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EVERY
FORTNIGHT

FELIX



No. 32

IMPERIAL COLLEGE

18 FEBRUARY 1952

I.C. CUP CHANCE

RUGGER CLUB IN SEMI-FINAL

I.C. defeated C.E.M. by 3 pts (one try) to nil in the replay at Harlington and so advance to the semi-final, in which they will meet L.S.E. The game was closely contested but the College had much the better of it territorially, and deserved to win.

The only try was scored wide out on the left by Crossley after a period of heavy pressure by the I.C. forwards in the middle of the first half. The treacherous surface prevented either set of backs from developing dangerous attacks in the open, and the issue was decided by I.C.'s superiority in the pack. The forwards were not always as well supported by touch-finding kicks as they should have been; and on three occasions defensive lapses by halves and three-quarters cost fifty yards of ground through foot-rushes, which were stopped with difficulty.

If the semi-final is played in similar conditions more use should be made of kicking to get the forwards into the opponents '25'. Then, with quicker heeling from the loose and a tightened defence, we should reach the final for the first time since the war.

U.L.U. COUNCIL

The third meeting of this year's U.L.U. Council spent most of its energies on the final stages of adopting a new constitution, which will probably come into operation for next year to merge the two present separate bodies, the University of London Union, and the U.L. Athletic Union, under the former title.

At present 29 colleges subscribe to both unions, but a further 14 (L.S.E., and "the Hospitals") belong to U.L.A.U. only, which is divided into Men's and Women's Branches. It is interesting to note that the U.L.U. Diary lists the University as composed of: 5 University Departments; 2 Incorporated Colleges, U.C. and K.C.; 33 Schools of the University, including I.C.; and 22 "Institutions Having Recognised Teachers", i.e. the Polytechnics, Training Colleges, etc.; a total of 62.

U.L.A.U. was founded in 1906, fifteen years before the beginnings of U.L.U. They receive their incomes separately from the Colleges Unions. The Athletic Union is at present controlled by committees composed of Club Captains, College Representatives, and officers elected by the two Branches. U.L.U. is governed by a Council of College Representatives, the number from each varying with the size of the college from two to four. These two bodies are linked by an interchange of Officers.

The new Union would be run by a single Council composed of College Presidents and the Officers of the Athletic Branches. The greatest amount of attention to framing the new constitution has been spent on financial arrangements: the temporary Proposition is that the allocations of the future Council between the athletic and social sides shall be supervised by a Union Court for a trial period of five years. This Court would be composed of three members appointed by the Senate, the Warden (the Union's adviser on University affairs), the U.L.U. Officers and the Junior Treasurers of both sections of the Union. The income would be collected by the University Authorities.

The Athletic Union, no longer to have complete control of their own income, feel that this arrangement will give the new Council a chance to prove their competence to spend fairly. Nobody doubts that they will.

The Council had earlier received a number of reports which are summarised as below:

The Entertainments Committee stated that only one third of the colleges supported the then imminent Jamaica Relief Ball; the Publicity Ctte. presented designs for a U.L.U. badge but the idea was then rejected on principle. The Council agreed to have the new scarf vetted by more colleges. The decision on it was left to the next meeting. It was also reported that the Evening Standard had appointed the writer of its recent feature on the University, as University Correspondent.

Continued.

Mr. Morris pulled out all the stops in winding up for the proposition. War cannot achieve anything good, let us try something new before it is too late.

On the division the motion was carried by 64 votes to 36 with 3 abstentions.

64 WONT FIGHT

U.L. DEBATE RESULT

The motion that 'This house will not fight in any war' drew a surprisingly small crowd of 150 to the U.L.U. debate on February 1st. This may have been because the motion did not appeal to any organised body in the University, or because Pacifism does not arouse any strong feeling, one way or another, in the average student.

The motion was proposed by Mr. Stuart Morris, the secretary of the Peace Pledge Union, in an impassioned speech. 'Before the Peace Treaty of the last war has been signed,' he said, 'we are rearming Germany and Japan in preparation for a new world war, while even now four local wars are in progress! War, as a solution to the world's problems, has been judged by its results and found wanting. Communism, our latest enemy, is an idea and can be defeated only by other ideas and not by war. The real force against which fighting is now going on is that of subjugated peoples struggling for freedom from hunger and disease. Instead of spending money on arms we should be providing more food and medicine for the needy peoples of the world. To break the vicious circle of fear in which every government in the world is caught Britain should disarm and point the way to an alternative to war - constructive instead of destructive.'

In a much more subdued, not to say pedestrian speech, Lord Strabolgi opposed the motion. After remarking that we had heard the arguments for the proposition many times before in the past forty years he went on to divide wars into categories. Some types such as dynastic wars are outmoded, aggressive wars are to be condemned but wars of liberation and of self-defence are certainly justified. War as a method for settling international differences is out of date but the new methods such as U.N.O. can only succeed if they are given full support. Just as on a personal level self-defence is sometimes necessary so on a national level resistance to aggression is also sometimes necessary. Even an international court would have to have military power behind it to be effective.

Seconding the proposition, Mr. Eric Robinson, of Birkbeck College, differentiated between non-violence and non-resistance. Pacifists advocated the former but not the latter. It is a fallacy that war ennobles a man, it is part of the false glamorisation of war that glosses over its miseries and suffering. If we accept war we must also accept responsibility for all the deaths caused by war.

Mr. David Mitchell, President of King's College Union, seconded the opposition. If we refuse to fight we must accept the responsibility of the resultant slavery. People's ideas cannot be changed merely by disarming and our way of life is good enough to be encouraged and defended, by force of arms if necessary. Finally, Christianity is a militant religion and encourages resistance against aggression by the anti-Christian.

From the floor of the House the speeches were mostly in support of the motion. The support for Pacifism ranged from the practical - that our preparation for war is itself threatening the economic stability of our civilization and that everybody is always worse off after a war, to the idealistic - the only way to answer violence is with unrelenting Love. The power of non-violent resistance was illustrated by the way in which the German troops were demoralised by the civilian population of Norway who used this technique during the occupation. Opponents of the motion suggested that pacifism was misguided courage.

In the summing up Lord Strabolgi reminded the House that if Pacifism had won the day in 1939 they would not have been able to hold the present debate. Pacifism is utterly impracticable. We all want world peace but Pacifism is not the way.

Continued in adjoining column.

EATING AROUND I.C.

This report deals with two pubs owned by the Chef and Brewer organisation, a company which runs some forty houses in London. Of these, five are within foraging distance of I.C. In general, we recommend a Chef and Brewer house for a good and inexpensive meal with a pleasant atmosphere.

***ADMIRAL KEPPEL. 77, Fulham Road. (Junction Fulham Road and Pelham St.)

Private Bar Table d'hôte 3/-. served 12.00-2.30. Service a little on the slow side, but the food is good both as regards quality and quantity.

Public Bar Table d'hôte 2/1. served 12.00-2.30. Somewhat proletarian atmosphere. Though cheaper, the food is quite as good as that in the Private Bar.

A Watneys House, which to the knowledgeable is a sufficient recommendation.

***BUNCH OF GRAPES. 207, Brompton Road. (Nearly opposite Brompton Oratory.)

Private Bar only

A pub with a dingy exterior, but which provides a substantial meal of good quality and variety. (Note, avoid the veal 'n 'am pie) Service is reasonably slow.

The majority of Chef and Brewer Houses provide sandwiches after 5.30 p.m.; this house also serves a very satisfactory dinner on weekdays from 7-9p.m. at a tariff of about 3/6.

SOBEY SAVES CHANNEL.

The American Debate on Thursday 31st January was astonishingly well advertised, and it is assumed that everybody knew about it. The 150 who attended know it was eminently enjoyable, and the 1500 who didn't don't. We are tired of describing debates to people who don't attend them.

EAST & WEST

In the second very good talk of this series, Dr. Doreen Warriner examined the dilemma of the West arising out of the tension between the apparent needs of strategic defence and our sense of basic values. There was one half of the world that wanted only to remain neutral to the East-West conflict, while developing their social and economic standards. Yet while the Soviet Union could appeal to these people with calls of national independence, land reform, and social and economic progress (not always in line with Communist doctrine), the West was regarded as symbolising domination and maintenance of the status quo. It was essential to establish a firm belief in our ideals, and to find a strategic policy consistent with them. In trying to impose freedom there is a danger of destroying it.

The discussion was an improvement on the previous one, and even more lively, but still lacked penetration. One and a half hours is hardly sufficient to pass the preliminary stage where people let off their pet ideas. Perseverance to the third and fourth hours might be productive! Still, practice makes perfect.

On Wednesday Feb. 20th, Mr Geoffrey Goodwin (L.S.E.) while considering also the ideas of various philosophers, will discuss "Idealism and Reality in International Politics". We look forward to a third helpful meeting and hope that all interested will make an effort to be present despite its being a Wednesday (Zoology Lect. Th.)

Cornish mead is not to be stocked in the bar until further reports are received on its attractions.

FIXTURE SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE: Morphy Day has been fixed for 12th. November.

I.C. CHOIR
JACQUES ORCHESTRA
THURS MARCH 13 7.30
AT Q.A.H.

profile ~ "SAMMY"



FELIX Photo

N. L. Samways is the one name nearest to the hearts of all members of this college - that is, of course, assuming that we all carry our Union membership cards in our breast pockets. The only other word on many of those cards is FULL and that in its turn describes precisely his contribution to the life of this college.

Norman "Sammy" Samways, Wamsays or Samwort - for so his numerous foreign correspondents have addressed him - was born at the end of 1927 in Bath not many miles from the birthplace of his predecessor to the chair of the A.C.C., Spud Hayter. His school life was spent at Bath, Enfield and Peterborough and he now resides at Reading. "Be I Berkshire?" No, sir, Somerset his native county still finds in him a loyal supporter.

He came to the Mines in 1946 and took a second in Metallurgy in 1949. This year he writes his thesis on the solidification of metals, at the end of a course of research described as "building sand castles, mostly in the air, and measuring their temperatures". He has had three girl friends. To print a complete list of the offices he has held in his six years at I.C. would require a supplement to Felix. He was captain of the R.S.M. Athletic Club which won the Sports Day in 1949, he captained the I.C. Athletic Club in 1949-50, was Chairman of the A.C.C. in the following year and is the present Hon. Secretary of I.C. Union. He has served on twenty committees.

Undergraduate vacation work was enjoyed in Ipswich where he ran and played cricket, in Sweden where he toiled in a steel mill and in Norway where he worked with David Evans in a whaling factory ship. Correction; he has had four girl friends. His command of the Scandinavian languages, usually sound, becomes startling as the night progresses and he claims that his stock phrase, "Kan de forsta?" has carried him through Denmark and France on his recent visits. Denmark - sorry, Norman has had eight girl friends.

His sporting interests are not confined to athletics. When I.C. had two rugby teams he played in the second; when they had three he played in the third; last year he was captain of the fifth XV. His best game ever was against the R.S.M. XV when he hooked for Saracens' Nomads and had complete possession in the tight. His second row consisted of J.R.C. Mathews and David Brookes!

In 1949 he lived in the old hostel. In 1950 he moved to a room overlooking Q.A. (nine girl friends, that is) and is now raising the standard of culture by loaning out many of his fine collection of literary works to the first floor of the new hostel. Mozart and Beethoven rank high among his favourite composers; the "moderns" rank low. He dislikes fried tomatoes and sea voyages.

Politically Liberal, he holds liberal views on Union policy. He has done everything from supervising an athletic tour to Denmark and representing England in the 400 metres in Norway to falling forty feet down a quarry and landing in a bush. He has even burned holes in the evening dress of the President of I.C.W.A. by throwing white hot metal at her.

Of such is Sammy. His somewhat retiring manner his gift of putting others before himself and his air of quiet efficiency make him indeed near to the hearts of all who play, run or work with him.

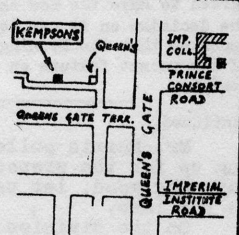
KEMPSON'S

SHOE REPAIR SERVICE

44, Queen's Gate Mews,

Queen's Gate,

Kensington, S.W.7



FELIX



THE NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE

The sudden news of the King's death spread around the colleges during the middle of the Wednesday morning; for many of us the flags at half-mast on the buildings being the first confirmation of it. Students collected early in the lunch-hour, where notices of postponed and cancelled events were already beginning to appear, and a large, silent crowd assembled in the lounge to hear the B.B.C. News at one o'clock.

All sports activities for Wednesday, and social items for the week were cancelled or postponed. At the weekend the sports clubs followed the examples of their national associations, and social events ceased until the end of the week of the Funeral. The University Union decided to cancel their programmes likewise. The R.C.S. Carnival and the L.U.D.S. One-Act Play Festival were abandoned, and the U.L. Jamaica Relief Ball was postponed until March 14th.

The King was Visitor to the College, having been present on October 25th., 1946, at the Centenary celebrations held in the Albert Hall; and this occasion is now remembered each year at Commemoration Day. A message of sympathy and loyalty was sent to the new Queen by Viscount Falmouth, Chairman of the Governing Body, on behalf of the Governors, the Staff, and the Students. We hope to be able to publish the text of this message together with the reply in a later issue.

LIVING LOCALLY

One of the most general problems of universities today is the acute shortage of hostel space, and many people consider a student who lives away from his fellows is not a full member of the university. I.C. is luckier than the most central colleges - King's and the Bloomsbury group - in that we are on the borders of the mass-residential areas, and it is our opinion that more students could live near college if they spent some time looking for rooms. When we argued this last year, examples were cited of two members of the Editorial Board who had independently obtained rooms at 30/- per week within a stone's throw of the college and of my taking up the 26/- share of a flat in the same road. This vacancy had been advertised for a month in FELIX before I woke up; there is justification for stirring you. Since then two more people have found places as near, and in all these cases of semi-residents, feeding is made easy by the nearness of the college refectory, and virtually all travelling time and money is saved. But cheap rooms are not advertised, and few good diggings are easily available below 40/-, even with the help of the University Lodgings Bureau.

This auxiliary hostel comprises two rooms, one enormity 29 ft. square, and a large kitchen-dining-room. These are the first and second floor arrangements of most of the terrace houses around I.C. - white elephants as flats until partitioned into four rooms; except for use by three or four students. A set of built-in cupboards occupies one entire wall of the large room, there is a pair of beds along each side-wall, remote from the sitting room in the middle centred around the excellent gas-fire. The kitchen houses stove, cupboards and sink, table and sofa; and ten eaters if forced. My share of meal costs, gas and other running expenses is 16/- per week during a typical period when I took all my weekday lunches and half my suppers out. The rent and electricity bill comes to 25/- per week. Minor capital purchases occur, but they remain our property, (whose, in particular, has not yet arisen). The degree of furnishing depends upon one's landlord, but it can be improved by condemned carpets from home etc. As regards shopping and sweeping - one makes one's own bed and lives in it.

PURSUED ON NAMES

Dear Sir,

I have noticed a distressing tendency on the part of your subscribers to the "Letters" column, to sign themselves with a miscellaneous collection of pen-names. This revolting habit is barely excusable, even if the contributor has a horrid appellation he is secretly ashamed of. Shall we soon degrade ourselves a little more, and emulate the style of a certain daily newspaper, which regularly refers to its readers as "ducks" and its editors (if any) as "us old codgers"?

(on behalf of "VOX POPULI") Yours etc.
"Disgusted"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COLLEGE MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

Dear Sir,

Let me firstly applaud your action of having found a Music Critic who will, I hope, give us unbiased views of all the varied musical activities in the College. But it is unfortunate that in his first article he should have made a deplorable error. The Musical Society do in fact again hold Gramophone Recitals on Tuesdays at 1.15 p.m. The lending library of over 200 records is open at the same time. The Society has also planned several lecture meetings, among which we hope to have one by Dobson and Young who were so popular both on the B.B.C. and with the Forces.

Yours etc.,
D.B.W.
I.C. Musical Society.

Reply by FELIX'S Music Correspondent.

While thanking Miss Willrich for drawing attention to the error in my article last week I must however point out that the recitals she refers to are carried out in the lunch hour when many persons who are interested are unable to attend. Moreover the recitals are held in one of the Committee rooms which cannot in any way be termed ideal surroundings, either aesthetically, acoustically, or comfortably. Those members of I.C. who heard Mr. Leak's demonstration to the Radio Society will know that a large room or lecture theatre is capable of being turned into a concert hall, and the reproduction obtained on suitable apparatus is such as to render the sound absolutely indistinguishable from a live performance.

I am pleased to hear that Dobson and Young are to lecture here but as they always use a battered acoustic gramophone, even when on the B.B.C., I am inclined to treat them as exceptional. Other lecturers who do not have this idiosyncrasy may not be so easy to accommodate.

SPORT!
TRUMPET BLOWING.

Sir,

As can be seen from the last issue of "Felix", I.C. have the two best Trumpeters in the whole of U.L. Unfortunately this week's efforts must remain muted, because playing away at Fort Tissimo on loaned instruments it was found that they can only blow their own Trumpets.

Yours etc., A. SUCKER.

REFECTORY FACILITIES

Dear Sir,

We are glad to learn of the Refectory Committee's recent investigation into the catering standards at I.C.

It is our opinion that not only is the food sub-standard but that the seating accommodation in the New Lounge is, to say the least, inadequate. At those restricted hours of the day when the New Lounge is functioning, as many as half its occupants are obliged to stand. We feel that some of the Committee's energies could usefully be directed to the solution of this problem.

We are, Yours faithfully, K.N. BROWN
J.H. STEVENSON

(Eds. Note: The question of the use of the New Lounge is to be brought up at a Union meeting.)

FELIX

Sir,

Felix is intended to be a reflection of our life at I.C., but need this continue further? Is it true that even this member of our fraternity (meaning no disrespect to I.C.W.A.) has to graduate? The history of Felix is, so far, a very close parallel to undergraduate life. The first year at college saw a fresh frivolous Felix making new acquaintances quickly, and enlarging his outlook to cover as near every Union activity as possible. During the second year our feline undergraduate lost his immature frivolity and developed a ripe (even if smelly at times) humour, which turned mere acquaintance into friendship, so that even the staff turned a friendly eye. Now comes the third year, and I note with dismay that sobering down, and that anxiety not to offend which makes some 3rd year people so uninteresting. Still walking, it is true, (just) but I wonder whether Felix will pass the coming test, to stay, as so many postgraduates do, for ever.

Yours correspondingly,
J.W. Saunders.

T/V OR NOT T/V

The quinquagenary meeting of the Association of Crystal Set Designers was held in the bar of "The Crown and Diode", Dr. Katswisker being in the chair.

He opened by stating that since the last meeting in 1902 the number of programmes now being transmitted over the air was far greater than the number of cats' whiskers available to receive them.

Professor Priggy commented that this shortage of cats was deplorable and was no doubt due to the Ministry of Housing's strict control of tiles and other building material.

Mr. Macaroni the famous Italian member then stated that although ordinary wireless was still very popular a new craze had developed called T./V.

The chairman asked if it would be a good idea if the meeting should discuss this new medium.

Mr. Turnitoff the Russian representative said that although none of the members had a clear view of what actually happened he was sure that an interesting discussion would take place.

The first question was asked by Mr. Macaroni who said "If light travels faster than sound, how do they both arrive at the T./V. set at the same time?"

Mr. Ferrmanti suggested that this difficulty was overcome by saying the thing first and then doing the appropriate actions at a calculated delayed time afterwards.

Miss Meg. Ohm stated that this was impracticable due to the distances of transmitter and receivers, needing different time delays. She believed that it was overcome by the use of a rather unusual 'H' shaped aerial where one vertical bar caught the light and the other caught the sound, the horizontal bar serving to hold the two apart and also to catch anything else that happened to be passing.

She had also noted that one bar was always nearer to the transmitter than the other and thus the light which arrived first would have further to go than the sound and it was a simple matter to adjust for the different times of arrival of the light and sound by altering the distance between the two aerials.

Mr. Ferrmanti then said that although some very good points had been raised nobody had tried to explain how a clear picture was transmitted on a foggy day.

Professor Priggy suggested that it was sent by underground but he was quickly answered by Miss Dina Moe who stated that although it was very easy in the London area it could not be done in her home town as the underground system was a disgrace especially at rush hours.

Dr. Katswisker asked whether T./V. could be picked up on the normal crystal set and if not how could this be remedied.



Mr. Fara-night said he saw no reason why this should not be done using a shorter whisker to compensate for the shorter waves used. This he said was in keeping with Fleming's "two finger" rule which states:-

$$\text{Waves per unit area of whisker} = \frac{k_1 k_2 K}{4\pi \cos \phi} \hat{E} \sin \omega t \times 10^{-7\frac{1}{2}}$$

where k_1, k_2, K are known as Kaisers constants and depend on the colour of the whisker and the age of the cat.

Miss Meg. Ohm said she had carried out several tests with different apparatuses and obtained the best results when her resistance was low.

Professor Priggy could not see how questions of ethics could affect the issue, but he found the theory most suggestive, and would be delighted to test it at some later date.

Continued at foot of next column-

R.C.S. SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL

In 1915, Volume I of the Journal of the Royal College of Science Chemical Society was published. Volume 2 appeared in 1923, and the Journal thereafter appeared annually, the title being changed in 1925 to the Journal of the Imperial College Chemical Society.

In 1931, Volume 10 of this Journal was incorporated into Volume I of the Scientific Journal of the Royal College of Science, which included lectures delivered before the Natural History Society and the Mathematical and Physical Society. Since then, this Journal has appeared annually, even throughout the difficult war years. It has always been a student publication, financed by the R.C.S. Union.

The reason for its appearance was stated in Volume I to be due to a conviction "that the best lectures of the session before the societies are worthy of permanent record and wide distribution", and this has remained the guiding principle of subsequent Publication Boards. Moreover, the Editorial to Volume I ends with these words:-

"The boundaries of the sciences are but vaguely defined, and it is in keeping with the trend of modern science that we make this effort to satisfy the widening outlook of students."

Despite this, however, it is unfortunately true to say that the Journal has in the past suffered because of the specialized nature of most of the lectures published. The outlook of students is possibly wider than it was in 1931, and in recent years a number of lectures of very general interest have appeared; for instance 'A Scientific Approach to European Witchcraft', 'Non-Euclidean Geometry and Scientific Thought', and 'The Impact of Modern Physics on Christian Faith' from Volume 19. The lectures by Professor Polanyi (The Nature of Scientific Convictions) and the Rector (The Giessen Spirit) from Volume 20, and 'The Age of Newton' from Volume 21 (the 1951 Edition, which will be appearing shortly) all fall into the same category and should be of great interest to all scientists.

It is hoped that the other, more specialized, lectures are also of interest to a large number of students.

Whilst the Journal is published primarily for the benefit of students of the College, it has a considerable external sale. It is purchased by individual subscribers and by Libraries (academic, industrial and public) throughout the Commonwealth. Most of our foreign orders come, of course, from America, but copies are also sent to France, Germany, Sweden, Russia etc. It is evident that the Journal has a very high standing amongst publications of its kind and it cannot fail to enhance the World-wide prestige of the College.

LEARNING AND LAUGHING

The Film Society are holding their first lecture of the session on February 19th. The speaker will be Mr. R.F. Privett, of the Halas-Batchelor Company; his subject - the making of cartoon films; and the place - the Mining Lecture Theatre, at 5.05 p.m. Everybody will be welcome to come and hear Mr. Privett, whose talk will be illustrated by several cartoons intended to amuse and instruct at the same time.

This talk should be of particular interest as Halas-Batchelor are, now England's sole cartoon producers, since J. Arthur Rank's economy cuts felled David Hand's productions. Moreover they are engaged on their first feature-length cartoon, which is reported to be George Orwell's delightful satire "Animal Farm".

Back numbers of FELIX once more

We have now completed the set of FELIX' for the University Goldsmith's Library, and would like to thank those who contributed to this gift. For the Union Library we still lack Nos. 25.

"The University: where they teach tradition - and subtraction" - 'Take It From Here.'

Continued from previous column

Mr. Macaroni said that in order to compensate for the higher frequency waves he used a whisker with a variable μ , in order to keep the "whiskosity" factor high. He had also used a black and white striped whisker but this tended to slow things down somewhat owing to the fact that it resembled a zebra crossing.

Time being up the meeting was then adjourned for 50 years.

A.L.M. G.A.K. ZM., C&GU.

Viewpoint- STUDENT CONVERSATION

Preface

I feel it is only fair to state here and now that if you read this article and find it to be nothing more than a chain of platitudes laboured into a fabric of pseudo-sophisticated hypocrisy, I have proved my case. Moreover if having read the last dying epithet you are still unaware of the case I am presenting, then I am afraid your defeat is irrevocable. This renders the whole affair singularly unsatisfactory, since I remain the only person to be convinced of my victory, and you who are defeated will, in your ignorance, subject me to endless humiliation.

Here am I, trying to write about student conversation in I.C. and all I can think of is a joke about a wheelbarrow, which if reproduced would cause considerable pain and anxiety as to my future. How can I, moulded according to Imperial Preference, my own ideas a product of other people's ideas, hope to bring an interesting view-point on the conversation which causes the view-point, when the conversation doesn't take place.

Let me try to summarise the subjects which one could talk about. First of all there is Scientific theory. One would imagine that students who are required to have a knowledge of both theory and fact would discuss the theory and learn the facts at home. But for some obscure reason - probably sheer cussedness - they never mention theory in public, and conversations on scientific topics seem to be concerned largely with isolated facts which are all exhaustively described in text-books and couldn't provide an interesting conversation of more than two sentences even if Oscar Wilde's life depended on it. Politics - almost the same state of affairs. Either you are part of an infinitesimal minority which takes its minority view to extremes of seriousness, or you allow yourself an occasional remark about how loathsome the Egyptians are, which nobody contradicts for fear of being a "Union Bore". As for art, well nobody has any facts, let alone theory. Since "Wozzeck" was first produced a few weeks ago I have heard just two comments (a) "Monstrous". (b) a sort of apologetic smile with a cynical twist which could mean anything and nothing. I'm no fan of Wozzeck so lets try Jazz, symphony music, painting, sculpture, poetry. "Yes, I liked it". "No, I didn't like it". "Fleasant", "nice", "shocking", "monstrous", "fantastic", "unbelievable" and on, and on. No wonder the English language has such a wealth of adjectives, you can talk for minutes without thinking and still avoiding repeating yourself.

It would be easy to ascribe this dotting on self-evident fact to the scientific lack of imagination, but that is sheer wishful thinking of a suicidal nature. Its something in the Imperial Air.

We lack the contrast which stimulates conversation, everybody becomes stamped with a degree of sameness, and a uniform greyness seems to steal over everything. My mind thinks in terms of colour when faced with this problem. I see other colleges as a mass of contrasting colours, lurid in cases, maybe even hysterical, but we at I.C. seem to have run together into a misty grey. Other colleges assimilate their surroundings, but we seem to have assumed the character of the landscape.

My own feeling is that the resolution of this mess rests largely with the academic staff, and the college authorities, but our own awareness of the problem as students will help to force the pace. So even if we never have any conversation about anything else, let's try to discuss the reason. Who knows? Somebody might even change the subject.

"Caveman".

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND in the UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

Anglicans are invited to a meeting in Committee Room "A" on Tuesday, February 19th. at 5.15 p.m. to meet the Bishop of London's Chaplain to the University, the Revd. Eric Tinker, and discuss certain important proposals concerning the work of the Church and this College and University. The Chaplain will dine in Hall after the meeting.

PERSONAL ADVERTISEMENTS

BACHELORS ! ARE YOU TIRED OF LIVING WITH YOUR GIRL-FRIEND ? Is your landlady's daughter indifferent ? There is a vacancy for the fourth place in a flat 150 yards from college; rent 26/- per week; Enquiries through Editor, Felix. (See note in his Editorial)

WANTED: Dinner suit to fit man 6' 0". Please contact C.K. NEWHOUSE, via I.C.U. or C.G.U. rack.

COMING EVENTS

SOCIAL

MONDAY, FEB. 18TH. L.I.F.C.U. Botany Lecture Theatre, 1.15 p.m. Speaker Mr. Robert Evans. Subject to be announced later.

C. and G. Radio Society. Annual Dinner and Presidential Address by Sir Archibald J. Gill, M.I.E.E. Sir A.J. Gill was last year Engineer in chief of the G.P.O. and President of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, and will deliver his address at 5.15 p.m. This will be followed by a reception in Ayrton Hall at 6.30 p.m. and the Dinner at 7.0 p.m. Fuller details are posted in the Main Entrance Hall of C. and G.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19TH. R.C.S. Math. and Phys. Soc. Dr. J. Bronowski will speak on 'How to doodle' in the main Mathematics lecture theatre at 5.15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20TH. I.C.S.C.M. 'The Gulf between East and West'. The third lecture in this series will be given by Mr. Geoffrey Goodwin of I.S.E. on 'Idealism and Reality in International Politics' in the Zoology theatre at 7.15 p.m.

Victoria and Albert Museum. Romance and Religion in Indian Paintings and Dancing, by W.G. Archer. Dances by Ram Gopal. 6.15 p.m. Admission free.

THURSDAY, FEB. 21ST. I.C.Mus. Soc. Poetry and Music, works from the 18th and 19th centuries. 1.15 p.m.

C. and G. Council Room.

FRIDAY, FEB. 22ND. 'The Engineers Ball'. Bar, Buffet, Evening Dress. Tickets 8/6 Double. Full details in I.C.U. Entrance Hall.

I.C. Mus. Soc. Gallery party 'Salome' Covent Garden.

SATURDAY, FEB. 23RD. The Dramatic Society are holding a dance at I.C. Details to be announced.

SUNDAY, FEB. 24TH. Mountaineering Club visit to Stone Farm. Catch train to E. Grinstead which leaves Victoria at 8.30 a.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 26TH. The Inter-College Committee present a concert to be given by the R.C.M. Students Association Orchestra in the Concert Hall of the R.C.M. at 7.0 p.m. Conductor: Alan Abbott. Admission free to members of I.C.U.

THURSDAY, FEB. 28TH. I.C. Mus Soc Lunch Hour Recital. E. Greene (tenor) and M. Mulliner (piano). C. & G. Council Room, 1.15 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 29TH. Felix NO. 33 on Sale.

'Opera in England'. The talk by Sir Stewart Wilson, postponed from Feb 15th will take place in the Guilds Board Room at 5.15 p.m.

I.C.Y.H.A. Working Party at Crockham Hill Youth Hostel.

ATHLETIC.

TUESDAY, FEB. 19TH. The preliminary rounds of the I.C. Intercollege Boxing Competitions will be held in the Gym. at 5.30 p.m. Weigh-in in Lunch-Hour.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20TH. I.C.A.F.C. Tech. Cup. RGS v RSM.

SATURDAY, FEB. 23RD. I.C.R.F.C. 1st XV v St. Johns, Cambr. (home), I.C.A.F.C. 1st XI v Wadham (away).

TUESDAY, FEB. 26TH. I.C. Intercollege Boxing. Finals to be held in the Gym. at 5.45 p.m. Present Cup holders are R.S.M.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27TH. I.C.A.F.C. v West Ham (home).

PHOENIX

To the Author of the "Hopeless Paragraph".

I have read your creation, its style I abhor,
Audrey and Isherwood used it before.
They managed the scansion with certain success,
But you, Sir, have failed just as much to impress
Your public with Phoenix's dullness, God knows,
As with your attempting to versify prose.
I have mentioned before that your "verse" I detest
To your work please return, and give writing a rest.
J.R.B.

Are you one who says:-

"I have read the Phoenix, there is nothing there
But the writings of failure and despair.
The bad review of the worthless play,
The interview with the man of the day,
The love-lorn poem in the hopeless style,
The dull short story, the Editor's bile,
The club reports that nobody heeds,
The book review that nobody reads,
The schoolboy malice, the unkind cut,
The pretentious paragraph starting, 'But...'"

Then why not do better yourself?
Articles for Phoenix should be submitted
to the Editor through the Union rack as soon
as possible, i.e. now.



SPORT



CROSS-COUNTRY

I.C.C.C. v Loughborough College v Leicester H.
Run al Loughborough, over 7 miles.

The field was off to a fairly fast start, with Leicester Harriers occupying eight of the first ten positions. However, as the race progressed - and the snow became thicker - they all dropped back, leaving Loughborough and I.C. to fight it out. Parks ran his best race this season, running second until the last half mile, when he dropped back to fifth; Garrod was first man home for I.C., moving up from sixth to third near the finish. Loughborough finally won an excellent race by a fairly close margin - due mainly to their knowledge of the half frozen, snow-covered course.

1. Krengel (L)	42.10		
2. Willey (L)	.38	1st. Loughborough	41
3. Garrod (I.C.)	.43	2nd. I.C.	49
4. Ashcroft (L)	.49	3rd. Leicester	81
5. Parks (I.C.)	.58		
6. Watts (I.C.)	43.19		

This was the first visit the club had ever made to Loughborough - who had come second in the U.A.U. championships last season, so it was unfortunate that our two best runners were representing U.L.; with them we could undoubtedly have won

JUDO

In an away match on February 2nd, I.C. Judo Club beat Oxford University by 3 contests to 2. (7 points to 6), despite an inauspicious start caused by the (expected) belated appearance of one member making half the team miss the train. Gilbey (2nd Kyu) scored two points off Guinness (3rd kyu), the first by a very clean inner reaping. Phillips (1st Kyu) easily beat his much smaller opponent, Kay (3rd Kyu). Purcell (a large 3rd Kyu) was lucky to draw with Wooldridge (1st Kyu), our captain, who was suffering from a bad cold. Shrank (2nd Kyu) of Oxford scored a good counter throw against our giant, Zelman (1st Kyu), but was eventually beaten by superior groundwork. Young (1st Kyu), had previously been the victim of a vicious nail-file attack, and lost to Hodgkinson (2nd Kyu), who pulled off one very fast counter. Everard (1st Kyu) was beaten by the Oxford captain, Dyer (1st Kyu), who has several powerful throws.

At home, Osram G.E.C. Judo Club were beaten in an enjoyably hard fought match by 3 contests to 2 (4 points to 3). The main points of interest were a first class spring hip throw by Zelman, and an upper-four-quarters hold down by Young on his 6ft. 10in. opponent.

R.W.P.

CHESS

In spite of having lost six of last years' all-conquering team the Chess Club are again doing well. After playing three successful matches in the First Division of the University League and two friendly matches seven members of the College first team remain undefeated.

Results

U.L. League Division I.
I.C. 1st v L.S.E. 1st won 5-3
v London Hospital 1st won 6-2
v Battersea Poly. 1st won 5-3
U.L. League Division II.
I.C. 2nd v Woolwich Poly. 1st lost 2-4
v King's 2nd drawn 3-3
v Barts Hospital 1st won 3½-2½
U.L. League Division III
I.C. 3rd v L.S.E. 2nd lost 2½-3½
v U.C. 3rd lost 1-5
v School of Pharmacy 1st won 4-2

A lightning tournament held at the end of last term, although not as well supported as those of last year, did provide an interesting tussle between P.A. May (8½ points) and M.J. Smith (8 points) S.J. Davis (5 points) was third.

Another lightning tournament will be held at the end of the Spring Term. All chess players in the College are welcome, irrespective of strength, and are guaranteed an enjoyable evening. Those interested should watch the notice board towards the end of term.

SOCCER

C. & G. 4 R.C.S. 2

The 2nd. game of the Technology Cup series was played on Wed. 30th. Jan. between Guilds and R.C.S. The match was watched by two cripples and a President, who went off to play some other game. The ground had been frozen very hard but a slight thawing of the top surface made it more of a skating rink than a football pitch. These conditions did not encourage good football but the Guilds team, who adapted themselves to the conditions better, won the match.

At the kick-off the R.C.S. took the advantage and were unlucky not to have an early goal. The Guilds team settled down and a nicely taken goal by Brody put them in the lead. This was quickly followed by goals from Hodge and Jewitt and it looked as if rout would follow. However the R.C.S. defence, which had been very panicky up till then, was rallied by the captain Buckroyd, and the R.C.S. struck back with goals by Jackson and Clenshaw. It was still anybody's game and this was the score at half-time.

After half-time both teams were now used to the conditions and the play ranged from end to end without either side looking like scoring. After 27 minutes of the second half Wheeler cut in from the right wing and, with an amazing lob beat the R.C.S. goalkeeper to give the Guilds a two goal lead. The Guilds team now did not take any chances and had little difficulty in playing out time. The match was capably refereed by W.P. Goss, (R.C.S. & Guilds).

The remaining game of the series is between R.S.M. and R.C.S. on Feb. 20th. The final will be between one of these two and Guilds and will be on March 5th. The cup will be presented at the dinner the same evening.

ICWSC

It is hoped, through this article to put Imperial College Women's Sports Club on the map. This year, we are struggling manfully (!) to maintain a niche in the University sporting world.

There are, as you probably know, very few women in Imperial College, only 25 out of 40 being in the sports club. (There are only 19 undergraduate women at this College.)

From this pool, we field netball, squash, hockey, badminton, table tennis and tennis teams. To help pull us through, we usually depend on a few really good players, but this year, sad to tell, we merge very much on the mediocrity. Hence the results are not as good as we could wish.

However, we have one attribute which counts high. We always play as a unit. This arises partly because "everybody knows everybody" and partly because of our precarious position.

Finally, I want to say that I am sure we in no way discredit the famous initials I.C. Wish us Luck. E. Rae Turnbull. (Pres. I.C.W.S.C. 1951-2)

TABLE TENNIS

The Table Tennis Club have had a reasonably successful season up to the present time. The 1st team is at present top of the Premier division of the University League and the 2nd team are 3rd in Division I. In Division II the 3rd team occupy a rather low position owing to the fact that as many players as possible have been given league experience.

The membership this year is approximately 60 and out of these 16 have entered for the University Championships being held this month. One of the 1st team members has represented the University on six occasions during the current season.

After an extremely long delay one of the tables has at last been collected for resurfacing and should be back in about six weeks.

Throughout the year a ladder tournament has been held, many of the games being played off in the dinner hour.

The annual club championships will be held in the near future and members wishing to enter should see the notice board for further particulars.