



# Felix

30th OCTOBER 1973 FREE

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION  
No. 344

## UGM

### Concert Hall

Thurs 1 p.m.

- Rent Strike
- Refectories
- Chile

# POLICE CALLED IN AS STUDENTS ENACT IC UNION POLICY

COMMENT BY  
**JOCK VEALL**

The college authorities went to tremendous lengths last week to try and prevent too many students paying the old price for refectory meals.

They preferred to take good food from students and **THROW THE FOOD AWAY** rather than allow students to pay the old price. The police were even called in the hopes that they would be able to force students to pay college's inflated prices instead of last year's price.

The authorities backed down at the last minute and sent the police away; instead college tried to use their own 'police'. Chief of police (security) Mr. Dawson warned that a student could be prosecuted under the theft act for refusing to accept the inflated college price. Mr. Dawson pointed out (apologised?) that he did not make the laws and that he only interpreted them. He made no comment when it was pointed out that the law in this case was being used to ensure that students (like workers with the pay laws) were being made to accept the burden of inflation through these refectory increases. The authorities seemed so concerned to ensure that students were made to pay, that they 'sent along' some of their higher officials namely Mr. Mooney and Mr. Seaford to the refectories to increase the line of 'heavies' by the till.

Union exec seemed to have a strange way of supporting union policy.

Union exec threatened a student with disciplinary action for implementing union policy. It is hardly reassuring to know that our exec are willing to attack those who implement union policy. Mr. Seaford likewise issued threats presumably with a

view to persuading students from further action?

College seem to accept that any increase in our grant should be immediately eroded away by increases in college prices. This comes from a body who claim to support the grants campaign! They must feel an increase in grant justifies higher college prices so students are no better off; instead college can save on expenditure by these increases and delude students that they have real increase in income.

Next year I.C. students can look forward to an even bigger increase in refectory prices, also a rent increase for halls and student houses! Judging by this year's exec lack of interest in the grants campaign (no body from exec could even be bothered to go to last weekend's national conference) and attempts not to support union policy on fighting refectory increases; (Perhaps exec have forgotten the situation most students are facing and are too busy getting fat on their free meals and sherry with college?) we are unlikely to expect a lead from them in a fight against these increases. The only people we can rely on are ourselves.

## NLP— End of Occupation

Last week at a Union General Meeting at North London Polytechnic a motion was tabled by the International Socialists in conjunction with the Conservative Society to end the week-long occupation of the Administration block.

The students who had occupied as a protest to force the resignation of their Director Terence Miller voted to end the occupation by an overwhelming majority.

Television cameras, microphones and reporters from the "nationals" were there at the UGM which was attended by something in the order of 500 students (Telegraph) to 1,000 (Guardian).

The day before the occupation ended last Wednesday 40 members of the National and Local Government Officers Association (NALGO) walked out because of the mess and disruption caused by the sit-in. The students were sensitive to this and it was a contributing factor to the tabling of the motion.

The meeting requested the executive publish certain documents unearthed in the Administration files during the occupation which disclosed certain irregularities in the appointment of Mr. Christopher Champness as head of the Law Department.

The occupation has been liquidated by the I.S. because the students at NLP realise they face a whole range of problems in common with students everywhere — problems whose solution involves a political fight against the Tory government and not another round of mindless militancy which is the by-word of these revisionist groups.

However to back down before this political fight is a betrayal of the students and as we see above plays right into the hands of Miller and the right wing.

## PURPLE PATCH

During the past week, the most notable event for a great number of people has been the Commemoration day. For those being presented this was a day to culminate their many years or months of study. For the parents, this was the day when they could see their dear little offspring in the centre of all the activity and feel proud of them. For Sir Brian Flowers, our new rector, it was a day when he was to openly state his position in the Students' fight for a better standard of living, and a more workable Grants system for all the students in the country. For those of us who were present, the news came as quite a shock. He delivered a 10-minute speech in which he covered the topics of Lord Penney, the people being presented with degrees, new courses within the college, the Murray report, the proposed increases in student numbers in the Universities, the ability to obtain jobs once the first degree is over, The difficulties of obtaining residence in central London, and the fact that the only people who can see any sense in the present system of Grants assessment must be "The most arid of bureaucrats."

He then went on to say that he shares our beliefs about the grants' problem — "I share these beliefs, and so long as they are being responsibly expressed, then I shall support them."

After this he stated that for an undergraduate living in a hall of residence "The present level of the Undergraduate maintenance grant is deficient by at least £100."

From his report, one comes out with the conclusion that if we begin to express our views in a mature and sensible way, then we will have the support of the college, with a recommendation of a basic £100 increase in the level of the Undergraduate grant. It is thought that

the Post graduate grant will normally follow on from the Undergraduate one, and that after the adjustments have been made, the then basic grant for those studying in Universities will reach a reasonable level. It is my belief that in conjunction with these recommendations will also come suggestions as how to improve the Married women's grant, rationalise the means testing situation, and also improve the position of those people in other institutions of higher education by removing the Discretionary awards system.

It is very pleasant to see that we have someone who is prepared to stick out his neck and say what he really thinks it is all too easy to toe the line with those people who have gone before you and to keep on giving support, but not actually putting any quantitative statement on it. Let us hope that this precedent by Sir Brian Flowers will encourage other University officials around the country to do the same, and then maybe the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals will begin to have some power to change the system of Grant Assessment. If anyone is now thinking that this is probably no more than words from the Rector, then I would remind you that he has now probably got to answer to the C.V.C.P. for the statement which he has made, and then they will want to know exactly where he has got his figures from, I hasten to add that the feat of convincing a body like that is by no means an easy task, and if he is just trying to pacify us with his words, then he will surely fall flat on his — when he tries to convince the C.V.C.P.

(If anyone would like to read the whole of the speech which he made on Thursday, then we do have some copies in the Union office). Here are just a few notes effectively.

to end with.

1. There will probably be a meeting of some group of people on Thursday evening at 5.30 to discuss the Motions which are being submitted to the N.U.S. conference in Margate this January. There is to be a great deal of re-hashing the motions submitted from this college, and thus it is important that those people who are interested come along to the meeting. More details will be available at the Union meeting on Thursday.

2. As a comment on the letter in Felix last week from Joe Herbertson regarding Union autonomy. Over the past few weeks we have been negotiating with the college for an increase in the amount of money which the Union will have to spend. Normally any increases which are likely are negotiated during the last term of the academic year, but when we got around to sorting out our estimates at the end of last year we found that we were almost £2000 short of the estimates which the clubs and societies had submitted. Thus the Board of Governors decided that they would give us an extra £5,000 as I said last week. It should now be possible that by the end of this academic year, we will be on a per capita system of union financing and also we should be receiving all of our money from the Local Education Authorities, and not from the College. Once we get to this kind of system then the negotiations which will take place will be via the college to the L.E.A.'s and not directly to the college.

As a final note, PLEASE come along to the Union meeting on Thursday, and hear what everyone has to say. Speak what you feel is the truth and formulate a policy which will help all of us to do our jobs more efficiently and also more effectively.



# LETTERS

## Materialism

### vs Idealism

Sir,

From your editorials it appears that you have one fixed solution to all problems that may arise in any situation — to build the revolutionary party.

When I was at school in Ireland we were also given one fixed solution to solve all problems — to look to the (Catholic) Church. What's the difference?

Yours sincerely,

Kathleen Corcoran.

## EDITOR'S REPLY

This, and your previous letter both come down in the last analysis to a question of epistemology. Philosophy is split into two great camps—the idealists who assert that thought is primary to matter and the materialists who say that ideas arise out of the material world in some way. If you subscribe to the former, then end of correspondence for your arguments will reduce to a question of god-given morality, and your political position to one of fervent reaction.

The early materialists asserted that changes in ideas came about from changes in the material world, but of course could not explain the source of changes in the material world, and ascribed it (like the idealists in explaining the source of changes of ideas did to a god or third force of some kind) to some constant law of Nature—it just works that way!

These mechanical materialists were just another form of philosophical idealists, in having to look outside the material world for some source of changes in it.

Dialectical materialists (of which Marx was the first) say on the contrary that ideas arise out of the struggle between Man and Nature — a struggle which changes both Man and the material world. From this we can see that there are no absolutes — no straight lines through historical development — just continual conflict.

Furthermore that the working class can only develop spontaneously trade union, i.e. bourgeois reformist, consciousness and it is precisely to break the working class from reformism that we call for the election of Labour government, etc.

The necessity for the party or more precisely a democratic centralist organisation (democratic to allow the fullest discussion of ideas or abstractions from the political situation and centralist to provide the greatest unity in carrying out the policies of the Party arising out of the discussion) is to provide the highest form of political leadership for the masses.

YSSS class "The rôle of the revolutionary party." Mech. Eng. 214, Wednesday, 1 p.m.

# ENTS

Dear Ali,

I should like to clear up a few misunderstandings which may have arisen out of the 'Felix' coverage of the UGM of October 16th regarding the 'Ents Motion'.

Firstly, the council motion of last term was amendment was proposed to allow Ents a little more freedom than the (amended) Council Motion originally suggested. John Lane's amendment did not purport to "increase the number of 'large groups' to four per term"; it restricted the number of optional extra concerts to one, the overall effect being to limit the number of "large concerts" to four per term.

Your reporter has also grossly misinterpreted the original Council motion. It was passed, not "... to ensure Ents cater for a wider range of tastes", but rather, and I quote, that "I.C. Ents run events to consist of Weekly Hops combining the Friday disco and a 'danceable' band. This to be run on Fridays or Saturdays as a social event in the Union (Concert Hall) ... No big concerts in the Great Hall in the first term" (A subsequent amendment altered "No" to "Three").

At the time this motion was passed Ents had already been running films for a term.

The "Folk Groups" (i.e. Ralph McTell, presumably) this term, hardly qualify under the above stipulation and are, for the time being at least, being planned independently of both the "Three Concert Limit" and Ents. The motivation to cater for a wider range of tastes has always existed in Ents and was not influenced by Council.

The attendance at Tuesday's Osibisa concert suggests to me at least that plenty of I.C. students are interested in what Ents is doing. So can I encourage everyone who is inter-

# SOUP RUN

For the past year ICCAG have been doing a soup run to Charing Cross and surrounding areas. This happens each Wednesday and Friday night and involves taking soup and bread to people who for various reasons have nowhere to go and are sleeping on the streets.

These are the people who have slipped through the net of the welfare state in what is meant to be a caring and compassionate society. Very often the only alternative to the street is a lousy Salvation Army Hostel or a vast impersonal Government Reception Centre, I know which I would choose. Most of the people at Charing Cross have social problems of one sort or another, some have medical problems, while yet others are purely and simply homeless. This makes them unable to draw Social Security, thereby creating an unavoidable vicious circle.

So what can we as students do about it all? The most important achievement is to make personal contact with some of the "dossers" who so many people just pass by and ignore. It is surprising how quickly individual relationships develop, especially for those who do soup run on a regular basis.

As well as showing that we at least do care and consider it a scandal and an outrage that in our society there are people sleeping on the pavement in front of showrooms housing cars, we must aim to heighten people's awareness and rouse their consciences. If public opinion was sufficiently strong this appalling situation would no longer be tolerated and something would have to be done. It is people's attitudes that we must try to change — after all it could happen to any one of us. It's easy to end up on the street, but not so easy to get back off it.

Well, this is what Soup Run is all about — just seeing and talking to people. It doesn't take much — we are all human.

Claire.

Soup Run — Wednesday, 9.00, Selkirk Kitchen, 10.00 Union Arch. Friday 10.00 Selkirk Kitchen, 11.00 Union Arch. Meet Selkirk Kitchen or Union Arch.

# DECORATING WEEKEND

## ICCAG proposes to help the aged ....

A decorating weekend has been organised by ICCAG for the weekend 9-12th of November. This involves decorating the homes of people, usually

old people, in the W11 area. Will anyone interested please sign up on the notice board in the Union Lower Lounge or contact Roger Upton, Chem PG.

ested in being entertained to bring any helpful suggestions to Ents. We shan't be booking Led Zeppelin or The Who or Pink Floyd this term or next term or ever, but if anyone wants to know why, or can suggest any other way we could work better, there'll always be someone from Ents in the Union Office

(or in the Room at the Top, when we get our external phone re-connected) at lunchtimes, who will discuss any suggestions.

Ents exists not for the benefit of its members but for the student body as a whole ... nuff said.

SID AMOR,

I.C. Ents Chairman.

## India's human calculating machine

### SHAKUNTALA DEVI

SHAKUNTALA DEVI was born in Bangalore, India in 1946. When she was three, she had a revelation that she was a mathematical genius. The revelation proved to be true, and even now, at the age of 32, she is baffling everybody with her mathematical prowess.

At six, Shakuntala demonstrated her talents at the University of Mysore to a large gathering of students and professors of the University. The little girl worked out the most complicated arithmetical manipulations with lightning rapidity and scientific precision, and kept the assembly astounded for two hours.

Shakuntala who later displayed her talents to people all over India came to be acclaimed as a child prodigy.

In London, on October 5th, 1950 the BBC presented Shakuntala on TV. She gave quick answers to problems set by the B.B.C. She also gave a presentation at Leeds University the next day.

At the University of Rome, one of her answers was found to be wrong by the calculating machine. After re-checking it was found that the calculator had gone berserk.

In Washington, D.C., the party of reporters and mathematics professors who witnessed her demonstration in July 1952 were completely baffled. The audience of Dan Seymour's "We the People" TV show in New York witnessed Shakuntala compete with an electronic calculator and win by six seconds. She appeared on other shows in the U.S.A.

Shakuntala also toured South America and the Far East. In Japan she appeared on the Nippon Television Network, and in Cambodia she gave a performance before H.H. the King of Cambodia.

In Sydney, Australia, Shakuntala matched her wits against an £80,000 electronic brain "UTECOM" of the University of South Wales. Seconds before the complete question could be fed into "UTECOM", Shakuntala had the answers. "It is frightening!" remarked one of the professors present.

Shakuntala Devi has toured most of the countries except Russia and China and some in Eastern Europe. Nowadays, she is in Britain. Recently she appeared on TV and also featured in the daily newspapers.

She has challenged any computer or calculator to a match of mathematical ability, while she is in Britain. Her record to date: Extracting the 20th root of a 42 digit number and multiplying figures that yielded a 39 digit answer. Simple sums don't take any time at all. By "simple" she means calculating cube and fourth roots, etc.! She said modestly to the Daily Mirror: "For big problems like finding the 10th root of a 40-figure digit I have to concentrate hard and it might take up to 30 seconds to answer".

Recently, the Sunday Times put her to the test. They took her to the accounts department, where there was a very bright girl with a deft hand on an electronic calculator. Shakuntala Devi won each time because her answers to a series of extensive addition, multiplication and division were just about instantaneous; their girl hadn't had time to get them on the machine. There was no competition when it came to finding a fourth root: the machine couldn't do it. Shakuntala took three seconds.

Such a display of brilliance is hardly credible. Nevertheless, it is true. You too can witness the wizards at work. Shakuntala will be appearing at Imperial College (Great Hall), on November 8th, 1973, at 7.30 p.m. on invitation from I.C. India Soc. Admission will be 10p. All are welcome.

Further information may be obtained from:

M. Bhadresha, Elec. Eng. 3;  
or P. Chakrabarty, Chem. Eng. PG;  
or J. P. Singh, Mech. Eng. 3.

Please bring solved problems and verify the answers yourself. Any complicated arithmetical problems welcome.

## A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF EMPIRICAL COLLEGE BY RON APPLEBY

HUNDREDS OF VALIANT TROOPS MARCH OVER PUTNEY BRIDGE ON ONE OF EMPIRICAL COLLEGE'S MOST TRADITIONAL EVENTS



HAVE THEY COME TO WATCH THE 3 BOAT RACES? ...



OR JOIN IN THE TOEPATH BATTLE? ...



OR TUS-OF-WAR? ...



OR TUS-OF-WAR? ...



WELL LET'S ASK OUR AVERAGE EMPIRICAL COLLEGE STUDENT WHY HE WENT TO MORPHINE DAY





# AROUND THE STUDENT WORLD

## NUS REPORT

### Student Housing Protest Grows

Throughout the country, student unions have been staging protests over their accommodation or lack of it. The protests have one common theme: that the Government has allowed student numbers to expand without making any provision at all for finding the students somewhere to live, and without providing a grant big enough to pay for the accommodation that isn't there anyway. Students are not calling on the Government to slow down the rate of expansion of higher education: that would be an intolerable betrayal. Nor are they asking the Government to find students somewhere to live in preference to finding non-students somewhere to live; the Government's responsibility, which it has consistently refused to face, is to all people, students included, who are prohibited under its income controls from earning enough to pay the prices charged under its Housing Finance Act.

\*Cambridge Technical College students are occupying Owlstone Hall of Residence, which would provide 150 good, modern study-bedrooms for Cambridge Tech's students, and solve its accommodation problem—but which has been empty for three years. It used to be a nurses home, but in 1970 the Department of Health and Social Security offered it to Cambridge Technical College, and then a few weeks later withdrew the offer, saying they wished to pull it down, and build a hospital management training centre. It has lain empty ever since, until homeless students from Cambridge Technical College occupied it last week. The D.H.S.S. are now ready to reverse their original decision and leave the building standing.

\*Sussex University students have just ended an occupation of their administrative block. Many Sussex students live a long way away, since accommodation in Brighton and Lewes has become expensive and hard to find. They were demanding that the University should make up the difference between what is allowed in the grant for board and lodging and what the students were actually having to pay. The University has now agreed.

\*Teesside College of Education students have just finished occupying half their College—the half which was due to be pulled down last Monday. The College, and the students, were told that they had just one week to pull out and allow a development company to build on the site. Instead of pulling out, they occupied; and the caretakers refused to do overtime to move the College possessions out of the threatened half of the building. They have now moved out, and although the building is still to be pulled down, they have forced the local authority to provide temporary accommodation for the displaced parts of the college.

### Sympathetic vice-chancellors

On Monday, 12th October the Committee of Vice-Chancellors stated their concern that unless something was done about student grants only the wealthy would be able to go to university.

The Vice-Chancellors are concerned that the principle set down by the Anderson Committee in 1960 is being eroded. This committee reported that grants should be available to cover the reasonable basic maintenance costs of first degree students. The Vice-Chancellors said that the "Governments have begun to threaten this principle by fixing grants which fall short of basic living costs".

They expressed particular concern at the current cost of housing for students. They say that universities must be able to fix rents in halls of residence at a level which students can afford. The Vice-Chancellors are obviously worried that many students in halls of residence have to pay more for board and lodging than is allocated in the grant. Students reacted to these high charges last year by refusing to pay their rent.

The Committee of Vice-Chancellors will make their views known to the DES while the review of grants for the next three years is underway. They want student grants to be fixed initially at realistic levels and want grants to be supplemented annually to take account of changing prices.

The Vice-Chancellors may feel sympathetic to the students' predicament but it does not seem that they are going to regard rent strikes with any sympathy. The university heads regard rent strike action as misconceived. They say that it "wastes time and money on conflicts which are not created by universities and which are not in their power to resolve."

Several recent incidents show that they may be preparing to take a hard line over the rent strike issue. Harry Kay, the Vice-Chancellor at Exeter University was asked by Peter Smart, President of the Students' Union to address a meeting of first year students. It had been agreed before the meeting that

it would be simply a welcoming speech. However, Mr. Kay, after expressing his delight at seeing rows of new faces, then proceeded to tell them that rent strikes were not a good thing and hoped that they would not themselves think of participating in one.

Alec Merrison, Vice Chancellor of Bristol University, has been using the university news letter to warn students against rent strikes.

### Students take over Music School

A number of Manchester students are squatting in the old College of Music situated near the University Union building. The property previously housed the Royal Northern College of Music which has since moved to a £1 million complex near the University Precinct Centre.

The squatters hope to develop the buildings as an overspill for activities of the University Union. At the moment it is providing much needed temporary accommodation for students who have been unable to find anywhere to live.

The Principal of the Music College, Air Commodore Vaughan, said in reaction to the squat that the building is to stand for two years at least and is still used for occasional music practice. The city planners have said that they want to pull the building down by Christmas to make way for a car park.

When the squat first began the university threatened to evict the students, but this no longer seems likely. A group of the squatters and student union officers from the university met representatives from the Music College and the university authorities and agreed that they would try to use the building as little as possible during the day while music students were using the practice rooms. A committee is being set up to examine how best to utilise the building. The Welfare Vice President at Manchester University Union said today that the most important thing was that the building was properly used and not just allowed to rot.

### Sir Brian Flowers deplores low grants ... and student action to defend living standards

The former Chairman of the Science Research Council, SIR BRIAN FLOWERS, FRS, in his first public address since becoming Rector of Imperial College, today deplored the low level of student maintenance grants. Speaking to an audience of Imperial College's staff, students and their parents in the Royal Albert Hall, Sir Brian said that students' opportunities to benefit from university life were being limited by the present depressed value of the grants they received. Even if one accepted the basis on which grants were calculated in 1971 (and he had reason to believe that this was not entirely satisfactory) a triennial scale fixed as it had turned out, for the three years in which inflationary pressures had been exceptionally severe, and lacking any suitable mechanism for adjustments meanwhile, was not one which commended itself to anyone but the most arid of bureaucrats. Students believed that their grants were now too low; but worse than that, they believed that their genuine financial difficulties were unrecognized but socially divisive, that the level of grant undervalued the contributions they already made to society, still more the contributions they were preparing themselves to make in the future. Sir Brian said that he shared these beliefs and that, **so long as they were being responsibly expressed**, he would support them.

Considering the position of an Imperial College undergraduate resident in a hall of residence or student house, Sir Brian said that he had calculated that the present level of undergraduate maintenance grant was deficient by at least £100 a year. He made no comment, he said, about students in other circumstances nor about the average student, whoever he may be.

Sir Brian said that he recognized that any proposed increase in student grants had to be sought in competition with all other urgent calls on public funds—for old-age pensions, new hospitals and schools. He also acknowledged that it was not for the universities to determine the social status of students, but he submitted that the proper financial welfare of our young people in universities and colleges was a matter most deserving of the Government's urgent attention.

### Leeds Poly Sit-in

Students at Leeds Polytechnic reconvened a Union meeting in the administrative block at the Polytechnic yesterday. About 600 students decided to move into the administrative block at 1 p.m. and several dozen stayed over night. They intend to remain in occupation of the block until Friday. They are protesting at the inadequacy of teaching, catering and union facilities.

The telephone to the Polytechnic has been cut off by the P.O. at the request of the administration.

The Director of the Polytechnic, Patrick Nutgens, is in Scotland at the moment, but the Assistant Director, Gordon Wright, has expressed some sympathy with the students. He has agreed that only "essential" work will be carried out by the administration for the next few days.

It is widely accepted amongst the administration, staff and students that facilities which were adequate for 1,000 students are no longer adequate since there has been a considerable expansion in student numbers.

Leeds Education Committee are prepared to offer some alternative accommodation in Headrow in Leeds. Alderman Arthur Tallant is expected to speak to the students in occupation today.

Margaret Thatcher, Minister of Education, went to Leeds on Friday to open a factory in the morning and a school in the afternoon. When she arrived to open the school she was greeted by a large number of students from all over Yorkshire.

The students marched from Leeds Polytechnic. They protested about the plans for the future of education as expressed in last year's White Paper, "A framework for expansion" and the inadequacies of the grant system.

### Students without grants

Some Local Education Authorities have not yet sent out grant cheques to students who live in their area. Several colleges have reported that a number of their students are still waiting for their grant cheques to come through.

Huddersfield Polytechnic, Hereford College of Education and the University of Warwick seem to be particularly badly hit. Tony Bowers, President of Huddersfield Polytechnic Students Union is hoping that students in this predicament will be able to claim social security until their grant arrives. Warwick University has had to tell some students that their grants may not arrive for another six weeks.

One of the reasons for the delay in the receipt of grants this year is that the LEA's have found it difficult to sort out the new grant regulations which Margaret Thatcher announced to Parliament on May 15th. The raising of the threshold level for parental contributions from £1,100 to £1,500 has caused particular difficulty.

### Resignation of Cambridge Executive

The Cambridge Students' Union Executive has been forced to resign. The executive, the majority of whom are on the right, was elected last term. Ever since they have said that they have been hamstrung by the composition of general meetings, which by the constitution of the union make all major policy decisions. They claim that general meetings are not representative of the majority of students in Cambridge.

Last Tuesday this executive called a referendum to attempt to change the constitution so that policy was made by referenda and not by general meeting. Students were asked if they wanted the Union to be controlled by referenda or general meeting.

When the result of the referendum was known the right found that they had been defeated by their own tactics. 2,156 students voted in favour of taking decision making power away from general meeting, but 3,046 students voted that the general meeting should retain sovereign power. This is the highest poll that has ever taken place among Cambridge students.

Neville Walton, who was elected as the Cambridge Student Union president now finds himself in a difficult position. As a sabbatical officer on his resignation he will no longer be either a member of the university, because he is not registered at Cambridge as a student this year, or a member of the students' union. He is reported to have since fled to Germany.



London, October 25—A new Electronic Revolution, impinging upon virtually every form of human activity, has begun amplifying the power of the mind just as the Industrial Revolution amplified the power of muscle, RCA Chairman Robert W. Sarnoff said here today.

"The result through the rest of this century will be a fundamental and growing shift in patterns of working and living," he said. "A growing variety of inexpensive, compact and versatile devices will perform the menial tasks of the mind—calculating, remembering, searching for references, measuring risks and opportunities—the whole variety of non-creative activities that precede decision or creation."

In an address at the Commemoration Day Ceremony of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, at which he was named an Honorary Fellow, Mr. Sarnoff said the Electronic Revolution is based on new solid-state devices employing microscopically small integrated circuits that contain thousands of electronic elements in the tiny space of a few square millimetres.

By 1980, he predicted, such circuits containing a million elements will be mass-produced so cheaply that their use will involve practically no cost per function, and made so precisely that they will be almost infinitely reliable.

"The Industrial Revolution took more than a century to gather full momentum. The Electronic Revolution may do so in the next two decades," he said. "In contrast to its predecessor, it will be silent, and it will create neither environmental pollution nor urban blight. In fulfilling its modest require-

## ROBERT W. SARNOFF

Chairman of RCA Corporation



ments for material and energy, we shall not have to plunder our planet.

"The Industrial Revolution tended to subordinate the individual to the organisation even as it multiplied human physical capabilities, productivity and material wealth. The Electronic Revolution will shape electronics into a personal tool of universal application. It will compress a multitude of systems and devices—with the energy to run

**"The electronic revolution is amplifying brain power in the same way the industrial revolution amplified muscle power."**

them—into packages small enough to carry in the hand."

Mr. Sarnoff said the new revolution will touch on every function of sensing, control, communication and information processing—"indeed, just about every kind of work now performed by people or machines except generating power or propelling vehicles."

The RCA Chairman cited examples of the impact of the Electronic Revolution on the individual, education, the management of public and private enterprise and the progress of undeveloped nations:

—**Management.** Small desk-top intelligent terminals will enable a manager to obtain instant data retrieval from a computer, or to communicate with colleagues via a two-way television unit. These and other electronic devices will make day-to-day decision making simpler and will free top management from less detailed supervision and permit more emphasis on creative planning and policy-making.

—**The Home.** The new technology

will transform the domestic scene and provide a multitude of attractive and convenient services, including a comprehensive home information system linking the household in two-way communications with people institutions and computers in practically any part of the world.

—**Education.** With large-scale integration and the development of compact personal systems, the learning process can be freed of physical limitations. The individual pocket computer, the desk-top interactive terminal and wideband communications can give the student instant access to stored knowledge anywhere, making the classroom a place used exclusively for group discussion and intellectual stimulation.

—**Underdeveloped Areas.** As the new technology reduces the cost and complexity of handling information in great quantity and varied forms, its products will fall increasingly within the reach of developing nations—their schools, public agencies, business and even individuals. In effect, the Electronic Revolution can enable more than half of mankind to catch up with the Industrial Revolution.

Mr. Sarnoff said the new electronics may be "our last, best hope to develop an open, humanist society and to avoid either locking step in a standardized technological world or drifting toward greater fragmentation and ultimate chaos."

"If we succeed this time in coupling a fundamental advance in technology with human, social, cultural and economic needs," he concluded, "we shall achieve the greatest and most beneficial revolution of all."

## SCAB ICENTS

Fri. 2 Nov.

QUEEN in Union Concert Hall  
30p

Sat. 3 Nov.

SHAFT and  
KAMA SUTRA RIDES  
AGAIN

7.30 in Mech Eng. 220—10p

Fri. 9 Nov.

HORSELIPS

in Union Concert Hall—40p

Fri. 10 Nov.

LE MANS

7.30 in Mech Eng. 220—10p

## FOLK CLUB

Sat. 17 Nov.

RALPH McTELL in Great Hall  
IC Students 70p in advance  
Tickets available now.

## JAZZ CLUB

Sat. 24th Nov.

in Great Hall

IC Students 50p in advance

Tickets will be available for sale  
or collection in the Union Office  
between 12.30 & 2.00

Tickets can now be ordered  
from the Union Office anytime  
between 10.30 and 5.00

## THIS TERM'S FOLK CLUB SINGERS

24 Oct. Mick Pearce.  
31 Oct. Iwona Ceilidh.  
7 Nov. Ian Stewart.  
14 Nov. Jeff and Penny Harris.  
21 Nov. Come-All-Ye.  
28 Nov. Stan Arnold.  
5 Dec. Staverton Bridge.  
12 Dec. Ceilidh. Bob  
Davenport and Rakes.

## IC BROAD LEFT STATEMENT

It is becoming increasingly clear that Imperial College Union is facing a crisis of leadership. The attempt by some members of the Union to prevent the organisation of any actions on grants this term and the ineffectiveness of the refectory prices campaign are but two symptoms of a wider malaise, the appearance, not so much of apathy but of irrationality in the Union; the tendency to oppose motions or actions simply because the left has proposed them; to sabotage rather than argue against; to in effect propose no action on urgent issues which face students. And prominent figures in the Union hierarchy have supported this trend.

Paradoxically, the majority at Union meetings have continued to vote for the policies proposed by the left and, as on prices, have adopted the most militant form of action suggested—but without the commitment needed to make it a success. The activists who have tried to implement union policy have been a small minority, our militancy may have publicised the issues to students, but it has not persuaded them to join in and turn minority militancy into majority militancy. Clearly a major rethink of our approach is necessary.

We believe that the fault does not lie in the policies of the left (and I.C. Union) but in a lack of strategy which has led to tactics which have failed to win the massive student support which success requires. Our fundamental aim must be to win wide support for our policies, it is necessary to foster a greater understanding of the issues faced by students and must be our primary task and to win the support, and participation, of the majority of students, in actions to achieve the Unions' aims. Practice has refuted the idea that the mass of students are like an explosive, to be

detonated by the actions of a militant handful. But neither is it simply a question of "Better communication." Students must themselves be involved in actions. If less militant mass actions are successful in getting support but fail to win our demands, the commitment, understanding and, perhaps, most important, confidence in the Union, will have been created for more militant action.

To give this sort of leadership, to the best of our ability, we propose to form a Broad Left grouping in I.C. Union, with similar policies to the Broad Left in N.U.S. which has been responsible for the leftward shift there, in recent years, and in many other Student Unions, eg. Sussex, Cambridge, which manage to combine left policies with the active involvement of the majority of students.

(1) The most important issues of the last few years have been the defence of student unions and the fight against inflation, whether for higher grants and demonstrating rates or against price rises. Militant mass action has been at least partially successful at both local and national level. But we do not propose to concern ourselves solely with the economic issues. One issue of concern to all students which the left has sadly neglected, is academic affairs—what we are taught, how we are assessed. In particular we must take a critical look at the increasing influence of the profit motive in determining what we are taught and the research we do.

(2) Students are badly in need of reliable allies. Many of the issues which face us, inflation, housing, defence of unions etc., are faced equally and often more so by working people. The basis for unity exists if we work for it. But not just through socialist students helping workers struggles but in a way which involves large numbers of ordinary students and workers eg through a joint campaign for grants which do not exclude working class children from higher education (as N.U.S. suggest).

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01-567-9672**

(3) We welcome the increasing willingness of student union and NUS to express collective views on wider issues eg racialism, the environment, South Africa. This is particularly relevant in a college with such a large percentage of overseas students. We believe that I.C. Union should support not just our fellow students in other countries but their fellow countrymen against colonial or neo-colonial regimes.

In all these policies, our aim is to get maximum support while keeping to our principal beliefs.

Unfortunately, when tactics have been proposed which could have started to involve the majority of students they have been directly opposed by organised groups in I.C. as was the case when the proposal to launch a massive petition campaign on prices to be delivered by a mass demonstration to the Governing Body, was defeated at the last UGM. Similarly, the policies of NUS are rarely argued for, in this Union, because of hostility from both the right and sections of the left.

In launching a Broad Left grouping which involves students from inside and outside the Socialist Society in IC we are in no way counterposing it to Socialist Society. Its value as a Forum remains and, on policy, much unity exists, although on strategy and tactics we differ. Nor do we claim to be overcoming the sectarianism of the left—no doubt some people will be quite

(continued on page 8)



## WHO IS THE FIRST LADY OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE; WHO DWELLS BEHIND THE MAJESTIC WALLS OF 170 QUEENS GATE?

Well to begin with Lady Flowers is a very friendly woman whom you feel you could chat to for ages, she also makes very good Turkish coffee, though Sir Brian I was told is the real expert. Lady Flowers likes people and shows it. A great deal of her life has been spent doing voluntary social work. Before coming here, while living in Islington, she worked for the 'Family Service Unit' and also for the 'National Association for Mental Health'. This was while Sir Brian was chairman of the Science Research Council. She worked to prevent the splitting up of families in one case and to bring a greater understanding of mental disorders in the other.

Naturally Lady Flowers is well aware of the stresses and strains which we poor, overworked students are subject to and is very concerned. Being a very sensitive person, who has at time suffered depression and loneliness, she realises the problems of people around her, and tries to help. Working with the telephone Samaritans was another work which she found very taxing emotionally. Perhaps it was as a reaction to the misery and depression which she had come across, that she at one point became a model. Being older than most models she seemed to have the knack of matching clothes, naturally, and eventually drifted into training models. Her new customers with their many and varied wardrobes were a long way away from the women who

had never had more than one outfit. Their continued and expensive fight with obesity had nothing in common with the struggle of the others. But, she enjoyed modelling and thinks that the clothes consciousness which she acquired will never leave her, nor will her good posture.

Lady Flowers makes her own clothes, for her the achievement of making something outweighs the gratification which most women get out of buying an expensive dress.

With this background what does she feel about the way girl students dress? She likes the liberalness of the clothes, though she feels they could be a little neater. But a compliment to all girls at the ICWA Dinner, she thinks you were very smartly dressed, she especially

Sir Brian plays the cello, and Lady Flowers the piano (in private). She has always been a great concert goer, and enjoys jazz and dancing. Her greatest pleasure is to listen to radio 3, while doing her cooking, always giving it her personal touch. In answer to my question about her literary aspirations, she showed me a long row of cookery books in many languages and from many more lands. She reads them in bed for inspiration.

Lady Flowers was born in a middle class family in Manchester, and still remembers the servants in her grandmother's house, who lived in the attic, had an outside lavatory and always presented things on trays. Her father is the well-known liberal Sir Leonard Behrens. He ran for parliament twice,

services in East Berlin and by the achievements of Tito in his non aligned policy.

Regarding British politics she is a mild Socialist and would like to see a lot of alterations, though without a revolution. Although she has seen the great misery and poverty of many people, she feels sorry that they have to resort to strike action and does not support the extreme position of some trades unions. She is a floating voter but has only voted Conservative once, never to repeat it.

Lady Flowers has not had time to sort out the tangle of political opinion at IC yet though like every Fresher she has been bombarded with bumph. I told her about the exciting battles waged in FELIX, CEFE, BROAD-SHEET etc., and she said she would catch up over the weekend. Good luck to her!

At present Lady Flowers is occupied with the various organisations she has to deal with, like the IC wives club of which she is chairman. She has to learn a lot of names and is finding out who everyone is and how everything works. This of course includes ICU and the CCU's. She is interested in meeting the students and has got in touch with Norm. Sayles and Anne Short to arrange cocktail parties and of course like every other fresher she has realised the difficulty of having a well balanced gathering with the chronic shortage of girls.

## LADY FLOWERS

liked the Laura Ashley clothes.

Lady Flowers' sense of colour carries over to her kitchen and her paintings. She is good at putting colours together, in contrast to Sir Brian who is predictably more preoccupied with technical problems in paintings like representing glass on canvas, cylindrical shapes and creases on a well-worn pair of shoes! To do him justice, he did have a rather good portrait of his sister on the easel in his studio.

unsuccessfully, but nonetheless never lost his deposit. Lady Flowers of course took a view to the left of her father and became a Marxist. She thinks Marx and Engels make good reading but the revolutionary zeal of her younger days has watered down. She has visited the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and has been disillusioned perhaps by the closed society of the Communist countries. She was very impressed by the re-building and public

## Are we studying anything Meaningful?

How do we know if the subjects we study are obsolete or meaningless? Let's look at **some** of the problems of applying our I.C. acquired knowledge during our working life.

### a) Energy resources

Britain is an import-export country who cannot feed herself out of her own land (at least under present conditions) in spite of using more than one calorie of fuel to obtain each calorie of food. For this reason it is important not only to know whether or not Britain will have fuel in the next decades but also to know whether or not the countries importing costly high-fuel-consuming British-made machinery and products, will have fuel and money enough for the imports to make any sense to them.

There are obviously very serious foreseeable difficulties with oil supplies, be it in the next few years or in the '80's or '90's. The same applies to coal, especially in other countries. Nuclear power does not seem to promise anything significant, given the size and proximity of the energy problem.

Less fuel abroad means less planes coming to Britain, less tourists leaving their foreign currencies, less high-fuel-consuming British-made machinery, less high-fuel-consuming civil engineering British contracts abroad, etc.

### b) Pollution

There are two kinds of increasing pollution problems brought about by industrialisation and "progress". 1 — The higher levels of pollution due to increasing numbers and concentration of machines, apparatus, etc., from the river polluting factory to our neighbour's noisy electric shaver that also

interferes our radio reception; 2 — The normal desire of people to relatively improve their environment.

To solve these problems the obvious way out is to produce less, down to the necessary level. This implies such taboos as reducing the G.N.P. and the growth of large corporations and monopolies, etc., so that only a few non-industrialised nations are likely to adopt this policy in the near future. The second policy, the one adopted by industrial nations, is to produce anti-pollution devices and gadgets (the production of which causes more pollution) at the expense of general increases in costs. The first policy means for Britain, less exports of high-energy-consuming machinery and techniques and less exports of products in general. The second one means, ever higher prices of products that can only be afforded by an ever-reducing number of people (until inflation allows it) as well as increasing demands for energy and resources in general. (GO TO a).

c) Growth of population and GNP plus inflation mean shortages and higher costs of basic resources such as land, food, housing, etc., which are the things that Britain either lacks or has to import. At the same time these shortages divert the interests of the consumers of British industrial products towards the more basic needs both here and abroad. For example, overpopulation plus increased need for space for factories, mines, roads, airports, etc., means world-wide prices increase, and hence less spare money for TVs, cars, machinery and other typical British products, both home and abroad. Also, the problems just mentioned worsen the above-mentioned ones.

(GO TO a. OR b.)

At I.C. we learn how to invent, design and build these highly sophisticated, costly, high-energy-consuming products that contribute to all these troubles.

All these problems will come well within our working life: Petrol rationing was a reality in the U.S. even before the Middle East war; petrol rationing due to political reasons is a reality now, and so are the petrol price rises; tendencies towards self sufficiency and low energy consumption are a reality now in some countries; escalating land prices, over population and housing shortages are a world wide reality today and so are rising levels and costs of pollution.

Why then are we compelled to study high-energy-consuming technology (with planned obsolescence) assessed only by traditional economics (if at all) without taking all these problems into account?

One of the reasons is that we have been streamed into highly fragmented fields, in order to achieve high levels of specialisation, thus not getting to know much even about neighbouring fields, let alone the social, ecological and political implications of our studies or even why should we reach high levels of specialisation or why should we pursue this type of science and technology.

Another reason is that we didn't have much choice anyway; we had to "choose" from among a GIVEN number of pre-packaged approved fields of study (if we wanted to get a degree and a "good job", that is).

Have you heard of low energy technology? Alternative technology? Technology assessment? Non-industrial technology? Science for people? These are SOME ways by which people are trying to face the real problems of today and tomorrow, rather than "planning for a future" which is nothing but an extrapolation of the past and hoping to solve the problems with an expansion of our obsolete remedies.

But are we allowed to study such things at I.C., with recognition and getting a degree? ...

J. AGUIRRE, Civ Eng 310

## ELECTRONIC MUSIC GROUP Meeting and Record Recital Haldane Library

at 7.30

Thursday, Nov. 1st

## JAZZ

Sat. 3rd November —

**MIKE OSBORNE TRIO**

30p non-members

20p members

Start 8.00 in the Biology Common Room

Sat. 17th November —

**MICHAEL GARRICK SEXTET**

with Norma Winstone

40p non-members

30p members

Start 8.00 in the Biology Common Room

The persian society of IC and ULU Iranian society present:

## COW

Winner of: Film Critics Award Venice Film Festival and Best Actor Award Chicago Festival



# REVIEWS

## music

Osibisa

Being the first concert I've reviewed for quite some time, I expected it to be quite a difficult one, but it turned out not to be the case in Osibisa.

All the music papers categorise their music under the term "Afro-Rock", though this is a little vague. I would prefer to say that their music consists of a very driving rhythm, which is played, bursting with exuberance, on bass, keyboards and various percussion instruments, which were dotted around the stage. Superimposed on this are equally driving passages on brass. On the whole I found them very easy to

listen to, despite not having heard a great deal of their music beforehand.

What did quite bewilder me was the semi-hysteria they received from the moment they were announced, and persisting throughout the evening. This was encouraged by the energy Osibisa were generating in turn enhancing audience participation, which was well supported, though tended to drag on a little towards the end.

Earlier, Heavy Metal Kids had played some fairly good and basic heavy rock, this time to a rather unresponsive audience. G.J.K.

## Genesis and Ron Geeson at the Rainbow

Ron Geeson opened the evening with a short set in which he was not put off by the barracking and impatient part of the audience but countered the shouted remarks with equally witty comments. He is a rather eccentric Scotsman whose Morcambesque antics with the banjo and piano (which he played very well), and several monologues (which he enunciates very clearly and precisely in a rather sinister fashion), were very amusing.

Genesis were brilliant. The sound was well mixed from a console in the middle of the stalls and the volume was also used carefully and subtly. It was not a continued mind-shattering blast but was gradually increased during the one and three-quarter hour performance.

The stage was backed by a white cloth screen onto which slides were projected during the songs. They helped to accentuate the music and illustrate the lyrics but on the whole were rather poor, though the idea was good.

The production was excellent and exact. Genesis are a band whose music is as carefully structured as classical music and they reproduced their recorded material in the finest detail, right down to a recording of the two little boys singing the sinister nursery rhyme in angelic and uncomprehending voices.

It could be said that there is little point in going to hear music that you already have on record. Well the answer is Peter Gabriel. The atmosphere he creates with his literally fantastic costume, sinister dramatics and amusing introductions had the audience tense and expectant for surprises which, when they came, were original and effective. "Watcher of the Skies" opened, with

a majestic and impressive introduction from Tony Banks' organ and synthesiser. His playing is simple in form yet is very effective and dramatic. During the concert they mainly played songs from their latest album "Selling England by the Pound." These were 'Fifth of First', 'The Cinema Show', 'The Battle of Epping Forest' and 'More fool me' which is a simple acoustic guitar number played by Michael Rutherford and with Steve Hackett on vocals, whose drumming I think plays a very important part in bringing the other instruments together and giving a definite rhythm to the music.

They finished with what is, I think, their best composition yet—"Supper's Ready" from "Foxtrot". As the climactic organ solo began, Gabriel stood motionless on the stage illuminated with ultra-violet light wearing an orange luminous "mask" (?) (See cover of live album), then a loud explosion just before the return to the vocals revealed him, when the smoke cleared, in a bright silver shirt in contrast to the black suit that he had worn before.

Then after nearly 10 minutes clapping, an encore, "The Knife" from "Trespass", with the whole audience on its feet.

It was a carefully thought out and rehearsed performance, the strong element of fantasy accentuated by the use of lighting, music, costume and make-up by Peter Gabriel plus excellent lead guitar work by Steve Hackett (often indistinguishable from the organ). These qualities of musicianship and stage production make Genesis one of the best live bands in the country.

Stone groove man. A really heavy sap. PALANTIRION.

## Advertisement

Last year, there was a cut-price record service, offering students a 19% reduction, run in College by Colin McCall, and this year the service has been taken over by John Holloway (Computing I) and Steve Walker (Chem. Eng. II). The service will be run from the Room at The Top on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Lunchtimes (12.30—1.30), and any record can be ordered. The 19% reduction is better than either Comet or Virgin Records mail orders can give.

## books

Small dreams of a scorpion  
by Spike Milligan Penguin 25p

"There comes a time in every man's life when he stops laughing and starts to grind under the yoke of contemporary pressures. . . . The result of this change in personality is found within the confines of this book."

These words from Milligan's own introduction to this slim volume of (very) serious poetry goes a long way to explaining their existence. Spike has always been the campaigner, from wild life preservation to the cure of mental illness. No wonder then that the serious side of his character should express itself in a creative form as well as the comic side.

Most of the poems are short—but very direct, very hard hitting and intentionally so. There are illustrations by Spike and also his wife Laura that add a lot to the atmosphere of the book. Some of the verse is so well thought out that one finds it hard to believe "some of the poems were written by dropping 800 English words into a sack, taking them out one at a time and calling them by their names like 'Hello Sailor,'" as Milligan would have us believe.

The topics of the poems range from war and preservation to the tender ones dealing with the plight of children in trouble, like those of Aberfan, "I don't burn coal any more."

This is not a book to be read on a longish train journey, but one to be

taken in small selective doses so that it will stimulate and provoke thought on those topics and causes dear to Spike Milligan's heart.

In many ways it is an amazing and surprising book and at times confusing. Some of the poems are presented twice, on opposite pages, once in normal type face lettering and the other in (presumably) Spike's original handwriting. The poems deal with their subjects in a human, compassionate way and in so doing give an insight to the man, the family man Spike Milligan, that is rarely evident and certainly not obvious in his many other books.

There are many short verses and lines that are powerful enough to hit one immediately, like

"If I die in war you remember me,  
If I live in peace you don't."

"God made night, but man made darkness."

Now that this volume is available in paperback for the first time you have no excuse for not owning a copy. If you're a Milligan-maniac you'll buy it anyway and be pleasantly surprised, if you're not you still can't afford to be without it. Anything by Spike Milligan is more than a book, in this case it's a testimony to our present world and way of life. A favourable testimony? Well get the book and find out . . . a lot of things.

JEREMY BARKER

## The town and the city by Jack Kerouac

Jack Kerouac was born in 1922 in Lowell, Mass., the son of a printer and a French-Canadian girl. He attended Columbia University from 1940 to 1942, and then left to hitch and odd-job his way around, eventually becoming part of the "underground" of Greenwich Village, New York. His first book, *The Town and The City*, was successfully published in 1950, but he was little-known outside America until 1956 when he produced "On the Road" which, with "Howl and other Poems" by Arthur Ginsberg became a sacred text of the 'beatniks'.

Jack Kerouac has since written many books, all following the loose line of the 'beat poets', but his prose carries more than the mere trendy message of some of his contemporaries. Like Orwell, Kerouac only writes of what he knows, and it is this autobiographical viewpoint which gives his novels their relaxed cohesion. The 'hero' of a Kerouac story will be a thinly-veiled Kerouac; a point to bear in mind when considering his work. Even *The Town and the City* is not a narrative with the outsider looking in; it is the insider, Peter, looking in and about, with all the apprehensions and stumbling errors of a teenager.

*The Town and the City* is not, then, the saga of each member of an American family which you might expect from a glance at the blurb. Instead it is

the saga of Peter, the third son in a family of five sons and three daughters, who finds that excellence in sport is an artificial and limited criterion of success, and sets out to look for truth. Of the other characters, Francis and Mr. 'George' Martin are admirably portrayed, and in Mickey and Charley, Kerouac reveals his keen memory and understanding of the emotions of childhood. The other members of the family have an air of being 'extras': the sisters are seen through the eyes of a busy brother as part of home, yet different beings on another plane of existence, while Mrs. Martin leaves the impression of a worried card-sharper rather than the contented understanding mother.

It seems likely that this re-issue is the result of some publisher equating the present 'off-beat' scene with that of the '50s'. It pleases me to define literary classics as writings which always have relevance, in which case I can sincerely declare this book to be a classic . . . and the publisher to have been, in a sense, right.

For a paperback the book is well-bound, with a pretty dust-jacket so you can cover it. If £1.75 is a bit steep for a novel, put it on your Christmas list or give it to your fiancée. At any rate, if you haven't met Kerouac before, be sure to read it.

CANDI.

## Johnathan Livingston Seagull

Johnathan Livingston Seagull could be described as the narrated story of an extremely individual gull who rejects the life of the seagull flock, "fighting and screeching with the flock around piers and fishing boats, diving on scraps of fish and bread," living to eat, never flying through the night, through the storm, never leaving the rocky shore behind.

Johnathan is a gull who "finds and follows a meaning, a higher purpose for life," ever to learn to fly better. We then learn of Johnathan's conflict with the flock, his increasing flying ability, until he learns to fly "as fast as a thought" through time and space because he knows himself to be unlimited "a perfect idea of freedom of flight."

"But to describe it in this way is not to define it, the book has 93 pages, 43 of them pictures of gulls in flight, is a glossy and pleasing presentation of a really rather lovely and original story. I was rather surprised as you might be,

as to how much I enjoyed the tale of the "ascent of the gull".

But to say this much would be to leave the intended point of the book unmentioned. J. Seagull goes on to teach, to introduce other gulls to his joy, thus the book becomes a direct parallel of Christ teaching love. This undisguised snowballing element of the book certainly detracted from my overall enjoyment of the story; though I am still amused to feel that despite its intentions, those of a humanist outlook would see the story as more truly a parallel of man's intellectual ascent, a search for purity in knowledge.

The photographs, though not all essential, do add something to one's enjoyment, especially in the first half of the book.

At 50p it is an expensive hour's reading, though one that offers more sheer emotional pleasure than most, and one which I could repeat.



# SPORT

## Fine Start for Lacrosse Club

Imperial College Lacrosse Club began the season in style last Saturday with a 15-2 away win over Cambridge. Despite last minute additions the team put up an overpowering display with Pete Drury and Steve Morris contributing the bulk of the goals, collecting five and four respectively.

Of the new players Mick Lawman showed that he was an ideal replacement in midfield for Paul "Whizz Kid" Spooner, recently transferred to the first division, and Paul Jepson in defence kept his attacker very quiet.

The game was marred by one unfortunate incident when Tony Hallett, who has been reading too many coaching manuals, tried a backwards, over-the-shoulder shot and a Cambridge player unwittingly used his head to check the cross. He took no further part in the

match and under the gentlemanly laws of lacrosse Pete McDonald, who had been doing some truly startling forehand volleys in a style reminiscent of Stan Smith, kept him entertained on the touchline, no doubt with witty anecdotes about life at Imperial College.

Despite the score it was a hard match with the main differences between the teams coming from an 80 per cent success rate from the face gained by the Imperial College midfield players, the newly discovered (for lacrosse) tactic of an overlapping defender which completely bemused the Cambridge defence and the goalkeeping of Ian Gulliford (which almost goes without saying!).

Team:—Ian Gulliford, Paul Jepson, Bob Strangeway, Pete Drury, Nick Lawman, Lionel Clarke, Pete McDonald, Steve Norris, Alan, Tony Hallett (capt.).

## Cross Country Club Shoot Through Again



Dave Howlbroom coasting downhill

The 20th was a truly memorable day. Firstly the Left Ankle of the Cross Country Club (Ian Isherwood) made his first appearance of the year in the same manner as George Best (i.e. with no great glare of publicity and several inches extra in girth), and did extremely well considering his 6 months lack of training.

And then there was the amazing way in which people found themselves suddenly included in, and then just as suddenly excluded from the first team for this "UC" Relay at Parliament Hill.

This was because of the eleventh hour arrival of three star competitors. They were theoretically late because Rob and Pad

had decided that the race would start at 2.30: however UC were unaware of this and planned to start at 3, though they actually managed it somewhat later, which just goes to show...

The course was 6 laps of just under 2 miles of the usual Parliament Hill terrain. 33 teams finished; here are Our Results:—

	m.s.
1. 17 Rich Garnett	8.41
2. 16 Rob Atkinson	8.34
3. 20 Ian Ellis	9.33
4. 20 J. S. Kaliray	9.35
5. 18 Neil Boag	9.18
6. 20 Paul Clarke	10.12
1. 34 Dave Jones	10.29
2. 33 Steve Webb	10.42
3. 32 Pete Johnson	10.59



4. 33 Pat Donnelly	11.54
5. 33 A Guest Esq.	9.44
6. 33 Ian Ellis	9.59
1. 30 Phil Meyler	9.43
2. 31 Keith Ahlers	10.00
3. 31 Dave Howlbroom	10.32
4. 30 Dave Payne	9.56
5. 30 Ian Isherwood	11.16
6. 30 Geoff Spurr	10.23

Nobody fell down the hill at the start, and no one had to walk up the hill at the end... they

daren't with the rest of combined IC teams cheering (jeering) them on from the top of the hill. Note

the incredibly brave (foolhardy) second leg by Ian Ellis.

(Continued on page 8)

## Ian worrying someone from Borough Road



## P.A.W.N.O

### BEER AND BITS

During the time of the last rector, Lady Penney used to hold get-togethers for the female students at I.C. This year, as a continuation of this, Lady Flowers will be holding barbeques at 170 Queens Gate. As a change, however, there will be a mixed affair. A number of male students are therefore invited to apply for admittance to these events. If you wish to go, please leave your name with Jen, the Union clerk. She will keep a list of those interested and let you know when the do is.

### HAIRDRESSING (AGAIN?)

There is a new list of times for when male models are required for the hair-dressing section of the London School of Fashion. Price for a cut is 10p and the return fare is 16p. The school is situated at Oxford Circus. If you want to know the times the list is pinned to the notice board in the Union office.

### BICYCLE RACKS

I received a complaint this week about the bicycle racks at electrical engineering. As a follow-up to this I had a look at the bicycle racks in college and found that the rack near the post-office in Imperial Institute Road had quite a number of empty spaces. For those of you used to using only one rack there are racks at a) the rear of Physics, b) the base of Elec Eng, c) near the post-office, d) at the rear of Chemistry.

### UNION MEETING

A Union General Meeting will be held this Thursday in the Union Concert Hall. There is another, very full agenda and hopefully there will be a lot of very useful discussion. Note the change in the venue.

### UNION DUPLICATING SERVICE

This should be in full swing sometime this week. When it is fully operative this will be the source of duplicating paper. The Union's own stocks will then only be needed for official minutes, notices etc. and paper will not be available from Jen the Union Clerk.

P. A. Wadsworth

## FIREWORK DANCE

at Silwood Friday 9th Nov.

7.15 p.m. Fireworks

8.30 p.m. Dance

- + Disco
- + Lights
- + Classical Guitar
- + Folk singing

## SPIRO OGYRA

Bar till 1.00 a.m.

If you fancy a frolicking night out at Silwood — give your name to Norm (Pres) and a coach will be laid on.

## RAG PUBLICITY DEPT. NEEDS YOU!

(a certain degree of artistic talent would be appreciated along with fervour, stamina, go, brio and everything else that goes with massive collections)

See Rupert 161 Keogh

## ICWA proudly presents HALLOWEEN FOLK DANCE

at 8 p.m. in Union Concert Hall  
on Wednesday, 31st October

— STARRING —

## NORTH CIRCULAR ACCIDENTAL CEILIDH BAND

with caller and surprise guests

Tickets: 35p from Jan Blackburn 565 Selkirk and Judy Joslin 56 Beit.

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## ANTI - LOMBARD

So in response to the threatened right-wing attack on students' efforts to defend their rapidly vanishing grants, due on Thursday at the UGM, IC Communist Party has launched a campaign for a broad left front to meet this.

What policies will this broad left grouping have? None other than those of the NUS broad left—which is a communist party inspired group designed to attract all the flotsam and jetsam of liberals, "progressive" Christians and other wet lefts.

Their policies in short will be those of the NUS executive in the Digby Jacks era—those which after a year of rallies, demonstrations, petitions, rent strikes, sit-ins and reformatory boycotts, involving up to 500,000 students, 'won' us a derisory £20 which with the present rate of inflation amounts to a grant cut.

The numbers of students involved in these reformist protest politics, designed to 'pressurize' the Government into agreeing to the four basic NUS demands, was in fact quite despite the overt bankruptcy of their reformist policies.

On one hand you have the Communist Party and its revisionist sycophants, the IS and the IMG, saying that we can get higher grants if we show the justness of our cause, and add in some militancy to show we really need the demands met, and on the other you have the Tory Government preparing the ground to impose a fascist dictatorship.

A conflict is due in the next period—a conflict of revolutionary proportions, which will be resolved in one of two ways: fascism or socialism, the middle road of a parliamentary democracy has vanished out of the window and is disappearing over the horizon in direct correlation to the decreasing circulation of the Guardian.

The Tories have legislated away nearly every right that the working class has won in over 150 years of struggle—the right to strike, won when the Taff Vale judgement of 1901 was repealed, has gone—it is illegal to strike for more than the Phase III norm of 7 per cent. The right to form independent Trade Unions, won when the Combinations Act was repealed in 1824, has gone—Unions have to register under the Industrial Relations Act, or else be liable for an unlimited fine in the High Courts, it goes without saying that registration is complete state control of the Unions, such as we find in Spain today.

The right to an unarmed police force has gone—not only has the armed Special Patrol Group been expanded enormously (and if you think they were formed to guard embassies, then account for them being based in Hammersmith, Brixton and Leytonstone—working class areas, miles from the nearest embassy) but the police have recently been equipped with 600 of the most powerful rifles that the Army use. There is a commission taking place to bring the Police and the Army under one centralized control and furthermore down in Winchester, the police and certain units of the Army are being trained together in counter-insurgency. Soldiers of today are no longer trained in Caesar's "De Bello Gallico" but instead are referred to Brigadier Frank Kitson's "Low Density Operations".

Why are the Tories preparing like this? Why did Heath say in his address to the United Nations in 1970: "The seventies will not be a time of war between nations, but rather of CIVIL war"? Why did Brigadier Calvert state with such impunity, in an Observer colour supplement a few months ago, that it is likely that there will be an attempted insurrection before the end of the decade? How do the Tories KNOW?

The answer to that is demonstrated every time you go to the shops—inflation. In

order to boost up their flagging balance of payments, in order to inject value into their worthless paper money, they have floated down the pound. This enables them to export easily to countries like Germany whose currency has floated up—but at the same time imports cost that much more. Half of our foodstuffs are imported and every time the Tories float down further and make huge profits from exporting more (on paper only incidentally—you can't buy dear and sell cheap and make a CONCRETE profit) our food prices shoot to new record levels.

The Tories have to do this, they have no choice, for them to exist as a class they have to export or die. But for the working class it means a rapidly diminishing standard of living and with every law that passes onto the statute books of the Tories, the signing away of the democratic rights of the working class—until today when it is illegal to fight to DEFEND your standard of living.

Inflation? We haven't seen anything yet. When the Financial Times talks about this being a period of Pre-Weimar inflation it means that prices will not just go through the ceiling—but through the roof and into interstellar orbit. Remember the one mark German stamps overprinted one million marks?—That was inflation during the period of the Weimar Republic of the early 30s.

That the working class will fight to defend its rights and living standards neither the Tories nor the YSSS have any doubt. Whether it wins that struggle or not depends on the leadership of the working class. When we are talking about this conflict we are talking about the question of power, of ownership of the factories and finance houses, and the sole way that the working class can avoid the crushing defeat of fascism is to take the power—to nationalise all the major industries and banks under workers' control and without compensation.

Placed against the background of the economic crisis and the present preparations of the ruling class—does not campaigning with petitions for higher grants seem somewhat inadequate? Except of course unless one needs to learn through practice that petitions lead only to full waste paper baskets in the DES and rent strikes to fines or being sent down, period.

But is that not the lesson of last year's grants campaign and the lesson of all protest politics be they in the Trade or Student Unions, in this period—that reformism leads to defeat, and that a new, revolutionary, leadership has to be built to fight to take the working class to power.

Then it follows that for those in the broad left and their adherents, to now launch a campaign to win students to policies and methods of struggle which have been proved IN PRACTICE to be incapable of winning anything except a further cut in our grants, constitutes a most enormous betrayal of the interests of students and the working class.

This is not to say that it is a betrayal to fight for higher grants, simply that unless that struggle is seen in the context of a fight to bring down this Government and replace it with a labour government pledged to socialist policies, any increase that we win we will be unable to defend, and like the £20 we received for this year, will be destroyed by inflation. Furthermore that that this gives more time for the forces of reaction to prepare and organise.

To finish with the words of Horace: Carpe diem, for the longer we dally—the more our British junta is preparing to crush our British Allendes.

Editor

## Medical Aid for Vietnam

by Alastair Hay

The war in Indo China, although it currently receives little news coverage, is far from over. It is reported that there are over 100 bombing missions a day by the Saigon forces and that the number of political prisoners has increased from 200,000 to 300,000 in the past few months. These are only two of the violations of the Paris Peace Agreements. The importance of the Agreements is recognised in the following statement from Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Vietnam (PRG) in a letter to the Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam, wrote:

"We ardently wish that the solidarity and the precious support of your people will continue, and strengthen us in our struggle to ensure the strict implementation of the Agreement signed, to acknowledge the role of the PRG, the genuine representative of the people of South Vietnam, to help heal the wounds of war to build up the liberated zones and to support the political struggle of the people of South Vietnam for the right to self-determination."

Branson P. Clark, Executive Secretary of the American Friends Service Committee (a Quaker organisation) having just returned from a week in North Vietnam, had this to say: "The Vietnamese are prepared for the possibility of renewed U.S. bombing on their country. But at the same time they are literally building homes, schools and public buildings with their bare hands in an atmosphere of optimistic reconstruction."

The whole story of destruction of Vietnam is not yet known, but we have some details. Nearly six million square metres of housing completely destroyed; 58 secondary and technical schools completely destroyed; 2,867 primary schools completely destroyed; agriculture was systematically destroyed. Bombing of the dams destroyed many of the rice fields; three-quarters of all chemical plants were destroyed; 80 per cent of the textile and clothing factories destroyed, three-quarters of the food industry destroyed. Millions of square metres of warehouses, holding food and produce were reduced to rubble.

With the destruction of over 650 hospitals, reconstruction of hospitals is special priority.

The Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam (M.A.C.U.) sends medical supplies to the Liberation Red Cross of South Vietnam and to the Vietnam

Red Cross for use in North Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Dr. Nguyen Van Tin, Vice-Minister of Health of the D.R.V.N. and President of the Vietnam Red Cross in a letter to M.A.C.U. acknowledges their importance: "Your aid and your expressions of support during the war, as in the initial phase of the restoration of peace in Vietnam, touch us deeply and give us great encouragement in our struggle to safeguard our independence. In spite of the blockade and the intensive bombardment by the U.S. Air Force, your consignments of medical instruments have arrived at their destination..."

All the evidence available indicates that the level of destruction in Cambodia is equally as that documented for Vietnam. It will be many years before the People of Indo China are able to rebuild their countries, and maintain a lasting peace. M.A.C.U. have been assisting the Vietnamese for eight years and hope to play a positive role in the reconstruction of North Vietnam and the liberated areas of South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Together with other European committees M.A.C.U. supplies urgent drugs for the treatment and prevention of malaria, tuberculosis, cholera, polio, measles, plague, and vitamin deficiency diseases. Surgical equipment, 500 dental packs and 200 mobile hospital units are the latest items which have been requested. The surgical equipment and dental packs have already been sent, and 125 hospital units will be sent shortly. Each hospital unit costing £1,000 each and containing over 1,000 instruments will enable a team of six medical personnel to treat people at village and commune level.

Together with the medical supplies M.A.C.U. is restocking hospital and medical libraries with the relevant journals and textbooks. 20 tons of literature, worth approx. £30,000 has been sent this year. Medical slides for the teaching of the basic medical sciences are also in preparation—four types in Anatomy, morbid anatomy, Physiology and Midwifery have already been sent.

The Medical Aid Committee relies for its work on financial contributions, for individuals and groups, street collections and 'Rag' sponsoring. With 'Vietnam' rapidly becoming an issue of the past it is crucial to inform people that the danger is not over. M.A.C.U. workers would be delighted to speak at meetings and discuss their activities with any individuals interested in the reconstruction of Indo China. For information contact:

The Medical Aid Committee for Vietnam,  
P.O. Box 100,  
36 Wellington Street,  
London, W.C.2.

### CROSS-COUNTRY

contd. from page 7

Wednesday saw another example of the chaos which we seem to spread wherever we go. This time it was a league race on our own course at Petersham. There were about 140 taking part and the course was so cunningly marked that the first ten of these went somewhat wrong; in fact a certain Borough Road person, who was at one stage first, finished 37th because of this. Some people weren't very pleased.

Once again we were out in force with four teams in all, finishing 6th of 12 in the 1st division, and 7th, 14th and 19th of 24 in division 2. Besides those who appeared on Saturday there were R. Harrington, W. Collins, Mike Welford, Ashley Cooper and Rob Maddison. There was some evidence of a recurrence of our traditional packing-at-the-back with eight in the last 30. First back was Paul Clarke at 29th in 31m 03 followed by Rob Allison (34th) in 31m 18. Dave Payne (who demanded a mention) was 69th in 33m 15, and is doubtless building up for an attack on his personal best of 29m 30. Ian Ellis and Phil Meyler starred in their first league race at 59th equal (almost) in 32m 39. Also making a successful first appearance was the Honorary Football with its attendant Officer.

Pad said I should find something good to say about him this time: well... he finished... D.J.

Continued from page 4

bitterly hostile to us. But we do believe that we can give many left-wingers hope—a realistic way forward for building a strong IC Union with left policies, and support from the students to make them work.

In the immediate future we hope to fight for our views in the Union, help formulate policies for the Broad Left both here and nationally and sell and contribute to the Broad Left Journal (on sale soon). In the long term we hope to transform the union, with an active, fighting, left leadership and more important an active, fighting, thinking, rank and file!

## STOIC

Tuesday, 30th October, 1973

12.45 My Choice  
12.55 BBC Television News.  
13.00 Starting Point.  
A live discussion programme with Norman Sayles, and Paul Wadsworth. Introduced by Clive Dewey. Phone in questions to INT 3061 or come to the studio ELEC. ENG 306.

Friday, 2nd November, 1973

12.45 My Choice.  
12.55 BBC Television News.  
13.00 I.C.S. — Imperial College Societies.  
17.45 BBC Television News.  
18.00 New Soundscape. (Progressive Music)  
18.20 I.C.S. — Imperial College Societies.

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Tuesday 6th Nov. 1 p.m.

Enquiries to Alice Latham EE III.