



Felix

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

13th March, 1973

FREE!

ISSUE No. 332

Post-Grads unite for action

Tomorrow, Wednesday, 14th of March, is the Day of Action in support of the Grants Campaign. Included in the Programme of Events will be a discussion on Post Graduates Affairs in Mech. Eng. 220 from 11 a.m. onwards. The discussion will be on a broader level than just grants, though this will constitute an important part. Other topics of interest to P.G.'s are demonstrating fees, insurance whilst working, the standard of catering facilities and other problems of College bureaucracy.

The basis for the discussion will be the replies to the recent questionnaire sent to all post graduates of whom over 240 replied. It showed their P.G.'s are interested, are concerned and are willing to do something. Having the information is very important. In a recent NUS publication, "Post graduate Studentship: An interim Review" is stated. "We seriously doubt the validity of D.E.S.'s estimate that postgraduate (demonstrating) earnings averaged as much as £160 in 1969 . . ."

This in a very vague statement. From the basis of the reply, we can now say that at I.C., the average postgraduate who was lucky enough to get any demonstrating at all, and it seems that only 44 per cent have managed to do it since their arrival here, had average earnings considerably less than £100, and only very few have earned more than £160, the D.E.S.'s average figure.

52 per cent of respondents receive the basic research council grant of £650, and a further 10 per cent receive less. Therefore, bearing in mind that only 44 per cent can supplement their income by demonstrating etc., there are many postgraduates who are worse off than their fellow undergraduates. U.G.'s in London should receive £15 per week, assuming a 30 week year with £1 per week in vacations, compared to a postgraduate £12.30 per week for a 52 week year. This comparison is admittedly unfair to U.G.'s, as many don't receive all they should, and many can't live for £1 per week in vacations (who can!), but the fact remains that the Government thinks that that is how the situation is.

The main reason that U.G.'s are apparently better off is the existence of a London Allowance for them. All P.G. respondents who took their first degrees outside London are agreed that student costs in London are significantly higher than outside. There is a good case for a London Allowance for P.G.'s in addition to a nationwide review of P.G. awards.

The Ashby Report in 1960 recommended that a studentship should be sufficiently high to allow "a standard of living rather higher than that enjoyed by most undergraduates of comparable ability." This appears to be the case in Canada and Australia, and to quote from one questionnaire: "living in London is much more expensive than living in Brisbane, Australia, yet Australia P.G.'s on Australian Government scholarships receive about the equivalent of £1400 p.a. before demonstrating or tutoring payments. In other words, they can do more than just exist whilst undertaking P.G. studies."

Continued on page 3

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS A FLOP — AGAIN

Last week's Presidential elections were a complete wash-out. Only 540 students voted, a shortfall of nearly 500 on the number required to make the vote "quorate". It was the third such election held this year, and few expected it to be any more successful than its predecessors.

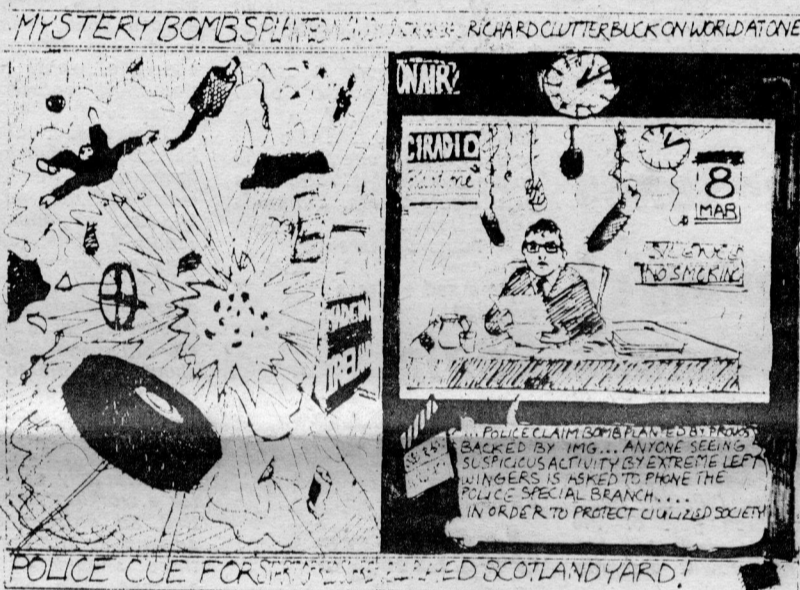
The candidates, Simon Allnut and John Herrick for President and Rob Armitage and Francis Matthews for Secretary, were standing for posts for the next academic year, 1973-4. Both posts carry a sabbatical year. Nominations opened yesterday for the re-election. Forms will remain up until the last day of term on Friday week, and the elections will be held a week after the start of next term, on May 8th and 9th.

An election was held in October for President for the current year, following the failure of Chris Sheppard, President-elect, to take his examinations last summer. The candidates were Rob Armitage and Adrian Smith. Although a quorum of votes were cast, the candidates only got

about a hundred each — there were a record 833 abstentions, mainly caused by a propaganda leaflet put out by the constituent college executives.

The re-election, held in November, brought with it five candidates — John Lane was eventually elected, but only by a vote that fell short of the quorum by about 40.

In view of the number of elections held this year, and the lack of publicity for the last ones, it seems hardly surprising that there is such a lack of interest in them.



Day of Action in Confusion

Last Thursday's UGM passed a motion calling for a lecture boycott tomorrow in support of the NUS Day of Action. The NUS is calling for a national strike of students following its abortive attempts last week to persuade the DES to increase student grants for the next session.

The Grants Action Committee was mandated to organise an "alternative education programme" to replace lectures, and this will take place in the Great Hall. A number of speakers have been invited to address the meeting from trades unions, political parties, etc.

In the afternoon, there will be a public education campaign in Oxford Street, not quite along the lines suggested in a recent FELIX editorial, but more resembling a leafletting campaign.

The Ents committee is attempting to organise some kind of entertainment in the evening. This will be at least a disco, and there will be some bands if it is possible to get College Block (at present the Dancing Club has a booking on it, and it will probably be almost impossible to remove them).

The organisation of the Day of Action on a London scale was discussed at a meeting last Thursday evening at the University of London Union. Amateur chairing of the meeting was responsible for its wasting ninety minutes discussing the merits and demerits of a regional demonstration on the day, when it had been more than obvious from the start that the meeting was against it (the vote was 2 in favour, 2 abstaining, everyone else against). The Day of Action is obviously going to be totally disorganised if this meeting was anything to go by. IC was only represented by the USK Co-ordinator and the Felix reporter; none of the officials of the Union attended. Readers will be interested to hear that IC has the only comprehensive programme of events for the Day in London; other colleges are merely boycotting lectures or sitting in.

NUPE threatens to close college

NUPE is the union of non-technical and non-administrative workers at IC, its membership is 90% of the night security guards, messengers, catering and refectory staff, cleaners and certain sections of the maintenance personnel. They have given the college notice that they are considering holding on the spot 24 hour strikes in the near future.

CUT-BACKS

This is the first time ever that IC NUPE has threatened industrial action. The situation which has precipitated the need for such action is the continuing cut-backs in the numbers of night security guards and messengers which has resulted in them being unable to fulfil their jobs. As an example they cite that the messengers have been cut from 59 to 35 over the last 3 years and the reduction of cleaning staff from 100 to 20.

EXPLOSIVE KEG

Fire regulations state they

say, that the main entrance of every building is to be manned 24 hours a day. If a security guard or a messenger is ill or on holiday then, owing to the reduction in staff, the entrances are often only manned by one person. During the night the security guards have to make periodic checks of their building, "clocking in" at certain fixed points en route, and it can take up to 3 hours for them to make one round. The messengers also have to leave their posts during the day; to deliver mail, fill a kettle or even just go to the loo. At

these times there is no-one at the desk and hence no-one to supervise the fire alarms or check entries of unwanted people—this makes a farce of fire precautions and banishes any notions of security. As one NUPE messenger put it "students in hall are living on an explosive keg."

ROBBERY

NUPE say that the lack of adequate security and fire precautions is deplored by the academic staff, the wardens and the halls committee have also written to the college about this issue. In some of the messengers' areas there is a safe which contains money, neither they nor the night security men have been issued with keys. In the event of a robbery nobody would believe that the night security men did not have the key, which could lead to physical intimidation and possibly violence. There is no alarm attached to the safe nor any that could be operated by the man on duty should such a situation occur.

When NUPE worried by the implications, explained this to Carl Seaford, he pooh-poohed the idea, saying that a robbery would not possibly take place at IC. Two days later robbers made off with £10,000 from the IC branch of the Nat West bank in College Block.

PUSHED TO LIMIT

A night security man said that Fire Precaution Officers would disallow many Union building functions as there are not enough fire escape routes and often too many obstructions to allow easy evacuation. He seemed to regard the general situation as one which has been pushed to the limit—just a single emergency which could have been contained by previous controls would now flare up into disaster with needless danger to persons and property.

SAFETY

This is why NUPE will be striking, their reasons are not primarily wages, though they feel that their wages require drastic restructuring, but one of safety to themselves, to the staff and to the students.

PG's

(Continued from page 1)

Perhaps the N.U.S. claim of £100 on the basic grant plus £60 London weighting is modest, or perhaps, as some respondents think, it should only be £78 to be within the limits of phase II. Whatever you think, a fuller discussion of P.G. views will be very useful.

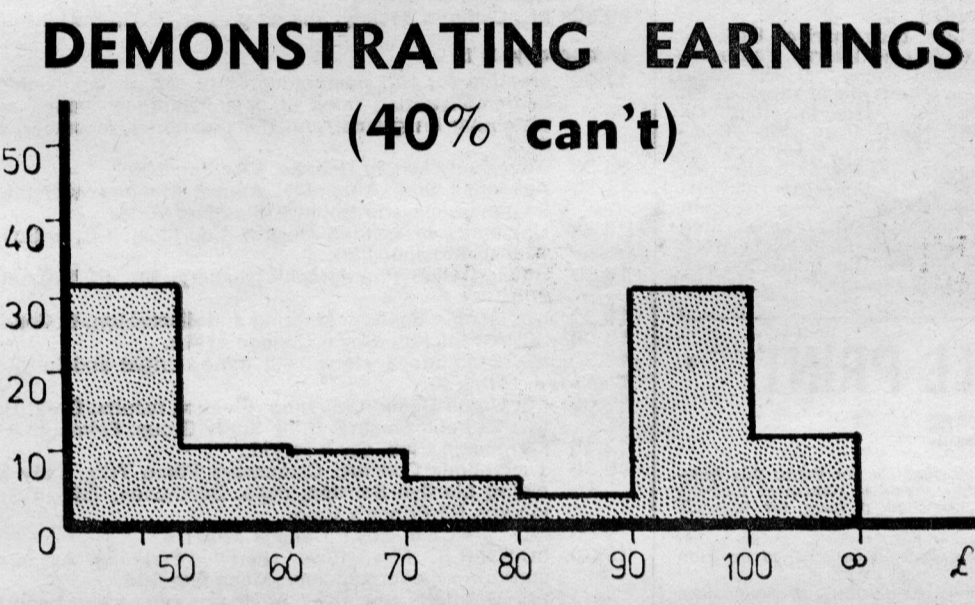
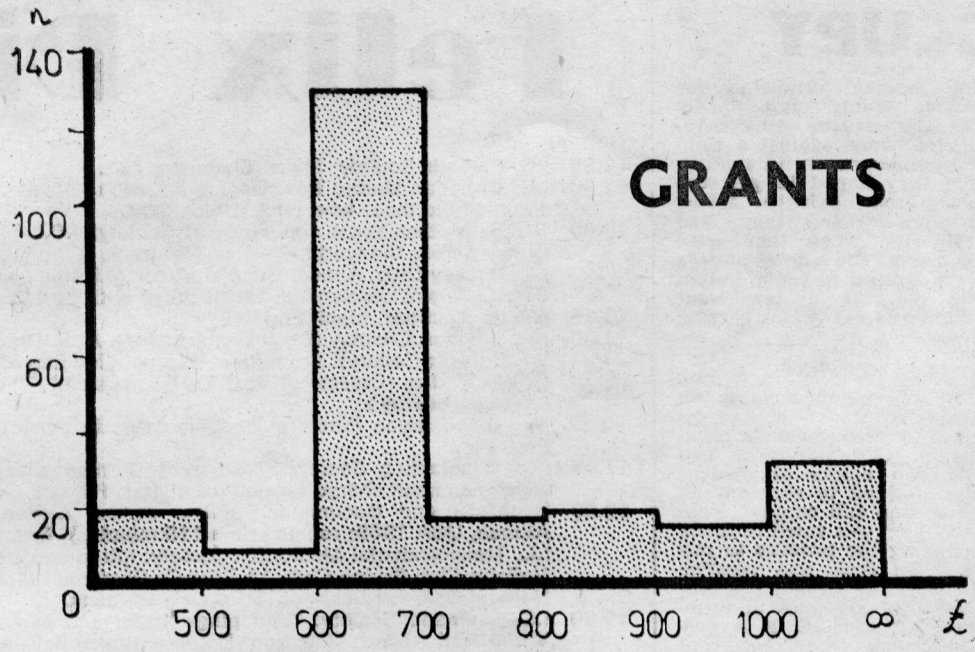
Apart from the financial problems of P.G.'s whilst healthy, the situation could be far worse if they suffered injury during their course. Postgraduate students are not insured against accident during their course of studies at I.C. The College Calender gives the following information.

"The college authorities accept no liability for accidents to students while pursuing any part of their course . . . and they recommend that students should take steps to insure themselves against accidents. Postgraduate students, particularly if married, are advised to contribute to National Insurance."

If any week a postgraduate undertakes paid demonstrating, a contribution is made by the college for injury insurance, and he is then covered against injury whilst he is demonstrating, but at no other time. If a student does contribute to the National Insurance Scheme (at a cost of £51.48 p.a.) he receives scarcely any benefits while a student. What the student is most likely to need is some form of sickness or injury benefit. As a non-employed person he would not be eligible for this, under the National Insurance scheme.

It is the S.R.C.'s normal practice, when a student is away from work owing to illness or injury, to continue his studentship at the full rate of pay for the first four weeks and at half rate for the next four weeks. After that the student must depend on his savings, his family, or as a last resort, social security. A student who permanently injures himself in the course of his studies can obtain no compensation unless he has himself taken out a personal injury policy or can prove that the injury resulted from another person's negligence. In the latter case he could obtain compensation by suing the college but this is a lengthy and costly business. Clearly great hardship could easily arise.

The reputation of Imperial College depends very much on the quantity and the quality of research that is carried out there. The college receives large research contracts and grants from industry and the government. Most of this research is carried out by post-graduates and yet the college, despite all the benefits it reaps from this work, is not prepared to provide cover against accident for the postgra-



duate. It is high time that the college authorities recognise the value of postgraduate work and provide insurance cover for all postgraduates whilst working at Imperial College.

Some of the other topics to be discussed are the provision of more coffee services and common rooms, the standard of catering, the leak of U.G./P.G. contacts, their typing and binding costs and the inefficiency of College bureaucracy. These are all subjects which were in evidence in the comments section of the questionnaire and which could be the basis of a further questionnaire to find out more of what people think. To quote a few of the comments:—

"Virtually any major university (But of course not I***C) has continu-

ous cafeteria service during a normal student day (8 a.m. 11 p.m.). Why doesn't the ADMINISTRATION GET OFF ITS***ARSE."

"The inclusion of the cost of producing a thesis only enhances the requirement that research students must obtain part-time work, which is proving hard to find."

"On the question of whether P.G.'s are students or employees . . . conditions would be vastly improved if we were employees."

"I feel strongly that there is not enough sense of Postgraduate Community . . . in the College as a whole."

"Grants should include National Insurance Contributions for all students."

"The food supplied in the whole of the College is

unbelievably bad. Why doesn't the Union run its own catering service."

With reference to the last point, there must be P.G.'s at I.C. who between them have spent 3 years at nearly every University in the country. Therefore we should be able to establish whether I.C. catering really is the worst, which is better than only having R.C.A. as a comparison.

But what we really need, more than anything else, is a community, where we can work together, pool our knowledge improve I.C., improve our position and make P.G. education worthwhile.

Whatever you think, take time off on Wednesday morning at 11 a.m. Come to Mech. Eng. 220 Hear and be Heard.

LSE STUDENTS OCCUPY

Story page 4



Plethora of Elections at Thursday's UGM
THURSDAY 13.00
Great Hall

COCKROACH ADDENDA

By our Entomological Affairs Reporter

Last week FELIX revealed that the cockroach and mouse problem in halls and refectories had reached such epidemic proportions that it was necessary for the college to spend £3,350 on cleaning the kitchens to try and rid IC of its unwanted menu additions (see RCS Broadsheet "Mice Pie" edition).

IMMUNE

Both Mr. Mooney and Dr. Levy (respectively College Catering Manager and Chairman of the Refectory Committee) regarded the infestation as small in comparison with other areas of Kensington. Mice were hard to get rid of, they said, as one cannot use mouse poisons near food; cockroaches on the other hand are fairly easy to get rid of, providing one changes the poisons regularly as they become immune after a while.

LOW INFESTATION

Mr. Erskine, Public Relations Officer for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, said that the mouse problem in South Ken. was no different from any other part of the borough but that certain districts had a higher infestation. These were Redcliffe, Brompton Road and Earl's Court. The Gloucester Road to Exhibition Road area was below the average for South Ken. The main reasons for the increase in the rodent population, he continued, were the drop in popularity of cats as pets, the proliferation of bedsits with individual kitchens and the increase of resistance to poisons.

LEFT TO GO

A spokesman from the Institute of Cleaning Science who is also a member of the Hotel, Catering and Institutional Manage-

ment Association (the self-explanatory professional bodies for the catering trade) said that it was inexcusable for a catering establishment in this day and age to have any pest infestation whatsoever, and particularly so in young buildings like IC. Provided the kitchen and refectory areas had regular routine cleaning, occasional checks by the local Health Officer and that the Pest Infestation Officer is called in at the first sign of cockroaches or mice (recommended catering practice) then there would not be any problem at all at IC. For a sum as large as £3,350 to need to be spent on disinfecting the refectories, including steam cleaning and wall washing, means that the kitchens were obviously just left to go.

POSITIVE DANGER

Mr. Mooney as College Catering Manager is the one responsible for the hygiene of the kitchens and refectories and so ought to have ensured that the problem never reached the proportions of today. Not only are cockroaches generally unwellcome in Yorkshire Pud, but in the words of the spokesman from the ICS: "Any pest infestation in an area where food is being prepared or consumed positively endangers the health of the staff and customers".

LSE STUDENTS OCCUPY

BY OUR MAN ON THE PICKET LINE

Faced with an ultimatum from Principal Walter Adams, LSE students occupied one of the college buildings from last Thursday morning till Friday afternoon, sleeping in overnight. On Monday last week Adams told students on rent strike that unless they paid their hall fees by the end of the week they would be evicted. There have been rumours that overseas students would be sent down if they failed to pay up.

NICE ONE WALTER (censored)

Once again Walter Adams has broken rank with the other vice chancellors when he (and the Dundee VC) entered into direct conflict with students supporting the NUS grants campaign. The expected conflict with the police did not occur during last week's sit in. Walter, it seemed, was quite happy for the students to occupy St. Clement's as long as they did not interfere with the running of the School. He did get annoyed at the pickets however. He told the three 'leaders' of the sit in that he would have them arrested unless they called them off. This brilliant tactical move by Mr. Adams was ably thwarted by the leaders. They politely asked the pickets to move on, who politely refused! The three had absolved themselves of legal responsibility!

SCUFFLES

As well as occupying the St. Clements building they also picketed classes and the library on Thursday and Friday. About 150 students slept

in on Thursday night including Jeff Stannorth, NUS Treasurer. There were a few scuffles on Thursday evening on the picket line but generally it has been quiet—it was so quiet and so lacking in violent student clashes that the media revel in that the Mirror was forced to describe it as the "most boring strike in Britain today". On Friday morning about 50 pickets stood at the various entrances. Everyone that went in was asked to sign a declaration of solidarity with the pickets' action, but the response was poor with Adams looking on.

ALLIANCE

The decision to boycott was taken on Tuesday and in spite of opposition from some Union Exec. members, militancy was the order of the day, however suggestions for ripping up paving slabs and stoning Parliament, and similar violent action were rejected as infantile disorder. The three main points of the campaign were agreed as firstly "to protect the rent strikers, against victimisation"; secondly "to support

the national campaign for higher grants" and thirdly "to support the worker-student alliance against a common enemy". In this latter aim they hoped to get support from Brians' colour printers whom they had supported when they were picketing. The college porters were helpful at night but in the morning a few went round and cut chains barring doors.

SUPPORT

At the union meeting on Friday afternoon it was decided to discontinue the occupation. Carl Saunders hall and two blocks of student flats decided to stay out on strike and full support from the Union was voted to them, including the promise to pay all legal fees, and possible fines. So the situation is that with only one week of term-time left at LSE, it is possible that those on rent strike will find themselves locked out of their halls when they arrive back in London next term. There are several ways that the situation could be avoided. A sit in next week to effectively put the college out of action; or a sit in through the holidays in the halls affected; or by Blacking (no relation) the halls; i.e. no student would reoccupy the vacated rooms next term. Next week could see the head-on clash at LSE (again)!

ALWAYS READ THE SMALL PRINT PRESIDENT'S PIECE

ALL OUT ON MARCH 14th

Friday's extraordinary general meeting was a good start in the fight for 100 per cent support for the National Student Strike tomorrow. The meeting was one of the best advertised this term, it was well quorate and passed the strike motion by a solid majority. It was really hilarious to see the expressions on the faces of the poor saps who came along for the sole purpose of challenging the quorum, when the E.G.M. turned out to be very well attended indeed. We have rather too many wet sponges and prophets of doom in L.C. telling us how apathetic we all are. It's real good to see them put in their place once in a while.

Nobody can now complain that the decision to support the N.U.S. strike was undemocratic. It has been debated at two union meetings, the issue has been discussed throughout the college over the last fortnight, and everyone had the chance to come along on Friday to speak and vote. Once a decision is taken in a quorate union meeting it should be implemented by every member. However the good thing about Friday's meeting was that we voted in favour in the knowledge that everyone there would have to work to make the strike a success. Ordinary students will have to be convinced by personal discussions to support the strike and that's where YOU come in. You can do three things:—

- (1) Discuss with the others in your class why they should strike on Wednesday and join in the activity.
 - (2) Organise a petition round your class asking lecturers to support you by postponing the lecture (petitions available from the union office).
 - (3) Turn up early tomorrow morning to man the entrance to your department to persuade other students to attend the alternative activities (teach-in on education etc.) instead of their usual lectures.
- If even a small faction of the readership of Felix do the three things mentioned above the strike will be a success.

WHY STRIKE?

As the campaign has developed the reasons people have given for not supporting militant action have been disproved in no uncertain fashion. The idea that militancy alienates the public has been shattered. This campaign has had a lot of good publicity (and virtually no bad publicity) centring around the rent strikes and demonstrations. Also the idea that what is needed is reasoned discussion between N.U.S. and the D.E.S. has been proved absurd. It was a hard fight to get that discussion and when it came the Government could not argue against our case but argued solely that the state of the economy could not support a

grants increase. Unfortunately for them, this argument looks a bit thin when we remember that the surtax reforms in the budget gave for instance Edward Heath a £6.20 per week bonus and that education and housing expenditure is being cut back to allow for expansion in defence expenditure.

The Government is doing little to hold down prices and many of its measures are pushing them up—floating the pound, V.A.T. All we are asking is for the right to maintain the standards that students had in the immediate past and to ensure that no student is discriminated against because of their parents' meanness or the type of course they are doing.

In fighting for higher grants we are not being selfish—some of us will not even benefit directly. We are representing the interests of future students and trying to safeguard the right of people to enter higher education regardless of their parents' wealth. For if the value of the maintenance grant continues to decline education will become a privilege for those whose parents are able (and willing) to subsidise their children.

To those who are not swayed by any of the above arguments can I say this? What is your alternative? The March 14th strike can be a very impressive demonstration of support for the claim. It will also give the Government some considerable food for thought. If N.U.S. can bring higher education to a standstill for one day, will there ever be peace in the colleges until the claim is met?

Are we just going to allow the Government to "think about our claim" till doomsday? If so, we might as well send a nice letter to St. John Stevas saying "O.K., Norman, we weren't really serious about the grants increase—sorry about all the demos and shouting, etc., etc." Well we could just lie down, curl up and die, but I think the E.G.M. showed what the majority think—continue the fight—stop the delays on the grants claim—all out on March 14th.

Note. Overseas students may be worried that joining the strike could lead to deportation or withdrawn scholarships. It is the N.U.S.'s belief that an overseas student sponsored by the British Government will not suffer as a result of the day's activity. It is just possible but extremely unlikely that a "politically sensitive" overseas student sponsored by his home government may have problems. I would urge all overseas students to support the Day of Action, even if it does not affect their own grants, to help their fellow students. If, however, they are frightened of reprisals, the union will of course, make every allowance for this.

But the best solution is to make sure that there aren't any classes to go to anyway!

PAPERBACKS

'Jung' by Anthony Storr, Fontana Modern Masters. 40p.

It is a frequent criticism of explanatory books on great men and their work that the original was more comprehensible than the Bowdlerised version and, that people's awe of a legendary name exaggerates the imagined difficulty of reading him. With this in mind one tends to approach any item in the 'Fontana Modern Masters' series with a certain suspicion. However, Anthony Storr's book on Jung is a welcome exception. Jung, psychologist cum philosopher, is a name to conjure with. In spite of his widespread reputation very few do so owing to unequally widespread ignorance of the content of his writing. If Freud has suffered by misrepresentation then Jung has been excluded from the common understanding by having no representation at all. Few names can be so widely known and so little understood.

To add to this promising start Jung's work is excessively obscure. His remarkable inability to communicate and the weight of his writings demand the sort of exposition that the Fontana series are designed to provide.

Mr. Storr does well in compressing into 120 pages an appreciation of Jung's ideas. He concentrates on the banes of Jung's thought rather than emphasising the historical, narrative aspect, which renders the book both more readable and more useful. He succeeds in setting out the major developments first attributable to Jung, as well as Jung's understanding of them, and relating these to current trains of thought. The result is that one feels it would be difficult and unwise to argue over this borderline area of man's personality related to his health and beliefs, in disregard to the foundations of modern understanding.

R. CRAGHEAD.

Felix Diary

Tuesday 13th

- 12.35 I.C. Catholic Society: Mass. Chemistry 231.
- 12.40 I.C. Christian Union: Rev. Dennis Paterson. Life is a tragedy to those who feel and a comedy to those who think. Union SCR.
- 13.00 R.C.S. Mathematical and Physical Society: I.C.I. films War under the microscope; Bridge across the world. Physics Theatre 3. I.C. Hockey Club. Annual General Meeting. Union Lower Lounge. STOIC Television Service: Music Alive with Soft Machine. JCR and South Side.
- 13.15 Guilds Elections. Mech Eng 542.
- 13.30 Mr. Stephen Chaplin (Department of Fine Arts, University of Leeds; Current exhibitor, Consort Gallery). From ideas to icon. Elec Eng 408. Dr. Kit Pedlar (Creator of BBC TV Doomwatch). The need for environmental action. Physics Theatre 1. Mr. Owen Bryce (Lecturer and journalist in music). The beginnings of jazz. Mech Eng 342.
- 17.45 I.C. Winetasting Society: Tasting of German wines by Sichel and Company (all welcome; small charge for non-members). Physics Level 8.
- 18.00 Historical and Documentary Films Series: Attitudes to War M*A*S*H* (Robert Altman, USA 1969; running time 115 minutes), Great Hall. I.C. Transcendental Meditation Society: Introductory talk. Elec Eng 606. Holland Club Bridge Club. 15 Prince's Gardens. Holland Club Art Society. 15 Prince's Gardens.
- 19.30 I.C. Dramatic Society: "All things bright and beautiful" by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall (tickets 25p from Union entrance hall lunch-times). Union Concert Hall. Hall Dinner. Union.
- 20.00 I.C. Catholic Society: shared prayer, 53 Cromwell Road.

Wednesday 14th

- 11.00 Meeting for I.C. postgraduates to discuss and decide further action on an increase in demonstrating rates of pay; insurance against accidents in the college; London weighting on grants; and the creation of a postgraduate common room. Mech Eng 220.
- 13.30 Advanced class in Hebrew. Elec Eng 1009.
- 14.30 Academic Staff Assembly: Annual Meeting with the Rector. Mech Eng 220. Beginners class in Hebrew. Elec Eng 1009.
- 14.45 University of London Hockey Cup-Final: I.C. v Guy's (free coaches from Union at 13.00). Mospur Park.
- 18.00 Holland Club Photographic Society: Mr. P. Mitchell. Flash and its uses. Elec Eng 209.
- 18.30 I.C. Islamic Society: Meeting and discussion. College Block 002.
- 19.00 I.C. Art Society. Royal College of Art.
- 19.30 I.C. Dramatic Society: "All things bright and beautiful". Union concert hall.

Thursday 15th

- 13.00 I.C. Union General Meeting: Election results. Great Hall. I.C. Catholic Society: Bible Study Group. Falmouth 118.
- 13.15 I.C. Stamp Club. Civ Eng 412.
- 13.30 Lunch-hour Concert: Carsomays Piano Trio. Sally Mays, piano; Peter John Carter, violin; Marilyn Sansom, cello. Beethoven, Trio in G; Mendelssohn, Trio in D minor. Library, 53 Prince's Gate.
- 19.00 I.C. Arts Club. Royal College of Art.
- 19.30 I.C.S.S.R.S. Mrs. Rose (Family Planning Association). The relevance of birth control to modern society. Mech Eng 664. I.C. Dramatic Society: "All things bright and beautiful". Union Concert Hall.

Friday 16th

- 11.00 Governing body. Council Room.
- 12.45 I.C. Islamic Society Congregational Prayers—Juma. College Block 002.
- 13.00 STOIC Television Service. Topic—special Easter edition. JCR and South Side.
- 18.00 STOIC Television Service: Repeat of 13.00 transmission. South Side.
- 18.30 I.C. Christian Union: Rev. John Hall. Colossians Library, 53 Prince's Gate.
- 19.15 I.C. Film Society: Patton; "Lust for glory" (non-members 25p). Mech Eng 220.
- 19.30 Public meeting on "Children and Welfare in Albania", organised by New Albania Society, 155 Fortress Road, NW5. (Tufnell Park tube station).
- 20.00 I.C. Choir. St. Matthew Passion—Bach (admission 50p, students 40p). Great Hall.

Friday 16th—Saturday 17th

- I.C. Catholic Society: All night vigil of prayer. Worth Abbey.

Sunday 18th

- 10.00 Holy Communion. Ante Room, College Block.
- 11.00 I.C. Catholic Society: Mass. 53 Cromwell Road.
- 18.00 I.C. Catholic Society: Folk Mass, 53 Cromwell Road.
- 19.30 I.C. Catholic Society: Mr. Bruce Kent. "But that's politics, not religion. 53 Cromwell Road.

Monday 19th

- R.C.S. elections. See page 6.

Friday 23rd

- 19.30 I.C.W.A. Easter Ball. £5.50 double, from Chris Brown, 92 Beit; Hilary Adams, Geology 3; Anne Purvis, Zoology 3.

Royal College of Science Union

ANNUAL DINNER

Friday, May 4th, 1973

- IMPERIAL COLLEGE 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.
- MAIN DINING HALL Ante Room
- COLLEGE BLOCK Lounge Suits

Guest Speaker:

Michael Green

Author of "The Art of Coarse Rugby"

Tickets £1.75 from R.C.S.U. Office, Southside or from Social Year Representatives

Entertainments

Once again, for most of this year, one of the popular pastimes of both union members and college administration has been the "knocking" of I.C. Ents Committee. The time has arrived, spurred on by the introduction of SCAB, for the committee to answer some of these comments. In this article we hope to present a much greater statement of our policy, aims, method of running, reasons, etc. than we believe have been actually printed at any one time before.

During the course of this year, Ents has run what it regards as one of the most successful series of concerts ever run at IC. In this series an attempt has been made to cater for all tastes. We have had folk artists (Fairport Convention), heavy rock (Beck, Bogert, Appice), good "old-fashioned" dance bands (Brett Marvin), ultra-progressive (Amon Duul) and all other shades and types of music between. It has been argued that we ought to have more folk and jazz artists because I.C. students prefer this type of music. This is all very well but such artists don't exist ad infinitum.

Ralph McTell was booked for this term but pulled out. We are trying to arrange a return date for next term. We had a chance of Tom Paxton (which we were going to accept) but he has decided that he doesn't want to do any London dates at the moment. Despite people's insistence that folk and jazz are what the committee should promote this does not appear to be the case. R.C.S. ran a folk carnival a short time ago with some of the best known artists on the folk scene at the present time. This was advertised all over London and yet it still only managed to draw about 250 people, of which probably only half were from I.C., and made a loss of about £200. If Ents. ran on this basis over a period of 20 weeks we would lose £4,000 which I'm sure would not be popular with anyone. Neither folk or jazz club, to our knowledge, are exactly overwhelmed with the number of people clamouring to join them. We would hope that with the formation of SCAB that next year folk club (who this year have worked on a total allowance of £97) and jazz club would be in a position to present more ambitious programmes than they would otherwise be able to afford. To do this it would be necessary for the Ents committee to be in a position to be able to finance them. It is hoped that Ents would continue to put on the big names who are obviously beyond the capability of folk or jazz club, with the clubs presenting better names than at present and on a more regular basis.

A large number of complaints concern the fact that non-students attend Ents concerts in large numbers. We have said all along that this is necessary from a financial point of view and this will be even more the case if Ents are to be expected to be the main finance providers for SCAB. However, now that we have such popular groups on it is necessary to alter our policy so that I.C. students get by far the better chance of obtaining tickets to Ents functions. It is only since we have had this long series of sell-out concerts that the problem of outsiders receiving tickets for I.C. students has arisen. For future concerts the following procedure will be adopted. Publicity for coming dates will be given firstly to I.C. students only (e.g. Felix, notice boards, etc.). We would hope that when I.C. students get in touch with the committee about tickets for a concert, we will know definitely when tickets will be on sale but the date cannot be guaranteed because we are at the mercy of the printers. When tickets are on sale

the following pricing will apply. All concerts will have three stated ticket prices. The lowest of these will be the price to I.C. students of the first two tickets they buy. The reduction will be given on the production of a college registration card. There will be someone selling tickets in the Room At The Top every week-day dinner time (this cut-price will not be available at the bookshop). The reduction will take effect on tickets for concerts held next term and future concerts. Please notice that it is also limited to two per registration card. The second price will be that for all subsequent tickets and also the advance price for non I.C. students. The third price will be the price of all tickets sold on the door. The difference in price of the first two prices will always be at least 10p and likewise for the second and third price. It may, however, be more. Typical price structures could be £1.00, £1.30, £1.50 for an expensive concert or 60p, 70p, 80p, for a cheaper concert. I.C. students could therefore save up to 50p on the door price.

There are further points arising from the admittance of non-IC students or even non-students. At present N.U.S. is running a grants campaign. One of the ways in which they are trying to win public support is by involving the general public in their cause. Surely the student age group of the general public is as important as the older members of the country. They can after all vote nowadays. Therefore, why not extend some of our facilities to non-students. So long as students are allowed to have special facilities purely for their own use it is going to make the case for higher grants that much harder. Conversely, if non-students are allowed to participate in functions such as Ents concerts then they will be more inclined to support our campaign.

At any given concert there will be a certain number of IC students. We estimate that the average number is in the region of 400 but that it will vary from 200 up to I.C. students only. This may not seem to be a very large percentage of the audience but surely we should provide them with the entertainment they want and then ensure that it is financially viable by allowing non IC students to attend rather than not run anything at all. IC students do attend our functions. Should we stop them just because there are not enough of them?

During the last year an extension has been built in the lower lounge of the union. This is to enable the union to cater for larger crowds of people. This situation only arises on a regular basis when the Ents committee has a function. All this term the Ents committee members have been giving directions to the Queens public house rather than the union bar. It appears, however, that the ordinary I.C. student (who are the people on behalf of whom at least one member of this college believes he is actively fighting) have been giving directions to the union bar. Furthermore, it is not only on the nights that Ents has a function that outsiders frequent the bars. It has been reported that the landlord of the Ennismore public house knows that alcohol at I.C. is cheap and that he has been losing custom to our bars. It will be interesting to see how much the bar profit will start to fall now that card checks are being enforced. The takings in the J.C.R. bar in college block used to be regularly in the £400 region on the night of an Ents function. The loss in takings then, since the bar has been closed, will be in the region of £4,000. It was also reported that the brewery were threatening to stop supplying the college block bars because it was not

economically viable for them to continue doing so.

With the introduction of V.A.T. our prices will have to go up. Very simply, VAT will affect Ents in that one-eleventh of all money it receives (from ticket sales or any other source) will have to be paid in tax. On this year's showing this would approximately equal this year's profit as it stands at present. The average IC student will not be able to fully afford the increase that will be necessary in ticket prices, and we will have to pass as much of this as possible on to non IC students. Financially this year the committee has done very well. The profit stands, at present, at £1,650 and the forecast for dates remaining and next terms as well is that this figure will increase by the end of the academic year. At last council it was officially agreed to record the Ents account as having to make £1,000 rather than breaking even. This £1,000 along with a similar sum from reserves will be used to buy a complete new set of chairs for the union concert hall and a new carpet for the southside lounges, practical proof that the profit from Ents has enabled the union to purchase articles that they may have otherwise been unable to afford. Compared with other colleges, the financial situation of IC Ents is excellent. Places like Leeds Poly are at present running at a deficit of £4,500 this year alone (information from Leeds' official college newspaper). Numerous colleges in London are losing up to £1,500 with the average being about £700 (these two figures come from a survey of London's colleges' entertainments committees done prior to a meeting of London social secretaries organised by IC Ents chairman Paul Wadsworth). We are the only London college to our knowledge to be making such a large profit and this is in face of competition from places like the Rainbow, the Sundown, the Festival Hall and all the other large promoters. With the introduction of SCAB it will be necessary for IC Ents to make a profit to ensure the financial feasibility of the board. To ensure this we need to continue to promote the largest named bands that our hall will allow us to.

The subject of large names brings us on to the Elton John concert which, by the time you read this, will have already been held. We would like to clear up some of the misunderstandings that seem to have arisen from the ticket selling for this concert. The Elton John date was not advertised outside college at all until after it had sold out. The tickets went on sale on a Thursday and had completely sold out by the following Tuesday lunchtime. The first mention in the music press of the date was on the afternoon that the concert sold out. It has been said that an inadequate union card check was done while the tickets were being sold. If outside people did not know about it how could they have bought tickets? While we don't admit that not one single Non IC student bought a ticket the number of tickets sold to non IC students were minimal. Also, surely the people that regularly support our concerts are entitled to attend all of our concerts if they so wish.

Staying with the subject of large name bands some people seem to think that it is possible to obtain large name bands on an irregular basis. It is only because we run on a regular basis that we are able to get big named bands. To get these people to work for you, you don't only need a hall and an ability to pay their price, you also need

to be able to assure them that yours is a date that is going to improve their reputation or which will live up to the standard that their fans expect to be able to see them in. IC Ents is in the position where it is able to get a good range of top name bands. People who have played here in the past have normally been very pleased at the reception they have been given both by the audience and by our own committee, often complimenting us on a well run concert. This year's committee has built up IC to be one of the prestige dates to do on a London tour. This can only be done by the regular booking of large names.

SCAB has been mentioned at various points in this article. The setting up of this board is welcomed by the Ents committee. At last a working committee has been set up that will be able to co-ordinate all entertainments within the college. Our committee has no intention of taking over film soc or any other of the committees and societies that form SCAB. The confusion over film society arose at the preliminary meeting held to discuss the formation of SCAB, where it was said by the film soc representative that they did not want to show popular films next year. Our committee realised that this would leave a gap in the type of entertainment provided to IC students and so offered to fill this gap by showing popular films. Later that week the rumour started that Ents were trying to take over from film soc but this is not the case. Film soc are having the first choice of films that they want to show next year, but there will, however, at their own choosing, only be a few of the type of film that they have been showing this year. The Ents committee will be providing those films that the film soc don't want to include in their programme. We will start with a trial run next term for four weeks (see list at end of article). One of these dates is actually a film soc date which has already come about as a result of co-operation between us and film soc. Formation of SCAB will enable profits from Ents to be used to support the other, smaller clubs represented on the board.

This has been an attempt to iron out any of the difficulties and complaints that have been levelled at our committee. We would appeal for active practical criticisms, advice, ideas or any other comments that people would like to make about the committee and the way it is running at present. With the reduction in the price of tickets for IC students we would hope to see an even greater number of you at our concerts. If you would like to ask about any problems regarding Ents there is always an Ents executive member in the Room At The Top at dinner times and they will be only too grateful to sit you down, listen to you and then get involved in a discussion with you. Finally, here is a list of the films that we will be showing next term. They will all be in ME 220 and the price of entry for the Ents run ones will be 10p.

Friday May 4th Dirty Harry
Friday May 11th Carnal Knowledge
Friday May 18th Brewster McCCloud
(film soc)
Friday May 25th Every Home Should Have One

P. A. WADSWORTH
I.C. Ents chairman
for and on behalf of Imperial College
Union Entertainments Committee.

FELIX FINANCIALLY

It's your money they're after
... but who and
what are they?

No matter what the crisis, what the state of the nation, no matter how long and over what issues the government grapples with the trade unions, no matter how many times a week the world wobbles on the brink of monetary crises—no matter what, it seems, there never seems to be any shortage of people reaching out for your money.

Just take a look at the financial columns of any newspaper. It will be crammed with advertising from all sorts and conditions of institutions vying with each other to grab your money and use it, as they say, to your advantage.

Schemes, plans, policies, blueprints, programmes, projects, strategems and systems pour out of the pages in an avalanche of print. Every one stuffed with reasons why you ought to part with your cash and allow some body of faceless men work a kind of magic and make it multiply for you.

They come under a variety of headings. Unit Trusts, Property Bonds, Guaranteed Growth Bonds, Single Premium Annuities or mere advice on investment. Anything this side of the law which might earn a buck for the operator.

Well, of course, we all know that very few readers of Felix Financially have enough spare loot to be over-worried about the machinations of these things right now, but we thought it would be interesting to explain what some of them are and what they do. After all, we'll all be in the chips one day, and forewarned is forearmed.

Probably the best known of these ideas are those known as Unit Trusts. A unit trust is simply a pool of money contributed in small or large amounts by numbers of individuals and which is then invested by the trust managers in stocks and shares. The value of any one person's investment is the value of the shares the trust has bought for them. As the market goes up and down, so does the value of the investment you make.

The operators of such schemes as these make their profit by making an initial charge—usually between 3 and 5 per cent of every pound invested—and a management fee, usually levied half-yearly, on the income from the investments. This normally comes to between one-fifth and one-half per cent.

Some unit trusts specialise in different types of investment. For example, some go for North American shares, some for mining shares, others go for retail shop shares, and so on.

And the aims of different unit trusts are different. Some aim to produce income for the investor; others go for straight capital gain. But the majority spread their investment fairly widely and this is the case with most of the 280 or so unit trusts now operating in this country.

One incentive here, of course, is that the operator has the same interest in the profitable working of the trust as the investor, since the bigger the trust fund is, the bigger the profit for its managers. In return, the investor is supposed to get skilled, professional management, which ought to make his money grow.

But if the aims and methods of unit trusts vary, so does the performance. On past results, it appears they will take about 16 years to double your investment, and that's not a lot of good in these inflationary times.

Naturally, a lot depends on when you buy into the trust and when you sell out. You pay for expert

advice, but even with the best of the unit trusts, everything hinges on how well you time your buying and selling of your investment with them.

Another type of unit trust is the property bond. These are often organised by insurance companies, which put your money into property rather than in shares. Now, this column has always advised in favour of putting money into property, and many of these property trusts do represent a reasonable hedge against inflation.

The trouble is they have proved so popular in the past year that many property bond operators have bought every type of property in a kind of blind panic. The properties are valued each month by independent valuers and they always report increased values. The snag is that when the fund goes to sell, it might well find that properties do not fetch quite the same as their value on paper.

Nevertheless, it has to be said that this is one way of getting into property—and a continually rising market—without committing yourself to one building.

Investment Trusts are not to be confused with Unit Trusts. Investment Trusts are merely private trading companies who specialise in the buying and selling of other companies' shares. They tend to be more internationally-minded than other investment programmes, and have a fairly successful record. As with unit trusts, there are tax advantages for the investor. The real trick here is to pick the right one, since there are over 200 of these to choose from.

Equity Bonds are similar to property bonds, except the investment is done in equities. Here again, the results will depend on when you get in and when you get out—and whether the management are the fat cats of the financial world or the bright young men.

Guaranteed Growth Bonds are issued by insurance companies, as a rule, and they are merely single premium investments with a guaranteed return over a period of years. How good they are depends on the overall financial situation at the time of investment. They are sometimes very attractive, but the gamble always is whether the rate you are offered today is going to be realistic in five years' time, when your money is still tied up.

So, they are just some of the ideas money men have had to make a profit. There are many ways to do it, of course, and when it comes to making a shilling, the gnomes are wise to them all.

But always remember it's your money they're after. Before ever you fall for the blandishments in the ads, or get conned into thinking you have only to sit back and wait for your money to grow, have a good look at the investment scheme that attracts you and make sure it's right.

Check its performance, its reputation and its viability. Take independent, expert advice if you can.

And don't take anything entirely on trust—even if it is a unit trust.

FELIX No. 332; Tuesday, 13th March, 1973.

Editor: Oliver Dowson.

Assistant Editor and Editor-elect: Alasdair Campbell. Impossible without the invaluable contributions of Ron Appleby, Bob Carter, Derek E. Cummings, Dave Gribble, David Gurney, Dave Hobman, Graham King, John Lane, Alf Perry, Seth, Michael Silverleaf, Dave Sugden (return appearance by courtesy of the FELIX Antiques and Curios Museum, curator John Stares), Michael Southon, Jock Veall and Paul Wadsworth.

Printed by F. Bailey & Son Ltd., Dursley, Glos. GL11 4BL.

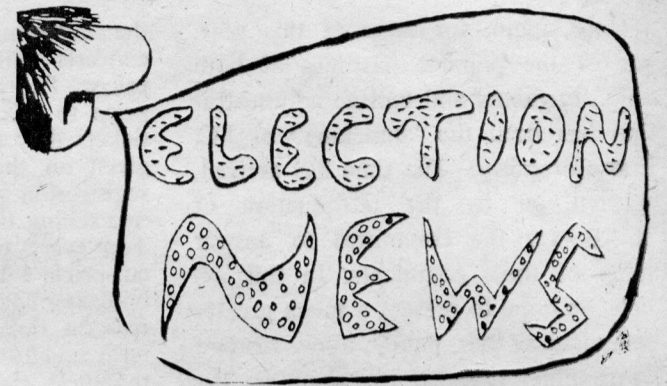
Advertising contracted by University Press Representation.

FELIX National and International Headquarters are at Miami Beach. Local office: top floor of the Union Building, address: Imperial College Union, Prince Consort Road, London SW7 2BB. Telephone 01-589 5111 ext 2229 (PO), 2881 (Int). The Editor is still living in Room 14, Weeks Hall, int. tel 4236, ext. tel. 589 9608, until Sunday next.

Published by the Editor for and on behalf of Imperial College Union Publications Board. All rights reserved. ©1973.

FELIX is a founder member of the London Student Press Assn.

The RCS Broadsheet presents



Yes friends, with the trivial I.C.U. and Dep. Rep. elections out of the way, it's time for some REAL elections, namely the R.C.S.U. elections. These get under way today, note that folks TODAY, with the R.C.S.U. Hustings, held in PHYSICS LECTURE THEATRE THREE at 1.00 p.m. A splendid time is guaranteed for all (except perhaps the candidates) and you can get to see those who want to be Hon. Sec. and A.A.O. next year, namely . . .

HONORARY SECRETARY:

Miss J. E. Pictor proposed by Mr. S. Chudy
Mr. P. F. Thomas proposed by Mr. P. Hasking
Mr. M. J. L. Williams proposed by Mr. M. T. Phillips.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Mr. S. Chudy proposed by Miss M. E. Lavin
Mr. J. A. C. Horsfall proposed by Mr. J. C. Gibbons
Mr. K. R. Whitbread proposed by Mr. D. Sinclair
The other three posts were uncontested when the papers came down (8 days ago) and so next year we shall have as officers of the Union . . .

PRESIDENT: Mr. M. C. Turner
VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. R. J. Kill
HONORARY JUNIOR TREASURER: Miss J. A. Brown.

Voting for Hon. Sec. and A.A.O. takes place on MONDAY MARCH 19th; now we need 2 people on a Ballot box per hour, so with 4 boxes in all that means 64 people will be needed to man the boxes. If you can spare one measly little hour for your great Union then do please volunteer to man a box, by putting your name on the lists that are up in all departments!

The 4 Ballot boxes will be placed in:

PHYSICS: Level 2
CHEMISTRY: Main entrance
MATHS: Huxley building
BOT/200: Common Room.

In this week's BROADSHEET (out Thurs. March 15th) we will feature manifesto's from ALL the candidates (including unopposed ones) and reports on the Hustings, etc. in our "Election Special".

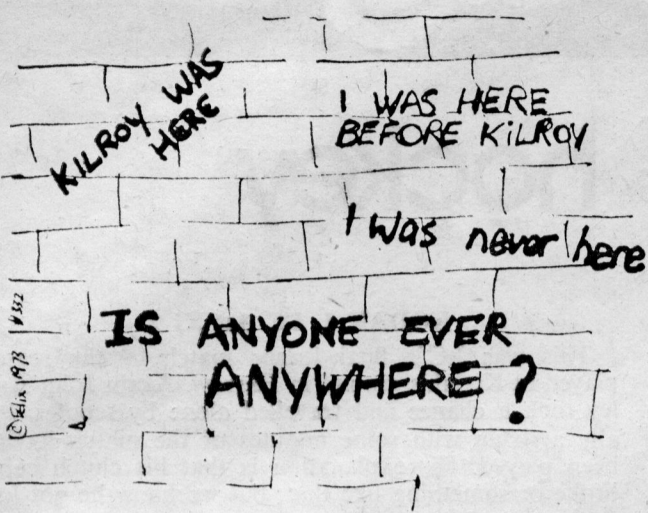
REGISTRATION CARDS MUST BE SHOWN WHEN VOTING, so don't forget to bring your green 72-73 cards with you next Monday. On Wednesday, March 21st a FREE results edition of Broadsheet will be out, this follows the Results Union meeting on Tuesday, March 20th. So for the Union that you want to see next year, VOTE on Monday!!!

The coverage of this year's R.C.S.U. elections is the fifth such one undertaken by Broadsheet in its five year existence. In Volume 1 Number 8 (March 13th, 1969) we reported on the election of John Butterworth (President), Barry Pywell (V-P) and Miss Penny Walters as Hon. Sec. The following year a poll of 331 was reached, this being constitutionally too small the election was reheld the following term. (See we beat I.C.U. by all of 3 years!). The "winner" of this presidential election, Mr. P. Sharkey, came only third in the second election, which was won by Steve Cooke, with Nick Wilkinson beating Tony Johnson as V-P. However this second poll (of 385) was again too small (by about 115 votes) but not to worry folks, an inquorate results U.G.M. accepted the election (things never change, do they?). The following year (in one of the first Roneo'd Broadsheets) the poll was better (442) and Bill Gerrard beat Pete Gannen (231 to 156) to become President '71-2 and M. C. Black (I've heard of him) became Hon. Sec. by beating N. Wilkinson. The following year's election results edition of Broadsheet (Vol. 4 No. 7½—brilliantly done by a newly appointed editor) told the story of last year's 507 vote poll, with Rosemary Parker winning the presidential election (against John Higgs), Caroline Bingham beating Bill Collett (and how! 368 to 90), John Smith got elected as AAO in preference to John Gibbons and there were 3 candidates for the post of Hon. Junior Treasurer, Brian Smith beating Miss Mary Short and Ian Oram. John Nuttall was unopposed as Hon. Sec. (oh so that's how he got it — Enlightened R.C.S.U. member).

We there'll be the usual amount of bump from the candidates about again this year and if someone had saved all of last year's election bump they could write an interesting article on how the candidates for I.C.U. and R.C.S.U. posts lived up to their promises. Now it just so happens that last year I did save all the election bump . . .

Ron Appleby
(Broadsheet Editor)

TOUCHSTONE



The writing is clearly on the wall for all students everywhere. There are meaningful questions outside science to extend your mind, and one example shown above is taken from the wall of the beer pressure reliever at Silwood Park, that well-known country haven of Imperial College.

After the Flintstones came the Touchstones, and after the Touchstones came me. A college career of idle curiosity almost behind me, I dared venture forth to brain-crippling pursuits elsewhere.

"This is your last chance, son, take it and they'll make a man of you."

My curiosity has been satisfied, I now know that I should never have gone to Touchstone. Had I gone in my first, my second, or even early in my third year, it would have been a good idea, but all in all the experience is far too enjoyable for anyone to go if they will not have the chance to go again.

The "coachload of pseudos" can be simply divided into two parts, those who go to take an active part in the discussion and those who go because a weekend of good food, good drink and good surroundings appeals to them. Both groups returned well satisfied. The latter group slept off their vices during the discussion. They missed a lot.

At the last Touchstone we were graced with two guest speakers who promoted discussion on the subject of "Human Rights", a subject so widespread in relevance that everybody got a chance to mount their own personal hobby-horse. The two speakers were Professor Raphael, Director of Associated Studies at Imperial College (in case you didn't know) and Professor Costa, of the University of Rome. Unfortunately Professor Costa was banned from achieving the full potential of his contribution by virtue of language difficulties, but Professor Raphael's expert handling of the discussion and willingness to supply Professor Costa with the mot juste at necessary times much ground was covered in keen discussion. I at least felt that I had seen many different points of view which I had never previously considered.

The discussion centred around the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10th, 1948. Each member country of the United Nations is now pledged to "cause the text of the Declaration to be disseminated, displayed, read and compounded principally in schools and other educational institutions, without distinction based on the political status of countries or territories". Think about the implications of that. Interesting? Then Touchstone is for you also. Boring? Then Professor Raphael and Mr. McDowell are back in College Block and keen to hear what you would like out of General Studies. I would like to have been persuaded to go to Touchstone sooner. Oh! In case you're worried, then Touchstoners are a friendly bunch too, but watch out for the Australian snooker player . . . he'll beat you.

DAVE SUGDEN

Le Bristol 24 Heures

After a lifetime of considering the eternal unanswerable "What is Life?", "Is there a purpose?", "What do We mean?" I have, finally, discarded philosophy, for I have discovered a question more profound than any of these, — deeper and harder to discern even than the immortal "Why?" If I can find an answer to this question, I will die a happy man — but I fear I never shall. My question? "Why do people compete in 24 Hour Pedal Car Races?"

The 8th National Pedal Car Race was held at Whitchurch Airfield last week-end (3 p.m. Friday—3 p.m. Saturday), and as last year, I.C. sent three cars — two from guilds (Hurrah, Rah-Rah-Rah, boomaleka, boomala — oops, sorry, forgot I was meant to be impartial) and one from Mines. Unfortunately the former Guilds Class I car "Little Bo" got nicked around Christmas time, so a new car (completed two minutes before the race) was built for this class, and "Big Bo" made his (her?) usual appearance, with the crankshaft coming unstuck the standard number of times. Mines car "Strikalite" was Class I category, (Runner-up to "Little Bo" last year)—the same car as last year, in fact, with the same unmistakable clatter of the forward "fairing" (a word I use in the broadest possible sense).

The race was started with the customary "Le Mans" type start (N.B. Malc Newman waving hat in last week's Felix) and most of the 80 or so entrants were soon rattling gleefully around the 500 yard course. The boys from Hele's School, Exeter, were, as ever, showing very promisingly in their superb Class II cars "Claudette" and "Clare" — though they seemed to lack some of their former elan (now there's an idea!). Big Bo started nicely, and Mines

soon got moving steadily (most teams change drivers every lap — 6 drivers in a team) — but Bo Belle (the new car) wasted no time in demonstrating a classic case of bending failure — which called for an hour's welding (only, alas, the first of many).

The hours of pedalling passed, and all the I.C. cars seemed to be doing fairly well until, near Midnight "Big Bo" split her (his?) crankshaft—and "Bo Belle" revealed defects in the earlier Welding. "Bo Belle" was patched up in a couple of hours work, but "Big Bo" was too far gone to mend until fresh welding apparatus became available the next morning.

So the pedalling went on, — through the hours of darkness to the sunlight, and on to the afternoon. Mines "Strikalite" did very well, and led Class I almost throughout. "Big Bo" did her (its?) best — crankshaft permitting — and "Bo Belle" showed some promise for the future — but what can replace "Little Bo"? (cried he with tears of nostalgia in his eyes).

3 p.m. Saturday arrived in it's own good time, and, as expected, Hele's School had won overall, with Mines 1st in Class I, having beaten a Mobile bath propelled by the British Junior Cycling Champion! I won't mention the Guild's positions (largely because I don't have them), but their lowness was very largely due to the surprisingly long time spent in the Pits.

"Didn't you sleep at all?"
 "Not a wink."
 "Why no names, Bob?"
 "There are too many."

BOB CARTER

TAX

Sheffield University students' Union has recently sent me a letter giving information about one of the proposed changes in the taxation system.

It has been suggested that Family Allowances and tax allowances for children should be replaced by a single tax credit which is given to the father. Students are excluded from the tax credit system and so students at present receiving Family Allowances may lose this income.

If you would like to support the Child Poverty Action Group campaign for payment of Child credits to the mother, in the same way as Family Allowances are at present, the address to write to is: Child Poverty Action Group, 1 Macklin Street, Drury Lane, London WC2B 5NH.

If you prefer you may write direct to: The Clerk, Select Committee on Tax Credits, House of Commons, London SW1.

I hope this information is of use to some of you.

JENNY ROGERS
 I.C.U. Welfare Officer.

ISRAEL

Be there for the 25th Anniversary celebrations



TOURS TICKETS
 TRAVEL KIBBUTZ

Complete programme of ISTD flights, trains, ships from



HOSTS STUDENT
 TRAVEL SERVICE LTD.

161 GREAT PORTLAND ST, W1N 6NN

Telephone 01-580 7733

HALLS & HOUSES

1973 - 74

Application forms available now from
 Union Office and Residence Office,
 College Block.

ICU FLATS

At present Imperial College Union rents twelve flats in Hamlet Gardens, Ravenscourt Park, W6, and one flat in Cambridge Gardens, Ladbroke Grove, sub-letting these to its members. The flats house eighty-nine students in total, seven at Cambridge Gardens, and the rest at Hamlet Gardens in flats of varying sizes, the majority accommodating seven persons. All the flats are self-contained with a lounge, kitchen and bathroom(s). Rents, considering there is no subsidy, are competitive, electricity and gas being extra at the standard rate. The lease for the property at Hamlet Gardens is subject, unfortunately, to annual negotiation. This, of course, enables the landlords to demand a higher rental each time, however, in view of the 10% increase last year and the better prospects for summer letting, it is reasonably certain that rents will remain at the same level. Nothing need be said here about the grants situation, save that any increase in flat rental would be extremely unwelcome, especially as the cost of non-College accommodation will no doubt make its usual upward movement next session.

Economically it is crucial that the scheme does not finish its second year in the red, as it did its mis-managed first. As electricity and gas are now paid for by those who use them, the only possible source of deficit is the rent. This year rents were evaluated on the basis of a forty-eight week year—that is we could have all flats standing empty for four weeks and just break even. The only time that this could possibly happen is over the summer vacation, hence, it has been decided to offer anybody occupying a place over the vacation a place next session, providing they apply by the end of the week. This offer may be extended indefinitely depending on demand. Another way to achieve full occupancy over the summer is to let to non-members of the Union—this was done last year, but only to a small extent. Needless to say, Union members will have preference. Any surplus could be used in a number of ways, probably the most constructive being to offset future rent increases.

As far as lettings next session are concerned, the allocation of places will be made in the fairest possible manner, that of first come first served. However, group applications for whole flats will be favoured as experience has shown that such flats are more desirable in all aspects than those randomly filled. In order to avoid a repeat of the chaos last summer, person or persons accepting the offer of a room or flat will be required to cancel immediately any application for Hall or House. Transfer of places is in general not a fair practice when there is a waiting list, so except in special cases this will not be permitted.

Application forms for vacation and sessional letting and further details of rents, etc., are available now from the Union Office. Applications will be accepted indefinitely in view of the possibility of further flats being available next session, but a large demand is expected, so remember that early applications will be favoured.

the sports page

rapid rambles rowing

Ask any cross country runner where he went on the first Saturday in March and he'll say "to the Nationals." Ask him whether he ran and he'll most probably umm and ahh and mumble something about not being fit. That just about sums up the annual circus that goes under the name of the English National cross country championships. It is a grand race to watch, but an awful race to run in.

This year this event took place on Saturday, 3rd March at Parliament Hill Fields, North London and the course was surprisingly dry for the time of year—quite different from its usual state where one walks around up to the knees in muck (and bullets??!). I'm sure the organisers must have slipped up and didn't order the mud in time. The Championships consist of three races, youths, juniors and seniors and, surprise, surprise IC had runners in all three and actually finished a team (of four) in the Junior event. R. Allinson (I'm sure he's not still under 18) represented us in the 4 mile youth event. The six mile Junior event got underway at 2.30 and the I.C. team consisting of D. Payne, J. Kalivay, P. Johnson, and P. Donnelly surged away to a good start . . . and then slowed to a nice easy jog—as all I.C. runners do. Pad and Pete eventually returned home at about 3.15 just in time to see the main event of the afternoon begin—the 9 mile senior event.

The procedure for starting this race is to fire a maroon (loud bang) 5 minutes before the start and then fire another one five minutes later to start the race. This year there were 1200 starters, including Dave Bedford, a New Zealand team (who we shall hear more about later) & two runners from I.C. When the second bang went off we all shot off up the hill at a pace that would do any 4 minute miler proud, minding any rubbish bins, park benches, trees etc. that happened to get in the way. And that is about all I remember of the race—the rest being rather a blur except for the rest of the I.C. team and our captain (who incidentally didn't run because he'd forgotten his shoes — a likely story) shouting (and laughing) at us as we did the three laps of the course.

The results of the race (as told to me—I missed it, I still had another 2 miles to go) was R. Dixon of New Zealand 1st, beating Dave Bedford by about 13 secs., S. Littlewood and S. Webb of I.C. 763 and 766 respectively. This New Zealander caused untold confusion as he was not supposed to be there anyway but was just a guest—so Dave Bedford won after all, but he didn't really, or did he? I don't know it was all too confusing for me.

So a tired little band of I.C. runners returned to a certain house of refreshment at South Kensington, consoled, by the thought that on the Wednesday following was a league race and we would once again be running against athletes of our own class. Little did we know . . .

On Wednesday the last league race was held at I.C.'s home course at Richmond Park. Three of the International New Zealand team came, taking the first three places, the winner breaking the course record by 30s. to make it 25m. 33s. (for 5½ miles) I.C. was there with the usual team of varied talents Rob Parker made his comeback? Almost beating Paul Clarke, but neither were quick enough to beat Rob Allinson who was first back for I.C. in 26th place with 29.48. Dave Payne and Stuart Littlewood were not far behind (43rd and 48th) than J. Kaliray (knowbody knows his christian name) and Dave Jones (72nd and 76th). Pete Johnson and Pad Donnelly also ran in this race and achieved the usual good placings with 95th and 96th.



Photo: The Observer, 4 March, 1973

Anyone looking over the parapet of Putney Bridge on Wednesday would have seen, besides the odd oil slick and lump of driftwood, 20 college boats and the dynamic Tyrian (U.L. II), marshalling for the start of the U.L. Head of the River Race. For non-rowing readers, a Head race is one in which the crews set off at approximately 10 second intervals and are timed over a set distance, in this case the Boat Race course from Putney to Mortlake (4¼ miles), the winner being the crew returning the fastest time. The race is split up into divisions (in this case, Open, Junior and Novice) with the crews' starting order determined by the previous years results.

Tyrian, although not officially part of the race (not being a college), duly lined up in front of the field for their annual ego trip. Just behind them were the I.C. 1st VIII, having won the event last year. I.C.'s recent rise to prominence had obviously got around and the open division was sadly lacking in numbers. (Although there were some surprisingly fast Junior crews).

The race finally got underway with I.C. chasing Tyrian. The water was quite rough for the first mile throughout which the I.C. cox kept yelling something about Tyrian having only 6ft. of clear water. Having heard it all before, the rest of the crew decided that Tyrian must be disappearing under Hammersmith Bridge. It was with great surprise that, on reaching the calmer water above the Mile Post and risking a quick glance over their shoulders, the rest of the crew found the cox was telling the truth. The two crews were level by Harrods and stayed like that for the next mile. During this period both crews gave everything they had and in between giving tens and answering the others tens, all one had time to do was to decide which side of the boat to be sick over next. This intensive rowing could not continue, and just as the Tyrian cox was telling his crew that I.C. were going to blow up, his own crew began to drop back. I.C. got ½1. in one of their tens and after that, soon broke contact. From this point on, I.C. slowly went away from Tyrian although they did hit a half submerged railway sleeper and a nasty wash from a string of barges.

The final positions put I.C. 21 seconds in front of Tyrian and an enormous 1m. 53sec. in front of the third crew, St. Thomas's Hospital.

The 2nd VIII, rowing in the Junior division came second behind U.C. The other star performance was by the IVth VIII. This crew was made up of fresher novices who have only been rowing since September. In one of the best rows ever by an I.C. fresher novice crew they won the Novice division by almost 2 minutes over several much more experienced crews. If this crew stays together and improves as it should, they should have little difficulty in picking up their Novices in the Summer.

As for the 1st VIII, their performance was exceptional. For the first time in years all the winter training and ground work had been done, due in part to I.C.'s National Squad members. They go to Bedford on Saturday to try and win the colleges pennant but the example set and encouragement given by some of their main hopes must lie in the Summer regattas.

hockey

KODAK 1, I.C. 1st XI 2

This was I.C.'s final league match of the season played at Kodak's ground in Harrow. Again John Antley took a chance and travelled alone by scooter, finally arriving with some minutes of the match having been played. His explanation is that his clutch cable broke or something like that, but we know he got lost again.

During the match one of Kodak's players was ordered off the field for five minutes for trying to strangle Heineken Downs — better luck next time, Kodak.

I.C. 2, PRESIDENT'S XI 1

On Sunday, the 1st XI completed the weekend double with a very shaky win over the President's XI at Harlington. Before the match the I.C. team went through its usual trials and tribulations. Heineken booked a coach for 1.30 which arrived at 11.30 a.m. and left because nobody was ready to leave. So the match started half-an-hour late after a trip via Hounslow West.

The first half was completely dominated by the President's XI. Although they peppered the goal from all angles, most of the shots were hastily taken and easily cleared. The goal I.C. scored in the first half was our only direct shot of that half. Jag Gahir broke through on a solo run, and with the goal at his mercy Jules Sargeant clobbered him giving away a penalty flick, which Jag somewhat luckily converted.

The second half was more even and Colin Townsley had a little more to keep him warm in the President's goal. I.C.'s second goal—one of our best movements of the season — came after ten minutes of this half. Jag Gahir picked up the ball on the President's twenty-five, went to the right and gave a reverse stick pass to the top of the circle where Chris Gankroger immediately passed it out to the right of the D for Heineken to crack in first time.

Predictably this encouraged the President's XI to pick up their game and they nearly scored after a movement on the right led to a shot by Jules Sargeant at least four feet off the ground. However, after it easily beat Sid Boulton, Richard Cameron made a fine save on the line. The President's goal finally came from a low hard shot by Colin Ringrase from their one short corner.

Teams: — Sid Boulton; Simon Tyrrell, Richard Cameron; Graham Popple, Alan Brown, Dick Whittington; Heineken Downs, Chris Gankroger, Jag Gahir, Dave Richman, John Astley.

Colin Townsly, Mick Burt, Ron Palmer; Martin Field, Julian Sargeant, Colin Ringrese; John Manning, Ian Tasney, Pete Bates, James Comyn, Dave Richards. Umpires: Dave Browne, Ed Castell.

I.C. MIXED XI vs HESTON MIXED XI

I.C. 3, Heston 1

Despite having their ranks depleted by the call of the first team, I.C. Mixed team soldiered on to yet another victory. Although they deserved to win, I.C. never really dominated a match which was spoilt by the pettiness of some of the Heston players. The first half was very one-sided with I.C. on the attack almost continuously. However, half-time arrived with the score still 0—0. After a dynamic pep-talk during the interval I.C. started the second half in a much more resolute manner and very quickly opened the scoring. A run by WB2 ended with Chris Brown putting the ball in the back of the net. Shortly after this WB2 added a second with a devastatingly solo effort. I.C. continued to apply all the pressure but the next goal was scored by Heston following a quick breakaway, which split the I.C. defence and left the goalkeeper with no chance. Heston never really looked like scoring again and when WB2 added a third goal the final score became more representative of the overall play.

Team: Jerry Heffer; Pete Foxton, Julie (OAP); Jacqui Buzzard, Tim Hansen, Anne Purvis; Blossom, WB2, Chris Brown, Adrian Evans, Geraldine Bowden.

See Felix diary for this week's coming events.

STUDENTS DAY OF ACTION

This is part of the national student campaign for higher grants. For the first time in the history of N.U.S. it has called for a national stoppage of all colleges.

As far as Imperial College is concerned there is going to be a strike of lectures this Wednesday morning. An alternative syllabus and a play have been arranged for the morning (for details see overleaf) and a surprise event is planned for the afternoon. There are not many of us who regard the grants situation as acceptable. The Government, The Daily Telegraph, through to the Morning Star have all recognised our demands as reasonable but the Government is loathe to take immediate action.

The main points of the grants campaign are

- abolition of the means test
- restoration of the grant to its 1962 level
- end discrimination against women, in that they should get a full grant whether or not they are married
- an annual review is needed to protect students against inflation, with a view to introducing some supplementary grant to compensate for inflation

The government has had four months to consider the N.U.S. grants claim. Students are sick and tired of the government's delaying tactics. We cannot afford to wait while the mandarins of Whitehall "look" at our campaign.

ALL OUT - MARCH 14TH

SUPPORT THE DAY OF ACTION

We would like you also to act as pickets in the morning. Picketing is only a dirty word if it is done badly. It's up to you to make sure it's done well. We are asking you to form a united student body. We don't expect everyone to agree with everyone else - just to try.

MEETING for all students who are willing to picket on Wednesday between 9.00 and 10.00 a.m. in Senior Common Room, first floor, Union Building. 15.30 P.M.

PROGRAMME FOR MARCH 14TH

9.00-10.00a.m. Picketing outside your department building.

IN THE GREAT HALL -

9.30 - 10.00 Cartoon or short film.

10.00 - 12.30 Alternative syllabus on education. Speakers scheduled are -

MIKE DUANNE, ex Rising Hill Comprehensive School headmaster whose ideas were a little too progressive for the authorities.

PHIL KELLY, from Time Out, on education and the mass media.

MARY RICHARDSON, from N.U.S., and

RICHARD KIRKWOOD, (A.T.T.I)....., from Central Poly, on education and Maggie Thatcher's white paper.

MR. ACHE-ORR, on education and authoritarian control.

1.00- 2.00p.m. KARTOON KLOWNS, a very popular theatre group.

In the concert hall.

(We were exceedingly lucky to obtain this group as 16 other colleges wanted them to perform on the same day)

2.00 SURPRISE EVENT.

8.00 DISCO in Union Building...10p

(Sorry, the only non-free event - the money goes towards helping N.U.S. meet the cost of expenses for the leaflets it produced)

-----00000000000-----

***** EXTRA EXTRA *****

11.00 Postgraduate meeting in Mech. Eng. 220 to discuss

- * Higher grants for PG's and London weighting
- * Demonstrating rates
- * Common room and amenities.