



# Felix

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

14th MAY 1974

FREE

No. 358

Royal College of Science Union

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(with initiations)

PHYSICS TH 3 — 1.00 p.m.

(later at the Round Pond)

TUESDAY, 14th MAY — TODAY

## ACCOMMODATION QUESTIONNAIRE

As reported in Felix last term a questionnaire on student accommodation at Imperial College has been prepared by the Union Accommodation Committee. This questionnaire is being sent to all those students not living in Halls of Residence, Student Houses, or Union Flats. Some of you will have already received copies through the departmental letter racks; the remaining questionnaires are being sent out at the moment.

The short-term aim of the questionnaire is to draw up a register of accommodation and to discover if any extra accommodation will be available for IC students next session. In the long term the analysis of the questionnaires will be useful in highlighting the acute housing problem facing students in London.

The questionnaire will go a long way to providing the information only if a large enough section of IC participates. Please oblige the college and the Union by taking a few minutes off work to fill it in.

Please return the questionnaires to the Union Office as soon as possible—ignore the bottom line of the introduction asking you to return them by 1st May!

Keith Arundale,

ICU Student Residence Officer.

## MAGGIE MADE A GOVERNOR

SIR ALAN COTTRELL FRS and MRS MARGARET THATCHER PC, MP, have been appointed to serve on the Governing Body of Imperial College. Sir Alan Cottrell, Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, and until recently Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government, has been appointed by the University of London to succeed Sir Charles Goodeve. Mrs. Thatcher, former Secretary of State for Education and Science, has been appointed by the Royal Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851 in succession to Sir Frank Turnbull.

## WEEKEND IN PARIS — £9

including travel, insurance, accommodation

LEAVE I.C. 6.00 p.m. Thursday May 16

VISIT all the famous sights

HOSTED by the National Chemistry School

RETURN 12.00 Midnight Sunday May 19

— INTERESTED? —

Contact: NORM SAYLES, Int. Phone No. 2488 or Union Office

## UNION GENERAL MEETING

(AGAIN!)

### Elections for NUS Delegation

(Nomination Papers in Union Lower Lounge)

### MOTIONS: FREE SPEECH

Union Concert Hall  
THURSDAY, MAY 23  
1.00

DON'T MISS IT

SAVE YOURSELF TIME, TROUBLE AND POSTAGE!

Get your Life Membership of I.C. Union before you leave college this term.

Only £3. Forms from Jen, Union Office.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP entitles you to use bar, sports facilities, join clubs and societies, etc.

## HOW TO SOLVE THE LANGUAGE PROBLEM OF OVERSEAS STUDENTS

In an article entitled "can you speak English" (Felix 30th April) Ida Glaser the retiring chairperson of the overseas students committee drew attention to the serious and neglected language problems of overseas students. After giving some fascinating information such as the fact that about 60% of the world's population can't speak English she established that many overseas students at this College do have difficulties with the English language and that these difficulties severely handicap their academic and social life. Then she goes on to pass her judgement on this situation: "That students should have such handicaps is not advisable (?!); one might even call it ludicrous, inadmissible, or to quote a member of the board of studies immoral". Obviously Ida doesn't approve. But who is to be blamed for this "immoral" and "inadvisable" state of affairs? We have to read on to the end of the judgement to get the answer. But first we get some advice from the wise judge: "clearly students should have a sufficient mastery of the English language before embarking on a highly demanding course of study." The judgement ends with: "Those without such ability should obtain it before entering college". At last we have been told who was being tried — the overseas students who can't speak English. They have been found guilty of bringing about this "immoral" and "inadvisable" situation by not learning English before they come to the College. Having established the guilt the guilty ones are sentenced, in the proposals which come further on, to taking a compulsory English exam before they are allowed to enter the College. Ida who is supposed to represent overseas students has acted as judge and jury to them. We had heard of people acting as both judge and jury but that is not enough for Ida because she wants to be judge, jury and defence.

Continued on Page 8

## SOUTHSIDE BAR

Much of the bar committees time this year has been spent dealing with renovations to Southside bar. These have been split into two phases, the first of which was carried out over Easter. This was to remove what was left of the carpet and replace with Courtaulds AMTICO tiles, to have fixed the wooden panelling of the bar, to have the old furniture completely reupholstered, and to buy new stools. The total cost of phase I will be of the order of £1,500.

Phase II will involve moving the present partition between the bar and the lounge out, past the stairs, towards the TV, so creating a new area for games—darts and bar-billiards.

Any suggestions that members of the Union or Academic staff may wish to make should be sent to me.

David Sinclair,  
Deputy President ICU,  
IC Bar Chairman.

### ALL THE BARS ARE GETTING SHORT OF GLASSES

Will Union members return glasses from their rooms.

D. SINCLAIR

Hall residents can leave glasses in nearest lounge when bar is closed.

# LETTERS

## U.G.M.'s & Free Speech

from T. Phillips

Sir,

I am writing regarding the UGM of May 2nd. It may be as well to clear up some misconceptions which have arisen, and to make a few comments on the conduct of the meeting. This can be done by outlining the proceedings chronologically.

At 2.13 p.m. the ballot for the floor reps was completed. At this point Mr. Lolley called the quorum several times. Those who remained at the meeting, including myself, wanted to see the next item on the agenda discussed; however, certainly expected the meeting to be closed, as indicated in the Union's Standing Orders. I was surprised that Mr. Wadsworth ignored the challenge; when it was pointed out to him that he must observe the standing orders and close the meeting which was clearly inquorate, he said "I do not hear the challenge".

Mr. Lolley began to use a loudhailer to call quorum.

2.14 Mr. Sayles, in the chair, called for a proposer to the motion in question. Mr. Lynch rose, and said approximately three sentences.

Mr. Sayles also ignored Mr. Lolley's challenge.

2.15 Mr. Sayles called for a speaker to move the amendment. I rose and proceeded to the microphone. Before I began to speak, Mr. Bartley moved standing order 20 i), "that the question now be put". Constitutionally Mr. Sayles was not bound to accept this.

He did, however, and with Mr. Lolley still calling quorum, asked for a vote. It was not clear whether Mr. Bartley wished the amendment or the original motion to be voted upon. While this was being cleared up, Mr. Lolley gave up in disgust, and Mr. East took over from him. Mr. East prevailed where Mr. Lolley had not and the meeting was closed.

Two issues arise here. Firstly both chairmen blatantly ignored the standing orders in not closing the meeting. Is it any wonder that a candidate in the recent IC election called for a more rigid application of standing orders.

Secondly, this lapse could hardly have been made in the interest of the discussion. Otherwise, why did Mr. Sayles accept a procedural motion, which effectively would have meant no debate?

As I understand it, Mr. Bartley wanted to vote on the original motion immediately, and not debate or vote on the

amendment. Clearly, at 2.15, he could not have been worried about the time factor.

I would suggest that since Mr. Bartley was opposed to my position on the issue, he attempted to prevent me from putting forward my point of view. To quote a prominent member of the Union "Maybe he didn't want to hear what you wanted to say". Mr. Bartley himself claimed that the situation was quite clear: "the socialists" (whoever they are) were trying to stop people they didn't like from speaking. Therefore, he claimed, there was no reason for me to say anything.

Who, I ask, is trying to stop free speech?

Trev Phillips, Chem 3.

from D. M. Brown  
and P. R. Lynch

Sir,

We feel we must protest about some of the occurrences at the last Union Meeting. Trev Phillips' amendment to the 'Free Speech' motion removed sanctions all dealing with this topic turning it into a motion on racialism and attempting to prevent discussion of the original issue. Further, Mr. Phillips' suggestion that the President-elect (who, co-incidentally is also called Trev Phillips) produces his own personal report to the Union is unthinkable: Why should he become a one-man racialism committee? One man does not make a discussion?

In short, Mr. Phillips should propose his own racialism motion, not amend someone else's on a totally different topic.

However, this is not just a piece of idle Trevbashing. Trev stood for election under a free democratic system: everyone had their say, no-one was suppressed, and Trev got elected (news! news!).

If he has been elected under this system, he is under a moral obligation to abide by it, or he becomes a dishonest incredible candidate. If it was his intention to support the suppression of freedom of speech, he should have stated so in his campaign.

The system has been abused. The only way for people to remove these abuses is for more people to attend Union Meetings. Democracy only works when large numbers of people are interested. If more people attended Union meetings, there would be no more quorum challenges and democracy would be preserved.

A Union Meeting is meant to be representative of the Union, and as such can never be representative with a small

number of people present, or if one half of the Union is actively suppressed.

D. M. BROWN

P. R. LYNCH

(Publicity Department,  
I.C.  
Conservative Society)

from J. East

Sir,

As a result of the criticism I have received, I will explain why I called 'quorum' at the last Union Meeting.

A motion which would decide whether Racists and Fascists would be able to peddle their reactionary theories was being debated, those who said they should had spoken and Mr. Phillips stood up to propose an amendment. At this, someone suggested we vote on the motion then. The chairman accepted this proposal (which he need not do) and therefore we were deciding on this most important issue **without even hearing why Racists and Fascists should have 'no platform in the colleges. Is this the democracy Conservative Society and the Executive want?**

I trust Mr. Phillips will deal with some of the other points, I would like to explain why we say "No platform for Racists and Fascists".

We have heard of the 'scientific' theories of such as Eiselein and Huntington, who maintain that Anglo-Saxons are the master-race (even Scots, Welsh and Irish are inferior) but what of groups such as the Fascist National Front, who have harassed immigrants, under the guise of looking for 'illegal' ones. The law has given them a licence to spread their racist propaganda, and they seem to be immune from the Race-Relations act. It is only by denying them a platform, that the spread of their theories can be halted, along with an explanation of the dangers of racism of those who racists are trying to influence. We do not need racists to explain the danger of racism, therefore there is no need to let them 'condemn' themselves.

The racist propaganda has already been put to good use among the working class, where White trade unionists have on occasion 'scabbed' on black fellow workers, and in the colleges where, for instance, we have the overseas students committee at IC proposing that all foreigners take a course in English at their own expense before being admitted (this from a committee which is meant to help overseas students). Similarly the proposal to increase fees

for overseas students to £1500, is being used by racists, who say it is a privilege for 'wogs' to study here.

I hope all students at IC will welcome as I do, the news that the Vice-Chairman of that racist rabble, the Monday Club, was stopped from speaking in Oxford last week, and condemns the fact that Consoc have invited him here.

We should take note of the people of the East End of London who in 1930 refused Mosely a platform, when he tried to march with his fascist bands through Cable Street. 25,000 people stopped them. But these events are not all in the past, the NF have marched through Britain with their racist filth, and regularly stand in elections. **WE MUST REALISE THAT FREE SPEECH WON'T STOP THEM.**

Yours faithfully  
T. Francis

## BAR STAFF WAGES

from T. Francis

Dear Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to the way this college treats its part-time bar staff.

The rate of pay is 48p an hour and has been for two years and on the grounds of inflation alone, an increase is in order. For a session in Southside or the Union this means £2.40 (plus a meal), for an evening shift. Although this is more than some pubs pay, pub barmen merely serve; they do not do cellar work, glass collecting and washing, bottling up and the other many tasks college part-timers do as a matter of course.

There are many occasions when the bars are open outside normal hours. This is especially true in College Block Bar, which has been open until 4 a.m. on occasions. After the bar does eventually shut it takes about two hours to clear up the mess. This means part-timers may work until 6 a.m. The system, as it stands at the moment, does not pay any form of overtime, so one can work fourteen hours straight at 48p per hour.

It is also a fact that the only way of getting home after 1 a.m. is effectively by taxi. Taxi fares are not reimbursed, so a couple of hours pay are lost just getting home. Exploitation of cheap student labour?

It may be stated by the authorities that the bar cannot afford to pay a fairer wage. This is not the case; the bars always make a considerable profit, thousands of pounds a year—note the recent vast modernisation of bar facilities.

I wrote this letter because I feel the system to be unjust. I am quite prepared to argue the case with anyone (who buys me a pint!)

Finally, I was glad to hear the Rector has set up a working party to examine how the college can get more benefit from outside people using the facilities here.

Reply from D. Sinclair  
Sir,

Thank-you for allowing me to comment on this letter. I have discussed the matter, briefly, with Mr. Mooney and he will write to your correspondent in due course. I can assure you that this matter will be brought before the Bar Committee, of which the President of the Union, Mr. Norman Sayles, is a member and the Deputy President is Chairman. I cannot give a complete answer until after that meeting to which, incidentally, barmen have been invited.

I would, however, point out at this early stage that, as your correspondent states, we do pay a better rate than local pubs for our casual labour. I would also point out that the bars are run for students to drink in and, not, in the first analysis, to provide them with a means of supplementing their income, although many students take advantage of this opportunity and I feel this is probably to the benefit of most people who drink in IC bars. As regards working overtime, this is a matter of negotiation between the barman and the casual barman. The normal practice is for a barman to ask someone if he would care to work on a specified bar on a

specified night for a specified wage. If the casual barman does not think it's worth his while he refuses. Obviously, late night extension bars e.g. for College Block dinners, are better suited to people who live in Hall or near to College. If you must get, and pay through the nose for, a taxi home in the early hours, after working all evening, you must judge whether, all things considered, it's worth it.

I would say again that this is a personal opinion and I have not had time to consult the relevant committee but this will be done.

Yours sincerely,  
D. Sinclair.

## NUS/ NEW STATESMAN STUDENT JOURNALIST COMPETITION

Two students from Stirling University have won two of the three awards in the Student Journalist Competition, jointly sponsored by the National Union of Students and the New Statesman.

The competition, which attracted 170 entries, was open to all members of the NUS at Universities and colleges in the UK and to sixth-formers and to students abroad. Prizes were awarded in three sections; for the best feature article, for the best review and for the best cartoon.

Winner of the feature section was Timothy J. Shelton-Jones, aged 24, who is studying Mathematical Psychology at the University of Stirling. Mr. Shelton Jones wins £100 for an article on a hospital ward project.

The review section was won by David Courtwright, aged 22, at present studying English and History at Stirling, on an exchange visit from the University of Kansas. He wins £100 for his film review of The Exorcist.

In the cartoon section, a Fine Arts student at Leeds University, Chris Williams, won £50 for the best cartoon. His cartoons have been regularly published in the student newspaper, Leeds Student.

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Next Issue June 4th

Copy date Tuesday, May 28th

Thursday May 2nd saw Imperial College Union General Meeting back in the Great Hall after a break due to the power crisis (remember that?). A varied agenda pulled in one of the largest attendances in a long while, with a quorum nearly being reached.

The reports took up the first part of the meeting, with discussion livening up when Mr. Wadsworth reported on the Union Exec's stand over Essex University (basically outlined by Norm Sayles in his purple patch last issue). Mr. John Lane, last year's President, asked a number of questions which were answered by varying members of the Exec. Several of the replies brought howls of approval, showing the mass of support that existed for the Executive's line. Eventually it was proposed that the report be accepted. This was done, overwhelmingly so, thereby showing to the more militant aspects of the Union that they were not representative of the majority feeling over this issue.

Elections took up the majority of the remainder, with three candidates for the post of SCAB Chairman and nine candidates for the six floor reps on Council.

Due to this excess of candidates there was little time left at the end of the meeting for debate. This was made even more difficult by the fact that most people appeared to have come for the elections only, and there was a considerable drop in the numbers present when these had finished.

The first motion on the agenda referred to the NUS's motion on Racism and Overseas or particularly the section referring to the disruption of meetings held by Racist groups. This arose mainly from the members of the college Conservative Society and appeared to have quite a large amount of support at the meeting. However, after we had had the proposal speech there was a move to move straight to a vote. Seeing that the meeting was behind the motion and was almost certain to pass it

so that it would become Union policy Mr. East, that famous IMG figure, decided that in the interests of democratic freedom he would challenge the quorum. There wasn't a quorum present and so the meeting was closed.

It is important to realise that at the moment, in the absence of any definite policy, Imperial College Union would be regarded by the world at large as supporting this despicable piece of NUS garbage. The reasoning behind the NUS amendment (which supports any action that members may care to take against racist speakers, including the disruption of their meetings) is illogical. Judging from the coverage it has been receiving in the press (both from letters and articles) it is fairly apparent that what little esteem existed in the public's eye for the NUS has now all but disappeared following the passing of this amendment. It is also important to realise that it was not passed on a majority vote. The voting figures for the amendment were 204,618 for, 182,760 against, and 57,625 abstained. This was not a majority vote. The reason that the overall motion was voted in so heavily was because it does contain a lot of very good policy.

A Union meeting has been called for Thursday, 23rd May, mainly because we have to elect a delegation for the NUS emergency conference, to be held in mid-June, that has been called to discuss our attitude to the announcement on grants for 1974/75. Hopefully, there will also be enough time at our meeting for us to be able to discuss the racism motion and be able to express our feelings and attitudes towards it publicly.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE NEXT MEETING. IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE UNION—AND THE UNION IS YOU**

## U.G.M.

## P.G. GRANTS Call for increase by College committee

Following its second meeting last Tuesday the Exploratory Committee is expected to come out in favour of higher grants for postgraduates, rejecting the proposals for a system of loan supplements contained in the House of Commons Expenditure Committee's report on Postgraduate Education.

After discussions on the Students' Union's request for a rejection of these loans in principle, the committee decided that it should state what it felt to be the ideal situation without considering any possible restrictions either financial or political which might constrain the government. In accordance with these principles the committee will call for a full grant for postgraduates to be fixed at the level of the average net

starting salary of an entrant (with a first degree) into the Scientific Civil Service. This grant to be automatically increased in line with the salary increases of the academic staff.

The proposal to increase fees for overseas students whilst offering scholarships to students from developing countries, and reciprocal arrangements to students from the developed countries was thought to be impractical particularly in this college where over forty countries would be involved. It was thought that an increase in fees to £1500 per annum would result in a "catastrophic" fall in the applications from overseas and in severe financial difficulties for many of the overseas students already here.

## RCSA

### ALL 3RD YEAR PHYSICS PLEASE NOTE

In an effort to make the RCSA become a "more meaningful concept to the grass roots" a new idea is being tried out for all people in 3rd year Physics this term. Several volunteers, namely (ego trips here) Miss Caroline Bingham, Miss Penny Thorogood, Mrs. Jaquetta Selley, Mr. Dave Dawson, Mr. Ian Oram, and Mr. Andy Lewcock, have agreed to act as live "dead-letter-boxes" in order to keep people from this year's Physics II in touch with each other and with the RCSA.

As this gallant throng of Physicists (?) goes into the great wide world to seek employment, it is hoped that each one of them will write at least once a year to one of the people listed above, just to keep in touch. Not only will this enable anyone from the year to be contacted and told of RCSA (or Physics II) reunions, booze-ups, etc., but it does have a serious side to it. As the great Alfred E. Newman once said: "Learn by others' mistakes, 'cos you will never make enough yourself". Applying this mastery of logic to our cause, anyone in the 1974 Physics II will be able to write into one of the dead-letter-boxes, or the RCSA and request information or help (for instance in the case of accommodation in the West Country); this request will then be sent to the member(s) of the year who are most likely to be able to help, and hopefully the two 'physicists' can then resolve the problem between them.

This provides a new dimension to the RCSA. Not only does it deal with RCSA as a whole, but it helps to keep year groups together; not only does it fulfil a social function, but it has a very worthwhile and serious aspect to it.

The whole year-group organisation is being sponsored by the RCSA, and it is hoped that you (Yes, that's you Physics III, stop falling asleep in the back row, who threw that dart?), all of you, will join the RCSA, however I must point out that it is not essential to do so before your name is added to our mailing list.

So, now (apart from producing £15 life-membership fee) all you have to do is decide whom you wish to write to: Caroline, Penny, Jaquetta, Dave, Ian or Andy. (If you don't know any of them, pick a name and write anyway. You could be pleasantly surprised).

OK. That's it. Finished now.

Andy

## WAKEMAN TRUST

Four Cambridge students have been entrusted by an anonymous donor with £2,000 a year to give away to community service and community action groups and projects. The Secretary of the new Trust, 22 year old Mike Richards of West Lodge, Old Headington, Oxford, said:

"The Trust is designed to give away small sums to struggling groups that might not get enough support from anyone else. All of us have recently been involved 'on the ground' in community work, and our aim is to help people in similar situations. We hope to make an initial distribution some time in early June, and we would like to hear from groups who want help then by the end of May".

The other students involved are:

Chris Harris, 20 years old, reading sociology; worked as a Community Service Volunteer in a Cheshire Home before coming up in 1971.

Mark Goyder, ex-President of the Cambridge Union Society; worked as a CSV in 1971, organising community service as a 'catalyst'; as an experimental project organiser in a Borstal in 1972. 20 years old.

Harold Carter, ex-President of the Cambridge Union; worked as a CSV immigrant teacher and social work organiser in 1971; as an adventure playground leader in 1972. Member of the committee of CSV. 22 years old.

Mike Richards is an ex-Treasurer of the Cambridge Union, and has been actively involved in the 'Fish' community service scheme.

For further information please contact: Mike Richards, 21 Mill Road, Cambridge — tel. 67317; Harold Carter, Caius College, Cambridge — tel. 53275 ext. 348.

## Essex

### Latest

Students Ronnie Hunch and Will Rich, who were sent down by the Disciplinary Committee of Essex University were reinstated by an Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee which consists of two members of staff and one student, sat on Tuesday, May 7th, and will meet again to consider the case of Halford Hewitt the other student to be sent down. It is expected that Hewitt will also be reinstated.

However, at a hearing of the Disciplinary Committee on Wednesday, May 8th, a student on sabbatical leave, Ian Glen, was sent down for a year for being on campus. It seems that at Essex, a student who takes sabbatical leave is barred from campus. Glen, who did not join the Union's picket line, was not available for comment.

## Union General Awards and social colours

Nominations are invited for both of the above.

Union General Awards are the top honour that the Union can award and there are rarely more than six awarded in any one year. The decision on these nominations lies with the President, Norm Sayles. If you think you know of someone who deserves one of these awards then write, detailing the person's contribution to the Union, to the President, care of the Union Office. Please

mark your envelope with U.G.A. in the top left-hand corner. Remember, to have a hope of winning one of these the person nominated must have done, to put it mildly, "a hell of a lot of work".

Union Social Colours are a lower level award for those who have spent an exceptional amount of time and effort working for the Union. These are awarded by the Colours Committee. Nominations for social colours arising out of work for

an RCC, SCC or ACC club, and various other Union bodies come direct from those bodies and nominations should, in the first case, be addressed to these. There are, however, people who just do general work and need separate nominations. If you wish to nominate members for Social Colours write to Paul Wadsworth, c/o The Union Office, and mark your envelope "Social Colours". Nominations close on Friday, 31st May.

# EDITORIAL

Sunday press date is usually for two things: (1) to check and re-distribute copy already set; (2) to fill the remaining gaps. Sometimes, as in the last issue, this was not possible because of the great excess of articles, etc.

Which brings me to my first point in this editorial.

## FELIX

The comments that were made recently about Felix being controlled by the Executive is, as Norman Sayles put it last week, bullshit. In fact, the editorial that I wanted to print last issue had to be scrapped due to lack of room. First priority since I took over has been to print what YOU want to read and to persuade people (such as society chairmen) to provide this material. Second priority has been to try and find room for ALL articles that are handed to me, usually at the expense of any space-fillers that I had produced. Third priority, and one that I have rarely had a chance to use because of the success of my first and second priorities, has been for me to use Felix as an opportunity to act as editor and make Editorial comments. AND when I have been able to do this it has been usually in the form of an Hon. Sec's piece and not personal comments. My overall comment to the IC communist party would therefore be "Stick your comments about Felix up your ass" (to be polite).

## FREE SPEECH

The second part concerns the disputed NUS racialism motion amendment on fascist speakers. On this page I have tried to draw together all the various factual items on this business referring to happenings since last issue (see also letters page). The news from City University is good, that from Oxford is bad. Mr. Phillips, president-elect, has commented to me several times since conference that the violence part of the amendment is but a small part of it. He has also commented that it would only be the International Socialists and members of the International Marxist Group that would actually use physical violence to break up meetings. Fine rhetoric Trev but, with NUS policy as decided at conference (and by a minority vote remember) the violence at Oxford has the full official backing of the NUS. If the same thing happens at the meeting planned for IC next Monday that too will have NUS's support. BUT does it have your support. I know not. But you must show it. The way to do this is to turn up to the next UGM, to be held on Thursday, May 23rd, in the Union Concert Hall. This is primarily to choose a delegation for the emergency NUS conference on grants on June 15th. This, however, as you see from the City University news will also be important because of the racialism discussion. After delegation elections, there will be motions. If there are more than 300 present, the motion on racialism and disruption of meetings will be discussed, in the form of a right wing motion opposing the NUS amendment. If there are less than 300 the left and/or the piss artists will call quorum, just as they did last week, and we will be left with (a) no official policy of our own on this important issue and (b) an inference that we support the NUS view.

I THEREFORE CALL ON YOU TO COME OUT, EVEN IF IT'S FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR AND THEN NEVER AGAIN, AND SHOW YOUR OPPOSITION TO VIOLENCE.

## CITY UNIV. PEACE INITIATIVE

A campaign to remove the now famed racialism amendment from the policy of the NUS has been started by the City University Student's Union.

Quoting the following from the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights they hope to gain enough support from colleges to enable the topic to be discussed at the Emergency Conference that has already been organised for a discussion on grants.

Article 19 — Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinion without interference and to seek, receive and impart information

and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20 — Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

To enable the topic to be discussed they need the support of at least ten colleges, and they already have the support of five.

On Saturday, May 16th at the City University, St. John Street, London EC1 they are holding a meeting to discuss a motion to go to Extraordinary Conference and other relevant matters to this question. Primarily this meeting will be to discuss ways of repealing the policy.

# NUS EXECUTIVE STATEMENT ON RACISM

The NUS Easter Conference passed an 8-page motion condemning racism and the growing discrimination against NUS's overseas members. Press attention has focused on one paragraph of one amendment which was included in that motion, the paragraph in which Conference determined to deny a platform to organisations such as the Monday Club and the National Front.

We have to make clear precisely what this involves us, and our members, in doing. Firstly, emphatically, we are not going to send round a "heavy squad" to break up meetings. Neither are we going to try to restrict the activities of the Conservative Party among students. Conservative students have the right to propagandise among students like any other political group. We do not intend to infringe that right in any way.

What we do intend to do is to deny platforms to the apostles of racial hatred. If this is "limiting freedom of speech" then we plead guilty. But we believe there is a more important freedom at stake: The freedom to live without discrimination on the basis of race.

This is a part of one of the major campaigns students will be asked to fight in the coming months: against discrimination, against racist legislation, for the strengthening of the race relations act, and for a multi-racial multi-cultural society.

## The Right to Preach Racial Hatred

Summing up on the amendment at the Conference, NUS National Secretary Steve Parry said that had we known in advance what we know now of Hitler's Germany, we would have wanted to temper our concern for free speech with our concern for humanity, and to refuse him a platform. There can be very few people who would disagree with this. Those who oppose our position presumably believe that there is no danger whatsoever of the Nazi type of racial discrimination here.

We believe this view is dangerously complacent. The most vicious racial hatred is being deliberately fomented by well organised extreme right wing groups in this country, some of them in a position to influence the Conservative Party. The last Government gave way to that section of its supporters, in some of its statements and legislation, to a truly horrifying extent. When racists can influence Government policy so profoundly, then we cannot afford acute pangs of liberal conscience about denying the racist his right to hate in public.

## Racial Discrimination be the Government

Lest anyone doubts that racists have influenced Government decisions, we wish to outline in particular the discrimination practised against

the 10 per cent of our membership who come from overseas. This is not racial hatred from a few harmless, sick-minded individuals. This is racial discrimination practised by the Government, encouraged by the last Government, and in many cases, actually enshrined in the legislation of this country.

(1) Overseas students' tuition fees were raised to over three times the fees for home students from about £80 p.a. to about £250 p.a.

(2) Because Local Authorities are not allowed to subsidise their lodgings, as they frequently do for British students, overseas students pay up to six times as much for their accommodation.

(3) VAT was not imposed on student hostels—unless those hostels were for students from overseas.

(4) The 1971 Immigration Act ensures almost completely that the only way students can supplement their income—by vacation work—is barred to students from overseas.

(5) The 1971 Immigration Act decreed that overseas students whose activities were thought to be "against the public good" is one of those umbrella phrases which civil libertarians have always protested must never be embodied in law because it can be interpreted any way you like. Such a formulation would never be tolerated in legislation aimed at our own citizens: why should we accept it peaceably because it applies only to foreigners? In the case of deported North London Polytechnic student Aristides Mavroskoufis it was interpreted to cover what the authorities thought he might possibly do on the evidence of his political activities in Greece.

(6) Tory Home Secretary Robert Carr made proposals in the House of Commons on 6th December, 1973, which would have the effect of increasing the harassment of overseas students. He proposed that the Home Office would monitor their progress very carefully and receive regular reports from their college authorities; that the minimum number of hours per week they study should be raised; and that they should be prevented from changing their courses. His proposals, if put into effect, would mean that Universities and Colleges would have to have two sets of regulations; one set for British students and another more stringent set for foreigners.

(7) Overseas postgrad-

uate students will have to pay up to £1500 a year tuition fees if the recommendations of the Parliamentary Expenditure Committee earlier this year are adopted. This would ensure that no overseas students could do postgraduate work in this country unless his parents were very rich indeed.

NUS believes that these measures are the measures of a Government influenced by racialists.

We have watched organised racism at work in every level of our society, including the Government. We have been powerless to stop it. But we can stop racism from speaking in the places where we work and study and attacking the basic democratic rights of our members. The High Priests of Race Hatred

We have been told that it is a denial of free speech to stop members and sympathisers of particular political groups from speaking. Does this mean that the NUS does not believe in free speech?

Our answer is no, it means nothing of the kind. But we believe there are limitations on the right of free speech. The laws of libel and slander are one example; the race relations act is another. The following are the kinds of people to whom we will refuse a platform:

**Enoch Powell:** " . . . wide-grinning picaninies . . . who cannot speak English" (Birmingham, 21/4/68).

**Air-Commodore Oddie:** of the National Front National Council — "Of course I am a racist" (Observer 30/3/69).

**John Tyndall:** of the National Front—"The Jew is like a poisonous maggot feeding on a body in a state of advanced decay". (Sunday Times 30/3/69)—"Mein Kampf" is my doctrine" (Guardian 8/2/64).

**Martin Webster:** of the National Front—"We are busy forming a well-oiled Nazi machine in this country" (The People 9/9/62).

**Frederick Stockwell:** An ex-chairman of the Monday Club, who congratulated Mr. Powell on speaking about the "threat to Britain's future from the time-bomb of a million or more unassimilable coloured immigrants".

**George Young:** An ex-chairman of the Monday Club—"There is, and will be widespread miscegenation at the fringes . . . no one knows the consequences" (Birmingham 24/4/68).

We do not see why we should assist the propagation of racism. We call on all our members to refuse these men platforms.

## VIOLENCE ERUPTS

Mr. Harold Soref, deputy chairman of the right-wing Monday Club, was forced to abandon a meeting at Oxford Union last week. He had been speaking for about 40 minutes and was concluding his speech when a group of students forced their way through the Union entrance. Union officials had attempted to barricade the way with desks, which were pushed away, and by closing doors, which were made of glass and were smashed by the mob. The mob totalled about 25.

In the room where the meeting was being held, members barricaded the way with chairs and benches whilst Mr. Soref beat a hasty retreat through a rear door that had to be broken open. During the retreat to his car he had to be helped over a

six foot high wall. There was no physical violence on Mr. Soref though this is no doubt mainly due to the fact that he was no longer present in the room when the mob arrived.

Oxford police have announced that arrests have been made, with one man being suspected of causing criminal damage.

The fact that this kind of violence now has official NUS backing no doubt encouraged people to take part in this disgusting behaviour (see editorial).

Footnote: Oxford University student union is in the red. Mr. Sullivan, the president, has not been paid for two weeks and there are debts of £1500. The lack of money apparently arises from the fact that only two colleges had paid their subscriptions.

# WHAT'S ON

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND  
CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY  
POSTGRADUATE SOCIETY

presents a lecture

## "OVERDEVELOPED SCIENCE FOR UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES"

by PROF. J. M. ZIMAN  
(Lecturer in Science & Society at  
Bristol University)

P.G. Soc Common Rm

(RM 219 Chem Eng)

1.00 Tuesday 21 May

## FRESHERS' FAIR '74

Will ALL Clubs & Societies  
please complete and return  
one of the forms which are  
on the clubs letter rack in  
the Union Lower Lounge.

If any non-union organisation wishes to have  
a stall at the fair will they please contact me  
as soon as possible.

OFFERS OF HELP AND/OR USEFUL  
RELEVANT SUGGESTIONS WILL BE  
MOST WELCOME.

RON KILL, Chem P.G.

Want to become famous?

Want to appear on the front  
cover of next year's

RAG MAG?

IF SO READ ON...

We want a young couple to be photographed in  
a compromising position — no removal of  
clothing necessary!!!

Contact M. Fox or R. Harper (Kellog Hall 161) or  
Mech Eng 1 letter rack.

SATURDAY  
MAY 25th  
2.00—10.30 p.m.

Featuring OVER 20 BANDS

SATURDAY  
JUNE 15

GREAT HALL  
8.00

## MELODY MAKER ROCK CONTEST

Southern Area Final

ONLY 25p ON DOOR ONLY

RORY  
GALLAGHER

I.C. Students £1.40

Advance £1.70

Tickets available from Union Office Lunchtimes

FRIDAY MAY 17th GT. HALL

7.00 — 15p

M \* A \* S \* H

\* \* \*

ABOMINABLE  
DR. PHIBES

FRIDAY MAY 24th GT. HALL

7.00 — 15p

D E V I L S

\* \* \*

DR. PHIBES RISES  
AGAIN

## Exhibition of ETCHINGS

by

ANDREW ANTONIOU : TIMOTHY BERRY

RODNEY FUMPSTON

CHARLES NEWINGTON

CONSORT GALLERY — 9.30-17.30

Weekdays till June 7

Research carried out in several American  
Universities indicated sharp improvement in  
student grades after starting to practice

## TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION

COME ON TUESDAY 14 MAY (TODAY)

TO

ROOM 606 ELEC ENG — 1 p.m.

AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT IT

## CONCERT

I.C. Symphony Orchestra

(Leader: RICHARD SHORTER)

ROSSINI —

*Overture, The Thieving Magpie*

BARTOK —

*Piano Concerto No. 3*

ELGAR —

*Serenade for Strings*

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS —

*English Folk Song Suite*

Conductor: GAVIN PARK

Piano: CARLINA CARR

I.C. GREAT HALL — 23rd MAY — 8.00 p.m.

Tickets 35p at door

## INAUGURAL LECTURE

PROFESSOR M. M. LEHMAN

of Computing Science

PROGRAMS, CITIES, STUDENTS —

LIMITS TO GROWTH

MECH ENG 220

TUESDAY 14 — 17.30

## VACANCY

### USK ACCOMMODATION BUREAU OFFICER

Any student from the Usk area is  
eligible to apply for this post. The  
officer will be expected to run the  
Bureau (sited at QEC) from 9th Sept.  
to 4th Oct, 1974.

He will also be expected to draw  
up a register of accommodation for  
Usk students; to do this he will need  
to do some advance work in mid-June  
advertising, etc.

The officer will receive £23 per  
week. Closing date for applications is  
June 7th, 1974.

Apply to:

Roger Mitchell

President, QEC

Phone: 937-9714/1794

## "THE MONDAY CLUB: ITS HISTORY, AIMS & ACHIEVEMENTS"

MONDAY, MAY 20 — 6.30

CHEM ENG

Speaker: IAN EWEY, V-Chairman

Chairman: PROF. FORD

TICKETS available from Publicity Officer,  
I.C. Con Soc, Imperial College Union

# FELIX REVIEWS

## BOOKS

### PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

On May 3rd, PAN/Ballantine, in association with Friends of the Earth published a revised and up-dated edition of Jonathan Holliman's "CONSUMER'S GUIDE TO THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT (50p). In this he aims to look at several major areas of goods and services and explains, simply and clearly, the environmental costs of their production, use and disposal.

Most people must be aware by now that the interest in our environment and the protection of the Earth's limited resources has risen greatly. This was amply shown with the oil crisis at the turn of the year. This year has also seen an increase in the number of organisations that are prepared to "re-cycle" goods for re-use. At college we now re-cycle computer paper, several corporation cleansing departments are collecting glass and paper separately.

Another way in which it is possible

to save on our resources is to cut down on the rate at which we use them. The main aim of the book is to show the numerous ways that are available for doing this.

"Use cloth napkins, hand towels, handkerchiefs and nappies instead of throw-away paper ones . . ."

He heavily slams several parts of our society today. The advertising industry for "Deceiving customers as to the real merits of a product . . .", "The family that willingly has a large number of children . . .".

The book is full of very fine sentiments indeed but what chance is there of them being widely accepted. How many of the ordinary working class people, who make up the majority of any population, are going to read this book and therefore know what resources they are wasting? Unfortunately it needs massive campaigns to try and put over these ideas, but the easiest way to finance this would be through industry, and it is not likely that industry is going to encourage the consumer to buy less of its products.

The book is well written and makes very interesting reading. However, words are not what is wanted.

### HITCH-HIKERS GUIDE TO EUROPE

Some time ago I was lucky enough to be able to spend some time on the continent, hitch-hiking. This can especially be fun when, like me, you speak only English and not even the rudiments of a foreign language.

However, on that tour, I was able to get an immense amount of help, facts and information from a paperback "HITCH-HIKER'S GUIDE TO EUROPE" by Ken Walsh. This has recently been produced in a 4th revised edition for 1974.

The layout of the book is very easy to follow. The first part is taken up with general hints on hitching and basic survival:

"A friend of mine once got an attack (of diarrhoea) in Algeria. He was in the middle of nowhere . . . had no paper except a book he hadn't read. He tells of sitting on the side of the road, frantically reading page after page so he'd have a back-log of paper to see him through his next attack".

The majority of the remainder is split into chapters on different countries ranging from Ireland to Iran and Norway to Tunisia with all the

countries in between (i.e. Europe, N. Africa, and the Middle East) and the Eastern Bloc countries. The largest sections are devoted, as you might expect, to the main European countries (France, Germany, Italy etc.). There is information on the best entrances and exits from the countries, something that can be especially useful if you're planning to pass straight through as fast as possible to reach your destination. The capital of each country is listed with details as to the cheapest places to stay and the sights to see. There is also a "tourist's" guide to the beauty spots and works of wonder.

The remainder is full of different regulations for working and work permits, a very brief language and currency guide, and tips and comments from readers.

Without this book it would still be possible to do the trip, but in a much more disorganised and unsatisfactory manner. There were times when the information it contains was invaluable and I personally would not be without it whilst hitching on the continent.

Copies are available from the college bookshop at only 50p each. It is regarded by some as the hitcher's "bible". I'd just say that it was the third most important thing I took with me, the others being my passport and my money (and I saved a lot of the latter using the book). PAW.

## RECORDS

### MEDICINE HEAD

#### Thru' A Five

This is the first album from the group since it enlarged from a duo to a quintet, last October. The addition of former Family drummer Rob Townsend, ex Freedom Star Roger Saunders (guitars and keyboards), and West Indian George Ford (bass guitars), has done a lot to broaden the sound of the group and widen the total textures of their music. I also feel that their addition has given the group more freedom of expression—particularly in the vocals. The rhythm section of the band has obviously been strengthened, but the new members of the band don't seem to have stimulated many new ideas here. The rhythm on all but four of the tracks is, to all intents and purposes, the same as that used on "One and One is One". On the

other tracks the group don't seem to have achieved any new positive identity and direction in their music. Whilst the album is pleasant there are few exceptional moments. Disregarding the singles the best tracks for me were "Changin' Man", "Rain", and "Indian Queen". These didn't resort to the "One and One" rhythm and showed a lot of imagination and a lot of promise for the future.

I feel that whilst there are some good individual performances on the album, the album fails to succeed because the group haven't been together long enough. Perhaps they will be fully integrated when they record the next album. To sum up, this is an album which retains some of the old Medicine Head whilst branching out in new directions. The general direction of the band though, isn't evident. Although the album shows a lot of promise for the future there's nothing really outstanding about it—is just remains a nice average album.

C. Dewey.

### BURT ALCANTARA Zygoat

This album, second in a series of 6, is purely electronic, composed by Burt Alcantara, it uses ARP and RSE Synthesizers. "ZYGOAT" however, is no collection of electronic sounding violins, woodwinds, voices . . . On this album, the synthesizers are used to produce sounds only a synthesizer could produce.

Burt Alcantara is a 32 year old New Yorker. He studied clarinet, sax and piano at an early age, later moved to conga and timpani and was admitted to the Juilliard Academy where he studied from 1959-64. He has worked with the American Bal-

let Theatre, Paul Mauriat, the Netherlands Dans Theatre and the Ballet Rambert.

The first thing that strikes with this album is the cover. An impression of a small ruined village, overseen by an upright, human faced goat, a fabulous palace in the background and a foetus hovering above. The album itself is rather more difficult to describe. It is a fine album, and although Burt Alcantara doesn't try to imitate other instruments directly he doesn't reach the other extreme and produce a lot of noise with no musical content. Most of the album contains gentle sounds with a steady rhythm, although there are times when he produces a much harsher feeling.

To me, this is how synthesizers should be used.

### REFUGEE

#### Refugee

Patrick Moraz is someone you'll be hearing a lot more of in the years to come. For he's a Swiss keyboards/synthesiser player, stroke composer, who sets Refugee's debut album alight with his artistic and highly imaginative display of keyboard virtuosity. He might not have the road experience of Emerson and Wakeman, but he's made up for that with a complete mastery of the keyboard instruments. He's no mean composer either, and his Swiss influence on the band's material brings a delightful and refreshing new sound to the rock industry. Whilst I immensely enjoy their shorter tracks (Papillion, Someday and Ritt Mickley) their more ambitious tracks which are neo-classical in nature, contain a great depth of feeling, in

fact much more feeling than the more recent Yes albums. All the same Refugee aren't out to copy Yes, ELP or Pink Floyd, even though there are slight similarities. Their sound does, though, remind me of the old Nice sound. But that's not surprising since the three-man band contains ex-Nice members, Lee Jackson and Brian Davison.

For a debut album it's extremely good, and if Refugee continue as they have started Keith Emerson will soon be kicking himself for having left. My only one criticism is perhaps with the longer tracks (Great Canyon Suite and Credo). At times I found my attention beginning to wander; but there again Refugee have only been together for a matter of months, and in that short time you don't expect the band to achieve the degree of co-ordination that ELP and Yes have. To sum up, a great debut album from Refugee who, if they go on like this, should soon be among the ELP's, the Yes's and the Pink Floyd's—if not above them.

Clive Dewey.

### FOCUS

#### Hamburger Concerto

Writing record reviews at gone 5.00 a.m., after just having seen the dawn is quite an experience. However, to get down to business. Focus, Holland's top band, and one of Europe's best have undergone several line-up changes recently. Their latest album "HAMBURGER CONCERTO" still has Thijs Van Leer (keyboards (9 of) flutes, voices and whistling) and Jan Akkerman (guitars, lute, handclaps) as the remaining members of the original. In addition there is Bert Ruiter (bass and various other instruments) who first appeared on Focus 3, and Colin Allen, a new English addition (drums and percussion).

The title track (or work) takes

up all of the second side and is (with the exception of a few yodels and some short foreign lyrics (dutch?)) instrumental. Although there are six named tracks within this work, and each can actually be picked out on the acetate, they do run through into each other to give a single, complete work.

Throughout this the lead is split between Van Leer on his keyboards and Akkerman on lead guitar. The rhythm is steady without being overpowering, with Colin Allen producing a competent first showing. Van Lee tends to get the majority of the lead (on organ, synthesizer and piano) but the longest single section gives Akkerman a free rein to show his prowess. Although each section has its own particular feeling they blend excellently to build into a climax in the final two, short tracks.

contd. on page 7

# THE GLORY THAT IS GREASE

As the virgin emerald buds blossom forth heralding that magic time when men's hearts beat faster and their thoughts and hands start to wander, that pathetic animal, the third year undergraduate, defies his instinctive tendencies and devotes every waking second to the decipherment of the incomprehensible drivel he has accumulated over the past eight terms. The more astute members of this herd will be sacrificing some of those waking seconds pondering that imponderable of all imponderables.

"What the bloody hell am I going to do next year?"

Ponder no longer, the answer is nigh, salvation is at hand.

LUBRICATION! Four syllables that revitalise the future for the graduate-to-be with an interdisciplinary bent.

What? . . . Lubrication Research, alias "Tribology". Investigation and experimentation ranging from improving helicopter gears, through all branches of elastohydrodynamics (Experimental & Theoretical) to the design and development of both high and low pressure thin oil film viscometers.

Where? . . . The Lubrication Laboratory, 599 Mechanical Engineering (Enismore after 5.30 p.m.)

Who? . . . YOU! Whether you be engineer, chemist, physicist, mathematician, metallurgist, computer scientist, parapsychologist, flat earthist, Erick Von Daniken, Alf Ramsey or Bob Janousek we have

a mind bending problem (off the peg) to suit your particular talents.

How? . . . Drop into the lab, whenever you are passing, preferably between 11.30 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. or 2.30 p.m. and 3.15 p.m., for a chat with the present inmates. If you think you could fit in with our style, work rate and atmosphere and we in turn think we could tolerate such an inferior being as yourself, then we will arrange a meeting for you with Prof. A. Cameron, the power behind the throng. Those of you with real initiative will cut out the middle men and go straight to Prof. Cameron (Room 704 Mech Eng). Either way you will be able to get all the information you need on our postgraduate research leading to PhDs.

Why? . . . That's really up to you to answer. You must want to do research, and enjoy the less obvious benefits that postgraduate work has to offer. But if money is your main criterion then the extra £100 we add to the SRC p.g. grant does little to bring the pay in line with the salaries available in industry.

The most obvious benefit of course, is that after three years you will have a PhD degree of an applied nature, enabling you to decide at that stage whether you wish to remain an academic or go into industry with your eyes fully opened. Those three years will not be spent doing research alone. The lab. has an excellent community spirit and its

members ("lublablads") take part in many various activities. Readers of I.C. News will already be aware of our sporting prowess, but when we are not winning trophies and plaudits at rowing, fencing, six-a-side soccer and badminton we are enjoying squash, rugby, mixed hockey, mixed soccer, and even mixed saunas. Several of our number have "internal combustion engineitis" and are as incurable as our resident eccentric perambulator who walks from nowhere in particular to nowhere else as often as possible and makes us pay for it. The debating society, which incorporates the wine, beer and spirits sampling societies, is always in session after 10.30 a.m. and always in the Enismore after 5.30 p.m. Traveling isn't easy on a postgraduate pay, but we usually manage a lab. organised skiing trip around Easter, one or two camping excursions during the warmer months and, when the gods are smiling on us, a mass exodus to some conference or other on the lab's elusive funds. The lab's pièce de résistance, however, is the Limits of Lubrication Conference held every other July, which attracts the most illustrious lubrication experts from all over the world, including ourselves. Every member of the lab. helps in running the Conference, in return for which he is housed, fed and entertained on a par with the visiting delegates, but at the lab's expense.

Another brain drain is due in 1976, Lord Bowden, principal of the Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, predicted at a conference organized by the university's careers and appointments service, and held about two weeks ago.

He was arguing that inflation was diverting the wealth of Britain into non-productive work so that graduate recruitment into productive industry was falling off. The same was happening in the United States, he said, but since it was ahead in getting out of the depression, it would start a new recruiting drive sooner than Britain.

The fall-off in recruitment was also affecting enrolment on undergraduate courses to such an extent that in three year's time British industry would hardly have any trained young men and the ones there

## BRAIN DRAIN

were would go to the United States.

Lord Bowden said that the consequences of inflation were so appalling that unless the problem was solved he despaired of the future.

Inflation had gone so far that in the past few years it was possible for people to be living in houses that were earning more than they were. The increase in the book value of about 18 million houses last year was £45,000-£50,000m., which was as great as the total domestic products.

Returns on short-term building society loans were 15 to 20% last year but ICI's returns were only 5% and the paper trade 2%. As the

community valued productive industry less than speculators, how could one seriously advise a schoolboy to become a chemical engineer?

Lord Bowden pointed out that students are influenced early on by the prospect of not being able to get a job. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States had produced 29 graduates in chemical engineering last year compared with its usual output of about 100.

As for metallurgy, on which the prospects for atomic energy depended, the USSR had produced 5,000 graduates last year and Japan 3,000, whereas Britain had produced only 200. Four years ago it was difficult for metallurgists to get jobs and the result was that UMIST had only been able to enrol six undergraduates this year although they had the capacity for 36.

## MPs 'Wrong on role of postgraduates

Postgraduate research is a quite cheap source of support to both research and teaching activities in university departments according to a statement issued recently by the Senate of Strathclyde University.

The Senate, which is highly critical of the recent House of Commons Expenditure Committee's report on postgraduate education, says that any drop in postgraduate research would have immediate and serious consequences.

"Critics are in general plainly unaware of the linked relationship in universities between staff, postgraduates and undergraduates," says the senate, whose statement has been sent to members of both Houses of Parliament, principals and vice-chancellors of all British universities and many other interested bodies and individuals.

Recent publications, including the Expenditure Committee's report, had implied that much university postgraduate study was a luxury which could be trimmed without loss either

to the nation's economy or to its academic life.

"The tendentious nature of this approach can be detected both in the use of language and in the deployment of statistics," the senate says.

"When an official report speaks of the 'cosy academic atmosphere' we may well suspect the objectivity of its authors and their familiarity with university life."

The report argued that too many talented young graduates slipped into postgraduate work because "it must seem to them to be a natural progression after a good first degree"; but if an honours degree had not stimulated the student's intellectual curiosity, had it not failed in its purpose?

It was all very well to talk about immediately relevant studies, but nobody really knew either which particular advance in knowledge would ultimately be socially relevant or how training in research might ultimately be deployed.

A recent working group of the British Association had pointed out that scientific re-

search provided a backstop for much of technology. "Set up against this wider view, the allegations that this or that employer has no immediate need for PhDs seem trivial and are in any event not borne out by our experience."

The postgraduate was not simply a sponge; he presented a challenge to staff and an example to undergraduates. Furthermore, postgraduate study was the proving ground for future university staff.

"Nobody would pretend that the possession of a PhD is the sole criterion of potentiality as a university teacher, but it removes one big area of uncertainty in the minds of selectors," the senate says.

Professor S. G. E. Lythe, the university's vice-principal, said that the university's research committee considered that no serious attempt had been made to produce a reasoned reply to the Expenditure Committee's report. The purpose of Strathclyde's statement was to present some of the shortcoming of the MP's recommendations.

### FOCUS

(contd. from p. 6)

The first side contains their new single "Harem Scarem" which is an up tempo, almost Rock 'n Roll number. The rhythm is much more noticeable, probably to help direct it to the likely buyers of singles. Of the others one is a piano concerto, another has an Elizabethan flavour and the final track is very heavy, with pounding drums, bells, cymbals and harsh use of the organ.

I personally think that it's the best they've produced though it has been mentioned that snatches are not very original, appearing to be straight cribs from, for example, the Beatles.

## CONSERVATIVE SOCIETY

Imperial College Conservative Society exists for all the College to learn and practise Conservatism. We have links with the Conservative Party, the Bow Group, F.C.S., and the Monday Club, and through the information they are able to give (the Bow Group especially is responsible for accurate research and intelligent thought) we can offer discussion of the facts and people that matter, at our policy meetings, usually held in hall somewhere, over sherry and biccies.

Our policies at the moment are twofold: one, to inform everyone of the facts behind Conservatism and secondly to propagate Conservatism in the college. To this end we are at the

moment engaged in keeping a free democracy in I.C. We are not going to disrupt meetings, or destroy posters: we prefer discussion to disruption. This is one of the fundamentals in our society, everyone has the right to speak.

For an entirely nominal 15p you get F.C.S. and L.U.C.A. membership, thrown in, and of course entry to their conferences (there's one coming up soon, so hurry!) so why not write to the Secretary, or get more information from the Chairman — he's usually propping up Southside Bar!

Join one of I.C.'s fastest growing and most enthusiastic societies, the Conservative Society.

## NUSS: Illiterates

The NUSS (National Union of School Students) have been producing press statements recently about NALGO, and about a children's strike in Nottingham.

"It is IMPERATIVE", declares the statement, "that pupils are able to use the facilities available at public libraries."

This arises from the NALGO action over London allowances. The NUSS are afraid that

"many school students will be denied the facilities available in libraries for reference".

Other mistakes were: "immediate educational crisis in London"; "respective responsibilities"; "effects" used as a verb instead of "affects"; "remedy"; "supposedly" and "re-instatement" used twice instead of "re-instatement".

These statements both bear the address

of NUS headquarters and are badly produced, with atrocious typing and line-spacing.

This is obviously not going to do any of their causes any good. The NUSS may appear, to some, to be a good idea. To me, it never has and issues such as this only go to prove it.

Maybe the NUS should take time off from bashing racialists and spend more time removing illiteracy so that up and coming students can understand and produce decent English

# FELIX SPORT

## GOLF

### The boys pull off the big one

It has been some time since I last wrote about the society. Because of this it has been said that the society has lain dormant. This is not so. Since then we have added two more scalps to our belt in the shape of Thomas' Hospital and Sussex. Alas, we have also slipped to a defeat against Kent as well. Thus the league title that we so earnestly sought in the early part of the season is now in the hands of the enemy. However, on Monday 6th May the society achieved a goal far more significant than merely the league. On that day we carried off the South and East Universities title for the first time in

IC's history. Indeed if one looks through the society archives one finds that IC has never been placed better than third in the Championship, and that was achieved by the notorious '47 side that also carried off the league title. It is in this historical perspective that one must judge this victory and it seems that any way you look at it the achievements of the '73-'74 boys are amongst our greatest.

The Championship was won in great style by six shots, a margin which left IC the easy winners and everyone else nowhere. However this easy margin conceals much of the strug-

gles that took place during the course of the competition. After the first round in which the IC lads had not played up to their capabilities we found ourselves two shots off the lead. The leaders, Southampton, were in fine fettle over lunch and started the final round strongly. The writing seemed to be on the wall. However, the turning point came when Bill Calderwood and Rich Brown attacked the course in no uncertain terms and with a burst of birdies unprecedented in the competition's history made the leader board flash red so often that many motorists mistook it for traffic lights. The lift this gave the other lads cannot properly be assessed, but what can be said is that the society inexorably crept up on Southampton until, from the 29th hole onwards, the tournament was clearly to be ours.

Other points worthy of mention is that Bill Calderwood took the individual title and Rich Brown the best nett. All in all it was an IC clean-up and all the opposition could take away with them were a couple of runners-up spoons.

The Championship winners: Nigel Foster (capt.), Bill Calderwood (v.-capt.), Rich Brown, John Medonca, Clive Pemberton, Mick Carr.

## YHA CANOEING OR "WYE WE DID IT"

17.30: Friday the 26th April: our intrepid band of heroes journeyed forth into the setting sun to the distant lands of the West Country, ably supported by an equally intrepid band of heroes from Bedford College. This, the climax of the Hostelling Year at IC was to prove to be as memorable and as strenuous a week-end as any of the previous hiking trips, writes our correspondent with sore and blistered hands.

We stayed at the Welsh Bicknor Youth Hostel, with Richard, Mike, Laurence and Phil suffering the fate of a four-man tent in the grounds of the hostel. The hostel is to be remembered perhaps for the painfully long journey to the men's washroom, the Cagney impersonating warden, and the surplus of lemon curd and consequent lack of thick cut marmalade.

Saturday, we travelled some ten miles upstream to our embarkation point, hired our canoes and cast off into the midge infested upper reaches of the Wye. Navigating down to Ross, we stopped to dry off in the nearest pub, as some of our company had already tasted the waters of the river, and proceeded to make ourselves unpopular with yet another landlord. Further downstream, we passed the impressive Goodrich Castle, where the author and John "Guess my middle name" Allen made a swift reconnaissance of the said antiquity.

Sunday saw us preparing, in our still wet clothes and with diminished enthusiasm, for the second half of the voyage down to Monmouth, taking in the well known beauty spot at Symonds Yat and its accompanying rapids which struck terror into the hearts of such stalwarts as Margaret "I'm only here for the brandy" Bassett. So having stopped at "Ye Olde Ferrie Inn" to pluck up courage (or was it Whitbread) for the descent, we shot the said rapids which proved somewhat pathetically anticlimactic, so much so that a number of stalwarts dragged their canoes up the bank to repeat the performance, with Mr. Avison going on for a third attempt, and probably would have continued ad infinitum (or nauseam), had time permitted.

The occasion is to be remembered, if only for Mr. Welford's gallant demonstration of shooting the rapids with neither canoe nor paddle, a feat to go down in the Guinness Book of Idiots. Congratulations are due to Tom and Alison for their record-breaking attempt to navigate the Wye underwater and commiseration to Martin who had to bail them out. A special thanks to Malcolm Q for not alluding to a certain factory in Slough, more than was really necessary.

Note—ULU YHA are arranging a folk evening at Ivinghoe YH and a ramble in the wilds of Bedfordshire on Saturday, 18th May. Meet at Eus-ton at 10.00. PGC

## SQUASH

On the whole, it has been a good season for the squash club. Of the four teams in the London Univ. League, IC 1 again won the 1st division with IC 2 finishing about half way down the table of the same division (10 teams involved).

In the second division, IC 3 finished very near the bottom, indeed only just escaping relegation. This was partly due to the No. 2 string, G. Dickson, being ill for most of the Spring and being unable to play. The 4th team did pretty well in the 3rd division and were unlucky in not

gaining promotion, finishing 3rd in the table.

The success of these teams has, in a large part, been due to the regularity in which the same players have turned out for each match, so enabling strong teams to be picked each week. I thank all the players concerned!

Unfortunately, in the end of season knockout tournament, IC 1 were tragically beaten 3-1 in the Semi-final by Guys Hospital, M. Kenyon, the no. 1 string, being the only one to win. I. Menzie had a good match, eventually losing

3-1 but A. Khan and R. Smith both seemed to have off-nights and instead of winning as was expected, both disappointingly lost 3-0.

I would like to say a big thank-you to some of the IC 1 and IC 2 players' wives who provided us with food after the home matches—saving us from the fate of the 'bouncing Mooney sandwich' and also to J. Lloyd—the secretary and G. Dickson, the treasurer, who both did conscientious work for the club.

M. R. Kenyon,  
(Captain ICSRC)

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROBLEMS

Continued from Page 1

We do not doubt Ida's good intentions but we do have doubts about her good sense and the ability of her committee which was made up predominantly if not totally of British students who we imagine have not had much problem with the English language since the age of two to understand the language problems of overseas students and make sensible suggestions to overcome these problems. We agree with Ida that a serious problem exists and that something must be done about it. Ida blames the overseas students for the situation and hence puts the responsibility for solving it on the overseas students. We believe that the College is to be blamed for this situation and so responsible for solving it. Let us just see what brilliant proposals Ida's committee, after discussing the subject at length, intends to make to the Board of Studies. Firstly that overseas students should take a compulsory English exam before entering the College and that their acceptance should be subject to passing this exam. It is not clear exactly how taking an exam is going to solve the problem. It will just mean that those whose problems we are trying to solve will not be able to come to the College.

In a way this does solve the problem but the question is in whose interest. Certainly not in the interest of those who suffer from it. We believe that any idea of a compulsory exam is totally unacceptable to overseas students because it imposes yet another discriminatory measure against them over and above the discrimination that already exists. We find it incredible that a committee which is supposed to defend the interests of overseas students should recommend a measure to the College that is totally against the interests of overseas students and would further restrict the possibilities for overseas students to come and study here. This especially at a time when the government is intending to impose further restrictions in the form of increasing fees.

The second recommendation for an English language course to be made available during the summer before coming to the College is a little more to the point but it seems from the recommendation that the overseas student is supposed to pay for this. It is totally unacceptable that overseas students most of whom do not get a grant and who already pay discriminatory fees should also pay for this language course. This

would be yet another financial impediment to them. Some of the "other alternatives" suggested are interesting. One is that there should be an English Language 'O' level entrance requirement. According to Ida the obvious disadvantage with this is "in that such examinations are not taken in a number of countries". Well if Ida had any clues about the problem she is trying to solve she would realise that there is an even more obvious disadvantage. Most overseas students from countries where English is not widely spoken would probably not be able to pass English 'O' level when they have even graduated from IC never mind passing it before they come to this College.

There is only one way in which this language problem can be solved in the interest of overseas students. The College must provide a FREE English language course during the summer for new overseas students and there should be NO compulsory exams at the end of this course. At the same time some of the rooms in the halls instead of being used as hotel rooms for summer tourists should be made available for these students. In this way it will be possible for the largest possible number of overseas students to

have a good enough knowledge of English to cope with their lectures before they start their course. Free English classes should of course continue throughout the year and these should be at several different levels to cater for the needs of different students.

As far as the overseas students committee is concerned, the new committee which was elected last term and is already taking over from the previous one, unlike the retiring one is made up mostly of overseas students and as such we hope would be able to distinguish more clearly between what is and what is not in the interests of overseas students. The fact that last term a group of overseas students stood for election for

this committee and were elected is itself a reflection of the growing concern among overseas students about their increasing problems, among which language is only one, and the inability of the previous committee to do anything about solving them as is clearly demonstrated by their confused approach to the language problem. The NUS Easter conference decided that a campaign must be launched to end discrimination against overseas students. It is in the Colleges that this campaign is going to take place and we hope that at IC the new overseas students committee will take an important role in launching this campaign. But it is only with our full support that the committee

can do this. The Persian Society will give the new committee its active support for as long as this committee fights for the interest of overseas students. We urge all other national societies and individual students to do the same.

### Sport in the Long Vac

ICPGG are arranging an inter-departmental 5-a-side soccer tournament at the start of the long vac, for PG's, UG's and Staff who are still at college after the end of term. This will be at Harlington on a Wednesday afternoon, and transport from the Union will be FREE. Anyone who can form a team drop a note in the PG pigeon hole in the IC Union Office, or contact one of the undersigned by MAY 31st. Tennis players also welcome to travel on the coach (ed—a list will appear outside the Union Bar nearer the time).

Tom Abraham (Elec Eng) Int 3103; Rod Little (Maths, 53PG) Int 7-21; John Porter (Metallurgy) Int 4052; Pete Waite (Maths, Huxley).