

# FELIX

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

NO. 165

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH 1961

PRICE 4D

## REFECTORIES

The return of the undergraduates last week and the influx of freshers has again brought the inadequacy of the refectory facilities to our notice. At lunchtime the crush in the Union is almost unbearable, with the queue for the lower refectory stretching into the Union entrance and the Snack Bar queue well into the archway. And the usual complaints of cool and unappetising food are to be heard again.

There is a tendency to put the blame for this admittedly unsatisfactory situation entirely on the shoulders of the refectory manager and the refectory committee, but a knowledge of the matter shows that the manager and the committee are, in fact, doing their best under extremely trying conditions. For instance, there is only one kitchen in the Union building, tucked away behind the lower refectory, and meals for the Dining Hall and the Upper Refectory have to be cooked here and transported by lift. This kitchen was designed to cater for 800 at lunchtimes, whereas in fact, 1300 lunches are cooked there in the two-hour lunch period, and many of the manager's problems stem from this gross overloading of the only kitchen. Also the staff have to be paid for 52 weeks of the year while the majority are only really needed for 30, which increases the refectory costs, and hence the price of the meals enormously.

Of the longterm remedies, next October there will be at least one of the new South side refectories open, and Week's Hall will be providing lunches, although Ayrton Hall will be closed and demolished next Easter. Since the College generally is relatively quiet during the summer term, and the refectories much less busy, this should not be a serious difficulty. It is eventually planned to have three refectories on South Side and there will also be refectories on the Island site when this is completed. Even so, the increase in refectory accommodation will hardly keep pace with the increasing student numbers.

What can be done now to alleviate the position? First of all, students can help by using the existing facilities to the best advantage; for instance, Ayrton Hall could be used more at lunchtime, thus easing the load on the Union, and it does not seem to be generally known that suppers are served at

178 Queen's Gate. This service is available to all members of the College, provided that collar, tie and jacket are worn, as in the Dining Hall, and the meals with waitress service are 6d. to 1s. dearer than the usual self-service meals. If this is not better patronised, it will have to close down at Christmas, which seems a pity in view of the shortage of refectory facilities.

Finally, the queues would be reduced enormously if students would have their money, preferably the correct amount, ready for the cashier, for most of the delays are at the cashier's end of the counter. Attention to these points will reduce the delays, and we must bear with Mr. Mooney and his staff until better cooking facilities are available.

## PROPOGANDA RECEIVED

The Editor receives every week several newsletters, usually pro- or anticommunist propaganda, including the International Union of Students news bulletin. If any student at this College wishes to receive this the Editor will be glad to pass it on. Drop a note in the Union rack.

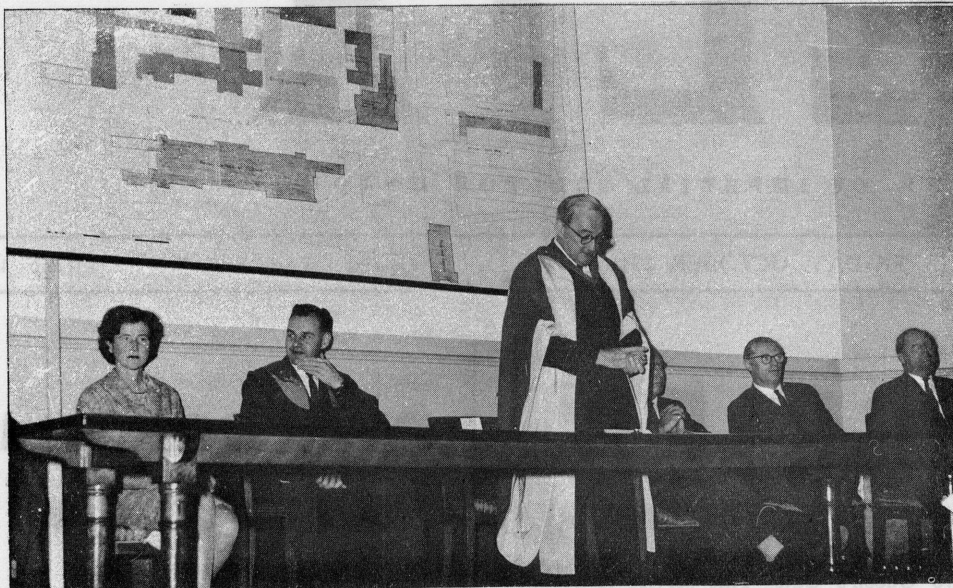
Among this week's post was a brotherly letter from the Editor of Sennet the University newspaper, inviting me to call in at their office any time, and a mysterious note announcing the opening of the Electrical Department Workshops on April 1st, 1984; the ceremony will be performed by Superintendent Emeritus C.C. Mills, when "a machine will be switched on".

## When 'bule meets 'bule



During the filming of "The Girl on the Boat", starring Norman Wisdom, outside R.C.M. on Sunday, our photographer caught this unlikely pair in conversation.





## Freshers' Day 1961

Monday 2nd October Freshers' Day dawned again. At 10.30 a.m. some 400 post-graduate freshers assembled in the Geographical Hall that famous meeting place used each year for the Freshers' address by the Rector, Sir Patrick Linstead, and the various Union Officials. Sir Patrick reminded them all the worldwide reputation of Imperial College and expressed the hope that all of them would contribute in some way or other to the College name. Afterwards various Union Officials including the President of I.C. and the Constituent College Presidents addressed the meeting but your reporter seemed to notice a curious lack of response which he hopes is not to be interpreted as meaning that the post-graduates do not intend to make any contribution to College life.

The response from the under-graduates was more promising. The Rector addressed some 600 under-graduates; he warned them of the dangers of not achieving a correct balance of work and play but at the same time he congratulated them on securing entry to I.C. saying 'For each one of you who has secured entry to this College there are seven who failed to secure entry; in other words there are behind each one of you seven ghostly images.' It is of interest to note here that the Warden of Beit Hall in his address to the Residents on the occasion of their Coming-Up Dinner said, 'Behind each one of you who secured admission to this hall there twenty not so ghostly images who failed to secure admission', he went on, 'this in total can be said to represent a veritable pinnacle of frustration'. After further pop talks by Union Officials the freshers descended in the Union where an excellent buffet luncheon had been

provided. In the afternoon the club Officials exercised their persuasive powers to cajole freshers into joining the very large selection of societies.

In all one could say that the day was a success although one cannot but think that the whole day is perhaps a trifle overwhelming to the novice.



The President speaking to Freshers.

### UNIVERSAL FRESHERS WELCOME

I would like to welcome all freshers to our Union (club, society, campaign) and I am very pleased (glad, excited), at the prospect of guiding us through this academic year. You have probably been told by the Rector (President, Secretary, Chairman), that the purpose of this Union (club, society, campaign) is working (playing, sporting, marching) and I fully agree with this.

The constitution (Blue Book, Rules) of this Union (club, society, campaign) will tell you that we exist solely for the best interests (edification, amusements) of its members, and you will find that the Rector (President, Chairman, Secretary, Commodore) is only too happy to help you in any way that he can. I, of course, will do my bit, and my committee will, I am sure, do all they can to make your one (two, three) years here as happy as possible.

Those of you who have not already paid your Union fee (subscription, party membership) will find the Treasurer (Domestic Bursar, Commissar) at the door. This Union fee (subscription, party membership) entitles you to all the privileges of the Union (club, society, campaign) and I think that you will find that it is certainly worth every ½d (1d, 1s, £1).

### QUOTES OF THE WEEK

*"It takes a dirty mind to find a dirty mind."*  
Sec. of Felix.

*"We are just good friends."*  
Bob Finch and Jim Carter

*"The freshers look like a weedy lot this year."*  
Well-known ICWarian

*"The collective noun for ICWarians should be 'babble'."*  
P. Savage

*"Time, please."*  
Howard, at 9.30 one night, putting out the bar lights.

*"Sorry, I wasn't in yesterday. I had a recurrence of malaria."*  
Stan.

*"Someone knocked at my door yesterday when I was out, well you know, in but out, if you see what I mean, and I'd like to know who it was."*  
Ed.

*"My mother warned me not to get into a young man's car."*  
Unknown Bedford fresher to Capt. of Hockey:

*"No, I haven't got a job yet."*  
Ex-Pres. of I.C.

# THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR YOU!

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# Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

At the Joint Council Meeting at the end of last term, the I.C. Nuclear Disarmament Club was disbanded — at a time when most of us had already left for the vacation. The elected committee for this session met today for the first time and discussed the situation.

Since we do not know officially why we have been disbanded, we are not yet in a position to reply to the allegations against us, whatever they may be. However, we hope that we will be allowed to attend the next meeting of the Social Clubs Committee and ask for our reinstatement.

It is unprecedented for action to be taken against a society without consultation with the S.C.C.

Yours faithfully,  
Fuchs

p.p. Committee-elect I.C.C.N.D. Club

## EDITOR'S NOTES.

This letter is published just as received, and it is necessary to add the following points for those who do not know the full facts of the matter.

a. The Council Meeting in question was held during term-time; if the members of I.C.C.N.D. leave College before the end of term they cannot blame Council for their absence.

b. Council is not bound to inform a suspended society of the reasons for their suspension, and the minutes of this meeting have not been approved yet.

c. Whether Council's action is unprecedented or not irrelevant. Council acted within its powers as defined in the Blue Book.

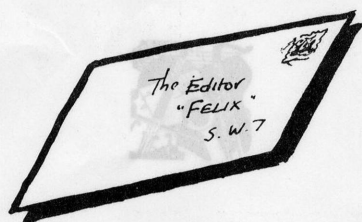
d. No body of students may call itself an I.C. Society unless it is a properly constituted Union society. The constitution of the former I.C.C.N.D. has been suspended and therefore the students whom Mr. Fuchs represents have no right to call themselves "the Committee-elect of the I.C.C.N.D. Club."

Dear Sir,

The freshers' hop was very enjoyable, and as a fresher might I congratulate the Entertainments Committee on the good show it put on. Only one thing marred an otherwise excellent evening. I went into the bar and found that there were a number of drunken students singing filthy songs and throwing beer around. Everyone to his own taste, of course, but I think it's a little selfish of these people to take over the bar in this fashion and not to allow anyone to have a quiet drink. Perhaps, one evening a week could be set aside for singing and horseplay thus, leaving the other six free for those who want to use the bar for civilised drinking.

Yours faithfully,

G. Thomas Phys. 1.



Dear Sir,

It may well be noticed by the objective observer that the Guilds Executive is now 90% Chem. Eng. As a member of Guilds and a non-member of Chem. Eng. I suggest that the rest of City and Guilds secede from the newly-formed Chem. Eng. Union, for it is perfectly obvious that an underhand campaign has been waged by the 3rd year Chem. Eng. which owing to the apathy of the rest of City and Guilds has been wholly successful.

It is for these reasons that I suggest that like the E.T.U., Chem. Eng. be expelled from the Union, or alternatively, the Union be expelled from Chem. Eng. As I value my skin (why? — Ed.) and am not sure which direction my soul will go, I request that you accept my signature as,

An irate Guildsman

N.B. Just for the record, the Guilds Executive is 50% Chem. Eng., though the Entertainments Committee is entirely composed of Chemical Engineers.

Editor

Dear Sir,

I see that once again the College have allowed a large number of young ladies to enter this predominantly male establishments. I have nothing against women generally, but really! When will the authorities realise that a small number of jeunes filles is worse than none at all? Later this session, I expect that the old motion about allowing women into the bar will raise its ugly head, and the same old arguments for and against will be resurrected. I think it would be a good idea to forestall this inevitable repechage with a motion which, although it might not allow as much hot air to be vented to atmosphere, will at least be novel. The motion is this: "This Union views with alarm the continued selection of young women in numbers insufficient to supply the demand of all students, and recommends to the Governing Body that a complete overhaul of the method of selection of women students is necessary. The Union would suggest that the entry qualifications should be changed from three advanced to 35-26-36." I put it to you all that although the women be just as much a nuisance as they ever were, they would be infinitely more pleasing to look upon.

Yours faithfully,

A. Wellwisher

## IMPERIAL COLLEGE COMMEMORATION DAY

THURSDAY, 26TH OCTOBER 1961

3 P. M.

Special Visitor:

THE RT. HON. THE VISCOUNT, HAILSHAM, QC, Lord President of the Council and Minister for Science.

The ceremony will be preceded by a short service in Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road, at which the preacher will be The Very Rev. E.S. Abbot, DD. MA, Dean of Westminster Abbey.

Associates and Diplomates, Honorary Associates and Fellows, are honoured by the College at the ceremony in the Royal Albert Hall.

Students and their guests are admitted without tickets at Main Door (Entrance No.6), and are asked to be seated by 2.45 p.m. Tickets for tea may be obtained from the Union Office, free of charge.

The work and buildings of the City and Guilds College will be on view until 7 p.m.



## FELIX

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

## Editorial Comment

The Editor is occasionally asked, usually by the people who can think of nothing better to say, what his editorial policy is. The answer to this question depends on what is meant by the word policy. Felix has no policy in the sense that the Daily Express has a pro-Empire policy or the Times a pro-Government policy, for we avoid consciously slanting news to bias our readers for or against any particular cause or body; we aim at presenting, if not in the same issue at least in consecutive issues, both sides of the current controversy. This is in itself a superhuman task. Any reporter or commentator is biased in some way, for even if he or she has no interest in a dispute his or her views may be swayed by other things. For instance, a group of people, however worthy they may be of punishment, being treated roughly, high-handedly or slightly unfair by authority will always invite sympathy, and they usually get it.

When spokesmen for both sides are invited to state their cases there are still difficulties. The two writers rarely submit articles of equal length, and editorial interference is not taken kindly. Giving both article equal prominence also poses problems, and a chance typographical error can reduce the one to incoherence and leave the other convincingly logical. Thus although neutrality is our aim it is always difficult to achieve.

"Felix is lively animal" says the Blue Book, and indeed we do try to keep the Union awake, to prick its conscience and to point out its hypocrisies. But to strike a balance between being lively and giving unwarranted publicity to groups whose aims are not in the best interest of the Union is again difficult. In fact, the policy of having no policy in this sense is in many ways the hardest of all to adhere to.

With this, Felix aims at providing each fortnight a balanced mixture of news, comment, opinion, gossip and humour to please as many as possible of our readers. We have said a good deal about aims but little about achievements, for this is for you to judge. Inevitably you will feel that in some issues this balance has not been correct, and that the paper has been too serious, too frivolous, lacking in news and so on. It is then up to you to correct this by writing articles of the type which you felt were lacking, for Felix is *your* paper, the forum for *your* views and the showcase for *your* literary talent. This paper will be in part what you, our readers, are willing to make it. The staff are not exceptionally brilliant writers or journalists, capable of turning out delightful articles issue after issue for your admiration, they are ordinary students who believe that this College will benefit from having a newspaper and who are willing to put in a good deal of hard work to see that it does have one.

Finally, we do not print every article which we receive for a variety of reasons. We rarely receive anything which is obscene, blasphemous or libelous, though occasionally it would be tactless or offensive to print something which does not fall directly into one of these categories. Usually the reason is that it would upset the balance of the paper, and acceptable material has to be held over to the next issue. Here again it is difficult to anticipate everyone's reactions to any particular contribution.

In short then, we aim at providing a balanced, neutral and lively paper, and although we crave your indulgence for our deficiencies, we shall work extremely hard to achieve that aim this year.

## FELIX BOARD 1961/62

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## THANKS

The Editor would like to thank James Carter, Finlay McPherson, John Jennings, Dick Lewis, Jan Guy, Colcutt, Collin Win-

stone, John Sheard, Chris James. John Klascha, Si Lyle, Rimshot and all his regular staff for their work in this issue.

## Jazz News

This term has begun, if you know what I mean. I mean that this term has begun with the entry of one thousand three hundred and eighty potential bop'bone players into the College. But, I hear your cry, in how many idioms will this potential be brought to fruition? A rapid glance at the Rimshot Jazz Yearbook indicates that the answer is that one quarter of one freshmen will become a booting funk trombone man. Other interesting statistical forecasts from the same source indicate that this year will see the emergence of twelve traditional clarinetists, half a bass player, one third of a modern drummer, one puffed-cheek euphonium player, no less than seventeen washboard soloists, a close approximation to one quarter of a soul pianist, together with one eighth of a cor-anglais player and ninety seven banjoists. Assuming the validity of the Rimshot statistics, the pooling of this varied and curious musical talent should produce a provocative new noise.

The modern Jazz Quartet recently completed a tour of this country. The Imperial College Jazz Club were, as usual, behind their ice-cream trays at the Hammersmith Gaumont. In between melting banana splits I enjoyed four of their shows. And like stayed awake the whole time! In small doses the M.J.Q. are a very pleasant noise, but a whole show, Bugsville. The John Lewis approach to jazz is static, man. A quartet using these instruments (vibes, piano, bass, drums) cannot produce a very wide range of overall sound. After an hour and half's listening I've had enough, not notwithstanding the incredible Milt Jackson. Milt's vibes solos were mostly a gas — fabulous technique and ideas. John Lewis' dull tone on piano and his too polite approach took much of the edge of some interesting phrases. Percy Heath's bass playing was often out of tune, and Connie Kay's drumming was fair. In the last show, however, Ronnie Ross (baritone sax) appeared as guest. Ross is just what this group needs, and his beautiful tone, inherent sense of swing and immaculate phrasing gave great lift to the group. Numbers I enjoyed were "The Animal Dance", from the ballet "Original Sin", "If You were Eve" also from O.S., and "Bag's Groove". All these featured Ross.

I.C.'s Jazz Club President, trombone player, Ken Gibson, completed a tour with the Red Prince Orchestra this summer. Ask him for some stories about Jimmy Skidmore's grandmother. Ken is now making a tentative study of the puffed-cheek trombone method, otherwise known as Lip Pucker. The only reliable tutor for this method is "Rimshot's Puffed Cheek Method" obtainable from all good chemists. Buy it now!





# On the Sight

by COLCUTT

The invasion has begun. The peace, order and comfort of the past few, retrospectively blissful, weeks have vanished in the chaos of the new term. The quadrangle overflows. Mooney's staff tear their hair, queues from everywhere, and Howard and Arthur long for the last of the Freshers' Dinners. Even the "Doms School" has been unable to function, due to the crush, and the few addicts are wandering hopelessly and helplessly, looking for somewhere to mix their doms.

But the invasion has been carried out rather more sedately than usual. The freshers actually smile when they go into the Union Office to ask from whence cometh their Union cards, and they clap very politely at all the correct places at the various receptions. In fact, they seem to be a very decorous, orderly and mannerly shower altogether. No doubt the Freshers' Dinners will give an indication of their true colours.

Thinking of colours, one wonders if the flag draped elegantly around the dartboard is the personal standard of the President or just some more work of the boys. Thinking back to the freshers, it was strange to see the many hardened faces among the downy freshers, all trying to obtain free freshers lunches. When these hardened gentlemen first came to the College years ago (where is an integer between 2 and 7) there were no fresher lunches, so no doubt they feel that they have every right to take what ought to have been theirs.

Which brings me to the subject of C.N.D. When one considers that their puerile little handouts are just typical of the juvenile mentality and antics of the College C.N.D. group, one can sympathise with the members of Council who became so heartily sick of these individuals last year that they decided to try to shake some sense into the society by suspending its constitution. It seems their efforts were in vain. Why is it that causes that are undoubtedly worthy of considerable thought and level-headed action invariably come to rest in the hands of such small-minded individuals?

I heard rumours last week that Jim Carter (ex-Union Secretary) and Bob Finch (ex-Chairman S.C.C.) were having to sleep alternate nights as they only had one bed between them. Jim denied it, of course.

Jubilant cries were heard in the lounge last week, emanating from our Editor who had just discovered a copy of "What's On" (is this a record?). When it was pointed out to him that it was the previous week's issue he was undaunted: "I shall enjoy reading about all the things I should have gone to", he said. Ita heac vita hominum ad modicum apparet quid autem sequatur quidve praecessarit prorsus ignoramus. Or perhaps, he just reads it for the strip club adverts.

Have you noticed the young ladies of I.C.W.A. parading backwards and forwards and forwards and backwards across the quad? There seems to be a definite relationship between the number of quad-crossings (q) and the man-appeal of the young ladies (cor!!) which may be written as:

SUCCESSFUL FRESHMENS' EVENING?

**Advertise  
in FELIX**

## Morphy Day 1961

Morphy Day is one of the oldest occasions at Imperial College and is still one of the most important. For those who have not been informed as to what Morphy Day is, it is sufficient to say that Morphy Day is Boat Race Day, that is to say the three Constituent Colleges race each other for the Morphy and Lowry Trophies.

Obviously as those of us who take part in any sport will know support is vital to any race such as this. Thus each year hordes of people descend on Putney and usually before the race Guilds and R.C.S. have a battle of Mascots, which those who like sport revel in.

This year it is rumoured that one of the colleges has some new and secret weapon which will wipe out the other college with one blast if used. For this reason if for no other one can expect an even better Morphy Day than ever before.

One cannot but urge all of you to come to Putney on November 1st; those of you who feel worried about missing lectures can take solace in the fact that Morphy Day is a half-holiday.

### BOOKSTALL COMMITTEE CHANGES

Mr. Morris has been appointed Chairman of the Bookstall Committee to replace Dr. Lamb. Dr. Neal of the Mechanical Engineering Department has been appointed as the other staff representative.

## Felix Pub Guide

by KEG

No. 1.

### THE QUEENS ARMS

The Queen's Arms, usually known as the 'Queens', has the distinction of being the nearest pub to I.C. It is tucked away in Queen's Gate Mews which is the first turning on the right up Queen's Gate Terrace from Queen's Gate. The "Queens" is not the most luxurious of pubs but it is comfortably and plainly furnished, with a darts room off the public bar. Its hours offer a useful extension over hours and both BASS and WORTHINGTON are available on draught. A wide selection of cold meats, pies and sandwiches is available, especially at lunchtime. The Editor will welcome suggestions for inclusion in this series.





## JAN MAYEN

AN ACCOUNT OF THE TRAGIC ACCIDENT  
IN JAN MAYEN, IN WHICH FOUR MEMBERS  
OF THE UNION LOST THEIR LIVES.

On the 25th June 1961 five members of the University of London Beerenberg Expedition, lost their lives in Jan Mayen. J.D. Booth, J.R. Fraser, C.M. Smith and P. Smith were members of the glaciological party from Imperial College, working in conjunction with a team of Geologists from Birkbeck College. J. Cole was the other member of the Expedition lost in the accident.

I had no wish to write this account of the accident but many inaccurate accounts of this tragedy are circulating in the Union and it is only right that a factual account should be given by a member of the expedition.

Most of the inaccuracies are due to reports which appeared in the National Press before the full facts were known. The Norwegian Press condemned the 12ft. fibreglass boat because it was not built of wood. The British Press took their lead from the Norwegians. The boat was, however, designed and built for the conditions in Jan Mayen, and is similar to boats used by the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey in Antarctica.

The dinghy had been used successfully around the Island in 1959. Furthermore, the boat and its two outboard engines were critically tested before leaving this country. Although one engine was sufficient to power the boat two were fitted as a safety precaution so that if one failed the remaining engine would keep the boat under way.

The accident occurred when the glaciological team from Imperial College were being ferried from Middle Jan to the North Cape of the Island where they were to have been based for the next part of their work. The sea was flat calm when the journey commenced, so calm that it was possible to take hand-held telephoto cine shots of the seabirds on the cliffs.

The boat was hit by a sudden squall and within five minutes the sea was raised into a ferment of conical waves. One of these waves swamped the two outboard motors so that neither was restarted. Orders were immediately given to use the oars. It was as these were being brought into use that a second wave capsized the boat.

At the time of the accident the party was not more than 200 yds. from the shore since it was known that such winds can arise extremely rapidly in this area. These katabatic winds are caused by cold air masses gathering momentum while falling from the crater rim of the extinct Beerenberg volcano 7,000 ft. above and are very local (at the time of the accident the air was calm only five miles away).

It was no more than twenty minutes from the time of the accident to when Fitch, the leader of the Expedition and sole survivor from the boat, regained consciousness on the beach. The wind had died down and the sea was 'oily' calm again shortly after. Fitch then walked to the Radio Station without footwear, across snowfields and lava flows, a remarkable feat of courage and endurance.

May I finally say that expeditions would not obtain the support of the College Exploration Board, the Royal Geographical Society and another sponsoring bodies unless they had full confidence in the expeditions' plans. Further confidence in this Expedition was demonstrated after the accident by the additional support we received to return to Jan Mayen to complete the glaciological work that had been started.

J.W.S.



## Dramatic Society

With the beginning of the new academic year, quite naturally all our College societies are mustering their forces, and making plans for the future.

Amongst these is the Dramatic Society which although on public view on only a limited number of occasions, is nevertheless active all the year round. Already, plans have been made, and auditions are in progress, for the coming Christmas production, and tentative plans are being formed for Easter also.

The Christmas production will almost certainly be *"Tiger at the Gates"* by Jean Giraudoux, and will be produced by Mike Barron (known to many as a former Editor of Felix).

So far this term, activity in the Society has been largely centered around the recruitment of freshers, since it is imperative that each year there is an intake of "fresher" blood to the Society in order that it may remain alive and ambitious.

Following up contacts made in Freshers' Day, the Society held a Freshers' Tea in the Concert Hall on Thursday evening. Here, after some light refreshment, the seventy or so freshmen present were divided into two groups, those interested in acting, and those more inclined towards back-stage work. The former took in a play-reading session, and the later session, and the later were introduced to our stage whilst most of its equipment was demonstrated to them.

It is hoped that many of these freshmen (and women), will now take an active interest in our Dramatic Society. It should not be out of place to mention that if freshers, or second and third year students, who were unable to attend the meeting, are nevertheless interested, they will always be welcomed on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons when most of the work on stage is done.

Of course, the prime object of the Dramatic Society should be to entertain and to move its audience. This can be difficult to accomplish, and may become impossible unless the College provides a worthwhile audience which, sad to say for a college of our size, it sometimes fails to do! It is also valuable if the audience then makes useful criticism of the production as a whole (via Felix perhaps), so that our standard can continue to improve.

Therefore to conclude, I quote from this year's pamphlet to the freshers, when the President said:

*"The critical appreciation of the audience, of the College, is as vital to the Society's well being as the enthusiasm of its active members".*

*"So I extend an invitation to those of you not concerned with the day to day functioning of the Society to come and see our plays, and to let us know what you think of them."*

C.H.W.



# The Personality of Mr. Khrushchov

Every seat, stair and gangway of the main physics lecture theatre packed on Thursday, October 5th as the first of the term's lunch-hour General Studies lectures was given. Sir William Haytor, former British Ambassador in Moscow, mingled biographical fact with personal anecdote to paint a vivid picture of the remarkable leader of Soviet Russia.

In spite of the Communistic theory that Trends and Ideas have more effect than personalities on world history, said Sir William, this did not seem to be the case in Russia, where the character of the regime was vastly different under Lenin, Stalin and Khrushchov. He had been on the Embassy staff in the thirties; at that time the Soviet leaders had been virtually inaccessible, and what few Russian friends they had were liable to disappear suddenly. It was estimated that there was a labour force of ten million in the Siberian concentration camps. Nowadays these camps, and the Secret Police who were Stalin's biggest weapon, had almost entirely disappeared.

Khrushchov, unlike Lenin and Stalin, sprang from the socially acceptable background of the Russian peasantry. After some elementary schooling, as evidenced by his knowledge of the Bible, he went to work as a shepherd boy, and later laboured in a British-owned factory. His experiences here gave him a bitter hatred of capitalism and colonialism.

His official biographies are strangely silent on whether or not he fought in the First World War. He joined the Communist Party a year or two after the Revolution, and soon became one of the professional organisers. Somehow,

he managed to hold his own among the purges and tyrannies of the Stalin era, and at the dictator's death he was one of the Party's top men.

Diplomats who met him in 1953, the transition period after Stalin's death, saw him as a vehement, forceful little man with a chip on his shoulder and an appealing ignorance of foreign affairs: hardly the man to oust Malenkov as the ruler of Russia. They were wrong.

Khrushchov is not an absolute dictator, but there is no effective opposition to his regime, partly because there seem to be no-one who could replace him. On one occasion the Secretariat did vote against him; the decision was later reversed by the General Committee of the Party, and the delinquent officials were relieved of their posts. The fate of Khrushchov's political rivals is usually to be posted to a harmless sinecure such as that of Ambassador to Outer Mongolia.

Typical of Khrushchov's personality is his reaction to the booing that greeted him during his visit to Britain in 1956. On finding out from the reluctant British Ambassador that this was a gesture of disapproval, he turned round in the car and booed back at the crowd. He had expected a cool reception by the Government and warm one by the people; it was actually the other way round.

Even now he apparently tends to regard the Western man-in-the-street as either a deluded fool or a secret sympathiser. (Is this not also a common Western view of the average Russian?)

His frequent outbursts of rage, though undoubtedly genuine, are by no means uncontrollable. He managed for instance, to conceal his hatred of Stalin until it meant no harm to denounce him. Khrushchov combines a peasant's bluntness with a diplomat's craft, a comedian's cordiality with a tyrant's ruthlessness, a clown's buffoonery with a statesman's wisdom. He is a fascinating character, and very much a man to be reckoned with.

## FRESHER'S HOP

Having received a complimentary ticket for this function, it would be churlish of me to be rude about the entertainments committee's organisation. As a matter of fact the whole affair seemed to be very good indeed. I passed through the Concert Hall at about nine o'clock and observed a fair number of charming young ladies, and, returning an hour later, noticed a slightly smaller, though still considerable, number of charming young ladies: the hall was well decorated, some imaginative use had been made of the lighting available and the band appeared to be functioning satisfactorily. The Entertainments Committee are to be congratulated on the whole affair and if the standard of talent is maintained the hops this year are going to be very crowded.

Something might be done to get over the females that the I.C. bar is for men only. No less than eight violated those sacred precincts on Friday night and were driven out by the howls of outraged men. The chairman of the A.C.C. hardly sets a good example, for he was enticing a young ICWarian into the bar on Saturday night; what is ICWA coming to these days?

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# SPORT



## SOCCER CLUB

With nine of last year's first team back at College, we are confident of a successful season, though there is the possibility that Eddie Holding will be playing in the ULU team, and this will leave an awkward gap to fill. We signed up about fifty freshers at the freshers reception, and about forty turned up for the trial games. We had three full games going at the trials and we hope to run seven normal teams this season and one abnormal team which will be the most exclusive of the lot, under the general misdirection of Ben Hindley, who will, by definition, be the pivot of the attack.

Congratulations to Max Finney, who turned up in his usual state of semi-paralysis for last Saturday's trial and scored all five goals. Sunt lachrymae term...!

### CONTACT WANTED

Mr. Steven Lajoie, of 392, Flatbush Avenue, Hartford, Conn., U.S.A. would like to correspond with engineering student at the Imperial College. He is studying Mechanical Engineering at the Hartford State Technical Institute.

## Felix needs staff:

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CONTACT THE EDITOR

Room 88 New Hostel

or

via Union Rack



## RUGBY CLUB

Tomorrow the season starts in earnest for the Rugby Club (though the first fifteen started last Wednesday) and with nine teams to organise the officials have had a great deal of work to do. But with trials over, in which a number of useful freshers have been found, the energies can be concentrated on raising the playing standard throughout the Club.

Those who played in the trials should look up on the Club notice board next to the bar and tick off when their names are on a team sheet or on the reserves list and they will get a game. If there is anyone who missed the trials and would like to play they should contact the Hon. Sec. through the Union rack.

The Club is planning a French Tour (!) at Christmas, and with this as a goal training sessions are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 12.45 p.m. in Hyde Park, to which all players are welcomed. Before the Tour the first round of the University Cup has to be played, on November 22nd against Northampton College at Harlington. It will be a hard campaign for I.C. with Kings and U.C. in the same half of the draw, but the Club has the ability to retain the Cup and uphold their reputation as the strongest Club in the University. But remember, the Club does not live by its first fifteen and its strength and spirit stem in large measure from the lower teams.

Finally, do not forget the Club's social evening sometime this month, where it is hoped to have one or two Rugby personalities along, and to show some films. Freshers will also have an opportunity of meeting the old lads and to fight with them for the beer and sausage rolls.



## CROSS COUNTRY

Twenty nine freshers showed enough interest in the club to sign on at the reception on Monday 2nd October. Of this number nineteen managed to appear on Wednesday afternoon for a jog round Hyde Park followed by tea in Weeks Hall.

On Saturday 7th October twenty-five of the club ran in the U.L. trials (at Hamstead Heath) in a field of 73 starters. The race was just over 6 miles and was run by Littlewood of St. Barts Hospital in 32.25. However, I.C. took 2nd place with John Collins at 32.41, and then Ted Wilkins 6th, John Cleator 7th, Jeff Greenleaf 10th and Dave Hammond 11th. The first new man in for I.C. was Pete Ray from Birmingham University in 16th place following Jim Bernard at 15th. The remainder of the I.C. runners were found at 3 in the twenties, 5 in the thirties, 4 in the forties, 3 in the fifties and 2 in the sixties. Both numbers and standard of freshers were encouraging.

## SAILING CLUB

Last June Imperial College Sailing Club, after some success at home during the year, sent a team on tour for the first time. The team was composed of the better members of the club, and toured the West Country and Cornwall. The team sailed in many types of boat new to them including Hornets, Enterprises, GP 14's, and National 12's. The weather was very encouraging and everywhere the hospitality extended to the team was excellent. The team members were housed in tents and travelled in three cars, learning the outdoor life in some cases for the first time. In one of the highlights of the tour, the navy was vanquished in true style on their own doorsteps in Plymouth by the team who won 1, 2, 3, 4.

Racing was cancelled over the next few days, which were not without amusing incidents. Nigel Hill strongly protesting right of way, argued with a 100 ton paddle steamer, but retired honourably with verbal recommendations to the skipper. The team was not to be held up by such yokelish innovations as ferry queues and on arrival at Saltash and seeing numerous landlubbers waiting on the wrong side of the road with expressions of long waiting on their faces, swept past and created a vacancy for themselves at the head of line and continued with closed windows.

The last two nights of the tour were spent in the attic of one Trefusis of Trefusis, who also very kindly lent his off shore cruising yacht to the team. The team were very glad of the chance to sleep under a roof, the novelty of the outdoor life having worn off somewhat. In all eight matches were sailed, of which half were won not an outstanding performances.

I was agreed by all who took part that the tour was a success and should be repeated in the near future.

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