



Felix

Founded in 1949

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

STOIC success

ROBBERY

See back page.

Tuesday 30th September
Freshers Fair

No. 394

Saturday, 13th September, 1975

FREE!

DP clashes with kung-fu club

"Kung-fu" school has been using the Union gym twice a week without booking or paying for it for nearly a year. The situation came to notice when members of IC Soccer Club tried to make use of the gym three weeks ago. They were told somewhat rudely, to leave at once by a hot-tempered teacher leading the lesson.

The matter was brought to the attention of the Deputy President, Riz Shakir, who after extensive investigations discovered that the school had not booked the gym. However, Mr Chang, the tutor, insists that they did have a booking which was granted them by the ACC Chairman, John Thornback.

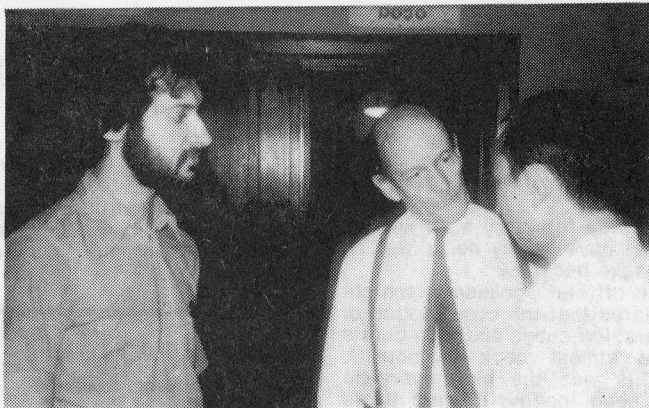
When asked to produce his "booking note" on the night of Wednesday, 3rd September Mr Chang was extremely rude and said to Riz "Go away boy, I'm teaching". He was then asked by Riz to come down to his office within 30 minutes to settle the matter amicably otherwise he would call the police. At this, one of the pupils threatened "You'll do it if you want your neck broken".

In the event, Riz decided to first ask Beit security to go and ask Mr Chang to produce his "booking note". This

proved more difficult than one could possibly imagine because Beit security were under the impression that it was the IC Karate Club using the gym. They were also adamant that the Union Building did not come

under their jurisdiction until 11 pm. After a lengthy argument one of the guards rung the night security superintendent who told him and his colleague to accede to Riz's request.

Mr Chang was unable to



produce the note but claimed he had one at home. He reiterated time and again that Riz should ring John Thornback, police. In the interests of discretion he telephoned the local police station. He was

proved more difficult than one could possibly imagine because Beit security were under the impression that it was the IC Karate Club using the gym. They were also adamant that the Union Building did not come

However, the booking can only be granted by Riz or Jen, the Union Clerk.

Riz then went to call the kept on the phone for nearly an hour before being told that a squad car would be sent round and he was to wait out in Prince Consort Road for them.

This he did for nearly twenty minutes before a patrol care came along. Despite much arm waving however, the patrol car crawled past us. It returned later and this time Riz, Mark Caldwell and myself stood in the middle of the road to flag them down. When asked if they were looking for IC Union they replied in the negative but came in to investigate.

We went up to the gym and at the sight of 50 kung-fu trainees the officers paled considerably. They asked Mr Chang outside to discuss the matter and a furious argument ensued. Mr Chang did a complete volt face and the officers simply could not accept that the Union Building was in Riz's charge.

In the end the police, took particulars, allowed the lesson to continue (with only 20 minutes of it left) and left rather hurriedly.

The Union Building was locked-up by the DP for the whole of last week-end in order to stop any unauthorised persons using the gym. They are being allowed to continue to use the gym once a week at £7 a session plus a 50% discount on lesson fees for IC students. IC students will however, have to pay the subscription fee of £3.50 a year. Riz has also received a personal apology from Mr Chang and the matter is now resolved.

Seaford snubs NUPE agreement

THE CLEANING ladies in Linstead and Southside Halls of Residence began a work-to-rule last Monday in protest against the decision by Carl Seaford, the College Domestic Bursar, to ignore an agreement made by the College and NUPE (the public employees' trade union) over bonuses to be paid during the summer.

It is during the long vacation that Linstead and Southside are used as hotels for conferences and summer tourists. The extra workload for the cleaning ladies in this period is known to be substantial.

About a month before the hotel scheme commenced, Mr Ted Fisher (the branch secretary) and Mrs Alice Feasey (shop steward) acting

on behalf of NUPE entered into an agreement with the College, which was represented by Mr A.O. Roland, (the asst. Personnel Secretary) and Mrs Audrey Podhajsky (the asst. Domestic Bursar). The agreement, which was made in Mr Seaford's absence due to illness, stated that out of the monies accrued from the hotel scheme, the cleaners in

Linstead and Southside would receive a £4 per week bonus on account of the extra workload involved. The figure of £4 was worked out from the definite conference bookings which were known at the time the agreement was made. Additionally, a percentage of the monies accrued from the casual lettings was to be forwarded to the cleaners at a later date as a Christmas bonus. No provision was made for the "Northside" (Weeks, Garden and Beit Halls of Residence) cleaners since they did not handle the hectic summer visitor traffic and they already

were receiving a year round bonus of £1.50 per week and working an extra hour each day.

The dispute arose when Mr Seaford recently decided to pay the Northside cleaners a £2.50 per week bonus, which with the £1.50 per week made a total of £4 per week. The new bonus is to be backdated to the beginning of the summer.

The Southside and Linstead cleaners were angry at the unfair financial advantage being shown to the Northside cleaners. There had been no consultation with NUPE over

Cont'd on back page



Felix

would like to wish the

Rector

a very Happy Birthday on
behalf of all its readers

“Our finest hour”

from our correspondent in Southside.

JOYOUS SCENES of dancing in the streets tonight greeted the announcement that the outbreak of ‘*Touristus Americanus*’, which has ravaged this vicinity over the summer months, is now over.

The official announcement followed persistent rumours emanating from several sources indicating that the epidemic was in its final stages of dying out.

For the heroic and gallant band of survivors, this means that long weeks of suffering are ended as Southside is again declared fit for human habitation. No more scenes of asinine ‘*Young Pennsylvania Symphonic Majorettes*’ prancing up and down in Prince’s Gardens with various oddly shaped black cases. The

Southside refectory staff will no longer have to say no to ‘*Say do you take pesetas?*’

An official spokesman tonight declared that the consumption of cigars, ice-cubes and coca-cola’s were almost back to normal.

This was the night everyone had been looking forward to as it became obvious that this epidemic was no mere ‘scare’. From the first cases of people spending over £300 a night (including breakfast) in Southside till today

when the last American left represents as big a test of the British and (colonial) spirit as at anytime in our history. From now on, surely this ‘*was our finest hour*’.

The Mass X-ray team will visit IC next week, to detect any traces of transatlantic blood still remaining. Times are posted. Please attend in your own interest.

INVITATION

Lady Flowers, assisted by members of the I.C. Wives Club, welcomes students to a free BEER & BAGERS nosh-up, at 170 Queen’s Gate, on Thursday, 16th October, 1975, from 5.30 - 7.00pm. Names, please, to Jen, Union Office, by not

later than Monday, 13th October.

HERD

May we be the last to bid our Domestic Bursar, Carl Seaford, a belated welcome on his return to the College after a recent illness. Mr Seaford has clearly lost a great deal of weight, but has apparently retained his sense of humour as a recent incident demonstrates:

Jen Hardy-Smith, the Union Clerk, enters Mr Seaford’s office to retrieve a pewter tankard from his safe.

Jen: “*Hello Mr Seaford, I have come about the pot*”.

Seaford: (Slapping his once ample abdomen) “*You’re too late m’dear. It’s gone!*”



After more than a century in the Huxley Building, the Maths Department is now resident in its new building, W2, after a removal operation which has not been without incident.

Who, we wonder, is going to be brave enough to tell Prof Whitrow of the fate of his treasured antique roll-top desk, which fell to its demise when it was dropped from the removal van by persons unknown. It is hoped that on the occasion of the performance of this duty Prof Whitrow is in a good mood.

The eminent Prof H had no sooner entered his new office than he decided that the notice board was on the wrong wall. In a flash Prof H resolved the problem — he pulled the board from the wall, along with a considerable quantity of plaster.

We are unable to deny (or confirm) that Prof H’s wife was later overheard speaking to him in a harsh voice: “*You got a very nice office here, Valter. Vot you vont to go an’ spoil it for?*”

Still in the Maths Dept, news has reached us of the (in)famous text, “*Mathematical Methods for Science Students*”. The said text has been recently translated into Portuguese. Longmans, the publishers, are however unable to say whether the text is widely read by anti-Communists. Dr Stephenson was not available for comment.



A student commenting on Mr Mulley’s opening speech at the NUS teacher education conference said, “*When I go back to my union, I shall say that a Minister of Education came to the conference, stood up, closed his eyes (I didn’t think they had to close them — Ed.) and said ‘I see no cuts’ and went away again*”.

Charles Clarke, NUS president, speaking at the same conference said, “*NUS is finished if we do not unite with the other educational organisations and the TUC and campaign on a broad (Left — Ed.) basis. NUS will be at odds with its membership and fragmentation will result*”.



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Newspaper of Imperial College Union

Editor

Paul Ekpenyong

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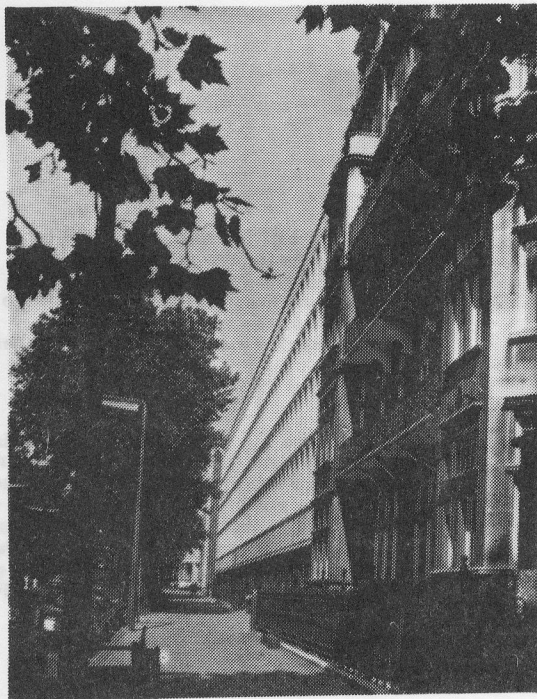
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Many thanks to Gill, Ian, Mike and Riz without whom this issue would have been an impossibility.

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Sideview of the new Huxley

The move to W2 is now nearly complete and the building should be ready by the beginning of term. No date has yet been fixed for an official opening of W2 which is to be named the Huxley Building. W1 is being officially opened sometime in December and is being named, The Blackett Laboratory, after Lord Blackett, late Fellow of Imperial College. A memorial lecture is to be given at the opening.

W2 will be occupied by the Maths, CCD and Physics departments. The new RCS office is also in W2 off the walkway. The old Meteorology department has been amalgamated with the Physics department and now the atmospheric Physics section.

Those using the lifts in the new Huxley building may have noticed the different labelling of levels on the outside and inside the lifts. On the outside the level numbers read 1, ..., 5, 6, 6M, 7 and on the inside they read 1, ..., 6, 7M, 7. The error is being rectified. The correct coding is the former. This is all in order that levels in the Physics building may correspond to those in W2 and vice versa.

W2 has taken two and a half years to build and by the time all costs are totted-up, will have cost in excess of £3 million.

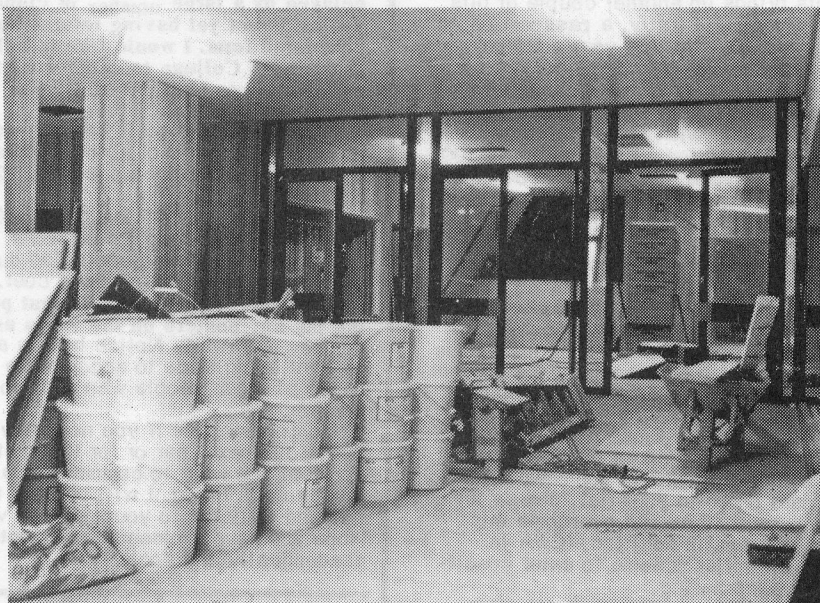


Front of W2

W2- Nearly there!



Old Huxley



Inside foyer of new Huxley



Felix

PG representation

There will be many important issues, some more important than others, facing the President and Imperial College Union as a whole, in the coming academic session. The first of these has already materialised although the issue is not a new one. Karl Ibrikian's resignation as PGO has not helped in the very important question of postgraduate representation in IC Union. On the contrary, it has destroyed any basis there might have existed for discussing and hopefully finding a solution, if indeed one exists, within the present context and structure of the Union.

One hopes that the overtures that have been made by the President will receive a response. For Karl to sit back and say

that previous Union administrations have done nothing and cast the blame on the present administration is wrong. He did not, on his own admission, speak to the present Union officers regarding PG representation and needs before his resignation.

Every move to resolve the problem must be welcomed and ALL parties must be involved in the negotiations. The ball is now definitely in the court of the ICPGG.

Security

The centralisation of the process for booking Union rooms should mean that the sort of scenes witnessed a few weeks ago in the Union gym become a thing of the past. The particular culprits involved have apologised and the matter has been amicably settled. However, they will be

receiving a bill for well over £400 for using the gym for the past year. An investigation is being carried out with regards to security in the whole College as a result of the instigation of the Rector. I shall be interested to read their report.

This issue

This issue is coming out on a Saturday for the first time in its history. There are several reasons for this but time does not permit me to go into them at this stage. I hope you all enjoy reading this very first issue of FELIX under my editorship. The next issue of FELIX will be published on Monday 29th September. COPY DATE FOR THIS ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER. I shall finish by asking were all those 1500 odd postgraduates are?

Pingpong

Mutters Arising

Hail, all seekers of eternal truth and wisdom. During the summer months the Union has been gathering itself for the deluge of Freshers which will shortly fall out of the skies onto-us. Firstly, for those of you who do not know me, let me say hello. Hello! I am John Downs, recently graduated in Material Science. I hope to prove an efficient and friendly Hon. Sec. in the coming year.

I hope you will use the Union, if only to get half-price rail fares, which, by some curious coincidence brings me to my first piece of information. After much dilly-dallying British Rail have announced that the new Rail cards will cost £5.40 and will run for a year from 1st October. You can obtain your Rail card either by post (forms will be available in the Union Office) or at Euston. However, all those requiring a Rail card will have to possess a registration card.

This brings up another couple of bits of tittle-tattles. Firstly, a passport photo will be required for this year's Union card; secondly, students are needed for the first three days of the Autumn term to man the desks where the registration cards (complete with photos) will be stamped. The Union will be paying £1.00 per hour to anyone able to man a desk, so if you need some extra cash let me know.

At these desks there will also be three handbooks available — the ICU, NUS, and ULU handbooks — and these will contain information on welfare, the law etc. and are absolutely free. Please make sure you take one (or all) of these handbooks.

Another delicate area at the moment is accommodation. In the absence of a Student Residence Officer (he failed his exams) I am trying to organise some sort of scheme to cater for those homeless ones coming up for the start of term. If you have, either problems in your own situation or a spare place in your flat, please let me know so that we can overcome this chronic problem. In addition, ICWA is running a similar scheme to cater specifically for flatsharing.

Looking to future Hon Sec "Mutters Arising", I hope to run reviews on such diverse topics as NUS Travel, Endsleigh, the implications of the 1974 Rent Act and accommodation generally. If you have any

contributions, ie have you been ripped-off by any of them or you feel particularly well served by NUSTS or a particular landlord, drop me line.

That sums it up for now; needless to say, there are a multitude of elections coming up. A comprehensive list will be published soon. If you are at all interested in standing, please come to the Union to see "where it's all at".

John Downs.

The DP writes

The FAIR '75 will be held in the Union Building on Tuesday, September 30th. It will officially commence at 2.00 pm and last till 5.30 pm. However, clubs and societies will be expected to arrive by noon in order that I may direct them to the place reserved for them.

The final arrangements are being delayed by a large number of clubs and societies not yet having returned a completed form. I would like to ask those members of College to contact me as soon as possible to obtain a stall. The last date for this is 20th September.

Most clubs and societies can expect to receive the details of arrangements early in the week commencing Monday 22nd September.

The Union Lower Lounge, Bot/Zoo common room and the Union lower refectory have been redecorated during the summer at a considerable cost. Therefore, I would like to request that people not put any posters on the walls as they destroy paintwork. Notice boards are at present being made to accommodate the needs of those people who wish to display posters.

Do approach me if you need any help during the next year or for that matter, if you feel you want to comment on anything the Union is doing. I will be only too pleased to listen to your point of view. Hope you have a pleasant year both academically and socially.



FELIX

needs

YOU

STOP

PRESS

Peter Patter

Hello! This is my first article in FELIX and I approach it with some trepidation, particularly as it is for the P.G. issue. Having spent three years here as an undergraduate I seem to have little grasp of the many problems facing P.G.s. I am anxious to learn, and you are the only people that can provide me with a knowledge of PG affairs. Below I intend to set out some problems as I see them. If you don't agree, then tell me so the next time you see me.

CVCP report on PG's

One of the most noticeable developments affecting PGs for sometime was the publication of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principal's (CVCP) Report on Post-Graduate education. Many people have looked forward to its publication and I am sure they will all be quite satisfied with the results. It has stated in simple terms many of the feelings which Postgraduates have held for a considerable time. At last a body of reasonable power has set down on paper, that it feels that the PG grant is inadequate. They rightly say that 'It takes little or no account of the fact that research students are older, better qualified, more experienced and more capable than the average undergraduate'. I hope that this statement will lead to some action, and a revision of the PG grant system. The college will be setting up a committee to discuss the report and to ascertain its relevance to Postgraduate education within the college.

Refectory prices

As those of you who have been eating in the refectories this summer will have noticed the refectory prices went up by 40% on 1st September. This increase is massive in proportion, compared to the increases in PG and UG grants and makes many local cafes and restaurants much more competit-

The President, Peter Teague writes on the present state of student affairs in Imperial College.

I hope that you will all look around to get the best value for your money, whether this means eating out of College or bringing sandwiches. Postgraduates are affected more seriously than others by an increase at this time of year as the PG grant is not increased until October. We made this point quite clear to the College Governing Body. They delayed the increase from 1st August until 1st September but were unwilling to delay it any longer. So the Postgraduates bear the brunt of the increases again! At the second Union Meeting of next term it is hoped that we will be able to take some action towards this increase. Your ideas and comments will be appreciated at or before that meeting.

Accommodation for married PG's

Approximately 40% of the students at IC are postgraduates and looking back over previous years the Union does not seem to have achieved a great deal for postgraduates. This year perhaps more can be done, although I appreciate that good intentions are not enough. One project that I personally, feel we should take up with the College, is the lack of accommodation for married postgraduates, I was also surprised at the lack of social events for those students in College over the summer. Do you feel that there is a demand for such events? What sort of events, if organised, would receive your support?

Demonstrating cuts

The Government, following its policy of cutting Public expenditure is expected to announce more Public expenditure cuts in the near future. Education is certain to bear a large proportion of the cuts and the

effects will be far reaching. For postgraduates the cuts may first be felt as the amount of demonstrating may have to be curtailed due to the lack of funds. With a somewhat inadequate PG grant many PG's rely on demonstrating to supplement their grant and the loss of this source of income could be most damaging in some cases. The amount of finance available for research projects may also have to be reduced. I am sure that the College would like to keep up the high level of research for which, IC is renowned, but this will become increasingly difficult in the future. The campaign to fight the Education cuts is essentially a campaign to see the higher educational system we have at present continued.

PGAO

Many of the issues which will affect the students of IC in the coming year will affect the Postgraduates and to represent your views on these matters adequately it is essential that we have a Postgraduate Affairs Officer. This post is vacant at the moment, if you are interested I would be only too pleased to chat to you about the job. It is a very difficult job and one which needs great motivation.

I have outlined some of the events of past and future which affect Postgraduates. You form about 40% of the student body of IC and are 40% of the membership of IC Union. If you don't feel that the Union achieves enough for postgraduates please tell me, but be prepared to join in yourself. IC Union is your Union as much as it is the undergraduates Union. I am sure that we can achieve a great deal for PGs in the future but you must tell us the issues that you want us to take up, and be prepared to work with us to see that some progress is made.

PGAO resignation- the President replies

I feel that I should reply, on behalf of the Union, to the article on the resignation of Karl Ibrikian who was to have been next year's Postgraduate Affairs Officer. I am sorry that Karl thought it necessary to resign as I feel that we could have worked quite well together, and achieved a great deal for the PG's at IC.

Many references are made to the lack of power vested in the PGAO. The post carries as much power as any other on the Union Council, and the debate about the PGAO being a member of the Executive was fully aired last session. One must not forget that the post of the PGAO has only been in existence for three years. This is quite a short time when one considers changing the complete structure of the Union.

Turning to the finances of the Postgraduate Group, Karl says that ICWA represents fewer people but receives more money. Firstly may I point out that ICPGG only submitted a claim for £360 for this session. The Union Finance Committee can hardly be expected to hand out money above that claimed. The claim submitted was extremely sketchy and contained no detailed budgeting and therefore adequate

room was left for trimming down the claim. Secondly I would argue that the number of people participating in those events organised by a particular group was a far better guide to the amount of money needed than the number of people that a group represents.

Karl should realise that the President can not change the structure of IC Union, however much he sometimes wishes he could. The only body that can do this is a Union General Meeting, and these do not seem to be attended by many PG's.

I would now like to consider the demands of the postgraduates. I can see nothing at all wrong with the Union financing ICPGG to the tune of £1000. We cannot be expected to do this unless the £1000 is claimed for, and justifiable. The provision of a PG lounge within the Union Building would be a little difficult at the moment. I wonder if this is some form of elitism wishing to keep PG's separate from UG's, or a demand made while looking at the ICWA lounge. If it is the latter, then people must realise the historical reasons for ICWA having its own lounge. It goes back to the time of the 'men-only'

Union Bar. Two places in Hall are demanded by the PG's. Most of the other sectors of the Union only have one officer that can take a Union place in Hall. Why do the PG's feel that they need two? Such a move would need a constitutional change and until that was possible I had promised Karl one of the President's nominee places. Since his resignation the place has had to go to an undergraduate officer as there is no PGAO to take up the place. Finally it seems that all we receive from the ICPGG are demands, and no requests or suggestions of ways in which we can work closer together. Does ICPGG want to be a part of the Union or an independent group?

To answer Tom Abraham's comments I would only say that the Union Council has five postgraduate members, excluding the PGAO, and it can only be more representative with him than without him. Surely if you feel under-represented the last thing that you should do is take away the representative that you have.

I would like to see more done this year for postgraduates, but I wonder whether Karl's methods are the best for achieving the postgraduates aims.

REVIEWS

BOOKS

The 9th Fontana Book of Great Horror Stories:

Edited by Mary Danby.

I AM not a devotee of, the Horror Story genre myself preferring those distinct brands of fiction lurking behind the label S.F. However the anthology is common in all three forms of literature and in any anthology there is always at least one story one likes. In this case it was *'The Horror at Chilton Castle'*, which despite its rather baroque title was very readable. I did not find the stories very frightening but then again I was not reading them by candlelight in an empty house at midnight. Some were so predictable they would need that treatment. But I must not be too harsh — after eight volumes good stories must be getting thin on the ground.

A Glastonbury Romance

John Cooper Powys

THIS IS a great book and has been compared with *'War and Peace'* it qualifies by length alone. The novel is *'a mystical masterpiece ... that recreates the eternal legend of the Grail'*. However, despite these defects, it remains an interesting book. Perhaps the description 'erotic' could also be used since the passions of a certain level of society in 1933 are examined concurrently with the passion of the grail.

The story is well constructed although a few of the mystic passages struck me as rather 'pseudo'. The depth of characters are plumbed, predictability is avoided, and after having adjusted to the style and pace of the book I found it quite enthralling.

Nevertheless, the mystic passages provided for many breaks in the book and consequent lapses of concentration.

It would be appropriate to end with the first sentence of the book: *'At the striking of noon on a certain fifth of March, there occurred within a casual radius of Brandon railway station and yet beyond the deepest pools of emptiness between the uttermost stellar systems one of those infinitesimal ripples in the creative silence of the First Cause which always occur when an exceptional stir of heightened consciousness agitates any living organism in this astronomical universe'*. Whew!

Jorge Luis Borges: A Universal History of Infamy

This is an amazing book. These short stories were originally written for publication in an Argentinian Newspaper in the 1930's and have only recently been translated from the original Spanish version. This task was completed by Norman Thomas diGiovanni who stayed with Borges (who has been slowly going blind) in Buenos Aires from 1968 to 1972. Borges himself describes the style of the stories as *Baroque, 'that style which deliberately exhausts (or tries to exhaust) all its possibilities and which borders on its own parody'*...

The book chronicles the lives of certain famous villains (Billy the Kid and the Tichbourne daiment are but two). Borges throws in a hoax or two (something for which he is apparently now famous) by inventing stories and ascribing them to a previous author (and giving references). I especially liked the set of very short tales

in which human villainy gets its just reward, becoming the victim of fate, enchantment or its own perversity. The title of this section of the book is 'Etcetera', which I thought quite a nice touch. I am converted and am off to find more of Borges's books.

James Wilkinson

Frances Moore Lappe: Diet for a Small Planet (Ballantine).

IF YOU have ever had sympathies for the vegetarian viewpoint, but have been deterred from taking the plunge by fear of not being able to get a balanced diet, or by your image of the 'food faddist', this may be a book to change your mind.

Ms Lappe kicks off by giving some astonishing statistics; like *half* of the US grain harvest, much of which could be consumed by human, goes down the gullets of livestock, which convert only *one tenth* of this back to edible protein. She tries to dispel the myth that every meal must contain meat, and introduces nutritional concepts like amino-acid balance, explaining them in layman's terms. Comprehensive tables are then given which allow you to work out which foods are best combined to yield the required prote in.

The last section of the book is a collection of recipes, more of which are to be found in a follow-up book, *'Recipes for a Small Planet.'*

Roger Wilkins

RECORDS

Backdoor:**Another Fine Mess (Polydor).**

COMPRISING OF Ron Asprey on assorted saxophones and piano, Tony Hicks on drums, and Colin Hodgkinson on vocals, bass, and guitar, Back Door turn out some pretty impressive sounds when their collective minds are put to it, as evidenced by two-thirds of this album, but also churn out lighthearted, dross imaginations stumbling around, for the remaining third.

They are three obviously talented musicians vying for deserved acknowledgement on the music scene with this their third album. *'Blakey Jones'* is a rocking instrumental brimming with attack and a good awareness of pace whilst they show their versatility on numbers such as, *'T.B. blues'* relaxing back into a soft twelve-bar armchair and sounding like the early colosseum. This is followed by the jazzed rantings of *'Candles round your hat'* and the beautifully moving, melancholic sax intro to *'Detroit Blues'*.

Ranging over a variety of styles, the music is never allowed to get careless and they remain well in control of the sound rather than drifting along with it.

The band have their faults though. With their ability, what are they doing bashing out soft pop like *'Streamline guitar'* or old drongos viz *'The dashing*

White Sergeant'. They are simply depreciating the rest of the album. 100 lines for the most infantile cover of 1975, to date.

Todd Rundgren: Wolfman Jack (Reprise)

I HAD read somewhere that Todd Rundgren was progressive yet he drags out this Phil Spector-ised pop single notable only for its complete blandness and mediocrity throughout. No expense spared to make TOTP on this one. Jumpy childishness at its most limp.

The B-side is of far more interest, a Zappa-espue running instrumental degenerating into a steel-drum mardi gras romp, whence back to the former greener fields.

A wizard, a true star? Blah!

Hic

Richard Rodney Bennett plays George Gershwin and Billy Mayerl (Polydor)

After ten minutes listening to solo piano play of tunes obscure and well known I decided this was not my cup of tea. Being ensconced at home for the vacation I resolved to consult the talent at my disposal. At this juncture my brothers entered the room. *'What's this rubbish'*, uttered the first before I could speak. *'Yea, what's this*

garbage', echoed the second. *'Two vote miss'*, I thought. Mr Bennett had by now rushed his way through the 18 tunes (yes, 18 tracks) on side one, of which I recognised the first and last *'Swanee'* and *'I got Rhythm'*. All the others inbetween were (apparently) vintage Gershwin.

Side two consists of Billy Mayerl tunes, kicking off with *'Marigold'*. Undaunted by my brothers' opinions I consulted the only piano player in the household (mothers are useful sometimes). *'Doesn't the piano need tuning, dear?'* was the response as Mr Bennett hurled round the vinyl grooves into *'Ace of hearts'*. This only left the head of the household, who questioned the quality of the actual playing. So as *'Railroad Rhythm'* faded from the air I was left with the result: Four say Miss. So do I.

James Wilkinson



FELIX SPORT

Cricket

A report on the recently completed summer tour, by the Sports Editor, Andrew Hall.
from our own correspondent in Southside.

This is a story of alcohol, of cricketers and of a dedicated band of batsmen and boozers who, when assembled at the end of last term, comprised the IC Cricket Club Tour Party (1975). The tour involved 10 matches in as many days; intensive yet enjoyable cricket played against the inhabitants of the friendly hamlets of the South-west (at least we hope they are still friendly).

The tour started well when John England in his volkswagen crossed the river three times whilst looking for the M3. He caught up with the minivan near Southampton and on arrival at their ground we were told that they had "only 6 players at the moment" and no match ball, so we lent them John Thornback (Hon Sec) and then lost. A cracking start! (Southampton University 119 - 7, J. Thornback 46; IC 103).

For the next seven matches we were based in Torquay in a rather grim hotel with the standard number of "Polite Notices".

The second match against

Yelverton Bohemians ended in an exciting draw in which both sides could have won (IC 148; Yelverton Bohemians 147 - 8). They are in danger of losing their picturesque pitch to developers and we wish them success in their fight.

The next day (after having left the scorebook at Yelverton) we were hammered by an Exeter team, containing several minor county players, which is top of the Devon League (Exeter 213 - 8; IC 78).

We struggled to a draw against Plymouth College staff after a batting collapse (Plymouth College 164 - 8; IC 74 - 9). Our side was then fortified by the arrival of Rob Young and Chris York for the weekend and we beat Brixham handsomely on the Saturday (IC 149, R. Young 52; Brixham 46; N. Treen 5 for 18).

A very slow and boring batting performance only enlivened by a brisk 42 not out from John England set the tone for a draw against Plymstock however, some more excellent batting by Nick "Iron-man" Treen gave the match a close

finish (IC 139 - 6; Plymstock 128 - 8).

The highlight of the tour was as usual, the Bannacombe game. Only a 20 over evening match played on their amazing bowl-like pitch; the square is at least 20 feet below the boundaries; the ball rolling back to the batsman from square leg! They have a bar extension for this match until 1.00 am (in fact it stayed open until 2.00 am) and many silly games were played involving much alcohol. Undeniably the highlight of this evening, for which the locals look forward to expectantly, is the traditional 3-man lift. The unsuspecting victim was Tom Ghosh, the operation was co-ordinated by Nick Treen and the Aigipan applied by rubber-gloved Graham Webb. He didn't have a chance! The van was a horrible mess next morning and John England has learnt not to chunder downwind from a fellow regurgitator.

Against South Devon a typical IC slow start then collapse, was halted by Graham Webb (46) and Andrew Hall (48) who put on a 100 runs in 12

overs of this 35 over match. South Devon made the runs with two overs to spare though the game was marred by an incident in which the square-leg umpire called "No-ball" for throwing against the "Tottenham terror" Chandra Kulkarni when, after a very quick delivery, he bowled the batsman who was on his way to the pavillion by the time the call came (!) and so he was given not out.

When moved to Ilminster to play in a fixture organised by Nigel Broom (who succumbed to Ghosh's revenge and fell for the 3-man lift, poor lad) which we

won (IC 116 - 7, G Webb 47; Ilminster 67 - 8; 20 over match).

The final game against Yeovil was cancelled when we arrived at the ground as they were unable to raise a team. A great time was had by all.

TOUR PARTY:- A Hall (capt) D. Millard, A. Ghosh, J. Thornback, B. Callender, N. Treen, B. Causey, G. Webb, J. England, J. Bashar, C. York, R. Young, I. Sheppard, D. Ransley, C. Kulkarni.

PG AFFAIRS CORNER

Contract PG's?

by Tom Abraham

The long, hot summer is drawing to a close, and the College will soon resound to the noise of undergraduates. Social and sporting activities for the 1600 postgraduates during this time has been non-existent. The PG's contribute up to 40 per cent of the Union's total budget, which, for the coming year is about £80,000. This money has already been allocated to various sections of the Union. It is up to every postgraduate student to try and get his money's worth from the Union. It is pointless sitting back and complaining about the lack of social and sporting activities suitable for postgraduates. If you feel strongly about it, come to a meeting of the ICPGG or see your departmental PG reps and express your feelings. Postgraduates have got to come forward and help organise and participate actively in these events, otherwise the undergraduates will continue to enjoy a disproportionate amount of the total budget.

Certain sections of the PG group have expressed the opinion that since we as a whole do not take an active part in the Union, there is no need for the grant awarding body to contribute any Union dues. This may save the taxpayer some money, but not only is it unfair on the 10 to 20 per cent of the PG's who do take an active part, it is a defeatist attitude to which I will not subscribe.

The CVCP study group has brought out its report on PG education. One of the consequences of this is likely to be a review of PG education at IC. This, I feel, is not only essential but also long overdue because the present system is highly wasteful of resources. Imperial College has a very good reputation internationally, but I wonder how much of it is due to the "sterling" research carried out here. It is pointless to blame either the academic staff or the postgraduate students for the quality of research, because the system precludes any serious work.

The major proportion of the research is carried out by PG's. In some quarters it has been stated that PG's are basically trainee research workers. If that is the case it is pointless to expect high quality research from them. I would further add that two out of their three years are a waste of time and money, since one year is more than adequate for research training.

I feel a much better system would be to have a one year training period, followed by a two year period under contract as a research worker. This would be renewable for further periods depending on the ability of the individual student. The main benefits which will accrue are that the potential of capable students will be fully utilised

and secondly it will encourage the staff to adopt a more responsible attitude.

From the student point of view, the major advantage is that you become a fully fledged salaried research worker. Admittedly this sort of system would only really work in a place like IC where most of the research work carried out is of a practical nature.

Although in the short term this will prove to be more expensive, in the long term it would be far more beneficial. I believe that even the 'cost-effectiveness' maniacs at the Treasury will adopt a more sympathetic view of this sort of system than they do of the existing one.

BBC TELEVISION AND THE ROYAL INSTITUTION
present

PROFESSOR JOHN TAYLOR

Dept. of Mathematics, King's College, University of London,
arguing that

SCIENTISTS ARE STIFLING SCIENCE
against his critics

at
THE ROYAL INSTITUTION

21 Albemarle Street, London W.1.

5.45 pm on Wednesday, 17th September, 1975

with
PROFESSOR SIR GEORGE PORTER
in the Chair.

PARTICIPATION IN THE DISCUSSION WELCOMED

Tickets available from Riz Shakir, Union Office. Please
hurry, first come first served.

Dissatisfied Karl resigns

Karl Ibrikian who was elected Chairman of the Imperial College Postgraduate Group only last term, has resigned his post. Mr Ibrikian took his decision after a great deal of introspection and strenuous efforts to achieve a basis for dialogue with the then Union officers. In deciding to resign he said "I based my thoughts on the existing relations between the PG and UG sections of the Union; the present state of PG affairs and the facilities afforded to the PG Group within the Union structure and

came to the conclusion that the powers vested in me would not enable me to do my job well". The impossibility of the situation had forced him to resign.

When he spoke to FELIX, Mr Ibrikian pointed out that ICWA which represents far fewer people enjoys privileges and has facilities denied to the ICPGG. For instance, ICWA receives a grant of £750 whilst the ICPGG only receives £300.

"People have got to realise that PG's have special interests which must be catered

for", he said. He also added that he had no "real powers" within the Union structure and had to rely on his "powers of persuasion" if he wanted anything done.

There were three demands being made on behalf of postgraduates and these were:

- (i) ICPGG should receive a grant of at least £1000;
- (ii) A PG lounge/common room should be provided within the Union premises for the use of postgraduates;
- (iii) Two places should be res-

erved in halls of residence for officers of the ICPGG.

The ICPGG had done what little they could and it was now up to the President "to restructure the Union to take into account the demands of the PG Group. He has the power to do this - the PGO can, at this stage, only advise".

Tom Abraham, last year's PGO, is continuing in an acting capacity until a new PGO is elected. Commenting on Mr Ibrikian's resignation he said, "... I fully understand and sympathise with his reasons for doing so. I back Karl's demands fully. The ICPGG is more representative of PG's than any individual PG on Council ... and for the Union to try and represent PG's while ignoring the ICPGG would be tantamount to fraud".

Technician hurt in lab explosion

A technician working in a Biopolymer Group laboratory in the Royal School of Mines received burns to the face and chest when an explosion occurred in the fume cupboard in which she was working. At the time of the explosion Ms Sheila Lanchlan, the technician, was pouring propylene oxide into a small beaker.

A gas burner which was alight in the fume cupboard caused the built up vapours from the oxide to ignite. That is the theory being put forward and is based on eyewitness accounts of what took place.

Ms Lanchlan was taken to St Stephens hospital where she is recovering from shock and burns.

There was some confusion when firemen arrived in response to the emergency call. They arrived outside the Physics department and were then directed to the back of the Royal School of Mines. There they were directed to the wrong section of the building. However, they eventually found the lab, but by that time the fire had been put out and the technician taken to hospital.

In future emergencies, people will be posted at all entrances to ensure the fire-brigade gets to the scene immediately on arrival.

STOIC success

Richard Afton, the well-known TV critic of the Evening News, visited the STOIC studios a few weeks ago at their invitation. He was most impressed with the standard and quality of programmes produced by STOIC despite many technical handicaps. He was so pleased that he mentioned Mark Caldwell (STOIC Chairman) and Colin Grimshaw (TV Studio Technician) in his column the following week:-

"Two young men, unheralded and unknown, are doing a remarkable job in television at the Imperial College.

"Considering certain technical deficiencies which are not their fault, the output - which consists of educational programmes, news items, film talks and interviews with famous people - is well up to professional standards".

STOIC have also recently completed their first ever programme to be recorded outside the College. The ILEA allowed them to make use of their training studio at Battersea to record the programme (an interview with Tim Curry - star of The Rocky Horror Picture Show) which will be going out on Channel 7 next term. The interview will be shown in College on the 8th October. It is one of four programmes recorded by STOIC that are to be shown on Channel 7 which is received by 90 universities and polytechnics. In addition, approximately 1000 ILEA schools could also receive the programmes if they so desired.

Their next venture is a visit to Elstree Studios, later this month, where a new Hammer horror film, To Devil A Daughter, is being filmed. The King of Horror, Christopher Lee, will be being interviewed on this occasion.



Student's room ransacked

Mr Ramjan Mohanty an Elec Eng Student yesterday had his room in Beit Hall ransacked in the late afternoon. He had 2 Cameras, a Tape-recorder and a calculator stolen amongst other things.

The robbery follows the loss of his room keys the previous evening in the Beit TV lounge. However the keys were returned to him by the Beit messengers when he enquired an hour later.

There were no visible signs of a forced entry but the thief used Mr Mohanty's knife to

break into his drawer from which the two cameras were stolen. The thief also rifled the wardrobe.

Mr Dawson, the Security Officer, was informed and the police called. A finger print expert was brought in and he gave the room a thorough going over.

A police spokesman said later that in his haste the culprit had left a valuable clue which leads them to believe that an early arrest is imminent.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE RADIO

Invite you to their Annual General Meeting on FRIDAY 10th OCTOBER at 12.45 in the Senior Common Room, Union Building.

The election of the officers and managers of the station for the coming year will be held at this meeting. Nomination papers have been posted outside the IC Radio room in Southside.

Please note that only Full members of the station are eligible for election, and that only full members may vote.

Details of membership may be obtained from The Secretary, IC Radio, c/o Union Office, or from the stand at the Fresher's fair at the start of term.

Cont'd from front page

the decision, and what is more the money which is being used to pay the Northside cleaners is being diverted from the Southside and Linstead cleaners' Christmas bonus. It therefore appears to be with some degree of justification that the NUPE Branch Committee called for a work-to-rule in protest.

BBC Symphony Orchestra

Free tickets available for concerts during the Autumn term featuring:-

Hindemith

Haydn

Mozart

Schoenberg

Beethoven

Weber

Lutoslawski

Wilfred Josephs

Vaughan Williams

Bartok

Wagner

SEE JEN, UNION OFFICE

for details.