



FELIX



ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE

I.C. STUDENT'S CAR USED IN £7,000 HAUL

KARAKORAM KAOS

"The most ambitious project sponsored by the Exploration Board during its two years' existence was a full-scale expedition to the Karakoram. Only a preliminary report on the work of this expedition can be given at this stage."

Thus reads part of the 1955-57 Report issued by the Imperial College Exploration Board last year.

For those whose memory has been clouded by the passing years, allow me to give a few details concerning the Karakoram Expedition; six students under the leadership of Mr. Eric Ship-ton, with Dr. Budd as Medical Officer, left England at the end of June 1957, returning three months later. After examination of the glaciers in this remote region of the Himalayas, the party completed geological, surveying and general exploratory work.

The cost of this very enterprising expedition to the Exploration Board was £3,052, together with a donation of £1,000 from the Mount Everest Foundation. Prof. H.H. Read, the Chairman of the Board has stated that in general terms the aim of the Board has been to make available to as many students as possible the valuable experience afforded by scientific expeditions. Surely it cannot be denied, however, that another aim should be to publish the work in a report. Not only would such a report enhance the reputation of the College, but would prove to certain organisations who have been so financially generous to the Board that the work of the Expedition teams does not cease when they return to Imperial College.

Plans are going ahead at the moment to send an expedition to Peru in 1959 to complete surveying and geological work in the Andes. Not all the money required can be found within Imperial College, and hence outside assistance is essential.

Therefore, let not only Imperial College know what is happening, but also the general public and scientific world by the daily press, lectures, and radio. The Karakoram Expedition has been the most ambitious and one of the most successful expeditions ever

AT LAST AN I.C. STUDENT HAS HAD CAUSE TO WELCOME THE INTERVENTION OF THE POLICE. LAST JUNE, WITH LONDON STILL IN THE THROES OF THE BUS STRIKE AND THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE ENVELOPED IN THE PERSPIRING VORTEX OF EXAMINATIONS, A GENEROUS FATHER DESIGNED TO ALLOW HIS CHEMICAL ENGINEERING SON THE USE OF HIS CAR - AN M.G. MAGNETTE. THE DUTIFUL SON, ARRIVING FOR AN EXAMINATION, CAREFULLY PARKING HIS CAR IN FRONT OF THE RODERIC HILL BUILDING, VANISHED FOR THE REQUISITE PERIOD OF MENTAL EXERTION.

Later, when the doors disgorged the unhappy band of examinees, the same student was further confounded to find that his car had disappeared. At first, suspecting a student prank, he did not call the police but performed a painstaking search of the area, unaware that the MG Magnette was speeding Northwards in desperate hands. The following day an elderly lady reported the loss of a new Rover from outside her Chelsea flat.



I.C. IN ICELAND

organised by a College or University in this country. But in the long run it has been a fiasco, leaving behind a story of bungling inefficiency.

Fifteen months later the only result has been a miserable half-hearted 700-word report within the College. No scientific report has been published, and the unique and valuable collection of geological specimens has remained unexamined in a crate since its arrival. What is lacking here? Not imagination, but something more important; the ability to complete a job. From the Board of Governors to the Freshers have we not some sort of a leader in this mecca of scientific and administrative efficiency.

Is this the way to publicise Imperial College and to obtain further financial assistance for future expeditions?

INTRODUCING

Two more regular features:-
It's worth knowing page 4.
Round and About page 6.

Some 48 hours later in Derby, a car was rammed by a Rover, the occupants attacked and deprived of a case containing £7,000 by two men who escaped in a waiting MG Magnette.

The car was found weeks later abandoned, lacking number plates, with a burnt out engine. In due course, four men involved in the robbery were caught (C.I.D. knows how!) and presented themselves last week at the local Magistrates Court. The student, who wishes to remain nameless, appeared at the preliminary trial. He confesses that he was treated with rather less respect than were the prisoners (whom one presumes were well known to the Magistrate!) He cited as an example the following dialogue:-

Clerk: to accused, after student had been questioned
"Would you like to ask the witness any questions?"
Accused shake their heads.

Clerk: (to student, who has just signed statement) Speaking very rapidly.

"If our Gracious Lady the Queen should require it will you be present as a witness at the Assize Court or failing this forfeit the sum of fifty pounds?"

Student looks at Clerk blankly Long pause.

Clerk: (impatiently)
"Do you understand what this involves?"

Student:
"No" (The accused grin at him)

Clerk: (furiously)
"WELL, YOU SHOULD! It should not be necessary for me to read it again If our Gracious Lady etc"

One suspects that the court has had to deal with students under somewhat different circumstances.

We are awaiting the result of the Trial.



PROFILE

I.C.W.A. PRESIDENT



GILLIAN

TILDEN-SMITH

A Cockney by birth, and proud of it, Gill was without hair until the age of two, a precedent set by a past President. She has had a varied career - from Convent School to Paris, the Northern Poly and at last to I.C., we doubt if the circle will be completed in the cloistered solemnity of a nunnery.

Although Gill is perhaps best known in the field of sport for her cricket, having organised the famous I.C.W.A. v. 1st XI match, she also plays tennis, table tennis and badminton and is an active member of the Under Water Club, even having been seen on wet days practising with her flippers in the quad.

A Botanical genius, she took part in last summer's expedition to Norway, where a wet 6 weeks must have been considerably enlivened by her high spirits and ever present sense of humour which prevailed even when washed out of her tent on the first night and later persuaded to vacate it in the early hours of the morning by an inquisitive horse.

HON. SECRETARY



JOHN BELL

There is no truth in the rumour that John was elected Secretary of the Union because he was the only candidate able to speak to the President on his own level. Born under Pisces in 1935 John has, paradoxically, a very dry sense of humour which never leaves him, even when watering policemen from the heights of the Guilds building.

A product of Birkenhead School, he graduated from the Mech. Eng. Dept. in 1957 and provided the excuse for continuing his Union activities by becoming a fatigue expert - at least he is the only person in the Hostel who appreciates the true relationship between stresses and strains on a logarithmic basis.

Gill's interests are not confined to I.C. but extend in other directions also. She has travelled extensively and speaks several languages fluently, as well as being able to make herself understood in a limited, though important, field of social life in many others.

Gill has strong views on the part which I.C.W.A. should play in college life which she divulged during an early interview the morning after a party, between sips of black coffee. (Pause to extract wasp from the room with simultaneous loss of Gill to the depths of her bed and one correspondent up the wall).

On reappearing Gill told us that she thinks small groups of women can do more good than large ones, that feminine influence on committees is a good thing and that ♀ postgrads are insufficiently brought into college life.

Gill's ambitions are modest. She wants to:

- (1) Visit every capital in the world.
- (2) Marry a multi-millionaire.
- (3) Fly Mr. Garnett's pyjamas from the flag pole.
- (4) Write a book on the idiosyncracies of carrots.

We left her happily crunching one - and declaring that "she can't be bothered to lead a sordid life - it's too exhausting".

A glance at his room in the Hostel is very revealing: the first thing that strikes the visitor is that room 58 is bigger and better than all the others and it comes as no surprise to find that John chose it himself. Sporting activities are apparent from the well-used squash racquet, the hockey boots in a tidy heap on the floor, and the copiously autographed plate which hangs on the wall. This plate is a souvenir of a disgusting orgy which marked the end of a tour of Holland

last year. John is now Captain of Hockey and it is notable that his election coincides with an unprecedented surge of enthusiasm for the sport by I.C.W.A.

Some say that his popularity with women is connected with the blood-stained whip which is also part of the decor, but we feel that this would be quite out of character for John. It is more likely that the woman in his life actually uses it on him. Her softening influence is apparent elsewhere in the room, notably in the art-prints on the walls, and in the strange new books on the shelf. Just above them stands the tankards which are evidence of John's successive service as Secretary and Chairman of S.C.C. in previous years.

People who devote much of their time to running the Union are often seen dashing about in their efforts to cope with the job, but this is not so with John. The curious thing is that he never appears to do any work, and this is clearly a sign of great efficiency.

MOUNTAINEERS IN ALPS

This summer, ten members of the Club, assembled by devious means in Cortina d'Ampezzo to climb in the Dolomites. With no previous experience of the region, the short routes offered by the Cinque Torri were selected as an introduction to the area, and several fine, exposed climbs were had by all parties.

Spurred on by this taste of dolomite climbing, nine members of the party reassembled at the Cime di Lavaredo to attempt a series of more extended and ambitious routes, the tenth member remaining in Cortina to effect repairs to a back axle. Amongst their climbs, including the 1,400 feet north-east corner of the Cime Grande, two parties climbed an excellent very severe route on the Piodocissima.

The camp was now moved to the Passo di Sella and a great deal of fine steep climbing was done on the Cinque Dita and the Sella and Vioiolet Towers. Our stay in the Dolomites terminated with a riotous dinner at the Refugio di Sella.

Agreeing to reassemble in Zermatt, four members drove to Venice to facilitate car repairs, while en route for Zermatt, two others in a blue sports car had a slight disagreement with a stationary Mercedes. Minus wing and with bent front axle, driver and a somewhat shattered President miraculously appeared in Zermatt some days later.

In spite of the changeable weather, good snow and ice climbing was had on the Dom, Monte Rosa, Nordend, and Felixjoch, when one weighty member tested his partner's skill by jumping into a sixfeet wide crevasse. Recovering their composure, he was duly hauled out.

The weather showing signs of deterioration, four members walked from the Monte Rosa to the Hörnli hut, hoping to climb the Matterhorn. Their hopes were crushed, however, by a heavy overnight snow fall and it was decided to end the meet in view of the weather and dwindling finances.

It was generally agreed that a highly successful summer meet had been held considering the fact that five members had no previous alpine experience.

During the course of these four weeks, numerous colour photographs were taken and it is intended to show a selection of these in the near future for the benefit of anyone interested. Information regarding this will be posted on the Mountaineering Club Notice Board.

J.W.J. & A.E.



ICELANDIC



EXPEDITION

The party, comprising seven I.C. students and two members of the staff, arrived in Reykjavik, the capital, on the 26th June. Most of the party then proceeded to take the bus for the 450 Kms to Akureyi, situated on the north coast of the island, while the sixteen packing cases, accompanied by one member of the party and two very pretty Icelandic girls, followed by lorry late on the Saturday evening. Base camp was established at Reyðarfjörður, and after a coffee party with a local fisherman, surveying began a few days later. Meanwhile, the two geologists followed in a van, and after a somewhat incredible journey, during which time they lost much of their kit along a hundred mile stretch of road (fortunately later returned to the Akureyi Police by a following driver), eventually arrived nearly two weeks after the establishment of Base camp, having enjoyed themselves immensely!

The expedition now split up for the serious work of the expedition, the geologists going south to start their mapping, one surveying party moving to a more northerly fjord to do a survey of the raised beaches and make some tidal observations, while the second survey party stayed at Base to undertake similar work.

Transport and communication in this rugged fjord country proved difficult between the parties, resulting in three surveyors making a backbreaking trek carrying 60 lbs of equipment each, for over two weeks.

Early in August, five of the party took a coastal boat south, towards the glaciers and ice sheets, with the intention of doing a survey of a small ice cap. Ten very cold days were subsequently spent (on an exposed rocky ledge) close to the edge of the ice, during which time the party was tent bound for 5 days due to mist, rain, snow and sleet. Owing to the mist, much compass trekking was necessary, a tricky business when the rocks of the area affect the stability of the compass. The weather finally did its worst, when a tent surrendered to the wind, rewarding its occupants with some four gallons of icy cold water.

In contrast to this, the last few days of our stay, when the fishing dispute was in full swing, was spent in the excellent hospitality of our hosts, which was so characteristic of the inhabitants of this windswept "Bastion of the North".

INDEPENDENT
OPINION

Are most students, especially Freshers, aware of the character of the three Carnivals run during the course of the year by the constituent college unions? Briefly, these affairs are marked by exhibitions of drunkenness and pornography to such a degree that would lead, were they to take place in a night-club or place of public entertainment, to instant closure and prosecution by the police. The decor adopted at every Carnival has one theme only, illicit sex, and each of the three bodies responsible for organising these so-called revels seems to attempt to outdo its rivals in the exhibition of ever smuttier cartoons.

Cabarets demand a section to themselves, consisting of a succession of dreary, unmusical, untalented and grossly under-rehearsed sketches, often preceded by mass singing of a type usually confined to the Officers' Mess or the pavilions of the more obscure rugby clubs after the 4th XV's only home win of the season. The rise of the curtain is accompanied by derisive shouts and often bottles, glasses and food from the sub-nutritive buffet are hurled at the performers: were only the performers hit, nothing would be amiss, but the stage and the proscenium arch are sometimes damaged.

Surprisingly, women are brought to these Carnivals but, to my knowledge, seldom does a girl return a second time. They are not the kind of evening's entertainment to which anyone would bring his sister. It is evident that the sole reason for taking a partner is the hope that, in the atmosphere of immorality with which she is surrounded, she may be contaminated and thus induced, with the assistance of gin, to behave in a degraded fashion.

That the Union should tolerate such exhibitions, with the resultant damage to property and morals that ensues, is surprising.

D-L.

CLUB DANCES

Would the Secretaries of Clubs who wish to run a Saturday night informal dance please make their applications to the Entertainments Committee as soon as possible, with the date preferred.

I.C.W.A. Guide to the Autumn Trends

For the guidance of newcomers and oldstagers who wish to keep up with the times, FELIX has asked his fashion correspondent to report on what the well-dressed man-about-I.C. will be wearing this session.

In probable anticipation of a cold winter, face-covers have become fashion news this year. Several new styles have been brought back from the continent, some small and pointed, others close-fitting and curly. With careful trimming these leave the eyes quite free and allow full movement to the nose. They usually come in brown or black but a pale straw colour which was popular last year does not seem to be so much in vogue this season.

Hair has been worn short during the summer but with the decrease in temperature and funds I can confidently forecast that it will grow. This new longer style may be difficult to manage but if you follow our Special Easy 3-Minute Beauty Plan (apply box 3907 enclosing 5/- Postal Order) you will see a new, exciting lustre in your easy-to-manage hair you have never noticed before.

The very latest thing in Presidents now is the short, wide look. The decrease in length is of course more than balanced by an emphasis on quality of material but to carry off this new line you must take especial care to develop the piercing eye. Everyone will love this new, oh-so-chubby, fashion.



Glasses are definitely OUT this session.

A confident forecast of what YOU will be wearing in the cooler days ahead is the "chic-sac sweater". Waists will be lower than ever but the arms are usually cunningly hung from the shoulders and draped casually into the trouser pockets. An interesting detail is the cutest little fray-fringe which often makes its appearance about knee level. With this ensemble you will want to wear a rainbow-gay shirt which for spick-and-span grooming absolutely must be changed every week. To top off this cosy-bright winter outfit, a snug flannel scarf worn right up to the eyes is an old favourite, still firmly in vogue.

Finally some up-to-the-minute news from special correspondent Garnett. - A must for you, our younger readers this session is the pale, cleansed, fresh look. This can only be attained by infinite care but YOU are the only ones who can wear it, and it is oh-so-worth-while.

CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE

FELIX

EDITOR

R F KERROD



circulation 1500

PRESS RELEASE

ADMISSION TO IMPERIAL COLLEGE

The Imperial College of Science and Technology has accepted the recommendations contained in a report recently published by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom on the procedure for admission of students. Changes in admission arrangements are being introduced by the College forthwith; in particular, entrance examinations will be discontinued for a trial period.

I.C. SUB-AQUA CLUB



AZORES 1959

The I.C. Underwater Club has submitted a preliminary report to the Exploration Board with regard to an expedition to the Azores. It is proposed that this expedition takes place in the Summer Vacation 1959 and lasts eight weeks. Nine expedition numbers are required. The main purpose of the expedition will be to use aqualung diving techniques to do some original marine biological work in the Azores region.

Expedition personnel will not necessarily be confined either to zoologists or to current members of I.C. Underwater Club; there will be much general work as well. Members of the expedition would need to have some knowledge of underwater diving. Will anyone interested in this expedition contact the I.C.U.C. Hon. Sec. through the Union letter rack. The closing date for applications for membership of the expedition will be 1st December 1958.

The Dram. Soc. will be taking Theatre Parties to:-
"The Hearts A Wonder"Oct. 15th.
"The Hostage"Oct. 22nd.

Will all those interested in joining us please sign the Notice Boards.

FOR SALE

Pr. women's "field-course shoes" size 6½, ex. cond., worn once, £2. Man's check sports jacket, very good cond. chest size 38, £3. For both apply N.H. room 120.

1935 Morris 8/40 Sedan, registered, insured and AA cover. 5 nearly new tyres, new battery. In perfect running order. Any trial. £35. Contact Dr. Lawrence. Geo. Dept.

IT'S WORTH KNOWING

Last Tuesday, "Shadow of Heroes" opened at the Piccadilly Theatre, starring Peggy Ashcroft and Emlyn Williams: the plot deals with events leading up to the 1956 Rebellion in Hungary.

Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey into Night" at the Globe is a largely autobiographical study of his life's troubles condensed into one day, and in that day drugs and alcohol have a devastating effect on morality.

Opening at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, E., on October 14th is "The Hostage"; the long-simmering trouble of the IRA is brought to the boil when an English soldier and an IRA man are held as hostages by the opposite sides.

Miss Bardot's fans will be pleased to hear that she has done it again: in "Love is My Profession" at the Cameo-Royal, she manages to spend more time in bed than ever before, ably supported with some good acting by Jean Gabin.

An informal "get-together" of all I.C. folk, who went to Sweden and Finland will be held in room 120 N.H. at 7.30 p.m. on October 15th. Please let me know if you can come.

Patricia Norman.

FIRE

— IN PRINCE'S GARDENS —



If you haven't yet seen the "must", then note that Rex Harrison comes off at the end of next March, and there are only a few balcony seats available before then.

One-room living - there is a display showing how to make the most of a bed-sitting room at the Design Centre, Haymarket, until November 1st, admission free.

If you want to eat in Knightsbridge, try THE BRIDGE in Basil Street, just behind Harrods: this is an evening out in itself, with typically English specialities such as Roast Duckling, Curried Chicken and Morecambe Shrimps served in pleasant and tasteful surroundings - price about £1 per head.



SEEING RED

Dear Sir,

I write on behalf of of the Committee of the Literary & Debating Society and I wish to ask questions about the status of the Marxist Literary Group. For some years it has been a sub-group of this Society and, along with the Christmas Islanders, it happens to have received no grant for this session.

It would appear that the powers-that-be of this college prefer to be hypocritical. They say: "we must not recognise that there are Communists in college; the Governors would not like that. But we will give them some money on the quiet; let them be a Marxist Literary Group and let them suckle the breasts of the Literary & Debating Society!"

These Communists have been active as a political body and have seldom aspired to literature. Why not recognise them for what they are: a Communist Society, or make them at least a sub-group of a political society. Let us be honest for once in a while, or else let us comfort our consciences by a little honesty about our hypocrisy and let us create the 'Marxist Tiddlewink Group' as a sub-group of the Table-Tennis Club. Then everyone would know that we are being ridiculous instead of having to guess.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Jarman.

LIKELY STORIES No2 by Scraper

There once was a fieldmouse called Alfred. His particular field was Organic Chemistry and his Ph.D. thesis on the subject was published in three volumes and universally acknowledged as a masterpiece. But he was very lonely, isolated as he was in his academic eminence. His family couldn't understand him and his wife nagged him so that he left home and went to live in College. At last, he felt so much in need of companionship and comfort that he decided to synthesise an "understanding fieldmouse, female".

So he worked out the relevant formulae and built an enormous apparatus (for which he obtained a grant from the D.S.I.R.). Unfortunately he made a slight mistake in the arithmetic, and synthesised a bloody great cat, which ate him.



LETTERS

THE NEEDLE

Dear Sir,

I really was appalled by the self-conscious tripe appearing over the name of one "Cleopatra" in your last issue. The propagation of such an adolescent approach to the facts of I.C. life can hardly be expected to engender anything but distrust between the freshmen and women, and I fear that this be the writer's aim.

Having erected a hypothetical barrier of indifference (manifesting itself in rather unusual ways - "Women are to be feared, avoided and ignored"), she self-consciously examines ways of breaking it down. A woman should not attempt to be "friendly", yet she should not leave others "To make the first step". Why, why, why, why cannot these women simply behave in a natural, normal, feminine manner? Perhaps it is unfair of me to attack them for being immature. It is hardly their fault. But the fact is that the majority of I.C. women are totally devoid in behaviour and outlook of any semblance of mature femininity, as is evidenced by Cleopatra's article. Should further proof be needed, let any man venture up to the third floor of the new hostel, and watch the young ladies thumping gracefully up and down the corridor to answer the telephone. No wonder men get drunk and are sick in the quad.

One further point that Cleopatra has missed is this. Many men have been to "boys only" schools: the transition to a college with one woman to forty men is relatively painless. For a woman, on the other hand, to be suddenly planted at I.C. may well be a terrifying experience, and some feeling of being "hemmed-in" is perhaps inevitable. Cleopatra should devote her efforts to dispelling this, instead of attempting to rally her girls beneath her crusading banner. Or are we back at Roedean now?

Safety from the screeching horde lies in anonymity.

Yours from behind my barrier,

Ptolemy.

IN DEFENCE

Dear Sir,

Many people appear to have misinterpreted the spirit in which my article was written. It was intended to bring into the open a problem to which many members of the college - both men and women - feel there should be some solution. A vitriolic attack such as the above letter does nothing to help. It is agreed that the situation mentioned in the last paragraph exists but the men should realise that theirs is the opportunity to help remedy this.

A small body of women in such a large college is bound to excite criticism and continual criticism inspires self-consciousness. "A lady is one who is treated as such" but perhaps the large number of men who still behave as overgrown schoolboys are incapable of appreciating this. Maturity includes a depth of understanding, so obviously lacking in the writer, and would produce the constructive criticism for which I hoped. I would be delighted if 'Ptolemy' would discard his convictions and discuss this problem openly.

Yours very sincerely,

Gillian Tilden-Smith
(President I.C.W.A.)

WHITHER FAUNA?

Dear Sir,

I beg space in your columns to remind inmates of the petrified "BOT-ANY" buildings that there is more to I.C. than just their own departments. New students, not yet stunted by departmental traditions can (if they wish) inherit the dusty gloom that waits for them. They can, if they make an effort, remind the rest of the College that they exist.

One major complaint voiced by the said inmates concerns the Natural History Soc., in danger of becoming little more than an egg-headed extension of the day's work. It's supposed to promote "social" intercourse. Well, it's up to its members to see that it does and do something about supporting the rumoured dances, darts matches, informal discussions at The Queens, etc. If this slice of R.C.S. fades into oblivion it will be its own fault.

Yours,

Sigmund Aagonschmidt

THE DODGERS

Dear Sir,

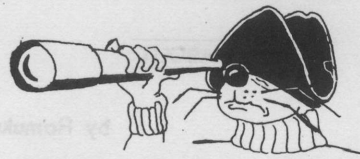
October 1st for students is like January 1st for other people. It is the beginning of a new year when resolutions are traditionally made.

I wonder if I could influence you or your readers at this stage? Briefly and simply it is this. Could we have less of the National Service dodging-type of letter. Last year, if I remember correctly, this was one of the main topics aired in your correspondence column, usually, it would appear, by people who were afraid to spend a horrible, rough, nasty two years away from Mum. A great many students who read your paper decided to serve their country first and attend college afterwards. They, at least, are not plagued by thoughts of avoiding National Service and the uneasy consciences that go with them: they are therefore not at all impressed by these letters.

I hope that this letter is one of only a few published on this subject during the next ten months. If the students take a real interest in your excellent newspaper you will have enough correspondence to replace this dreary matter altogether.

Yours faithfully,

"SENEX MILES"



Enraged by his recent Profile, Chubby Garnett has taken to running to Hyde Park. What he does when he gets there is no-body's business but his own.

NELSON'S

On seeing our pet lecher at the recent Hop, one Bedford Fresher gasped "My Mummy didn't warn me about things like this"

Why warn 'em, let 'em find out for themselves.

COLUMN

The latest betrousered weekend line in I.C.W.A. Presidents (c.f. Cleo's Needle) provokes more than the usual barrage of derision. Rumours that Chubby is going to retaliate by wearing a weekend kilt are unfounded as he says that his legs are not sexy enough.

Have you noticed how short the present generation of Union Officials is? It is obviously due to a preponderance of alcohol in the blood surrogate, as Mr. Huxley would put it (B.N.W.)

Gem heard over the telephone this week :-
"I don't know what's wrong with these women; I'm frightened. They're trying to wash my face!"

Sheer Luxury I call it.

BOTTOMS UP

(From an Admiralty Pamphlet)

It is important that these missiles should be stored with the tops at the bottom, and the bottoms at the top. Therefore, to avoid mistaking the top for the bottom and the bottom for the top, the bottom of each missile has been clearly labelled TOP.

RUBBISH SIR!

Sir,

I arrive at the entrance to the Beit Quadrangle by Rolls-Bentley at about 10.15 am. on most mornings of the week. My chauffeur complains that he cannot get into the kurb for me to alight because of sundry old crows, bicycles, scooters and other wheeled contrivances parked right opposite the "No Parking" sign. I find I have sacked three chauffeurs and a chauffeuse in ten days for what was, apparently, no fault of theirs.

Nothing will induce me to use the back entrance to the Union - reserved for servants and brown-baggers scurrying for the 73 bus - so can someone please keep the "No Parking" bit clear, at least until after my arrival.

Yours faithfully,

Dennis Leston.

ROUND & ABOUT

by Romulus

Towards the end of each term many I.C. men approach Iowarians with a plea for help. However last Sunday Miss I. Dickinson voiced the opinion of I.C.W.A. by issuing an early ultimatum, "If they want their socks darned, they must learn to do it themselves!"

Talking of holes reminds me of the cavity which has recently appeared in a wall near to the serving hatch in the Lower Refectory. Soon the alteration will be completed and a new door fitted, but be careful 'all ye that enter there-in' for it only leads to the washing-up room! At last something has been done to speed up the removal of dirty crockery.

Frequenters of the Snack Bar (next to the Union arch-way) have been testing the new wicker furniture. No doubt many more students will now be able to sit down for coffee at the strictly regimented lines of tables and chairs, but I cannot help feeling a little nostalgia for the more homely atmosphere of the bays of shiny leather settees, where one could lounge and linger over a cup of coffee.

THE FAIR SEX TRIUMPHS

Tony "Freedom from Women" Hodgson, past Editor of Phoenix, has sacrificed his strong principles by becoming engaged to a pretty fraulein in the record time of 3½ weeks. He is further engaged - in research work at one of the lesser-known Universities, where he devotes some little time to the pursuit of his kind of music: he is now leading clarinetist of a professional group there.

He is also writing a sequel to his scathing article to be entitled: "Freedom from Women - But!"

IMPERIAL COLLEGE



COMMEMORATION DAY

Royal Albert Hall

Thursday, 23rd October, 1958

SPECIAL VISITOR:-

THE RT HON.

THE LORD BRIDGES,

PC., GCB, GCVO, MC., FRS.

When not playing his violin Mr. McDowall is to be found in his office at the top of the Registry busily arranging the college 'General Studies'. Last Thursday lunch-time he started off the term with a bang. The two lectures (sex and crime) were well attended (No comment). Sir Roderic Hill started General Studies in 1952, and he appointed Mr. McDowall as organiser who has admirably held the reins ever since. He is a tall, quiet and efficient man, fond of music, reading and walking. He has the interests of a wider education for students at I.C. very much at heart, and is worried that students sometimes wrongly regard General Studies as imposed culture. Last week he told me that many of the ideas for lectures come from students and student societies. So if anyone has any ideas for lunch-time lectures or lecturers, if they contact Mr. McDowall they will find a most open-minded and appreciative listener.

Early last Saturday morning as I was crossing the Quad, I saw three very pretty girls who were obviously in distress. They could not find Room 110 in the hostel. Crowds of errant males appeared from all over, hastening to lead the way. One frustrated male enviously wondered who was the lucky fellow in 110 who was having so many beautiful visitors so early in the day. On consulting the resident list he found that the occupant was Miss Susan Coombs! - Shame!

THE EXPLORATION
SOCIETY

Since as many as three expeditions a year are now being sent to foreign parts from this college, it was thought last year, that the formation of an Exploration Society would help to bring together the people interested in this kind of thing. The society now exists, and this term will be sponsoring a series of talks by prominent explorers. It is hoped to show several films, some of them in conjunction with the Film Society and to arrange slide shows of this year's expeditions.

It is not intended that the society will officially sponsor expeditions and the committee organise them. This will be left to the individuals in the society and college. It is hoped that the society might serve a useful function as a meeting place of have been and would be explorers. It is hoped that people proposing expeditions to the Exploration Board (which is a College body and exists only to finance and equip expeditions) will first of all submit them to the society, so that the proposers might receive advice and get the necessary copies of the proposal typed out. In this way the secretary of the Exploration Board will be saved undue work in the duplication of the necessary numbers of copies of the proposal and the proposers themselves put in a more favourable position since the proposal will then be presented in the correct form.

P.S.

GHANA

"REFRIGERATORS AND MUD HUTS"

On July 16th, the second Natural History Society Expedition to Ghana set sail, after some doubts and setbacks, to continue their long term study of vegetation decay under tropical conditions.

Under their leader, Bob Sturrock, the party of 6 zoologists and two botanists settled in the Bobirir Forest some 25 miles from the town of Kumasi. Communications were maintained by truck, which also took the expedition into the town for a "quiet" weekend; celebrations of one sort or another formed a large part of the party's activities.

The main impression of Ghana was one of contrasts of extreme poverty and wealth, of advanced technology and startling squalor. A deep impression was made on the expedition by the "High Life" dances, some members watching the dancers with distinctly un-zoological eyes!

Passage complications forced the party to split up on September 11th; two sailed on the 12th and a further 3 on the 15th. The remaining 2, the leader Bob Sturrock and John Webster, travelled by truck to the Northern Territories, looking for the snail carriers of the tropical blood disease called Bilharzia. This part of the country was very obviously poorer and more primitive than the base area, the men still carrying bows and poisoned arrows. Finally, the last remaining member set sail on Sept. 24th for England and expect to arrive here on the 15th of October.

To disillusion those who imagine that the party had a glorious sun-bathe, only 10 sunny days were enjoyed in the entire 6 weeks' stay; Ghana copies the U.K. in many ways - even the weather.



This year the Rover Crew expedition was staged in Andorra, the pin-prick on the French-Spanish border, camping 6 Km from Sant Julia de Soria in the vicinity of a farmhouse and 1400 ft. above the town.

The rugged country is little known and often the existing maps are in error, which caused the crew to pioneer its own routes on many occasions. In general, the rock is rotten, probably due to the extremes of temperature between day and night. An amazing variety of plants is to be found, despite rocks and climatic conditions, and one member alone pressed 260 species.

The crew arrived some time before the tourist rush started and soon became well known among villagers. Daily visits to the wine shop in Sant Julia made the crew popular with the proprietor concerned, while the local goat skin wine bottles provided much entertainment to those not using them.

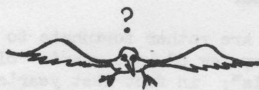
G.P.M.

GLIDERS VISIT CORNWALL.

On Saturday July 7th, a party of Gliding Club members left Lasham by road for the Cornish Gliding Club's site at Perranporth. The party included Paul Minton, the leader of the expedition, and Frank Irving, who had just returned from the World Championships at Lezno in Poland. The gliders taken were the Club Skylark II "Phoenix" and a privately owned Skylark III "Sixty-Six". A further Skylark II was taken by a small contingent of Surrey Gliding Club members, together with a Tiger Moth towing aircraft.

Perranporth was reached after dark and the first night was spent in the hanger, but as no flying was possible on the Sunday camp was struck by an old Spitfire disposal. Unfortunately Frank Irving had to return to I.C. on Sunday evening as he had been away in Poland for a month.

Monday was notable for the rashness displayed by a few pre-breakfast bathers in the nearby sea, resulting in near rigor mortis. Flying, but no soaring, was possible on the following two days giving no opportunity of familiarising members with the new site. On Thursday Bill Tonkyn was towed inland in "Sixty-Six" and, releasing near Truro, flew to Lostwithiel where he was forced to land as he had flown too far South of the lift. Several other members had tows towards Truro and contacted lift, but were not suitably placed to use it. Friday was the best day of the week, with a light land breeze and by 11 o'clock thermals were obviously rising above the site itself.



Paul Minton made the best flight of the day, soaring locally for about an hour, then flying to Trevoze Head. He landed at St. Ival while returning to Perranporth as the sky seemed full of Shackletons. "Phoenix" was also soared together with a Tandem Tutor belonging to the Cornish Club.

Despite the sea-mist which prevented flying for numerous hours, and the lack of a sufficiently strong sea breeze the week had been a success. This was largely due to the availability of the Tiger Moth, as most of the launches were by aero tow. Sincere thanks are due to the Surrey tug-pilot, and to the Cornish Gliding (and Flying) Club for their hospitality, the use of their two-seaters, and, of course, the bar.

COMING EVENTS.

TELEPHONE :
KENSINGTON 2963

Friday 10th Oct.

GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Film Show Meeting
Room 15. 5.00 p.m.
CHINESE SOCIETY Freshers' Dinner.

Sunday 12th Oct.

GUILDS MOTOR CLUB Freshers' Rally.
Snack Bar. 1.30 p.m.

MOTORING

POOR OLD BO

When 'Bo' presented herself for inspection at the Freshers' Receptions preceeding the start of the Session, it was with a deep feeling of embarrassment on account of her inability to be self-propelled. After a great deal of time and hard work had been spent cleaning and preparing her (and three months oxidation on brass-work takes some cleaning!), she was duly pushed out into the open air to be started. After half an hour's exhaustive swinging (no mean feat when there are some 3 litres on the other end of the handle) an ominous 'clonk' was heard from 'down the front underneath'. A closer inspection revealed that the supporting bracket for the rocker arm of the off-side exhaust valve had sheared. This bracket consists of a short double arm, and it was obvious by the dirt and grease that one side had been broken for quite some time. The other side had withstood the extra stress for as long as possible, but had finally fractured at this rather inopportune time. As this failure put the off-side cylinder out of action, starting became impossible.

As insufficient Guildsmen were available to push 'Bo' to her place of honour in front of the Union the only vehicle of sufficient nobility qualified to tow her was very kindly brought to our assistance by her keepers from R.C.S. The sight of a noble, but temporarily defeated, 'Bo' being towed by a triumphant 'Jezebel' was almost as awe inspiring as if the two had been driven in convoy.

A repair is being effected as soon as possible, and in all probability will be completed by the time this reaches print.

Footnote: Anybody with an interesting Special which he wishes to submit for a Felix road-test, please contact either Geoff Howard or Brian Wellstead, both JM, via C. & G. Motor Club Rack.

Tuesday 14th Oct.

WINE TASTING SOCIETY. Talk by Mr. Reeves of Mayco, Swarder and Co. Ltd. on "Wine-Tasting". Snack Bar 5.30 p.m.

Weekend 18th and 19th Oct.

MOUNTAINEERING CLUB Freshers' Meet in N. Wales.
Y.H.A. GROUP Joint weekend at Ewhurst Green. Y.H. with Bedford College
Y.H.A. Group.

Freshers' Dinners

MINES Mon. 13th and Wed. 15th Oct.
GUILDS Thurs. 16th, Fri. 17th, Mon 20th, Wed. 22nd and Fri 24th Oct.

N.B. The Editor reminds all secretaries that this column cannot be kept up to date without their co-operation.

COLUMN

JEZEBEL ON PARADE

The R.C.S. Fire Engine emerged from her summer hibernation on Saturday, Sept. 27th, for the second Historic Commercial Vehicle Club rally at the AEC works, Southall, the following day. Particular attention was paid to the brass, as it was known that she would be facing works competition. In the afternoon, she was paraded round Earls Court, in company with half a dozen other vehicles, to publicise the event.

An excellent lunch and tea were provided by AEC Ltd. and their chairman - Lord Brabazon - judged the 'concours'. The driving tests unfortunately were curtailed considerably, only a time-trial being held. However, we managed to hold our own test when it was found that the fire engine, with 11-up, made a very satisfactory standing start up a 1 in 7 test hill.

On Sunday, she arrived at Southall to find a 1914 Dennis and two 1928 Dennis's already present. There were also a Leyland and a Ford-T-based fire engine, all these fortunate vehicles being complete with pumps.

There were three steamers present, including 'The Animals' Friend' - a 1903 engine used by the RSPCA to assist horse-drawn vehicles up Crystal Palace Hill.

On the Freshers' Days, Jezebel was used to tow 'Bo' out to the Union and back, and performed this very satisfactorily. However, on her trip round the Park, she was ignominiously allowed to run out of petrol, and had to be pushed home, completing, as you will see, the trio of not particularly mobile chariots.

CLEM FOULED

With the rally at Southall as her goal, "Clementine" duly left the Union at 10.15 a.m. on Sunday 28th September with 125 p.s.i.

All went smoothly until she reached Gillette Corner, when it was discovered that a sack of Anthracite instead of Welsh Dry Steam Coal had inadvertently entered her grate, and effectively killed the fire. Then, after a five and a half hour delay, help arrived in the form of a sack of low-grade house-coal, extracted from the research lab. and delivered by Humber Snipe: with this stimulant Clem. managed to return under her own steam.

The crew, both professionally connected with the N.C.B., have not yet lived the blunder down!



