



FELIX

Founded in 1949

The Newspaper of Imperial College Union

WARDEN IN SEX SCANDAL!

Monro: "I haven't had a woman in Weeks"



Photo: S Mouchie

A shock move was revealed last night, just before FELIX hit the presses — Dr D M Q Monro, Senior Warden and warden of Weeks, astounded friends and acquaintances by turning up to conduct an opera dressed as a woman!

It is suspected that the move is just part of Dr Monro's master plan to increase the number of females in hall.

Don had hoped to elope with an unnamed female member of the orchestra, whom he refers to as "my A-registration redhead." In an interview with FELIX, the young lady expressed her relief at the news. "I hope Don will be very happy in his new life," she said.

Royalty!

ON WEDNESDAY afternoon crowds of policemen and general populace crammed Exhibition Road and Cromwell Road, trying to catch a pre-royal wedding glimpse of the Queen, who was making an almost unheralded visit to the National History Museum. The cheering crowds of loyal IC students were conspicuous by their absence.

It could be Her Majesty's last visit to the building in its current form, as there is a controversial plan to demolish the eastern galleries and to erect a £16m five storey block.

Yacht sold!

IMPETUS, the IC yacht has been sold. It had a history of unmitigated disaster. When it was bought several years ago it was found to be defective and it took six months for the repairs to be completed. Yacht Club managed to run it aground in July 1979 (the rudder fell off) and the Union has been paying for its mooring at Gosport ever since. A survey discovered myriad faults and so it was put up for sale through a broker, and it's now been purchased for £4,350 by a private buyer.

AGM INQUORATE!

Last Tuesday ICU's Annual General Meeting was held in Mech Eng 220. The meeting will probably be remembered for the large amount of time spent on procedural wrangles.

The meeting opened at 1:10pm with about 250 people present. Jon Firth took the Chair, and whilst the meeting was discussing the minutes of the last meeting, a procedural motion was moved to change the order of business, to consider a motion on Southside Halls next. Jon Firth refused to accept the procedural motion, but his ruling was challenged. John Passmore (ICU President) took the Chair, whilst the challenge to the Chairman's ruling was discussed. The challenge was defeated on a vote, so the order of business was left unchanged.

John Passmore then gave his annual report. He was questioned on the increases in residence fees. Mr William Cortazzi was particularly interested to know what part of the 12% increase was for "Capital Replacement" and it transpired that the increase might be 8% if a College deal to buy a hall of residence fell through.

After the President's report was accepted, a procedural motion was moved to consider the motions on SCC finances and Southside next. Jon Firth refused to accept it, so the meeting went through the rigmarole of a challenge to the Chairman's ruling. This was carried on a hand count. However, Mr Duncan Suss (FELIX Editor, 1977/8) asked that the last vote be retaken on a show of Unioncards (*at which Mr Suss subsequently successfully voted with his Accesscard-Ed.*). This vote was counted, and the challenge to the Chairman's ruling upheld.

The meeting continued to discuss the procedural motion to consider two motions next. This was passed. Immediately another change to the order of business to consider the Byelaw changes next was proposed. This was carried on the vote. Liz Lindsay then moved that the colours to staff be awarded next, and this was carried. Those receiving colours included Prof Sutton Pro-Rector, John Smith College Secretary, Arthur Turner Financial Secretary (who was also awarded Union Life membership), Malcolm Aldridge Financial Assistant, Martin Parsons Refectory, Tom Cottrell, Nat West Bank Liaison Officer, Dave Burtenmaster Estates, Sue Telling Welfare Assitant, Maz Fellows FELIX phototypesetter operator, Caroline Waitt Nightline Coordinator, I Thomas Domestic Manager, Dr Ken Weale Union Senior Treasurer, Jen Hardy-Smith Union Administrator and Pat Baker Union typist.

Annie Laethean was given a UGA for her work for the Union. UGAs were also presented to Liz Lindsay and Ms Snee. As Liz Lindsay was about to present a UGA to John Passmore, William Cortazzi moved an emergency motion to prevent all three Executive members from receiving UGAs, but this was not accepted.

Byelaw changes were then discussed. The first extended the grounds for life membership of the Union, the second abolished ICWA, and the third put the Entertainments Chairman on Union Council. These were all passed, and will now go to the Governing Body for approval.

The SCC grant claim motion was discussed. This was passed and the UGM instructed UFC (Union Finance Committee) to add the subscriptions back to SCC's grant claim. The subscription had previously been deleted by UFC.

At this point Gordon Quartey successfully challenged the quorum, so the AGM closed due to inquoracy just after 2:00pm.

The reports of the Deputy President, Hon Sec, Returning Officer and other officers were not discussed. Thus, the Dep Rep elections and elections at the last UGM still have to be ratified. The reports will be brought up again at the first UGM of next session. (*Will this be another ICWA, tossed from inquorate UGM to inquorate UGM with gay abandon?—Ed.*)

Letters to the Editor



Dear Stevie Baby

At Bernard Sunley we were amused to see the letter from all those important people in Selkirk Hall (FELIX 585).

Perhaps some of them want ICU posts next year?

Note the sentence: "Which is worth more: the wellbeing of students catered for by the special, personalised social environment of these halls, or a few thousand pounds in rent?"

We find this Passmorian disregard for the sanctity of greenbacks very touching, especially among people training for not-very-special, impersonal, anti-social jobs in industry.

To preserve their innocence, we feel it is only fair to offer them Luigi (our warden). We hardly ever see him anyway, and when we do we can't understand a blind word he says.

We would rather have the few grand: a) to renovate our slum; b) to pay off the £200 plus in fines which Herr Tequilla has meted out in order to make us like him.

Yours in charity
House 44 Hit Squad

Dear Sir

It is our opinion that the merging of Selkirk/Tizard and Keogh/Falmouth Halls would destroy their potential to provide a supportive and stimulating environment.

As we see the proposal one warden (instead of two) supported by a subwarden in each unit will be overseeing nearly 200 students. Inevitably the attention received by each unit will be reduced. In return two penthouse flats will be available for rent and six rooms previously allocated as wardens' places will be available to students in the normal way. Supposedly less students will have to commute from home or

live in 'crummy' bedsits. However, we feel that hall will become a less desirable place in which to live.

Many aspects of hall life will suffer and we would like to outline why they are so valuable to preserve.

The hall's small size makes it possible for the warden to know everybody and to be aware of their individual needs as they respond to the strains of College life. He is also readily available to advise, being familiar with many aspects of College—far more than a sub-warden, who being a student, does not have the experience.

Many social events currently organised with the warden's guidance and encouragement would be impractical for a large combined hall. Selkirk not only organises hall social events but contributes actively to College Rag with a float in the Rag Procession, stalls at the Fête, etc. Students in a large hall would certainly feel less commitment to such ventures. Alternatively, is the warden to be expected to do twice the work, with different activities in each unit? We suggest one warden will not have time to do the hall justice.

More pressure and responsibility could be placed on the subwardens; or will their numbers be increased, hence reducing the number of rooms available and gains in rent.

A hall like Selkirk thrives on community spirit, where everybody's part is significant and involvement is encouraged, be it in social events or at community meetings where all residents may air their views. (At a recent meeting they voted unanimously against the proposal to merge the halls.) The alternative in a large hall is a representative committee, and we seen in College as a whole the dubious success of such an indirect approach.

Without such an environment, which we suggest arises from a small community where the warden's close involvement is possible, the quality of life in hall will plummet. Southside will contain merely hostel-type rooms.

To subject nearly 400 students to life in "dead" halls at a College with little enough of a supportive atmosphere, to save perhaps 6 students a daily journey, seems unjustifiable madness.

Yours sincerely

J Atkinson, Hall Sec
A Warby, Hall Treasurer
C A Milner, Hall Treasurer
1981/2
Helen Bolt, Acting Hall Sec,
1981/2

Dear Sir

At a recent UGM, May 26, the motion discussing the merging of Tizard and Selkirk Halls was not held owing to the meeting being inquorate. I should like to make a few comments about the way in which this matter has been dealt with.

To a non-member of the Student Residence Committee it appears that the whole issue has been discussed with a minimum of consultation, so as to get the merger fixed without causing trouble. This cavalier attitude is indefensible, surely those most experienced in Hall life should be given first say in matters which affect them most directly. On Thursday's edition of STOIC, Mark Clegg (a member of SRC) claimed to have consulted members of Willis Jackson House about the proposed changes in Hall accommodation. With all respect, he is failing to do his job properly if these are the only people he consults.

In a discussion following the UGM, both Rich Archer and Mark Clegg said that the views of students outside Hall had also to be considered. I fully except this viewpoint, however, if the social life of a Hall is to be jeopardised in exchange for an uncertain gain in extra places, then surely the present residents have a useful role to play in such a decision.

Finally I should just like to ask, why if the present arrangements for Hall work, do they have to be changed.

Yours faithfully

A T Smith

Dear Ed

After the success of the Physics Open Day (Fiasco) on Friday, May 15, I should like to thank both members of staff for providing tours around their research groups, and the students who helped during the Day.

Your relieving Dep Rep

Mark Gillett

Sir

Your current campaign against John Passmore is disgraceful.

Some of the things you have alleged in it are tantamount to suggesting that not only is he ICU President, but that he was involved in a shady deal concerning rape alarms, he cheated in his sabbatical election campaign, squandered £500 of Union money without a second thought, he is regularly drunk in the Union Bar, he's Irish, he's an ineffectual organ of the Rector's opinion, he's a lousy president, and he doesn't deserve a UGA..

All these charges are as unjustified as they are scandalous. Mind you, I couldn't help laughing.

Pettifogger Jarnoyce, BSC

Dear Steve

Whilst I realise not too many students will have found the time to wade through the small print of last week's supplement, it was most disappointing to find neither you, nor one of your minions had bothered to do so either. As I was reading Miss Lindsay's report I found myself distracted by the incredible number of typesetting errors. The other two reports being only slightly better. This year, FELIX has managed to attain a very high standard in its production and it is a pity that you have allowed it to slip even this once.

Yours

Ruth Hildebrand

Ed's Note

Dear Ms Wildebeest

Do you not think it unwise for someone as fat and horrendously ugly as yourself to dare criticise a person so unfairly vindictive as myself?

To answer your point: I, and my minions, found ourselves distracted by text so incredibly boring that our proofreading efforts were directed to pastures more pleasant.

You are correct to point out the high standard of production maintained in this year's FELIX but I must confess that I was genuinely surprised that a person of such low intelligence would have noticed. I stand corrected. However, do not take the trouble to write another petty, nitpicking letter to this organ again—unless you want me to print a picture of you with no panties on, that is! Furthermore, how dare you be so presumptuous as to address me by my Christian name. What's wrong with "Sir"?

Dear Sir

I was quite annoyed to read Mr G O'Reilly's letter in last week's FELIX in which he refers to the "legitimate desire of the Irish people for a united country". He must mean the desire of the Eire Government because he appears to be totally unaware of the fact that a large majority of people in Northern Ireland wish to remain part of the UK. It is unfortunate the views of the Unionist politicians are not as well publicised as those of Republican criminals. Despite some rash behaviour (blown up out of all proportions by the media), the Rev Ian Paisley has attempted to express the concern of the Ulster people but has time and time again been represented by the media as an extremist. He is trying to make Mrs Thatcher aware of the Southern Government despite anything Mr Haughey may say at summit talks.

How can anyone in N Ireland, Protestant or Catholic, trust an Eire Government which has never totally divorced itself from terrorists whom it quietly protects by refusing to sign the European Convention on Terrorism and by not extraditing terrorists to N Ireland.

The real problem is the successful propaganda campaign by the IRA. This is assisted by the Eire Government's actions and therefore attracts support from Americans who have more money than sense. The world's media are also continually "getting it wrong". It is time for Mrs Thatcher and Mr Adkins to put the Eire MPs in their place and pay more attention to the majority in N Ireland rather than listening to the whimperings of Messrs Haughey, Blaney, etc.

Loyalist paramilitaries have only developed in response to the Government's noncommitted actions in N Ireland. Mr O'Reilly overlooks the fact that most of the paramilitaries' actions are against Republican sympathisers and not against the security forces. But these loyalists are not well armed and look to Britain to provide the protection against the IRA. The army are quite capable of suppressing the terrorists in NI if they were allowed to do so by Mrs Thatcher's Government.

To conclude, I must say that I do not condone any violence in Ulster from either "side", but it is up to Mrs Thatcher to respect the view of the majority of people in N Ireland and to take the necessary action to dispel any doubts about N Ireland's position in the UK. Certain in the N Ireland people's campaign to preserve their sovereignty, letters such as that of Mr O'Reilly are definitely not required.

Yours sincerely

Jim Boucher

Dear Sir

I am remitting this correspondence to you in order to remonstrate about the recent apparitions in your publication with regard to the verbose and preposterous usage, or more precisely perhaps, abuse of the English language as a means of communication.

I refer in particular, sir, to the inclusion of a certain Nick Cox's remittance of two weeks' past, in which the good lad, "during (his) semi-inebriated wanderings around the ale-houses of South Kensington", proceeded to construct an admittedly eloquent if somewhat lengthy diatribe apertaining to the exorbitant amounts needlessly expended by those students who customarily repair to, and/or reside in, the

establishment on your premises, therein referred to as "Stan's Bar".

I wish to register formally my aversion to the gratuitous misuse of our often elegant, frequently expressive language in order to purvey a meaningless and ludicrous sentiment.

Yours in anticipation of an improvement of the aforementioned situation,

S E Farrell IF

Sir

It was with great regret that I handed in my resignation as RCS President last week. However, even after the time lapse and an enormous amount of reflection, I still come up with the feeling that my decision was the correct one.

I have always believed that a President of a Union is there to represent the students of the Union and also equally as importantly to take responsibility for their actions. I still hold that belief. The reason for my resignation therefore must involve conflict with those beliefs.

When I first heard of last week's unsuccessful attempt on Davy my initial reaction was to discover who was involved and discipline them through Union channels. However I later found that two members of the Executive had given their support to the attempt. Furthermore a conscious effort had been made to not contact me for fear I may disapprove.

I fail to see how I can be expected to represent and be responsible for an organisation which shows this contempt of the President's views.

It is not the first time that lack of consultation has occurred and the people involved were well informed of the feelings expressed above on the first occurrence.

It was with great sadness therefore, that I was left in the position where the only option open to me, if I was to stand by my beliefs, was to resign.

I would like to take the opportunity to offer my sincere thanks to all those people who have helped me during the year and supported me through the traumatic period and to express again my deep sadness at having to take this decision.

Yours

Rich Archer

Small Ads

●**.75 Auto Colt Pistol**—price available on request, totally incapable of firing: **Crossbow**—Rapier Mk 4. French-polished stock and small game hunting bolts, £35ono; **Fieldglasses**—Commodore Mag, 16 x 50, £15ono. M Hawes, 218 Linstead Hall.

●**Flatshare** Girl still wanted to occupy own room in wonderful Fulham flat during summer. Keen Henry Wood promoter preferred. Martin S Taylor 01-731 6066 or Int. 4179.

●**8 plastic one litre collapsible bottles** for photographic chemicals or...£1.60 each. Contact Ade Adebajo, Aero 1.

●**GS750**, S reg, VG condition, £800. Geoff Perry, int 4077 or Mines letter-racks.

●**One china breakfast set**, 72 piece, such good value! Contact Dr SH Caroline Fitzsimon, no fixed abode.

●**Yamaha 250XS**, S reg, £350. Jill Pen-nock, int 4052.

●**Ladies 3-speed Triumph bicycle**, £35. Phone Liz, 2635.

●**Flat for four** available from end of June in Hammersmith. 2 dble rms, spacious lounge, kitchen, bathroom, £19.85pw each. Contact S Collier, Physics 3 or call at 38 Hamlet Gdns.

●**Room in house** in West Drayton, £15pw and bills, summer only. Jill Pen-nock, int 4052.

●**Colony Holidays**—monitors help for Covent Garden Day, May 30, plus Ceilidh after in Quiet Room, Sherfield Building. Contact M Clarke, int 3113.

●**Congratulations** Simon on your early retirement, from Helen and Jan.

●**Yamaha m/c 80cc**, 6,400 miles only, red, chrome gc, £100. Phone 581-5382 after 6:30pm.

●**Male rabbit** seeks useful employment. Apply "Rabbit", DOC PG.

●**Dear PFF**: Apologies accepted. Pity they stopped at the knees. The Don.

●**Dear H44HS**: Job well done. Cosa Nostra.

●**Wheelchair** for hire. Contact Luigi, BSH.

Hamsoc

LAST SUNDAY HAMSOC competed in the RSGB 144MHz low power contest, the general idea of the contest was to work as many stations as far away as possible. For the contest we managed to borrow a shed on the electrical engineering department roof, so we felt we had a good chance of winning since our station operated close to the upper power limit (from a good location). In the event conditions were very poor and only 170 stations were contacted during the eight hours of the contest, however, we managed to make contacts in eight countries including most of the near Europeans. It'll be a few months before the results are announced but hopefully Imperial College's callsign will be near the top of the list. In all, eight members of the club were involved with a couple of visitors from other colleges helping out.

Rag

THE COMMITTEE met on Thursday, May 21.

Our charities for next year are: National Deaf Children's Society, National Toy Library and a local charity which is yet to be decided—so if you know any worthy local cause, let us know.

Thanks to everyone who helped at and attended the Rag Fête, it was a great success with over £600 raised.

Next year's committee are Bill Durodie (Chairman), Matt Smith (Treasurer), Ronan McDonald (token transvestite/secretary), Patrick Coll (Rag Mag Editor) and Caroline Godin (Publicity Officer). We've already started arranging cunning stunts for next year, please support them and have a bit of a giggle at the same time.

Labour Club

THE 500 men and women who set off from Liverpool on May 1, to march to London as a protest against unemployment will arrive this weekend. Their arrival will be marked by a mass march and rally starting at 1:00pm (assemble 12:00 noon) on Sunday from Speakers Corner in Hyde Park. (This march will go ahead even if the Home Secretary bans it.)

Maryland

Chicken Centre

We have just opened near South Ken Station (2A Exhibition Road) and are offering a student discount on all our food (on production of Union-card).

A few sample take-away prices

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| 1 chicken | 50p |
| 2 pieces | 80p |
| chips | 20p |
| curry | 80p |
| rice | 30p |
| apple pie | 20p |

etc

7:30 — midnight

Phil Lloyd Appeal

A WORD of thanks to those who supported the Appeal. The original target has been well and truly exceeded to such an extent that we can now look at a more sophisticated system to allow Phil to produce engineering design drawings. Phil, being totally paralysed from the neck down, can only use a mouth stick.

At the present moment we are looking into the possibility of purchasing a terminal graphics VDU and a DMP-7 Intelligent plotter to interface with his mini-computer (on extended loan from Prof Baker's unit at Cranfield Institute of Technology). The total set-up could cost in the order of £2,000. The final outcome of the evaluation by Cranfield, the manufacturers and Phil will be publicised later.

How you all supported the Appeal:

| Sponsors | Donations | Total |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| £ | £ | £ |
| Mech Eng | 488 | 250 |
| Past PG students | 170 | 20 |
| H E Nuclear Physics | 100 | — |
| Computer Centre | 59 | 11 |
| Elec Eng | 34 | 32 |
| C&G Motor Club | — | 77 |
| Lloyds Bank | 209 | — |
| F&SK Evening Instit | 120 | — |
| Others | 66 | — |
| TOTAL | | 1636 |
| Dedicated, but not yet received | | 73 |

The following ran in the London Marathon and were sponsored for the Phil Lloyd Appeal: Ed Clayton (High Energy Nuclear Physics); Bob Collinson (Lloyds Bank and Fulham and S Kensington Evening Institute); Peter Saunders (Mech Eng). Also running from Imperial College: Neil Wilkinson and Brian Clark, both from Geology.

I should like to give my personal thanks to the various collectors and all those who gave me encouragement in organising the Appeal

Pete Saunders

PG Tips

WELL, another year seems to have gone by and its time to think about elections again. Papers are up in the Union for nominations for the President, Treasurer and Secretary of the Post Graduate Group. These are responsible positions since the PG Group is a subtle but effective voice for PGs and after all it channels a certain amount of money from ICU to you. If you think that you might be interested in standing for any of these posts then feel free to contact any of us for a chat.

The papers will be taken down on Friday, June 12 and there will be an AGM open to all PGs on Wednesday, June 17 at 1:15pm to hear the results for the first three posts and to elect the social secretary and welfare officer.

Enough of this official stuff. There will be a Ploughman's Lunch preceding the AGM. Tickets at £1.00 will be available from the Union Office. This promises to be a well attended event. So we hope that you will come and enjoy the penultimate (sob) PG Group event of this year.

David Wood

CND

NATIONAL CND are organising a train to Glasgow for the demonstration on Saturday, June 6, so if you're bored with exams, come and have a look round the submarine bases on the Clyde. The train costs £15 and leaves on Friday evening, returning on Sunday afternoon; tickets from Ian Heavens, Atmospheric Physics Group, Huxley Building. Despite a three month ban on marches, Strathclyde police are allowing the demonstration to go ahead, which is jolly kind of them as we were going to march anyway.

Nearer to home, this Sunday sees the arrival of the Liverpool and Bradford marches against unemployment, with a rally at midday at Hyde Park Corner followed by a march to Trafalgar Square and speeches. CND supports increased employment in socially responsible ways as an alternative to labour-intensive arms industries, so join us and welcome the Liverpool unemployed on Sunday (meet 11:45am outside the Huxley Building, Queensgate).



Year of the Disabled—Just a sick joke?

1981 has been designated the International Year of the Disabled. But unless action is taken now it will also see the most vicious attack on the rights of the disabled in Britain for generations.

The attack comes from a committee chaired by influential Labour MP, Ms Renee Short. The Short Report (the second report of the House of Commons Social Services Committee on Perinatal and Neonatal Mortality) challenges the basic human rights of the handicapped.

Guinea Pigs

Firstly the report wants research to be carried out on unwanted handicapped infants "of no particular benefit to them and which may carry some risk of harm". This change in the law would make these babies as expendable as laboratory animals.

Price of Life

The report goes on to describe the savings that can be made from avoiding the care of the handicapped altogether. The Short Report puts pressure on Area Health Authorities to screen all pregnant women to detect handicapped babies in time to abort them. The report states: "In a high risk area such as South Wales the annual savings from avoiding the care of severely handicapped survivors exceeds the annual cost (of screening) in the second year and every year thereafter".

The Short Report shares the view of the Office of Health Economics whose booklet "Mental Handicap—ways forward" recommended screening as the cheapest way of dealing with the problem of disablement. By disposing of a handicapped person's life in this way it is estimated a saving of over £225,000 can be made.

Dangers

The Report has glossed over the dangers of mass screening. The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists remains opposed to mass screening because of the high risks of mother and baby. The procedure used, amniocentesis, involves inserting a needle into the pregnant

Bookshop News

Engraved Pewter Tankards

We now stock a selection of these tankards, all bearing the College Crest. If by chance one is required with special lettering, this can be ordered at a cost of 15p per letter. In choosing the six designs, I have tried to cater for all tastes, the prices are competitive and all tankards bear the symbol of the Association of British Pewter Craftsmen.

New Penguin Titles

The Yawning Heights—Alexander Zinoviev, King Penguin, £4.95

A Confederacy of Dunces—John Kennedy Toole, King Penguin, £2.50

The Orchid Trilogy—Jocelyn Brooks, King Penguin, £2.95

Lamb—Bernard MacLaverty, King Penguin, £1.95

Labyrinths—Jorge Luis Borges, King Penguin, £2.50

Virgin in the Garden—A S Byatt, King Penguin, £2.95

English History 1914-1945—A J P Taylor, Pelican, £3.50

Weather Forecasting the Country Way—Robin Page, Penguin, £1.00

Wheels Within Wheels—Dervla Murphy, Penguin, £1.50

Letters From America 1946-1951—Alistair Cooke, Penguin, £1.50

Buying a House or Flat—L E Vickers, Penguin, £1.75

Carnival in Romans—Emmanuel le Roy Ladurie, Penguin, £3.25

Seven Steps to the Sun—Fred & Geoffrey Hoyel, Penguin SF, £1.25

woman's womb and withdrawing some of the amniotic fluid. In one study one in twenty-five women who had undergone amniocentesis suffered serious complications. A letter in the *Lancet* told of a thirty-five year-old woman who underwent the procedure in the sixteenth week of pregnancy. Twelve weeks later, the mother delivered a premature baby. The baby was so malformed that he died four minutes later. Amniocentesis had revealed a perfectly normal child but it had caused amputation of his limbs and severe injuries to his head and pelvis. Imagine how the mother must have felt.

Error

Another problem is that the test is not very accurate. Twins can be mistaken for spina bifida and aborted in error. Similarly, it is not possible to assess the degree of handicap. An article in the *New Scientist* reported that "the human cost of preventing some 555 spina bifida births per year (by prenatal diagnosis and abortion) in England and Wales would be 120 dead or damaged normal infants."

Liquidation

What the Short Report's recommendation will do if implemented will be to divide people in to two groups, one with the right to live and the other expendable. If that seems familiar, remember under Nazi Germany the handicapped "useless bread eaters", were the first to be 'liquidated'.

Alternative

There is an alternative. It is well established that the incidence of mentally handicapped births is linked to socio-economic and environmental factors. Currently no research is being done to establish why this is so. We want to make people at IC aware of Short's recommendations so that they can make a positive contribution to the Year of the Disabled by standing up for the fundamental rights shared by us all, handicapped or fit, rich or poor, loved or unloved.

Frank Rouseel and J P Stanley

Reviews

The Phoenix

SINCE LAST YEAR'S edition of *The Phoenix* was deservedly well circulated, a fair number of you will already know a little about the magazine. For the rest of you, however, a few words of introduction will be in order. *The Phoenix* was founded in 1886 by H G Wells, who at the time was a student at Imperial College. Since that time the magazine has taken many forms, and the views and aims of its editors have varied greatly. Mr Wells would certainly have approved of the philosophy of the magazine over the past few years. The aim has been to present original work by members of the College in the field of art rather than science; drawings, poems, stories and articles of general interest, as well as more obscure art forms, have all been included. This year's offering, edited by Sean Giblin, achieves this end admirably.

The magazine inevitably invites comparison with last year's edition, but such comparisons would be rather unfair. Although the magazine has the same format (A4 size, glossy cover, well printed on art paper, etc) the approach to the selection of material is somewhat different. It is noticeable, for example, that this year's *Phoenix* is a lot stronger on photographs and poetry. The poems include some real gems (Patrick Coll's "Shall I compare thee to a pint of Guinness?" for example) and a lot of thought and care has gone into their presentation and layout. It's nice to see an original H G Wells poem reprinted from an early edition of *The Phoenix*; it's well worth buying the magazine for that poem alone. It's a pity, though, that Mr Giblin did not see fit to reprint the original footnotes to the poem—surely these were just as funny as the poem itself?

The magazine also showcases work by no fewer than four photographers, all of whom have turned in some very nice work. It is the photos in particular that justify the high quality printing.

Unfortunately, while the magazine scores over last year's in photos and poems it loses on prose. Dave Britton's "Testimony of a Traveller" is the only piece which stands out in this category, the rest being rather uninteresting. However, there are a number of unusual items which more than compensate for this fault. Ian Wiczoek's four page strip is worthy of mention as is the page of sheet music by Barney McCabe "Brontosaurus Blues". The excellent use of artwork and the written word to complement one another, which is apparent throughout the magazine, is best typified by the incorporation of a Scaramouche chess puzzle into a drawing by Margaret Ramsey.

In summary, this year's *Phoenix* is worth 50p of anybody's money. As with all such productions, risks have been taken, and not everybody will like all the material. However, this year most of the risks seem to have paid off. Buy one and find out for yourself.

Dave Jago

Choir Concert

However high the reputation of a student choir, one never quite expects them to achieve their customary standard during the Damoclean summer term; this concert was an outstanding exception. For although impending exams had slightly reduced the size of the choir, they had obviously been thoroughly rehearsed, and there was certainly no reduction in quality.

The first work performed was Handel's *Dixit Dominus*, a spectacularly lively exultation of praise (is *romp* too irreverent a word?) with plenty of fast movements demanding the clear diction and rhythmic singing for which IC Choir is renowned. Sadly, the opening was rather strained, and the initial 'Dixit, dixit Dominus Domino meo' lacked the punchy attack it needed; but the choir quickly warmed up and were well on top of the later movements, even at the literally breathtaking speeds Eric Brown took them at.

After the interval (I thought the purpose of coffee tokens was to shorten queues) came Mendelssohn's Second Symphony, a great surprise to anyone who, like me, always assumed Mendelssohn started his symphonic output at No. 3. In fact, most of the audience seemed quite unfamiliar with the work, and it was a pity there was so little written about it in the programme.

The symphony starts with three movements following a more or less conventional pattern, but the fourth movement takes the form of a short cantata beginning with, ending with, and generally based on a short motif (Alles was Odem hat, lobe den Herrn) which recurred so often it seemed to be something of a joke among the members of the orchestra.

Some of the choir were concerned lest they repeat last term's mistake and exhaust themselves during the first half of the concert, leaving too little energy for the second. But the first three movements of the Mendelssohn obviously provided enough of a rest, and the Lobgesang was presented with both the force and the confidence it needed.

Much criticism has been aimed at the soloists in previous choir concerts, but apart from the counter-tenor who seemed to have some sort of frog in his throat, these soloists did the choir great credit. Among all the solos, I can't resist singling out Richard Frewer's beautifully moving 'Hüter, ist die Nacht bald hin?'

But it was the choir's concert, and the choir who made it a great concert. The tenors, notably, produced a very fine noise, all the more remarkable since there were only eleven of them (I counted 'em). They also managed to avoid being swamped by the rather heavy basses, who on one or two occasions hinted that they might have been more at home in Cardiff Arms Park.

The gold medal, though, must go to the sopranos. *Dixit Dominus* is a five-part work (SSATB) so there are only half as many sopranos singing each line. As if this wasn't enough of a handicap, Handel rather unchivalrously makes them sing a top B flat at every available opportunity. Admittedly the very first high note was a struggle, but having gained self-confidence, the sopranos went on to produce a sound of quite impressive clarity and controlled power and they kept this up right to the end of the concert.

It was obvious from the prolonged applause that the rest of the audience had appreciated the performance as much as I had, and wished to thank Eric Brown and the choir for a most enjoyable evening.

Martin S Taylor

SUBWARDEN ASSISTANT SUBWARDENS FALMOUTH—KEOGH HALL

Applications are invited for the post of Subwarden of Falmouth/Keogh Hall. Rent free accommodation in the form of a small self-contained flat is provided. The essential duties of the post are to assist the Warden in the day-to-day running of the Hall.

In addition, one or more Assistant Subwardenships may be available. These posts carry with them rent-free accommodation in the form of a study bedroom in return for duties associated with those of the Subwarden.

The posts require individuals who can display conscientious application, initiative, personality and responsible outlook.

The successful applicants for any of the above posts would normally be postgraduates, but applications from others will be considered on their merits.

Applications, including a concise but informative curriculum vitae, should be made to the Warden, Dr P W Jowitt, Department of Civil Engineering. The closing date is Wednesday, June 10, 1981. A single application will suffice for both categories of appointment.

SPORT

Cricket

IC v QMC (ULU Cup)

ELEVEN INTREPID cricketers and one bearded Welshman, travelling under the pretence of being an umpire, set out on safari to Essex. With Flinstone's younger son Bam Bam at the wheel the boys of the QMC could quite reasonably have expected a walkover as in the first round, when it took Guys over a day just to find the ground.

However, having arrived at the ground our driver and captain, D Everett, surpassed himself by losing the toss and IC were put in to bat on a wicket that resembled a wet sponge. Our captain not satisfied with losing the toss opened the batting himself and gave us the solid start of 7 before being removed lbw. The entire IC middle order then followed their captain's example and IC were reeling at 37 for 7. Then Goddard and Rook came together and our middle order batsmen were shown just how to score runs on a abysmal wicket. You use the edge of the bat not the middle. QMC fielders were thrown into utter confusion and allowed IC to scrape 75 off 40 overs with Goddard left on 21 not out.

After a resplendent tea, IC bowlers were prepared as usual to make up for the deficiencies in the batting.

J Thomson arm steaming (at least tepid) in to bowl the first ball, which after being snicked by the batsman was casually dropped by, you guessed it, Everett esq. With the second ball, Thomson infuriated by his captain's inadequacies, had the batsman plumb lbw and the trail of QMC batsmen back to the pavillion had begun. This trend was accelerated by the introduction of Slator's spin bowling? With a combination of long hops and full tosses QMC batsmen threw their wickets away in desperation. QMC were all out for 51 and the victorious 1st XI march on in to the next round of the cup, looking forward to playing cricket and not water-polo in the next round.

V Capt

Ed's Note

The handwriting on this article was appalling! Next time, type it or write neater or your report won't be included.

IC Union Duplicating/Postal Services
As from June 1 all material bought from the
Union Duplicating Services has to be paid for
in cash. Cash also has to be paid by clubs and
societies using the Union postal facility.



Social Colours, UGAs and the whole charade

Congratulations to Liz Lindsay on receiving her deserved Union General Award. I cannot, however, bring myself to congratulate John Passmore or Rachel Snee on theirs. Only last week Ms Snee was expressing her desire to turn down a UGA if offered one (these days, a practice with more respect and honour attached to it than being thought fit to receive one in the first place!) What a noble thought! That she would actually think of herself as undeserving of a UGA. No such luck! Ms Snee's reason was she had little respect for John Passmore as President—the man who awards such honours. However, Snee (two-faced as ever) would now lead us to believe that she has renewed her faith in Mr Passmore's abilities.

Rachel Snee has only two things going for her—the fact that she voted against John Passmore's UGA, and the size of her breasts.

What of Passmore's UGA? This is voted on

by Union Council and hence does not carry behind it the stigma of having been awarded by an incompetent, lazy, good for nothing, drunk of an ICU President. However, Council with only a few exceptions, are the biggest bunch of ego-centric, pseudo-politico, nancy-boy pettyfogging twats that I have ever had the pleasure of insulting. Not only do they crawl up the College's arsehole on every matter from residence to refectories, they have the gall to poke their heads out and shout "Hey, chaps, come on in, it's great!"

They fail dismally to represent the students who voted them "into power" and God-only-knows why they think Passmore deserves a UGA.

At this stage, let me tell you now that I'm bloody annoyed about this and I intend to rant and rave for a further few paragraphs yet. Bored? Listless? Think I "go on" a bit to much? Then piss off as you probably haven't understood or cared about a single word I have written this year.

May I resume, what is a UGA? It's the highest award doled out by the Union; all except for his own, at the President's discretion. Only four or five a year. It is awarded for outstanding contributions to the Union.

Some say John Passmore has done "a lot behind the scenes" and "only the bad things get reported". In no uncertain terms—bollocks! Speaking as a serious observer of the Union, John Passmore arrives at the office around 10:00am, just in time for coffee. Then he puts his feet on his desk and waits for Ruth Hildebrand to trot up to the office. At this point they pet for the rest of the morning. Then they have lunch together. Then they have sherry from the Union Office's vast supplies of sherry (all bought out of your Union subscriptions folks!). Then they pet more. John then signs a few forms, gets pissed in the Queen's and then goes to Residence Committee where he is trampled all over due to his brain being fuddled by alcohol. (Then he gets more pissed in the bar and goes to bed.)

If this is the "behind the scenes" work, is it any wonder that "only the bad things get reported." John Passmore has done nothing this year which could be described as constructive for the Union.

It is a mockery of the awards system and a disgrace to the small band of people with UGAs whom Mr Passmore will be joining. Likewise Rae Snee, who certainly could not be described as lazy, but simply misguided by her own personal venom for the average student.

I urge Passmore and Snee to consider carefully just what a UGA means.

What about social colours? Considering the bitterness, personal anxiety and bitchy backbiting these "awards" cause, I am tempted to say scrap 'em. But so many people seem to appreciate "being acknowledged for the part they played." So touching! If you've just been awarded them, what have you got? Basically, an ugly black, yellow and white tie which if you dare to wear you get labeled a poser, pseud, or hack. (I've only ever seen three being worn and the wearers would fit that description admirably.)

The only way to win in the social colours street credibility points game is to adopt a "couldn't care less" attitude. If you've just been awarded social colours, just remember that there's always someone who's done more who hasn't got them and someone who has done less who has. Where does that leave you?

While I'm trying hard not to cast aspersions on individuals who get colours, I did notice one thing. No fewer than nine people received colours for work on the INCOST Conference at Easter.

While not wishing to criticise any of those involved in this worthwhile venture I would say that if they all did one tenth (counting Liz Lindsay) of the work involved, none of them should have received colours. I feel colours committee and Liz Lindsay (as chief organiser) should have been more selective.

.....End of outburst. Assume normal student boring, ineffectual lifestyles.....

SCARAMOUCHE

I wonder how many of you remember Prong and Quirk, two of the lecherous mathematicians from Primelia who appeared in this column last year? Well, following the mysterious and sudden retirement of several wardens recently, each of them has been put in charge of two mixed halls of residence. Primelia has four of these, all different sizes; the largest are Lizard and Foulmouth, and the smallest Keyhole and Selclique. Prong has been put in charge of Lizard and Selclique and as soon as he heard this he dropped in on the Senior Warden to find the percentage of women in each of the four halls.

Later he met Quirk in the Queen's Legs.

'You realise' he boasted 'that of the two larger halls, mine has a higher proportion of women than yours.'

'What about the smaller halls?' asked Quirk.

'I win again. Selclique has a higher proportion of women than Keyhole.'

'It doesn't really worry me,' replied Quirk. 'Next year your two halls will be amalgamated, as will mine, and although there is to be no redistribution of women at all, my combined hall will have a greater proportion of women than yours.'

Now you may remember that Quirk is a statistician, and therefore is not totally truthful; and Prong is extremely doubtful about his last assertion. Is it possible that Quirk is telling the truth? Or can Prong be sure he is lying?

Solutions, comments, criticisms to me c/o FELIX Office. There is a prize of £5 (donated by Mend-a-Bike) for the first correct solution randomly selected at 1:00pm on Wednesday.

Many thanks to Michael Arthur for providing the inside information on which this puzzle is based.

Last Week's Solution

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| O | X | O |
| O | X | X |
| X | O | O |

Top Layer

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| X | X | O |
| X | O | X |
| O | X | X |

Middle Layer

Bottom Layer

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| O | O | X |
| X | X | O |
| O | X | O |

The winner is Jari Kallio, Mech Eng, who can collect his cheque on Monday afternoon.

What's On

Friday, May 29

•Christian Union Meeting, theme: "Gifts of the Father", ICCU DIY, 6:00pm, Music Room, 53 Princes Gate.

Sunday, May 31

•IC Group Unemployment March from Hyde Park to Trafalgar Square, meet 11:45am outside Huxley Building.

Wednesday, June 3

•United Nations Society AGM, 1:00pm, Southside Upper Lounge. Planning next year's activities and election of committee. All members to attend.

•IC LAS Latin American Party, 7:00pm, Union Upper Lounge.

Thursday, June 4

•STOIC Broadcast, 12:45 and 6:00pm.

This week's programme includes: FELIX 'behind closed doors'—STOIC's enquiry into the Monro's a Nurd photo scandal, an interview with the new Bookshop Manager, problems for cyclists round College, the Rag Procession, Rag & Drag Disco, Raft Race, Dramsoc's 3rd opera, an attempt at making pancakes, something that vaguely resembles a Blue Peter cookery sport and many more events you may or may not remember.

•Hang Gliding Club Meeting, 1:00pm, Stan's Bar.

•Gliding Club Meeting, 5:30pm, Aero 254.

•Summer singing, 5:45pm, 53 Princes Gate. All welcome—totally informal. Works include Haydn 'Nelson Mass'.

•ULU Gaysoc Meeting, 8:00pm, Room 2D, ULU Building, Malet St.