



Felix

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

FREE!

No. 326

30th JANUARY, 1973

Effect of boycotts? “WE’LL CLOSE REFECTORIES”

Says Mooney

“Nil” is Mr. Mooney’s opinion of the immediate effect that catering boycotts would have on the college. Mr. Mooney, the college’s catering manager, was interviewed by FELIX on Thursday following the overwhelming decision of a “meeting of IC students” (the E.G.M. having just been declared inquorate) to use this means of pressurising the college authorities to press our case for higher grants to the DES.

He told FELIX that the cost of the wasted food in any one refectory would be of the order of £80 per meal boycotted. He thought that no effect would be felt by the college before the end of the academic year, “but if it continues beyond then the position would have to be reviewed”. He considers the likely effects would be the same as those at Canterbury: the college would start to close down refectories, starting with the Union. If the Action Committee picks on the Union for boycotts, “the closure of it will be precipitated”. Next to go would be the breakfast and weekend services in Southside.

Mr. Mooney criticised the union for picking on “the weakest area” of the college administration. He told FELIX that, whereas every other sector received a grant, the refectories were meant to pay their way.

He pointed out that the effect of boycotts on the refectory staff had been disregarded, and said that the effect when the union organised such boycotts two years ago was considerable. “The staff can’t believe that boycotts aren’t directed against them,” he said. He wanted to know what the union and its members would think if the staff organised a boycott, and went home in

the middle of a major evening function.

If Mr. Mooney is right, the college will close all the refectories before they negotiate with the Government on our behalf as a result of operating refectory boycotts.

ONLY 150 AT E.G.M

Last Thursday’s Extraordinary General Meeting was declared inquorate a few moments before the vote on refectory boycotts, and so the overwhelming vote in favour by the “Meeting of I.C. students” which, predictably, immediately followed the closure of the EGM, can only be taken as an indication of students’ feelings.

The meeting, only about 150-strong (the quorum is 300) was opened 18 minutes late at 1.18, following the inevitable late arrival of the Executive—President at 1.06, Secretary at 1.10, Deputy President at 1.12. (“Felix” reporter at 12.57!)

The impatient audience became progressively more so until the motions came to be discussed at about 1.45. The Extraordinary Meeting was petitioned for by Pete Gillett so that he could pre-

sent his motion on Supplementary Grants. Although he obtained the necessary 130 signatures to call a meeting he failed to get that number of votes—his motion was overwhelmingly defeated.

DEPARTMENT REPS CRITICISED

A stir was caused at the meeting when all the Departmental Representatives present were asked to stand up—revealing there to be only one present from a to-

tal of more than ten. The request followed John Lane’s condemnation of the fact that only three Dept Reps had held the meetings they had been mandated to on the Grants issue, and that the others had not even bothered to contact him.

Pete Gillett told the meeting that the Civil Engineering representative had not only not arranged a meeting, but actually did not believe in students getting higher grants. Mr. Gillett said he had taken it upon himself to organise a meeting.

The EGM agreed that similar action by individuals should be taken in other inactive departments.

(Minutes—Page 2)

GRANTS CAMPAIGN IN FULL SWING

The NUS Grants Campaign went into full swing yesterday, starting with six regional press conferences. (Full coverage of the London one in next week’s FELIX). Digby Jacks, in a speech launching the campaign, said that it would not be an easy or quick campaign. “But I know that students feel angry enough over the meanness and hypocrisy of this Government on this issue to sustain a campaign in top gear for as long as necessary,” he continued.

The first major national action, apart from rent strikes and refectory boycotts, will be a set of demonstrations in seven major regional centres — London, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Sheffield, Manchester, Cardiff and Bristol—on Wednesday, February 21. There will also be a National Day of Action on March 14.

There are now 42 rent strikes under way in Britain. London colleges involved are Brunel University, City University, Queen Elizabeth College, LSE, Westfield College, City Poly, and Central

London Poly. At Westfield, where hall fees include meals, the authorities threatened to cut off meals. The union is thus to hand over the cost of these from the rent strike fund. Central Poly has now switched to a policy of rent strikes following successful refectory boycotts last term.

Most areas also have plans for their own demonstrations in addition to those planned for February 21 and March 14. Imperial College’s one is planned for February 7.

SRC TO BE ‘DEMOCRATISED’

The University of London Union Students’ Representative Council (ULU SRC) set up a working party at its meeting last Monday to find ways of democratising its structure by

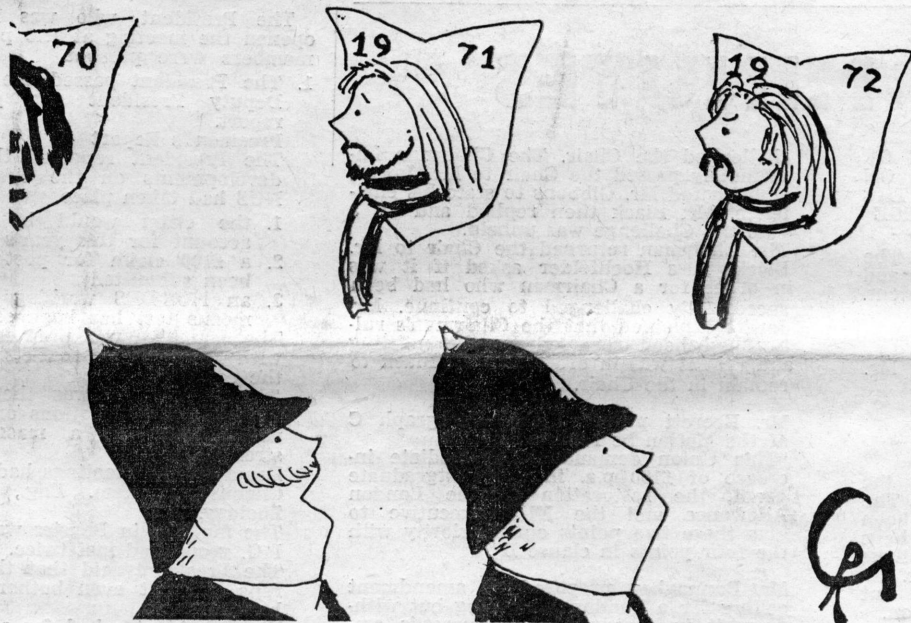
means of constitutional changes. Much criticism has been levelled at the SRC and its degree of representation over the past year, and this is the first concrete move it has made to “put its house in order.”

The working party will present such changes as it thinks necessary to the Statutory Meeting to be held at Chelsea College on February 17.

Monday’s meeting also carried a motion supporting the students at Nonington College of Physical Education in their fight for a sabbatical president, and agreed to send a special envoy to the college to give “physical as well as moral” support.

SRC was reminded of the existence of its working party on the Murray Report. Paul Goddard, Chelsea President, told the meeting that only one response had so far been forthcoming to the working party’s request for reaction from individual unions. IC is one of those not to have yet replied.

GORDON REECE



“Of course, with Vietnam over, there won’t be so much scope for you younger chaps.”

ARE YOU A PATHETIC . . . ?

There are over four thousand students at Imperial College. The quorum for a union meeting is, however, only three hundred. One would have thought that such a small quorum, only 7½% of college, would be relatively easy to obtain. Nevertheless, union meetings are regularly inquorate, or very nearly so. Last Thursday, for example, an extraordinary general meeting on what one would have thought was a subject vital to every student, that of grants, was attended, according to the minutes, by only one hundred and fifty people. In other words, less than 4% of the students here were sufficiently interested to go along and see what was being said about their main source of income.

At nearly every meeting important issues are discussed, motions are passed and then published as the decisions of I.C. union. These pronouncements are put out in YOUR name, for you are all members of the union. I have frequently heard people complain that they never go to union meetings because they are boring and uninteresting. They often couple this with the argument that meetings are unrepresentative so that there is no reason why they should abide by their decisions. The union is only unrepresentative because such people are too lazy to attend union meetings and put forward their views. It cannot function effectively unless the mass of students are prepared to participate in its discussions and decisions. It exists for your benefit. It is there for you to have the opportunity to voice your opinions.

Most people at Imperial College appear to ignore their union until it says something with which they totally disagree. Then, and only then, when a meeting has already decided on a certain course of action, do they protest. And how do they protest? They ignore the union ruling ‘because it’s unrepresentative’. No-one has the right to do this. A union is only a union when its members implement its decisions. If they feel that, unless they participate, a wrong decision may be made, it is their duty to speak out before hand. It is only when you take part that the decisions of Imperial College union are the decisions of the majority of Imperial College students.

There is a union meeting on Thursday at which the motions that ICU may submit to the NUS conference in April will be discussed. Anybody has the right to submit a motion before the union meeting. Motions already tabled by the External Affairs committee and various individuals appear on page 7. Read the motions. Unless you agree with every sentiment of every motion you must attend the meeting on Thursday. You don’t have to speak—but you must vote. If you don’t, views with which you have no sympathy may well go forward to the NUS conference as your views.

MICHAEL SILVERLEAF

JOHN LANE

Yesterday saw the launching of the NUS Grants Campaign proper, with press conferences in every major regional centre. Today sees the start of I.C.'s build-up to the big London demonstration on February 21.

The next week must be one of great activity in preparation for our own I.C. demo to the DES on February 7 to deliver the masses of letters which should be flooding in from today. Every student should be contacted and asked to contribute to the write-in. If your Departmental Representative isn't doing the job then take the letters round your class or lab yourself and get them involved. Explain the issues—the constant drop in value of the grant, the unfairness of the means test, the miserable grant which PG's get. . . .

If you have any questions or suggestions come into the Union Office or ask someone on the Action Committee. Remember the mass write-in/demo suggestion came from the rank and file of this union—it's up to YOU to make it a success.

REFECTORY BOYCOTTS

After last Thursday's EGM it looks very much as if the union will be launching a refectory boycott campaign from the UGM this Thursday as part of the national campaign for higher grants. We must ensure the quoracy of Thursday's meeting to get a decision taken.

H.M. Government received the original NUS claim a year ago, and again last September. A fortnight ago with 42 rent strikes on its hands, it finally got around to telling Digby Jacks "informally" that they would be getting around to some preliminary discussions "soon".

Our claim is just, as the Times Educational Supplement said a year ago: "NUS case for higher grants is good. Certainly everyone else can moan about the effects of inflation, and the education system has been as hard hit as any; but there are not many who need a 25 per cent pay rise merely to bring them up to their 1962 level".

The Vice-Chancellors and Principals say we need more, but the Government hasn't budged. We must bring every possible pressure to bear on them. They won't like "trouble on the campus" or constant nagging from Principals with rent strikes and refectory boycotts to deal with, or being faced with pickets and demonstrations wherever they go. Remember it is your decision at Thursday's UGM.

U.G.M. MINUTES

MINUTES OF A GENERAL MEETING OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION HELD ON THURSDAY 11th JANUARY 1973 IN THE GREAT HALL OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE

1 The Meeting was opened at 1.15. The President, Mr. Lane, was in the Chair and approximately 400 members were present.

2 The Minutes were taken as read.

3 The President passed the Chair to Mr. Black and presented his report.

President's Report

Implementation of motions.

Thalidomide and Distillers Boycott: the bar committee agreed to the boycott. The Union's 850 shares in Distillers have been pledged to the Action Committee. I have written to the Rector asking the College to consider boycotting DCL products. He replied mentioning the latest offer but not committing himself to any action.

Briant's Colour Printers: I have written to the "work in" giving our support and to NUS, ULU, and NCCL asking them to give support. NUS are already doing this.

Vietnam Demo: NUS have written calling for support for a demonstration on Vietnam called by the British Council for Peace in Vietnam, on January 20th at 2.30 in Trafalgar Square.

The Chairman announced that IC Rugby Football Club were playing WASPS on Sunday 14th January and that free coaches would be available for supporters. The President announced that the Mathematics Department had agreed to first year students starting their test half an hour late because of the UGM.

Mr. Black returned the Chair to the President.

4 The President introduced Mr. M. Terry, Secretary of the National Union of Students. Mr. Terry spoke about the NUS Grants Campaign and the need for a rent strike. He then answered questions from the floor.

5 The President passed the Chair to Mr. Black. The President proposed the motion (Paper A filed in the Minute Book). Mr. Phillips proposed an amendment (I on Paper B filed in the Minute Book). The President accepted this amendment. Mr. A. E. Smith proposed an amendment (II on Paper B) which the President accepted. Mr. Corbyn proposed an amendment (III on Paper B). The President accepted the first paragraph but not the second or third. Mr. Corbyn then spoke at length. After discussion the amendment was put to the vote in parts. The second part was rejected and the third retained.

Mr. D. Brown proposed an amendment: Delete all and insert: "ICU recognises and backs the campaign for higher grants. ICU also recognises that a rent strike in this College would not achieve any useful purpose and only aggravate public opinion and therefore abandons any proposals for the same".

The Chairman invited Mr. Brown to speak in favour of his amendment. A member, on a point of order, submitted that the amendment was not a valid one and should not be taken at that time. The Chairman ruled that the amendment would be considered and Mr. Gibbons

MARTIN'S BIT

on Wrecks

It appears to me that cars, like elephants, when nearing the end of their days, go to the car park behind Linstead where it can end them in peace (pieces?). This area is not the motor cars' graveyard—it is somewhere where students can park their cars. Unless the owners of those wrecks, which are taking up valuable space, move them in the very near future, the Union will take steps to have them removed.

on NUS

The time is drawing night for the close of nominations for the next NUS conference in Exeter from 2nd-6th April—5 p.m. today is the closing time.

on Population

The United Nations Office at Geneva will again be conducting a Graduate Study Programme this year, to be held in Geneva from Tuesday, July 17 until Friday, August 3. I have a small supply of application forms which should be endorsed by the graduate's supervisor. Neither the College nor the Union have funds to meet the travel costs or residential expenses of the participants.

challenged the Chair. The Chairman immediately passed the Chair to Mr. Jowitt, who invited Mr. Gibbons to state his challenge. Mr. Black then replied and on a vote the Challenge was upheld. The Chairman returned the Chair to Mr. Black. Miss Hochfelder asked if it was in order for a Chairman who had been successfully challenged to continue. Mr. Jowitt explained that the Chairman's ruling had been reversed by the meeting and that it was in order for Mr. Black to remain in the Chair.

Mr. Everett proposed that Paragraph C of the Motion be replaced by: "This Union demands an immediate increase of £100 p.a. in the Postgraduate grant, the restoration of the London Allowance and the NUS Executive to give these two points equal priority with the four points in clause B".

Mr. Bannaghan proposed an amendment calling for a London Weighting but withdrew it in favour of Mr. Everett's amendment which was adopted.

Mr. Schmetterling proposed an amendment deleting clause E and all references to a refusal to pay the New Hall Levy. After considerable discussion the amendment was carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting to the following day, at 2.30 p.m.

The Chairman re-opened the meeting at 1.02 on Friday 12th January, 1973. Approximately 350 members were present. The Chairman explained that the motion as amended had been reprinted and was being distributed.

Mr. Gillett proposed an amendment: After "the full grant for all who study" line 2, add "further demands Supplementary Grants to be paid in cash each time the cost of living rises 1 per cent". Delete all after "ICU resolves on a two-pronged campaign aiming, 1. . . living standards in these two points and add: 2 That since the Tory Government does not respond to pressure this campaign must demand the immediate resignation of the Tory Government and the return of a Labour Government pledged to Socialist Policies as the only way of winning any increases".

After Mr. Gillett had spoken in favour of his amendment, the President spoke against. Mr. Gillett summed up and the amendment was defeated on a vote.

The discussion reverted to the substantive motion. Speeches were made in favour by Miss Hochfelder and Messrs. Murlis and Armitage, and against by Messrs. Brown, Syrop, Marples and Gerrard.

A member moved the Motion to a Vote, which was carried. The President summed up.

It was agreed that the Motion would be put to the vote in parts.

Paragraphs A, B, C, D, E, and F.1 were passed overwhelmingly. Paragraph F.2 was defeated 166 votes for, to 175 against with 13 abstentions. Paragraphs F.3, G.1, G.2 and G.3 were passed overwhelmingly. Paragraph G.4 was defeated. Paragraph F.5 was carried: 169 votes for, to 105 against with 14 abstentions.

A member challenged the quorum.

The Chairman closed the meeting due to inquoracy at 2.10 p.m.

Tutorials Investigation

One of the topics discussed at this year's meetings of the Rector's Special Committee on Student Welfare has been the personal tutorial system.

The committee has obtained (or is in the process of obtaining) statements from each department on departmental policy, and would like to supplement this information with comments and statements from students. We have therefore drawn up a brief questionnaire which will, we hope, be circulated to all third year undergraduates during the next few weeks. A copy of the questions appears below.

Only if there is a good response to the questionnaire will we be able to conclude anything about the students' view of the personal tutorial system. I hope, therefore, that all third year undergraduates will fill in the questionnaires and return them to the relevant person in their dept., or to me in the Union Office.

JENNY ROGERS
I.C.U. Welfare Officer.

See also Page 3, Col. 1

THE QUESTIONS

1. Degree Course (Subject).
2. (a) Do you regard a personal tutoring scheme as necessary?
(b) Have you had a personal tutor?
3. (a) Should a personal tutor also be an academic tutor to the same students?
(b) Did your personal tutor also act as one of your academic tutors?
4. (a) How many times per term did you meet your personal tutor as such?
(b) Did you think this inadequate? Adequate? Excessive?
5. Have you had social contacts with your personal tutor?
6. (a) Have you felt able to discuss problems with your personal tutor?
(b) If not, was there another member of staff whom you felt able to approach?
7. From your point of view, how effective was the personal tutoring scheme in your Department?
8. Please add any comments if you wish.

FREE GIFTS

This week there are TWO inserts in FELIX. Once you've completed the insurance one and sent it off asking for more information (thereby earning FELIX its bread and butter) peruse the other.

It is an unsigned letter, designed to be sent to Mr. Norman St. John Stevas, who is the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education. It is in his hands that the grants increase demand rests. If you agree with it, please sign it, add your name and department, and post it in the envelope provided.

If you disagree or want to add to it, use the skeleton and write your own. If you can write a better one, go ahead — but send it to FELIX via Internal Mail. We'll publish the best ones, send the best ten by registered mail, and send the rest off at union expense (we'll even address the envelopes!).

There will be boxes provided in refectories and departments to post the letters.

Finally, you'll be worrying that, since there are 4,048 students and only 2,000 students, 2,048 of you can't send a letter. Fear not! Further supplies are available from the Union Office or any messenger.

MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION HELD IN THE GREAT HALL OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1973

The President, who was in the Chair, opened the meeting at 1.18 p.m.; about 150 members were present.

1. The President passed the Chair to the Deputy President and presented his report.

President's Report

The President reported that significant developments on the Grants claim by NUS had taken place.

1. the claim would be increased to account for this year's inflation
2. a £100 claim for post-graduates has been submitted
3. an NUS-DES working party on the means test has been set up.

The campaign was proceeding very well with 42 unions on rent-strike throughout the country.

The next stage was the build up to regional demonstrations on February 21 which must be a massive show of strength.

Departmental meetings had been held in Chemistry, Chem. Eng., and Botany/Zoology.

The meeting in Physics was arranged. A P.G. group had met twice.

The President said that the other dept. reps had not even bothered to contact him.

The President asked for a grants action committee of ten to be set up and suggested: Messrs. David Finn, Keith Nixon, Malcolm Newman, Miss Rosemary Parker, Miss Sonia Hochfelder, Rob Armitage, Mike Silverleaf, John Porter, Alf Perry and Trev Phillips. President, Hon. Secretary, Deputy President will be members ex officio. This was accepted with Pete Gillett and Pete Lambert added to the list.

Pete Gillett reported that he was organising a Civil Engineering Dept. Meeting. It was agreed that if Dept Reps were doing nothing students should attempt to organise meetings themselves.

2. Hon Secretary's Business

(i) The Secretary announced that the NUS were organising a conference on "Women in Employment" on February 15 at North London Polytechnic. He asked any interested people—both male and female—to see him after the meeting.

(ii) As Returning Officer, Mr. Black declared Mr. T. Phillips elected unopposed as NUS Secretary, there being no other candidate.

(iii) Mr. Black then read a letter from the two candidates for the post of Post-Graduate Affairs Officer, in which they explained that Mr. John Porter had retired from the election as he had taken up a post on the Campaign Committee for Grants on the behalf of P.G.s.

The Returning Officer then declared Mr. R. Mounce elected unopposed.

3. Motions

Mr. Gillett proposed: **Supplementary Grants**

"In recent months prices of essentials such as food, rents and transport have risen faster than ever before. In the last two months alone prices rose by 6 per cent which is an annual rate of 36 per cent. This Union therefore demands Supplementary Grants as cash payments each time the cost of living rises. The rapid rate of inflation makes it essential for students to have more money now. September will be too late, many students will be faced with the choice of looking for jobs in exam time or going without proper food. Further, Heath's White Paper taken away any bargaining rights for grants as with wages. What is the purpose of a student union which cannot bargain or take any action for grant increases without facing stiff penalties and fines. This makes a grants campaign absolutely urgent and makes it clear that it must be linked to the

demand to clear this reactionary Tory Government out of office.

This Union therefore resolves to:

1. Campaign for Supplementary Grants linked to the demand to clear the Tory Government from office.

2. Immediately elect from the Union Meeting an 8-member action committee to organise the following campaign:

A one-day strike on Thursday, February 8 and a demonstration in preparation for the day of action on February 21. That in order to ensure the maximum possible support for the campaign the action committee must contact and work with London Region NUS and all student bodies, arrange speakers at meetings and organize meetings where student unions are weak or non-existent. Further, contact local Trades Councils, Union Branches and shop stewards committees for support for the campaign."

Messrs. Mounce and Woosley gave information and Miss Hochfelder spoke against.

There was a move to the vote which was carried.

Mr. Gillett summed up and the motion was defeated overwhelmingly.

Miss Hochfelder proposed:

The Union notes:

- i its decision to support the campaign for higher grants
- ii its support for any College on rent strike
- iii its lack of action so far in the grants campaign
- iv the various statements of the Vice Chancellors in support of higher grants.

This Union considers:

i that the best way of giving support to the Colleges on rent strike is to take action ourselves for the same aim.

.. that the Vice Chancellors will press the Government even more firmly for higher grants if pressure is put on them by the students in the colleges.

iii that putting pressure on the Vice Chancellors is the most important tactic we can use in conducting our campaign since we cannot put direct pressure on the Government but must fight where we are.

iv that lightning boycotts of one canteen at a time is a method of putting such pressure on the College Authorities without inconveniencing the students.

This Union therefore:

1. Instructs its members to take part in one or more canteen boycotts starting next week (on Tues., Jan. 30)—the days to be decided by the campaign committee. The canteen to be boycotted will be decided by the committee at 11.45 a.m. on the day of the boycott."

Mr. Foot spoke against and Mr. Finn spoke for. Mr. Black gave information in a speech against. Mr. Corbyn gave information.

Mr. Smith proposed an amendment to alter the motion to read:

"This Union considers . . .

2. That the Vice Chancellors and the Government will be pressed even more firmly for higher grants if action is taken in colleges.

3. That taking action in the Colleges is the most important tactic we can use in conducting our campaign since we cannot put direct pressure on the Government but must fight where we are."

and to add at the end:

"Our relation with the College workers involved to be as for the rent strike motion."

There was a move to the vote which was passed.

A member challenged the quorum.

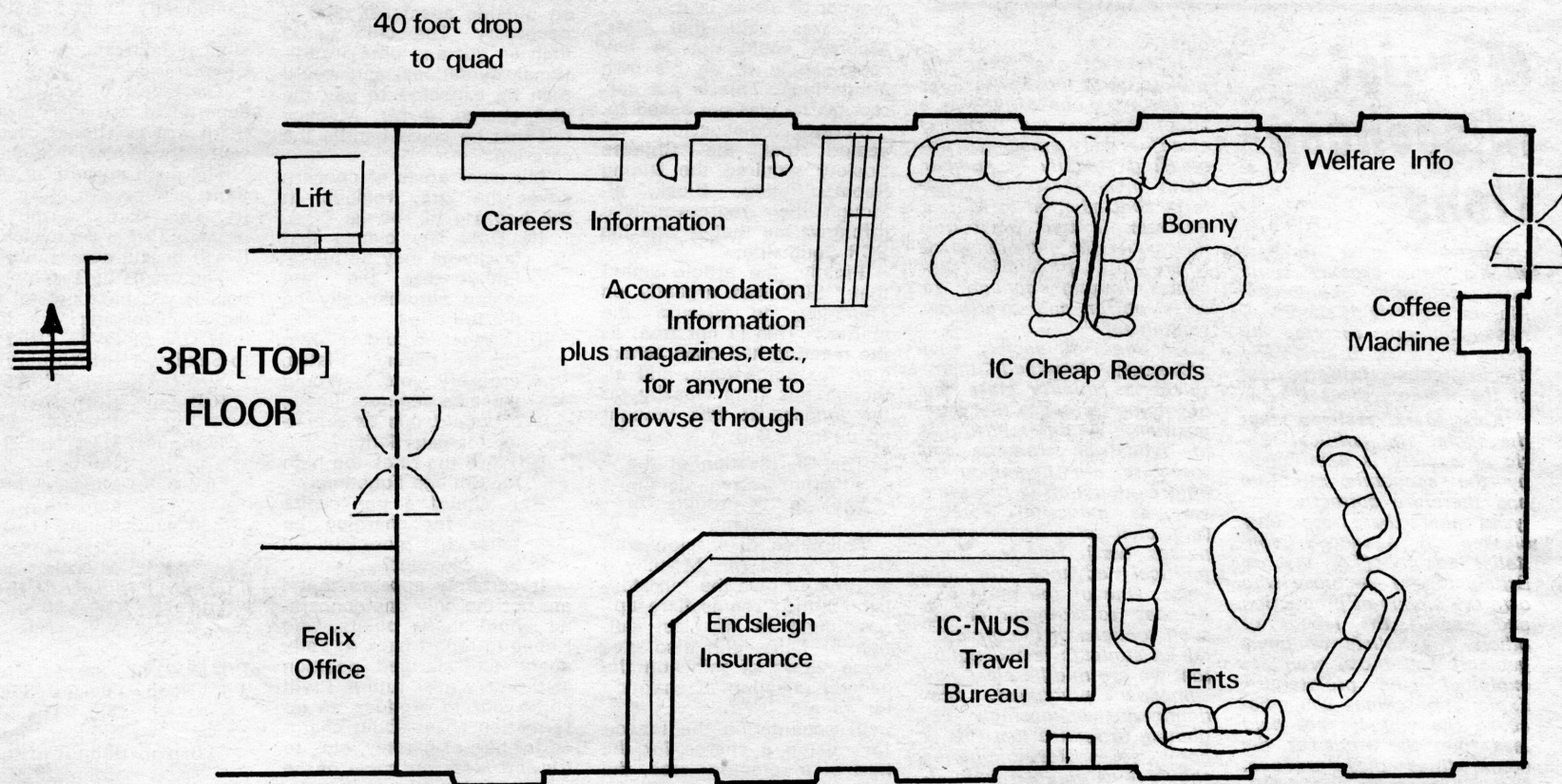
The President closed the meeting at 2.10.

The President opened a "Meeting of I.C. Students at 2.10".

The Motion was put to the meeting and passed. The President closed the meeting of I.C. Students at 2.15.

INTRODUCING . . .

THE ROOM AT THE TOP (RATT)



You may remember that early on last term it was announced that the RATT would be opening shortly. That was not the case as it happened, but most of the necessary work has been completed and as far as I am concerned, it is OPEN Today!

Sir Bill Ryland of the Post Office has yet to sort out the PO extensions to be installed, but once they are the room will be fully operational.

Now, perhaps, is a good opportunity to explain the general ideas behind it all. 1 "What will it not do?"

Not many people travel via the top floor of the Union to Lower Mooney when coming from the

It's all Action

Last Thursday's EGM elected a 15-man "Action Committee" to co-ordinate IC Union's efforts in the Grants Campaign. It consists of: David Finn, Keith Nixon, Malcolm Newman, Rosemary Parker, Sonia Hochfelder, Rob Armitage, Mike Silverleaf, John Porter, Alf Perry, Trev Phillips, John Lane, Paul Jowitt, Martin C. Black, Pete Gillett and Pete Lambert. Their first meeting is today at one o'clock in Committee Room A (off the Union Lower Lounge). Anyone can go and join in—why not you?

Overseas Students Beware!

Overseas students who leave the country in the vacations to travel in Europe may now have some difficulty getting back in, after their holiday. Foreign students visiting the Continent have to have re-entry visas if they want to continue studying in Britain. Until recently immigration officers have turned a blind eye, in most cases, to students in this situation. Now the discretionary element has been removed from immigration officers' powers and all overseas students must produce re-entry visas, or they will not be allowed back in the country.

"college" side of Prince Consort Road. Accordingly, the R.A.T.T. has not been designed to be a medium for publicity or instant communication. That is a job for Felix and S.T.O.I.C.

It is, however, largely a "self-help" system for most of the things that most students want to find out about.

What Is There?

I.C. Travel Bureau are to share the counter space with N.U.S. Endsleigh Insurance (currently in the J.C.R.).

I.C. Ents will be gathering up there too for most of their business, so would-be helpers or critics will know where to find them.

Mr. E. Meacock, who organises the Careers Library in College Block has sent across to the Union a good deal of literature about future careers. This is not intended in any way to replace the fuller selection over in the Careers Library in the College Block, but is aimed at those students who do not have any specific career aims, but want to browse around in an informal atmosphere, and only go to the Careers Library when they have a specific request. The Careers Section will be supplemented by more display racks to be supplied by Mr. Meacock.

Brian Childs, the Accommodation Officer, will be putting up the addresses of flats for those of you wanting to change flat/digs. Hopefully, he will be displaying literature to guard you against the legal hassles you may come across.

Bonney Hartnett tells you somewhere else on this page how she wants to help.

Colin McCall will be opening his record stall up at the Ratt.

For those of you who don't particularly want to look for any information, but just browse, there is quite a lot of reading matter up there. The Union subscribes to many other societies, and often receives magazines etc from them. This is where you can find them.

Comfy chairs and sofas (Never mind the age, just look at the quality) and a coffee machine are provided (Follow the instructions on the coffee machine explicitly!).

What else can the room be used for?

I'm not sure the room should be used for "wild" boozy parties, but more sober events are ideally suited to the room.

Meetings, mini-lectures or talks, would be welcome to use the room, which will be bookable via Linda. Really, it's up to you, you've got the room there, use it!

Prospects?

I think we are all in favour of fully using the Union Building, and it may seem that at this stage in the year, you could well say that no-one really knows where the room is, what it's for, or how people can be persuaded to use it. To be quite honest, I don't really expect it to get off the ground this year, not even next year, but eventually it will happen. Students aren't patient as a rule but for this to work, you'll just have to be! The problem of students not knowing where the room is will be solved in October next session. The Registry is always overcrowded in the first 3 days of an academic year, with the twofold problem of registration plus associated enquiries and the issue of grant cheques.

I have arranged for the Registry to give out grant cheques via the counter facilities in the R.A.T.T. In case you forget this room after this desperate visit for your cash, you may require an N.U.S. card. Those will be also available from the R.A.T.T. for two and a half weeks after the cheques have been issued. Then, most people will know where the room is, and what it's for.

Below are a few words from a few of the R.A.T.T. participants. If any of the services I mentioned are inadequate, please let me know, and I shall endeavour to remedy the situation.

Yours,

Paul Jowitt

Insurance

Congratulations to the Union and students at Imperial on the opening of "Room at the Top."

Endsleigh are pleased to announce that the Insurance Counter will be fully operational as soon as the phone is in.

When it comes to buying insurances, not all students and graduates are aware that their National Union has its own professionally run insurance department. There are

enormous advantages to be gained by using this service. Endsleigh Insurances (Brokers) Ltd. offer special terms on all classes of personal insurances to members of NUS.

Schemes such as "Student-plan" motor insurance and "Studyplan" property insurance have been negotiated with leading insurance companies. Life, Motor, Travel, Property and other policies are all available at exclusive terms.

The Insurance Assistant for this College is Monica Small and will be available daily during term-time from 11.30-2.30 to answer all your insurance queries.

If you would like to come along and have a chat about Life Assurance or Mortgages I shall be happy to see you any Monday after 12.00.

TED YORK

N.U.S. Insurance Adviser.

Travel

I.C. Travel Bureau is now in its 4th year of operation and we hope to operate a more comprehensive programme during 1973 than in previous years.

Due to extensive re-housing during the first term the bureau was unable to operate and for any inconvenience caused to students we apologise. However, with the opening of the 'room at the top' we will now be open every Tues. and Thurs. lunch-time 1 pm-2 pm.

This year not only will the bureau be concerned with flights, boats and trains to most major destinations

in the northern hemisphere but we have information on Safari holidays, ski-weekends and numerous other holiday pursuits. It is hoped as enquiries increase towards the end of term that the bureau will be open daily.

That briefly is the aim of I.C. Travel Bureau. It is a student run concern and we hope will be used by all I.C. students wishing to travel abroad.

Geoff Tate

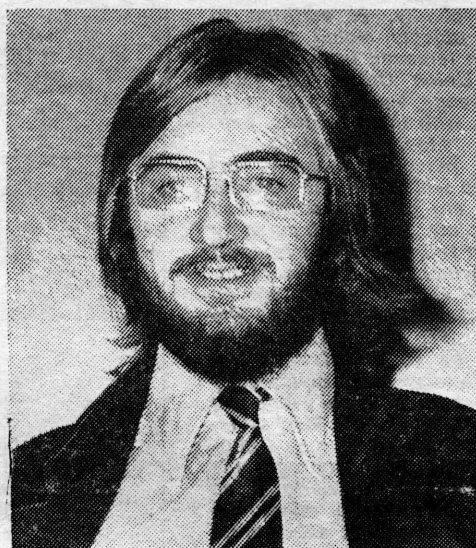
Counselling

The Student Counsellor, Bonney Hartnett, will also be involved in "Room at the Top". She will spend Tuesday and Friday lunchtimes between 1.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m. (probably with sandwich in hand) in her corner of Room at the Top. Bonney spends her time counselling students mostly by appointment in her room at the Health Centre. Although students with any sort of problem are welcome to consult her there, she is finding that most of her time these days is spent on counselling students with personal and academic problems.

Her involvement with Room at the Top will complement the counselling role here. She feels that she will be able to offer help, information and advice with problems. Room at the Top is in many ways a service and information centre and Bonney sees her role there partly in the light of this. She hopes to offer advice and help, for example with special accommodation or financial problems, legal and any other matters and to provide information as requested.

Bonney is at present in the process of compiling a comprehensive self-help system the form of which is as yet undecided. This will in time also be available in Room at the Top.

The other important aspect of her participation in this scheme is to be more accessible and thereby to facilitate more informal contact. Bonney is hoping that students will feel free to come along and say hello, chat, exchange ideas, discuss her work, put forward suggestions etc.



Paul Jowitt, the man who made it all possible.

Letters

Marxist Misconceptions

Sir, — A letter in last week's Felix created some misconceptions about the Marxist analysis of society — misconceptions fostered by those who wish to artificially divide students from the rest of the working class.

Karl Marx realised that the social and political fabric of society is determined by the economic structure and therefore correctly analysed that there are only classes in advanced capitalist society (i.e. that in Britain today) — those who own the means of production and exploit the labour of others (capitalists or bourgeoisie) and those who are exploited (the proletariat). Exploitation comes about because the workers are paid less than the value of the commodities they produce. The difference is called surplus value and is divided up among various sections of the bourgeoisie (employers, land owners, government, etc.).

It is easy to see these relations in production in the case of a worker in a factory but they are equally in existence in the case of all other people who are employed by the capitalist system. For example: it is not obvious what commodity a shop assistant produces, however such a person still produces surplus value in that the value produced by her labour (i.e. the part she plays in producing the profit made by the shop as a whole) is less than the wages she receives. Such a relationship exists in all forms of employment. The aim of the capitalist class is to make a profit out of employing workers (this is the only way profit can be made) and so no worker is employed unless a profit is made from his labour.

Students are in no way separate from society and so must enter into the same economic relationship. Students do not exploit the labour of others and are therefore not capitalists. In training a student, value is produced for the capitalist class in the form of greater skills given to the student in order that the student may produce a greater amount of surplus value in future employment. The amount of the surplus value produced directly due to this extra training received is greater than the amount it costs for the bourgeoisie to train the student (including the grant paid to the student) or it would not be profitable for the capitalist class to give such training. Therefore the student is exploited as a student, however the surplus value produced during his period as a student is only realised later during employment.

There can be no sections of society that are classless, such people could not exist in a capitalist society without taking part in the capitalist production relations as there are no other stable forms of existence. The misconception put forward in the letter arises from not understanding how workers other than industrial workers do in fact produce surplus value and from confusing subjective ideas of class with the objective definition. This gives rise to a fictitious middle class (including teachers, doctors, "intellectuals", higher paid workers, etc. the list being subjective in origin can be extended indefinitely) who have however no separate relation with the means of production and therefore cannot form a

class.

If in fact one limits the proletariat to those who work in factories one arrives at a situation where the "working class" is very small and decreasing steadily in number (with mechanization) which is in contradiction to Marx's analysis. If this were true how could the situation arise where the proletariat becomes strong enough to seize power and overthrow capitalism?

Sections of society that previously regarded themselves as middle class are beginning to realise that their position is no different to that of industrial workers and therefore are beginning to fight exploitation in the same way as industrial workers (e.g. civil servants, teachers, nurses, etc.). This is a great political advance for our class. One of the main hindrances to struggle among such sections of the proletariat as students is the notion that we are middle class and somehow privileged. Students are increasingly beginning to realise that this is not so. Revolutionaries should aim at destroying illusions not reinforcing them with false analysis.

Yours sincerely,
SONIA HOCHFELDER

Broadsheet Inaccurate

Mein Herr, — I must protest at the space wasted in your fine newspaper by being filled by Mr. Appleby, the perpetrator of a certain obscene publication. Obviously the circulation of his tabloid is so bad that he has to seek further outlets for his filth. What particularly struck me about his article was the complete distortion of the truth. As the first sentence implied, this article was aimed at those who have no knowledge of the day to day events of College life with the obvious intention of persuading them that r.c.s. is worth knowing about. It is therefore for the benefit of these ignorant peasants that I, as the champion of truth, liberty, and all that crap, without dwelling too long on this sordid article, would like to put the record straight on a couple of points.

Firstly, it was stated that on two occasions, the supposed cream of this scientific college were unable to find the sign that they missed in the room that they entered so rudely to look for it. Had they in fact approached the C. & G. Union Office in a more appropriate manner, they would no doubt have been invited to gaze upon their sign, which is today where it was then, tastefully displayed in a glass case together with a similar sign from the mining school and other trophies.

Secondly, in addition to the objects stated to have been removed from the C. & G. Union Office, the r.c.s. "revenge squad" saw fit to take with them records, papers, files, collecting-cans, and personal property, articles which are not mascots and are properly considered inviolate, into which category must fall the shields referred to, which any fool could remove anyway. In addition, an ash-tray removed by the "squad", if such a rabble can be so called, was immediately and deliberately smashed. If such vandalism is Mr. Appleby's idea of inter-union rivalry, then I suggest that he encourages his fellow louts to carry it on with the school of mines, the well-known float saboteurs.

Yours spherically

Adolph von Weaselgrope
President, C & G
Mudslinging Society.

Room Bookings

Sir, — I refer to the article on the back page of the last Felix, in order to correct a number of errors in it.

It was said that "Mr. Mooney could not in any case supply it, on his own admission". This is not correct, as he was not asked to.

Further discussion revealed that the Chinese Society required the Dining Room, College Block, although their representatives informed me that it was the SCR Southside.

Finally, the article stated that "SCC met urgently on Thursday, to discuss the matter." This is not true, as the meeting had been scheduled for some time, and although this item was by far the longest, it was brought up under A.O.B.

The Clarification of the situation as regards the booking of rooms in College

Following discussion with Dr. Levy and Mr. Mooney, I am able to give the full story behind the "rooms flare up" mentioned in the last edition of Felix, and also give some views of mine on the general question of charging for rooms.

In considering the reason for raising a charge for the hire of a refectory area, the following points should be borne in mind:

- Mr. Mooney is mandated to make a marginal 'profit', sufficient to cover refurbishing.
- No loss on the refectory facilities will be paid for by the University Grants Committee.
- Mr. Mooney has to pay for all outgoings on the refectory areas, although he receives them rate and rent free.

Consequently, whenever an application is made for the use of a refectory area, without any refectory services:

"The bookings shall be considered individually, and if granted may be subject to a charge." (Principles for the booking of College Refectory Areas and Facilities.)

The rates which may be charged are the College rates of hire, less 33½ per cent for Imperial College Clubs.

In the case of the Chinese Society there seemed to be a large number of people who were not members of the Imperial College Chinese Society coming to the event. For the S.E. Asia Society (SEASOC), they were bringing

in "box meals"; Mr. Mooney's point about this was that inevitably a profit margin was made by the caterers, and it seemed "silly" when this was not being put back into College.

If the Societies consulted him first, he could give a quotation, and try and obtain an outside specialist chef if necessary. The club could then go out and obtain additional quotations, but could then be expected to pay the hire charge, if Mr. Mooney felt that he could handle the catering.

My chief areas of concern over the 'grey regions' in the booking of rooms:

- Does the clause that 'a charge may be made' imply that the rate would automatically be the full one?
- What would a hire charge cover? Plates, crockery, etc.? Would these be separate items, or would this be a matter for negotiation?
- Are the rates too high for College Functions?
- Would a per capita basis for charging be fairer, but more difficult to implement?

It certainly appears that I am not the only one concerned about these points, and I hope to report back to Felix about the clarified position in the very near future. I will endeavour to produce an information sheet about charges for hire of glasses, etc., to try and clear up some of the greyness. It will in effect be a guide to obtaining the best out of the refectory services.

If you have any ideas about the problems of charging/not charging please feel free to let me know about them.

Yours faithfully,
G. D. D. JACKSON,
Chairman, SCC

Folk

Sir, — On reading this week's Felix Diary, I was very disturbed to find that you are now giving free publicity to outside organisations while stabbing IC societies in the back. Specifically you advertised the Holy Ground Folk Club on the same night as IC Folk Club. Whilst you may be within your rights to do this it is clear that IC societies will suffer as a result of your actions.

IC Folk Club is in financial difficulties this year anyway and any efforts to reverse this situation will be ruined if this irresponsible sabotage by the organ of the Union continues.

M. J. SIMMONS
President IC Folk Club

TEACHING WEEK

If you have seen a black and yellow poster in College advertising "The West London Chaplaincies' Teaching Week" you probably thought it was either connected with schools or that it was some kind of mission to convert the whole of I.C. to Christianity. It is, of course, neither of these things.

Teaching Week is the highlight of the year for the Christian Community in I.C., and its main feature is that this year a dozen or so monks will be living in the College (in halls and student houses) and taking an active part in the life of the Chaplaincies.

The groups of students who meet regularly in every hall and department will meet nearly every day during the week, and there will be special events most evenings at More House, as well as two General Studies meetings.

The main purpose of the week is to enrich the life of Christians in Imperial College and to build up the sense of community. This year, for the first time, Teaching Week has been organised on a completely ecumenical basis, and thus we hope it will benefit even more students than in previous years.

The events of Teaching Week are, of course, open to everyone. If you have not yet seen a poster, this is what you are in danger of missing:

MAIN EVENTS OF THE WEEK: (Saturday 3rd February to Sunday, 11th February)

SUNDAY, 4th FEBRUARY

- 10.0 a.m. Eucharist in the ante-room, College Block in I.C. Preacher: Dom Columba Cary-Elwes.
- 11.0 a.m. Mass at More House. Preacher: Dom Mark Butlin.
- 6.0 p.m. Mass at More House. Preacher: Dom Kieran Corcoran.
- 7.30 p.m. Brains Trust at More House. The Brains include: Professor Scorer, Professor Ring, Dr. Hans Michels.

TUESDAY, 6th FEBRUARY

- 1.30 p.m. General Studies in Mech. Eng. Lecture Theatre 542. "The Nature of Religious Belief" by John Coventry.

THURSDAY, 8th FEBRUARY

- 1.30 p.m. General Studies in Mech. Eng. Lecture Theatre 220. The Archbishop of Canterbury answers Students' questions.
- 7.0 p.m. Joint Christian Service and Party in the Junior Common Room, College Block, I.C.

SATURDAY, 10th FEBRUARY

- 10.0 a.m. Celebration — Liturgy Workshop at Christ the King, Gordon Square, W.C.1.

SUNDAY, 11th FEBRUARY

- 10.0 a.m. Sung Eucharist in ante-room, College Block, I.C. Preacher: Rev. Barney Milligan.
- 11.0 a.m. Mass at More House. Preacher: Dom Columba Cary-Elwes.
- 6.0 p.m. Mass at More House. Preacher: Dom Andrew Brenninkmeyer.

Inquorate meetings

Sir, — I am continually shocked and disappointed at the methods used by IC Union Executive to prolong inquorate Union General Meetings.

The habit of opening a "Meeting of IC Students" immediately after closing a UGM is repugnant to all those members of the Union with a trace of democracy in their souls.

As I understand the system, in order to ensure that Union Meetings are representative, a quorum of members is fixed, below which business is not conducted. Standing orders incorporate the provision that "the meet-

ing is deemed inquorate until challenged" so that non-contentious matters such as announcements may be made.

At last Thursday's meeting the Exec openly flouted these principles and took a vote on a very contentious subject — a refectory boycott — when only about 150 members were present.

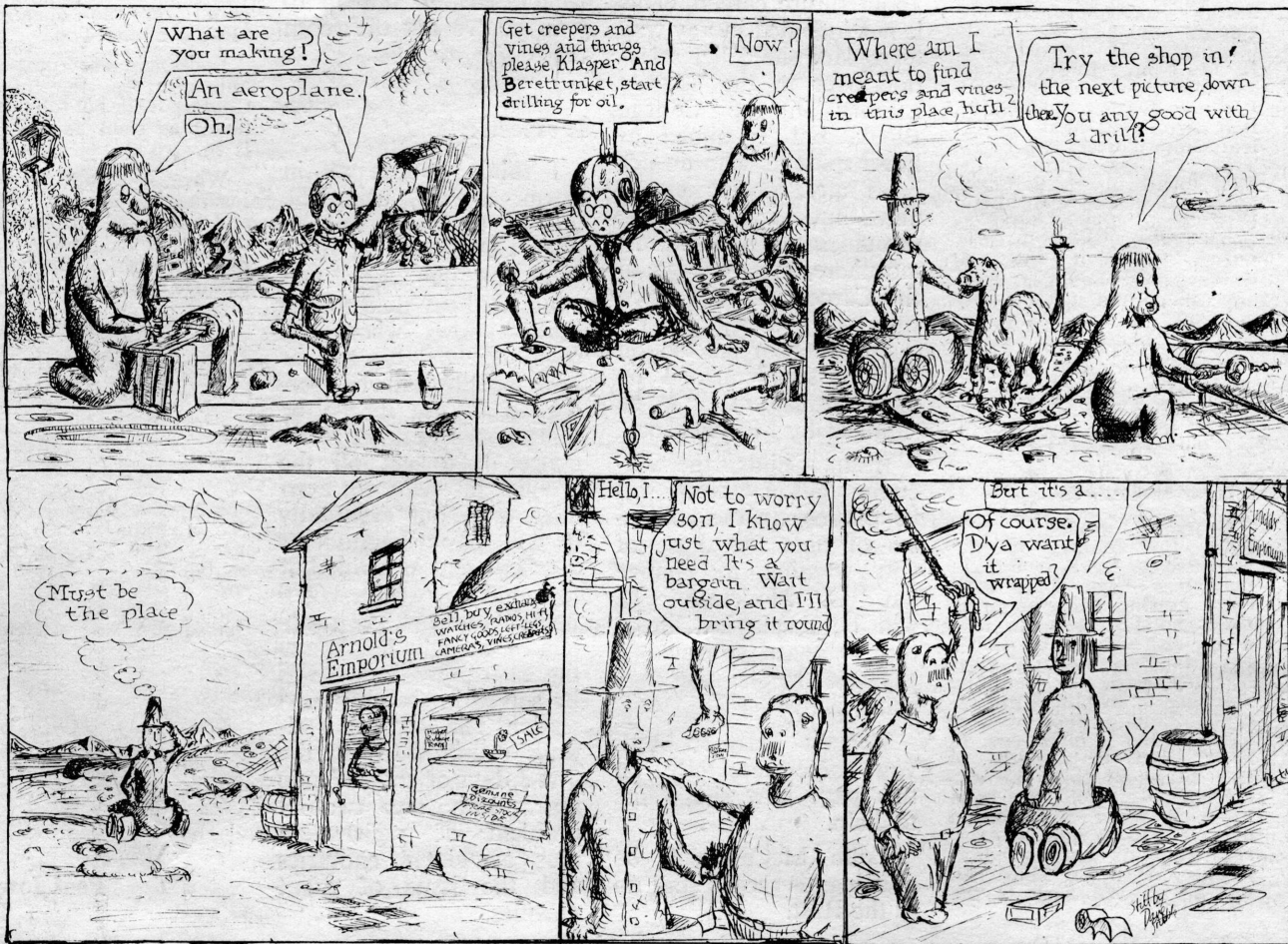
I find it very difficult to believe that we really need union meetings every week — be they General or Extraordinary — as this will only serve to bore and alienate the average "moderate" member and result in only political activists attending meetings.

I remain, in hope of a return to visible democracy,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES RUSSDEM
Physics P. G.

The Landsnapper Sneeze



Getting into Bricks and Mortar

The chances are that, for all of us, the day will come when we will think about buying a home of our own. To some it may seem a remote possibility, to others, something to be thinking about now. But whichever category we're in, it's odds on that we have very little idea of how to go about it.

How do you buy a house? Where do you get the money? What is a mortgage? Who do you ask? How much can you borrow? And—for the sceptics—why buy a house at all?

Well these are the kind of questions which FELIX FINANCIALLY's own expert, DEREK E. CUMMINGS will be talking about when he delivers the second of his General Studies Lectures at Imperial College next week—February 6.

He will be delighted to answer your questions—and even more delighted to relay them to the man he will be bringing to the lecture, Mr. L. R. Pask, Branch Manager of one of the biggest building societies in the land.

Those of you who have been reading FELIX FINANCIALLY since the start of the academic year will know that Derek Cummings usually has some fairly stringent and provocative things to say about the financial world and the way it touches us, the consumers. And his second lecture promises to be no less contentious.

Furthermore, he is providing you with the opportunity to throw questions at one of the men whose job it is to lend money to prospective house purchasers.

You will perhaps have read an interview with Mr. Pask which we published last term in which he described the attitudes of his company towards lending money to young people. Of necessity, it was a brief resume of the situation. Perhaps there are other questions you would like to put.

How does a building society decide when to lend money? Does it have to be tied to your income at the time of application, or does it take account of prospects? Are there ways of graduating repayments to suit improving income? Will the escalation of house prices ever slow down? If not, why not?

Those are the kind of things you might like to have answers to. You have questions of your own to ask? Fine. Ask them.

You never know. The right answer now might save you a hell of a lot of problems later.

So there's a lovely red-brick semi to the north of Finchley Road . . . Like the legendary yellow idol of Khatmandu, getting possession of it can be a tricky process. It involves building societies, banks, solicitors, the Land Registry, search fees, deposits, contracts, etc., etc.

If the prospect of going through with it boggles your mind, then please read on. For this week, we thought it would be useful to describe the suc-

cession of events through which the prospective house-buyer has to go in order to buy his dream house.

So here goes.

First, as Mrs. Beeton would say, find your house. It has to be something you can afford and something you like. Given that, the process is as follows:

The estate agent handling the property will want some concrete proof that you are talking with serious intent. In other words, he'll want money. He may want a hundred pounds. I suggest you give him twenty-five quid. He'll very likely accept it.

Next, find a building society with a manager who appears sympathetic and he'll give you an application form for a mortgage.

This is a pretty comprehensive questionnaire. It will want to know where you work and what your income is and where your figure can be verified. It will also require you to say if you have any other debts, such as an overdraft or hire purchase commitments.

It will want full details of the house you want to buy: the address, the asking price, the rateable value, the type of construction and the date it was built. At the same time, the building society will want their survey fee—usually about twenty-five pounds.

You will also have to supply the name of your solicitor, since from this moment, all communications will go to him.

Therefore, find yourself a lawyer who looks and sounds as if he knows what he is doing and is able to do it with some dispatch. As soon as you have sent your application back to the building society, fire the gun and get the solicitor moving. The next few pieces of the puzzle are going to depend on him.

While the building society is checking out your personal standing and making their survey of the house, your solicitor should be busy checking on the legal state of your new home.

This is called The Search. And it is literally that. Your solicitor must find out from the local authority whether, for example, a motorway is due to be built across the spot where your house stands. He must ascertain what planning proposals there are in the vicinity—a multi-storey car park or a block of flats at the end of your garden, for example.

At the same time, he must check with the Land Registry what covenants there are attached to the

site—such things as your not being allowed to keep a dog or build a shed or paint the house blue. It's better to find these things out before you move in, for obvious reasons.

There is quite a lot of investigation involved in all this so it is as well to get the solicitor away to a good start and, if necessary, prompt him to complete the search quickly. It will take the building society about two or three weeks to complete their investigations and to make an offer, and by then you need to know the legal score.

So, to The Offer. The most crucial bit of the whole operation.

If the building society offers to lend you what you asked for, then you are home and dry. But they may not necessarily do so.

The crux of the matter is the building society's valuation of the property. It could easily be less than the asking price, for a number of reasons. In the first place, the vendor might just be greedy and overprice the house. On the other hand, there may be hidden structural faults in the building. That does not mean that the roof is about to cave in: it may be something as simple as faulty floorboards. In any case, the building society isn't bound to tell you about it. Their opinion of the house will be reflected in their offer.

The difference is that although they may give you the percentage of mortgage you asked for—say ninety per cent—it will be a percentage of a lower figure.

All of which leaves you with two alternatives. Either go and beat the vendor until he reduces his price to the building society's valuation—or borrow the difference.

One thing is certain. The building society will not budge, and you can either lump it or leave it.

But let's leave aside complications like that for the moment. Let's assume the building society fulfils your hopes and offers you the money you need.

In accepting their offer, you enter into a legal contract with them to begin repayments as set out by them, from the moment they hand over the cash to the vendor.

In the meantime, having got the promise of the money, your solicitor is in a position to exchange contracts with the vendors' solicitors. And this involves the most painful part of it all. For it is then you have to hand over your money. That is, ten per cent of the agreed price. And it is important that you do have ten per cent in your pocket, even though you may be getting a ninety-five per cent mortgage. You will get the other five per cent back, of course, but you have to be in a position to put down the full ten.

Having done all that, you await completion day—normally twenty-eight days after the exchange of contracts. And that, finally, is the day the building society pays the vendor his money, you move in—and start paying.

At that time, too, you are also liable to pay your solicitor his search fees, stamp duties and his own conveyancing fee—which will depend on the price of the property.

In reality, the system works reasonably well—after all hundreds do it every day—and the whole thing should take no more than six to eight weeks. Providing, that is, that there are no delays.

Avoiding the irritation of delay is really a matter of organising your affairs properly. Make sure you fill out the application form properly—and sign it. Make certain that the solicitor you choose really does get moving on the first day and keep your eye on him to make sure he is doing what he ought to be doing on your behalf. Be sure you have the money for the deposit when it is required. Inform whoever is going to verify your income that the building society is going to contact him, and check that he replies immediately.

Small things, all of them, but important. Remember, it's a seller's market. If you waste too much time, someone else could easily come along and snatch the house from over your head. So it's worth taking the trouble to see there are no unnecessary hold-ups. After all, buying a house is probably going to be the biggest single financial deal you'll ever get involved in.

Derek Cummings will be speaking today in Physics Lecture Theatre 1 at 1.30 p.m. Come along and find out what he's like in the flesh (Revelations Guaranteed).

STRAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREOUS

If like me, you've been looking up your own arse a lot recently then, wherever your particular fetish lies, you've got my sympathies.

What prompts me into these reflective cogitations is to inspect the scars and incursions of a medical history of straphylococcus aureus—abscesses on the bum. Each time they recur, it's off to the doctor for a second opinion and a course of penicillin.

Once I went to see a specialist at St. George's Hospital. Now, so many have seen my ricker since I had a Kaolin poultice slapped on it at age six that even all those students eagerly staring up me bum caused little discomfort. True, I've never really hit onto the humour of medical students and so didn't spot what they were laughing at but when he stuck this sort of bicycle pump-with-a-torch on the end, up it the mind did flip a little. "Give 'em a bit of cold steel, sir."

Anyway, I'm sorry, doc. I'd got the tickets for the Ents all-nighter and the bottle of whisky before me bum trouble started so I had to go. Now, maybe, Sam Apple Pie are a very good band but what came out of those speakers was more . . . a real mind bender. Next time, kids, just leave the dope at home and push through three Ampicillin capsules and a few swigs of Scotch and relax and enjoy the sounds. Mind you, it must have worn off by the time J. Geils came on.

Was this really the same J. Geils band whose albums I had told all my friends about? Was this bumbling Rosko, gushing forth verbal diarrhoea (reminding me of my ailing anus), presenting this slick, sick show the same lead singer? We soon warm to your talent, mate, in this hothouse of a great hall without this contrived, ultra-timed Osmond packaged frenzy. No, mate. It wasn't me stood outside the Churchill Hotel in the rain.

Maybe I was feeling down before going to the concert, Ents., but there did seem to be a lot of us there and a lot of gate-crashers and no bar and no-one knew

what was going on. Nipped over to the Union bar during the two hours between events—Wales had been playing England—faces at the door checking Union cards, faces that left college years ago. Nice guys, though—Brendan said his usual "Pint of Lager, Martin."—never drink the stuff—had a pint of Guinness and expressed sympathy for inferior races.

The Tuesday before I'd dashed home to see the Warhol film on the box. Instead found out how the British legal system works. Marvellous showpiece for the World. Works incredibly fast. None of your bureaucratic nonsense in courts. Good, instant justice. Well, said the judges to the plaintiff, you haven't seen the film, we haven't seen the film and the IBA board haven't seen the film so we'll stop anyone else from seeing it.

Someone had seen the film. The News of the World had seen the film, and true to their peculiar brand of perverted altruism, explained in lurid detail how it would shock and disgust us. The Sunday Mirror had seen the film. The Daily Express hadn't seen the film but felt sure it would be disgusting and the judges took note of what they thought it would be like if they had. The News of the World even quoted the worst bit of dialogue in the film. Woman: "Have you slept with a man?"

Man: "Yes."

Woman: "Would you like to sleep with my husband?"

(Man: "No, I've got my Guinness Book of Records to keep me warm.")

Must bring out an injunction against the Guinness Book for failing to mention New Mills Prize Band as the oldest brass band in the country. My old grand-daddy used to play double-B for them.

Ents . . . a word in your ear about these overcrowded concerts you keep holding . . .

MARTIN DOUGHTY

Felix Diary

Items for inclusion in the Diary must be sent to the Editor by Sunday lunchtime for that Tuesday's issue.

TUESDAY, 30th JANUARY

- 1235 Catholic Society: Mass. Chem 231.
1300 STOIC presents "Music Alive" featuring John Cale, Terry Riley, Kevin Ayers and Arthur Brown on TV in JCR and Southside.
Grants Action Committee meeting. Union Office.
1330 Derek Cummings, Insurance Broker and author of "Felix Financially" on "Insurance Companies and how they get so rich". Physics L.T. 1.
"Equality and Freedom", 3: Liberty Hall by Dr. D. D. Raphael. ME 220.
"Listening to Contemporary Music" 3: Schoenberg and serialism, by Sarah Thomas. ME 342.
1800 Transcendental Meditation — Introductory Talk. EE 606.
1930 Ballroom Dancing for beginners. Union Concert Hall.
Caving Club illustrated lecture on the Peru Expedition. Chem Eng L.T.1. Everybody welcome, free admission.
2000 Catholic Society: Shared Prayer. More House, 53 Cromwell Road.

WEDNESDAY, 31st JANUARY

- 1630 London Student Press Association meeting in Room 2C, ULU. Everyone welcome. Free tea in return for work.
1900 Art Club meeting in RCA annexe (rear of Huxley).
1915 "Charge of the Light Brigade" — QEC Film Society in the Allen Theatre. 15p non-members.
1930 Informal Musical Evening. Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 2 and various works for chamber groups, performed by members of the IC Orchestra. Free, Refreshments available. Library, 53 Prince's Gate.
2000 Folk Night in bar of Chelsea College. Free.

THURSDAY, 1st FEBRUARY

- 1230 Scout and Guide Club : The Governor of Pentonville prison speaking about his job. RSM 3.03.
1300 Union General Meeting, Great Hall. Motions for Exeter Conference, election of delegation, refectory boycott decision, etc.
Catholic Society Bible Study Group. Fal 118.
1315 Stamp Club. Civil 412.
1330 "Ancient China — the arts in an agrarian and bureaucratic society" by Dominic de Grume. ME 220.
"Poets in Anger". 4: Personal Spleen, by Patric Dickinson. Phys LT 2.
Lunch-hour concert : Gordon Carr (horn) and Jennifer Coultas (piano)

play Prelude, theme and variations by Rossini and works by Hindemith, Ruth Gripps, Schumann and Dukas. Library, 53 Prince's Gate.

- 1900 Art Club, RCA annexe (behind Huxley).
1930 Electronic Music Group : recital in Haldane Library (including some tapes made by members of the group).
Wellsoc film show: "True Grit". ME 220.

FRIDAY, 2nd FEBRUARY

- 1245 Islamic Society Congregational Players — Juma. CB 002.
1300 STOIC presents "Topic" magazine programme, on TVs in JCR and Southside.
1800 STOIC : repeat of 1300 transmission.
1900 Christian Union : Eastern Europe missionary evening with Martin Baker. Library, 53 P.G.
1915 IC Film Society: "Room Service" (non-members 20p at door). ME 220.
1930 Public meeting of the New Albania Society, "Youth in Albania". 155 Fortress Rd., NW5 (near Tufnell Park tube).
2000 People's Disco, Union Lower Lounge.

SATURDAY, 3rd FEBRUARY

- 1100 London Students' Representative meeting on the Murray Report, at ULU.
1345 Community Action Group playgroup visiting. Meet Union Arch.
2000 ICU Ents present Beck Bogert Appice in the Great Hall.
ULU Ents Disco. 15p.

SUNDAY, 4th FEBRUARY

- 1000 Eucharist. Ante-Room, CB.
1100 Mass. More House.
1345 Community Action, as Saturday.
1800 Mass. More House.
1930 Brains Trust with Prof. Scorer, Prof. Ring and Dr. Hans Michels. More House.
Mermaid Poetry Evening: "A Celebration of Ezra Pound" at the Mermaid Theatre, Puddle Dock.

MONDAY, 5th FEBRUARY

- 1930 Wellsoc: "The Nature of Time" by Prof. G. J. Whitrow. ME 220.

TUESDAY, 6th FEBRUARY

- 1930 SEAsoc Malaysia Cultural Evening. SCR, College Block. Speech, Dinner, Drinks, Films, Exhibitions, Dancing. 60p inclusive. Tickets from Priyani Ratnatunga (Chem Eng 3) or Para Krishnan (Aero Eng 2).

Thoughts, Hopes and Dreams

Do you think about your girlfriend over a cold Mooney, or when you're sitting shiny-trousered on your wooden laboratory stool like some quirel who has been disturbed long before his hibernation was due to end? Or later when you're sipping a glass of distilled River Liffey in a quiet corner do you think of World Peace or your lost Freedom and how you'd like to be in California sipping orange juice?

Or do you wish that all this time you have to spend doing your job and what's required of you could be spent just dreaming instead of dreaming of that day when dreaming will come true and then the regrets that all good dreamers will pass away? And do you wish all day could be spent painting or singing or just reading someone else's poetry that expresses all you ever wanted to say but never found the time; and that you wish you may get the wish you wish tonight . . .

Or do you hope? Hope maybe that the wars will end, that Northern Ireland and Vietnam and Biafra and Guernica will never happen again, will never be able to happen again because we all hope the same as you? Or maybe just that tomorrow will be a good day, with the frightened eyes of a laboratory rat or the alienation of a prisoner.

And do you, if you think, hope, wish or pray, find the barriers to these longings too great to bear without some outlet? Then let the paper be your sympathy, and preserve your desires in print . . . write something for PHOENIX. If you're not good with words, then maybe you are with pictures, even photos. Try it and let us see (before March 1st).

We would also like some help editorially, especially in making a 'Review of the (I.C.) Year'. Anyone interested should write to me or leave a note in the letter-rack in the Union.

GRAHAM WENHAM
Physics 3.

Phosphorous the Jobrot and Ferocious Din

Part seven of the serialisation of the book by
S. J. Swales

"Yeah, man" said Whiskers Stoat. Dino waved a huge revolver at the throng.

"You just sit quiet, and dere won't nobody get hurt." Everybody sat quiet.

"Hello, sweeties," said Luigi Rabbit, mincing through the door, "you have led us the most frightful dance, I must say. Over that nasty wet sea, and that awful jungle. Oh, it's been such a strain. And then parachuting down here. Terribly scary. But we've got you at last, you naughties. We're being awfully quiet aren't we? Cat got our tongues has it? Come on now, dearies, surely you've got something to say to your Uncle Luigi?"

"Get lost, lettuce features," said Ferocious conversationally.

"Ooooh, quite a little wit, aren't we?" squeaked the rabbit, "don't you be cheeky with me, sweetie, or Dino here might have to get cross." Ferocious looked at Dino. Dino was very large indeed, Dino was armed, Dino was a psychopath. Ferocious kept quiet but his grey cells were clattering away hopelessly.

Luigi Rabbit pouted at the three adventurers.

"What are we going to do with you?" he asked, rhetorically, "something frightfully nasty, I think. Large snakes, and buckets of acid perhaps. Oh what a troubled world it is for us decision makers." Ferocious had thought of a plan. It all depended on George, who was still making the tea, unaware that the number of guests had increased. It also depended on the Strikingly Offensive Cloak which Ferocious still wore draped around his shoulders. He prayed it was still working. Luigi was still musing on a suitable fate for the adventurers, when Ferocious noticed the door to the front room slowly opening. George appeared in the doorway, a tray with four cups of tea, and some digestive biscuits, in hand.

"Ah," he said, "some friends of yours dropped in? I'll get some more cups." The Luigi Rabbit Organisation swung round as one man.

"Who's dis guy?" inquired Dino.

This was the moment that the ever alert Din had been waiting for. Throwing the Strikingly Offensive Cloak hood over his head, he leapt to his feet. It was George who spotted the new-look Ferocious first.

"Erch!" he went, and dropped the tea tray. Hot tea shot down Luigi's immaculate furry front.

"Ooooh!" he shrieked and bounced around the room.

"Run for it!" shouted the Skull-faced Ferocious.

"Donna nobody . . . orghft!" commented Dino as a fleeing Tiny Twigworm tried to escape through the wall directly behind him.

"Bang! Bang!" piped Whiskers, waving his trusty carrot at no-one in particular. Chaos reigned in the little room, as seven creatures rushed hither and thither.

"Mind the . . ." but it was too late, George's warning could not stop the Twigworm reducing his sofa to matchwood.

"This way," bellowed Ferocious, who had found the door. The others followed the sound of his voice. "Down the stairs," he shouted, "it's our only hope."

"But my house," protested George.

"Come with us," said Ferocious, "Those objectionables will be after us any minute,

and they won't be very charitably disposed towards you either." Not waiting for an answer Ferocious pushed George ahead of him down the stairs. Phosphorous and the Twigworm were already thundering along ahead. Above them a shrill voice was shouting.

"Fools, incompetents. I'm surrounded by idiots. Ooooh, I could scratch your eyes out."

The four escapees had reached the foot of the tower, and could hear the Luigi Rabbit Organisation tumbling down the stairs in pursuit.

"Back into the stinking jungle, I suppose," said Ferocious.

"Yes and no," said George, "Fido will take us to the beach where my boat is kept, and we can get away in that."

"Good thinking, dear old leafy bureaucrat," said Ferocious, "Let's go." George whistled in a strange ear-tingling way and the jungle moved closer.

"Quick," said the Jungle Controller, "up a tree, and off we go." They each selected a tree, and shinned up it. The Twigworm crushed several small saplings before it found one that would bear its huge weight.

George whistled again and the section of the jungle from which their trees grew began to move slowly into the undergrowth. It was a weird sensation indeed, to be carried along in a tree at a steady fifteen miles an hour, through nature in turmoil. On either side of the oozing Fido plants and animals were battling for possession of some square yard of jungle floor. From above the heaving carpet of vegetation waved the occasional anguished branch, twigs clapping at the air, before sinking back into the foetid undergrowth. A botanical battleground ebbed and flowed about the slow moving Fido. The great forest creature flung back attackers with a flurry of raging tentacles, smaller plant creatures disappearing under its tumbling forward fronds. The hoots and wails of ivy in torment, oaks embattled and fungi funeral, stung the ears of the travellers. How had they got so far on foot before? wondered Ferocious. Perhaps it was thanks to Fido again—his presence behind them might have scared off lesser predators.

The jungle was beginning to thin out. It was not really the huge area it appeared from outside George's house. The writhing flora turned slowly to more conventional bushes and trees, patches of bare ground appeared underfoot. Fido slid to a halt.

"We can walk from here," said George, "we are nearly on the beach. I'll send Fido back the way we came to discourage those unpleasant chaps from following us." The four of them climbed down out of their trees. George talked quietly to Fido in a mixture of whistles and words. "He should stop them," he said, "but I've told him not to harm them, just discourage them from following us."

"A true humanitarian," said the callous Ferocious Din, "with a bit of luck something less friendly than Fido will get to them first. Ho, ho." Slowly their tame piece of jungle swung round and oozed off back the way it had come.

"This way" said George, and led the adventurers out of the jungle and onto the beach. It looked very much like the beach they had left earlier, except that there, on her moorings, lay George's boat. She was an old Gaff-rigged ketch, with a long varnished bowsprit, and black, heavy-timbered topsides.

"Gosh!" said Phosphorous, much impressed.

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ALWAYS READ THE SMALL PRINT

No apologies for the size of the print — we've had to use miniature type all through this issue to get everything in we wanted to. These are the motions coming to Thursday's UGM, and thence (if you approve) to the NUS Conference. Contact lenses may be bought at a discount through the NUS...

DRAMA

1. Drama Colleges Motion

Pre-amble

- ICU Notes: that changes are required in the present nature of training students for work in the Dramatic Arts — a profession which has high unemployment and restricted entry.
- that clarification is needed into the definition of the term Drama College.
- that an enquiry is about to take place into the training of students at Drama Colleges at which student opinion is not directly repressed.
- that students at Drama Colleges are not organised into effective student unions for the protection of their interests.
- that students of Drama are only eligible for discretionary awards.

Action

- ICU calls upon the NUS Executive to: ensure that student opinion is represented at any enquiry into the training of students at Drama Colleges.
- work towards the establishment of effective student unions in colleges of Drama to ensure that the interests of students are represented at a local level and encourage the establishment of a National Association of Drama Colleges Student Unions' along the lines of the National Association of Music Colleges Student Unions for the full discussion of and action on common problems.
- make special note in the campaign against discretionary awards to the problems of Drama Students, and to fight for the rights of students to train for a profession in the Dramatic Arts.

GRANTS

Background

- NUS recognises that:
- (1) Grants are part of the cost of higher education.
 - (2) Higher education is being re-orientated and the costs restructured to meet the changing needs of British industry. Intensified international competition and falling rates of profit are forcing the government to increase the pace of technological innovation and hence to reorganise and re-structure the costs of higher education.
 - (3) The problem therefore is not simply the student grant — the value of which has fallen as part of the cutback in costs of higher education — but also of the way the government is attempting to force students and college workers to pay for its 'rationalisation' and re-orientation by:
 - (a) DES instructions that catering must be self-financing — leading to price increases and worker redundancies (e.g. in Kent).
 - (b) UGC attempts to institute loan-financed and self-financed halls, whereby students are forced to pay for building, and workers laid off.
 - (4) Although the Vice-Chancellors want to increase student grants — to avoid trouble, — they are united with the government on their mutual need to re-structure the costs of higher education.

Policy

- The central aims of the NUS grants campaign must be as follows:
- (1) To explain that the government must take full responsibility for the financing of higher education — neither students nor workers are responsible for this. The state must pay for its problems here as elsewhere — students and workers are not responsible for these problems.
 - (2) Struggles against price rises, rent increases, cut-backs in workers' jobs and the like in such a manner as to upset the smooth running of institutions of higher education so as to force the government to take heed and to raise the possibility of groups of workers supporting our struggles. This approach is incompatible with a perspective of seeking 'support' from Vice-Chancellors and MPs, etc., who are opposed to students taking effective action. Therefore NUS must not have any perspective of forming alliances with MPs or Vice-Chancellors in the fight for student needs. We expect, rather, that any MPs and Vice-Chancellors, etc., who seriously support our demands will support our campaign.
 - (3) That to reflect the true wishes of students as a whole the main demands of the present campaign should be:
 - (a) Full grants for all students (that is an end to discretionary awards, discrimination against married women students and all parental contributions to the grants i.e. the means test).
 - (b) An increase in the grant to counter the effects of inflation since 1962 since when the value of the grant has been falling (i.e. at least £100).
 - (c) That the introduction of cash grants in colleges of education should be a further aim of this campaign. Prepayment of hall and catering fees is inconsistent with the right of students to spend their grant as they wish and furthermore to withhold such payments. No increases in costs are to be tolerated as a result of this.
 - (d) That priority in the campaign should also be given to an increase of £100 in the post-graduate grant, and the restoration of the London allowance for post-graduates.
 - (e) That the fight for a decent standard of living will not cease with the present campaign.
 - (f) That the introduction of a so-called student wage system will do nothing to improve the standard of living of students and is therefore totally irrelevant to our needs. NUS should concentrate on trying to improve the level of the grant not its name and drop this demand.
 - (g) To totally reject the freeze and all other anti working class legislation. We shall continue the fight for higher grants no matter what legal measures the state may put in our way.
 - (h) That it is unproductive to seek promises from the Labour Party. Repeated commitments from the Labour Party have proved worthless, so attempts to channel the campaign into parliamentary methods must be opposed. Our greater strength lies in mass action not in the influence of student votes. NUS should concentrate its efforts on mobilising students and not waste time on MPs.
 - (i) That any decision on the acceptance or rejection of a government offer must be taken democratically by all students and not by the NUS Executive alone.

Campaign

The rent strike is not the only tactic we can use in this or subsequent campaigns. One day strikes, occupations, boycotts of lectures, a temporary halt to research and other such tactics on a local basis are also effective in putting pressure on the college authorities.

Instructions

1. To Exec & CO's
To change the demands of the present campaign in accordance with Policy 1, 2 and 3.
2. To Exec
To support all colleges taking action over any of the demands of the campaign.
3. To Exec & CO's
Not to waste time and effort in trying to get the support of the Labour Party or MPs.
4. To Exec
To Call a one day Emergency Conference as soon as an offer by the government is made known to decide acceptance or rejection of such an offer on the basis of the decisions of union meetings in CO's. This Emergency Conference would also discuss further action if necessary. To ensure the minimum of absences through the

financial situation of small unions, arrangements should be made for the registration fee to be waived in cases of financial hardship.

WHITE PAPER

Topic: White Paper

Preamble

ICU notes the Government White Paper (Cmd 5174), misleadingly titled "Education: A Framework for Expansion".

ICU states its total rejection of the educational philosophy on which the White Paper is based, spawned as it is by the need of capitalism to cut costs; ICU rejects in particular the misleading concept that "the total resources available will always be limited" (para 7), for the educational system, which it feels should be a foremost priority in Government funding; and believes that one sector of education should not have to suffer so that another may be improved.

Policy

1. Nursery Education (Section 3).

ICU welcomes the advances to be made in the provision of nursery education, but considers it essential that a commitment is made to providing full-time places for children of two-income families, rather than simply catering for the needs of the non-working mother (para. 25).

2. Secondary Education (Section 4).

ICU applauds the proposed improvement and expansion of special schools for handicapped children and the special building programme to implement these aims (paras. 41-43), but is disappointed that no mention is made of welfare and counselling in secondary schools particularly in view of the raising of the school leaving age.

3. Teacher Education (Section 8, etc.).

ICU welcomes the provisos for "help and support" during the period of probation and for release for in-service training in at least one-fifth of this period; ICU also regards the suggestion of lightened time-tables and use of trained, professional tutors during this period as good ideas (para. 68).

However, ICU regards as unsatisfactory the White Paper's vague and anomalous mutterings about teacher supply and the projected cutback in college of education places available, by at least 50 per cent (para. 150), which would almost certainly indicate a vast increase in the numbers of inappropriately and inadequately trained post-graduate certificate teachers and married women returning teaching in nursery and primary schools. The undesirable implications of this are clear.

4. Further and Adult Education (Section 12).

ICU realises the White Paper's failure to outline a comprehensive scheme of post-school education, and notes the inadequacy of the few skimpy references to adult education. ICU notes the implied establishment of the A-level exam as a suitable criterion for predicting future performance in education. These considerations make nonsense of the White Paper's claim to recognition of the need "to make good for individuals the absence or loss of earlier opportunities and to encourage the renewal of knowledge and skills made obsolete by the explosion of knowledge and the impact of technology on a rapidly changing environment" (para. 105).

5. Dip. H.E. (Section 13).

ICU regards the Dip. H.E. as an ill-conceived and unwelcome corruption of past plans for two-year degrees, and particularly rejects the implication in the White Paper that the Dip. H.E. should be a terminal qualification (para. 112) and that there should be a 2 'A' level entrance requirement. ICU believes that the Dip. H.E. should only be accepted for entry into teacher education when it has included units of the theory and practice of education.

6. Universities.

ICU notes with alarm the proposed cut-back in the projected number of university places and in the annual growth rate of funding on the higher education sector from 6½ per cent (1961-72) to 5 per cent (1972-1982) (para 168).

ICU condemns the Government for not only refusing to end the waste and inequity of the binary system, but instead retaining it and sharpening and intensifying the binary division. In this context ICU opposes the attempt to isolate the Universities and establish them as an elitist minority, by defining the university sector as the "world of scholarship, research and invention" (para. 107); and the implications of increasing the exclusiveness of the university sector by reducing numbers, making entry more difficult and by trying to fob off working class children with diversions and lowered expectations, e.g. the Dip. H.E. rather than a degree.

ICU notes, with disappointment, the refusal of the Government to accept its responsibility to provide a higher proportion of residential places, and regards the White Paper as vague and inconclusive in its few references to student accommodation.

ICU welcomes the intention to provide, if possible, courses "within reasonable reach" of their homes for part-time students, but notes, with grave misgivings, the White Paper's view that there is "a need for a higher proportion of full-time students to be based at home", and rejects entirely the concept of the regionalisation of intake.

ICU condemns the proposed cut-back in the proportion of post-graduate students from 19 per cent in 1971-72 to 17 per cent in (1976-77) (para. 134).

7. ICU notes the absence of any reference to progress in methods of assessment or involvement of students in determination of curricula at any level of education.

Conclusion

ICU feels that change in the education system should be directed towards establishing an overall comprehensive system of higher education. ICU considers the White Paper inconclusive, vague, and inherently non-progressive, and entirely directed towards cutting costs, rather than expanding and improving education.

On these grounds and those outlined above ICU rejects the vast majority of the White Paper.

Instructions to NUS Exec.

- (1) To inform the mass of students about the White Paper and its implications to encourage feedback from students on the whole question of educational philosophy.
 - (2) To trace the developments on this question and to keep CO's fully informed.
 - (3) To investigate alternatives to present and proposed qualifications, e.g. A-levels and Dip. H.E. and methods of assessment. (Report??)
 - (4) To liaise with NUS in investigating and pressing for, improvement of welfare and counselling systems in secondary schools.
- To CO's.
- (1) To discuss with College Authorities, and as far as possible, gain their agreement, on policy, particularly with reference to
 - (a) Accommodation,
 - (b) Rejection of the Dip. H.E.,
 - (c) Rejection of the regionalisation of intake, and
 - (d) Resistance to cut-backs in post-graduate numbers.

WAGE FREEZE

Wage Freeze

Conference (ICU)

Deplores the system of wage restraint (Phase 2) that has been introduced by the Tories with the support of Labour, and the significant silence of the Union leadership, to coincide with the price restraint that allows the price of all food, all foreign goods, all goods with international fixed prices and any goods that the manufacturers claim have had cost increases, to rise without hindrance.

Notes the struggles of some sections of the low paid, for instance, the hospital workers and the gas workers, to gain higher wages. (Even at a time when Heath is trying to persuade them that Phase 2 is in their own interest). Also the important efforts of students to obtain higher grants.

Believes (1) That this is an attempt by the ruling class to solve one of its major problems, the decline in profit margins, at the expense of the working class. That is to eat into the income of workers with rising prices while making it illegal for them to attempt to get larger incomes.

(2) That such struggles for higher wages and grants are the main forces acting against the legislation at the moment, and that these struggles must be actively supported, and broadened where possible, in order to break through this legislation.

Mandates the Executive (1) To give support in the form of nationally co-ordinated publicity to the struggle of such locally based groups, particularly when their own unions are failing to do this, with a view to generalising the struggle from simply the economic necessities of higher wages to the more far reaching effect of breaking and thus making inoperable this wage restraint.

(2) To co-ordinate activities with the NUS, to attempt to show to school kids the effects of their actions in the specific struggle of the hospital workers this winter.

(3) To do everything possible to influence such organisations as the LCDTU, and rank and file shop stewards committees to get a basis for mass united class action.

— all CO's (1) To liaise with such local groups and to use both union facilities and union finance to support their struggle.

(2) To use NUS as focal point for information both by sending them details of the local situation and distributing such information as comes from NUS about other areas.

AUTONOMY

Policy

1. Conference considers that complete constitutional, financial and political autonomy of student unions is a fundamental right and is therefore not negotiable.

2. That student unions can only be controlled by the students and therefore no interference by college authorities, government or any other outside bodies is to be tolerated.

3. That democratic control by the student membership alone of each union is the only acceptable form of control of the union. This also applies to amendment or replacement of the constitution of the union and its financial affairs.

4. That autonomy by its nature is reflected in the activity of the relevant CO.

5. That the achievement of autonomy of student unions is not an end in itself but is a necessary basis for further action in defence of our standard of living and interests to ensure freedom of organisation and action.

6. We must be prepared to repel any government attack when it comes.

7. That the achievement of autonomy by individual CO's will put us in a much stronger position to meet any renewed government attack on our autonomy.

8. That the struggle for autonomy is a local and national action. Therefore the declaration of autonomy by a student union can only take place according to the situation of the union and the degree of understanding among its members of the need for autonomy as a step towards an even stronger union.

9. That it is a waste of time trying to secure promises from the Labour Party or MPs to support Student Union autonomy as such promises are worthless. Autonomy will only be achieved through action by students.

10. That no negotiations with the government can take place without the democratic mandate of an Emergency Conference.

Campaign

In accordance with Policy 5 and 8 the campaign for full autonomy of individual CO's cannot be separated from other actions taken by unions and the need for autonomy will manifest itself in the course of other campaigns. Therefore action for autonomy will be taken on a local level when the situation demands the need and makes such action possible. The form such action should take must of necessity be determined by the local conditions.

The best way to fight for autonomy is to exercise it, that means Student Unions should take any political actions they wish, such as making political payments, the student body nationally has to act in solidarity against any resulting attacks or victimisations on the Unions concerned.

Instructions

1. To Exec
To give full and unconditional support to all unions taking any action to declare themselves autonomous or struggle against their CA's on any issue.
2. To Exec
To urge and encourage all CO's to take action to fight for autonomy as soon as possible.
3. To Exec & CAG
Not to enter into negotiations with the government on the subject of autonomy without the democratic mandate of an Emergency Conference.

VIETNAM

Conference (ICU)

Notes (1) The signing of a peace/cease fire agreement between Nixon and representatives of the PRG.

(2) US continuing aid to the puppet regime; US fleet remaining in Indochinese waters and US bases remaining in Thailand (both constant threats to resume hostilities); continuing rearmament of the puppet army; transformation of US troops into "civilian advisers"; the increase in Saigon's police terror.

(3) The proposal to send in "police" forces from capitalist countries to ensure that the communists get a "fair deal".

Believes (1) That a step forward has been made for the Indochinese people in this agreement which removes the American military presence.

(2) The features in Note (2) illustrate that a lasting peace has not been agreed upon, merely a change in the distribution of forces in the area.

(3) That such military supervision cannot be relied upon, to preserve anything but the status quo.

(4) That in such a situation all possible international support for the final victory of the people in Indochina achieving self-determination, is still essential.

Censures the Executive — for actively opposing the development of the ISC (the only movement in this country based on a lasting solidarity position) in its first major public action after the founding conference which the Exec supported, backed by the NUS conference in Margate.

Instructions the Executive to actively support the right of the Vietnamese people to decide their own future by participating in the building of the ISC and consistently campaign with the ISC for solidarity with the Vietnamese people until final victory over the forces of Imperialism.

All CO's (1) to support the ongoing solidarity activities of the ISC.

(2) To attempt to set up local ISC groups in their own areas.

YOU'RE ALL INVITED!

On Saturday, 3rd February, there is to be a meeting of London students on the Murray Report. Any student is welcome to go, and each has equal voting status.

The decision to hold such a meeting was taken by ULU SRC at its meeting on December 4th, where there was a heated discussion on the rights of all students attending to full speaking and voting rights.

Should you wish to go, but in the months since November have completely forgotten what the Murray Report is or said, copies may be bought from Dillon's price £1.00, or copies of the special issue of "Sen-net" which contains all the relevant information are again available, free of charge, from the Union or Felix office.

The meeting will be held at the ULU building in Malet Street.

PAPERBACK BOOKS REVIEW

Biggles: Foreign Legionnaire

by Captain W. E. Johns (Armada 20p)

I'm told that once you've read one Biggles thrill-packed adventure you've read the lot, and you know all there is to know about Biggles, Ginger, Bertie and Algy — this I can believe. However, I must admit that I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The plot was simple and straightforward and certainly didn't hang about. At 20p for 160 pages, excellent entertainment.

The Modern Crossword Dictionary

by Norman G. Pulsford (Pan, 50p)

If "doing" crosswords is your penchant, this is the book for you. You will find films, novels, plays and fictional and historical characters in it as well as song titles, pop groups, animals, birds, insects ad nauseam... in fact, everything required to reduce to a fraction of the time the effort necessary to complete a puzzle.

The Red Towers of Granada

by Geoffrey Trease (Puffin 25p)

A boy is turned away from his home as a leper, is saved by the outlawed Jews and goes questing through Spain for a mysterious Golden Essence that will save England's Queen Eleanor from death. Hot stuff with a really excellent beginning where our hero experiences a strange and terrible thing — his own funeral service!

The Red Steer

by Wade Smith (Fontana, 20p)

John Wayne and his devotees, this is what you've been waiting for — if, like myself, all those revised westerns on the TV have put you off the ranch for ever, steer well clear, for Wade Smith has nothing for you. The story is slow and tired, very much like the characters it attempts to portray, and this is not alleviated by the hackneyed plot and predictable ending.

The 8th Fontana Book of Great Ghost Stories

(Fontana, 25p)

Exactly what it says — ghost stories by some excellent writers. The book is worth reviewing for the first story alone, "The Haunted Haven". Ghostly figures rowing wrecked boats through the pounding surf, returning in the early hours of the morning leaving only footprints in the sand — terrifyingly real.

DAVID HOBMAN

the sports page

football

After a break of five weeks the 1st XI got together last Saturday to thrash any opposition present—but unfortunately, we were on the wrong end of a 7-1 trouncing.

Playing with the disadvantage of eleven players, I.C. swept into the lead when Jaz Gahir scored after a mis-kick by the home team's keeper. After this touch of euphoria, I.C.'s defence quickly disintegrated—opposite of dis-differentiation, Sid (joke by courtesy of D. Rickman)—letting in three by half-time.

In the second half things started to look better with I.C. gaining control of the mid-field and snuffing out all of Chalfont St. Peter's attacks. However, during this time the attack failed to get a clean shot at the Chalfont goal.

Obviously this could not continue and didn't—in ten minutes towards the end of the game, Chalfont easily put another four into the back of the net.

Despite the size of the defeat, the I.C. defence had a fairly good game—they were in a different class. Graham Popple played exceedingly well at centre-half and debut-boy Colin Dyer, after a shaky start, made his presence felt at left-half.

The second XI also played at Chalfont on Saturday. They played nine against eleven, lost 1-0 and Mick Downs did not write this report.

A rare event occurred at Harlington last Saturday—I.C. 3rd XI won their second match of the season. For this match I.C. tried their new secret weapon—they only had seven players. Not to be outdone, Chalfont countered by only having eight

GUILDSHEET

In Felix last week Mr. R. Appleby (or is it Miss?) started his (or her) article:

"It seems that a large proportion of RCS enthusiasts and Guildstwarts are unaware of the active rivalry that took place, more or less continuously, throughout last term between the unions of these two constituent colleges."

It would seem to me, however, that the person knowing least of what went on was Mr. Appleby himself.

In the last paragraph of his article he refers to the abduction of the Guilds' Fruit, collected for Morphy Day, from Guilds' Union Office. This both mystifies and surprises me. Does Mr. Appleby really think Guilds would store rotten fruit in their lovely clean union office? Surely not. The fruit was stored nowhere near the Union Office—in fact it was in one of the lock-up sheds under Exhibition Road, in front of Mech. Eng. It was from here that RCS forcibly broke the lock and stole the fruit. This stupid and useless sortie achieved nothing—except for making RCS smell even more than usual.

Reference was also made to the relieving of Guilds of some yellow shields. Once again Mr. Appleby is far from the complete truth. The occasion he refers to, I am sure, is when Guilds were busy finishing their float for the Lord Mayor's Show. A bunch of supposed responsible citizens then rushed into the union office and just picked up everything in sight, including students' folders, and most important some polystyrene letters which had been prepared for Guilds' float. They then rushed out again, dropping litter all over Mech. Eng. and breaking half the letters. After some time these letters were regained by Guilds, but a large number had to be remade. This complete irresponsibility of RCS nearly sabotaged Guilds' noble act of holding high the hand of Imperial College at the Lord Mayor's Show. I wonder why Mr. Appleby left this information out of his article?

And now for an earth-shattering disclosure. Three attempts by RCS have failed to locate their beloved Union Office Sign, but Guilds will now tell them where it is. Yes folks, only RCS could fail to look in the most obvious place. Ever since Guilds have had possession of this sign it has been ON SHOW for all to see in the GUILDS' TROPHY CABINET. RCS must all be blind, I suppose.

Perhaps in future Mr. Appleby will get his facts right. It wouldn't improve the general hopeless standard of Broadsheet anyway.

Yours in ICCYR,

GRAY HANSON,
Hon. Sec., C & GU.

AN ENGINEER'S DIARY

- Feb. 6—Guilds' Union Meeting, ME542, 1 p.m.
- Feb. 10—Rag Collections, meet 10 a.m. ME concourse.
- Feb. 11—Guilds' Bar Night, Union Bar.
- Feb. 16—Guilds/OC Valentine's Party.
Tickets 50p, Guilds' Union Office
- Feb. 27—Guilds' Hustings.

hockey

Playing their new 1-3-2 formation I.C. swept into the attack straight from the bully. Faced with such overwhelming supremacy Chalfont resorted to dirty tactics—their full-back-umpire bent the rules with considerable skill to disallow nearly all of I.C.'s goal attempts. However, mid-way through the first half I.C. eventually managed to score thanks to Dave Neal (or was it Beal?) (a third team joke?).

The I.C. defence was never seriously troubled (the goal-keeper got frozen to the goalpost) and we ran out easy winners 1-0. Despite their lack of numbers, all the I.C. players played extremely well and more victories must surely come shortly.

Team:—R. Bateman; J. Andrews (script-writer); S. Bottom, T. Feline, A. Brewster; D. Neal, A. Evans.

After Saturday's disastrous result, a much-changed I.C. 1st XI visited Teddington—where to get out on one side of the station, one has to cross the same bridge twice—the home of St. Mary's Hospital.

After the abysmal match—I.C. won 2-1—the most memorable moments of the match, besides goals by D. Richman and A. Tatchell, were: the complete disregard of the rules by all players, the play of J. Astley, and the umpiring (sorry Tim).

MIXED HOCKEY

Despite only having ten players last Sunday, I.C. comfortably defeated City University by the only goal of the game. I.C. were on top for most of the match and the miracle was that only one goal was scored. This inability to score was partially due to some unusual play by the City goalkeeper, but mainly to the chronic shooting of the I.C. forwards.

The goal, scored in the first half, was a typical (?) Wonder Boy effort, which fizzled into the corner of the goal. The I.C. defence comfortably coped with anything the City forwards could provide, and their goal was never in danger. The whole team played well, particularly our three lady players.

Team:—R. Cameron, J. Andrews, M. Vieyra; Janet Peacock, A. Brown, B. Evans; Jenny Jones, W. B. (The Executioner), J. Astley, Geraldine Bowden.

Quote:—"We don't get open goals to miss like that in the 1st team." W.B., of course.

STUDENT WORLD

BRADFORD UNIVERSITY Union has negotiated an exclusive contract with Whitbread's which includes the purchase by the Union of a real pub, which will be restored. This is the second time in five years that the Union has achieved such a contract—no other Union has managed it once.

LEEDS UNIVERSITY, who have already got five sabbatical officers, rejected the creation of a further two posts, but accepted one—Deputy President for Welfare. The two that failed to gain acceptance were House Secretary and Honorary Secretary, on the grounds that there was not enough work to justify the expense.

CAMBRIDGE STUDENTS' UNION, beset by low-quorum difficulties, are to drastically alter their constitution. There will be fewer UGM'S, the powers of the exec. will be increased to allow them to initiate policy without a Union mandate, and the quorum will be increased from 250 present to 250 or 350 voting in favour.

At NONINGTON COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION, the College authorities are trying to take out an injunction against the President, Angela Littlewood, to stop her entering college premises. Their grounds are that she is no longer a student. Readers will remember the troubles that arose last term when the Union attempted to get a sabbatical president, something the governors of Nonington have consistently refused to accept. The case comes before the High Court in ten days' time.

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY is proposing to set aside a number of places every year to students not prepared to state their specialisation at the time of application, which means that they can decide which course to take when they arrive at university.

EDINBURGH'S "Curators of Patronage" are to consult every sector of the university—including students—on the choice of a new Principal (Sir Michael Swann, at present holding the post, is taking over the post of Director-General of the BBC). The post is to be advertised—it is believed that this is the first time this has been done in Britain.

THE "A" TEAM

The story so far: "In the beginning were the A1's, also were the A2's, but those days have now passed. For there was a famine over the land. And the captain said 'Give us your best to play for the extras'. And they gave their best.

The A2's were tried on the field called Harlington and they triumphed over their adversary and a plague of excrement fell amongst their adversary. After they retired to the Inn and they rejoiced. But their rejoicing was short, and there was a weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. For the Angel of Apathy descended on the Xtras and they were scattered. And the Captain said 'Let there be a sacrifice lest the Xtras vanish from the earth', and they took the A2's and broke them assunder and scattered them amongst the Xtras and the A1s, and the A2's were no more. And thus there was the A's."

But to get up to date, the record so far of the A's has not been too successful (to scare away opposition) the record this term is:—

P	W	D	L	F	A
2	—	—	2	14	49

We hope to keep readers up to date on the progress of this side (by writing the match report on Saturday night . . . before we all get too pissed). After all it is the team of the common man. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who are willing to turn up regularly. I would mention your names only I can't remember them.

Friends and hope

lacrosse

Imperial College lacrosse club won again on Saturday beating Old Sedcopians B, 16-1. The opposition turned up with only eight men out of their lawful ten, and were duly hammered.

Nothing much of note happened except that whizz kid won one face (technical term pertaining to restarting the game) out of oodles of them, Tony Hallett missed three or four open goals and the 'luxury' coach broke down on the way home. The extra reach produced on Bob Strangeway's right arm by carrying the kitbag from the Hammersmith flyover should come in handy ('scuse the pun!).

Ian Gulliford played his usual superb game and the defence played well, but someone should have clobbered their number eight, or broken his cross sooner than we did.

Alan Treasure and Tony Hallett collected two goals apiece whilst Steve Norris and W.K. scored . . . and scored . . . and scored . . . with a melon?!

Conditions—Damp.

Rating—**

Team: Ian Gulliford, Bob Strangeway, Jack Katzburg, Sam Henry, Steve Rose, Paul Spooner, Lionel Clarke, Steve Norris, Alan Treasure, Tony Hallett.

SWANSEA University College Union boycotted exam rooms last week, and 40 per cent of first-year students failed to turn up to their exams. The Union is objecting to using the exam, compulsory for 700 of the 900 first-year students, as a means of assessment.

MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY and UMIST are to adopt Britain's first scheme for evaluating lecturers' teaching abilities, under a scheme being run by their Adult Education Department. Manchester has one of the few lecturers in higher education in the country.

LANCASTER students are fighting against a new disciplinary code, and staff are refusing to approve it until they are satisfied that discipline will be enforced. The students claim that the rules, the same for both students and staff, are only applied to the former, and there is "one law for the rich and one for the poor."

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IMPERIAL COLLEGE
South Kensington,
London, S.W.1.

Norman St-John Stevas, M.P.
Under-Secretary of State,
Department of Education and Science.

Dear Sir,

As a student of Imperial College, I wish to complain strongly about the financial situation that I and my fellow students find ourselves in at the moment.

The recent rapid rise in costs that students have to bear has not been matched by increases in grant levels, nor will they unless the Government decides to act. This problem is worsened further by the fact that part of the grant is composed of a parental contribution. Our parents because of financial and other reasons are unwilling to pay us the full contribution. This means test element has increased sharply in recent years and accordingly the amount most of us receive from our parents has gone down in real terms.

This is not the end of the matter. It is often assumed that all students receive grants and at the full rate. Apart from the means test problem many students receive lower level grants because they are not on degree level courses. This is the worst part of all. We think that all students should receive a grant as a right.

If the Government wishes to expand higher and further education there can be no short cuts. In particular the value of our grants must be maintained and discriminatory practices within the grants system removed. If this is not done not only will we suffer, so will future generations of students and with them the widening of access to higher and further education we wish to see.

The NUS is at present organising a campaign to pressure the Government into action. We support the Union's claim for an end to discretionary awards: a raising of the main rates of grant to counteract the erosion of value that inflation has caused; a raising of the grants that married women students are at present eligible for and the institution of a student cost index with an annual review of grants.

Students at I.C. feel particularly strongly that the parental contribution should end. This has led to an increasing proportion of the grant coming from our parents, many of whom cannot afford it. We feel that the only just system is to pay the full grant to all who study.

Many of my fellow students are post-graduates. They cannot work during the holidays and so cannot afford to get into debt. We are totally opposed to the introduction of loans for Post-Graduates and feel that the cost of living in London warrants the re-introduction of the London allowance.

I am deeply disturbed that your Government has delayed for a whole year before replying to the N.U.S. claim. I urge you to recognise that the widespread rent-strikes and refectory boycotts show deep feeling among students that the N.U.S. claim is just.

I strongly urge you to concede it immediately.

Yours faithfully,

Date

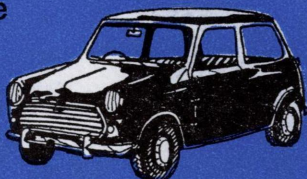
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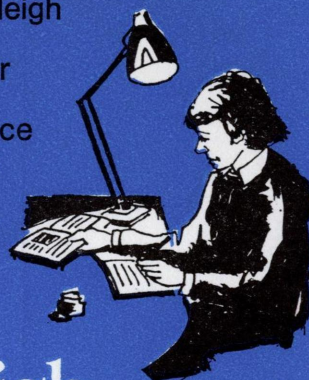
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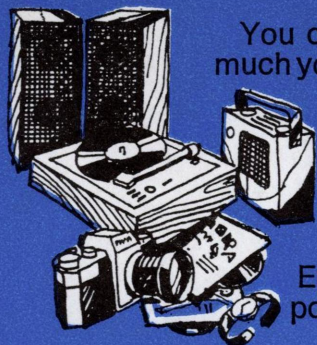


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