

FELIX

IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION No. 278

22nd MAY, 1969 6d

M.P.s Quiz College

By our Special Correspondent, Piers Corbyn

The visit of the parliamentary committee on student relations was poorly publicised and poorly attended — quite a few students knew Wednesday was the day but had no correct knowledge of the timetable.

At 10 a.m. six students were publicly questioned by six M.P.s. in Mech. Eng. 220. Audience participation was not allowed (old fashioned bureaucrats used the excuse of parliamentary privileges). Discussions centred round a two page report presented by the six students. The sole left representative, Dave Christopher, presented a document of about the same length with an appendix of about five times the length (available from the Polcoun library), using much material from FELIX.

'Participation'

Questions covered many subjects so in the 1½ hours discussion in depth was impossible. The M.P.s. were surprised I.C. was not in the NUS. The USK was welcomed as the beginning (or so it would have appeared to the M.P.s.) of I.C.s. probing into the great big outside. Rakesh Mohan outlined the overwhelming demand for 'non technical studies' (not necessarily management studies). Dissatisfaction was expressed at the 'participation' offered at I.C. Although we have representation it seems that the student voice is only needed if the authorities agree; the student 'participation' role in I.C. is at present not much more than one of suggesting ideas for the authorities to implement or not — the direction of events being beyond student influ-

ence, students representation on the Board of studies, Finance and Executive Committee and Governing Body could help. Student unrest was probed(!) — various replies resulting. Dave Christopher gave (to applause) a long 'speech' on 'alienation' (from the whole of society) of which student unrest is only a facet.

The Staff interviewed after the students, presented a confused picture — probably in more disarray than the students! Sinclair Goodland stated that they had been 'selected by mysterious processes'. Their main discussion began on the purpose of I.C.s. education. Some of the M.P.s. feeling that Article 2 of the Charter of Incorporation (centre of excellence) was a bit narrow. In the ensuing discussion Prof. Ford (Mech. Eng. head of dept.) proudly claimed that non-technical studies had been going on in his department for 20 years. Prof. Coles and others pointed out that studying Economics and Management Studies (presumably in order to make industry more efficient) was a little different from joining into 'the total intellectual activity of man'. A Prof. from the Maths. Department claimed (to audience derision) that in the Maths. department super-specialization was necessary to maintain I.C.s. status as a place which annually produced 15 brilliant mathematicians. Prof. Ford, despite his proud claim of 'broad courses', said that this country needed 'centres of excellence'.

The M.P.s. suggested that once I.C. had been three institutions — why not make it into a broader college of 5 or 6 or 7 — incorporate it with the nearby colleges?

The perennial question of

failure rates arose and flitted away before the glare of suspicious faces.

The 'Authorities' were not as coherent on the problems of I.C. as the M.P.s. were in questioning them. They confirmed that the Finance and Executive committee was the power house and gave a nice picture of JURGO. Student houses and staff-student committees were presented as examples of where co-operation has worked well.

Student Unrest

Lord Penney, on student unrest, felt that it was contagious and something to do with society at large — not just universities. He ended his comment on it amidst loud cheers 'these are all problems I don't really understand'. The Rector said he disagreed with the student view that their representatives should be 'mandatory' and believed like other members of 'the authorities' that the college should avoid these 'pyramid like methods of industry' (presumably because they sharpen frustration).

The discussion afterwards (not recorded by the M.P.s. who mostly went back to Parliament) uncovered glossed-over grievances and ideas — lucidly expounded by Harry Fairbrother, many of the students, Dr. Steven Rose and others. People who spoke on the subject mostly stated (with examples) that feedback only worked well when it was in the interests of the authorities that it should.

The real purpose of the committee is, it seems, to find ways of curbing student unrest. Student unrest is only a facet of the unrest of society—if not the world... What recommendation will the Committee make?

Prince Philip scores a hit

The RCSU social event of the decade passed smoothly on Wednesday evening, May 14th, to the general acclaim of the Union, Press and BBC. Prince Philip came to dinner, made a witty speech, lingered in South-side Bar and slipped off home just before eleven o'clock.

On his arrival the Duke of Edinburgh was welcomed by a reception party of about 20 Union officials and their ladies. Balding, but impressive in stature he joked with the lads before being led to his place as guest of honour by RCS President Gwyn Hughes. Ranged along the top table were an impressive group of department heads, Lords Penney and Sherfield and their wives. The spaces were filled by Union officials, including Pam Horrocks deep in conversation with the Rector on the intricacies of cricket.

Considering the mass of guests, over 350, Mooney surprised all by the excellence of his cooking, although the wine was criticised. The main course was escalope of Veal Concalaise accompanied by Chateau Brane Cantenac 1962. It was during this that Piers (CEFE) Corbyn enlivened proceedings by presenting the Prince with a balloon. There was also a number of more vital happenings as a surprising number of guests left their seats to the usual accompaniment only to slink back later. These events were later commented on by the Presidents of Mines and Guilds.

Prince Philip opened wittily his speech to toast RCSU, and thanked RCS for his welcome, which, he said, had surprised him seeing how many of the officers were Welsh. To loud cheers he refused to comment on



Universities as he was one of those 'ignorant bums who never went to one'. After a brief discourse on our crazy world and its problems he ended with two words for RCS members on their Union: 'use it'.

In his reply Gwyn Hughes showed a slight touch of nerves as he fumbled with his notes but after this shaky start he produced a surprisingly good speech which quoted extensively from FELIX. Chris Yewlett, RCSU Secretary, proposed the toast to the guests in a befitting manner, mercifully free of his usual puns. The response to this toast was made by Lord Sherfield, the

Chairman of the Governors who also entered into the spirit of the occasion, putting his glasses on and taking them off to emphasise his points. There was some laughter when it seemed that Lord Sherfield was suggesting he didn't have enough girls but it now appears he was suggesting RCS was short of girls, and a small walkout over a short passage interpreted as critical of ASTMS.

After the dinner H.R.H. met guests in the South-side bar, lingering over Stan's beer until just before eleven when RCS's distinguished guest slipped off home still joking merrily.

Chain Reaction

To force a speedy settlement of the technicians' dispute, the ASTMS at universities throughout the country have withdrawn the labour of key technical staff. There is widespread sympathy for the wage-claim from university administrations, and many of these, including I.C., are now urging the Department of Education and Science to settle the dispute nationally. At I.C. the Administration agreed that the 28 key technicians, largely store-men, out on strike should not be victimised, nor should anyone else do their work.

In opposition to the line adopted by the Administration, the Biochemistry Stores was opened at 11.30 a.m. on

Monday, 12th May. Within fifteen minutes over a hundred technicians gathered outside the office of the Establishment Officer, and a delegation was elected to see him. The Stores was closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

However, the Biochemistry Stores was re-opened on Thursday morning, and all sections of the department were encouraged to use it. The situation was discussed at a general meeting of the I.C. branch of ASTMS that lunchtime. The meeting decided that each time action was taken to break the effectiveness of the key-worker strike, the whole membership of the I.C. Branch would stop work for

two hours. The meeting also decided that the first stoppage had already been provoked by the Biochemistry Department, and thus a demonstration was held outside that department from two o'clock until four. Representatives were sent to every Head of Department to explain the reason for their lack of technical staff, and Professor Chain's superfluity of same.

From all over the college there have been reports of spontaneous reaction to attempts to bypass the stores which have been closed. Many immediate walk-outs have been threatened, and materials coming directly

continued on back page

COMMENT

Universities are not the only established British institutions to have felt the pressures of the country's economic situation. But it could well be that these pressures will have the most profound effect on our Universities. These pressures have forced people to discuss once again what is meant by the phrase "academic freedom". At the LSE the furore over the sackings of two lecturers, for their political beliefs and sayings, has brought this discussion to the fore. Those present at the Select Committee's hearings at IC last week will also have been reminded of this issue.

Challenges to Academic Freedom

Basically the challenges to academic freedom can be traced to two different pressure groups. The first, the combined economic power of the government and industry, is concerned with the cost-effectiveness of the University. As a country with its back against the wall in economic terms we must, as Edward Short put it last January, "become increasingly aware of the demands of the economy . . .". Universities should go into production, they must become more efficient degree producers, more relevant researchers and they will only attract Government investment to the extent that they do just that. Naturally this means a great loss in freedom; academic studies and lines of research which are merely interesting will be threatened by lack of money and probably dropped, outside of Oxbridge with its great inherited wealth. The second pressure group consists of dissatisfied students and junior staff, because, as our Rector put it in his evidence to the Select Committee, the administration of a University or College is based on "consent". However, as pressures on the university become stronger and the acquiescence of students to antiquated and often unjust systems becomes weaker, the rule of consent is breaking down since some people don't consent. The tragedy is that when the rule of "consent" does break down the authoritarian nature of University is revealed. For people who for one reason or another do not "consent" there is precious little freedom. Lord Penney suggested that the alternative would be an immense bureaucratic structure.

Separation of Powers

Let us consider this second pressure first, because this threat to academic freedom can be solved by the University itself. Are the Rector's two alternatives of benevolent dictatorship or a Civil Service pyramid the only ones? The American constitution enshrines another principle of government—the separation of powers. The executive, representatives and judiciary were in theory set apart as independent counter-balancing forces. Why not set up the students, staff and administration as independent, equal yet self-reliant powers? Thus if the rule of consent does break down there would be a definite but not authoritarian structure to resolve differences. But more important still, such differences would be solved justly.

Research Deformed

The problems of deformation of research by the profit motive have previously been described in FELIX 275, whereby lines of research are followed up irrespective of their academic value, or value to mankind. In some places in this college research is even carried out for the armed forces and weapons establishments; for instance Chemistry and Chemical Engineering departments carry out apparently innocuous projects for such organisations. However, some of this research is still classified; some work for the US Army, completed in 1962, on thermals was carried out in the Meteorology department. Colonel R. K. Sasce was the U.S. representative and the project is still known under the secret Combaret number DA-91-591-EUC-1707. It is difficult to see how Universities can retain their traditional freedom while accepting money from such sources.

The affects of these economic pressures are now being realised by undergrads too. By all means we can have non-technical studies, provided they are management studies; but genuine course-broadening is rejected. Thus courses become more and more narrowly vocational; the government has no money to spend on real education, training "the whole man for the whole life" is replaced by training the technologist the country "needs". If that is so let students serve notice on the government that the parsimonious grant we get now is because we are allegedly being educated; if we are merely being trained then we will demand a wage suitable to such an apprenticeship. Now is the time to stand up to Treasury and say "You can't have your cake and eat it."

CARNIVAL FETED

The I.C. Carnival Fete was greeted by heavy rain throughout the morning, as Jez left to tour the area, but nevertheless a profit of at least £100 was made, with reported takings of £180. It is still to be revealed whether the rainfall was beyond the limit required to cause the insurance to be paid, but the weather certainly spoilt the event, causing the clock-golf to be called off along with the ten-pin bowling. Of an expected 40 stalls, only 26 were set up, twelve of these being run by the Anglican Chaplaincy, who raised £100.

Rita Tushingham opened the fete, despite the weather, and the group Smile entertained, apparently a little too noisily, causing the local police to intervene.

Among the individual stunts, the soak-Martin-Bland (etc.) trick brought in £2 10s., much to their discomfort, and Mr. Seaford collected £9 with Find the Lady. Thus, in spite of maintenance charging £30 for putting up the stage, and the fact that the bandstand was not to be used, the fete did succeed financially.



Dermott Corr, about to give everyone a soaking at the Carnival Fete.

"IDIOTIC" CHALLENGE

Sir,

I am sick and tired of having my time wasted by idiotic quorum challenges at Union meetings.

A quorum is intended as the last defence against unrepresentative opinion acting in the name of the Union. It is surely more ethical, especially when one has indicated one's concern for representative debate by suggesting a deferment of the main business to allow more people to arrive, not to challenge unless clearly minority views are being implemented and all other courses of action are exhausted. The quorum is not meant to give the power of veto over a measure that one is opposed to, as it appeared to be used (once again) on Tuesday, when not only were the proposals in question already approved once by a quorate

meeting, but also a further deferment was available by moving the adjournment.

Further interesting speculation is available on the reasons why this great believer in representative participation should have acted to prevent election of next year's president which would have been possible had the constitutional changes received a second reading. He cannot soberly (sic) claim this time even to presume to have acted for the majority. The most charitable conclusion is that, alone in 265, he was unaware of the implications of his action, a general conclusion that applies also to certain other regular quorum-challengers.

Yours,

P. Lee.

Physics 2.

HELP NEEDED

This year sees a change in the organisation of the Carnival Charity with the election of the Co-ordinator and charity in the summer term. The idea behind this is so that Carnival may be in full swing by the beginning of next session. As a result of this it is essential that the Carnival committee has been formed before the end of this term.

In past years, Carnival has suffered from the fact that no enough people from the previous year have been interested enough to continue; however it is hoped that a nucleus from this year's committee will want to help Carnival again next session. Of course there is still plenty of room for newcomers and applications for the following positions are invited: Secretary, Treasurer, Raffle Organiser, Carnival Queen competition or-

ganiser, Fete organiser, Arts Week organiser and Publicity officer. In particular, it is essential that we have an experienced Publicity Officer.

This is in fact not a fully comprehensive list of the people required, as each individual event organiser will need a great deal of help.

In past years Carnival has relied upon Vice Presidents and Year Reps to promote interest in Carnival but the next session will see the introduction of a Carnival Rep system where each year will have a rep who will be solely responsible for his year's collection efforts.

Any persons interested in working for Carnival in any capacity should contact me through the Union office.

Carnival Co-ordinator elect.

Dave Hobman.

Carnival Co-ordinated Elections

The election for next year's Carnival co-ordinator was held on May 12th. Dave Hobman, proposed by Sue Lowin, defeated Frank Ball.

proposed by retiring co-ordinator Ian Jarvis, in a friendly tussle. Dave Hobman was active in organising the fete (reported on this page) with the president's wife.

President's Piece

The next visit of the University Grants Committee to the College, in about a year's time, is now providing a focus for the work of the committee looking into the growth of Imperial College. The lack of further sites in South Kensington prevents any wholesale expansion of the College, and present estimates suggest a total student population of about 5,000 by 1980, including 400 members of the Architectural Association. Major candidates for growth are the interdepartmental studies, with the possibility of an undergraduate course in Materials Science, a post-graduate course in Materials Technology, and more work on Bio-Engineering at a postgraduate level. Other suggestions include the growth of the Management Studies group, and a new International Institute of Theoretical Physics.

Ideas are being developed for broadening present courses by allowing the interchange of departments in undergraduate courses and by the introduction of non-technical subjects. This coincides with the report of a survey carried out by the student members of the Sociological Studies Committee, which shows a very large demand for non-technical courses at IC. Almost all of the thousand students who replied wanted some broader courses and over three-quarters wanted those courses to form part of the degree. Although the biggest demand was for the more directly relevant subjects such as economics and logic, many people asked for these courses in order to provide a broader education.

A start has already been made in giving these courses, particularly in the Engineering departments, but the demand has grown much stronger over the last few years. The problems of space in the College make it difficult to provide all of these courses on a large scale, but the present system of importing lecturers from other colleges could be used, at least as a temporary measure. If the system is to be introduced on a college-wide basis, then the best solution might be to set aside two or three hours a week, and allow students to choose their option irrespective of department or year.

LETTERS

Sack The Editor

from Lord Penney KBE, FRS, Rector of Imperial College

Dear Editor,

In your editorial Comment on 8th May you say you intend to maintain FELIX as a paper where all views can be expounded. I hope that this includes the Rector.

You comment on the proposed visit by a Parliamentary Select Committee and say that the Rector was asked to provide a wide spread of opinion from staff, students and authorities. You use inflammatory language and assert that the President of the Union and the Rector have fallen into the error of trying to preserve the good name of Imperial College. You state that I submitted an uninspired list of respectable staff but gave no hint of an "unorthodox protestor, staff or student"

A journalist who gets his facts wrong soon gets the sack. Let me say what the facts are. The College was told by the Secretary of the Select Committee they would like to have three sessions, one to meet students, one to meet staff and one to meet the authorities. They would like a representative cross-section, about half a dozen in each session.

I asked the Secretary of the College to organise an election of four members of staff. This was done—first the collection of nominations from staff on a personal notice to all members of the permanent staff and then by written ballot, where there was a high poll. I also invited the Imperial College branch of the Association of University Teachers to nominate two staff members. This they did. With regard to the student group, I told the President of the Union what the Committee wanted and asked him to consult student opinion in any way he thought best. In due course, some names were sent to me and included as the College student team.

With regard to the Authorities, I discussed the matter at the Deans' Committee and we made the choice, including a postgraduate student warden and the Chairman of the Governing Body as members of our team.

Yours truly,

William Penney

INEPTITUDE

Dear Sir,

In the last few days the shortcomings of Imperial College Union and its leadership have been well demonstrated on two occasions. On Tuesday, a small group of dedicated reactionaries destroyed the work of many and the interest of more by killing the Constitutional Reform motion at the Union meeting. If Messrs. Andrews, Mackman, and co. really believe that the motion should not be discussed at an iniquitous meeting, why didn't they make efforts to get people to the meeting by publicising it, as their opponents did? One can only conclude that they are afraid of having to discuss the proposals and must resort to the lowest and most negative means at their disposal.

On Wednesday, those concerned enough to attend the meeting of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee were frustrated at having to watch in silence as our "representatives" struggled to express themselves. The ineptitude was amply demonstrated when Rex Lowin, doing most

of the talking, found himself in many cases having to defend a position he did not support, which surely exactly demonstrated the need for better representation before that committee.

The Sub-committee conclusions must have been based on (a) the incoherence and lack of courtesy of the students in not preparing themselves properly (e.g. the hopeless muddle Rex Lowin got into when questioned on Union discipline) and (b) a general feeling of satisfaction with and disinterest in student-staff relations at this college, due to a general incoherence on the part of the students, over-generalising by staff, and whitewashing by Prof. Ford and the administration.

One can only hope that next year will bring a more interested student body and a more efficient and, above all, more representative Union hierarchy.

Yours,

Bruce Henderson,

Mech. Eng. 3.

The Editor reserves the right to omit all or part of any letter submitted to Felix. Also, the opinions represented in these letters are not necessarily the opinions of Felix.

IDEAS SHOVED UNDER BED

Dear Sir,

Some of your readers may recall during last session some mentions in FELIX of a scheme proposed by Tizard Hall Committee to make available camp beds, so that Hall residents could put up guests in their rooms in reasonable comfort (and legality) at a modest cost. A letter detailing the arguments in favour of this scheme was sent round to all Hall Committees, after which the proposal was approved by the Halls of Residence Representatives Committee (consisting of students reps. from each Hall committee) with the proviso that it should be tried as an experiment by one Hall first (the Warden and Housekeeper of Tizard were willing to co-operate in this). It then

went to the Student Residence Committee (Rector, Senior Warden, all Hall wardens and only three students) which by all accounts was less than receptive to the plan. However a sub-committee was set up under the chairmanship of Mr. Stephenson, the Senior Warden, which, judging from its report, seems to have had more interest in preserving the status quo than taking the suggestion seriously. Copies of the original letter to Hall Committees were made available, despite which the principal reason advanced for the rejection of the idea had already been at least partially refuted in it.

In retrospect, the reasons why this particular proposal looks at present to be lost can be traced directly to inadequate student representation on the Student Residence Committee. By going through the accepted channels the fate of it has been left to two Halls reps., one of whom was lukewarm to the idea and one opposed to it. It seems to us that this case presents a strong argu-

ment for greatly increased student representation from the residents on the Student Residence Committee (if there is one warden per Hall on it, why not one student per Hall as well?).

Finally, since the rules only disallow unauthorised guests there is no reason why Tizard or any other Hall should not run the scheme on its own, the Warden authorising those who made use of the beds. Originally it was decided that the proposal represented such a great departure from accepted practice it should be put to the Student Residence Committee first. After the superficial way in which this body has dealt with it we are not so sure.

J. D. Cooper, Chairman, Tizard Hall Committee 1967-68; D. Rossell, Secretary, Tizard Hall Committee 1967-68; D. V. Wield, Treasurer, Tizard Hall Committee 1967-68

c.c. to The Rector, Mr. A. Stephenson, Mr. C. C. Seaford, Dr. A. Cameron, Mr. J. Moont, Mr. R. Bantin.

WASTE

Dear Sir,

Since the last Union meeting was rather prematurely adjourned, I would like to suggest a motion to the general mass of the student body through your columns, which I otherwise would have proposed at the meeting.

Council has chosen to ignore the minority report on the President's Dinner and Dance and a Union meeting could not discuss it. In my view, this report did not go far enough either. The central issue is the colossal waste of £400 spent on this extraneous occasion; the facts that people want to wear dinner jackets or other Zombie kits is entirely irrelevant. Usually this £400 comes out of the Ents profits throughout the year. Why should this money not go to the Carnival charity? Particularly this year while we profess concern over the plight of unmarried mothers, our President writes to 'The Times' complaining about people's uncharitable attitude towards this unfortunate set of our society, all we do is to raise about £1000 by walking 27 miles on a cold damp night and then virtually pass the money over to affluent pop-groups. Not only is this situation scandalous it is immoral in the extreme.

The least we can do now is to hand over the £400 to be spent on the President's D & D to the NCUMC.

The Union bureaucrats can have their little (or big) 'do' if they want to but they must pay for it. I don't care if the top table get cigars and champagne—or hashish for that matter if they want it—but I do object to Union money being spent in this way.

I appeal to everyone to write in to the President of the Union and demand that this £400 be given to the NCUMC.

Yours faithfully,

Rakesh Mohan.

HUMANITIES

Dear Sir,

As, in all probability the Physicist whom you misquoted to produce the closing remarks of your back page article last Felix, all I can say is that if you think the best way to broaden you as a human being is to sit at a desk studying the humanities for your degree, then you have a lot more to learn about life than I have.

Yours,

Peter J. Billam,

Physics 3.

GARBLED

Dear Sir,

Felix (late news, May 8th) hopelessly garbles Union Council's discussion on the sea-going cruiser for the sailing club. No fait accompli occurred. The boat had not already been ordered, and Council voted in favour of the project in the knowledge that it could as easily be vetoed. The report does not state that the loan will be repaid from the usual hiring out charges, nor does it mention the College grant of £500. The net cost to Union funds should be around £500, about the same as this year's subsidy to Felix.

Your's Truly,

K. E. Weale,

Hon. treasurer, I.C.U.

ELECTRICITY WAS NEVER FREE

Sir,

In reply to Mr. Giles' letter of 8th May, the Bernard Sunley House Committee would like to make the following points:

1) We agree that nobody likes to be presented with an electricity bill, but electricity has never been free. Many amounts removed from meters in single rooms were over £6 for the term, so £8 does not seem in excess for an unmetered electric fire. All complaints about the electricity bills were heard, and six bills were either withdrawn or reduced.

Residents have not been told that the house is running into financial difficulties. No permanent "enlargements" were thought of, never mind suggested, and there is no overcrowding in the house.

2) The House Committee, which includes the Warden and Sub-Wardens, has always been prepared to answer questions about the running of the house, yet Mr. Giles approached none of us to check any of his so-called facts.

As a house Committee we expect criticism and welcome it provided that it is accurate and constructive. That of Mr. Giles was neither—he did not check any of his facts, merely reported hearsay.

3) Finally we would like to point out that Student Houses are a new venture and some difficulties to be expected, but these can be overcome with the co-operation of all concerned.

Yours sincerely,

K. Ellis,

Secretary, Bernard Sunley House Committee.

NEXT FELIX

This will be the last full Felix of the year. The next spectacular issue will appear on Freshers' Day, under the editorship of Malcolm Williamson. Due to financial difficulties, mainly caused by a scarcity of advertising and losses from the Felix stands, the last two issues have been only eight pages instead of the usual ten. We hope that next year we will be able to pro-

duce regular ten-page issues throughout the year, but this largely depends on our not losing too much by students and others not paying for their Felix.

Our readers are reminded that Felix now costs sixpence and not fourpence, as some of our stands still advertise.

HAVE YOU PAID FOR YOUR FELIX?

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LITTLE BOXES

by Piers Corbyn

Bureaucracy is a big thing these days and is simultaneously used and derided by people all over the world. Most people have a contradictory attitude towards it which probably stems from ill-definition. Bureaucracy is, approximately, "a body of officials (bureaucrats) who, according to some set of rules or 'norms', carry out their tasks of communicating, usually in a non-critical and non-decisive way, often involving paperwork, between various parts of a bureaucracy."

Most of us have come face to face with bureaucracy, be it the obstinate, mindless, delaying, slow, unfeeling motions of officialdom as practised by many local governments, or the crazy convulsions of a delirious, mad, soft-sell(?) ad machine like the Reader's Digest. Such experiences must make us wonder how the mind of a 'perfect' bureaucrat works, so let us examine some pictures.

Wires or Dustbins?

Bureaucrats (Bs) have, or are indoctrinated to have, a certain way of thinking. They see the world as built up by a large number of independent entities—a series of isolated cardboard boxes—not overlapping, perhaps enclosing each other but nevertheless separate. Each box is some organisation or thing or problem, e.g. a government department, a person, 'the starving millions', etc. Some boxes may be joined up by a communication wire which is operated by a faithful bureaucrat who conveys messages. Whether or not the bureaucrat sees any boxes joined up really depends on whether or not he sees any 'channels' of communication between them. Ratiocinative (often scientific) people tend to categorize things so that categories—i.e. boxes depends

on words and is thus language dependent. So we see the bureaucratization of a person is language dependent.

Using a similar picture idea we see that unbureaucrats (UBs) tend to think, from the point of view of Bs, in a confused way. Everything is a kind of big mess (dustbin mind?!) of blobs and lumps which are all joined on to each other. The name of a lump describes some approximate region which is fused onto another region (each region being something to do with an organisation or thing, etc.) Everything is part of some big thing—everything.

It would be a good idea to say that Bs and UBs are not absolute pictures but merely ends of a scale—rather like tidiness and order (see FELIX, Spring 1968) are very different ends of a scale.

Having drawn pictures of Bs and UBs, let us see what tendencies they might be prone to. A poet (?) once said:

" Language limits thought, destroys totality,
Word-thoughts fragment concepts"

We can see from the above discussion that the Bs word-description and categorization of the world does indeed cause the totality of the world to become broken—a name makes a box which is separate from other boxes, concepts which also involve a certain wholeness become similarly fragmented.

This poses a question, not to be discussed here.

Language fragments concepts, but can concepts exist without language?

Since Bs think of everything as being basically un-connected it may be easy for a B to hold contradictory views when failing to see the interconnectedness of things—which brings us to 'double-think'. Orwell defines: "Double-think

means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously and accepting both of them." We are saying that Bs are prone to Double-think—and of course Double-think was in fact upheld and continued by virtue of a rigidly bureaucratic state—which made people think of worlds of cardboard boxes.

We might expect that UBs are less prone to Double-think than Bs because their thoughts (according to the picture) are more part of a whole even if they do not have so many thoughts as Bs.

PB or NBs?

If we agree that Bs are prone to Double-think does it mean that all Bs are bad? The word 'Bureaucrat' has been limiting our thoughts! There are all sorts of bureaucrats, e.g. Positive bureaucrats (PBs) and negative ones (NBs). NBs are those whose activities deliberately prevent things happening or cover up for incompetence or suppress knowledge and information, e.g. passport officials, censors, 'front clerks' who have a string of ready answers—'Being looked into', 'under consideration', against the regulations', not feasible, etc. etc. . . .

PBs are those Bs who make use of bureaucratic systems in a creative and constructive way and are fundamentally different in outlook from NBs. As examples of PBs we have groups of activists, ad-hoc committees, organisers (usually). Clubs in IC are obviously operated by, essentially, PBs—they are trying to make things happen, have meetings, etc. PBs of course are liable to resort to the methods of NBs to hide their mistakes, appear in 'full control' and stop things happening. Quite often PBs think a bit more like UBs than NBs.

Are you a PB, UB or NB? Does IC teach people to be any one type?

DOUBLE PUNISHMENT

Following Brian Hains' article on College Discipline, Spike Bantin writes on how he feels justice should be administered by State and University.

I would like to point out that Brian Hains' article in FELIX last term arose out of discussion held by Council, after receiving several documents from JURGO concerning discipline in Universities. On considering them, it was found that the only points over which there was likely to be disagreement were double punishment, the internal College disciplinary procedure and the ill-defined crime of bringing the name of the College into disrepute.

I should like to take this opportunity to elaborate on these points as they could be vitally important to any one of us at sometime in the future.

Double punishment is defined in this case as the exercising of justice through two bodies for the same offence, and as such often occurs throughout society. However, this does not infer that this is either necessary or satisfactory. To analyse further, we might refer to the texts on English law, from which one may conclude that the State is bound to intervene when a crime is committed relating to the upholding of public order. In this case, therefore, any action taken by the College would amount to double punishment. Any such crime is considered by the state because, as well as any injured party, it finds it abhorrent, the trial resulting in criminal rather than civil justice. If convicted, the purpose of punishment is fourfold and relates to demonstrating to the community that law is being maintained.

Punishment

To the individual the effect of punishment itself cannot be estimated but is thought by many to be detrimental; one presumes the only worthwhile feature is the attempt at reformation during the sentence.

Having served the sentence, the criminal imagines that he has atoned for his crime but it is an unfortunate fact that society as a whole cannot yet accept this. This does not infer that we, as a College, should either emulate this or

condone it. It is my opinion that no further action should be taken since it can only result in further suffering, probably much greater than that caused by the original sentence. The classic argument against this may be generalised by proposing that a crime may be more significant to one branch of society than another. It is obvious, but not often considered, that criminal misdemeanours are always more offensive to that part of society in which they occur, and this is exactly the reason that the legal system was instituted. If this were not so then the punishment of any crime would relate to the power of the injured party rather than the significance of the crime. Moreover, statistics have shown that only some twenty per cent of first offenders were ever reconvicted. It may be argued further that this twenty per cent are generated by the hostile attitude of society when finding employment for these people after their first imprisonment. Thus in repunishing an individual a second time we are ignoring statistics and succumbing to the old attitudes and prejudices. I would contend that if a student is tried for a crime by the State it should be impertinent and inhumane for the College to subject him to further punishment.

However, in the case where an offence is a crime against the College or Union By-Laws the College has a right and duty to uphold these By-Laws for the benefit of all. Since the By-Laws already exist, it remains only to have a system available to deal fairly with any offences. At the moment there is no real system, hence Council attempted to rationalise those proceedings that do exist to form a general procedure applicable to all crimes. They decided to put responsibility for petty offences, that is those requiring a punishment not interfering in any significant way with a student's studies, in the hands of the organisation concerned. However, in the case where this body felt a serious punishment was required, it would be left to them to ask for trial by a well-defined (but flexible in composition) and independent disciplinary committee of staff and students. By this means to obtain a fair trial in the first instance without personal embarrassment or bias; the body requesting the hearing

would act as prosecution providing such information and witnesses that are required. This would be coupled to a higher appeal system.

The importance of holding disciplinary proceedings in the open cannot be overstressed since it acts as a deterrent, as protection for the individual and against rumour. This is the failing of the present system since investigations are held in camera and verdicts are propagated by hearsay.

Hall Discipline

Hall discipline procedures are better defined, but I have found them through my own personal experience to be unconvincing in operation. Therefore for continuity and improvement I would propose that the general disciplinary committee be used for serious Hall matters as well. With a system such as this in existence there could be no doubt that justice was being done. Moreover, such a committee would be able to record its verdicts and therefore future crimes could be assessed with a good idea of past actions. The setting up of this committee would be a great step forward and must be instigated forthwith.

Finally to the third point, the more nebulous concept of bringing the name of the College into disrepute. To me this seems impossible to define, but, one presumes, arises from actions by some individual or group resulting in bad publicity for the College. Surely the only reasonable action would be to make certain that any punishment meted out in respect of the action that caused adverse publicity is also made known.

To sum up, the application of Justice to society has been a problem facing those concerned since the dawn of civilisation and has resulted in a well-proven system in this country. It would therefore appear sensible for us to treat this system with respect, where necessary to emulate it and not set ourselves up as a detached autonomy.

A REASON FOR LIVING

"Is God dead in Imperial College?" In the article on the right, Simon Cotton and Elizabeth Adams try to explain why they believe the answer to be no. They are members of the Anglican Chaplaincy, one of several religious organisations operating among I.C. students. If you believe (or sincerely hope) that the answer is yes, at the foot of the page Simon Cotton answers criticism of the Anglican Chaplaincy and religious organisation.



COMPLACENCY

The chalice pictured above is a religious emblem, a symbol appealing to Christian emotions. In answering the questions below, Simon Cotton compares the validity of beliefs based on intellect and on emotions. Questions by Ian Carr, who is sick of having John Donne quoted at him.

Photographs by Simon Cotton and Malcolm Cresser

Possibly the most remarkable thing about the Anglican Chaplaincy in I.C. is its very size. In an age when, so we are told, science disproves religion, nearly 10 per cent of the students are regular communicants. The purpose of this article is to describe the activities of the Anglican movement within the college in both the spiritual and "secular" contexts.

Just as the Chaplaincy within I.C. is composed of a number of groups within Halls and Departments, so is it part of a bigger body, the West London Chaplaincy, which includes other colleges in the area; moreover it embraces both students and non-students such as Lady Penney, whom we are happy to welcome in our midst. Many members of the various colleges meet up at the Sunday services, at present held in St. Augustine's, Queen's Gate, but they also meet in other ways, such as in prayer groups, study groups, discussion groups, and in the great act of Eucharistic worship in Hall or Department.

Poverty, Hunger, Alcoholism, Mental Health, Personal Relationships, Marriage—these matters of importance to Christian and non-Christian alike are discussed with people working in these fields. Worship does not end at the "church door" but should extend to secular activities (faith without works is dead). Members of the Chaplaincy are active in a wide range of college societies and usually take a large part in running the Carnival Fete. It is a tribute to the small group of people directly concerned with raising the money that over £900 will go to a Mission Hospital in Tanzania. Cathy Limming, an occupational therapist working at a leprosy centre near Madras; Jeremy Sammes, recently returned from Guyana,

Richard Smith, who works with down-and-outs in the East End (see FELIX 276) these are but three members who give voluntary service.

The greatest contribution that the Chaplaincy made to college life in the past year was perhaps the visit of the Archbishop of Canterbury in early February. For many years the Chaplaincy has run the "Teaching Week" in February; the structure of the week is based on several evening talks by an eminent Christian, formal discussions, prayer groups, Eucharists and coffee parties. The events of the week have already been reported in such widely differing organs as FELIX and the Church of England Newspaper. Probably the greatest impression received by the Archbishop's audiences (running into hundreds) was of his warm humanity and his awareness of current problems.

The interested non-Christian must be able to see the Holiness and Glory of God reflected in the members of his Church; no one can be expected to become committed to Christ after a first introduction to the Church and we welcome in our midst those who are vaguely interested, those who do not wish to become "involved", the irregular attenders, etc. It is up to the leaders of the Church to set those people an example by their personal qualities. The Church is not a closed shop—a fact it can be easy for us all to miss—and the time to worry will be when the interested non-Christians feels his interest is longer welcomed.

The spiritual needs of the Chaplaincy are administered by two Chaplains, Ron Diss and Ivor Smith-Cameron, who both inhabit aged vicar-

ages in West London; the amount of work they perform is truly phenomenal. With such a large body, communication is largely maintained through the frequent leaders meetings and the weekly newsletters CHI-RHO which takes its name from the monogram of the first two letters of the Greek for Christ—the labarum, the oldest Christian emblem.

The most recent attempt to integrate the Chaplaincy into the society it serves has been the "Secular Masses" as they might be termed, which have been held in Mech. Eng. foyer; last November 10 people were confirmed by the Bishop of Kensington at one of these services. And so, day by day, the Church in Imperial College moves onwards, a living example of what Christianity can mean to students in the 20th Century.



Father Ivor at a Tizard Hall Breakfast

(a) The vision I have of the Anglican Chaplaincy is as a self-satisfied complacent organisation, content in its "goodness" and "belief" without coming within a mile's distance of understanding what people are. How do you see it?

(b) The Chaplaincy seems to me to be one of the worst examples of how church dogma in university takes over from religious mumbo-jumbo in schools, ensnaring freshers as they arrive and not letting them have a chance to live with a religion but without a religious organisation.

(c) Do you not think there is a case for leaving people alone in their disbeliefs, even if they are unhappy, on the grounds that they may have no wish to live in a community? Why the great urge to convert lapsed Christians, some of whom may be happier since giving up Christian organisations? Leave people alone—are they not the most important thing of all, more important than any God?

(d) Chi-Rho appeals to the most saccharin aspects of man's nature, living in an everything's-great-in-God's-garden imaginary world of its own. Why not something more realistic?

(e) Finally, on general Christian ideals, just what has Christianity got to offer to people who are no good to anyone, have nothing to offer and don't want to offer it, people who don't want to be interfered with in any way and above all hate being pitied by clockwork Christians?

Your two main criticisms of the Chaplaincy seem to be (a) that it has no respect for the sanctity of the individual and (b) that it appeals to the emotions and not to the intellect.

A Christian must always have respect of the individual as that individual is made in the image of God (whether that individual realises it or not). Christians, not only in I.C., often fail in this by treating the individual not as a person but as a subject ripe for conversion! Yet, as John Donne put it, "No man is an Island, entire of itself! every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main". We all live in this world and must respond to the challenge it provides; it is the duty of Christians to speak out on matters of national importance, just as much as it is their duty to respect the being of the individual.

Does the Chaplaincy appeal wholly to the emotional? It is not wrong to appeal to the emotions which are, after all, part of ourselves, *provided that* the emotions are not treated as the whole of man. The profusion of discussion groups surely gives the lie to the point that there is not enough rational discussion—I would say however that there are times when one must look closely at one's own beliefs and see how clearly one is sticking to them. The Christian

seeks to follow the ideal of Christ but he must see himself as falling a long way short of that ideal.

God preserve the Chaplaincy from being the self-satisfied, complacent organisation as you term it! The Church does not exist for its own edification but for the benefit of those outside. If we lose sight of this we cease to be true Christians. As for the Chaplaincy ensnaring freshers etc., it is no more guilty of this than any other college society on Freshers' day!

You give the impression that CHI-RHO is pushed under your door (if not down your throat) every week! Have you read it seriously—in this week's issue, there are thoughts on colour discrimination, and appeals for people to collect for Christian Aid Week and to help Richard Smith in his East End mission during the summer vac.—this is hardly taking an unrealistic view of the world. However, let us not lose sight of the fact that altruistic giving is not what it should be—if giving does not represent a sacrifice then it is *not* giving.

What has Christianity to offer *anyone*? It gives them a reason for living.

(I should like to make it clear that the answers to the above questions represent my personal opinions—Simon Cotton.)

GENIUS AND MADNESS

by John Spence

I saw a film the other day which lasted four hours — excluding intermission — which had zero script and a minimum of chronological order. Now, the only place in London which is assured an audience for such a film is the National Film Theatre but the point of criticising it is that it is shortly to be given an “experimental” run on a more commercial basis. Thus I thought it humane to give the guinea pigs an inkling of what they’re in for.

It’s a French film — no one in this country or America would have the nerve to try this one on the public. It’s called “Mad Love” (*L’Amour Fou*) and it could be said that its commercial appeal ends with the title. Jacques Rivette, the director, knows all about controversy

through the previous film “Paris, Nous Appartient”. In Paris they’re still arguing about the film’s commercial viability and Rivette himself walks the slender line between genius and madness.

What has been attempted in “*L’Amour Fou*” is obvious enough. Someone has simply set out to make a film which follows the breakdown of a marriage. That’s so simple to have been done countless times before. This fact has obviously forced Rivette to find a new setting, a different light for an age-old story. He does it by mingling fact, pure fact, with fiction — but his fiction is by no means pure, because the actors, unrestricted by a script or preconceived ideas, are giving vent to their emotions and torments just as they would if faced by reality.

Sebastian and Claire are a young married couple. He is a play producer who is working on a production of Racine’s “*Andromaque*” — she plays *Andromaque* and is being upset by the constant intrusion of TV cameras which are following the development of the production for a documentary on the difficult rehearsals. Fair enough. But Jean-Pierre Kalfou, who plays Sebastian is a producer and *was* rehearsing the play for a formal performance. Also, French TV *did* film him at work. In fact the only contrived thing about the whole of Rivette’s film is the relationship of Sebastian and Claire and in the light of the complete authenticity of the rest of the film one wonders just how contrived that was! The effect on the audience is certainly disorientating. The constant presence of TV

cameras in front of the movie cameras give you the impression that this film was made almost by someone, yourself, simply looking at the action.

The pace is naturally unhurried, even sluggish — but much of life is that way anyhow and it gives the director the opportunity to explore the very plexus of life and love in great detail. But above all the format gets you involved by the sheer physical weight of the film’s length and, just as most people would get to know a person pretty well after four hours of one sided conversation, so the characters of “*L’Amour Fou*” prise themselves into your sentiments by brute force alone.

There are lots of other tricks to throw you off

balance. The domestic scenes between Claire and Sebastian which, throughout the film, span the whole vista of human emotions from passion, through insanity and suicide, to murder itself, are filmed in crisply textured 35 mm film. The play scenes are shot in 16 mm and then blown up for 35 mm projection. The result is to give half the film a muzzy, detached quality which, by its almost paranormal texture lends fiction to the reality which is before the camera. Conversely, the sharply defined 35 mm parts appear only too real whilst being the only contrived part of the film.

Having said that you’ll wonder what’s wrong. All I can say is, if anyone goes to see this film they would be well advised firstly, to read “*Andromaque*”, and second-

ly, to speak French. At the NFT the sound came via an interpreter over earphones — the gentleman sounding a little blotto and managing to translate about a quarter of the dialogue. This was only because the proper soundtrack for the film is on tape which had not arrived from Paris. The public might just get the real thing. It’s sad also that any film requires a little work from the audience, but the work here is so inextricably tied to Racine’s “*Andromaque*” that ignorance of that particular play, and it was my misfortune to have been and to remain so, certainly takes some of the essence away.

However, for its originality of conception “*L’Amour Fou*” is a very great film indeed and I for one shall be fascinated to see how the public take it — especially with a decent soundtrack.

THE CATCH

Yossarian is the main character.

The book begins with him and ends with him, and around him revolve all the other characters; Generals, Majors, pilots, whores and all the other strange people who make up the cast of one of the most extraordinary books to have been written in the past few decades.

But Yossarian is not the character the book is about, he is the readers’ guide through the maze of human relationships woven by Joseph Heller in *CATCH 22*, reissued by Corgi Books at 7/-.

Briefly, the plot concerns an American airforce division based on the island of Pianosa, a few miles from the Italian coast. The pilots there are required to complete a certain number of missions before being allowed to return to America. As soon as they complete these missions, the number is raised by the Colonel in charge, and they have to fly another five or ten missions. And so it goes on. Slowly the number of pilots decreases, and the number of missions rises.

Most of the action takes place at the camp on Pianosa (where Yossarian shares a tent with a dead

man called Mudd) but the scene changes periodically to Rome, the Eternal city, where the pilots go on leave, and the book contains a description of the Italian capital which must be one of the most compelling pieces of writing ever produced.

It is difficult to explain the exact meaning of the title since it seems open to as many interpretations as there are characters; but an example of its application gives its general meaning:

Orr is one of Yossarian’s friends. Orr is mad, he must be mad to go on so many missions and always crash-land in the sea on the return to Pianosa. Obviously, if he is mad he can be sent home, away from the war, the escape all the pilots crave for. All he has to do is sign a form for the camp psychiatrist and he would be free. But if he is able to fill in a form, how can he be mad? So if he fills the form in, he cannot be certified insane, and if he does not, well, he is insane but will not be sent home. That’s the catch. *Catch 22*. Just how Orr circumvents the problem is a story in itself, but it seems to be preferable to be crazy if you are forced to live in a crazy society, as all the supposedly sane characters discover.

The story does not follow any set chronological order, but moves back and forth as each character is described in detail, from Milo Minderbinder, who is engaged in trying to sell chocolate covered cotton to the troops, and occasionally bombs his own airfield, to a fourteen-year-old Italian girl who is intent on Yossarian’s death. It is intensely funny on the surface, but behind the intricate web of dialogue and description, there lies something important. *CATCH 22* is about people, all the unbelievable characters are as human and three-dimensional as any living person; it is about how a society can try to control an individual if the individual is not careful to avoid it. The new cover shows a man staring belligerently at the reader; the previous cover contained a silhouette of a man shouting his defiance at everything.

But the book, as I said, is not strictly about Yossarian; it is about a character who is dead before the story opens, a gunner, Snowden. When Yossarian finds Snowden on the floor of the rear gun-turret, you find what the book is really about.

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R.C.S. TRIUMPH ON SPORTS DAY

Golf Club Returns To Old Home

Yet another Cup fell to the RCS sportsmen last Saturday when they won the Governors' Challenge Shield for the Constituent College Athletics match.

No Stars

The occasion was detracted from somewhat by the fact that the Fete was on the same day and that the star athletes were competing for ULU in Paris. Nevertheless, considerable effort was put into the afternoon by those 'athletes' that did turn up and the hardy band of officials who seem to be there every year.

There were few performances of outstanding merit, but the dual for overall superiority developed into a nail-biting affair between RCS and C&G.

Eventually all hung on the final event, the 4 x 400 metres relay. It was close fought all the way, with RCS eventually winning in 3 min. 49.7 secs. with C&G second in 3 mins. 49.4 secs. — a truly dramatic finish.

Deserving of a mention are Pine (C&G) and Stephenson (RCS) who tied for the best individual total of the afternoon with 26 points each. Also Critchley of C&G who, throwing the javelin for the first time in 2 years, beat the rest of the field by over 30 ft. throwing about 170 ft.

Lilas Champion

RCS had the consolation of winning the girls' competition thanks mainly to Lilas Champion who had the distinction of winning all the girl's events. They also won the Tug-of-War outright.

Lady Penney presented the cups to the somewhat sparse applause of the few spectators and athletes.

It is a shame that there isn't more athletic and spectator interest in the College at present for Sports Day since it is potentially one of the most enjoyable events of the year. Tony Mason is to be congratulated on what he did manage to achieve as organiser under very trying circumstances.

After many ups and downs during last term the Golf Club has finally managed to find its way back into Hendon G.C. Hendon G.C. have offered ICGA membership but have imposed several conditions on this membership; the decision whether or not to accept this offer must lie with the Club members and will be discussed at the AGM of the Club, which will be held in Committee Room C on Friday, 23 May.

League Leaders

During this term the Club has managed to play 3 matches against Portsmouth College of Technology, University College and the University of Surrey, the results of these matches being a 3-3 draw and 5-1 victories. These results and the fairly good record of the Club so far mean that IC now head the South East Universities Golf League and since not all the other Colleges will be able to complete their fixture lists the prospects look quite bright.

The ULU Golf Championships took place on Tuesday 20th May and IC were strongly represented with two four-man teams.

I. A. DICK, CAPT.

COURAGE NOT ENOUGH

On May 4th at 9.23 a.m. 6 people from Physics I attempted to swim the Channel. The team arrived in Folkestone on Friday evening and found that the weather forecast prohibited swimming on Saturday. However, as is typical with English weather (and it seems any event connected with this year's charity) the depression moved and it would have been a perfect day to make the attempt. The pilot took the team for half and hour's swim and the rest of the day was spent relaxing.

At 5 a.m. on Sunday, the eight strong contingent, together with two Channel Swimming Association observers, boarded the boat. Seasickness claimed the organiser of the swim and the only crew member as victims shortly afterwards. The boat anchored at Cap Gris-Nez and the first swimmer entered the water. The weather worsened, three to four foot waves being whipped up by the wind and after four or five miles had been covered one of the swimmers collapsed in the water and the swim had to be abandoned.

The Vice Chairman of the Channel Swimming Association said in a letter to the Physics I rep: "It was a grand scheme alright — there is a world of difference between the comparative safety of your London river and the deep, dark and dangerous English Channel, where a man in the water is so alone and all on the escort boat in the snug comfort of their track suits and sleeping bags are his bitter enemies.

Magnificent

"To swim, without protective clothing, in a temperature of 48°F for one hour is a feat in itself, but if one can do this after 4—5 hours in a rolling boat, then he can hold his head high in any company of endurance swimmers". He commended Pete Marwood, the team's captain, who "with a magnificent captain's effort set a splendid example to the rest of his team". Credit is due to the other swimmers: John Bethell, Jeremy Bowler, Richard Fisher, Pete Lonnén and Victor Steiner and to the people who spent time writing to firms about sponsorship: Crista Gausden, Subia Chatterjee, Richard Gleave and Ed Robins.

ACTION IN NOTTING HILL

Following the publication of the interim report of the Notting Hill Housing Service on housing conditions, a public meeting was held at Lancaster Road Methodist Church on Monday — 5th May. The survey from which the report was taken was part of the 1967 Notting Hill Summer Project.

Overcrowding

Overcrowding is severe. 69% of the people (and 85% of children) live at a density of greater than 1 person per room. This represents more than 1800 families. 28% of the population are statutorily overcrowded, compared with a figure of 6.3% for the whole of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and a national average of 1.6%.

The rents paid are commonly around £4, though rents up to £9 are not uncommon. Tenants fall into three categories: Those paying controlled rents because they have been in residence for 20 years or more and who pay relatively low rents for reasonable accommodation. However they are still worse off than the national average; secondly there are the tenants in unfurnished flats, who are protested by the 1965 Rent Act and are less well off than the controlled tenants; lastly there are the furnished tenants who have little protection by the law and even less from the Kensington and Chelsea Council. These are the residents new to the area who do not know the rules and do not know how to fight.

Because families are prepared to pay rents of £3 or more for any sort of roof over their heads, to prevent the break up of the family, landlords find it profitable to subdivide tenancies. Where this happens, tenancies are small, overcrowding and the price per room is greatest and value for money is least.

George Clark, director of the Notting Hill Housing Service said that the Council was clearly to blame for the situation and that the time had come for the community to take action. This required a co-ordinated effort on behalf of all the groups in the area and not the selfish separate of individuals or factions.

Challenge

He issued a challenge to the Kensington and Chelsea Council to start drastic action to rescue families in distress immediately. If this were not done by January 1st, 1970, there would be "a campaign of civil disobedience such as the country had not seen."

This statement was heckled by militants who thought that such a campaign should start immediately.

Chris Holmes of the Notting Hill Community Workshop made the point that the Council had always been delighted to shelve its responsibilities onto voluntary bodies such as the Notting Hill Housing Trust. He criticised the idea brought forward earlier of using rent controls and tribunals which would encourage landlords to decrease the stock of 'cheap' rented accommodation by converting it to luxury accommodation, beyond the financial capabilities of the present occupants. Compulsory powers the erosion of the private should be sought to prevent tenant,

At I.C. many of us work and live in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The Borough Council has the worst record in the country for disregard of its poor applying a rent subsidy of £60,000 compared with Camden, in many ways a similar borough, whose rent subsidy is £2m. Also 85% of the Council members have admitted in public interview to supporting Enoch Powell.

Fashionable

Those who live in Notting Hill should consider the effect of their tenancies. Students are willing to pay £16 or so for flats that a family could afford less than half that amount for. Landlords can get large increases in their income as a result of for even more profitable letting in an area made acceptable or even fashionable by middle class students.

The rest of us should consider giving assistance to the various organisations tackling the problems, and not only to those such as the Housing Trust that relieve the Council of their responsibility. The people, and especially those marvellous children deserve to be saved.

Small Ads.

Yashica 635 twin lens reflex camera, £28 (cost £59); Zeiss Ikonta/Tessar folding pocket camera £8; both 2½in. square, and in perfect condition. Contact Geoff Marshall, Physics 3, Tel. BAT 2608.

GEORGE: Haircuts are OUT, man!! Paul, Keith, Mike, Pat, Lorraine, Tim, Tony, Kevin, Alan, Martin, and Dave.

I.C. Choir and Madrigal Singers — Concert of works by Monteverdi, Hall of Hyde Park Chapel, Friday May 23rd at 1.15 p.m. Tickets free from Choir members.

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13 THE ARCADE S.KEN STATION

Two Contest Guilds Presidency

Despite the posters there was a poor response at the Guild's Hustings on Friday lunchtime. Obviously the demands of lunch and examinations exerted a greater pull on the enthusiasm of most guildsmen. The proceedings were characterised by the usual Guild's sound effects, amidst a hail of chalk and hooting car horns. After the minutes had been read there was a slight interruption when Dermott Corr announced the presence of a member of R.C.S. The culprit was asked to sing a verse of 'All things bright and beautiful' or else. A members of I.C.W.A. was

then seen to slip quietly out of the front door to cries of 'knickers'.

Non-political

The remainder of the time was spent with the proposal speeches. Of the candidates for president Stephen Bates rose first to be proposed by Dave Foster followed by Bob Pine proposing Stuart Simpson. Neither of the speeches were particularly inspiring although both proposers gave an impressive list of their candidates achievements.

When left to answer questions the candidates both expressed their desire to see Guild's Union as a social

and sporting body, not as a political one. Stuart Simpson described himself as being politically centre while Stephen Bates regarded himself as being more right of centre with a wish to steer clear of political 'hang-ups'.

The remainder of the posts were unopposed except for the Vice-Presidency and the Representative on Council. Dave Matthew gave an amusing speech for Dennis Taylor presenting a pseudo-puff image while Frank Coldwell proposing Steve Butling seemed bored with the whole affair. Chris Lewis, the only candidate in fancy dress his countenance obscured by dark glasses and top hat, did not seem to think much about anything

while Roger Phillips, the second candidate for Rep. on Council, estimated the total Council grant at only about four thousand pounds. Femininity won through as Mandy Jones proposed as O.C. representative refused to comment whether she felt there was anything big in front of her for the future.

Before the meeting closed a motion was proposed that all members of Guild's should boycott the service of the Queen's Arms. Since no-one rose to oppose the motion it was duly carried and Dermott Corr is sending a letter officially acknowledging the decision. The proceedings were then closed with the traditional Boom-alaka at a quarter past two.

Increase in Mooney Prices Next Session

At a recent Catering sub-committee meeting the accounts for the first nine months of this session were presented showing a deficit of over £500 and an estimated deficit of between £2000 and £3000 at the end of the session. This loss has been mainly attributed to a decrease in takings at the Easter conferences.

More Wages

Also, next session College Block will open involving more capital costs and more wages. However, part of the costs will be offset by the

Holland Club members who will be using the Refectory facilities next session.

3d. on meals

As a result of this, the sub-committee recommended to the Refectory committee the following price increases: 7% on cafeteria service (3d. per meal), 15% on waitress service (6d. per meal). Internal functions, e.g. Hall dinner and Freshers' dinners will increase by 10% and external functions by 20%. The Refectory Committee agreed to these increases and that they should come into being on August 1st.

Notting Hill Appeal

Most people have, at some time or other, heard of the needs of those who live in the districts of Notting Hill and North Kensington. Despite all complaints it remains a fact that perhaps the greatest harm and disappointment is brought to the many thousands of children who live in these districts. One of the greatest needs is for a safe and constructive place to play. Most of the children do not have the sophisticated toys which most middle-class children expect. The large majority are left to play in the streets at the mercy of the London traffic.

To counteract this need various bodies are asking for volunteers to help produce play grounds and to conduct play groups for children. The money is there so all is needed is the manpower and women-power to achieve the result.

It is not purely charity as it is hoped that the volunteers will also gain from the experience.

For six weeks from July 29th to 17th August Notting Hill Social Council will be asking for 120 volunteers. Volunteers will be housed locally, if necessary. It may be necessary to bring sleeping bags or air mattresses. The cost will be a contribution towards food—in total about four and a half pounds.

For a two week period from the 16th August through to the 29th August,

the Student Christian Movement will be conducting a similar programme at a cost of thirty shillings. Sheets and blankets may be needed if students wish to live in. Travelling expenses may be paid for those travelling to and from Notting Hill while on the job.

If you wish to volunteer contact Mick Braybrook, Old Beit.

*A.S.T.M.S. dispute (contd.)

from the Main Stores have been declared black.

Short Sympathetic

Discussions commenced on Thursday, 15th May between the Minister of Education and the ASTMS. Edward Short was reported to be sympathetic towards the technicians claim, and further meetings are expected to take place on Monday 17th or Tuesday 18th, so look at Felicity for more recent news.

Discipline Impasse

As reported exclusively in last week's FELIX the negotiations over disciplinary procedures are deadlocked on the question of double punishment. According to informed FELIX sources the working-party on the negotiations are to report back to JURGO this week, see FELICITY for latest developments.



Ian Jarvis proposes
Chris Lewis at
Guilds' Hustings.

R.C.S.U. Fades Away

RCS Union faded away until next year with an anticlimatic Union meeting last Thursday, May 15th, the day after Prince Philip's visit. With the major elections for President, Vice-President and Secretary last term only the lesser posts on general committee remained to be filled. Steve Cann, Phys. I, was elected Assistant Secretary unopposed and the only major contests were for Ents. committee and Academic Affairs Officer. Graham McNeilly of Maths was proposed by his department rep. and, after some confusion John McAdam, Phys. II, by Les Ebdon. McNeilly's proposer was largely inaudible but Ebdon's speech, although extempore, secured a large

majority for McAdam, this year's chairman of Comm. Soc. Les stressed McAdam's activity in academic affairs and interest in Council, where the officer is RCSU rep. Various reports were read from Union officers and Pete Dolwin proposed a motion giving RCS Broad-sheet a grant next year.

Thanks

Prior to the usual initiation ceremonies of the new President and his Vice, at which the eggs thrown at officials were auctioned for Christian Aid, Les Ebdon proposed a vote to the President and the President proposed a vote of thanks to his General Committee.

N.U.S. AT I.C.

A London Regional N.U.S. Conference will be held at I.C. on May 31st. These conferences are held twice a year, and representatives from most London Colleges attend. Although I.C. is not a member of N.U.S., it sends delegates to these meetings and I.C. students who wish to attend are welcome. Further details will be posted on the notice board.

NEW MINIBUS

Another Ford Transit minibus has been purchased to replace the vehicle which was written off last term. It is available for hire, and booking forms may be obtained from the Union office.

The charges are the same as those for the last vehicle although there are more restrictions on drivers' experience.

Reforms Wrecked

E.G.M. to come?

Two meetings of Imperial College Union were held on Tuesday, May 15th. The first, the adjourned meeting from last term, was quickly closed and the second ended after some twenty minutes in pandemonium after a quorum challenge. It is still not known whether this means that the popular constitutional reforms voted for by an overwhelming majority at the last meeting will all be lost. The meeting did, however, elect Phil Poyser onto Council as a floor rep.

Dave Wield proposed Poyser, a Chem. P.G., pointing to his considerable service to the I.C. athletic, foreign visits and political scene and outlined his policies — more Union control of finance and P.G. involvement. Dermott Corr proposed Richard Olley, Metallurgy 3, saying he was opposed to mudslinging, especially in Union publications. On a paper

ballot Poyser romped home by 144 votes to 89 with a number of abstentions.

Before discussion started on the constitutional reforms John Andrews, Hon. Pornographer of Mines, attempted to move such discussion to the end of the meeting, this was heavily defeated, amid jeering. Andrews then challenged the quorum and despite loud protests the Union was counted out, being about 30 short of the required 300.

Attempts are now being made to call an E.G.M. for this week (see Felicity) and Piers Corbyn and others had collected, by Friday, over the necessary 130 signatures for a motion declaring inquorate meetings as non-meetings. Apparently this is legally acceptable. Informed circles view the loss of the reforms as a major defeat for the centre and feel they are bound to strengthen the call by the left for more far-reaching reforms.



Rex Lowin presiding over I.C.U.



FELICITY

Number 278 May 22nd 1969.

THEFTS FROM UNION OFFICE

Last Friday two items were stolen from the Union Office. Hard-working Piers Corbyn had a petition form with 70 signatures calling for yesterday's E.G.M. stolen as it waited for the attention of Hon Sec Jane Pearson, and vivacious Union Clerk Janet Hughes had a purse containing about £ 20 in cash stolen. Janet, who had just been paid, has taken her loss with a characteristic smile.

The thieves must have been active around 11.25 in the morning. Two young men, one probably wearing an orange hat, who asked Jane Pearson about travel that morning may be able to help in the enquiries. In any case, the attractive Miss Hughes would like the purse returned, as it is of sentimental value. Piers is also taking his loss philosophically, as it was the latest of a number of blatantly corrupt attempts to prevent the second reading of the popular constitutional reforms. Publicity material for many political meetings, and also I.C.U. meetings has also been stolen, taken down or defaced on many occasions in the past few weeks.

The amount of petty theiving in I.C.U. has reached frightening proportions this year, and the bars, refectories, and Felix have all been badly hit.

SIT IN AT U.L.U.

In protest against the remarks of the principal of U.L., Sir Douglas Logan, in his annual report, about summary expulsion of any student who sits-in, even peacefully, the end of Presidents' Council at U.L.U. on Monday night was declared a peaceful sit in. Even right wingers have described Logan's remarks as "virtually Fascist". No action has yet been taken against any Union President. A motion was also passed snubbing Logan for his support of student loans. Sir Douglas has also been criticised recently for his connections with the University College of Rhodesia.

I.C. has recently played an important part in helping to end the Lodging Bureau's listing policies, often termed as pandering to racialism, and in giving U.L.U. support to the ASTMS struggle at Presidents' Council.

THE I.C. MALAISE.

Are you frustrated and apathetic? Have you lost interest in your course, the course you chose because you wanted an interesting career? Have you found studying at I.C. has meant cramming for yet another series of exams?

For half our lives we have been running a pointless academic hurdle race.

The only skill we have acquired is an ability to cram an enormous volume of colourless facts into our minds and to puke them up onto the exam paper.

What is the alternative? For effective self-education we must be keen and enthusiastic To keep our interest we must be allowed to be creative.

As a student engineer, I am extremely frustrated because I have experienced no outlet for creativity. What is required are well chosen design-and-make projects which encourage the student to think creatively and originally, and so arouse interest in the relevant theory. Surely this merciless cramming of facts must end? A University should encourage our development as creative individuals. Is this true of the present system at I.C.?

MAY 28 th National Day of action over the situation at Guildford and Hornsey. March on the D.E.S. Commence 2.30 pm at Richmond Terrace, opposite Downing Street. March via Whitehall, Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly to deliver letter to D.E.S. in Curzon Street; then goes on to Speakers Corner.

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