



FELIX

40

22 MAY, 1968

NEWSPAPER OF THE IMPERIAL COLLEGE STUDENTS UNION No. 262

IN THIS ISSUE :

LAST REGULAR ISSUE
THIS SESSION

RORY REDMAYNE'S
REVIEW OF THE YEAR
PAGE 4

FAILING ? THEN
SUBSCRIBE TO FELIX
SEE PAGE 5

RCS VOTING A SHAMBLES

After one of the biggest electoral mix-ups for many years RCS Union now finds itself without a President for next year, and one of the candidates for Secretary, Maria Wallis, withdrawing the day before the election because she would not have the support of a President.

In a joint letter to the present President, Bob Mackman, the two nominees, Roger Webb and Anita Furniss withdrew their candidature because they were unhappy about the circumstances of the first poll and did not think Monday's ballot would have been representative since few people would be about.

RCS Union has had to poll again for the posts of President and Vice-President. As there were no nominations the first time for Secretary, the nomination papers were put up again and Monday's elections included this post.

The trouble erupted at the RCS AGM on Tuesday 14th with accusations of inconsistencies in the ballot held the day before for the presidency and vice-presidency of the Union. After a marathon two and a half-hour meeting, surely one of the longest and stormiest for many years, it was decided that because of the accusation and the closeness of the vote a new ballot would be taken (see the final result in FELIX LATE NEWS).

The proceedings began, peaceably enough, with the hustings for Secretary, Chris Yewlett being proposed by Tony Bailey and Maria Wallis by Jon Shields (results again in LATE NEWS). After this, proposal speeches and a vote for Assistant Secretary in which Penny Walters beat Paddy Sterndale, this year's Queen of Jez. Then the elections for RCS Ents Committee.

Now, after the lull—the storm. Pat Haxell accused the people running the Chemistry section of the previous day's ballot of keeping a record of the direction in which the vote was going and of letting people know who had voted which way. Les Ebdon followed this up with complaints of a complete lack of privacy for the voters when casting their votes, and objections to candidates being ever-present at the ballot tables. There were also complaints that Mackman had let slip the election results in the bar the night before the AGM, for which Mackman later apologised.

Missing Votes

More serious were doubts about whether the Botany Department had been disenfranchised or not. It was established that some Botanists had voted in the Chemistry box, some had

(perhaps) voted in the Zoology department and it was just possible that some even voted in Botany itself. Add to this the fact that neither Bob Mackman nor Mike Tait, who helped with the count, could be certain whether any or all of the Botany votes were counted and it becomes apparent just how much of a mess the organization of the polling was!

Frayed Tempers

During the bickering Martin Lack had attempted to introduce a procedural motion to move on to other business and Mackman handed over chairmanship of the meeting to Vice-President Mike Tait and tried to answer Haxell's and Ebdon's charges. In the end, Andy Keenan, Chemistry rep, was called to defend the organisation of the Chemistry ballot which he seemed unable to do. Mackman interrupted the discussion several

times, trying to say that the vote should stand. Mike Tait did his best to keep the heat down and tempers from fraying. Then, at last, some measure of sanity—Malcolm Duckett proposing the obvious course of a new ballot. Following came a huddle of the politicians, with Martin Lack still trying to insist on his motion to announce the results and move on to the next business, and everyone trying to work their way through a mess of regulations and decide what was to be done.

Finally the huddle, looking now like an American Football tactics discussion, broke up and Chris Kent spoke the magic numbers: "I formally propose that a new ballot be taken . . ." All hell let loose again! Martin Bland opposing the decision in front of an unsympathetic Union, two eminently sensible speeches in favour of a new ballot from Frank Fuchs and Mrs. Judy Poë and Bob Mackman coming to the end of his tether, saying that a new ballot should be carried out. A paper vote agreed, evidently by a large majority. So democracy won and the new ballot for President and Vice-President was held on Monday along with the ballot for Secretary (once again see LATE NEWS for results).

After all this excitement, the rest of the meeting dissolved into anticlimax. The usual farce of finding people to fill all positions not already filled and the presentation of social colours and general awards. The adjournment (without a Kangela) until yesterday.

At the time of going to press it seems unlikely that a President will be elected until next session. Andy Keenan has since resigned.

Finally, FELIX information on the first ballot is that Rog Webb beat Anita Furniss for President by about 50 votes, with Peter Dolwin scraping through by 7 votes from Adolf Hashterdouian for the Vice-Presidency.

PAUL HEATH

President's D & D

The President's Dinner and Dance on Friday, 21st June, the last day of term, will this year have its benefits spread more evenly over the participants. A smaller dinner than last year's marathon (which had to have a break during the seven courses to give people a chance to recover) will be attended by less ex-officio people (e.g. Council members) and more invitations will go to club chairmen.

For those getting dance only invitations a buffet supper will be included and about 70 of these will be on sale soon at £1 double, to cover the cost of the food.

Dancing will be from 9 till 3 to the Don Brewer Quintet (who played at the May Ball) and a discotheque. There will also be a cabaret, details of which have not yet been released.

Dress will, of course, be formal.

FELIX, 68-9

This is the last regular issue of FELIX this session. It is intended to bring out a special issue on Monday, June 17th, after Joint Council, which will be on June 10th.

The next editor will be Paul Heath, at present Maths II and News Editor.

I would like to give Paul my best wishes for his spell of editing.

DAVID COOPER.



Some of the seven fire engines which arrived to put out Keith Guy's fire.

CHEM ENG EXPLOSION

Keith Guy, Chairman of Ents, was injured when part of his apparatus in Chem Eng exploded last Wednesday afternoon.

He received fairly severe burns to his face and arms from hot oil and mercury vapour, and was rushed to hospital where he is making good progress. He will probably be in for another week.

Dr. G. Saville, and two other people from Chem Eng, who helped the swarms of firemen who descended immediately after the explosion, were also treated for inhaling mercury vapour and were detained for a few days.

The cause of the accident is not yet known but an inquiry is being conducted.

FELIX wishes Keith, who was married only eight weeks ago, a speedy recovery.

CORR it's Dermott for Guilds

At the Guilds AGM last Thursday Dermott Corr was elected next year's President by a substantial majority over Bob Pine, the threat of a massive vote for the latter from Civ Eng being more than balanced by Dermott's Chem Eng votes.

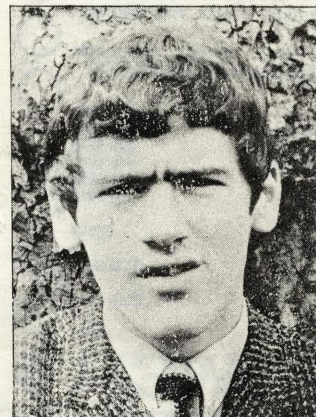
The new Vice-President is Frank Coldwell, Secretary Dave Cox, Guilds rep on Council Helen Ridge, CC rep Rog Guy, Hon Jun Tres Dave Foster and Publicity Officer Julian Brownridge.

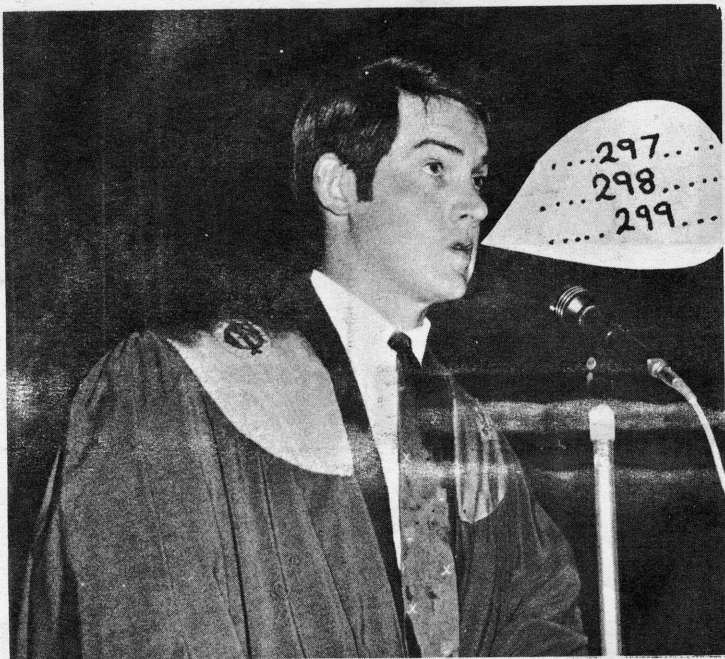
In his report of the year Chris O'Donnell, retiring President, said that this had been a most successful year for Guilds. They had won every sports cup there was for them to win and had made a contribution of £1,600 to Carnival, £600 of this coming from Mech Eng 1.

An election for ICWA Girl of the Year was contested by five nominees, four of them, amazingly enough, being women, and three of these even being from Guilds. The winner was the fifth contestant, lovable, cuddly Dick James.

Union General Awards were conferred on Chris O'Donnell (ex-officio), Paul Bradley, Secretary, Dick James, Vice-President, Ian Jarvis, Mech Eng 1 rep, and Stuart Senior, Publicity Officer.

The meeting closed with Dermott Corr being installed as President, given his robe, chain and sceptre of office. He just about managed to lift the 52-pound, greased (for the occasion) Spanner and, narrowly avoiding bursting a blood vessel, lived to utter "I don't care if I lose that thing for a whole bloody year."





Ray Phillips counts his flock.

UGM IN BUSINESS

At last the massive publicity effort paid off. A quorum was eventually reached for the twice adjourned IC Union Meeting and it also got through some useful business.

When the meeting opened almost on time there could have been few more than 30 people in the Concert Hall as President Phillips proposed his constitutional motion for the second time to admit "disguised students" into the Union, which was passed unopposed and with no-one challenging the quorum. By now there were about 100 students present and Bob Mackman moved the second reading of his motion to elect the External Affairs and Welfare Officers and the ULU agent from the Union floor at the AGM, and to make the first two officers of the Union, sitting on Council and heading their own sub-committees.

Quorum

With the audience reaching the staggering number of 150 Mike Edwards challenged the quorum (need it be added successfully?) and Phillips adjourned the meeting for ten minutes while commercials for the Silwood Ball, Carnival Fete, Sports Day and Mines (for those who would like to change from RCS or Guilds) were given.

On reopening the meeting was still without a quorum but no-one challenged it, so Andy Jordan could propose that we affiliate to the Co-ordinating Committee for Overseas Students which was again not opposed. Still not quite a quorum so Phillips asked for questions and was asked by Pete Dolwin about Mike. Phillips replied that it was hoped that Mike would shortly be restored to his rightful place on his plinth, although he has not yet been recovered from Kings.

Another adjournment, five minutes this time, and at last the magic figure of 300 was reached. The real business could be done.

Rory Redmayne proposed his well-publicised motion to abolish UGM's (Union General Meetings) which, after some lively speeches was soundly defeated although large numbers abstained in the words of Mike Edwards "to show the opposition the idea of the motion, but to register disapproval with Union meetings this year."

Walkout

As Malcolm Duckett got up to speak on Derek Boothman's motion more or less revising the Union constitution he was faced with a walk-out of about 50 people. As it was five to two it is possible that this was due to lectures, but more likely it was an attempt to block the motion. Duckett instead asked that a request by the assembled individuals that Council be asked to set up a sub-committee to revise the constitution. This was passed overwhelmingly.

The meeting closed with a question about beer prices and one on the newspapers in the Lower Lounge.

COUNCIL CRACKS DOWN ON STOATS

In yet another insipid Council meeting last Monday week, Council took three hours to thrash out the following momentous decisions.

Stoats Club

They decided that Stoats Club are to be permitted to hold their dinner this term in spite of the mess and numerous complaints of revolting behaviour after last term's dinner. However, after the dinner they will have no extra privileges and will have to leave the Union by 11.30. No barrels of beer will be sold to them and the reading room and senior common room, where they have previously remained in a besotted state until 2 a.m., are to be locked.

Southside Bar

Southside bar is to be given an overhaul. New chairs are to be installed and a new carpet will be laid over the vac, and the marble underneath the bar will be extended by 1½ ft. to prevent the wear which has necessitated the early replacement of the present carpet. The old carpet will be used to cover ICWA's new carpet when the ICWA lounge is used for parties.

PG Lounge ?

Vinod Garga, the overseas students rep proposed that there

should be a lounge in the Union specifically for use by P.G.s. It was pointed out that this was contrary to the policy of integration of UGs and PGs at IC and that PGs were honorary members of the SCR during the vac and could use this then.

Vinod suggested that an application for block membership on behalf of all overseas students should be made to the International Students House in Russell Square. Vinod is to investigate the support this would have from overseas students, and Ray Phillips is to look into the possibility of a block membership.

JURGO

The Joint Union-Rector's Governing Committee which is to sit for the first time this term—old JUDCO + Rector = new JURGO—was discussed. It decides the representation of Council on various external committees such as parking, medical health and general studies committees.

Standing Orders

Council approved the standing orders for Union meetings which had been drawn up using the RCS standing orders as a guide. It is to be hoped that after the fiasco at the RCS meeting a week ago that IC manages the practice of their standing orders a little better.

Welfare and External Affairs

The constitutions for the Welfare and External Affairs Committees were passed and the addition of these two officers to council is to go before the next Governor's meeting for approval on June 12th. The Welfare and External Affairs Officers are to be elected at the Union AGM on May 31st, subject to ratification of the constitution. If the governing body will delegate this ratification to a sub-committee sitting before June 10th then these officers will hold voting positions at the Joint Council on June 10th, when this year's and next year's Council combine to elect the next President and Secretary of IC. If not, they will not become voting members until two days after the Joint Council Meeting.

Robb

After the main business had been concluded, with little of the petty wrangling characteristic of most council meetings, Peter Ruhemann started a discussion on the work of the Union Secretary. Much strong feeling was aired about the way Mrs. Robinson carried out her highly complex and responsible job. Personality clashes were blamed as usual, and Council made no decisions.

EMERGENCY BLEED REACHES CLIMAX

The College emergency blood doing scheme will cease operation on June 1st, so that there can be no possible interference with examination performance. By that time the vast majority of the 150 hall residents on the scheme will have given blood for use at the National Heart Hospital. The National Heart Hospital was the scene two weeks ago of Britain's first heart transplant. Some blood given by IC's Emergency donors was used for this operation.

The scheme will be set up at the beginning of next session to continue supplying the hospital

with fresh blood at short notice.

Dr. Patterson, the doctor in charge of obtaining blood for the operation performed at the hospital, expresses his thanks to all those who have turned out to give blood on this scheme and hopes that next session a similar number of students will volunteer to help.

For those not on the Emergency scheme it is still not too late to sign up for the latest session which continues to-day and to-morrow. It only takes about half an hour and there are free biscuits and tea. Sign up in the Union foyer.



Pam Horrocks.

Pam and Lady P. for ICWA

At the ICWA AGM a week last Thursday, Pam Horrocks (Maths II) was elected unopposed as President of ICWA. She has been Ents Sec and Tennis Captain for ICWA this year.

Ros Rosetti (Chem II) was elected Secretary and Tiz Smart (Maths II) is next year's Treasurer. The Ents Secs are to be Linda Steer (Maths I) and Flo Burks (Min Tech I).

The President's and Treasurer's reports were read and adopted and Lady Penney was unanimously voted the next Vice-President of ICWA, now Mrs. Robinson's three year term of office has come to an end.

At the ICWSC AGM following, Joyce Butcher (Met II) was elected President and Rozanne Date and Linda Martin Secretary and treasurer of ICWSC.

True Story Dept.

Ever hot on the trail of news, Felix ace reporter Scoop Ham-furres found himself in a dark book-filled room near Beit Hall last week. Suddenly a soft voice at his shoulder startled him.

"Want to buy feelfly Parade magazine?"

"SMUT," said Scoop, adjusting his Lady Dartmouth moustache.

"Smut, Shmut; whaddo I care?"

"Put away your weapon" said the mysterious V., "there is no mystery. This magazine has been delivered here by mistake instead of to a bookstall on the embankment."

Scoop shuffled out, a broken man. No 2H pencils, either.

Sports Day

This year's Sports Day should be the best one for many years. It is being held at Motspur Park, the University Sports Ground. A large number of staff are expected to attend, thanks to a joint letter sent out by the Rector and Ray Phillips. As well as all the usual sort of races between the constituent colleges there will be the Presidents Race, in which your hydrophobic President will actually be seen taking part in Frivolous (and probably degrading) Activity. "An ace occasion" was how Ray Phillips described the afternoon.

FREE coaches will leave the Union at 2 p.m. on Saturday and teas will be provided. The prizes will be presented by Lord Penney.

⊕ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ⊕

VACATION WORK?

TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT!

Get away from the world of books and study and let your vacation work be an introduction to Business and Industry.

MANPOWER has a wide variety of interesting jobs to offer both women and men. You can work when you want, where you want.

Office Temporaries are needed as Secretaries, Receptionists, Telephonists, Clerks and Typists. Top rates paid.

Young men can be found instant, congenial employment on light industrial work. CONTACT:

LONDON	930 0041
97 Jermy Street, S.W.1	748 9911
4 The Broadway, Hammersmith, W.6	229 1200
6 Notting Hill Gate, W.11	935 9971
35c Marylebone High Street, W.1	353 2225
172 Fleet Street, E.C.4	703 6916
169 Walworth Road, S.E.17	
BRIGHTON	26544
49 West Street	
BIRMINGHAM 3	CEN 3671
79/83 Colmore Row	
MANCHESTER 2	BLA 6844
20-21 Albert Square	
LEEDS 1	38871
Trevelyan Chambers, Boar Lane	

⊕ MANPOWER ⊕

EDITOR'S Comment

The end of the year is fast arriving and the time has come when, if one is not too busy thinking about exams, with the reduction, or to be more precise, the almost total cessation of Union activities, to look back over the year, to identify the successes and failures, to think of how to consolidate the successes and to avoid the failures next time.

Let us be optimistic and take the successes first. The things which immediately spring to mind are Carnival, Ents and, of course, the habitual success of all the clubs, both in terms of intercollege competition and in their normal activities, too numerous to mention in a whole year's FELIX issues, let alone this short column.

Building on the foundations laid last year by Jerry Stockbridge, Chris Palmer has significantly increased Carnival's contribution to the £5,000 mark. The two big factors in this achievement have been the Albert Hall concert with Donovan and the street collections by the constituent colleges, notably Guilds. The near-abolition of Carnival week has removed a lot of the dead wood, but at the same time destroyed the focal point of the activities. This year the only Carnival function which most of the College has been able actually to participate in has been the street collecting. Carnival, after all, does belong to the whole College and the danger is that it will become a small super-efficient organisation, out to extract as much money as possible for the least effort.

Ents, despite frequent rows both internally and with the executive, have succeeded in both lining the Union coffers to a considerable extent and providing high class entertainment. Whether in the present state of the Union finances Ents should aim to make a profit is debatable. I hope that when the fee increase comes through the Union will be able to subsidise their functions since Ents, like FELIX, is one of the few organisations from which most members of the Union can benefit.

What about the failures? There have, as is inevitable in any such body as IC Union, been many of these, but few have been of more than passing concern. There has, however, been a general feeling around of impotence and irrelevance, a feeling that the people "at the top" had lost touch with, to coin a phrase, the grass roots of the Union and the Union was not capable of handling their interests anyway.

The problem, of course, goes much deeper than personalities and constitutional changes. Although these may be part of it, I think that the increasing difficulty of degree courses and disenchantment with those who appear to seek posts for the status they afford are more fundamental.

The remedy is neither simple nor obvious, but it seems to me that the biggest problem to be tackled will be in that magic word "communication"—the two-way flow of information and opinions between those elected to serve and those who elected them.

As this is the last editorial this session, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the FELIX staff for the work they have put in throughout the year as well as those who have sent in contributions, even though they may not have been printed.

Defendatum Angelicum

Vatican III,
Babylon.

Dear Sir,

We assure Messrs. Wilkinson and Washington that nowhere in our Phoenix articles was there the slightest mention of the Jewish article. Nor did we claim to speak on behalf of any section of opinion within or without the Church.

We remain,

For ever yours,
"ANGELICUS."

Sir,

I have been as much delighted by "The Anatomy of the Church" by Angelicus—published in your late PHOENIX number—as deeply shocked by the preposterous and cheap answer of Messrs. J. K. Wilkinson and C. J. Washington (publicity officers, Cathsoc) published in the FELIX LATE NEWS (Ed. D. Reeves).

What the hell do these two honourable gentlemen mean by the "ghetto-like" mentality of

Angelicus? I gather they do not know it themselves. (I do! for the simple sad reason that I have been confined in a Nazi ghetto in my quality of Jew, though Roman Catholic by faith). Do those two simpletons dare contest the very words of His Holiness Pope Innocent III, Saint Jerome, Saint Ambrose and Cardinal Newman—words that speak for themselves and which have no need to be interpreted, so clear and unmitigated are they! Had the Holy Fathers of the "Mater Ecclesiae" a "ghetto-like" mentality too? Woe to him who dares insult them through Angelicus, who contended himself to humbly quote them and remind those who have forgotten them as J.K.W. and C.J.W., the basic truths of the Catholic religion! Or do J.K.W. and C.J.W. think, in their simple-mindedness, that heaven and hell are "ghettos"! After all, why not?

O Heaven, blessed ghetto!

Long live the witty Angelicus For, as our master, G. K. Chesterton so wonderfully said: "Angels fly because they take it lightly."

Fr. Joulie, comte de Juliensthal,
9 allée Bernadotte,
Sceaux,
Hauts de Seine, France.

FELIX

Irreverent Utterances

Sir,

On behalf of all the Muslims at IC, I protest very strongly against the statement attributed to Miss Anita Furniss in the Election Profile. (FELIX 8th May) that "if the mountain won't come to Mohamed, Mohamed must go to the mountain." Such a statement is found very offensive by all Muslims as it is devoid of facts and is aimed at casting aspersions not only at the Prophet Muhammad (May Allah keep him safe and grant him peace) but at the religion of Islam also. The same statement recently quoted in The Times led to widespread demonstrations in parts of the Muslim world and the newspaper had to apologise.

The mediaeval Christians who fabricated this story of an attempt by the Prophet Muhammad (may Allah preserve him and grant him peace) at miracles knew full well that the story was not true. Their argument that untruth could justifiably be used to protect what they believed to be the Truth, i.e. their faith, will not be contended here. What is amazing is that the same slogan is still

being repeated almost 1,000 years after by those who are supposed to be much more enlightened, and much better educated. It goes without saying that students of a higher institution of science like IC should appraise scientifically the veracity of such prejudiced statements. They should also be responsible in their utterances, not the least those who are contesting the Presidency of the RCS Union.

A complete withdrawal of this statement and an apology are therefore requested from Miss Furniss and FELIX.

J. A. OYEKAN,
Chairman, IC Islamic Soc.

ED.—Whilst being flattered to be bracketed with The Times it has never been FELIX policy to cause offence to any section of the College needlessly. We therefore apologise to any people who found the phrase offensive.

However the expression is in very general English usage and we are informed that a Muslim Vice-Presidential candidate, Adolf Hastheroudian, was present when the article was written.

AGAINST GREEK HOLIDAYS

Dear Sir,

I was interested to see the article written by Chris Lewis on "Greece, days of future passed." In which he advertises Greece as an inviting place to spend the summer vacation. Even though it is as beautiful as he describes does he not also realise the ugliness of the military dictatorship at the moment robbing the Greek people of their own freedom?

I have recently heard Mark Dragoumis speak at a Greek teach-in in which he specifically made the point about the dangers of spending holidays in Greece. The military dictatorship needs all the money it can get including foreign currency brought in by tourists. The situation is not ours to interfere with, and the best way we can not contribute to it is by not spending any money there.

If I may end with a quote from Mr. Dragoumis "The Greek people will be very happy not to see us there this summer."

LESLIE WEBB
Botany P.G.

Hon. Sec. ULU Humanist Soc.

JEWS IN THE USSR

Dear Sir,

For many years a grave Jewish problem has existed in the U.S.S.R. The Tsars and the Russian Church persecuted the Jews. To-day, over 50 years after the Communist revolution, the position of the Jewish minority in the U.S.S.R. has again become a matter of great concern.

The disabilities from which the Jews in Russia suffer today are numerous.

In the communal sphere the Jewish minority is the only one today which is not allowed to have any distinct collective organisation of its own, either cultural or religious.

The possibility of maintaining regular contact between, for instance, the Jewish communities in Moscow and Kiev is denied to them. Even in Tsarist days regular meetings were allowed. However non-Jewish minorities and religious groups do not suffer from similar restrictions.

In the cultural and religious spheres the restrictions in existence are of a shattering nature. There is not a single Jewish school. Jews are denied the opportunity to serve in the Russian diplomatic service. The hierarchy of the Communist party too is practically free from Jews.

Officially the number of Jews in the Soviet Union is given as about 2,268,000. Students of Russian statistics suggest that the figure is well within the region of 3,000,000. About half a million Jews have openly declared themselves as the element which persists in using Yiddish as their

mother tongue. There is no school in Russia in which Yiddish is taught. Other minorities have schools which teach their national language.

The Jewish religion has been singled out for special treatment. The baking of Matzos—unleavened bread—was forbidden for some years. Many antisemitic books are published the most crude being "Judaism Without Embellishment" by T. K. Kitchko, published under the auspices of "The Ukrainian Academy For Sciences"; this was eventually withdrawn after being denounced by the Western Communists, among others. Kitchko, who at the time was dismissed has recently been reinstated and awarded the "Diploma of Honour of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine."

Synagogues have continually been closed. In 1953 the official number was 450, in 1963 it was 97 and the current unofficial estimate is 62.

The Jewish community, unlike other religious minorities, is not allowed to maintain contacts with world bodies. The Russian Orthodox Church, for instance, is a member of the World Council of Churches and has permanent representatives in Geneva. Even the small number of Buddhists are in a better position than the Jews. To give one more example:—some half million Baptists in the U.S.S.R. have about 5,000 churches and chapels. This means one church for every 100 wor-

shippers. In the case of the Jews there is one synagogue for every 48,000 worshippers. There are Jewish communities in the U.S.S.R. today numbering between thirty and forty thousand people without a single synagogue left open for worship.

There are still many Jewish families split by the Second World War. The Soviet government has done little to help them be reunited. During a visit to Paris (9th December 1966) Mr. Kosygin said, "As far as concerns the reunification of families, if certain families desire to be reunited, or to leave the Soviet Union, in this respect there is no problem." Mr. Kosygin's statement was reprinted in "Izvestia." However this statement was later played down; after June 1967 the Soviet authorities stopped most Jewish emigration.

Recently the Soviet authorities have substituted the word Zionist for Jew in their antisemitic propaganda thus trying to avoid western criticism of antisemitism in the U.S.S.R. "Komsomolskaya Pravda" states, quoting a reliable foreign source, "The Zionist lawyers comprise about 70 per cent of all the American lawyers; the physicists, including those engaged in secret work on the preparation of weapons for mass destruction, comprise 69 per cent and the industrialists more than 43 per cent." The actual source, which turns out to have been written in Cairo by a Nazi fugitive states, "The proof of the high position attained by Jews in American Society is apparent from the following list compiled from data published in 1950: Lawyers—70 per cent; Physicians—69 per cent; Merchants—77 per cent; Industrialists—49 per cent; Labourers—2 per cent; Farmers—1 per cent." Looking at these two versions we can see that present day Russian antisemitic propaganda is worse than Nazi propaganda.

This Soviet propaganda makes Jews appear as the enemies of the world. It is designed to forcibly eliminate the identity of the Jewish community in the U.S.S.R. The Jewish minority is being denied its basic human rights and is in danger of disappearing as a national and religious entity.

A world-wide student campaign is being carried out on their behalf. Anyone who is interested or desires to help should contact L. Finkelstein, Physics II.

FELIX

Asst. Editor: John Mullaly
News Editor: Paul Heath
Features: John Sommer

Dick Middleton
Sports Editor: Phil Hopwood
Business Manager: Mary Ford
Late News Editor: Dick Reeves
Advertising Manager:

John Probst
Sales Manager: Chris Slee
Production Manager:

Pete Chapman

Advertising Agency:
Educational Publicity (Partners)
Ltd.
CHA 6081

OUTGOING
Editor: DAVID COOPER

Photographic Editors:
John Langley and John Rogers
What's On Editor: Pat Shanahan
Cartoonists: Stuart Senior
Keith Rowan

Posters: Peter Brown
Duplicating Service:

Paul Miller
With: Andy Jordan, Ken Simpson, Rory Redmayne, Steve Chittock, Adam Gawronski, John Spence, Lilas Campion, Ashley Deans, Pete Maddison, Caroline and Val.

INCOMING
Editor: PAUL HEATH

Asst. Editor: Mary Ford
News Editor: Dick Middleton
Features: Pat Rotherham
Business Manager: Chris Slee
Late News Editor: John Probst
Advertising Manager:

Pete Chapman
Art Editor: Keith Rowan
Photographic Editor:

John Rogers
Posters: Peter Brown

Imperial College
London, S.W.7
Internal 2881
Tel. KEN 2963

VACANT

Sports Editor:
Sales Manager:
Production Manager:
What's On:



"... if their van hadn't collapsed around them..."

On the credit side Photographs Society once again "had the most successful exhibition in recent years," Dramsoc did well in the ULU one act play festival and produced two plays and a revue. Radio Society acquired vast sums of money (through their "persuasive" chairman Don Monroe) and are now listening away happily (they call it receiving) and Scout and Guide Club are planning an ambitious journey to Norway.

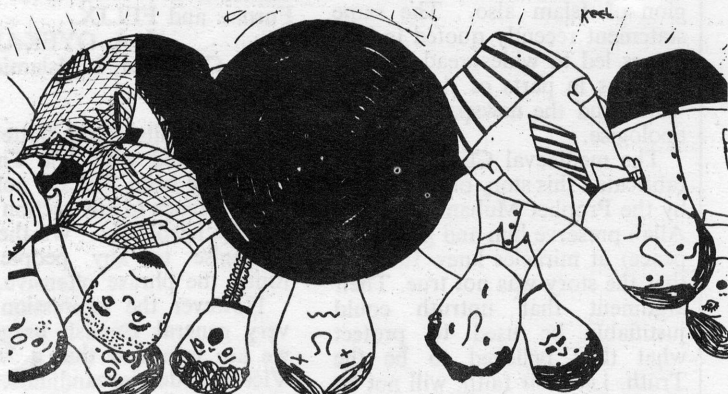
Of the Recreational clubs it appears that Tenpin bowling would have had a most successful year if their league hadn't collapsed around them and the caving and mountaineering clubs would have had a most successful year if their van hadn't collapsed around them.

recreate

or

create

"... if their league hadn't collapsed around them..."



A more unfortunate and most sad failure was that of the Kraken project which has founded at least for the time being due to lack of financial support.

IC's

ACCwisions

IC won the following ULU championships this season:

- Soccer (2nd XI)
- Cross Country
- Swimming
- Rugger Sevens (came 1st and 2nd)
- Head of the River
- Ladies Hockey
- Mixed Hockey

Need I say more! This indeed seems to be one area where the Union's monies are effectively spent.

With the coming of the new sports centre by next session there is likely to be a sudden jump in the level of sporting activity generally and in particular the rifle, squash and swimming clubs may well expand out of all proportion as the new centre will provide a swimming pool, a 30 yd. small bore rifle range, 4 squash courts, a weight-lifting room and the necessary changing rooms.

Carnival has had another record-breaking year under the chairmanship of Chris Palmer and hopes to exceed £5,000. Following the "big money carnival" demonstrated by Jerry Stockbridge last year it looks as if we might at last be getting the knack of finding money! It seems that big events are the real answer—as shown by the Albert Hall concert which made a profit of £500,000.

It is to be hoped that events such as the Dramsoc revue which survived this year and the International evening, which didn't, won't be abandoned as part of carnival solely on the ground that they don't make enough money. Carnival should be fun as well as money.

this was about
CARNIVAL

political
freakout

Amidst rumours that barely remained internal, Ents have had a financially successful year—with a fair degree of success with the entertainment as well! With a new swinging "magnum" sized Ents committee Keith Guy has managed to produce reasonable hops with above-average groups and other moderately successful functions.

The Plastic Fairytale—the Friday night discotheque—started fairly well but faded—basically it seems through lack of interest rather than a lack of quality. It would seem that Ents are right in thinking that there is a demand for some form of Friday entertainment as the LSE bar social is normally packed out.

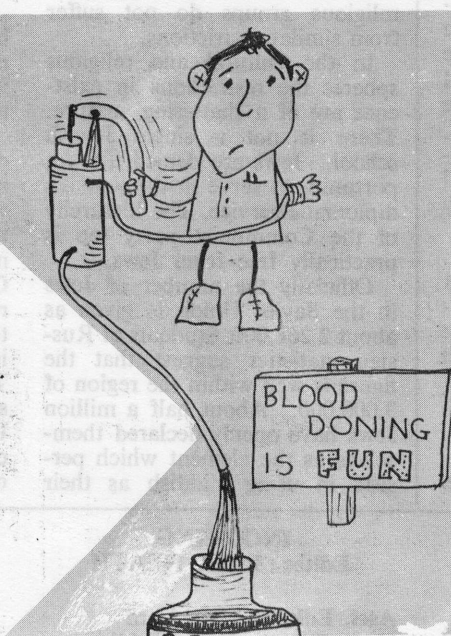
the Ruhemann SCCene

The pride of the Social clubs is again this year the OSS, which under the enthusiastic (may fanatical) chairmanship of Barry Bradshaw, has continued to expand. Its most notable successes this year have been the establishment of the emergency blood-donating system—high speed blood-donating sessions and further welfare work in the Notting Hill area.

Pete Ruhemann tells me that the other major success of the 55CC year, apart from the Human Rights exhibition, has been the establishment of a Union Overseas Students Committee and the inclusion on the Rector's overseas students list of some actual overseas students!

This has been the year of the non-event; what with the failure of Morphy, the swimming gala (only remaining sport events of the year) and the loss of Mike (any note are the Guilds departmental 6's and 7's which were a huge success and the pancake race, who's merits I have always doubted anyway!)

this is the 1st real event of the year



I would like to make it quite clear that the printer should bear no responsibility for the layout of this page... and I am instructed to say that the Editor won't either!

The College Corner...

When we last inquired the college was continuing to function, with the new principal being apparently pro-student, unlike last year when he was pro-Rector.

'68 WAS DEAD LONG LIVE '68

by Rory Redmayne

PUBLICITY—This has been perhaps the most widely discussed and least widely effective item in the Union conversation rota this year. Jointly awarded the cliché of the year prize with "Who is Ray Phillips anyway" and "MJL to organise," it has at least been realised that in a body as diffuse (or dilute?) as ICU good publicity is essential. What has failed to strike home is that "good publicity" is not posters; it is telling people. Posters may be a means to an end, but they are certainly not the end. Much more must be done in the field of internal communication. People have been muttering "year reps," "Constituent colleges," "FELIX" for just about the whole session and have almost unanimously failed to properly use any of these media for communication purposes. If interest in the affairs of the Union is to be revitalised (and some of their affairs are both relevant and interesting, believe it or not), then the most important concept is that people must not only be told that "the affairs of the Union are interesting" but must also be precisely told what these interesting affairs are and how they affect the Union. Further this must be done on a personal level from the top down. So please next year's Exec. whoever you may be Lowin, tell us what is happening; tell us when and why it is happening—then perhaps we will take a more active interest and offer less destructive criticism.

OUSES—that is Student 'Ouses! Of the few real advances this session the progress made with the establishment of student houses has perhaps been the most needed. Initiated last session by Pete Finch and Rex Lowin this project has, through the work of Ray Phillips and Bob Fryer, made fairly swift progress under the guidance of the Governing Body; so that now we have not only established the principle and system of this form of hall/lodging but have also obtained two of "your actual" houses which will give almost 200 people cheap communal board next year.

LIAISON: While all around us students are demanding representation on the governing bodies, ICU suggested it in its usual unreactionary way (or was it well mannered and civilised) that perhaps a voice on the B.O.G. might be a good idea. The Rector, received this in a manner that we are, I think, coming to recognise as characteristic. Having made a thorough survey of the B.O.G. minutes, he produced a report for Council showing just how little of their business was directly relevant to students, and also pointed out that direct representation would anyway be of no use to the Union as the affairs of the Board of Governors meetings are confidential and so the student representative could not report back to discuss the business within the Union. However, by way of an alternative the Rector suggested regular meetings of interested parties at which topics of mutual interest could be discussed. From this has emerged JURGO (Joint Union, Rector, Governors' committee). This committee, which is composed of ICU Council, the Rector, Pro Rector, the Deans, Registrar, College Secretary and three members of the B.O.G., will meet termly and is expected to discuss such matters as college development, courses and so on. As an instrument for liaison this should prove invaluable and great credit should go to those involved in its instigation.

On a more day to day level liaison has been one of the great stumbling blocks this year. Although Ray Phillips has set a new high in liaison upwards—Union-College Admin—he has also set a new low downwards—President-rest of Union. That there should be the internal situation of the President and the Union, instead of the President of the Union, is sad; but if it does exist then the basic requirement of a working arrangement is first class two-way liaison. There wasn't and much of the "why?" of this brings me onto "I."

INTOLERANCE: There has been an almost vicious atmosphere of intolerance throughout the Exec, Council and the Union administration generally for a lot of this session; and there can be nothing less conducive to good liaison than an intolerance of one's colleagues. Perhaps new faces and new effort next session will cure what appears to be essentially an internal problem.

TWODDLE—I refer of course to the proceedings of most of the business of this year's few quorate Union meetings!

INSIPID—This is how I would describe this year's Council. As a body they appear to have achieved little because individuals have repeatedly drawn back from carrying through in public views they express in private. This seems to have led to a great frustration, which has been intensified by everyone's failure to recognise until after the event the cunning P.D.C.T.P.—Phillips Disguised Committee Trampling Play!

CONSTITUTION: Making what use we could of the few Union meetings that crawled into quoracy, we've succeeded to constitutionally recognise the External Affairs and Welfare committees and failed to elect our future Presidents by a plebiscite or to do away with Union meetings.

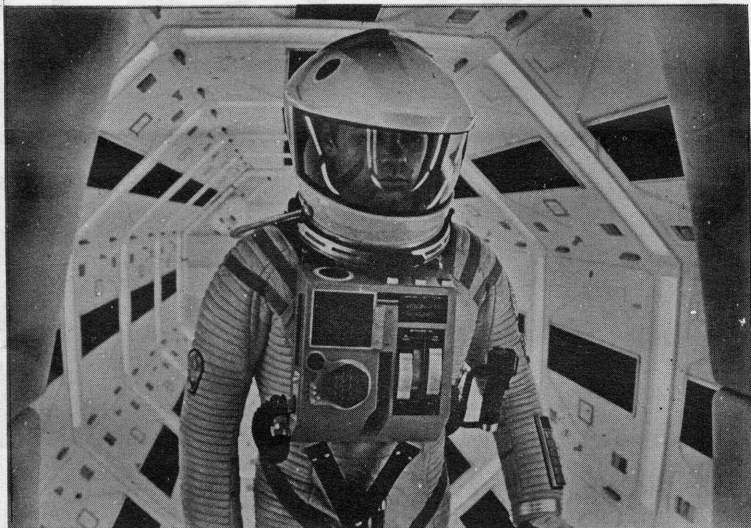
SS is either for the "S***iest S*** I've ever seen" as Robb described this year's Council or on a less earthy note for "stirring;" this continues to be the prerogative of those of us whose main interests are the Union's affairs and continues to be as ineffective as usual.

2001

The brass section of the Boston Symphony Orchestra comprises the first assault on the senses. Three mighty chords batter the ear-drums. Vision next. A cinematic "first" unfolds as we see the rising of the sun over the crescent of the earth, viewed from a point in space somewhere beyond the moon—in Cinerama! The eyes succumb. Mouths agape and eyes a-goggle, the audience is totally involved and the rapture is maintained as a wide-angle lens homes on our planet to scan endless vistas in the first-light. It is the Grand Canyon, the Sierra Nevada and the Great Sahara itself—all in one and all drenched with flaring flamingo, crimson and orange, bursting over the horizon from the central orb which is our sun. The effect is total. But this is no ordinary dawn. This, we are told, is the dawn of Man.

Skull Smashers

And there he is! Stooped, hairy, uncouth and grunting maybe but noticeably on his way up on the evolutionary ladder. (Indeed, the general impression of a kindergarten's "Let's all pretend we're Monkeys" session plus the



Astronaut prepares to leave space-ship

contact lenses peering from beneath the thick eyebrows indicate that he is a good deal further up the ladder than we are meant to realise). We find a large member of the tribe grovelling amongst a carcass. He spies a potent-looking leg bone, "thinks" about it for a full two minutes and straight-way proceeds to smash the skull of a rival primate. One can almost detect a "Eureka" through his apish chortlings as he joyously hurls the weapon aloft. The brass of the Boston Symphony bows out to the strings of the Berlin Philharmonic and our epic chords are lost to the soaring intro of "The Beautiful Blue Danube." The spinning bone is now a rotating space-station as the film leaves the Earth for ever and we are again in space.

Non-gravity Loo

"2001—A Space Odyssey" (Casino Cinerama, A) for whose West End Première Wells Soc. (who was Sinclair Goodlad anyway?) were sent two tickets, thus begins with a murder which pre-dates the Old Testament's version of the same event by some 3½ million years. If this be a revelation, it is nothing to what follows.

This film, apparently,—long earmarked by leaks from the industry as a mile-stone in the art of science fiction on the screen,—has been in the enterprising mind of director Stanley Kubrick ever since the gigantic nuclear holocaust at the end of "Dr. Strangelove" appeared to impress the public. "If they like it big, then we'll give it 'em big" is his policy—a policy which in this case devoured 10 million dollars before fruition! Made at M.G.M.'s Borehamwood Studios, the film was earning dollars even before it was released. Vickers Armstrong got 750,000 of them for making a centrifuge to supply Kubrick's voracious appetite for artificial gravity. Sets bristle with IBM's embryo 3-D variable-attitude, line-drawing reproducer and one doesn't have to see the auto-gyros, the lasers, the holographic apparatus or the stroboscopes behind the banks of winking lights to know that they are there. Fantasy—I think not. For eo-scripting with Kubrick was Arthur C. Clarke, an author of great repute who surprises everyone with the accuracy of his predictions, and who, we are informed, got it all from NASA anyway. There are nice, human touches too. A non-gravity loo sports a list of instructions long

enough to give the less capacious members of the "Chaps" Club nightmares and it is comforting to note that even when you can video-phone the family on earth from the moon, you still have to shout to be heard. And naturally, there is the Computer,—a completely reliable (or is it?), omnipresent leviathan which not only monitors every circuit in the ship but finds time off to beat the crew at chess and to keep them from boredom by chatting with them in albeit condescending tones.

And then there was one ...

The plot—like the artefacts—is predictable. There is this perfectly rectangular, inert metal monolith which causes great embarrassment to the "nothing-before-us" league by cropping up in a lunar crater. Prompted by the thing's odd habit of beaming an ear-splittingly high (you have been warned) radio signal toward Jupiter, an organisation approximating to an interplanetary UN despatches the space-ship "Discovery" to investigate. The action concerns the two astronauts, Dave and Frank, who run things

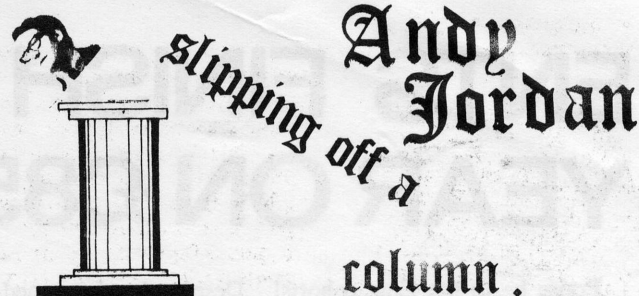
while the rest of the crew "hibernates" at a computer-controlled 4 degrees centigrade. Four months out from Earth trouble starts when the Computer, in the film and hereafter affectionately known as "Hal," appears to boob badly. Hal vociferously denies the error—logically pointing out to Dave and Frank that they are more likely responsible. Conspiracy ensues as the human element debates on the sanity of Hal. Mortified, the latter, having committed Frank to float helplessly for ever among the stars, forbids Dave's re-entry into the main craft after a futile rescue attempt, tactfully pointing out on the way that he had better not try walking it since he is without his helmet. Undaunted, the astronaut, with two Ph.Ds and Adonis-like fitness to his credit, works out the solution and, in from the cold, resolutely seeks revenge. There follows a touching death scene when he gets it by sadistically disembowelling Hal by methodically breaking his vital circuits. Oblivious to the computer's pathetic mercy-pleas, Dave grants it one last wish—to sing its first song which it recalls during its moribund review of its life. Thus, to the knell of "Daisy, Daisy give me . . ." etc. a great character of the series expires and, without even his three somnolent colleagues whose state Hal step-by-step changed from "hibernating" to "mouldering," Dave is alone.

Psychedelia

There follows the finale—helpfully titled "Jupiter and Beyond." To many, slightly bored by the "pop" science fiction which has so far kept the eyes enthralled but has left the intellect unstirred, this is the meat of the pie. Fifteen minutes of unmitigated psychedelia with enough light to compare with Piccadilly Circus as the Universe to a grain of sand, plus enough sound to prompt some of the more sensitive of the spectators to leave, bends the mind into some kind of appreciation of the final scenes. To describe these would be pointless and meaningless to anyone who has not seen the film. Actions and gestures appear to be crazy—the lone survivor, gruesomely aged, finishes his days in a seventeenth century French boudoir! Deduce what you will, for that is precisely what the authors want of you. One suspects that even Clarke would be pushed to rationalise Kubrick's final fling but whatever conclusions you reach, if they don't involve man's Destiny, they're probably no good!

Your very own star

The film is a must, however, if only because an average of one fresh Special Effect for every 40 seconds of the film's 160 minute duration is a tally surely without equal in the annals of the industry. If this be an excuse for somewhat creaking screenplay then I for one will gladly go along with it. And, as the programme emotionally informs us, "for every man and woman who has ever lived, in the Universe there shines a star" who knows you might see yours amongst the myriads which are presented. Of one thing you can be certain, however, . . . it is not the Boston Symphony which plays "God Save the Queen" at the end
J. C. SPENCE.



At the end of a year, a number of people get the push. I had a scaffold put up around my column the other day but fortunately they only cleaned me up. The vitriol I've been told passes as ink was drained from my pen and I turned a blind eye.

Sabbatical Year?

This year's experience has tended to highlight the need for a sabbatical year for the President. With academic work to do, it is highly impracticable for the President to be in touch with students. With no academic work, he would have the time to go the rounds meeting his fellow students. Far from being a professional President, he could be in better contact with student opinion.

But after all that has been said and written about Ray Phillips, he did a good job considering the disadvantages he laboured under. His main disadvantage seems to have been that he has not had a well-considered approach to his job. Many members of the Union and of Council have thought out carefully a basis for their approach to Union affairs. It is a kind of ideology though it is a personal one and rarely Marxist or dogmatic. Ray does not appear to have had this kind of approach, with the result that some of his decisions seem to have been taken in isolation from other facts. So it was really inevitable that his pragmatic liberalism should have led to bad feeling when it was felt he was being inconsistent.

"I did," said Ray

A good example of this has just come to light. At last week's Council meeting, someone asked Ray how student house wardens had been selected. "By myself and the Rector," he said. "And who decided that?" "I did," said Ray. This seems inconsistent with his constant pressure for further student representation on College committees. It is hard unless one has been specifically mandated, to represent by one-self all shades of student opinion. It would therefore seem logical that if there are student representatives on committees, they should be adequately informed of student opinion. In some matters, this general opinion may be that of a Union meeting, in others that of Council: Council is after all constituted in a way thought to be fairly representative of the student body. So it seems bad for one student alone to select wardens for student houses. Anyone who has had any experience of job selection will know that it is usually done by a panel—otherwise personal prejudice can only too easily enter into it. This is especially the case where candidates are personally known to the selectors. Council decided eventually to allow the President to select while giving itself the power to veto: in addition, it stipulated that the jobs should be advertised within the College, something not done previously. What Council omitted to observe was that it is awkward to veto a selection after it has been done. The selection should be done by a panel of between three and five students.

The sense of consensus

This incident seems typical of Ray's attitude. In the first year of a new Rector striking changes have been brought about in bringing students into the making of decisions. Much of the credit for this must go to Ray. In addition, he has shown himself quite able to chair Union meetings and even Council meetings—no mean feat, when many of Council have had much to say on a multitude of subjects. But he also seems to have taken the view that because he was elected President, he automatically represents the student view. This is wrong because, first, each election is essentially a compromise and, second, student opinion can only be gathered through consultation. Government by consensus may appear to be inefficiently slow, but for there to be cooperation, it is ultimately the only way.

Lowin's Lesson

It looks at the moment as if Rex Lowin will be next year's President. He shall have learnt from this year that one can be in many ways a good and fair President but still incur the dislike of some. That is not conducive to a successful Union.

FELIX 1968-69

POSTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

★ ★ ★

LEAVING I.C. THIS YEAR? ?
Get Your Felixes 9/- (inc. post)
For Next Session.

FILL IN THIS FORM AND SEND WITH
MONEY TO:—"FELIX", IMPERIAL COLLEGE
UNION, LONDON S.W.7. or "FELIX"
LETTER RACK. (Cheque or P.O.)

NAME:
ADDRESS:

ENTS FINISH YEAR ON £850

Praise be to the Ents cohorts! Despite the threatened resignation last term of the chairman, secretary and treasurer, despite the loss of £70 on Zoot Money, despite the speedy demise of the Plastic Fairytale, Ents have raked in a total profit of £850. It's the first time in several years that Ents have made a profit—last year they lost £200. Furthermore, the entertainments provided this year must rank as the best ever. For the May Ball, the Scaffold, Auger and Driscoll, and Tyrannosaurus Rex were featured; while over the past three terms the Concert Hall has reverberated to the mighty amps of such groups as The Honeybus, the Marmalade, the Moody Blues, Zoot Money, Dantalion's Chariot and I.C.'s very own time machine, 1984. Finally, for the Carnival Hop, Ents featured, at £385 a snip, the biggest act of the season in Traffic.



Traffic in action; on guitar, Stevie Winwood; on organ, Chris Woods; on drums, the muscular Jim Capaldi.

Unfortunately, Traffic were not the universal knock-out one might hope for on an end of season finale. Loosely categorized as a "progressive" group, they elected to play none of their hits, and only two numbers of their "Mr. Fantasy" LP, these being "Mr. Fantasy" himself and a much extended version of "Coloured Rain" ("it's in two movements, actually," said Chris Woods). The rest of the act was a selection of generally long, self-penned numbers, these largely instrumental improvisation with lead vocal (where necessary) by Steve Winwood. Twelve minutes worth of "A New Dawn" produced little worthwhile. Chris Woods on amplified sax played well enough, but Winwood's organ-work was a large-scale disappointment. In any case both were half drowned by the crashing drums of Jim Capaldi, who for sheer power puts Keith Moon well in the shade. Winwood played guitar on the opening instrumen-

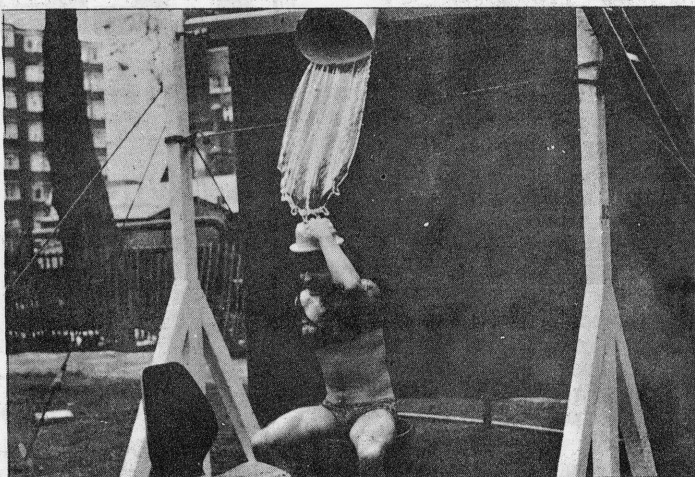
tal, also on "Who Knows What Tomorrow Will Bring" the lyrics of which were probably fairly subtle if one could have heard what they were, above the din. Woods' flute was good on "20,000 Headmen" and Winwood's guitar passable on "Mr. Fantasy." The best number was the closer "Blind Man" (original by Bobby "Blue" Bland), probably the most polished piece of the act. Audience reaction was varied, from those who shouted "Rub-bish!" to the twee dolly up at the front who whispered "Gosh Stevie, that was brilliant." My impression was that Traffic have still not got together as a group and that if they are going to treat audiences to an extended experiment in free form pop they had better think about it a bit more.

Also on the bill was Joe Cocker—good voice, but lousy choreography. £25 was lost on the night, although about 200 non Union card holders were turned away.

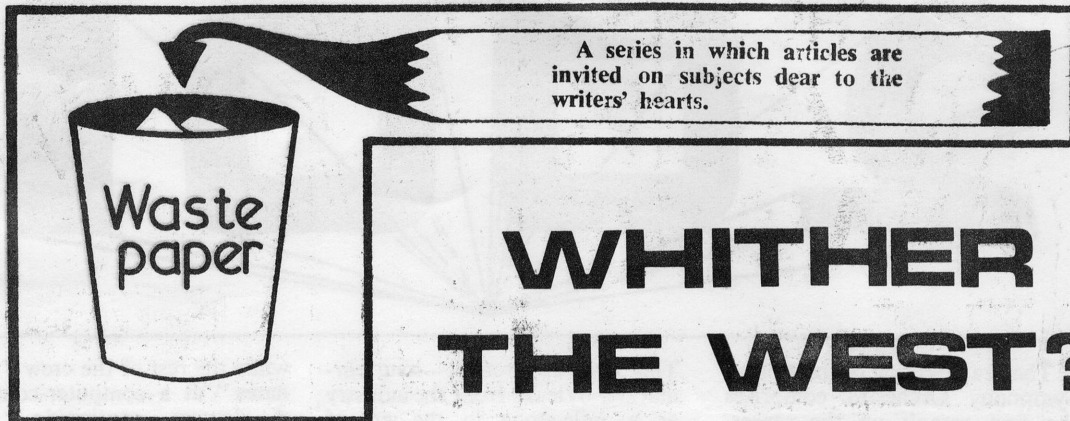
A WET FETE

The Carnival Fete was something of a washout. Dismantled during a downpour at 2 p.m. while Southside cheered, it finally got under way at 3. Such attractions as there were included a makeshift tenpin bowling rink, a coconut shy, and Chinese sweetmeats. The big draw was however the traditional ritual of dowsing the more prominent among us with cold water—6d. a go. Martin Lack in transvestite bikini garb opened the proceedings and sat out the first 15 minutes. He was followed by courageous Jane Pearson, Pete Ruhemann, Dermott Corr, Bob Mackman, Chris O'Donnell and others. Notable for their absence were President Ray "Flip-Flop" Phillips and his sidekick Dave Harris.

The fete just about broke even.



Martin Lack plus bikini get soaked.



If you were to draw a graph of the greatest speed at which man has travelled at any time in history to the present day you would get a curve that starts to bend up at the beginning of the industrial revolution. In an attempt to straighten the curve so that an equation can be fitted to it you may well take logs of the speed against date as abscissa. The curve would still have much the same shape. A log log would yield the same result and you would notice that they all tend asymptotically to the year 2000 approximately.

So what?

You would get a similar result if you were to draw a graph of total world power consumption against time. I find the concept of infinite speed or power interesting.

So what?

About two years ago, New York had a seventeen hour power cut, the cause of which very few people understand. The food to feed New York is brought in by truck. In a power cut traffic lights and street lights do not work. In winter it is cold in New York. People in New York in a power cut might get cold and hungry. They might go and look for wood in the streets in great mobs. Have you ever read "Day of the Triffids"? In 30 years time there is going to be an urban district from Boston to Washington. Food will largely be brought in by electric train or truck. In winter it is cold . . .

So what?

Homo Sapiens has cultivated land for 600 generations. With agriculture you can afford to forget the doctrine of survival of the fittest because you don't have to spend all your time finding food just to feed yourself and your

family. You can afford to feel sorry for the village idiot and give him food or help. Unfit animals usually die before puberty. If they don't this upsets the genetic method of improving the stock of a species. IQ is subject to dispersion from the norm, as is height, weight, etc. Survival of the fittest chops either or both ends of the scale off. This no longer happens. The average IQ drops—the norm stays the same. The norm IQ of the Caucasian peoples is 130.

So what?

The present Western society (technology and economy etc.) depends on the maxim: Expand or collapse. An expansion of technology requires more brains, an expansion requires a void to flow into.

So what?

I draw no conclusions—do you?

JOHN PROBST

NEW WAVE FOLK

"FANTASTIC FOLK"
Elektra EUK 259

This L.P., with its amazingly garish cover and even more garish title, is an anthology containing many good things.

Each of the twelve singers on the record has one track. The album features, amongst others, Tom Rush, Judy Collins, and the Incredible. There is also Tom Paxton's original version of his much-abused "Bottle of Wine." Phil Ochs sings "Hills of West Virginia," which is very pleasant, and unbelievably enough for him, is not a protest song.

With records at their present high prices, anthologies like this could be the answer for those who want variety in their listening: this record is a fairly good one of the type. Alternatively, like me, you may prefer to spend your money on a record by one artist. In this way the richness and variety of the style of artists of the calibre of those on "Fantastic Folk" may fully be appreciated. The choice is entirely yours.



The delectable Judy Collins, featured on "Fantastic Folk."

Photo courtesy of Elektra Records

GOOD REVUE POOR DRAW

Playing to small houses a fortnight ago, the DramSoc Carnival Revue failed to achieve its full potential. This basically was due to the number of subtle or "in" jokes and sketches which really require large audiences to be sure of their being appreciated.

Temptation Sordid or Virtue Rewarded was the title of the melodrama. The Villains were a certain Sir Jasper and a very nice piece called Fanny. This closed with the excellent moral, hard learned by the best: "If you want to stay a good clean boy, don't go near a Fanny."

Of the songs, I very much enjoyed "If Ray ruled the world,"

which certainly contained some novel suggestions such as "All the Ducketts would be sent to the moon" as to how to improve the IC Union, though whether these would be good ideas I very much doubt.

The finale was also musical and dedicated to portraying various College dignitaries headed by "Dear Rector, Lord Penney." All in all, it was a most enjoyable evening and probably the best organised Carnival effort of the year.

About £25 was made for Carnival.

KEN SIMPSON

IT'S THE 'FREE LEFT' BLACK DWARF

If you study the papers on the news-stands there are papers like the Telegraph which are labelled "Right Wing" and those like the Mirror which are generally considered to be "Left Wing." There is a group of left-wingers who consider this latter classification to be false and so are about to launch a "new" and "free" paper of the Left.

To be quite accurate, this is not a new paper but a revived one, for its name—"The Black Dwarf"—is the name of a paper which died 140 years ago. This paper was produced by a printer called Tom Wooler whose editorial policy was very close to the declared policy of the board of the revived "Black Dwarf." He wanted the paper to "lead a consistent struggle for the day-to-day interests of the working masses and ward off all attacks on their standard of living" and "to make use of every partial demand to explain the necessity of revolution and show the impossibility of even a moderately serious and lasting, let alone fundamental, improvement, so long as the power of capital is maintained."

Those aims seem so stringent that it is a wonder that the paper can appear at all. Furthermore, when they say that they do not want a readership for the advertisers' benefit the financial strength of the paper must be questionable. Much of the initial money has come from donations from the more prosperous capitalist-hating left-wingers and from advance subscriptions. The Editorial Board have possibly contributed considerably.

The best known personality connected with The Black Dwarf is, as William Hardcastle puts it "our friend from Grosvenor Square, Tariq Ali" whose politi-

cal beliefs seem to be embodied in this paper. It is published from the office of a literary agent, Clive Goodwin, who made a name for himself by publicly admitting that he smoked cannabis. He admits that the paper tends to be destructive rather than constructive but feels that this is partially the prerogative of a "free" newspaper. He tends to despise what he labels as "the un-free press," for it does not write about real politics and real news and only puts forward one side of the argument in a strike (and that, comrades, is never the workers' side).

The "startling" revelations to be made by the Black Dwarf will possibly lead them into libel action unless they follow the course of Tom Wooler who, on being charged with writing seditious and libellous material, explained that he had not written a word, he had simply set it up in print. The name "Black Dwarf" is very ill-advised as almost inevitably it will get associated with the "Black Power" movement. Many problems are almost non-existent until they are put forward and people start looking for them and so while the paper, with a hoped-for circulation of 25,000, expressly denies any intention of causing unrest it would be naive to expect this aim to be achieved, holding the radical views it does.

Anyone who believes "Axel Springer today, Cecil King tomorrow" will probably agree with what the Black Dwarf has to say, but you do not have to be as virtuous as Lord Beeching thinks IC students are to find the Black Dwarf a little too much to stomach. Several people do not mind attending a Trafalgar Square rally from time to time, but one a fortnight is a little too much.

JOHN SOMMER

WHAT HAPPENS IN 69?

At Guilds Open Day, last autumn, people crowded into EE 101 to gaze at the computer. It looked so sleek and modern that they did not realise that they were looking at a computer's equivalent of a tank engine. It works all right but it's just too small.

The main problem is that the amount of work it is required to do is doubling each year, and with an increasing number of research projects involving computer work this rate is going to be maintained for the foreseeable future.

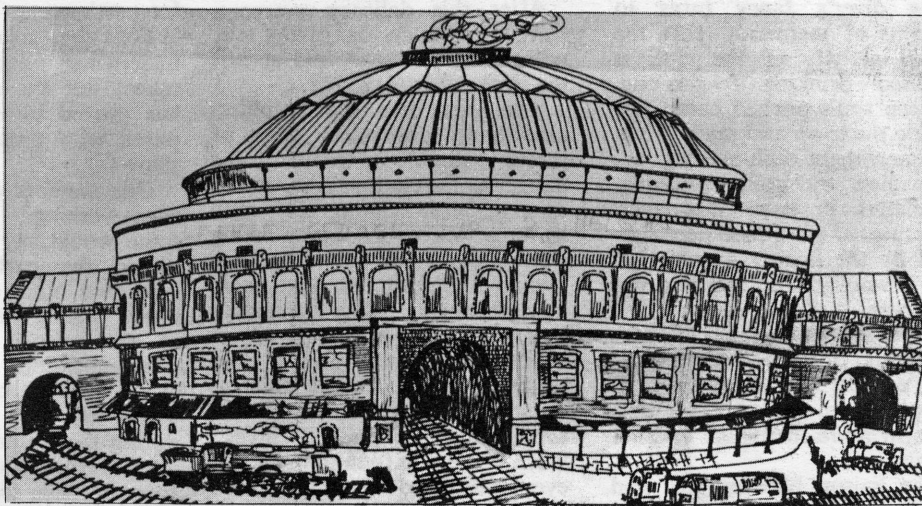
Some years ago IBM loaned the college its then most powerful computer, the 7090, with an additional 1401. Very recently

this was made into an IBM 7094 Mk II and an IBM 1460 arrived to help deal with the increasing work load. Originally, IC could only use the computer for a third of the time, but now this has been more than doubled. Even so, this million pound mass of wires is stretched to full capacity. IC's agreement with IBM terminates in 1969 and they will then probably want it back.

Luckily there will not be a blank in computing facilities after that for the University of London is lashing out 1½ million on a CDC 6600 with a direct link to I.C. It will be available for college use for about half the time. Sadly the total capacity of this machine is only four times

ours so by 1970 it will already be overloaded.

At present there seems to be no plan for purchasing a new computer—delivery time is about two years—so what is going to happen in 1970 is anyone's guess. Somebody has been incredibly short-sighted because nowadays it is not high speed lifts and hot and cold running water in every room that attracts scientists; it is computing facilities. Without rapid planning in the next few months, Imperial College with all its claims about being at the forefront of scientific learning is going to be lost far behind in the technological race it is supposed to be leading.



It's the new-look Albert Hall! Startling revelations of a British Railways takeover in the next amazing issue.

BEITER BIT OF The Albert Hall

The Royal Albert Hall, that monstrosity familiar to most observant people frequenting this area, was probably some old roundhouse transported stone by stone from America and rebuilt as per London Bridge. There are various opinions expressed on its visual properties: "Gee that's swell." (Let's hope it doesn't) or more usually "Eurugh!" Some people like it, notably Americans and the resident BBC sound engineers who like the acoustic properties which, with a bit of diddling, can help produce stereo recordings second to none. But most people say it sounds good; that is, except for a few Beit residents. Of course it has its uses. There's boxing most nights and the L.S.O. most other nights with Jimi Hendrix or whoever thrown in for good measure, usually with John Peel.

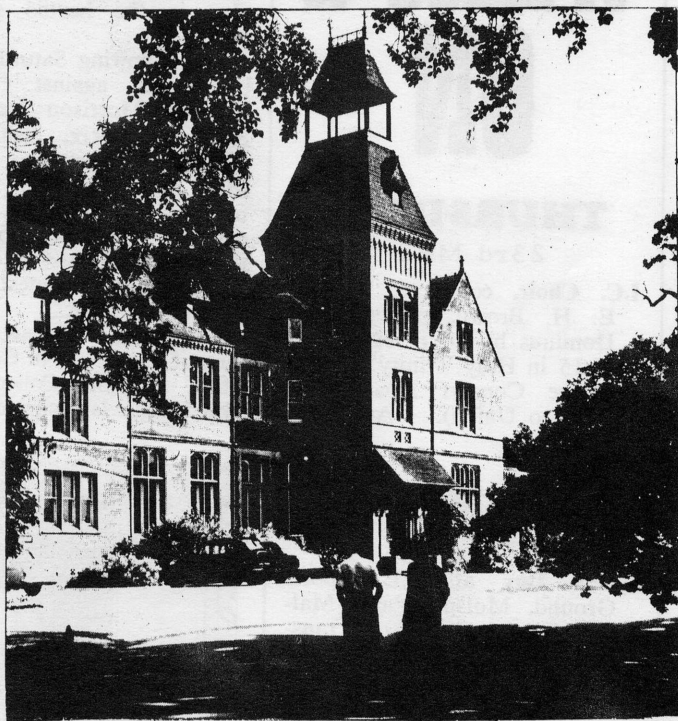
Not only has South Ken got "The Alb."; its got the museums and they draw the crowds. That's bad. But the crowds draw the ice-cream vendors and that's wicked. However, compared with the coaches the mausoleum attracts they're a godsend.

The other night the Queen gave a live performance and as usual the masses flocked to see her. The Brownies, the Lifeboys, the old women from Clacton, the cars and worst of all the coaches—coaches packed with senile doddering pensioners out for a thrill; coaches packed with disinterested kids and their equally noisy parents; luxury coaches packed with stale air and rubbish.

They all turned up. That night Liz drew over 35 charabancs into Prince Consort Road. They triple parked, they quadruple parked. Four huge glass bulls in line abreast thwarting all traffic flow. They honked, the cars honked, the people wailed, screamed and caterwauled. Prince Consort Road was packed so tight not another vehicle could have entered. It was like a mad fair-ground. Have you ever tried writing lab reports at a fair, let alone a mad fair. I say we sell the eyesore and ear-sore back to the Yanks.

P. MADDISON.

THIS IS SILWOOD



To over 95 per cent of the students at Imperial College, Silwood will just be a name on the notice board associated with Touchstone activities. But the converse is also true, that the students at Silwood perhaps know South Kensington better as the home of the Albert Hall than of the vast I.C. metropolis. This lack of knowledge about Silwood, only 30 miles away, is, I suppose, not unnatural, due to the minority of students working there—at the moment approximately 80 in toto. Since the resident students are all post-graduates, involved in deep(?) research work, they show little interest in the affairs of South Kensington, and the main part of the Union and are consequently out of touch.

The College Field Station which was originally established in Slough, in the buildings now occupied by the Government Pest Infestation Laboratory, moved to its premises at Silwood Park after the war, in 1947. Basically it is the field station for the Zoology Department, with over half the zoologists specialising in entomology. The Botany Department has also a large section at the Field Station and this appears to be gradually increasing. For four years, the University of London Reactor has been operational at Silwood, and this is the scene of much activity at the moment, with an extension lab. being built. Meteorology and Geophysics have small units on the Field Station, but with few personnel. Annual invasions of Civil and Mechanical Engineers occur and various other courses show up from time to time.

The Union at Silwood is represented by a small Silwood Park Committee, the chairman of which at present is that flamboyant figure, Mr. Terry Price. This committee looks after the day-to-day running of the sports, social and other facilities and is intimately bound up with the running of the Hostel. The Hostel at Silwood is situated in the main house and adjacent huts, there being a unique situation where some people actually live in

rooms above the laboratories in which they work. Compared to Mooney's, the food at Silwood is of a decidedly better quality, but differs in that there is no choice of meal unless you have a particular dislike for a certain food-stuff and tell Paddy, the chef, beforehand. Paddy on two or three occasions of the year really goes to town and provides a tremendous spread at Dinner-in-Hall and Summer Ball. Apart from the students living in Hostel, a

large proportion live out—either by choice or of necessity. There is no accommodation for married students and since everyone is postgraduate, approximately one-third are married. They find accommodation in the notorious "Blue Star," or various abodes, as far away as London.

Another outstanding feature of the Field Station community is its internationality. Overseas students comprise over half the population and 30 nationalities are currently represented at Silwood. The good harmony and generally friendly relations between races are features that would gladden the heart of any UN official. Coupled with this harmonious atmosphere is a very good staff-student relationship, which is seldom to be found at South Kensington. Of course, this is inevitable in such a small community and is evidenced by the many staff patronising Silwood dances.

To conclude, though Silwood is an isolated community which superficially appears to shun strangers, it will be found, on further examination, that Silwoodians are no more different from, and no less interesting than South Kensingtonites, but, if anything, are more friendly, due to this very factor of isolation.

This year is the 21st Anniversary of the Colleges' takeover of Silwood. To celebrate, an anniversary Ball is being held there on June 7th from 9—4.30 with two Band, plus West Indian Steel Band. Free champagne toast. Apply before Friday to B. C. Folland, Silwood Park, Ascot, Berks. 30/- single ticket.

SPORTS NEWS

Underwater in the Med

(Or how to succeed in breathing underwater without actually drowning)

For two weeks every Easter the citizens of the unspoilt, unhurried, enchanting fishing town of La Ciotat, on the Mediterranean coast of France, suffer from a disease called the Imperial College Underwater Club. It is at this time of year, when a young diver's fancy turns to thoughts of mermaids, that the serious activity of the club is practised—drinking. To this end, eighteen souls pitched camp just outside the town and made frivolous merriment each evening, accompanied by guitar-twanging, complaints in three languages, and crates of subsidised beer supplied by the British Army.

It is worthy of record that not only was it shown beyond all reasonable doubt that an I.C. student could consume more Carlsberg ale per unit time than an army private, but he could also perform more incredible feats of diving.

The liaison between I.C. and B.A.O.R.—seconded to France for "Adventure" training—blossomed day by day until the Officer Commanding was personally recharging the club's aqualungs and chauffeuring would-be generals to diving sites in Army launches.

For the benefit of readers who are unfamiliar with the events involved in a typical day's diving, please pull on your swimming trunks and read on. (Ladies need not bother with their bikini tops at this stage).

The day usually starts at the ungodly hour of 9 a.m. when gaggles of groaning mortals emerge from their tents and try to come to terms with their hangovers. Breakfast consists of the following ingredients: insipid brown fluid which purports to be coffee; and hard-boiled egg rolls. (As a sequel to these and other meals, the female catering officer has since been sold to a lusty 25-stone Eskimo cannibal.)

After this delicacy everyone travels to the chosen diving site, unloads all the gear, and spends the rest of day shivering.

The divers dive from an inflatable boat, always in pairs or threes to double or treble the danger as the case may be, and in spite of overwhelming odds such as huge waves and man-eating sharks, some are known to have actually reached the boat again on re-surfacing. The log reveals that they found a number of octopus, starfish, and even a dog-fish-like aquatic animal which is reported to have survived the thrust of a nine-inch diver's knife. The sole (pun unintended) eye-witness and operator of the said knife insist that the weapon bounced, yeah bounced, from the head of this vast creature but a good deal of speculation remains. It is not untrue that the immensity of the beast increases with the number of times that the story is recounted.

The experienced collectors returned from the sea with coral, sponge, fern, sea-urchins and other souvenirs, notably a sign which read: "Interdit au public," borrowed from an underwater public convenience. (Hmm!)

During the second week depths of 180 feet were attained and several people did manage to survive the "raptures of the deep," known scientifically as nitrogen narcosis. At these depths, the nitrogen content of the air breathed from aqualung can give rise to hallucinations or an effect not unlike that produced by over-indulgence of alcohol. It goes without saying that the achievement of great depth was a popular pastime.

For the sake of posterity, underwater photographs were taken, but the display of these has proved unentertaining compared with those taken on the shore!

One member of the team was even working! This work—some would say research—required the participation of at least two other divers and definitely pushed back the frontier of the science of underwater communication. The research was a prelude to an expedition which will take place in Malta during the summer, but now the intrepid adventurers have returned to this sceptred isle, complete with Ambre-Solaire sun-tans, to indulge in one of the lesser activities of a university—studying.

P.S.—"Have you anything to declare?" said the Customs officer.

"200 Woodbines, a bottle of red wine, and a 90 per cent proof bladder," came the muffled reply through the alcoholic haze at the back of the Underwater Club van.

Athletics Success



The most important event to date has been the ULU championships in which IC women came first and the men second, only four points behind Guy's Hospital, in their respective sections. IC had some excellent individual victories. Richard Beck, the IC captain, gained the trophy for the best track performance when he won the 400 metre final after having recorded 48.5 secs in his heat, an excellent early season time.

Barry Jones (Chem Eng PG), fully recovered from his heel injury and in full 100 miles a week training, broke the UL championship record in the 5000 metres. Barry, who won the New Zealand three-mile title last year, is hoping to represent his country in the Mexico Olympics next October.

Paul Jones (Physics III) started the season well with a fine win in the triple jump and has recently improved his personal best to 45ft. 7ins. Other victories were Derek Wade, long jump, and Ashley Deans in the 3000 metre walk.

The following Wednesday saw the UL representatives competing at Motspur Park against Middlesex and the RAF. The remaining members of the club climbed into the RCC minibus and headed for Westminster College, Oxford. Rather heavier traffic than usual necessitated several members having to change en route. Our depleted team of seven track athletes entered for a full track and field programme with mixed feelings and often put up their best performances running from one event's female supporters to another's. Finally, conceding defeat in a surprisingly close match 81-61, the IC team showed their versatility by giving a diving display in the heated swimming pool.

The following Saturday in the UL match against Cambridge Norman Morrison (see photo) beat John Rix, Britain's top junior miler last year in a personal best time for the 1500 m. of 3 mins. 49.1 secs. This is equivalent to 4 mins. 7 secs. for the mile and must rate Norman as one of the brightest prospects in British athletics.

Last Wednesday saw the beginning of a new era in College athletics, the Inter-College league. This League is designed to give a

good competition to those people not good enough to make the UL team and the support which has been given to it is most encouraging.

Anybody interested in joining the Athletics Club should contact Richard Beck in 445 Tizard Hall.

SUMMER JOBS FOR STUDENTS
Guides, Couriers, Farming, Hotels, Children, Teaching, etc. All parts UK, sometimes abroad

Send 10s. for **LARGE LIST OF VACANCIES**

Vacation Work (FX), 9 Park End Street, Oxford

itdig feet?

WE CAN CURE THEM FROM AS LITTLE AS £17 PER WEEK

- Russia and Eastern Europe
- Siberia and Japan
- Central Asia and India
- Scandinavia and Midnight Sun
- Italy, The Balkans and Greece
- Turkey and Israel

QUO VADIS STUDENT TRAVEL (Ref. 13) 43 DOUGHTY STREET, LONDON, W.C.1 Phone: 242 0062

ONLY £25

Three months of agitation and demonstration by NUS have made no difference at all to the Government's intention to halve the recommended grants increase to students.

From October students in Oxford, Cambridge and London will get an extra £25, while students elsewhere will get another £20. The new maximum grants will be £395 and £360 respectively. Students living at home will get an extra £15 and students resident at Colleges of Education £7.

Some concessions have been won. The means test level has been raised from £700 to £900, as reported in the last but one issue. The full amount for supplementary grants has been paid, this will benefit those with dependants, mature students, those studying abroad (the amount has been revised to keep the real value the same: taking devaluation into account) and those studying away from home during the vacations.

Commenting on the announcements two weeks ago Trevor Fisk, President-elect of the NUS, welcomed the concessions but called the increases "blatantly inadequate" and said: "Thousands of students this autumn may be faced with the daily choice between buying a book or a meal. Either their health or their education is bound to suffer." Fisk may have been exaggerating but the second half may well be true for many students.

At present the grants bill is about £130 m. and the increases are likely to add another £5½ m. to it. More than 300,000 students receive grants.

MIKE LOST?

The only clue the Wooden Horse Club have had to the whereabouts of Mike was recently found to be a hoax. On the strength of it WHO had investigated all the graves round Clapham Common—without success. Mike, stolen ten weeks ago from under the noses of its guards, is rumoured to be on Clapham Common near Halliday Hall—a likely story.

WHO is suffering from student apathy at the moment. Its president is non-student at present. Many potential members are active on the constituent colleges scene. Meanwhile Mike remains only a memory.

WHAT'S ON

THURSDAY

23rd MAY

I.C. Choir, conducted by Dr. E. H. Brown, present Dicit Dominus by G. F. Handel at 13.15 in Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road (next door to Union). Admission free.

SATURDAY

25th MAY

Sports Day at U.L. Sports Ground, Motspur Park, Malden, Surrey, at 15.00. Transport will be available from the Union at 14.00.

THURSDAY

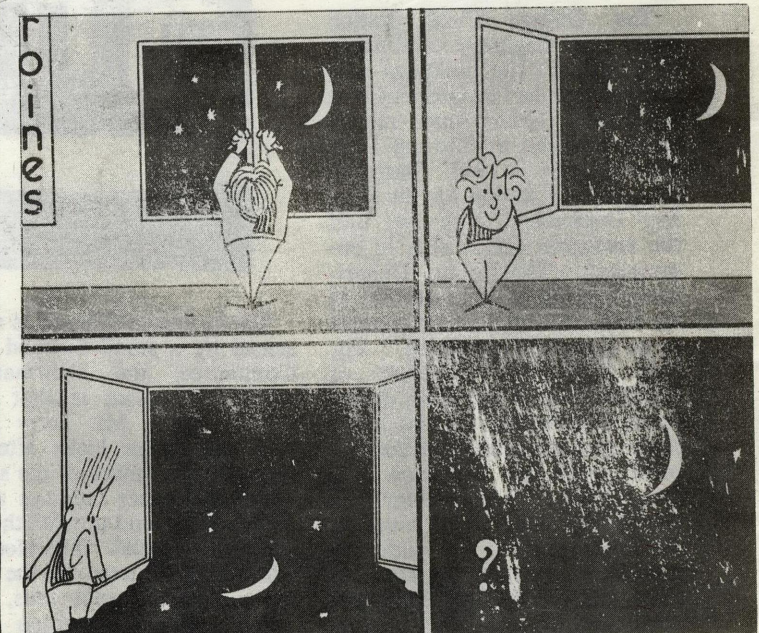
30th MAY

IC Union AGM, Concert Hall. Come and vote for next year's Deputy President and Council members.

TUESDAY

4th JUNE

Inaugural Lecture by Professor J. Ring on Infra-Red Astronomy in the main Physics Lecture Theatre at 17.00.





$$262 = 7^3 - 9^2$$

INDEX LATE NEWS

Editor:
Dick Reeves
With:
Paul Heath
Kevin Johnson
Janet Miller
John Probst
Chris Palmer
and Linda

DON'T FORGET SPORTS DAY SATURDAY

FREE COACHES LEAVE UNION 2p.m.
SUPPORT YOUR COLLEGE
BOO THE PRESIDENT
PRIZES PRESENTED BY THE RECTOR

KEITH AND ADOLF TO LEAD RCS

To the accompaniment of several Guildsmen trying to grab Theta, RCSU's beloved mascot, the RCS Presidential drama was carried to a successful conclusion in a crowded Physics lecture theatre yesterday.

After the reading of reports of varying degrees of interest, including Stew Barnes report on Council which was apparently interesting enough for several Guildsmen to want to come in and listen, Bob Mackman this year's president, got straight on to the matter of election. Maria Wallis, one of the candidates for secretary, read a letter announcing her withdrawal from the contest because of the confused Presidential situation, and because of the extra strain this would have thrown on her academic work had she been elected. Chris Yewlett, the only other candidate in the poll, was therefore elected Secretary unopposed. Andy Keenan had also resigned as Chemistry rep. after the malpractices of the elections (see main issue), but on the suggestion of Malcolm Duckett, the meeting refused to accept it.

Then to the main business - the President, Mackman read a letter from Anita Furniss and Rog. Webb, in which they both withdrew from the election because the whole conduct of the first ballot was unsatisfactory and would (presumably) reflect on whoever got elected. They suggested instead that an acting president be appointed until a new election could be held next year. After a little discussion, this was agreed on and Rog. Webb immediately nominated Mike Tait in the light of his experience in a similar capacity last year. However, Keith Cavanagh, last year's president, proposed Jeff Warren, last year's secretary for the job and Tait immediately stood down. So the meeting accepted him and Mackman moved on to the next item, the result of the second ballot of the Vice-Presidential nomination. In this, Adolf Hashteroudian squeezed in by the narrow margin of 234 votes to Pete Dolwin's 230.

The meeting moved on to discuss whether RCSU should pay for some microphones damaged in last term's smoking concert. The question of whether RCSU was really responsible for the maintenance of order on the occasion was mulled over at some length and the question of payment eventually referred to the Finance subcommittee. Theta was then smuggled out of the building to evade the, by then, non-existent Guildsmen and everything ended happily after all.

RAISE A QUORUM: RAY'S A LAUGH

AT THE IC UNION AGM THURS. 30TH

WILL MIKE BE THERE ???

ELECT YOUR DEPUTY PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

PUNCH-UP IN PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

Yesterday's RCSU meeting was interrupted by Guildsmen trying to swipe Theta. Guild's President elct Dermott Corr and Frank Morris (who is rumoured to be an IC deputy presidential candidate and chairman of WHO, "in charge" of the missing MIKE and who is on a year's "examiners leave") appeared to be the ring leaders.

Trouble started when the meeting detected a number of Guildsmen in the vicinity and a strong party set out to locate and negate this threat to Θ. In the next half hour a door handle was wrenched loose, a door hinge damaged, a ground floor window was broken and several Guildsmen were

pursued up and down the building. Also an emergency door was opened and a notice relating to the GCE examination in progress was defaced. Further damage may yet come to light.

It is rumoured that RCS meetings in Physics are to be banned. The situation will not be clear until RCS president Bob Mackman has seen Professor Butler (Head of Department) this morning.

CARNIVAL: GET YOUR MONEY OR ELSE!

Will anyone who still has any Carnival money please hand it in to Room 21 Garden as soon as possible so that the accounts can be audited.

Will winners of Pools money PLEASE collect their cheques from the same place for the same reason. If they are not claimed by 31 May they will be returned to the fund.

CARNIVAL POST MORTEM

The winner of the Carnival Colour T.V. set Competition last Sunday was a Miss A Jones of Middlesex. The temperature on the air ministry roof was 11°C: She got this exactly. It was a cold day and most of the raffle short-listers guessed 10° too high. When the telly was delivered she said "I've already got a telly".

The Pentax camera was won by an Electrical Engineer at IC.

Auditing is not yet finished but it now seems that the Carnival total will not now reach the hoped - for £5,000: £4,800 seems more likely. However, this still compares very well with last year's total. There are seven or eight candidates for Carnival organiser next year.

CARNIVAL LESSONS: CHRIS PALMER (ORGANISER) WRITES

Carnival this year has shown conclusively that charity is BIG business. Especially for students who have a limited amount of free time to devote to charity work, the organizers should continually have in mind the relation between the financial return and the effort put into it. The smaller events should be abandoned and the people involved with them appointed to more profitable events. It is appreciated that this could entail an alienation between students of the college and carnival activities, but I feel that it is only the hardy faithfuls who support the fete etc anyway. Dramsoc Revue should be removed from Carnival activities & the income ploughed back into Dramsoc. The fete should be truly eliminated & the Summer Term kept clear of any events. Raffle & Pools both have enormous potential, which can be realized with a more effective incentive system. The RAH concert showed beyond a shadow of doubt that we should put on at least half a dozen similar shows including wrestling, orchestras etc. In this Carnival should combine more effectively with ENTS - perhaps amalgamation would be in order.

NEXT YEAR'S MEN OF POWER? Nearly a week to go until nominations close for ICU elections at AGM, there are only 3 candidates up for Floor Reps on Council (they need 6, but there are only 5 spaces on the nomination sheet). These are Jane Pearson, Lilas Campion and George Assimakis. Andy Powell, Dave Foster and Piers Corbyn are also reported to be standing. For the tentative posts of Welfare and External Affairs Offices Vinod Garga, Dave Wield and Rob Collinge are all interested, though one of them would probably stand as a Floor Rep. Jeff Steer is the only nominee for Deputy President, though Frank Morris (who is desperately trying to get Mike back for the AGM) is believed to be standing and Stuart (Roines? Senior) may stand, though this is unlikely. Favourites for the posts of Secretary and President are Jane Pearson and Rex Lowin.

IC HAS JUST RECEIVED THE FIRST CLUE TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF MIKE.

SMALL ADS

ALMOST ALL GONE:

Want to play? Can you take 7" diam? Then you need Durex (Magnetic recording tape) Normal sensitivity. Used only once and wiped clean. Not inferior quality and will not damage your head. Still only 10/- per 1200' Ring INT 2854 ask for Steve

For Sale: One pair black boots. Moulded rubber sole, size 9, never been worn. Also Travelling Alarm Clock, as new. Apply R.R. Ives, via Physics Dept Rack.

We would like to congratulate Malcolm J. Lennox on his engagement to Berenice Gow on Sat. 11th May

GANDALF'S GARDEN

NEW MYSTICAL SCENE MAGAZINE - "CRAP?" - 2/6 NOW! 621 TIZARD OR FOLLOW THE ARROWS.

MOVING OUT IN JUNE? WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FLAT FOR 2/3, ABOUT 4 GNS EACH NOTTING HILL GATE AREA PREFERRED. IF YOU WILL BE LEAVING SUCH A FLAT AT THE END OF SESSION, PLEASE RING INT 2218 ASK FOR CAROLINE.

FAIR RENT

The renting of houses and flats is a subject where the law has grown into something which all tenants should know, to protect their own interests. It may be assumed, in many parts of London, that landlords will know the relevant Acts of Parliament. In general, the Rent Acts cover all letting of furnished and unfurnished properties, except for lets which include meals as a substantial part of the weekly rent.

UNFURNISHED ACCOMMODATION

Considering each case separately, let us first deal with unfurnished accommodation. This is defined as a let where the tenant shares no living accommodation with his landlord. Thus, if you share a bathroom with your landlord, the let is unfurnished, but if you share a kitchen with him, the let comes under the relevant Acts for furnished lettings. The 1965 Rent Act applies to property which on 23 March 1965 had (in London) a rateable value of less than £400. This £400 figure relates to the flat whose rent is being queried, and not to the whole house. Therefore most student accommodation does come under the scope of the 1965 Act.

With most unfurnished flats, the tenant has to pay a charge for "furnishings and fittings", such as power points, cookers, etc. When the tenant has paid this charge, these become his property, and he is usually responsible for their repair and upkeep. At the end of the tenancy, he should be able to sell them back to the landlord for the price he paid for them. If he cannot do this, (and this should be checked, and agreed in writing, before taking up the tenancy) he may be being charged a premium. Charging premiums is illegal, and rent is the only money that should pass between tenant and landlord.

RENT TRIBUNAL

Another right that the tenant has, if his tenancy comes under the 1965 Rent Act, is the right to ask the Rent Officer of the local council to fix a fair rent for his accommodation. If the rent is less than two-thirds of the rateable value, the Act does not apply, but for this to be true, the tenant will be paying a very low rent indeed. Fair rents are assessed by the Rent Officer on the basis of the age, character and locality of the dwelling, and its state of repair. The scarcity value of the property is not taken into account. However, the phrase "fair rent" applies to landlords as well, and it seems that the Rent Officers have applied this section in such a way that landlords do get a reasonable return on the capital invested in the property. When the fair rent has been fixed, it is in force for three years. The only increases that are permitted are increases to cover increased rates (if the landlord pays them) and increases to cover costs of repairs and improvements. These latter increases must be settled by the county court, if there is a dispute between landlord and tenant. If the fair rent is less than the rent formerly paid, the rent is reduced from

the date of registration set by the Rent Officer, and if it is raised, this increase is put on when the tenancy agreement at the old rate runs out.

The landlord cannot evict you without a county court order. To obtain an order, the landlord must show that it is reasonable to do so, or that the tenant is behind with the rent, or has broken the conditions of the tenancy. You, as tenant, have complete security until the county court grant an order evicting you, unless the owner wishes to re-occupy the accommodation for his own use.

A public register of fair rents is kept at local council offices and, before querying one's own rent, it is a good idea to check the assessment of similar property in the area. The search fee is 2/6.

FURNISHED ACCOMMODATION

The rights of the tenant when he lives in furnished accommodation are somewhat less. He is still protected from paying premiums and can also ask the Rent Tribunal to fix a rent, but his tenure is less secure. This may be summarised as:

1. When notice to quit has been served before the tenant applies to the Tribunal to fix a fair rent, the notice cannot be carried out until the Tribunal agrees.
2. If the notice to quit is served after an application to the Tribunal has been put in, the tenant has security of tenure for six months (less, if the Tribunal decide) after the date of the fixing of the rent. By applying to the Tribunal at the appropriate times, a tenant can have full security while his case is being dealt with.

The controlled rents for furnished accommodation apply to places with a rateable value of up to £400 in London, as before. For all lettings, there is a minimum period of notice of four weeks on either side. A rent book must be supplied for weekly tenancies. In this rent book must be given the name and address of the landlord and the rent to be paid. A survey done in Paddington amongst overseas students about two years ago suggested that landlords who refused to supply rentbooks tended to offer less value for money than the more business-like landlords who did.

Examples of the operation of the Acts for furnished lets to IC students include:

1. A flat for 5 in Fulham, with 3 rooms, kitchen and bathroom, reduced from 15gns to £11.
2. Basement room in Evelyn Gdns, about the size of a Southside room. Rent of £3-15 unchanged.
3. Similar first floor room, rent reduced from £4-10 to £4-5.

Especially if you live on the same premises as the landlord or his agent, appeals to the rent tribunal can cause bad feeling. Before putting in an application, make sure that your case is good by checking with the fair rents established by the rent officer in the area. The Act is not a "tenants charter", and leaves a lot to the discretion of the rent officers.

How the Race Relations Act will affect the market for housing for overseas students is still not clear. When the sections on enforcement and the role of the Race Relations Board have been settled, a clearer picture may evolve.

Useful contacts are:

1. The Citizens Advice Bureau
 2. The Senior Rent Officer
- whose addresses may be got from the Town Hall of the borough that you live in.

Mike Edwards.

Welfare Committee.