

# FELIX

NO.79 4 OCTOBER 1955 3d.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

The presidential Dinner and Dance was held at the Rembrandt Hotel. Among the speeches after dinner was A. V. S. de Reuck's reminder that "clangers are definitely out". Dancing, both inside and outside, went on till the early morning hours, when one poor taxi-driver's cab became a public thoroughfare. All in all, it was a most enjoyable evening.

Maidstone Civic Theatre saw the I.C. Dramatic Society's production of "Someone Waiting" by Emlyn Williams, during this Summer vacation. As Cheltenham has been the usual stage for the Tour in previous years the Society was on virgin territory in Maidstone. Although the venture was not a financial success, the impression they created was worthy of this energetic Society.

On Wednesday July 20th. a party of four Imperial College athletes, namely Dr. Tony Watts, "Bunny" Snellcock, Gordon Stewart, and Les Locke descended upon the Devon Constabulary Sports Meeting at Torquay.

Gordon Stewart won the 600 yds. from the Devon County Champion in the fast time, on a wet track, of 1min. 14.2secs.. Later in the afternoon Les Locke, running from the back mark in the "880" handicap came through to win in 1min. 50.8 secs..

The Team won the last event, the mile medley relay, convincingly, by 80yds..

Arrangements are now being made where it is hoped that a full-scale Team will be sent to compete in the 1956 meeting, also to be held at Torquay.

### STOP PRESS.

### LORD MAYOR'S SHOW :

Guildsmen on half of the floats, King's College on remainder. All women from King's. One float to carry Guild's Shield.

## COMMEMORATION BALL AT THE DORCHESTER.



Wed. Oct 26th. 8.30-2.30

RIGHT: THE RODERIC HILL BUILDING; (from the drawing by F. Weenys)

# THE EXPANSION OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE

## FIFTEEN MILLION POUND SCHEME

BY JOHN SCOTT SEELEY

For the last year the peaceful calm of Imperial College has been shattered by the roar of the air-compressor and the chatter of the pneumatic drill. The builders are in, and they will be staying with us for several more years. Between the years 1953 and 1962 the student population of this College will be expanded from 1500 to over 3000. To accommodate the extra numbers the College and Union Buildings will be added to, and in some cases, modified. It is a vast project, involving the expenditure of £15 millions of public funds.

During the past eighteen months four preliminary projects have been put in hand. One has been completed: a fourth storey having been added to the R.S.M. and Goldsmiths' extension of Guilds. The architects were Norman and Dawbarn. The Union Building (N. side of the Beit Building, close to the Albert Hall) is being converted from a two-storey building of 25,000 sq. ft. to a four-storey building of 50,000 sq. ft. Work began in July '54 and is due to be completed in July '56. A permanent refectory is already installed in the ground floor of this building. The architects are Sutcliff and Partners with Sir Hubert Worthington as consultant.

By far the largest of the present projects is the Roderic Hill Building on the South side of Prince Consort Rd., next to the Royal College of Music. The finished front of this building is shown in our illustration, from the drawing by Mr. Frank Weenys. This new building will give a net increase of 81,000 sq. ft. to house the expanded departments of Chemical Engineering and Aeronautics. Aeronautics is due by October '56 and Chemical Engineering by January '57. The architects are again Norman and Dawbarn with Sir Hubert Worthington, as consultant.

The large single-floor Bessemer Lab. in the R.S.M. is being converted to a three-storey building for use as engineering workshops and materials laboratories, giving 10,000 sq. ft. of additional space. Building began in January '55 and is scheduled for completion for the beginning of this session. The architects are Norman and Dawbarn.

For the future, plans of most interest to FELIX readers will be

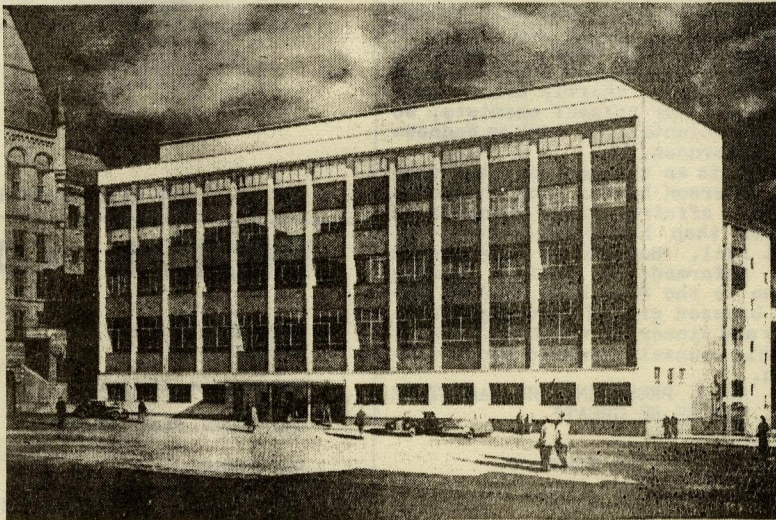
those applying to Union Buildings. As a Remembrance to Sir Roderic Hill the Beit Quadrangle will be laid out as a semi-formal garden with grass lawns and York stone paths, and some central feature which may be a fountain. The tennis club have received extra courts at Harlington as compensation for the loss of its old courts on this site. I.C. students will welcome the proposal that, at long last, the Hostel accommodation is to be increased. At present this has not been made definite, but we can hope for room for additional 100 students.

On the wider plane legal difficulties have arisen in clearing the Imperial Institute Rd. / Prince Consort Rd. site for the complete development of the College. This is a Government affair. In the debate on Scientific and Technical Manpower in the House of Commons on July 21st, Mr. Brooke (Financial Secretary to the Treasury) stated that; "in order to overcome these legal difficulties it may be necessary for the Government to introduce enabling legislation after the Recess".

### Comment

It can be justifiably stated that the progress of the Contractors on the Union Building seems to be very slow. Their job has been difficult in that they started with half-a-building and have had very little room to manoeuvre to build upwards. But as a team they seem inferior to those across the road working on the new Aeronautics and Chemical Engineering Building. Let us hope there is no inferior work put in to complete the contract by July '56.

The tentative proposals, at present under discussion, for the expansion of the Hostel, are that the whole of the Beit and Union Buildings will be given over to Union activities and student residential accommodation. General student feeling has been of this opinion for years past. If this college is to continue to provide University-level education, its residential accommodation must be increased at least four-fold. The dreadful alternative is that I. C. might become a Technical Institution with only its academic reputation left. It is the duty of all to ensure that this never happens.



## JIM ANDERSON, Union President



James Anderson came up in '50, took a second in Physics, and is now a third year Post-Graduate in spectroscopy. His career is littered with the usual landmarks which make a man fit to lead one of the largest Colleges in the country. He was head boy at Rutherford School, Newcastle, and has been President of R.C.S., I.C. Soccer Captain, and a member of Council for two years. He has hewn timber on a vacation job in Finland; attended Scientific Conferences in Sweden; played Soccer in Germany, and done one or two other things in France. At one time, Jim was Sports Editor of FELIX. His interests are unusually broad; in fact here lies his peculiar genius. He never pretends to knowledge which he does not possess, being the World's Worst Lifeman, and consequently, since most people are only too eager to air their ignorance, he generally listens rather than talks; thus he knows everything that is going on in the Union, and is in excellent touch with student opinion.

Every President of I.C. has an arduous task. He is burdened by a huge variety of committees, with perhaps a meeting per day throughout his reign. He must lend his Official presence to many social functions throughout the University. This year there is a special problem.

The Union showed many signs of disintegration last year. Each Club and Society functioned as well as ever (although not, to an old observer, better) but a cooperate Union spirit was absent. Union meetings were disorderly shambles, and often not worth attending. There were no Rags. From previous experience of hooligan students, the Senate was justified (in its own view) in banning Rags. But, from our point of view, it was not. Our spirit has been sapped. Our constituent Colleges have not been united in any original and harmlessly eccentric activity since the Victoria Rising of March 1953. In another year the Rag tradition will be lost for ever, and shortly after, perhaps like our present chemists, we shall "voluntarily" work on Wednesday afternoon.

It is an accident of time that Jim Anderson has to face this crux in our affairs. If he succeeds no better than his predecessors, he will fail. But he is experienced and informed; he prefers common sense to the Blue Book, and he has the blessed gift of forthright honesty and sincerity which will ensure for his counsels respect and attention.

AS A PRESIDENT, HE CANNOT BE BAD. CAN HE BE GREAT?

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## A LETTER from THE PRESIDENT

I consider the following points an essential guide to the student who is aiming to derive the utmost benefit from his stay at Imperial College.

- 1). Use the Union facilities to their fullest advantage.
- 2). Attend Hall Dinner as frequently as possible.
- 3). Attend one of the Formal Dances during the term.
- 4). Indulge in some athletic activity on Wednesday afternoons.
- 5). Join one of the social clubs.

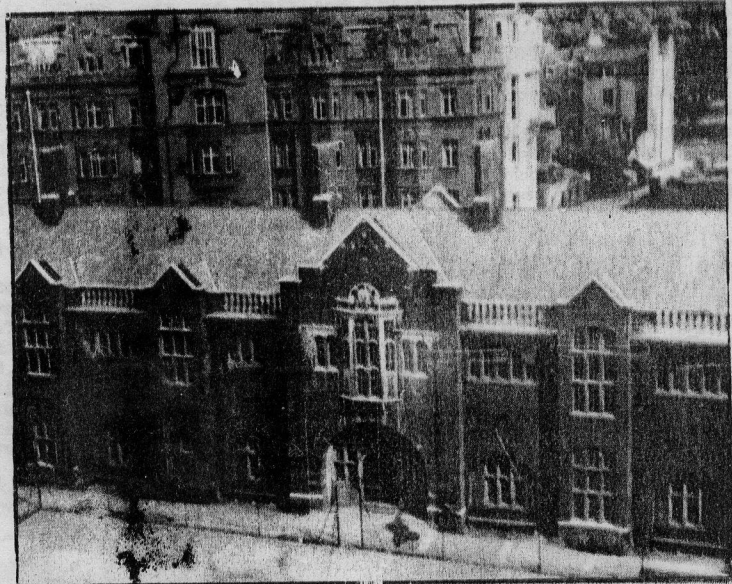
There are many people in the College who only use the Union as a Restaurant and never take part in Union affairs. These are the moronic technologists of tomorrow. The cultural and social activities of the Union help to combat this narrowing of interests, which is the evil in specialisation. Being ever present, these activities are there for the taking.

An essential attribute in the mature individual is his ability to be comfortable and natural on a formal occasion. This ability is only acquired through practice. Every Tuesday the College holds a Hall Dinner in Ayrton Hall. Any student may go along, (a booking must be made in the Union Office), and dine with members of the staff on terms of equality round the same table. The same arguments apply to Formal Dances; by attending these functions the most immature student will soon dispel his fears about being tongue-tied and leaden-footed.

The athletic prowess of this College is legion in the University. In order to achieve this position many students have indulged in Sport in midweek. Not only does this midweek Sport enhance the reputation of the College, but it also enables the individual to maintain a reasonable level of fitness. Unfortunately, some departments make it difficult for students to have Wednesday afternoons off, but that does not prevent the more sensible members from having their Sport. It is those students who remain chained to their benches during Wednesday afternoon who are to be pitied.

As well as taking part in some athletic endeavour, it is also a good idea to be associated with one of the Social Clubs. The latter form a very useful training ground for after-College life. If one wishes to become an expert Bridge or Chess player there are the necessary openings in the Union. The Wine Tasting Society will develop a novice into a connoisseur, etc. Finally, the Official posts in a Club always provide a good training ground where one can develop one's qualities of leadership and organising ability.

I believe that by following the above points the Freshman will gain the maximum rewards from his stay here, and will be a perfectly fitted individual to take up a position of responsibility in the Scientific World.



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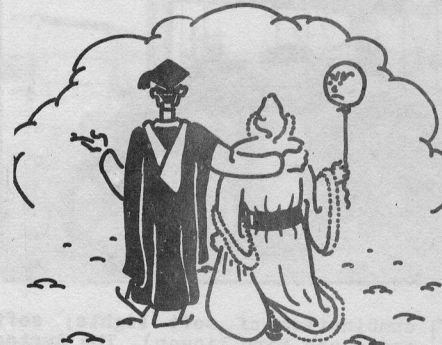
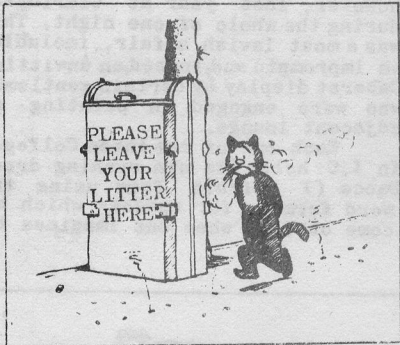
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## THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

This FELIX is something of a trial. As far as we know, the layout of three (and not two) columns with right hand justification (an O.K. word for this year) has not been used in this paper before. It probably will not be used again.

Papers like Sennet receive a large bonus, grant, or whatever you care to call it to assist them financially. We have a just pride in being the only unsubsidised Newspaper (we repeat; Newspaper) in the University of London. What you read is not views censored by an oligarchy. The Union Officers, the Administration; in fact, the whole of I.C. is part and parcel of FELIX. He is your forum and informant.



"--- now about that F.R.S. ---"

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## NELSON'S COLUMN

Returning to Imperial College after a vacation spent far away, we were surprised that two innovations had come into being. Firstly, we are not writing in FELIX as he was last term. Some will wonder whether the paper is stepping backwards in the direction of SENNET. We are told, however, that the loss of those endearing little typing mistakes and ragged edged columns will not affect the character of FELIX. Judge for yourself...if you feel like writing to the Editor about it, don't pull any punches.

The second surprise is that some University Union Official has deemed it necessary that every member of L.U. should have a special Union card which he would have to produce in order to gain admittance to the U.L.U. Building. The reason for this Gestapo-like move appears to be that in the past the facilities have been misused by outsiders. At least, they seem to think that it may be outsiders, but regrettably there is a hooligan element in the University. However, after careful consideration in the appropriate quarter, these new Union cards have been issued, and anybody who wants to enter must produce one on demand. To the enquiry as to what is wrong with the individual College Union cards the reply is: "The doorkeepers can't recognise them". What is wrong with the idea of keeping facsimiles of all the London Colleges' Union cards at hand for the doorkeepers' reference? That might be a little cheaper than the costly business of printing thousands of these identity cards. We hear that they are intending to print them in different colours every year. This may or may not be true, but each student will have his name and number. If student money is involved in the financing of this operation, it is an outrageous misdirection of funds that are in great demand for much more worthwhile projects. To the point that may be put forward that not all colleges have their own union cards, the answer is that they only might be provided with some proof of their membership of U.L.U.

This innovation smacks of a worst type of bureaucracy, we shall be requiring passports next in order to enter lectures! Every student who is issued with one of these atrocities ought to tear it up. Worse regulations in the same stupid vein may follow.

Who is this intake of ICWA from Canada who sends the hardened editorial heads spinning?

Rumour has it that Messrs. Anderson and Kitchener will appear at I.C. this term clad in bowler hat, black jacket and striped trousers.

We have to report that Mr. Dave Marshall was nearly arrested by an armed Swedish policeman, who claimed that Dave was placing street barriers across tram tracks. Knowing Dave we are sure that this could not possibly have been true!

Extract from Kensington Post, Sept 16. An excellent example in layout-

NEW LINDSEY THEATRE CLUB, "Strangers' Wharf," by Iris Troc.

"Battle Cry" Sun (U).

"Man from the Sleep" Hammersmith (U): "Life

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w Zero" (U): "Life

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ise. "Value for in Paradise"

on. "Value for Sleepwalker"

burne Grove. (A): "Fury

CLUB, "Strangers' Wharf," by Iris Troc.

"Q" THEATRE, New Bridge. Closed.

CHLSEA PALACE, "Put Me Among the Girls," a revue. METROPOLITAN, Edgware Road. "Follow the Girls," a revue.

NO CHANGE

The chances of initiating a large weather disturbance by exploding an H-Bomb were negligible, said Mr. B. J. Mason, of the Department of Meteorology, Imperial College, Kensington, last week.

No woman could resist him - no man could master him

CLA Sunday, Sept 11th F (Fret Sun...)

NOTTING H Sunday Sept 11th 4A THE Sun., 4.45, 6.35

## BOOK REVIEW

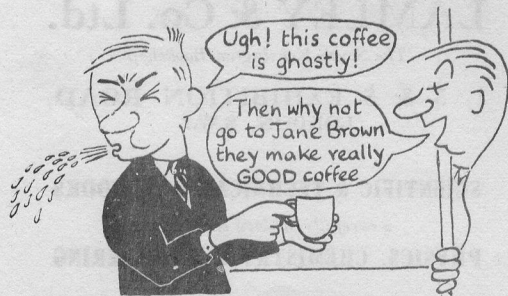
"THE SOARING PILOT" by Ann and Lorne Welch and F.G. Irving. Published by John Murray at 15/-.

Glancing through this book, one is struck by the neatness and clarity of both photographs and diagrams. The first five chapters, written by Frank Irving, are more of a technical discussion than the later ones by Ann and Lorne Welch. Frank's style of writing is reminiscent of E.J. Holmyard: In the cockpit, "two or three inches of width will prevent that sense of frustration which attends sitting on an inaccessible packet of cigarettes"; and the diagram on page 36 could have come equally as well from "Gamesmanship" as from "The Soaring Pilot".

The non-technical glider enthusiast may find these first five chapters rather heavy going, but he will be well rewarded by the abundance of ready wit. This wit is not confined to Frank's writing, and if the reader feels inclined to read the later chapters first, let him choose the eighth: Landing in Fields. Here he will find a most unusual and yet a sensible, collection of data ranging from the quality of meadowland to a short discussion on animal behaviour.

By and large, this is an extremely informative and well written book. It should do much to increase the popularity of Gliding in this country.

Come on, Frank, now write a decent text-book on Aerodynamics!



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# SCRAPBOOK FOR 1954

by MACAVITY

FRESHMEN ARE A NUISANCE. THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. Ranging from the type who meets you at every corner with a please can you tell me the way to the nearest ----- to the O.K. -so-i'm-new-here-so-were-you-once type who loves bursting in on the Prof's lecture; they are all outcasts. Generally speaking, that is. But this year, at this College, you are going to find a number of old-timers reduced to the ranks.

During the past year we have been tossed around from one refectory to another, from one Hop-base to another, until we're as green as you are. We've been awakened by air compressors so early for so long that we hate the Diesel Cycle. And we know that we're coming back to the same thing for yet another year. We're looking forward to it, just as you are; perhaps moreso, because although life is slightly hectic and unpredictable at the moment (even the Brown-Baggers are being stirred from their lethargy), we have a surprisingly large number of pleasant memories of last year at Imperial College.

In other fields, however, interest was greater than ever before. Mines was waking up to the fact that it hadn't a mascot, whereas Guilds' has boasted a 1901 James and Brown named Boanerges ("Bo") who regularly competes in, and completes, the Brighton Run.

Mines therefore bought a Traction engine (Clementine), which after a vast amount of work by a few people was finally persuaded to move under its own power. Many people feel that a pit pony would have been much more appropriate. Later in the season R.C.S. (pronounced R.C.S.) decided to buy a 1916 Dennis fire-engine. This, in view of the unstable nature of experiments conducted in the domain of Pure Science, was generally considered to be a good purchase, apart from the fact that the engine's pump blew up in the 1920's, and the big-ends have a habit of going.

Whilst on the subject of mascots, we must mention Herbert, our Phoenix. He is I.C.'s official mascot and was abducted in the traditional style by N.E.C. (enn-ee-see) last Christmas. About the same time

The Sports-Day Hop, which was held in aid of B.U.S.B., was a huge success thanks to the efforts of I.C.W.A. (The I.C. Women's Association) and others who hadn't ruined themselves in the field of sport during the afternoon. Much has been written in these columns on the subject of Hops. Much more will be written. The best thing you can do is to go and find out for yourself. From Hops we pass on to the subject of the sedate (well, at first) College Ball.

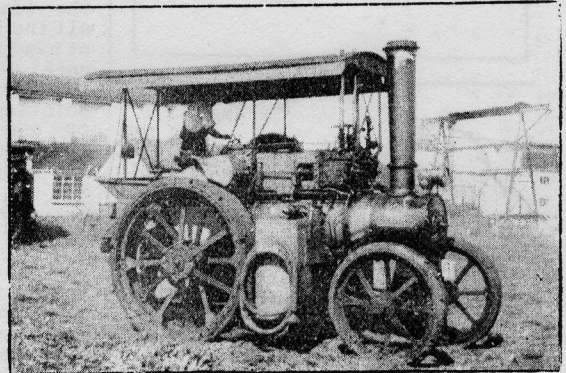
Last year, due to the death of Sir Roderic Hill, there was no Commemoration Day Ball. Commemoration Day is an annual event, commemorating the visit of King George VI to our College. An Easter Ball was held, however, last year at Claridges, during the whole of one night. This was a most lavish affair, including an impromptu and, indeed, an unwitting Cabaret display by certain gentlemen who were engaged in painting an adjacent lounge.

Each one of the three Colleges in I.C. holds its own evening dress Dance (I refrain from using the word formal, for reasons which become obvious when one imagines the



Left: Mike Neale, last year's president of I.C. Union; he had the difficult task of trying to console I.C. students after the N.E.C. robbery.

Right: Clementine, R. S. M. mascot, and winner of the Curtis Cup at the Appleford Traction Engine Meet.



We had a fine team of Officials to start October, 1954. With Mike Neale as President of the Union; Mike has since left and Jim Anderson has taken over. Vere Atkinson was Union Secretary last year, and W.G. Kitchener has succeeded him in secretarial (if not in artistic) ability. The three College Presidents Pete Lemin, Bob Kingdon and Andy Levine had things well organised from the start. The Official side of things was in fact run so smoothly that it was scarcely noticeable. At least, so the attendance at Union Meetings would suggest.

a large carrot belonging to this College made its appearance in S. Kensington at the "FELIX" Hop. Herbert is now back at I.C. through the kind donation of trousers by Officials of our College.

The mention of Hops reminds me that I intended to write a few words about them. These are Saturday night affairs (for want of a better word) where you pay a nominal two shillings and then shoulder the woman of your choice through a quickstep. Many Societies held Hops last year, one of the most outstanding, of course, was the FELIX Birthday Hop, at which a party of Amazons from Q.E.C. kindly presented us with the aforementioned carrot.

combination of soft lights; soft music and hard liquor). The Ayrton Hall, colloquially known as Queenies is the usual site for such entertainment; but R.C.S. inaugurated their popular Country House Ball two years ago, and it is held at Silwood Park, where the College has a field station. The House was beautifully decorated last year by the hard working botanists, the poor souls who live there. For the benefit of those who have to do the same next year, I point out that there are at least seven Pubs within a half mile radius.

You will, as term progresses, hear the mysterious word "Carnival" whispered in a dark corner. Some say the word with awe; some with



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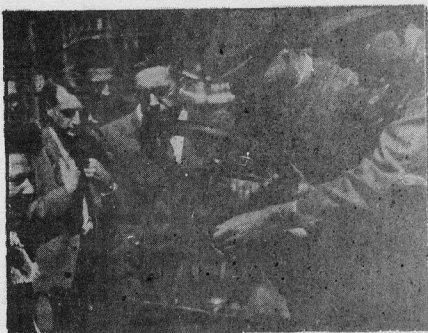
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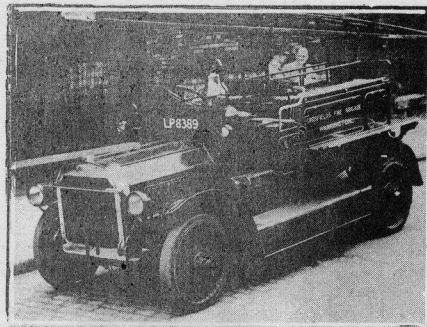
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Left: Boanerges, the Guilds' presidential chariot, bought back in the mists of time and a regular Brighton Runner.



Right: Dennis, the R. C. S. presidential chariot which consumes big-ends faster than fuel.

knowledgeable forboding; some just with pure lust. A Carnival is what you make it. You can enjoy yourselves in any mood. The Authorities provide the main theme: the rest is up to you. Last year Mines started the ball rolling with an all night orgy entitled "BEER GARDENING". Judging by the state of things the next morning, beer wasn't the only thing that was dug up.

The Cabaret (there is always a Cabaret, though most of the participants are too drunk to care) was a great success, being reminiscent of the days when Kitchener was an Undergraduate, and not Secretary of the Union. Guild's came next, a few weeks later, with "CAVEMEN CAPERS". This was actually reported in the "Evening Standard", who told a credulous public that a thousand people were present, and that there was also a fight with trifle pudding. The latter was unfortunately true; the former not. R.C.S. made up their collective minds not to have any rowdiness at their Carnival "ALICE IN WONDERLAND". The hall in which it was held was delightfully decorated, and if things were a trifle quiet, the true Carnival spirit was there (bottles of it).

Many of you will remember reading about the demonstration by London students on November 5th 1953, against the banning of an official rag. The Senate House, which controls London University, took strict measures to prevent any similar occurrence in the future, and the Union Officers of I.C. organised a counter attraction at Harlington, our Sports Ground in Middlesex. It was felt at first by the majority of students that such a venture would end as a complete failure, but this did not prove to be the case. Those who went to Harlington (and there were many) enjoyed an evening which attained Carnival standard. Quite apart from the lavish display of fireworks, there were hot dogs and barbecued pig, dancing and all other forms of entertainment usually indulged in on such an evening. As

far as can be ascertained, only two people went to Hospital. Both recovered.

Lest you should think that College life is all beer and women, let me mention some of the more serious extra-curricular activities. The Dramatic Society has been hampered in no small degree during the past year by the loss of its stage. Most kindly Q.E.C. came to the rescue with the offer of their's. The Dramatic Society began work immediately on "The White Sheep of the Family" which they successfully produced in December. Then again, towards the end of the Spring Term, they put on two one-act plays: "The Proposal" and Anouilh's "Antigone". These rather difficult plays were extremely well produced and acted. Keep it up, Dramatic Society!

You may be surprised to hear that FELIX fulfils several subsidiary duties, besides being the College newspaper. Last year he ran a Food Questionnaire which asked for particulars regarding food standards, times of eating, places of eating and so on. From the results, after they had been digested by the Statisticians, came forth the surprising fact that some people at this College didn't eat at all. To eat in London may cost a little at the Savoy, but its cheap at Moonie's. I shall not quote results, as they will probably bore you; and anyway they are out of date.

We have a newly formed Art Club which held several exhibitions last year, of which one was a general exhibition, and the rest by particular artists. Being a scientist myself, I am in no position to say whether the standard was high; I judge the paintings by the feelings they arouse in me. There were several nude studies.

The Photographic Society's Annual Exhibition was of a very high standard, although the entries were fewer than they could have been. Don't be put off by the work of a nucleus of geniuses; you may be one yourself, anyway.

If you've read this far, you must have noticed the abundance of superlatives like "successful". Most things this College does are successful. To a certain extent it depends on the man at the top, but without you and your support, they could not do what they manage to do. And some of you, like Ponsonby or Preuveneers there, will be well on the way to the top.

I.C. has the reputation of having the finest, and being the finest, in almost every field. And not only in its College activities either; which is proved by the notable glider record set up last May by Frank G. Irving, of the Aeronautics Department. Frank and Lorne Welch were the first people to cross the Channel in a two-seater glider-while airborne! More about this remarkable personality is to be found elsewhere in these pages.

The Field Cup Race is solely for Guildsmen. Every year the five Engineering Departments in Guilds' compete for a cup not much larger than a hen's egg, presented by Mr. Field for the winners of this truly remarkable race. It is run from the College to the Serpentine (and often in it); the winners are the first to cross this stretch of water. (q. e. d.) and there are no holds barred.

Last year's epic consisted of conveying the four elements, each in its own bucket, along the route. After two minutes, the Entrance Hall of Guilds' was inches deep in the elements. A trail of twisted buckets and blazing paraffin told of the passage of the battered Guildsmen. To the Serpentine: no boats! The boathouse keeper knew us too well. After twenty minutes with Guildsmen throwing one-another into the water, Civil Engineering became the winners. Apparently just in time, for three large Policemen flew down from Heaven on the crowd chanting "Peace on Earth and goodwill towards man" as they arrested onlookers. When they had had their fill, they flew away as quickly as they had come.



MISCELLANEOUS TOPERS AT THE "PROSPECT"

Frank Irving (centre), alias the Wicked Warden & formerly the Dreaded Dean, can be observed fraternising with (left to right) Paul Langston, Captain of I. C. Gliding Club, Ian Duff, President of I. C. Dramatic Society and Mike Neale, then President of I.C.U. in celebration of his epic cross-channel glider flight.

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Well, that's a very short account of a whole year in the history of Imperial College. If you liked it, come and make this year even better. If you didn't, you've every opportunity to start something yourself. Do one of the two, but for Goodness sake, don't become a B.B.



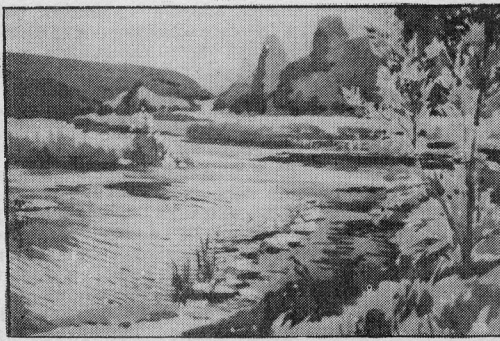
NO, B.B., SOCIAL LIFE IN I.C. ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE.



THE BARBEQUED PORK, Guy Fawkes Night, Harlington, November 1954. Cooked by Mr. Moony, it was a tasty addition to the fun and games.



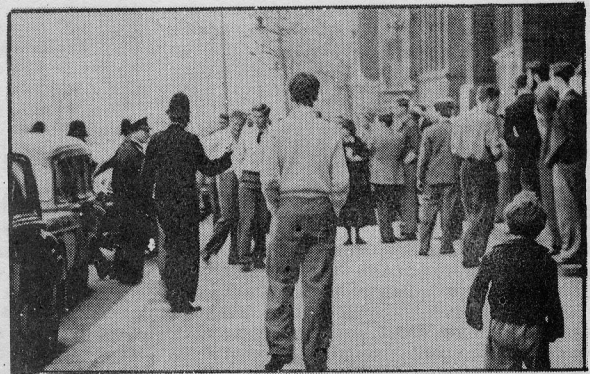
PEGGY TAYLOR, last year's President of the Imperial College Womens Association. Whenever I.C.W.A. was involved in College activities, she was there to help and guide.



ABOVE: BERNARD PARKER'S "TROUT STREAM", shown at the Art Club's Exhibition earlier this year.

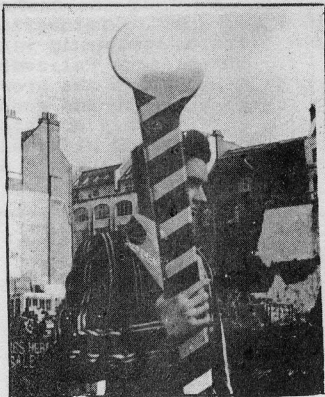
BELOW LEFT: ANDY LEVINE, GUILD'S PRESIDENT, at the Lord Mayor's Show, 1954.

BELOW MIDDLE: MORE FUN AT HARLINGTON. Guys and Dolls holding up an Official of Senate House (in effigy, of course).



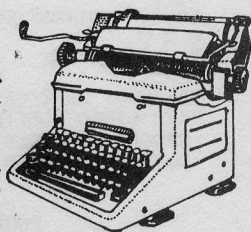
ABOVE: THE END OF THE FIELD CUP RACE .... outside Guilds'. The gentlemen in blue can be seen remonstrating with Guildsmen; the latter are retreating rapidly into the sanctuary of their College.

BELOW RIGHT: MISS JUDITH KORNBLOTH AND MR. LESLIE ALLEN in "ANTIGONE".



# Typewriters?

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# GLIDING IN YUGOSLAVIA

The (unofficial) British National, and European height records for glider trailers now stands at 8600 feet. These were captured by the Imperial College Gliding Club whilst on the Grossglockner Pass in Austria after twice beating its own existing records over the Julier and Bernina Passes. It is regrettable to record that these were also the greatest heights attained by the glider, on or above ground, whilst on the continent (but see page 8, column 1)

The party of 8 men, and one girl left on the 4th. August in three cars, one towing the glider and trailer. The night of the 5th. was spent at the gliding site of Pont-St-Vincent near Nancy. After supper each member was "interrogated" in French (Name, Age, Number of prangs, etc.) with F.G.I. acting as interpreter when needed.

Questioner: Quel est votre rôle dans cette équipe, Ma'am'selle?  
F.G.I.: (Hurriedly) Elle est experte à faire le café.

The next gliding site visited was Samedan, near St. Moritz, where two days were spent fettling motor cars. Unfortunately the weather was unkind and little flying was done whilst the party was there. The aerodrome was situated at 6000 feet above sea level, and it was extremely

last year. Some flying was also done in ancient Russian designed biplanes "PO-2s" and in a "Brucker Jungmann"

On the last day F.G.I. gave an impressive exhibition of glider aerobatics at a local air display.

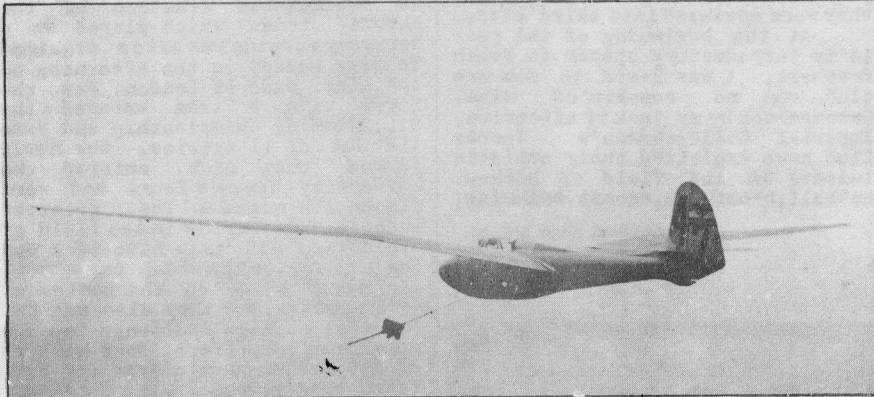
At the beginning of the homeward journey, the road from Belgrade to Zagreb (250 miles) was covered by the trailer at an average speed of 47.5 m.p.h. and a Flying Kilometre at 62.4 m.p.h.

A couple of days were spent at Zell-am-See in Austria, where the Skylark and two types of Austrian glider were flown from a gliding site amongst the mountains, and close to the lake.

In all about 3350 miles were covered. The Vanguard and trailer had one puncture, Ian Duff's Morris broke a spring, and Mike Neale's Morris wore out two front wheel bearings, two big ends and one sump!

The remnants of the party arrived back at Dover between four and six weeks after leaving England. None of them will ever forget the hospitality and genuine friendliness of the Yugoslavs.

ПЛАУЛ ЛАНГСТОН



THE YUGOSLAVIAN SAILPLANE KOSAVA

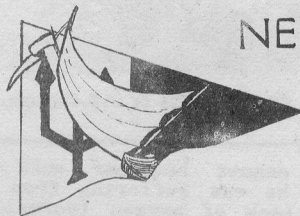
(PHOTO BY L.W. DOWDALL)

chillsome. However the beautiful mountain scenery compensated for a little of the discomfort.

Two nights were spent in Italy, the first by a lake (F.G.I. and Miss Lancaster were persuaded to swim in the morning - (fully clothed for decency's sake!) and the other outside Venice.

The Gliding Centre at Vršac in Yugoslavia was reached three days later. In the last day 300 miles were covered. The first 250 miles were along almost the best, and certainly the least used main road in Europe - the Yugoslav lorry drivers have a little game which involves climbing under the engine, and hitting it with a Gi'normous persuader! (heavy hammer to the none-gliding types). The last 50 miles were certainly the worst roads encountered.

The Centre was palatial, but set amongst countryside of the utmost poverty, for Yugoslavia is a country of extremes. Here the party sojourned for ten days. Owing to poor soaring weather the Skylark was only flown for about 8 hours, but the visitors had the consolation of flying many different, and interesting Yugoslav gliders including "Orac" and "Kosava", both of which were used by the Yugoslavs at the World Championships in England



## SAILING NEWS

Sailing Club members completed a highly successful season with eleven open challenge cups to their credit. Club Fireflies were taken to various parts of the South Coast by Mike Collyer, Arnold Whapham, Kieth Stables, Roger Fisher and John "Conway" Jones. Roger Fisher sailed Faust into 12th. position on points in the Firefly Championships out of a fleet of more than a hundred while Conway, finished second in the National Single Handed Championships from a hot fleet which included 5 Olympic possibles. All the boats have returned to the Welsh Harp where they are being revarnished for the Winter Season. Sailing takes place at weekends and on Wednesday afternoons. The Club caters for all standards and gives training for complete novices.

## COMING EVENTS

RUGGER, HOCKEY, AND SOCCER TRAILS

will be held on

Wednesday Oct. 5  
Saturday Oct. 8

Free transport leaves the Union office in Prince Consort Road at 1.30 p.m. and returns from Harlington at 6.00 p.m.

Ice Skating Club meet on Wednesday 5th October at 1.40p.m., by the Club notice board outside the Bar, and proceed to Queen's Club, Queensway, off Bayswater Road. Freshers welcome with or without skates or experience.

There will be a Coming-Up Dance in "Queenies" at 8 p.m. on Saturday, 8th. October.

The Gliding Club Freshers' tea, followed by a talk illustrated with films and slides, by LORNE WELCH (the international glider pilot) 5.30 on Thursday 6th. October, in the New Lounge in Prince Consort Rd.

Imperial College Lifeman Society... Freshers' Tea, followed by a short talk on "Freshmanship" by A. Lentil and "Digmanship" by Mrs. Brown. In Committee Room C, Huxley Building, on 5th. October at 3.00.

Thursday October 6th. 5.45 p.m. Small Physics Lecture Theatre R.C.S.: Freshers Debate and Tea. This house admires the Ostrich". Debates every fortnight in the Mining Survey Lecture Theatre at 1.10 pm., Tues. and Thurs..

Monday Oct. 10th. 1.15pm. Metallurgy Theatre R.S.M.: Christian Union - Open Meeting. Rev. N.H. Bainbridge M.A. on "Life after Death" Sandwiches on sale. Another meeting on Oct 17, same time; same place.

*Dear Pete, Why don't you come along on the 4th. to City and Guilds Council Room? Singers are welcome, and there are no auditions. Get Frank to bring his French Horn along on the 6th. Both at 5.30 - John.*

## Personal Advertisements

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# ATHLETIC CLUBS' COMMITTEE

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

REPORT OF J.S.CHESTER, THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE ATHLETIC  
CLUBS COMMITTEE 1954-55

This year almost all clubs report an increased membership, which is a favourable reflection on the athletic interests of this year's intake of Freshmen. Seven out of sixteen U.L. Championship Cups have found their way into the Imperial College Trophy cases, although this is fewer than last year, it in no way detracts from the fact that we have had another successful year in the field of Sport.

The Rifle Club had their most successful year ever. The College team shot in the Inter-University league and won for the second time in three years. We won in the London University league for the fifth successive year - practically a monopoly.

The Judo Club have also done great things and lost only one match in ten. They are perhaps one of the best teams in the country and have beaten both Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

The boat club reports a most successful year, in the Winter term they sometimes ran as many as twelve eights, and this term had a record of four eights and one four racing on the same day. Five pots were collected by the club during the Winter regattas, and in the Head of the River Race the Club as a whole improved on last year's results, and the first eight brought home the U. L. Head of the River Cup. This term the four racing eights are all rowing extremely well and at the University Regatta the first eight won the Allom Cup and the second and fourth eights won in their divisions. The first two eights are rowing in all the regattas between now and the end of the Summer and the first eight finish at Henley. We wish them every success.

The Rugby Club had an average season and although the U.L. 15-a-sides eluded them, they were consoled by winning the U.L. 7-a-side cup for the first time. The club is to be congratulated on their initiative in organising an Easter tour of Cornwall, where, to say the least, they by no means disgraced themselves.

The Hockey and Soccer clubs were again eluded by the glitter of silver cups although both clubs report successful seasons. The Hockey Club concluded the season with a tour to Holland, where they lost only one match in ten.

International Relations were again enforced by the Badminton Club's successful tour to Germany, after winning the Larcome Cup for the fourth successive year.

The Fencing Club had a season in which 7 out of 9 matches and the U.L. Team Championship were won. The climax was the defeat of King's College who have been undefeated in this University for a long period.

The Golf Team and the first Cricket XI both have excellent records and to date remain unbeaten.

The Cross Country Club are to be congratulated on successfully organising the Road Relay Race, in which 30 teams competed, and this College came fourth. Both the Cross Country and the Athletic teams were runners-up for the University Championships.

Of the other clubs, the Boxing Club was reformed this year after a year's inactivity and came 4th. in the University Championship. The Sailing Club (the present holders of the Links Memorial Trophy) have increased in strength and won the U.L. points Championship in their new boat, and were unlucky not to win the team Championship.

The squash and Table Tennis Clubs report successful years and the Lawn Tennis Club are doing well. The Swimming Club convincingly won the University Polo League, losing only 2 out of 15 matches, and although they gained as many points as last year in the Swimming Championships, they were squeezed into third place.

At the beginning of the year in my introductory speech to fresh freshers, I was heard to say one club was no concern of mine. Unconcerned by my lack of attention, Imperial College Women's Sports Club have exploited their athletic talents in the field of hockey, netball, badminton, squash, swimming,

(Continued next column.)



I.C.W.A. WINS IN SPITE OF J.S.CHESTER.

## GLIDING HIGH

The Imperial College Gliding Club's Skylark II was delivered in June. Within a month it broke both the British Local Gain of Height, and Local Absolute Altitude records.

Derek Piggott took up the Skylark, released at 2000 feet, and circled up into a very black cloud. In a few minutes he was at 18'000 feet. He straightened up but flew into more lift, and in the true spirit of a glider pilot he began to circle. Some time later he found himself at 15'000 feet. In that time he had been to an estimated height of 25'000 feet, although the barograph chart only showed 23'200 feet, the pen having gone off the top of the chart.

He cannot remember much of this as he was suffering from a serious lack of oxygen (normally required above 15'000 feet) and he was in severe pain due to electric shocks from the controls. Before he landed, about one and a quarter hours after take off, he performed some acrobatics - joie de vive - but on inspecting the glider was horrified to see the damage caused by the storm. The leading edge of the wings was badly dented due to hail stones, fabric had been ripped from the tail surfaces and nose, and lightning had struck the canopy causing a crack. It required 100 man-hours to repair the aircraft.

It has now been decided to call the glider "Phoenix", appropriate not only because of its connection with Imperial College, but also because it "rose like a Phoenix from the flames".

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,  
One look at our editor this term reminds us of the subject of long-vacation beards. Not only he and other Rugby players, but also last year's I.C. President and Secretary sprouted forth while in Yugoslavia. The former was forcibly shaved but the latter had the nerve to appear in his for a few days at College. The ex-Chairman of the S.C.C. may be pardoned as he visited a very cold country, but I hope all those, who do not regularly arrive in red fungus, will soon make themselves recognisable again. I've only to see Andy Levine in a beard, and I shall feel that I have seen everything.

Yours,  
D.J.H.



athletics, table tennis, fencing and rowing. In the winter term an appreciable fraction of the netball teams which played on a Saturday morning was often required to play hockey in the afternoon on the other side of London. For the first time a team entered the U.L. Swimming championship and came 4th out of 11 entries. The newly formed boat club entered the University Women's fours and were placed 4th out of 9. Their greatest success, however, is in the field of athletics, not only have they won the U.L. factor cup which is a handicap event based on the number of club members, but they also won the Imperial College Challenge Cup - a very fine team effort. Four members of I.C.W.S.C. have played for U.L. teams this year.

I would like to thank all the members of the Athletics Clubs who helped to organise the Harlington Nov. 5th. celebrations and the Fun Fair at the Sports Day Hop. As a result of our Sports day appeal £30 was sent to the British University Sports Board to help finance the International Student Games at San Sebastian. I have since heard that four members of this College are on the probables list to represent British Universities at these games.

I can respectfully report on behalf of my Committee, that the Athletic Clubs have had a good year and have enhanced the sporting prestige of Imperial College, socially and on the field of play both at home and abroad.



JOHN EVANS.

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FIELD.



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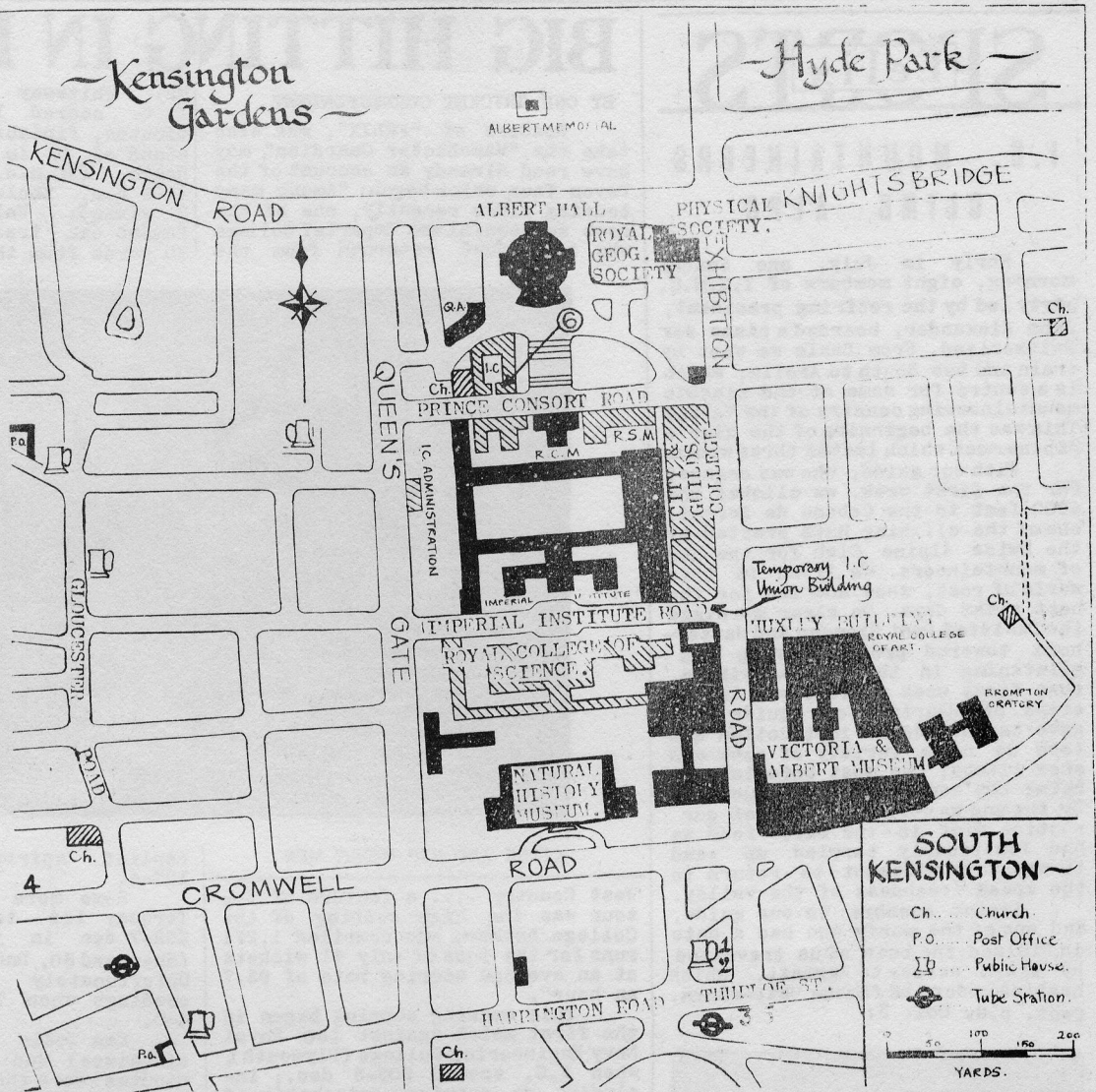
48 run up and down Gloucester Road

74 run along Cromwell Road.

14, 50, and 96 go from S. Ken. Tube Station.

TUBES.

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Obituary

Robert Louis Willmore died on June 20th, 1955, after a motor-cycle accident in Surrey. Bob Willmore was a second-year electrical student at City and Guilds. With his happy disposition, he was one of the nicest fellows we knew. As a member of the Felix Board, he was conscientious in everything he attempted, and his loss is deeply grieved by all of us. In the Boxing Club Bob was outstanding; he fought in the University of London team, and was awarded his purple; he was treasurer of the I.C. Boxing Club, where he won the Best Winners Pot, and was one of the few people responsible for rebuilding the prestige of Imperial College in the Boxing World.

He played Rugby for both I.C. and Guilds' as scrum half, and Cricket for I.C. He worked behind the scenes at the Guild's Carnival, and its success was due to people like Bob.

We will miss him at I.C.

LEAVING I.C.

Mr. D. V. de G. Allen, who has been a Reader at I.C. for some years, has been appointed Professor of Applied Mathematics at Sheffield.

Deryck Allen has always taken a keen and active interest in I.C. student affairs, and his departure will be a big loss to the Union. Since 1950 he has been President of the Cricket Club, for whom he captained the Staff-Student Sunday XI. He has also accompanied the First Team on many of their trips about the country as a scorer, car-driver and travelling reserve. He played in historic double matches for four successive years. In the first three he batted at No. 9., but so great was the rate of collapse at the other end, that on none of these occasions did he receive a single ball. On the fourth occasion



he was promoted to No. 6., and had the mortification of being given out L.B.W. first ball.

He has also held the onerous position of Hon. Treasurer of I.C. Union since 1952, and his hard work and sound advice will be greatly missed. We wish him every success in his new Professorial status.

I.C. MOUNTAINING IN A.S.S. cont.

This mountain was enjoying very bad conditions of snow at the time, everybody's secret aim in being thus thwarted, we turned our climbing intentions elsewhere. For without our guide, he stumbled off into the mountains as potential victims of inexperience.

Late was kind and in the ensuing fortnight we experienced many of the joys of climbing on these really high mountains—such as the wondrous delicacy of a sunrise in the unbelievably clear air, which is a feature of these places of rock and ice. We enjoyed ascents of a number of delectable mountains. Four of us represented Imperial College and Great Britain when parties of four nationalities met on the summit of Monte Pooa, the highest peak in Switzerland, while the other three rather surprised themselves by their success in an attempt on the Gishhorn, considered a good thing in some climbing circles.

Quite suddenly our time was up as our empty pockets, whiskered faces, and, I confess, odorous clothes demonstrated. We all felt remarkably fit after three weeks of Swiss beer and Swiss mountains, and it was a very sad final au revoir to Zermatt and Switzerland.

Two of the party returned two weeks later. In ten days, as if ample opportunities previously had not been enough, they endeavoured to kill themselves on such peaks as the Zinal Lobern and the great Blanche. These attempts, however, bore no fruit, and they returned like the others, no doubt, to bore friends with their tales of adventure in the Valais Alps.

THE PHOENIX



THE MAGAZINE OF THE  
IMPERIAL COLLEGE  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

COMING OUT SOON

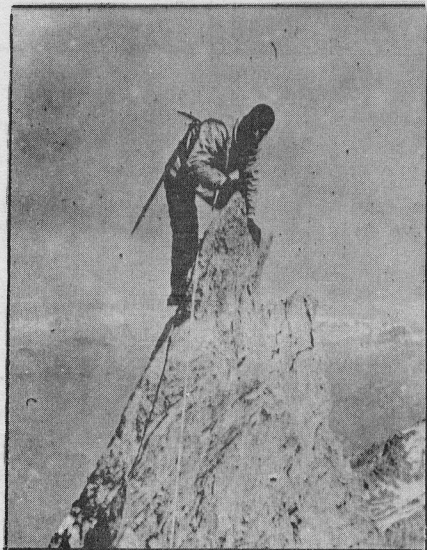
# SPORTS

## I.C. MOUNTAINEERS CLIMB ALPS

Early in July, one Sunday morning, eight members of I.C.M.C. party led by the retiring president, John Alexander, boarded a plane for Switzerland. From Basle we went by train and bus South to Arolla, which is a centre for some of the classic mountaineering country of the Valais. This was the beginning of the club's Alpine meet which lasted three weeks.

With our guide, who was engaged for the first week, we climbed the 4500 feet to the Cabane de Bertol, one of the climbing huts erected by the Swiss Alpine Club for the use of mountaineers. We lived in this world of rock, snow and ice for the next eight days. On clear mornings the isolated Dent Blanche and Matterhorn towered proudly, crisp and glistening in the crystal air. In that first week we followed in the steps of Maurice, our guide, who gave us invaluable instruction and took us on a variety of rock and snow climbs, the most entertaining being the ascent of the Bouquetins. By the end we were quite sick of our routine diet in the hut, - food we had laboriously carried up - and it was very pleasant to return to the green freshness of the valley.

Saying goodbye to our guide, and one of the party who had a date in Finland, the rest of us travelled by train across to Zernatt, which nestles under the famous Matterhorn. Cont. p.9. Col. 3.



ON THE SUMMIT

# BIG HITTING IN DEVON

BY OUR CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

Readers of "FELIX", who also take the "Manchester Guardian", may have read already an account of the Devon Tour which began: "Among many touring sides recently, one of the most successful was Imperial College who have just returned from the

Mr. Whiteway of cider fame, I. C. scored 197-3 dec. in 110 minutes, finishing with a hurricane stand of 70 in 23 minutes between Hearn (30 n.o.) and Kitchener (106 n.o. including 17 fours and 2 sixes). Walker (28) hit the famous oak tree which flourishes 30 yards from the wicket. Whimple



KITCH AND HIS MERRY MEN

West Country .... a feature of the tour was the high scoring of the College batsmen, who compiled 1,271 runs for the loss of only 41 wickets at an average scoring rate of 92.7 an hour".

This amazing scoring began in the first match against the Royal Navy Engineering College (Plymouth), when I.C. scored 205-6 dec., including an opening partnership of 73 by Fox (46) and Walker (35), and a fine 57 not out by Shepherd. Rain then made conditions very difficult for our bowlers, but six R. N. E. C. wickets were taken for 188 before the close.

I.C. began disastrously against the Royal Naval Barracks, losing two wickets in the first over. However they fought back to 72-5 by lunch, after which a sparkling stand of 44 in 20 minutes between Weale (15) and Kitchener (126) laid the foundation for a declaration at 229-8. The Barracks batsmen were never happy against Bhatti (5-28) and were all out for 122.

I. C. were particularly keen to beat the Royal Marines, Lyme-stone, as they had not done so for many years. Thanks to a complete rout by Dytham (3-8) and Hearn (4-12), the Marines were put out for 55 and I. C. won by six wickets.

In the traditional country match at Whimple, who are led by

replied spiritedly and reached 167-4.

Some more riotous hitting at Torquay led to an I.C. score of 252-7 dec in just over 2 hours (Shepherd 80, Dacies 73, Hearn 35). Unfortunately rain ended proceedings when Torquay had scored 4-0.

Ken Weale (67 n.o. including six sixes) and Whiddon (52 in 29 minutes) were the main contributors to I.C.'s total of 180-4 dec. at Brixham. Brixham played defensively and could manage only 95-4 in reply (Cook 4-23).

In a fine match at Paignton, I.C. began at a crawl and had reached only 45-3 after an hours play. At this moment of crises Davies (42) and Kitchener (44) added 65 in 38 minutes, and the I.C. total of 152 was too many for Paignton, who were dismissed for 106 after their opening pair had put on 82.

In the evenings the tourists relaxed their weary limbs and restored their strength, either in the dingy pubs of Plymouth dockland or the old timbered hostels of Exeter. Even Gordon Green would have admired the high standard of sport, which culminated in a cordial exchange of views with representatives of the United States Navy (Most of which was anchored in Torbay) and the Devonshire Constabulary.

# HERBERT

