicants were so identical (which in itself is hard to believe) a method fairer than that employed could have devised. What happened was that the selection committee picked out all those applicants known personally to themselves!

There are also more general aspects which suggest that the selection system is not what it should be. According to many people wardens places are being abused if they are given to a person to allow him a third year in Hall for reasons other than medical. But wardens tend to reward work in Hall with another years residence, irrespective of the number of years previously spent in Hall. The point that needs stating here is that any person who spends three years in Hall is effectively removing the possibility of two other people spending a year in Hall. And if the chairman of the previous years Hall committee is to be given a third year in Hall then this too should surely be included in the list of Union officials who are allowed an automatic place.

The Halls of Residence Handbook, besides listing those are given the option of an automatic place, also divides applicants into sections — undergraduate, postgraduate and overseas student. The chance of an applicant gaining a place in Hall depends on which category he falls into. The only time a percentage of the total places allocated to applicants has been questioned was last session, when the college authorities sought to double the number of freshers in Hall. This move caught the Student Residence Officer with no real idea as to what the student body thought about the subject; and it was only the combined opinion of the wardens who stopped the move going through.

Neither during or since this episode has any attempt been made by a Student Residence Officer to obtain the opinion of the student body on how many freshers are desirable in Hall. If the authorities were to put forward the same demand again, this time armed with dozens of letters from headmasters stating that a place in Hall influences choice of university, the Union would be in no position to either support or oppose it, for it has no real knowledge of student opinion on the subject.

The only way to investigate any charges of unfairness in the selection of residents for Hall, and to determine the percentages of places allocated to the specified groups which are acceptable to the student body is for the Union to set up a working party into Hall selection procedure, and the allocation of places—in Hall. Only then could a person refused a place in Hall be sure that it was on merit that his application was judged, and not by the people he knew, or the personality he projected.

### FELIX

THE NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

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## Piers' Piece

Today marks the first Union meeting of the year, in Mech. Eng. 220 at 1 p.m. Union policy is made at Union meetings, so since a lot of policies must be decided this year, it is important that you come to the Union meetings.

The main matters to be discussed at the first UGM (short for Union General Meeting) are: the lodgings situation, double discipline, IC's five year plan, and representation on the higher college committees. Here follow a few words on each.

### Lodgings

By now you know quite a bit about the development of ICU's lodgings bureau. It was set up with the generous help of the College in response to the lodgings crisis which arose from moves to combat the racially discriminatory attitude of the University of London lodgings bureau. Some students may feel, especially after receiving an undiplomatic letter from Mrs. Tabart, the UL lodgings officer, that it would be better to ignore racism and make the obtaining of accommodation easier.

I do not agree with this. Racism must be fought and defeated; it will not be defeated without hardship. We cannot ignore the situation and wish it away — it will not go away by itself; if ignored by us and left to the manipulations of certain men and certain newspapers racism will increase; the time to fight is now. The University of London is certainly not the place for racism — hence our efforts and hardships.

One thing we have learned from the recent developments is that the operators of the UL lodgings bureau do not seem to have the right attitudes, and backlash might develop. The only solution to the present situation seems to be to do an increasing amount of lodgings work ourselves. It might be possible to employ a lodgings officer for IC and the rest of USK in a similar way to Chelsea College; this will be discussed at the UGM.

### Representation

In response to the Rector's letter, copies of which you may have seen around, it will be proposed that ICU asks again for mandatable representation on the Board of Studies, GoB, and F&E, this representation being consistent with the idea that the College should be an academic participating community. It will be suggested that there be 5 representatives on the BoSt (eg the President, the IC Academic officer and the three constituent college academic officers). As part of this motion the idea of the Imperial College Representative Council will be officially put forward. You can read about this in the handbook or in last year's election propaganda, copies of which can be obtained from the Union Office.

### Double Discipline

A proper probing and consideration of principles always seems to reveal that arguments against the Union's policy of no double discipline, although superficially appearing valid to some people, have no justification whatsoever. Education is a right; not a privilege, hence it follows that there is no reason why students who are exercising their rights to education should have any non-academic disciplinary powers imposed upon them which overlap and add to the law of the land; students are people! The Rector has agreed to come to the first UGM at the request of the Union, to explain his opposition to the Union's policy.

### Five Year Plan

In response to the Rector's request for student views on the development of IC in the next quinquennium (these views to be presented to the UGC by February 1970 with outlines by this December), IC Council has set up a working party. At today's UGM the suggested areas for discussion must be agreed, and further students elected to this working party.

One of the most important aspects of the working party is that concerne with education — considering how IC's educational structure must be changed to meet the many criticisms levelled against it, for example its super specialisation, non-participation, non-critical uncreativity, etc. This group should have some suggestions before the Board of Studies meeting on October 29.

The quinquennial plan is very important, so if you have any ideas bring them along to any meeting of the working party.

We hope you like  
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..... we do !



### Other Matters

Some of the other important issues to come up soon are: A sabbatical year for me! What a good idea! Investigations of many other Colleges on the usefulness of this will soon be completed.

There will soon be discussion on whether or not students — or rather, how the students — can have a say over the choice of special members of staff who do work of very direct relevance to the student body.

Halls and Student House rules reform is something else which needs overall thinking about.

### How the Union runs

The Union, as a democratic body, allows and encourages all members to question and give any ideas to any Council member or Union official, and to attend (as observers) any meeting of ICU Council or any of the numerous sub-committees and working parties. The dates for meetings will appear on the Council notice boards in the Union, Southside, and College Block.

In the Union Office there is always waiting for your inspection a trayful of matters soon to be dealt with, and a "meetings with the Rector" record book. For any general matters consult the 6 floor reps on Council; they are there to represent you. These six are: Les Ebdon (Chem PG), Dave Wield (Chem Eng PG), Phil Poyser (Chem PG), Chris Slee (Aero 2), Clive Robinson (Metall 3), and Christine Holland (Chem Eng PG).

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# COLCUTT

It's nice to be back in dear old London, or is it ? J. Elroy Flecker may have been thinking of students looking for lodgings when he said:—

“Half to forget the wandering and the pain,  
Half to remember the days that have gone by,  
And dream and dream that I am home again.”

That I should imagine sums up many London student's attitude to being in the news once more.

The accommodation problem grows steadily worse year by year, and this year has been no exception. As the number of students continually grows the accommodation available remains almost static.

In fact this year for many reasons it has probably decreased. The traditional digs that are provided and officially approved by U.L. Lodgings Bureau has been cut back drastically by the action of U.L. Presidents Council last year.

A reasonable statement of intent to prohibit racialism in student accommodation has been turned into a catastrophe by inept handling. An all too common wrangle between student politicians and college administrators has again resulted in hardship for the college student, particularly those new to the game of catch-as-catch-can between landlord and tenant.

To imagine that the landlords are feeling the cold winds from Siberia by losing student tenants is to be more than naive but to submit to their blackmail is probably worse. What was needed from the U.L. administration was careful handling rather than hostile interpretation of Council's wishes. However not all the blame rests with the U.L. administration, much of it must be carried by Council itself, since it must have realised it was not bargaining from a position of strength. Still, I expect that all the students living out of suitcases at the moment are doing so with great gladness knowing that such fine principles are being upheld.

As far as can be seen, this, and many other factors that are making accommodation difficult, if not impossible, to obtain points in one direction only, to a tight control of landlords letting furnished premises. This has been chewed over more times than a Mooney steak, all that remains is to see what our local M.P.s can be forced to do about it in the next election.

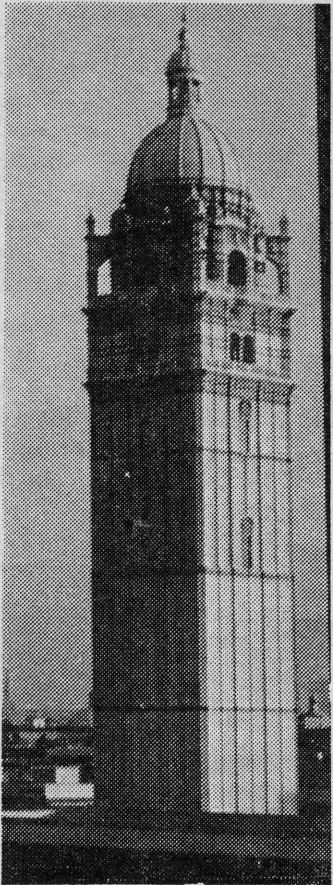
Coming back to College we have the new Student House and a new lodgings bureau: they both appear to be shaping up well, although the latter shows evidence of the landlords' inevitable grip. Perhaps the two further Houses, accommodating a total of 120 students will be able to alleviate a few more problems; although one presumes that opening two months earlier they would have been far more useful. Why, oh why, when a decision is made to finance these Houses it should take more than twelve months to complete them is impossible to imagine. The conversion is minimal, yet the contractors are in for months and it's the same all along the line.

We must put our priorities right: a student can't study unless he has a place to live, this of all things must come first.

## What is Colcutt?

Colcutt was a person, not a thing, and was responsible for the erection of Colcutt's Tower, otherwise known by its more correct name of the Queen's Tower (the Queen in question being Victoria). This tower was part of the Imperial Institute, now mostly demolished to make way for College Block. Only the tower was preserved, and was cleaned up and greatly strengthened at a cost of over £200,000. It is rather difficult to miss standing alone before College Block.

“Colcutt” is the pseudonym under which a prominent Union personality writes a comment column in FELIX. The identity of the author of this piece is normally known only to the Editor. The writer is imagined as sitting on the top of Colcutt's Tower surveying the IC scene, and passing comments thereupon.



# Confusing the Issue

One of the most confusing things that freshers come up against at this College is the incredible number of abbreviations and initials used by the students already here. In an attempt to alleviate the confusion for new students and also for any ill-informed second year students, here is a quick run-down on just what those initials do mean.

- ICU: Imperial College Union.
- RCSU: Royal College of Science Union.
- C&GU: City and Guilds Union.
- RSMU: Royal School of

- Mines Union.
- ICWA: Imp Coll. Womens Association. (If you haven't yet found out what these are, you must be apathetic.)
- ARCS: Associate of the Royal College of Science.
- ACGI: Associate of the City and Guilds Institute.
- ARSM: Associate of the Royal School of Music.
- DIC: Diploma of Imperial College. (Most of you should be studying for one of these)
- UGM: Union General Meeting.
- ICRC: Imperial College Representative Council (proposed).
- RCC: Recreational Clubs

- Committee.
- SCC: Social Clubs Committee.
- ACC: Athletic Clubs Committee.
- After the above ICU bodies, how about a few Administration committees?
- JURGO: Joint Union, Rector, and Governors Committee.
- BoG: Board of Governors.
- GoB: Governing Body. (These last two are one and the same of course, but go under two names to confuse you!)
- F&E: Finance and Executive Committee of the BoG.
- BoSt: Board of Studies.
- UGC: University Grants

- Comm.
- LEA: Local Education Authority. Now for the initials by which a few of the other London Colleges are known.
- UL: University of London.
- QEC: Queen Elizabeth College.
- IF, IFSC: Institute Français Secretarial College.
- CEM: College of Estate Management.
- RCA: Royal Coll. of Art.
- RCM: Royal Coll. of Music.
- AA: Architects Association.
- MA: Maria Assumpta.
- QMC: Queen Mary College.
- USK: University of South Kensington (i.e. the group of colleges in this area)

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# TWO KINDS OF POP MUSIC

*A Biased Look at Modern Music in some of its Manifestations*

If we believe what our ears and eyes tell us, pop music is now becoming respectable. The evidence is all around, in the newspapers, on the radio and television, and in the magazines that clutter the bookstalls.

Just before the start of the session the Deep Purple/Royal Philharmonic Orchestra concert was given a great deal of advance publicity as something new in the music world, when only a few years ago such an idea would have been thought ludicrous. The fact remains: some of the older generation are now condescending to take the younger generation's music seriously. Tony Palmer has been the first reviewer to take pop music as something more than just an idle entertainment for the young; his regular column in the Observer points out both its faults and its virtues without ever taking a paternalistic attitude.

Now the Sunday Times produces its "jazz/pop" column and occasionally deigns to remove some "jazz" to make way for a little "pop" to be reviewed; almost all the daily newspapers run a weekly feature including brief record reviews not all singles, thankfully — as well as the inevitable top ten chart and some sort of gossip column about "pop personalities". The business is booming, glowing under its newly acquired halo of respectability.

But even the most enthusiastic pop fan would admit it is a halo undeserved by the greater part of the business. Pop music is just a label used by most people to describe any kind of music not classifiable as jazz or classical, it can be

divided and subdivided into many different kinds of music. Mainly, however, there are two kinds of pop. There is pop music you buy as L.P.s and hear in the record shops, and there is pop music you hear on the radio (apologies to John Peel) and buy as singles at extortionate prices. Sadly, it is the latter which gets all the playing time on radio and television.

The former have taken on various other labels in an attempt to dissociate themselves from the "teenybopper" groups but people still call them pop groups because a great deal of their exponents started off as small-time pop groups in the '63-'66 era when groups were the big fashion. In those days they made their living by having a single released which was pushed into the charts by some enterprising record company, and the resulting publicity was enough for them to be signed up for one-night stands and dances for the next few months. A great deal of the groups disappeared almost as soon as they had been created but some kept on, disregarded the hit parade and started producing albums of their own material — some good, some bad, but almost all original. They progressed but the word "progressive" has become a word almost of abuse used by pop fans who find themselves unable to understand music produced by the "underground" music faction.

Anyone who watches "Top of the Pops" every week will recognise the average teenybopper group. Three or four people, if that is the right name for them, stand idly

strumming guitars, fingers hardly moving on the strings, someone — or something — else apathetically brushes the top of a drum with a drumstick, perhaps there's an organ or a stringless piano for realism, while a gibbering transvestite hops around at the front of the stage waving a microphone about. Somewhere, you can hear an orchestra playing. It is no wonder that the average age of the 45-rpm-record buyer is about twelve or thirteen, especially considering the cost of singles today.

Nevertheless, it is the youngsters who put records in the hit-parade who have controlled a great deal of the trends in modern music. The groups whose records regularly top the L.P. charts readily admit that a great deal of their success relied on publicity they received appearing on television, and the few available television record shows all deal exclusively with the singles market. On the other hand, during the past year, BBC 2 produced "Colour me Pop" which has done a great deal to further the recognition of many progressive pop groups, and groups like Led Zeppelin, Fairport Convention, Chickenshock have all had very good album sales without the benefit of a successful single.

So is it right that the only branch of pop music to be given an appreciable amount of broadcasting time is that which the rest of pop music would be gladly rid of?

Long live John Peel and his precious two or three hours broadcasting time; it may not be the easiest to listen to, but at least it sets you thinking.

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# A Drinker's Guide to I.C.

The number and standard of the bars at I.C. is well known and envied throughout the London colleges. There are two main bars and 5 others open to students, as well as the many temporary bars set up at parties, etc., while the staff have their own drinking places in the SCRs. All of these are free houses, and the major ones can boast of a range of drinks that will beat most pubs and other colleges; at least 5 different keg bitters are available.

By far the most popular place to drink in the College is the Southside bar. The senior barman here is Mr. Stan Kearns, who has run this bar for 4 years now. He is justifiably proud of the changes that have taken

place during this period.

In 1965, the bar sold only two draught beers, one brand each of whisky and gin, had few bottled beers on its one cold shelf, and had no keg cider, wines, or sherry. Four years later there are 9 beer pumps, and one has only to look along the packed shelves behind the bar to see the fantastic range of bottled beers, wines, spirits, and liqueurs. Teetotallers need have no fears, as Stan stocks a full selection of non-alcoholic drinks. Indeed, although the ICU President is frequently seen in the bar, the strongest thing he ever drinks is orange crush!

However, the popularity of Southside bar has brought problems. The first, gross overcrowding, is ob-

vious to the harassed customer trying to force his way through to the counter after about 9 p.m., and is equally obvious to the equally harassed and over-worked barmen. Since the bar opened over 5 years ago, the turnover has increased more than threefold, but the number of barmen has only gone up by one. On some occasions the situation is so bad that the bar can only function by using temporary student barmen. Even so, the staff are often so busy serving drinks that they have no time to go out and collect glasses, and so a shortage of glasses occurs. Some of the students who have helped out in the bar confirm how overworked the bar staff are.

Stan attributes the lack of barmen to two principal causes: firstly the pay is poor compared to the majority of pubs, and secondly there is no accommodation for bar staff provided by the College. The latter point is important, as it is difficult to get home by public transport by the time the barmen have closed and tidied up the bar. Stan claims that 6 months have passed since the Refectory Committee agreed that the barmen should have a rise and that attempts would be made to provide them with flats near the College. However, so far this lumbering body has failed to implement either decision, and the best reply Stan has been able to get is "we've got that in mind too". Stan hopes for results now that Dr. Ken Weale has become chairman of the new Bar Committee.

Another urgent problem in Southside as far as the bar staff are concerned is the acute shortage of storage space. The small beer cellar can only hold 3 to 4 days supply of keg and tank beer, while crates of bottled beers have to be stacked up at the ends of the bar. A further growing nuisance in Southside is rowdiness. Despite the price differential between the Union and Southside bars, many drinkers think that 2d per pint is a not unreasonable price to pay for the vastly improved comfort of the latter bar. On some nights it is not wise to take in a timid girlfriend, a fact which many users of the only bar suitable for entertaining girls find rather annoying. Discipline in the bars is the responsibility of the student duty officers, and Stan hopes that they will keep the rowdiness down in the future.

One possible way to avoid customers overcrowding the bar is to open up the hardly-used SCR butterfly to students, and employ more barmen to staff this. However, this is unlikely to



Linstead bar, which opened last January, is the ideal place for a quiet drink, and the Hall is well known for its parties and Disco-bars.

occur as certain staff members jealously guard their right to have their own bar on the few nights a month they want to use it.

Passing on from the crush of Southside, one can call in either Linstead or Weeks Hall (or both). Here the bars are student run, so the standard of service is on occasion a little unprofessional. These are definitely the bars for a quiet evening drink, though the service tends to suffer when the unpaid student barmen decide to drink away the evening's profits!

Walking along to the Beit building, one may enter the Union bar after first leaving one's girl-friend outside this all-male preserve. This bar tends to be either half empty (midweek) or packed out (weekends and special functions), and the standard of behaviour is way below that

of the other bars. The amount of custom on normal days has dropped off sharply over the past year, and with the redecorating and refurbishing of the bar and the crushes in Southside, it remains to be seen whether the usage of the bar will return to a more reasonable level. The stock of beers here is extensive, but there are few wines or liqueurs. Ladies can get service, with a bit of luck, at the extension bar in the corner of the Union lower lounge.

The Crush bar, outside the concert hall in the Union building, opens on dance nights to serve a limited range of beers.

Finally, lunchtime drinks will be available at the new College Block bars. The students' bars will not open at night except for special functions. Fears have been expressed that this bar will

prove to be totally inadequate to cope with such functions. There is very limited space to store beer with no cold store for keg beer, though the breweries will provide flash coolers for the keg in use.

The Senior Common Room bar is even more inadequate, and is notable for its two-glass size washing up sink! At the time of writing, the bar shutters cannot be locked. It is apparent that some of the design mistakes made in Southside have been repeated here.

That concludes the FELIX tour of the bars in IC. Now it is up to you, the reader, to use and enjoy the facilities.

The price and range of drinks betters almost all the nearby pubs. Don't be put off by the six deep crush at the start of term, and remember that any bar gets crowded in the late evening. If you help the barman, he'll help you. For example, if there is a shortage of glasses don't just go and get one for yourself, take back as many as you can. If you intend to get drunk, don't go to one of the lounge bars. In these, and other ways, you can help to improve the facilities both for yourself and for the other users.

Pleasant drinking!



Drinkers photographed recently in the Union Bar. On the shelves behind the bar are many tankards, given to the students by their Unions, clubs and societies.

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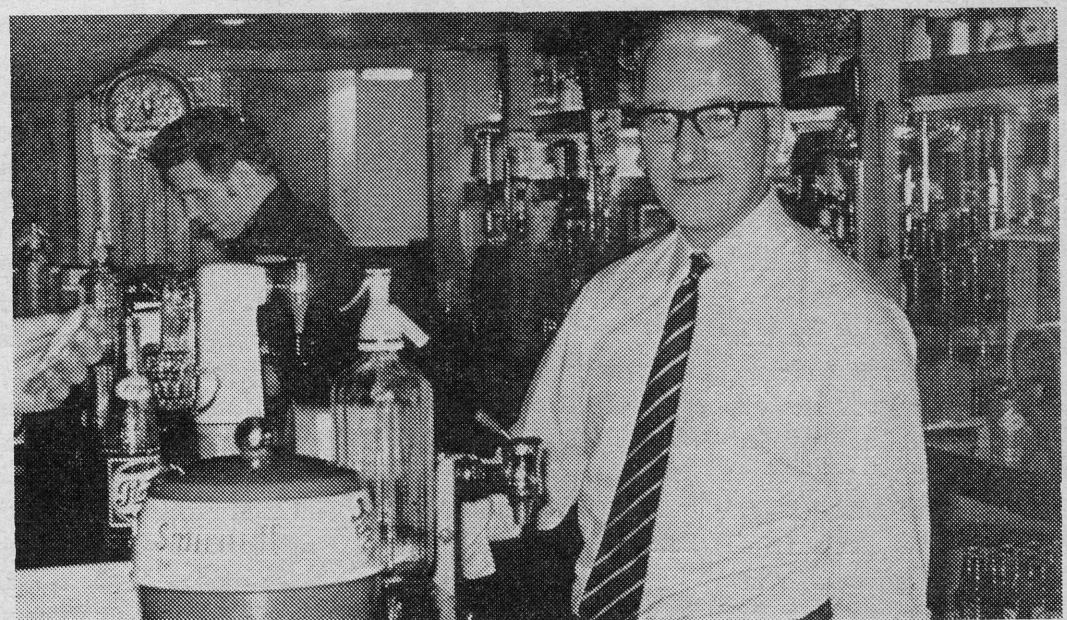
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The Southside Senior Barman, Stan Kearns, relaxes for a moment in one of the infrequent quiet spells in this bar.

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Felix wishes to thank Mr. Kearns for his help in compiling this article. Words by Tony Kirkham; photos by Dave Chant, Simon Hoyle, and Tony Kirkham.

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# FELIX REVIEWS PAGE

# RECORDS

## Blind Faith

This is the first, and if reports in the pop music press are to be believed, the last recorded offering we shall hear from Clapton-Winwood-Baker-Grech. Heralded on its formation in the early summer as the first American - termed super-group Blind Faith played just one free concert in Hyde Park and then set off to gain appreciation (and money) in the States. Money they have gained in plenty, but it seems that the pressures of living up to the super-group image have proved too great, and have resulted in the break-up of the group.

Those who are not fortunate enough to have atten-

ded the Hyde Park concert are therefore left with this one L.P. as the sole reminder that the group ever existed. Judging by the position of the record in the L.P. charts it seems that there will be many besides myself who qualify to write a personal obituary, and predict what might have been.

The L.P. consists of just six tracks, which for a studio recording is rather a small number. It is however quality which the reviewer seeks to comment on, and in any case the playing time does exceed 40 minutes so the group cannot be accused of not covering all the available plastic.

The reason for the scarcity of tracks is that on side two **Do What You Like** almost fills the side. This is the best track of the L.P. and if, as

seems to be the tendency, the group is considered as a revamped Cream **Do What You Like** is the best number they have ever produced. Bearing in mind some of the legacies from the Cream-**Spoonful, Toad and I'm So Glad** — this statement needs strong justification.

The basis for the track, written by Ginger Baker is a pulsating guitar rhythm by Eric Clapton: add to this Winwood singing at his best and you have the first two minutes. At this point the sequence is broken by Winwood, who takes an organ solo, followed in turn by Clapton, Grech and Baker who each express their ideas in lengthy instrumental solos, with the occasional accompanying chant of **Do What You Like** in the background. In comparing the two guitar solos with the many instrumentals produced by the Cream it is important to remember that neither Bruce nor Clapton ever did a solo

and in all their instrumental pieces one could always rely on the other to provide a new idea. On Blind Faith, however, Clapton and Grech both have to rely on their own capacity for improvisation, which is a far harder task. Nevertheless they both do exceedingly well, Grech more so than Clapton.

Winwood was responsible for composing three of the tracks on the L.P.: **Sea of Joy, Had to Cry Today** and **Can't Find My Way Home** and although all are good by normal standards none compare with Baker's composition.

Of the other two tracks Blind Faith's version of an old Buddy Holly number **Well All Right** must cause him to turn in his grave. This is, however, the second best track on the record, mainly because of the exciting arrangement. Completing the L.P. is a number by Eric Clapton singing praises to the Lord (sic).

## Then Play On

Fleetwood Mac, Reprise.

In the last issue we reviewed the Fleetwood Mac's L.P. **"Pious Bird of Good Omen"**, released by Blue Horizon. Now working for Reprise they have brought out a new album and a single, with material written mainly by Danny Kirwen. In contrast to the last L.P., the material here is all new, and much better than their previous efforts. The single **"Oh Well"** is almost completely instrumental, as are many of the tracks on the L.P., but the tempo changes abruptly at various places throughout the record, sometimes switching from a quiet Albatross-like sound to a heavy stomping rhythm, well worth listening to.

## Clouds

Joni Mitchell, Reprise.

Joni Mitchell's second L.P. takes over where the first left off; some of the tracks are well known already, especially **"Both Sides Now"** with which Judy Collins had a great deal of success. There are ten songs, all composed by Joni Mitchell, some, like **Tin Angel, Chelsea Morning, and I Don't Know Where I Stand** have been produced on previous L.P.s by other folk singers, but others are new to me. This is not a record that you enjoy the first time you hear it, indeed very few tracks have recognisable melodies, but after you have come accustomed to the music, and have heard the record through once or twice, Joni Mitchell's fine singing and guitar playing seems very compelling. It is a record to listen to rather than have playing in the background.

# FILMS

A night out in London to visit the cinema poses its own special problems. At the weekends the whole of the West End is inaccessible from six p.m. onwards with queues blocking the streets, and it means waiting for at least an hour to get in. Often the cheap seats sell out early, even more often cheap seats don't exist. So if you are prepared to spend vast amounts of money with the possibility of standing in the rain all the early evening, choose something worth seeing, like **Goodbye, Columbus**.

This is one of the new style American films featuring actors and actresses who can act and an excellent script. It was a surprise to see the main character played by Richard Benjamin,—I did not recognise the name but the face was familiar. He is currently on TV playing the husband in one of the cosy-American-family-life situation comedies the BBC spends its money on. Neil, the character he plays in the film bears a great resemblance to the husband in the TV series, which is strange because no one could describe **Goodbye Columbus** as a cosy film,

and it would be ludicrous to say his family life conformed to the American Dream in the way all American TV situation comedies do.

Neil is a shiftless young man living with his Aunt and Uncle and working as a clerk in the town public library. In the opening film sequence he meets Brenda, a rich Jewish girl on vacation from college. She agrees to go out with him, and in the traditional American way, romance blooms in the following few days and they see each other regularly. The girl's family disapprove of him for his lack of drive and ambition, and Brenda herself tries to encourage him to start in the rat-race before it is too late.

## Freedom

Against her mother's wishes Brenda invites Neil to spend his fortnight's holiday with her family, and after a stormy beginning they settle down to two weeks bliss together. Every night he tiptoes along to her room to sleep with her there, every morning he dashes back to his own before her father rises. Finally, one night as

they are having a shower together she mentions that she is not using a contraceptive. From then on the romance deteriorates as Neil sees his freedom disappearing.

Although the ending is far from happy the film itself is packed with humorous asides, with both Richard Benjamin and Ali McGraw, who plays Brenda, showing great comic talent. One of the more spectacular points in the film is the wedding scene: Brenda's brother is a muscle-bound baseball player, described by his father as "not the brightest boy in his class". Nevertheless he is given a partnership in the firm, married, with a safe future. Neil is invited to the wedding which is followed by a great feast and dance, where all Brenda's rich relations gorge themselves and gradually drink themselves into a stupor. During the festivities, Brenda's father takes her to one side and tells her how happy he is that he has such a reliable daughter, and how sorry he is for all the parents who cannot trust their children. Already Neil and she are growing apart from each other, her departure to

University and his return to work only deepens the rift between them.

The basic theme of the film is the conflict between the girl's natural love for her parents and close-knit family life and her attraction to Neil, the freeman. She has been brought up to believe money and advancement are everything, and discovers that Neil's freedom sets him apart from her world and way of life, while Neil sees his life more and more in the light of growing insecurity.

Also worth seeing in London is **Targets**, a supporting film, again from America, again about the American way of life, or death, to be more accurate. Some parts of the plot are clichéd but the insight the film provides into the American preoccupation with guns and their right to carry them makes it well worth the money. The plot concerns a young psychopath who, after murdering his wife and mother, sets off with a bag filled with guns and ammunition, determined to kill as many as possible before being caught. His last act is to climb up behind the film screen at a drive-in movie, poke a hole in the canvas and try and pick off as many of the audience as possible with a rifle.

It's good for a laugh if nothing else.

**An Age**, by Brian Aldiss, is a novel about time and people. Publishers are Sphere Books, price 5/-. Loosely termed as science-fiction, this book concerns one Edward Bush, an artist whose psychological hang-ups are quickly revealed to the reader. Part of the novel is set in the future about a century hence, in a Britain on the edge of bankruptcy. Someone has discovered a drug which gives anyone who uses it the ability to "mind travel" into the far past, the Devonian, Cambrian and Jurassic eras. The book is sprinkled with scientific details concerning the conditions connected with such travelling, but these are aside from the main theme, which is the nature of time itself. The mind travellers exist as ghosts in the desolate wastes of the earth before man ever existed; most of them are rich social drop-outs; but others are working for the Institute, an organisation first set up for scientific research but later dedicated to more sinister purposes. There are a lot of faults in the plot, which are admittedly difficult to avoid given such a complicated setting in time and space, but the

quality of Mr. Aldiss' writing is evident in the beautifully descriptive passages set in the half-world of the past, and, in sharp contrast, his vision of a totalitarian British Isles where freedom has disappeared and martial law prevails.

His prose often reads like poetry, and it is easy to become confused with the course of the action, but **An Age** is worth persevering with for the questions posed by its ending. It's also a very enjoyable way of spending an evening instead of watching the box.

In a totally different vein, Signet and Mentor books are soon to be turning out three of Isaac Asimov's science books called **Understanding Physics**. These are written for the layman and Dr. Asimov has laid all the emphasis on making his style as clear as possible. Not for the enthusiastic Physics or Engineering student, but they make very useful gifts for the unscientific friend, or for Maths students like me who could never understand the subject. They cost 8/6 each and are published this Autumn.

# BOOKS



# Sports Felix

Edited by  
John Darley

## EDITORIAL

In previous years it has been customary for the chairman of clubs committees to speak at the freshers reception. This year however, it was decided that there were more urgent matters with which to bore the freshers and the more mundane affairs of college life could not be mentioned. I should like to take this opportunity, therefore, of welcoming freshers to the college and point out that although there may be many things wrong with IC in the field of student participation etc, there are many things for which IC is rightly respected, not least of which is our sporting tradition.

It is fair to say that for many years now IC teams have, if not dominated, at least strongly challenged other London colleges in all fields of sporting activity. If the initial enthusiasm shown on Freshers day and at the first trials can be maintained there is no reason to suppose that this challenge will fail this year.

With about 200 freshers attending trials at Harlington it is clear that there will be no shortage of players for the rugby, football and hockey teams. ICWA hockey club, in fact, suddenly found itself with a regular team and is now looking for regular fixtures.

Other clubs were also well supported on freshers day and it is hoped that the boat club and cross country clubs will have yet another successful season. Elsewhere on this page you will hear of the prospects and hopes of various ACC clubs and I should like to wish every club a successful and, just as important, an enjoyable year's sport.

## Cricket

The cricket club ended an undistinguished season with an undistinguished tour — at least as far as results go. Although 7 matches were lost out of 9, the standard of play remained high. This in part due to the fact that results were only of secondary importance, — though another defeat by the LSE wasn't too welcome.

For the benefit of newcomers, we tour Devon, playing local clubs around Plymouth and Torquay. It is the highlight of the season, offering an all too welcome relief from exams. During the early part of the season we try to run about 4 XI's, every Wednesday and Saturday. Including the tour this adds up to about 30 matches a season!

Nevertheless, we have found that the shortness of the summer term and the pre-occupation with exams then tends to interfere with cricket. For this reason we run nets during the winter at Alf Gover's cricket school in East Putney on Sundays, so that the club can get settled down before the season proper starts. If you play any kind of cricket, we would advise you to join now rather than wait until summer, because besides offering coaching facilities, the school is an excellent social club. It is well worth joining for this alone.

If you wish to play at all and we haven't got your name yet, get in touch with Tony Furling, 28 Weeks or Russ Smith, Maths 2.

## Badminton

The Badminton club (annual subscription 12/6) runs three men's teams, one mixed and one ladies' team. There is club play on Monday evenings (ladies), Wednesday afternoons, and Saturday and Sunday mornings in the Gym. The club caters for players of all standards, from the complete beginner to the player with many seasons of experience behind him.

The home courts are no longer at Nine Elms Baths, but have moved to Wimbledon Baths, which open on October 15th. (I must hasten to add that we play on a covered pool — sub-aqua badminton has yet to reach its peak of popularity.) These courts will mainly be used for team matches, but will be available for club play when there are no fixtures.

With the exception of last season, when the mixed team put the rest of us to shame, the first men's and mixed teams have had an enormously successful record, having won the ULU Division I championships for as long as student memory goes back.

The intake of new members includes at least one county and one ULU player, and there is every prospect that the clubs is returning to its former playing strength.

Phil Poyser



Last year's football team in action at Harlington

## Football

With over 90 names taken on freshers day, the Soccer Club is hoping to field several strong sides this season. Freshers trials were held last Wednesday and with such a large number of players present it was difficult to assess them all.

However, several promising players have already emerged. It is evident that with such strong competition for places all teams should be able to maintain a high standard.

The final trials on Saturday last (including last year's players) simplified selection of the teams for the opening matches yesterday.

This has been a promising start to the season and provided this support for all the teams continues the club looks forward to a very successful season.

Tom McCardle

## Rugby

As most freshers will have been bombarded by anti-Rugby Club literature during their short stay here so far, it might be a good idea to show the other (perhaps more realistic) side of our reactionary, alcoholic, anti-Left-wing image.

The RFC is one of the oldest of IC clubs and is thus, by definition, steeped in tradition; perhaps this is why it has been the target for such a dramatic smear campaign of late.

## Injuries

For many years IC dominated London college rugby, but last season—due mainly to gross bad luck and unfortunate injuries to vital team members — we suffered a few losses. However, this season, with 60 new members in the club, prospects look bright both on the playing and on the social side. While the main aim of the 1st XV will be to win the Gutteridge cup (played for amongst London colleges) once again, the other 6 XVs will be striving to maintain their fine records of being successful on and especially off the field.

Remember that the Club is the most socially minded in IC — it cannot be beaten for the sense of fellowship its members enjoy; this goes far deeper than its often attacked bar image.

Mike Adams

## Water Polo

The Water Polo Club this past summer explored the depths of darkest Devon. The team's spartan discipline was sorely tried by the miscellaneous vices rife in the Torquay YMCA, but, inspired by the example of the moral guardian, Mr. Spooner its members' sobriety was matched only by their willingness to train in the 53°C water.

Water temperature proved to be a crucial factor in the team's success. In warm water pools at Brixham and Exeter emphatic victories of 14-2 and 10-0 were recorded, whereas at Devonport, in a pool at 56°C we were lucky to obtain a 5-5 draw after being 3-0 up after the first quarter. It is thought that this temperature effect was due to excessive loss of body heat in passing Swedish schoolgirls in Torquay. The last match, against the Devon county champions, Exmouth, in the international pool there, produced some very fine polo, and some very imaginative refereeing. IC defeated Exmouth by 6-4. The result of the match between IC and the referee was a decided victory for the latter.

So the tour was, on the whole, very successful, with no defeats and one very good and unexpected win in the last match. Needless to say, the virulence of the cider of Devon revenged any embarrassment caused to its polo players.

John McGarrity

## Hockey

The freshers' trial was held on Wednesday 1st October, and was attended by about 30 people. This was not as many as had been expected, and it is to be hoped that the absentees have not been overcome by academic work at this early stage of the term.

Those who attended were able to take part in two or three games during the afternoon on the pitches which have been used during the long vac. for both an International match between the World champions Pakistan, and the England U.23 XI, and a game between an England XI and the Middlesex county XI.

There were several promising newcomers to IC hockey who made their debut at the trials, and coupling this with the fact that 5 members of last years 1st XI have returned to college we should have a strong 1st XI this year.

However, anyone who feels that he is not of 1st team calibre need not worry since we are hoping to run 5 elevens on Saturday this year, so there will be plenty of hockey for anyone who wants it.

Anyone who wants to play and has not yet been contacted should see one of the club officers listed below. Captain: Mike Burt: Fal-mouth 244.

Fixture Secretary: J. Sar-gent, Selkirk 664.

Treasurer: Peter Bates, Weeks 82.

Mike Burt

## Squash

As the captain of the outgoing committee, it is my privilege to have a final word about the club activities of the 1968/69 season. The opening of our own courts in October '68 marked the dawn of a new era in the history of the squash club, and IC has again become the force it once was in London University squash.

The first team performed consistently well throughout the season, losing only 3 league matches out of 20. This success culminated in their winning the league cup by defeating UC in a very tense and close fight. Owing to the competitive keenness shown by the members, 4 teams were fielded during the season and a total of 100 matches were played, with varying degrees of success in the lower teams.

The Cambridge tour in the Christmas term was successful, but our tour of Oxford, scheduled for the following term, had to be abandoned because of bad road and weather conditions.

Regular coaching sessions were organised on Wednesday afternoons and the effort spent was well rewarded in the improvement exhibited by a considerable proportion of the beginners attending them.

With enthusiasm running at its present high level, it is confidently predicted that the club will successfully defend the cup it so deservedly won earlier this year.

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## I.C. SLEEP-IN

Until May, 1969, the UL lodgings bureau had a policy which invited racial discrimination among landlords. After a long discussion on how to handle the situation which would probably ensue, ULU Presidents Council said that this policy must end. Lodgings bureau landlords in the West London area were asked to accept the new policy; only 10% agreed.

ICU's amateur bureau has been working reasonably well, but the situation was still rough on Freshers' Day, so the President, Piers Corbyn, arranged for the Union Upper Lounge to be made available to homeless students. So on Monday night the fight against racialism was carried into ICU by six students, who slept comfortably on the thick carpet to be welcomed at 0.7.30 by the cleaners. The sleep-in continued throughout the week with a transient batch of between 8 and 4 happy (?) students. (But were there more on Southside floors?) The sleepers interspersed their slumbers with jollities with the cleaners in the morning and trips to South Ken Wimpy Bar at night.

Our activities could be more positively anti-racial if ICU appointed a Lodgings officer who had time to discuss with the landlords the question of racialism—something the UL Lodgings Bureau refuses to do anything about.

## POST-GRAD GRANTS

At present the majority of post-graduate students receive an annual grant of £530 from the Science Research Council. As reported elsewhere in FELIX the A.S.T.M.S. has recently gained a salary increase related by a job evaluation exercise to the work the technician is actually doing.

It might be a good idea to have the same evaluation applied to post-graduate earnings. Any sensible evaluation should lead to a salary vastly greater than that now received. £1250 per annum is not unreasonable with annual increments of £100 and a London allowance of £125.

After all, post-graduate work should be right for the community and the results of research evaluated and utilised properly. If a person doing research is to feel a full sense of belonging to the community as a whole and to feel that his work is worthwhile he should be paid on a par with other full time university qualified workers, not be treated as a cheap method of doing advanced and necessary work.

Even the present government puts university finance under the social service sector of the economy instead of moving it to the more reasonable investment sector—surely research and education is an investment if ever there was one.

In the 1964 National Plan universities were going to have their costs linked with school milk and the infamous "imputed rent"—money that the government would have if it had built flats instead of schools and universities.

Universities now have an allotted sum—that left over when the other social services have been accounted for. The attitude towards post-graduate grants seems to be that the universities can certainly give p.g.'s more grants but the number of p.g.'s must decrease accordingly to keep the allocation constant. This is obviously ridiculous.

Furthermore Her Majesty's Opposition has seriously mooted the idea of further debasing research by introducing loans for post-graduate students. This would only have the detrimental effect of lowering standards, productivity and of course ensuring that still more students go abroad to study.

As long as p.g.'s continue to acquiesce in the present situation, however, there can be little hope of an improvement.

## FRESHERS' DAY

This year's freshers had the usual introduction to I.C. on freshers day: a meeting in the Royal Geographical Society headquarters in Exhibition Road. There were, however, a number of breaks with tradition: President Piers Corbyn refused to wear a suit or academic gown, there were none of the pathetic jokes which every other group of freshers has had to endure, there were no speeches from the constituent College Presidents, their places being taken over by the Welfare, External Affairs and Academic Officers.

The meeting was opened by the Rector, who started his speech with a series of statistics about the college. He went on to explain the progress of the College expansion programme, which is now 75% completed with just the Chemistry and Maths buildings to come. Lord Penney followed this with a description of the area in the College block common to staff and students (see page 4).

The Rector finished by emphasising the importance of joining clubs and societies, and said he thought anyone who spent his whole University career doing academic work would not be gaining all he could from his stay here.

Piers Corbyn then introduced the Union officials present, and delivered his welcoming speech, the greater part of which dealt with the academic nature of I.C. He started by suggesting that the education given at any University is designed only to produce graduates for industry, where they will become an integral part of the economy. Speaking about I.C.

specifically Piers dismissed the idea that we have an academic community; according to his way of thinking an academic community implies social equality between all sections of the College, and an atmosphere of free and critical discussion. He felt that at I.C. an academic community did not exist since students had no real influence in the direction of the path which I.C. is taking. To produce a real academic community the President thought that the students should have mandatable representation on the Governing body and on the smaller but more important Finance and Executive Committee of this Body.

Mr. Corbyn went on to disclose the results of a survey held last year which showed that 96% of undergraduates wanted some non-technical subjects as part of their degree course. He expressed a hope that the authorities, in discussion with the Students Union, would introduce the changes necessary to introduce broader courses.

The President concluded by saying that this was an important year for the Union, and that there were many important issues coming up for discussion, concerned with both the Union itself and its relation with other groups. He felt that in all discussions and negotiations the freshers would find that it is not rules or requests which really decide things—it is the balance of forces—which means our ability to organise ourselves and act together.

After a few words from the other speakers, the freshers moved off to a reception in their own departments.



## POETS PERFORM

The incomparable Barrow poets treated I.C. students to a further selection of their own distinctive brand of poetry, humour and music during General Studies on Thursday, Oct. 2nd.

This was their seventh visit to I.C. and the poets are fast becoming a regular feature of general studies. They were very enthusiastically received by a large gathering in the Union lower lounge, and went straight into their act, beginning with a comic dialogue between two men at an art gallery and proceeding through a welter of music old and new intermingled with poetry from all eras.

The bulk of the recitation was carried by William Bealby-Wright and Gerard Benson, who also joined in the music making with various odd-looking and odd-sounding instruments.

The Barrow poets first appeared in 1951, going around the London pubs reciting

poems which they had previously been prohibited from selling from a barrow—hence the name. Now they are in constant demand at Festivals, Universities and Colleges, but despite their current successes away from the pubs, they are still continuing to appear at one London pub for an Autumn season. They can currently be seen at the Sir Christopher Wren, Paternoster Square, EC4 every Thursday evening at 8.30 p.m. until November 13th (Students with Union Cards can hear them for just 2/6).

Among the poetry recited was Spike Hawkins' "The Man they Loved to Hut" and Adrian Mitchell's "Nothing-mas Day", which cleverly considered Christmas without any festivities, negating all the false customs and attitudes concerned with the occasion. Short pieces of music, including an Elizabethan dance by William Bird played by Susan Baker, were intermingled with the poetry to good effect.

What makes the act so unique is the immediacy of communication in the poetry recitation; poetry about situations and problems one knows about and appreciates instinctively, and it is this which brings new life to the spoken word.

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**DRAMSOC**

This coming year should be a big one for the Dramatic Society — DRAMSOC. Each year we do three productions, one each term. All these need actors, stage crew, set builders and many more to do all the odd jobs that turn up.

In addition to these three productions, we are planning a tour for the next long vacation. This will depend on getting a good play, a good producer and good actors. If we can get all these then we are away, the destination — the United States of America.

So if you are in the least bit interested in any aspect of the theatre come along and see us some evening, you'll always be welcome.

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# FELICITY

Number 281.

9th October.

## On Common Rooms in College Block.

In January the Rector suggested that the 'Students Common Room on level 2' and the 'Senior Common Room on level 1' be opened to students and staff, both teaching and non-teaching. This was endorsed by Council.

The agreement reached in March was that members of the Holland Club (non-teaching Staff) will be able to use the Students Common Room on level 2 and the Senior Common Room on level 1 which is also made available for the use of students.

Some members of Council feel that the Union has been "conned" because there is a Senior Common Room on level 2 which students are not allowed to use despite the fact that Council endorsed the Rector's suggestion that the Students Common Room should be open to everybody (including members of the Senior Common Room).

It seems to be a very odd that College Block was planned to take two Senior Common Rooms - use of them conveniently opened to everybody(!) after 'negotiation'.

The past president has been written to and asked if the true situation was made clear. Whatever the result the Union cannot tolerate unfair separatist structure of College Block - the Senior Common Rooms must be opened to everybody!

## Moon-dust at Astrosec.

The Forty-odd people who turned up at an innocuous little AstroSoc lecture last Tuesday were amply rewarded by what is probably the closest view by any of the British public of the Apollo 11 moon dust. Dr. G. Fidler, of the University of London Observatory arrived in a hurry dragging, of all things, a microscope with him. He coolly announced to the two committeemembers who were waiting, "By the way I've got a bit of moon dust with me!"

At the end of the lecture he allowed the audience to view the sample, which was mounted in a microscope slide. Of particular interest was a unique string of two glass (opaque) beads, quite unlike the single spherical beads which other people have found.

## Dustmen on strike in South Kensington.

Dustmen in the South Kensington area came out on strike on Tuesday as part of a campaign by London's dustmen for higher pay. The men want an increase of £4 11s to bring their basic wage up to £20 per week. The dustmen have been joined by sympathetic strikers in several large centres near London, and in other London boroughs grave-diggers and other local council workers have come out.

Although there have been several health scares in some areas of London these follow a pile up of rubbish over periods of up to a fortnight, and the effect of the strike will not be felt in this area for a number of days; a pungent smell is beginning to develop, however, in areas where rubbish has been allowed to pile up.

## Mines Union Meeting.

As usual the first Mines Union meeting of the term hovered somewhere between London and chaos. The first performance was given by the Secretary who mumbled through the Minutes but showed nimble footwork when attacked with a fire extinguisher. An attempted firework display during the reading of the Minutes succeeded in filling the room with smoke and provided really an excellent excuse for the use of the fire extinguisher on the Secretary.

Many of the attempted jokes misfired. One of the best performances was given by a former Guildsman who attempted to go through the Mines initiation ceremony in a condition far from stable.

The most important future sports engagement seemed to be a Tiddly-Winks Race down Oxford Street against Guilds. The President, Ken Barker, thought that a committee should be set up to look into the traffic light problem.

The meeting staggered on through the Hon. Pornographers' Dissertation and eventually conclude with the rendering of the Mines song.

## Megalomania in London.

In Tuesday's general studies lecture on London architecture, Dr Dennis Sharpe of the Architectural Association dwelt at length on the overall complexity and lack of present day environmental planning in this vast sprawling city. A complexity that has increased during this century without necessarily bringing with it changes in efficiency. Performing an evaluation on traffic in Oxford St. some few years ago



continued from overleaf.....

Mr. Sharp discovered that present-day buses move along this main control thoroughfare at 2mph slower than the horse-drawn vehicles of 50 years ago!

Turning his attention to a general look at contemporary architecture in London Mr. Sharp dwelt without ~~overmuch unnecessary~~ comment on Daily Mirror house, the "gas fire" at Ronan Point, and the barrier of new buildings in the Euston Road; and on the credit side of London architecture, dealt with some of the functionally and aesthetically inspired smaller works to be found in Mayfair, St Jermyn St., and some London colleges.

Now that the old wives tale of London being unable to support very tall structures has been cut away and huge erections dot London's skyline, architects can well be accused of being overawed by this amalgam of styles called London - and through their megalomania turn London into a megapolis. Mr Sharps following three lectures which will cover certain aspects of London architecture in greater detail promise to be interesting and controversial.

#### Union Observers on F&E Committees.

The Union has now been moved to send two observers to meetings of the Finance and Executive Committee of the BoG. This will be for an experimental period of 2 years, and under the same condition of the 3 observers attending meetings of the BoG (see last Felix). The F&E Committees next meet on 21st Nov, and the BoG on the 19th December.

#### Expedition leaders wanted.

Anyone wishing to lead or form an expedition is invited to submit a formal application in writing to the Secretary of the Exploration Board, Room 612, Civil Engineering, by November 12th, giving proposed details of personnel, aims and cost.

#### Latest Student House gets a name.

The latest Student House, 58-60 Evelyn Gardens, has been named "Southwell House" after Sir Richard Southwell. He had much to do with framing the College's present policy of housing students on the campus; he was the originator of the scheme of Dinner in Hall; and he was responsible for the organisation of the Centenary Appeal fund. At the farewell dinner to Mr Levy in September, on his giving up the wardenship of Weeks Hall, both he and Dr. Weale made special mention of the part Sir Richard played in the question of student residence.

Existing houses and Halls have been named after either benefactors (Beit, Bernard Sunley, etc) or after previous chairmen of the BoG and Rectors (Falmouth, Linstead, etc) The money for converting 58-60 was not associated with an individual benefactor, being provided by the Queen's Gate Trust from the proceeds of the College Appeal, and so the Rector chose the name Southwell House after looking at the list of Chairman and Rectors not at present commemorated

====The Rector has now agreed that in future students may suggest names for new College buildings. Any suggestions should be submitted via the Union Office.

Wellsoe - up, up, and away!  
Wellsoe got off to a flying start with Major John Blashford-Snell's account of the expedition he led in descent of the Nile. With the aid of a map and slides taken on his journey, he gave a brief review of previous attempts to explore the little-known area of Ethiopia in which the source of the Nile lies, going on to describe his own expedition's trials in fighting rapids, crocodiles, bandits, & tax rebels. Always amusing, and often hilarious, his lecture was one of the few that last over an hour without getting boring, but was delivered from a frightfully simple "them and us" point of view.

#### Pedestrian crossing in sight, but not site.

A letter has come from Westminster City Hall outlining plans for traffic signals with a pedestrian crossing at the junction of Exhibition Road Prince Consort Road. However, the Union would prefer a crossing opposite the Mech Eng building. In any case, it seems unlikely that any priority will be given to any crossing in Exhibition Road, in view of the present financial situation.

#### Mooney Deteriorates Further.

Dissatisfaction with the refectory facilities at IC has grown enormously since term began. The standard in the three cafeteria types must surely have hit rock bottom, with even further decreased portions and far poorer quality than last year - and with increased prices. Freshers find these meals a poor comparison with the infamous school meal, while the old lags can easily imagine themselves in the 3rd firm.

In College Block, the teething troubles STILL have not been sorted out. The latest gimmick is "self-clearing" trays, which in fact do not clear themselves at all, but have to be taken to somewhere called a "clearing station"! The move of the cheap-priced "chippie" to the new buttry has not increased the warmth of the pies or the cleanliness of the plates, while the range of sandwiches is far from satisfactory. Murmurings from behind the counter suggest that the customers are not the only ones who are dissatisfied with the arrangements. (Mind you, the atmosphere of the waitress-service-behind-the-chairs is hardly improved by trotskyist newspaper-sellers!)

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