



FOUNDED IN 1949

Felix

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

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No. 406

Monday 12th January 1976

FREE!

Bar prices to stay at present level

Ms Cowell's report
found disappointing

BAR PRICES would remain at their present level it was decided at the Refectory Committee meeting held last Thursday. They would however be reviewed at their next meeting by which time the Bar Committee would have presented its report regarding the financial position of the bars.

A profit of £8,879 had been made on sales in the bars to date. If bar profits of between £12,000 and £15,000 could be made, then it was possible that brewery charges and the recent rise in wages could be absorbed.

This would mean that no price increases would have to be made, at least for this term.

Ms Cowell's report

The meeting also discussed Ms Cowell's report, following her visit here last term, on the catering facilities. In it she commends the Union's paper submitted to her for its 'brevity and clarity of expression'.

Although she sympathised with some of the opinions contained in the Union's submission she felt that the problems were not easily solved.

The chairman of the Refectory Committee, Dr Levy, said he welcomed the report.

"There are a number of points which require careful consideration, some of which we have already had thoughts about. It is nice to have an authoritative statement from somebody who has a knowledge of university catering".

The report itself is largely concerned with the financial problem of the catering system but recognised that within this was a management problem of not insignificant proportions. Ms Cowell suggests in her report that an offer of accommodation at the middle management level, an area in

which recruiting poses particularly difficult problems, might help the situation with its strong incentive value.

This suggestion is already being vigorously pursued by the College.

The report also says that *"As the fixed costs represent an increasingly high proportion of the total cost, a fixed income becomes more essential"*. Ways suggested of achieving this include charging resident students a contribution towards the catering costs, or including in their boarding fee a certain number of meals. This was not unfair, the report says that *"it is usually the resident students who use the facilities at the weekend, breakfast time and evening meals when, for obvious reasons, labour costs are highest"*.

However, Dr Levy does not agree totally with this because as he points out, the College can only accommodate 25% of the total number of students in College residence. His suggestion, which has been put to the College, is to charge a kitchen fee applicable to the whole of the IC community. This fee would cover the catering staffs wages thus leading to lower refectory charges.

Ms Cowell in her report refers to the barrage of criticism levelled at the catering staff. Their morale was very low and they could benefit from a few months' breathing space without criticism.

Dr Levy also expressed his great concern over this. *"It has to be realised that they (the catering staff) are doing a difficult job to the best of their ability"*, he said. *"Members of the College should remember that all the criticisms they might make, sometimes in very forthright*

terms, do not help the catering staff to do a better job".

Asked to comment on the report, Riz Shakir, ICU Deputy President and a member of the Refectory Committee, said *"On the whole it was rather disappointing and told us little that we did not already know. But then perhaps it would be too much to expect from a few hours work"*.

NUS Travel

As from this week the NUS travel office in the Union Lower lounge will only be open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. This is because Valerie has to go and work in the branch at Goldsmiths College on Tuesdays and Thursdays due to a staff shortage.

NUS to launch newspaper

THE NUS launches an eight-page tabloid newspaper called "National Student" on the 16th February. National Student of which 100,000 copies are being printed, will be distributed free to each of the 750 student unions in membership of NUS.

This will be the fourth time that NUS has attempted to produce a national student publication - the other three were Student, New Student and Magnus.

National Student which is to be published termly will be freely accessible to all students and will cover student activity on a national basis. The paper should have a high news orientated content and it is hoped that a large proportion of the material will come from the staffs of newspapers. In the long term, NUS hope to expand the service in the form of a weekly newspaper which would be purchased through news agents.

At the recent Student Press Conference at Essex University, reservations were expressed by representatives of student newspapers attending the

conference. They feared that the advertising revenue a college paper could accrue would decline considerably as a result. This, it was contended, might force the closure of some of the papers.

However, the unification such a national publication could bring would be tremendous and none at the Conference was opposed to the idea in principle.

The first major role that Nation Student will play is that of informing all its readers of the national student strike on Friday, 27th February in support of the grants claim. Trade union members teaching in colleges are expected to give support to the strike.

Students on strike are being asked to come to London for what, it is hoped will be the biggest student demonstration ever mounted.

The demonstrators will assemble at 2.00pm in Belvedere Road, near Waterloo station, and will march to Hyde Park Corner. There they will be addressed by Charles Clarke, President of the National Union of Students, and prominent trade union leaders.

EDITORIAL

Scarborough Conference

For many students, it is through either FELIX or Sennet or the national newspapers, each with their own bias, that they get to hear of what went on at the Conference and the policy decisions taken. This in many cases is the only communication between most students and the National Union.

When this august body of students(?) decides that it should forge links with the trade unions and take sides with the MPLA in Angola, one wonders about the relevance of such time consuming motions and indeed the whole of conference, to improving the lot of the IC student (and that is assuming that it needs to be improved).

Although politically aware, many students through a lack of political understanding tend to the opinion that the conference is merely a forum for political theorists to express their grandiose ideas for creating a perfect society — they would not be far wrong.

The solidly theoretical approach to student affairs and international politics is, supposedly, what alienates people from the NUS. The practical aspects — the grants protests, letters to the ministers concerned, the patronising calls for change — are all unimaginative but effective. However, there is a need for strength of character within the National Union hierarchy to direct resourceful efforts to the immediate problems facing students. We are in danger of seeing decreasing standards in education and must take positive and realistic steps to protect ours and future students' educational interests.

The election by the union members of the NUS Executive could ensure the relevance of the action taken by the leadership and might help prevent the build-up of a clique within the hierarchy of the Union.

The NUS appears to be divorced from students — the Union means little to them and the national conference only serves to crystallize their lack of interest.

Or is it simply a problem of communication?

If so, the new national student newspaper, National Student, could go a long way towards providing a solution. This is the fourth such venture by NUS and shows the importance attached to communications within the student body by the NUS Executive. It is reassuring to know that despite having a Broad Left editorial line, it is not the NUS's intention for the paper to carry propaganda.

We are sorry to announce that one of FELIX's long-serving staff has had to resign. Mike Williams, last year's Editor, contributed much to the paper; he lead it through the difficulties of change from letterpress to printing on the premises, and has continued to write articles and give advice since his term of office expired. Now Mike finds pressure building up in his post-grad course, and does not feel it right to continue with FELIX at the expense of his studies. We wish him every success in the future, and thank him for what he has done in the past.

Christmas tree sabotaged

During the vacation, the decorations from a Christmas Tree in the Mechanical Engineering Department were found smashed. The tree was situated on level 4 of the Mechanical Engineering

building, near the entrance to the Computer Centre.

The tree and ornaments had been bought from £6 raised by staff. The decorations from the stripped tree were found broken in the User's Room

Wotzon

Monday 12th

Tuesday 13th

Associated Studies: The Strangers Next Door 1. The Royal College of Music. DAVID WILLCOCK, Director RCM. Theatre A, Sherfield Building at 1.30pm.
Film: Culloden, Theatre B, Sherfield Building at 1.15pm.

Wednesday 14th

IC Folk Club presents CHRIS ROHMANN in the Union Lower Refectory at 8.00pm.
Adm: members 30p, non-members 50p Membership 60p.
Chelsea College: Bar night with BOB DAVENPORT at 8.30pm. Adm: Free. Manressa Road, SW3 — off Kings Road.

Thursday 15th

Associated Studies: The Morality and Immorality of Science. 2. The Pursuit of Happiness by FRANK LEA, author of the Ethics of Reason, etc. Theatre A, Sherfield Building at 1.30pm.
Lunch-hour Concert in the Library, 5B Prince's Gate at 1.30pm.

IC Ents present SLEUTH starring Laurence Olivier and Michael Caine in Mech Eng 220 at 6.30pm. Adm: 10p.

Friday 16th

IC Ents Hops and Disco in the Union Concert Hall with the JIVE BOMBERS. Starts at 8.00pm. Adm: 60p.
QEC Ents present the 101'ers in the New Common Room Bar. Start 8.00pm. Adm: 30p.

IC JEWISH SOCIETY

present

ERIC MOONMAN, MP giving a talk on 'A sane policy in the Middle East'

on

Tuesday January 20th

at

1.20pm in Mech Eng 664

FELIX urgently requires writers and reporters. Anyone interested in joining the staff should drop into the FELIX office

RATI KARTHIGESU

performs

Classical Indian dances in the Great Hall at 7.00 pm on Thurs 24th Jan Price 50p.

WANT TO EARN £1 PER HOUR?

Then just contact the Deputy President, Riz Shakir, any Tuesday lunchtime in the Union Office.

BADMINTON CLUB COMPETITION

Please note:-

Doubles on Sat. 17th Jan.

Begin at 10am in the great hall.

Singles on Mon. 19th begin at 7pm.

Continued from page 1 2

Could you afford to be a Married Student?

made for the husband or wife of the student by some embassys. If that person is unable to speak English or is unskilled there is little chance of a job and the family is put at risk.

Charles Clarke, President of NUS commented last Wednesday:

"Mature students and their families are suffering badly. We have one example of a mature student who had to

give up his course suffering from malnutrition. The grants system is heavily weighted against those people who missed out on further or higher education at 18. I would suggest that the government takes a leaf out of the Department of Employment's book and looks at the way it treats people over the age of 20 under the Training Opportunities Scheme. The contrast is compelling."

PROF. BREMSSTRAHLUNG



Take it back!

1. Know your rights

When you go shopping for a record deck or a pair of shoes, remember: if you buy something and find it to be faulty then you are entitled to your money back from the shop where you bought it. You need only accept a replacement or repair if you prefer; neither do you have to accept a credit note. Do not be fobbed off by the shop telling you to take the article to the manufacturer. By law, (The Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act 1973), the retailer must rectify the fault. You cannot expect all your money back if the article has worked perfectly for a reasonable period of time and of course, the damage must not be of your own making.

You may also return the goods if they are not as described, either on the wrapping or by the sales assistant. Furthermore, you may require the goods for a specific purpose. Even if this purpose is not the usual one, you are entitled to a complete refund if the item is not satisfactory *provided* you specified clearly your intended use for the article. If you incur expenses due to the goods being faulty you may claim these from the shop. You cannot take up a complaint about a gift. The person who gave it to you must return it.

When buying something on hire purchase you still have the right to complain. You should, in this case, complain to the people with whom you made the HP agreement which may be the shop or a finance company.

2. Guarantees

It is always a good idea to send off the guarantee: it may give you extra protection. You cannot lose your rights under the 1973 Act - whatever you sign.

3. Exceptions

There are various cases where you do not have any right to redress:-

- If the defect was brought to your attention before you made the purchase.
- If you examined the goods before purchasing and should have been able to notice the fault during that examination.
- If you bought the goods at an auction.
- If you are buying the goods not as a private consumer but in the course of business.
- For services such as dry cleaning, hair dressing or package holidays.

In a private sale, such as buying a car from a private motorist, it is up to you to examine the goods for faults. You are entitled, as in any sale, to ensure that the seller has the right to sell the article. Redress is only possible if say, the car is not as described to you as regards age or mileage.

Continued on page 10

Peter Patter

Termly Review of Refectory and Residence Charges

As you will have seen from the last issue of FELIX the Rector recommended to the Governing Body that Refectory prices should be kept at their present level but that Hall and House rents should be increased substantially. The Governing Body accepted the recommendation and so while refection prices remain the same rents are going up. I consider the rent levels that are coming into effect as reasonable, and consistent with the full student grant. The increase in the middle of the session is regrettable and hopefully will not be necessary in the future. As well as the increases in rent there are increased economy measures in the Halls particularly.

Increases in Tuition Fees

The new levels of tuition fees for the session 1976/7 were announced in December by the Secretary for Education, Mr Fred Mulley. Fees for home students are to be increased from £140 to £182 and those for Overseas Students are to go up by £96 from £320 to £416 per annum. These increases will have no great effect on the majority of students

whose fees are paid either by their Local Authority, or by their government, if they are from overseas. Those who will be affected, some quite seriously are the home students who are on a minimum grant and have to pay their own fees, and privately sponsored overseas students. I believe that a hardship provision of some description will be made for most continuing students and I will let you know what these provisions are as soon as I can. Many overseas students will be forced to leave the country as a result, claims the UK Council for Overseas Students. They also say "By its action the Government is making ability to pay the main criterion for accepting students from overseas." I am sure that you would agree that this should not be so. I hope to write a longer article on this topic soon.

Are you satisfied with the Union

John Downs publicised in FELIX last term that a Working Party has been set up to find ways in which the Union could be made more responsive to the needs of the membership. The Working Party will be pleased to receive any comments that you may wish to make. Contact myself,

John Downs, Rick Parker, Physics PG or John Morgan, Mining 2. If you want to moan about the Union now is your chance.

NUS Conference - The Student Road to Revolution

I was pleasantly suprised at the light character of the NUS Annual Conference but most disappointed at a great deal of the debate. Far too much time was spent on discussing issues which I do not feel are crucial to the body of students in this country. There will not be any world crashing changes if the NUS decides to support the MPLA in Angola or not. Our national union, for we are all members, is definitely political at present and almost all its policies are extremely left wing orientated. I disagree with many of them, as I am sure a large number of the people reading this article do. The policies and composition of the Executive of the NUS are very difficult to change because of the NUS structure. "Should we remain members of NUS?" is a question which we should be thinking about deeply and not hastily. More of this topic later in the term.

Wishing you all an enjoyable and successful term.

Pete

Available now in RESTRICTED NUMBERS
at the fantastic introductory price of £3.00

The new Imperial College London "Slop Shirt"

colours

Red

Green

Gold

Light and Dark Blue

sizes

Small

Medium

Large

Extra Large

Marketed by 'Honest John' Enterprises

available from IC UnionOffice

dinnertimes 1.00 -2.00pm

THE QUESTION OF DISAFFILIATION

Derrick Everett sets out below the pros and cons as he sees it.

Already Glasgow and Aston Universities have left NUS; at present the question is being seriously discussed at St Andrews, Newcastle, Liverpool, Brunel, Nottingham and a few others. It is with this background in mind that I wish to offer a brief summary of the arguments for and against IC's continued affiliation to NUS.

For: NUS provides service, for example, NUS Travel, for its members.

Against: Before Imperial College last joined NUS, it boasted an excellent travel service of its own. Both Endsleigh Insurance and the British Rail Card are available to non-members.

For: NUS provides legal and financial advice to student Unions.

Against: Why should we pay for these services since we never use them; like much of NUS, they are irrelevant to a large college with a well-established Union.

For: The NUS provides cultural and other facilities for students, for example, the Drama Festival.

Against: The political attitude of the NUS has destroyed any power they have to stop a non-member Union from entering the Drama Festival (see Thomas Stevenson's article in FELIX No 403). However, they have stopped Glasgow University from entering the Observer "Mace" Debating Tournament (sic), which is about to fold due to lack of support. (It's surprising that the NUS Executive have not entered, since they would manage to win every time).

Against: NUS is essentially a fiddle on the part of a small group of politicoes to obtain funds for their activities, for their activities, for example trips to Rumania to sign 17-

page communiques on "the State of the World" (text available from T. Phillips, c/o ULU, Malet Street, London WC1) and sending telegrams to support to the Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola. (the USSR are not really intervening with their troops, missile launchers, MiG21 fighters, etc - after all they do not really want the oil!)

Against: The political activities of this organisation have have destroyed any credibility it might have had with, for example, the Government over student grants, etc. The voice of an independent Imperial College Union might carry more weight!

For: If we leave, we shall weaken the voice of the moderates within the National Union; we shall be taking the easy way out. If there is any chance of changing the policies and and politics of NUS, we should stay in.

Against: If we leave, we save IC Union a mere four thousand pounds per annum.

The options we have are as follows:-

- (i) To stay in and do our best to break the Marxist stranglehold on the NUS;
- (ii) To pull out for one year and encourage other moderates Union to join us, just to see the effect on the NUS (and possibly to get some concessions?);
- (iii) To pull out for an unspecified time and organise our own travel arrangements, etc;
- (iv) To do nothing until we are forced to pray three times a day to Moscow and sing the "Internationale" and the "Red Flag" in Beit Quad before morning lectures.

I await comments.

An idea for summer

Though there is still a long time to go until summer, many of you will be beginning to make plans for the long vacation. One very enjoyable way of passing the summer is to work on a Kibbutz in Israel.

The first Kibbutzim were formed in the early part of this century by Socialist Jews who based their ideals on a return to work on the land, and are thus based on agriculture. On the Kibbutz there is no need for money as everyone receives according to his or her needs; this includes everything required to live, such as food, housing, clothing, education, medicine and recreation. Essentially the Kibbutz is one big family. The life on a Kibbutz fifty years ago was difficult, but in spite of the hardships the Kibbutz movement has flourished until now about 100,000 people live on the 250 Kibbutzim spread throughout Israel.

For many years Kibbutzim have been taking in volunteers, Jews and non-Jews, from all over the world for periods of time of a minimum of one month. This alone makes a Kibbutz working holiday worthwhile as one has a unique opportunity to meet people from all walks of life and from all environments.

A typical day on the Kibbutz would consist of getting up at six o'clock (ugh!), working for six to eight hours with breaks for

"Good Morning, Campers" as I said on New Year's morning. No one appreciated it then either, so I had better get down to the three bits of business which I would like to raise:-

National Societies

I now have a list of all the overseas registered students. It is available for you to consult, at your leisure.

Writing - up Students

Writing-up students are eligible for full Union membership. I now have a list of all students, who are registered as such, and Union cards are obtainable from the office.

Rules for Publicity

The following regulations were passed at the last Council meeting, and are now in force:

breakfast and lunch. The rest of the day is free for swimming in the pool, going on an excursion or just lazing in the sun (which is guaranteed!)

So if anyone is interested in working on a Kibbutz or would like more information, please contact Andrew Pal through Mech Eng 2 letter racks. After all, as the posters around College say:

"There is more to life on a Kibbutz than picking oranges"

Mutters Arising

Rules For Publicity Within IC on IC Union Notice Boards And Within The Union Building.

(1) Application:

These rules apply to all full members of ICU with one exception (see 8). They refer to Union notice boards, the Union Building, and the JCR. Anyone else wishing to put up publicity must first seek the approval of the IC Union Publicity Officer, or the Hon. Sec. ICU.

(2) Size:

The maximum size for all posters shall be A1 (34" x 54") or the equivalent area.

(3) Fluorescent Paper:

Orange 'Dayglow' fluorescent paper shall only be used for posters with the prior authorisation of the Union Publicity Officer, or the Hon. Sec. ICU.

(4) Location of Posters:

Posters may be put up on the walls within the Union Building and JCR at the discretion of the Deputy President. All such posters must be affixed with 'Blue Tac' and not with sellotape or drawing pins.

(5) Frequency:

Within the Union Building and JCR no two posters publicising the same event/function/club/

service etc shall be within 20 feet of each other.

Posters on Union Notice Boards shall be put up such that no two posters publicising the same event/function/club/service etc are within 20 feet of each other. Staples may not be used to affix material to notice boards.

(6)

It is an offence to remove or cover up any poster, except outdated posters, or on the orders of the ICU Executive or the ICU Publicity Officer.

(7) Contravention of these rules renders poster producers/distributors liable to action by ICU Discipline Committee.

(8) Exemption:

Candidates standing for any post requiring a college wide ballot shall be exempt from clause (5) above.

(9) Interpretation of these rules rests with the ICU Executive and the Union Publicity Officer.

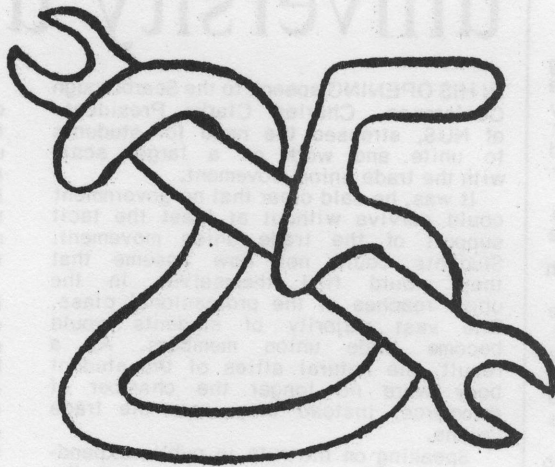
(10) Alteration

These rules may be altered by a majority decision at Council.

Thank you for reading all this so avidly. At this time of year, it is pretty hard, is it not? Anyway, see you around,

John

ANNUAL ENGINEERS DINNER AND DANCE



FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY

25th Annual Engineers Dinner and Dance

Dept.&year _____

Name _____

Name of guest _____

No of tickets required _____ Double @ £11-50 _____ Single @ £6-00

I enclose cash/cheque to value.... £ _____ Cheque made payable to City & Guilds Union

TICKET INCLUDES:

4 course meal,wines,sherry,cabaret,
band,disco,bar till 4a.m.

Return to C & G Union

Please state if you would like to sit with any particular group

Reports by Paul Ekpenyong

NUS Conference

Fascism opposed

AN EMERGENCY MOTION instructing the NUS Executive to write to the Home Secretary calling for a public inquiry into the events at UMIST and to press for prosecution of those arrested was carried by a majority and an almost equal number of abstentions.

The resolution denounced "the vicious and calculated attack on the audience

at an NCCL meeting on Saturday 29th November by the National Front".

The meeting, held to discuss "The State, the Law, and Ireland" had been infiltrated by between twenty and thirty NF members identifiable by black arm bands. Six people were seriously injured including a senior lady citizen who was hit over the head with a chair.

£1200 of damage was caused to UMIST Union buildings in the ensuing rampage. Subsequently, police arrested 29 NF members suspected to have been involved in the disruption of the NCCL meeting. This happened despite threats and hounding of executive officers of UMIST Union by persons said to belong to the NF.

However, the police who are vigorously pursuing the case have had difficulty in pressing charges against any of those detained. This arises from the fact that they were arrested about 500 yards off the university campus. The task of proving that they were on the campus has not been aided by the arrested refusing to take part in identity parades as is their prerogative.

A spokesman for UMIST Union says that despite the great deal of work being put in on the case by the police the case is proceeding at a very slow pace.

An amendment to the motion calling on CO's to expel any of their members known to belong to the National Front was heavily defeated after an impassioned plea from Charles Clarke warning that its passage would assist those who were attacking democracy.

The motion reiterates previous policy and calls for the banning of platforms for extreme right-wing factions and urges for an active opposition to fascism.

Condemnation of South Africa's invasion of Angola was declared in an emergency motion which recognised the MPLA (People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola) as the only genuine liberation movement in Angola.

Paul Burton (UCL) moving the resolution said it was vital that the NUS tonight alongside the Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM) and the Angola Solidarity Committee in support of the MPLA who were a coalition of all the left in Angola. They were not controlled by Russia as stated in the bourgeois right-wing press.

Sue Slipman, NUS National Secretary, summing-up on the debate which was somewhat one-sided, reiterated that it was imperative to support the MPLA who were fighting for a People's Republic of Angola. "Progressives all over the world supported the MPLA as does the NUS", she said.

The motion was overwhelmingly carried.

Clarke lashes out at university unions

IN HIS OPENING speech to the Scarborough Conference, Charles Clarke, President of NUS, stressed the need for students to unite and work on a larger scale with the trade union movement.

It was, he said clear that no government could survive without at least the tacit support of the trade union movement. Students could not now assume that they would find themselves in the upper reaches of the professional class. The vast majority of students would become trade union members. As a result, the natural allies of the student body were no longer the chamber of commerce, instead they were the trade unions.

Speaking on the cuts in public expenditure, Mr Clarke made it clear that the NUS was playing a leading role in the fight against them and as such would face attempts aimed at defeating the Union. "Tactics of 'divide and rule'

will be used", he said. He took the opportunity to criticize those university unions which had been slow to take up the fight against cuts in educational expenditure.

"I must say to conference that the leadership of some, not all, large university unions appears to be happier to stand by and watch the fight... They seem to look at the fight to save education as though it had nothing to do with them; with a lack of concern which will ultimately destroy the education sector that they claim to represent".

He also condemned attempts to interfere in the internal democracy and accountability of trade union structures, including in their electoral processes. NUS could expect the same treatment, as their opposition to government policies grew nearer the centre.

"The twin principles which this conference must uphold are the maximum involvement of the NUS's members in our union - for without this we are nothing - and the principle of accountability. By this I mean the accountability of this union to this national conference and not to the judgements of the Lords of the Fleet Street press".

Mr Clarke went on to warn of the implications of decisions taken in other countries around the world. It was no coincidence that loans were yet again being proposed after their successful introduction, albeit partially, in West Germany. Similarly, the attacks on 60% of overseas students who come from the poorest parts of the world was intensifying just at the time the Government was pursuing oil deals in the Middle East.

The problems facing students had to be confronted honestly. It did no good to condemn cutbacks in education and at the same time say that the government's economic policy is broadly correct - the cuts are central to this policy. It was time to realise that the era of 1968 was over.

He concluded: "Tactics full of sound and fury and no more, in the end, signify nothing." "Severe and difficult tasks lie ahead. But the fruits of success are worth fighting for. They are: better education from the nursery to the university; the rights of many more people to education throughout their lives; and an end to education for the privileged few.

"The ashes of defeat would be bitter indeed. For it is not only our own education which is at risk but the education, permanently destroyed, of those who will follow us."

Foreign students getting a rough deal

OVERSEAS STUDENTS were being used as a whipping boy to implement more cuts, Trevor Phillips, NUS vice-president responsible for overseas students, claimed at a press conference on overseas students. Mr Phillips was speaking immediately after a motion condemning discrimination against overseas students had been carried by an overwhelmingly majority. Less than ten students voted against it.

In this context therefore, the overseas students (OS) campaign was directly linked to the grants/cuts campaign. Mr Phillips said that this term was the first time the OS campaign had been taken-up demonstrably and in his view the best way to pursue the campaign was through the areas of the NUS.

The motion on OS which calls for a

day of action says that the present attacks on OS "constitute a deliberate and systematic attempt to exclude from post-school education, overseas students who are not privately wealthy or backed by Government or business interests. The consequence of this is to restrict educational opportunity to the ruling elite in those countries".

Opposition to proposals contained in the report of the CVCP Study Group on Postgraduate Education and the ILEA document calling for drastic reductions in the number of overseas students in ILEA colleges, were expressed. Such proposals had to be "seen in the context of the increasing use of racist arguments by various groups, which

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Broad Left increase hold on Executive

THE BROAD LEFT strengthened their hold on the NUS Executive with the election of Pete Davies to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Liberal, Francis Haydn. He is a student of English Literature at the New University of Ulster where he also holds the sabbatical post of Deputy President.

Pete was a full-time Lochness monster hunter for three and a half years before becoming a student at NUU.

Alan Williams (Bradford University) was elected to the Elections Committee and Mike Hill (NLP) elected as a three year member of Finance Committee.

In addition, the following people were elected to serve on the Steering Committee: Til Wright (Leeds), Anne Harrison (New College of Speech and Drama), Sarah Ward (Leeds), Valerie Phillips (Rachel McMillan), Clare Wilson (Manchester), Ian King (Moray House CE) and Keith Underhill (UMIST).

Housing

FOR THE SECOND conference running the problem of housing was discussed. Charles Clarke moving the section of the Executive report on housing described it as "the most politically divisive issue facing students and young people in general".

There was an expanding demand by young single people for single places to live. For National and local government to take-up this problem and provide accommodation for them, seemed to be Mr Clarke's solution to the problem.

The actual housing motion was eventually carried by a majority after all three amendments, each supported by a different extreme political group, had been debated and defeated. The policy adopted reaffirmed previous policy. Note of the acute housing shortage, increased use of repressive legislation against squatters occupying empty property, the Criminal Trespass Law and the massive increase in halls of residence charges were made. Calls for a rent freeze and usage of short-life accommodation were seen as temporary measures against a very poor situation.

In the meantime, the NUS Executive has been charged with a careful study of the situation and to seek solutions with the help of the relevant interested bodies.

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attempt to lay the blame for the crisis on ethnic minorities".

"Many overseas students have no choice but to come to Britain due to a history of exploitation and repression in their own countries which has resulted in a criminal lack of facilities. Britain has a moral duty to provide education for these students and also to those who come from countries with fascist governments".

The motion calls on the NUS executive to approach vice-chancellors to reconsider proposals to increase fees. It also believes that the overseas aid budget

Ballyhoo and nowt else

THE DEBATE on the NUS constitution was characterised by confusion and strong emotions. Despite their status as an independent body who usually do not take part in discussions at conference, the Elections Committee were called on to give their views on points in the main motion and accompanying amendments, prior to their being discussed.

The Elections Committee were of the opinion that they would not be able to carry out the instructions as stated in the main motion, because they were not equipped to do so. This was due to their independence and therefore they could not draft parts of the constitution as they were being asked to do.

The main motion was moved by Leighton Adams (Newcastle Polytechnic). He wanted to see NUS supporting the small colleges and become more representative. There were 750,000 full and part-time students in the NUS he pointed out. "You represent 200,000 of these students at the outside. We are concerned about the attitude of the average student towards the NUS. It is not even an attitude; it is absolute non-concern with everything to do with the union."

"The NUS effectively divorces the majority of students because of the small number of people who come to these conferences assuming they represent the majority."

Mr Steve Moon, Birmingham University, moving the first amendment, called for direct elections of the top four executive members and said he recognised the problems inherent in establishing a majority ballot. A recommendation in the amendment asked for the election and observers in COs to be carried out by a secret ballot of all their ordinary members.

Mr Francis Haydn attacking the amendment described it as a Tory/Liberal plot that would lead to a right-wing take-over of NUS if passed. He was not in favour of democracy for its own sake. "Stop farting about and support the main motion", he concluded.

Gavin Grant speaking for the amendment, thought that the NUS was in danger of becoming moribund. "There is a chance that direct elections will revitalise NUS."

£985 grant claim approved

THE CLAIM FOR a main rate of grant of £985 for the 1976-77 academic year was approved by the conference. A claim for a grant of £1,200 was heavily defeated after an amendment to the Grants and Education Cuts motion, in which the claim was a part.

The Grants motion itself reaffirmed continued opposition to any further cuts in the education budget, and again called for the abolition of the means test and the ending of discretionary awards. Demands were also made for full grants for all full-time students

should be increased and a larger proportion of it spent in providing greater educational opportunity to working-class people in developing countries.

The amendment was overwhelmingly defeated.

A second amendment supported by the NUS executive strove to maintain the existing status quo. Howard Smith (Architectural Association), moving the amendment, pleaded, "Let us clearly reject the idea that the proposers of the main motion seek democracy. The democracy of NUS has been demonstrably proven by its effective campaigning for students."

Charles Clarke concurring with him said the debate concerned the life-blood of the Union. It was taking place at a time when many organisations were trying to weaken NUS. "Kick out the reactionary main line", he concluded.

The second amendment was carried, on a card vote, by 344,473 votes to 115,720. A majority of 2 to 1.

A third amendment, containing a recommendation that the four full-time officers should receive a salary of 52/30 of the main rate grant, was vigorously opposed by members of the executive with the exception of the Treasurer, Hugh Lanning. The new proposals would mean a drop in salaries from £3,200 to about £1,400 with £100 for each re-election.

By this time, the debate had been in progress for nearly three hours and at only about five minutes to midnight, a procedural wrangle developed regarding taking the amendment in parts. The amendment was eventually voted on as a whole and declared carried, although from the press table, it looked as if it had failed.

A revote was demanded but amidst the confusion that reigned, no clear decision was announced. In the event, the main motion was put to the vote and declared lost.

However, a card vote taken on the third amendment the following morning - proceedings having been cut short by electricians turning off the microphones and leaving - produced 184,702 for and 204,426 against.

This result meant that no policy had been decided on the NUS constitution. So the status quo is maintained for the time being.

over 16 years of age and a restoration of all the cuts made to date in public expenditure on education, housing and social services.

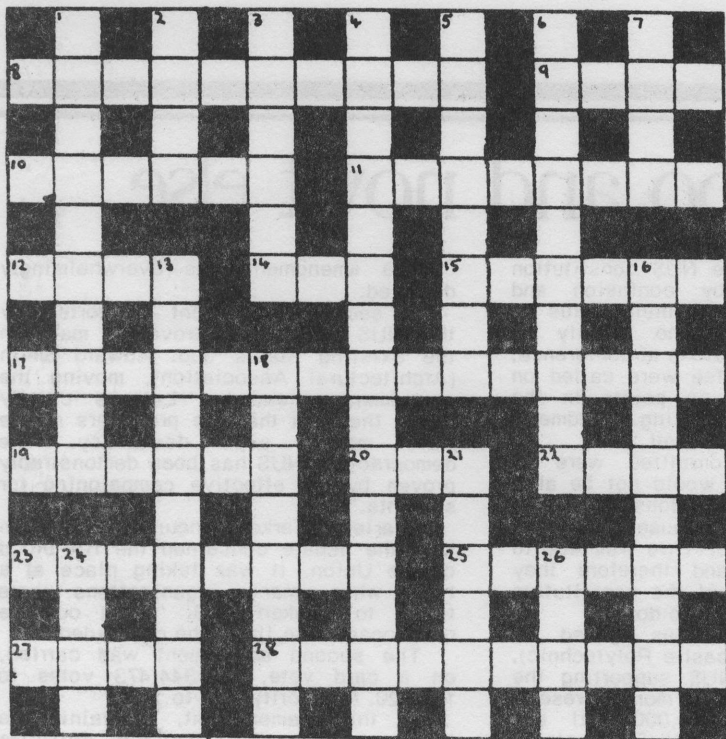
The motion also called on the NUS Executive to organise "a national demonstration just before the Annual Student Grant Review".

Building links with the trade union movement was seen to be of central importance to the campaign on grants and cuts.

Pete Gillard NUS executive member, speaking during the debate said "It is time to put forward our own ideas and take action. This is the only way we are going to build links with the trade union movement."

The motion was carried through with a large number of abstentions.

PRIZE CROSSWORD No.26



Across

8. One thousands rest at period of forthcoming 'festival' (7,3)
 9. Debts of one circular son (4, abbr)
 10. 'Bandy, 'elp us to change, quickly' (6)
 11. Direction saint, for example, goes, heartless, to give savings (4-4)
 12. The matter of the graduate before the ship (4)
 14. Wooden 'slipper' made using half-skills (3)
 15. Wild, a French mate, wild! (6)
 17. Cars attempt to turn Government department succeeds in producing another defunct one (8,2,5)
 19. Completely into two, heartless (2,4)
 20. Like quiet snake (3)
 22. Quiet follows South African band (4)
 23. A girl and Newton in US state (8)
 25. Very large mother holds one element (6)
 27. Domestic animals return before the door (4)
 28. Girl holds one where it's ice cold! (9)

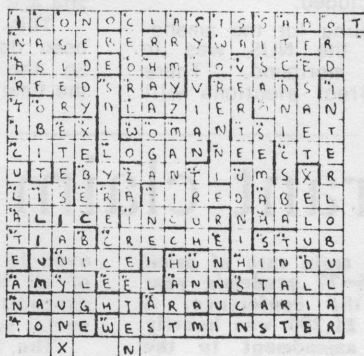
Down

1. Movement of the, the French included that from one key to another (10)
 2. A cut of meat? (4)
 3. Soften by soaking, before an afterthought, unpleasant people (6)

4. Odd tiny-sides pear at line-ups (8,7)
 5. Five hundred give agreement to tough-sounding material for colouring (8)
 6. 51 cents (including debt) makes one dissolute (10)
 7. Celebrated return of beasts (4)
 13. Ex-VP has plot to produce an instrument showing respiration (10)
 16. Much about with one, and a mess is instrumental (5,5)
 18. River in local near equator? (8)
 21. Band up round graduate to get recently portrayed Japanese (3-3)
 24. Sent circular for committee (4)
 26. The way it's heard the grass was cut (4)

Solution to

Christmas Crossword



The winners of the Christmas Crossword were: Lorna (£5)
 W West and R Phillips (£3)
 P Bonner (£1)

The Editor's decision is final. All completed solutions should be in by 12noon next Wednesday (14th January)

'If you can't dazzle 'em with your
 brilliance, baffle 'em with bullshit'

CORRECTIONS TO THE UNION DIRECTORY

There are still some Directories left in the Union office. In it are listed (hopefully) all the Union clubs, societies, etc and who to contact. For those of you who possess one, kindly amend it as follows:-

Page 1

External Affairs Officer:- Derrick Everett Physics 2
 Welfare Officer:- Sue Kalicinski Chem Eng PG int. 3776/7
 Student Resident officer:- Dave Rawnsley Physics 2
 Community Action Group:- Ian Jowett Physics 3

Page 2

SCAB Chairman:- Delete "Southwell 60B2"
 Overseas Student Chairman:- Delete "S Mohindra"
 Dep Reps:-
 Aero Nigel Williams Aero 2
 Chem Eng/Chem Tech:- Niel Binder Chem Eng 2
 Chemistry:- Hazel Walker Chem 3

Page 3

Floor reps:
 M Kessler Physics PG
 College Committees:-
 Delete "Computing Services", "Safety"
 Add (1) "House Committee"
 P Teague, J Downs
 (2) "Safety Council"
 R Shakir, J Downs, M Kessler
 (3) D Rawnsley to Student Residence Committee.

Page 4

UFC:- add A Potter Physics 3
 Publications Board:- add ET Stevenson Chem PG
 House Committee:- add Tom Carlstedt-Duke
 John Midlane
 Andy Potter

Page 5

Mr ICWA:- John Walker Mat Sci 2

Page 8

Steve Hoyle President Linstead Hall
 Steve Dearing Vice-President 164 Keogh Hall Civil Engrl
 (int 3636)

Page 10

Nick Gillett Ents Secretary
 Dougal Stewart Asst. Hon Sec
 Social reps (1st year):
 Physics Lee Kenny, Simon Chase
 Chemistry George Sweekman
 Maths Dave Courtley, Mike Siomiak
 Life Sciences Stuart Blackman

Page 22

Hatha Yoga:
 Contact Geoff Higginson Maths PG

Page 30

Iranian Soc:
 President Fariborz Forouhar Physics PG
 Secretary Reza Razavi Mech Eng PG

Page 32

Head Tenancy Flats:
 Warden Mr R Lowder Aero int 3710

ADVERTISEMENT

PHOTSOC SERVICES

takes Photographs for College Societies.

We supply high quality colour or black & white photos of society events, dramatic productions, teams etc at very reasonable prices.

If you are interested in using this service contact **Phil Dean** in Physics I.

Reviews

Cinema

The Return of the Pink Panther (U, United Artists). Directed by Blake Edwards; starring Peter Sellers, Christopher Plummer, Herbert Lom and Catherine Schell.

ALTHOUGH SOME of the gags are overplayed and generally flogged to death the film is as funny as one could wish. The team seem to have enjoyed themselves tremendously during the making of the film so much as that Ms Schell was unable to stop her self bursting into laughter on a couple of occasions.

Sellers gives another excellent performance as the bumbling, inept Clouseau who eventually drives his superior, Dreyfus (Herbert Lom), to insanity. Lom is outstanding as Dreyfus and the scenes involving he and Sellers are some of the funniest I've seen for ages.

Clouseau now a patrolman and recently suspended by Dreyfus is reinstated and asked to recover the Pink Panther diamond that has been stolen from the Lugash National Museum. He immediately makes for the South of France to apprehend Litton, alias The Panther (Christopher Plummer). Litton proclaiming innocence sets off for Lugash to catch the real crook and hence clear himself.

The plot develops and after much chasing to and fro all the protagonists arrive in Gstaad where Litton catches up with the real thief (his wife); Clouseau catches up with Litton; all three are caught up by Colonel Sharhi (Peter Arne), Lugash Secret Service who is mistakenly shot by Dreyfus in his attempt to kill Clouseau.

Dreyfus is institutionalised, Clouseau gets his job and Litton and wife return to their previous life of peace and quiet. One cannot finish a review of this film without mentioning Richard Williams' Pink Panther animations which are quite marvelously amusing to watch.

Theatre

Hamlet At The Old Vic

(National Theatre)

The usual reason for deciding to put on a production of Hamlet is, I suppose, that there is an actor whose time has come. His stature as an actor is such that Hamlet is the logical progression of his career. However, Hamlet is a young man — it is surely his youth and inexperience that prevents Claudius from killing him earlier — so that decision must not be left too late.

Albert Finney is an actor whose time for Hamlet has come, but it has also almost gone. He is too old a prince — he injects the part with more experience of life than it needs. He is also too impulsive; this is the man who would leave the scheming to others and go for Claudius with both daggers drawn. His style of soliloquy is that of Jimmy Porter and his scenes with Ophelia bear similarity to those with Alison in 'Look Back in Anger'.

Peter Hall's production itself is flat, literally. The stage is flat and

Lucky Lady (AA, Fox-Rank). Directed by Stanley Donen; starring Gene Hackman, Liza Minnelli and Burt Reynolds.

IT IS A PITY that director, Stanley Donen let sentimentality and the Hollywood craze for 'happy endings' put what I can only describe as a lousy ending to an otherwise entertaining film full of warmth and character. The net result is of course to reduce what could have been a very good film to an average seasonal-type throw-up.

Hackman who plays Kibby, says that it was the most spontaneous and natural role he's ever played — it certainly looked it!

The trio, Kibby, Claire (Liza Minnelli) and Walker (Burt Reynolds) team-up after Harry (Claire's husband) dies and using Walker's ketch 'Lucky Lady' run bootleg booze into the United States. The ketch is sailed by Billy (Robby Benson of 'Jeremy' fame) and together with the three get-rich-quick adventurers soon find that the bootlegging business is not all fun and games, especially when you do silly things like buy-up McTeague's (played by John Hillerman) consignment of booze.

However, they escape McTeague's wrath for the time being having sold the booze profitably set about spending it on themselves and doing-up the boat. They continue their exploits until when they are ambushed by McTeague and his henchmen aboard the North Star.

The two heroes escape badly injured and after a long convalescence join forces with other 'independents' to try and stop McTeague who has been knocking off the small operators and stealing their cargo.

In a spectacular finish McTeague is blown-up and his cache of 50,000 cases of liquor divided up between the victors.

Certainly a film with lots of gusto, sad and funny moments. Liza Minnelli is good as Claire — she hams her way through with a carefree abandonment that is well matched by Hackman's portrayal of Kibby.

Paul Ekpenyong

in all but a few scenes the actors are on their feet presenting a monotony of level and a lack of visual interest. It was only when the stage was full of characters that things really came to life — in the play scene, when Fortinbras requests permission to cross Denmark and arrives on stage with his army, and the final duel scene. Perhaps it is wrong to criticise Mr Hall for wishing to use a single acting area for everything from the intimacy of the Queen's apartment to the expanse of a plain with an army, for it is by frequent changes of set that interest can be lost; here the scenes led into one another with almost indecent haste.

Polonius must be one of the director's greatest headaches in an uncut version of Hamlet. The part, as written, gives great scope for comedy but this all appears out of place in the circumstances of the whole play. Whereas the grave-diggers (who, incidentally make no pretence of the fact that they are refugees from another National Theatre production — 'The Playboy of the Western World') are extraneous characters outside the mainstream of the plot, Polonius has a much more important role to play as father to Laertes and Ophelia. Roland Culver plays him with a multitude of facial expression, drawing the comedy out too far. His children (Simon Ward

Music

Zappa/Beefheart — Bongo Fury

(Discreet)

Sir Alf, your opinion... Well Jimmy, Frank's bin kickinn' the poop pretty hot over the last few seasons an' gettinn' the results. Now Beefheart crashes in from behind an' knackers any chance of progressinn'. Who needs 'im ... an' 'e won't take his baaff with the lads afterwards'... thankinn' you, Sir Alf.

As pointed out by his eminence, Uncle Frank Zappa has been makin' mos wunnerfull sounds of late, in the Form of "overnite sensation", "apostrophe" (containing the absolute classic track "Nanook runs it"), and "one size fits all" — his best moments to date with the exception of "Hot rats". All the ingredients had been bought — explosive musical invention, superbly zany humour, and unbeatable musicians playing the stuff. Only Fz's warp-factor eight brain nodules could have conceived such blurbed brilliance and put it out on vinyl.

With this album, it's back to the mindless, no-direction, self-indulgence of his earliest pressings. The cohesion has gone and the "original Mr-out-of-sync" (Beefheart, that is) is back with his pie-in-the-stratosphere eyewash verbaless. Out of the window goes the musicianship of impeccably and intricately played tunes, and in come the sloppy stumbling blues jams that lesser musicians like Beefheart constantly have to resort to — and Frank goes along with it all, a great shame.

HIC

Sadistic Mika Band — Hot! Menu (Harvest, EMI)

GRAVITATING AROUND a funky base which is immediately discarded for a beautiful and melodic sound entitled 'Mummy doesn't go to parties since Daddy died', SMB please and displease with infuriating consistency.

There is an abundance of borrowed ideas proliferating the album. It is a pity that they are rarely put to good effect. A Latin-American influence even creeps in on the fourth track of side one, 'Mada Mada Samba' which in English means Not Yet, Not Yet, Midwife.

On side two 'Okinawa' (Strange Fish), an aptly named song, slides into 'Style is changing'. In so far as it is for the better, I wholeheartedly agree. This is followed by a nice funky tune entitled 'Funky Mahjong' and is one of the better tracks.

Ah Well! All one can say is that whoever thought of the title for this album must have just fallen out of a refrigerator in a drugged stupor.

Paul Ekpenyong

and Susan Fleetwood) are excellent though mad scenes tended to set my teeth on edge as Miss Fleetwood sang harrison Birtwistle's arrangements in a high soprano.

Four hours, including only one interval, is a long time to sit still in a theatre, even when you are captivated by the action on the stage. It is to be hoped that the seats in the new National Theatre will be more comfortable than those at the Old Vic.

Thomas Stevenson

Apathy or misdirected slothfulness

by Karen Gadd

HAVE YOU ever noticed, how, shortly after IC elections or an NUS demo, various persons start accusing the IC populous of displaying extreme apathy? Normally like all good students, we nod and say 'There's a terrible apathy problem here' then dash off to some wild exhausting activity such as skiing only to rush back and use several armfuls of energy consuming such beverages as the Bar committee see fit to offer us.

The time has come to protest!!... I emphatically deny that the strong and overwhelming display of non-participation at elections and NUS shindigs is not due to apathy but a variety of other less condemning reasons such as disinterest, lack of time, etc, etc.

Misdirected energy

In my Humble opinion if anyone wants to protest about the non-reaction to any issue political, should instead of shouting "bloody technologists" and throwing tantrums in the Union office — they should examine the curious amount of "misdirected energy" in this College. If anyone doubts that vast quantities of energy is not used up for purely non-academic pursuits then they ought to have a look at any third year's job application form. You will be amazed how many societies and sports clubs that the average third year appears to belong to.

Varied interests

I think it is about time a new public image was given to the average IC mob. We should also show the world that apart from working eight hours a night, the average IC student has wide and varied interests.

First and most obvious there is a very impressive collection of road signs and notices in abundance around the Union — these having been obtained from all over Great Britain by our enterprising representatives at these locations. This collection is frequently overhauled and new ones added. This shows the extremely

admirable determination and energy of several intrepid students here who go to great lengths at times to purloin them.

Horrific influences

Secondly, there is the unique and varied folklore of the three sub-cultures which simultaneously exist in various parts of the College. These three cults (known to the few as CCUs) have an impressive mascot and an interesting selection of chants and ceremonies which are open to those initiated and accepted into the appropriate coven. The great white leaders of these cults are renowned and upheld as perpetrators of the great IC tradition. Unfortunately this great tradition has been lost now for several generations of students. This has caused much frustration to the three mighty warriors — as has been recently displayed when one succumbed to the unknown, horrific influences of "academic pressures", and another finding it all too much, ran naked five times round the Albert Hall — this sad and moving sight of Big B clad in nothing but a tophat will not be forgotten for many a long year.

Frenzied activity

The astonishing degree of activity of those involved in CCUs is a clear indication that apathy does not prevail.

For who can claim that apathy has us in its sluggish grasp when so much frenzied activity can be seen nightly outside the Union after 11 o'clock at night. For while the sight of several young men simultaneously singing and relieving themselves in the middle of Beit Quad can still be witnessed at regular intervals we realise that the social and political life of this Union is not on its knees.

And if you still have doubts that energy and enthusiasm for our great, common cause are not in evidence, try shouting 'Knickers!' in the Union Bar. I did.

yourself. The cost is small and you get the money back if you win the case.

For further information contact the Student Welfare Centre; open 12.30 — 1.30pm and your local Citizen's Advice Bureau or Consumer Advice Centre.

Sue Kalicinski
Welfare Officer

NOTICE

Anyone with O negative blood, please contact the Health Centre. They would be very grateful.

External Eclairs

As you are reading this, I shall be in Durham, a provincial place somewhere in the wilds north of Watford, at the NUS Universities Conference. I shall probably be writing about that next week. Meanwhile I suppose you are all gasping to hear the juicy details of what happened at the Scarborough Conference; yes, I thought you would be.

Imagine a hall filled mainly with students; on the platform are the National Union's Executive and their running dogs; the Executive consists of fourteen Broad Lefties (a coalition of the Communist Party and various other Marxists), two International Socialists (the "Trots") and one International Marxist. The leader of this shower is one Charles Clarke, a fat, bearded old Etonian from King's College, Cambridge (hiss) and a careerist.

You may have gathered that these hacks are not exactly my favourite people, and can assure you that I am not one of theirs. In fact, no-one seemed to be quite sure what I was politically; Mary Attenborough concluded that I was a "Trot" and Trevor Phillips that I was a "Bloody Tory". I can now reveal that I am a right-wing Liberal ballshitter.

No doubt you have read in FELIX or elsewhere about the main events of the Conference; the removal of Ms Slipman as the chairman of International Policy Group, the debate on Democratisation, and the financial problems of NUS Travel.

You may not know about some of the other debates that took place, for example, that on Government Economic Policy. This showed two things about the Broad Left and the Trots; firstly they know nothing about either Government or Economics and secondly, that they wish to see the economy of this country totally destroyed. The motion which was eventually passed called for a massive refutation of the economy, full employment and an end to all wage restraint. Those Labour Party students with whom I later discussed this were so disgusted with this motion that they are considering withdrawing their support from the Broad Left in protest.

This sort of thing is not only outside the concern of the NUS, but also brings them into disrepute which can only weaken their influence with the Government, small as it is.

The democracy debate was a complete railroad by the Broad Left, mainly by Pete Ashby and Alastair Stewart. We were attempting to have

at least some of the Executive elected by a ballot of all students, and to improve the procedures for electing delegates to the conferences.

As far as the latter is concerned, I would like to see the NUS lay down standard election procedures which would be a condition of attendance, for example, at least, to elect delegates from a UGM, as we do at IC, or (preferably) by a secret campus-wide ballot, as is done in many colleges.

The conduct of Pete Ashby, in the chair, was quite disgusting. He twisted a motion to take the third amendment in parts so that he could be sure of removing the section on Executive salaries, and then he refused to accept a challenge to the chair supported by the required number of delegations.

The Executive also used a member of the elections committee in support of their case, and Alastair Stewart, supported by Charles Clarke, misrepresented the views of the Electoral Reform Society. The moderates did not allow this to go unrefuted.

The Tories and Liberals, together with the "Students for Representative Policies" group, issued the text of the letter from the Electoral Reform Society, despite threats of legal action from Charles Clarke. In their attempts to foil the move for direct elections, the Broad Left used every political ploy, including underhand ones, at their disposal.

Perhaps after the next national conference, at Easter, the new Executive will contain a few moderates.

Services
At the last Council meeting, a very tired External Affairs officer presented some constitutional changes to ICU Council. These included the creation of the post of Services Liaison Officer, whose brief will be to arrange and advise students on travel facilities and insurance services, provided by NUS or otherwise.

He might also investigate the potential of marketing goods, for example, calculators, wine, Ascot water heaters, elephant-foot umbrella stands or whatever by the Union. The new post should be open for nominations after the next UGM.

That's all folks, except for my slogan of the week: "Force the Reds to resign and get students into a mobilisation situation to return an anti-imperialist (but not anti-imperial) Tory — Trotskyite Executive pledged to moderate policies".

Derrick (Dermot) Everett

PROSPECTIVE REAL ALE SOCIETY

Anyone interested in forming a Real Ale Society please come to the RCSU office on Thursday 15th January at 1.00pm (PS — Guilds and Mines invited if interested.)

Continued from page 3

Take it back!

4. How to complain

Stop using the article on finding the fault. Go back to the shop with the faulty goods (if practicable) and the receipt. Ask to see the manager. If he/she is not helpful contact the managing director. Send any correspondence by recorded delivery and keep a copy. If you still have no success you can sue through the county court. For claims less than £75 there is a system whereby you can conduct the case

FELIX SPORT

CROSS COUNTRY

"The Handicap"

HAILED BY SOME as the climax of the terms racing — the rest of us are less enthusiastic — the Annual Club Handicap takes place on the last Wednesday before the Christmas break. This is the race for which the as yet undiscovered have trained hard and raced abysmally all term. They might even have laid off the beer a bit in the previous week too! Such a man is A Davey!

The use of the above strategies is designed to ensure that the Captain is hoodwinked when he performs that onerous task "working out the handicaps". Fellow engineers would no doubt comiserate with Ian 'cos this requires "sums" to be done: on the other hand there's plenty of scope for "guesswork" in the "calculations", so it's not all bad.

The essence of the "method" is one of estimating how well the victim should be capable of running round Petersham on the basis of the terms races and "current form". Corrections are then made in order to discourage/prevent previous winners or first team members from overhauling too many other people. However, many hours (or pints) are poured into this ritual, though, the probability of the handicaps being wrong remains infinitesimally close to one.

The race itself was not uneventful. Nigel would have had a better handicap had he not been first away and running round the unmarked course for the first time (Ho, ho — there's always next year). Rich would have made a further contribution to keeping the lad down by choosing the wrong path towards the Plantation. Unfortunately Roman and Paul hadn't been forewarned about this ploy and, gullible as hell, were also led astray.

The result, what about the result? Well, despite Rob tearing the race apart from the back—knocking a minute off his personal best by hurtling round in under twenty eight minutes — Andy Davey hacked over two minutes off his expected time to finish a comfortable winner. A prize really ought to go to Mike Welford for predicting this victory a week beforehand in FELIX.

Everybody else finished in an order roughly like Alan, Mike, Rob, Alf, Roman, Dave, Paul, Dave, Rich, Ian and Nigel.

It should be noted that Ian Ellis ignored vociferous requests to take part in the race, missing it for the third year in succession.

"The Hog's Back 10"

ENTHUSED BY Steve's recommendation "Its a good race, lads", those of us who hadn't fled from London at the end of term entered Guilford and God. AC's Hog's Back 10 mile road race. Discretion being the better part of valour Steve had his warwound (or knee) play up sufficiently to allow him to watch the Internationals at Crystal Palace instead... Having come third in a 10 mile race the previous weekend, Rob too decided to give the Hog's Back a miss and left for home at the last minute.

Starting by the picturesque wooded lake at Cuts Mill, the course winds its way along (and up) country lanes: through the little villages of Seale and Puttenham before turning and climbing sharply to join the A31 at the top of the Hog's Back after 6¼ miles. From then on it's downhill all the way, taking the A3 and finishing outside the University of Surrey Sports Centre.

Due to roadworks and "impending police advice" the organisers had moved the start half a mile down the road from the previous year. Sadly they hadn't remembered to mention the fact to the first two coach drivers taking everyone to the start, so all but those in the last coach partook in an extra bit of warming up... very popular. In keeping with previous troubles at locating starts, Paul was, of course, not on the last coach.

Once under way the race became a pretty steady affair after two miles and didn't liven up much until the last mile or so — within striking distance of home! On the other hand everyone in the IC team was a little surprised by their performances. Paul ("I wanted to be sure I was in under the hour") Clarke finishing 52nd in 55.35, Dave Rosen 66th in 56.50 and Ian

("My foot hurts") Ellis 73rd in 57.53 brought the first team into 11th place. Dave Jones finished 91st in 59.93 having discouraged the opposition during the race by "hoping to break 65 mins". Alan Leakey finishing 142nd in 66.37 and Pete Johnson pleased to "break 70" by finishing 147th in 68.15 made up the second team which gloriously did not come last! Steve — we might even believe you...

Late News Extra

"Club Star" S Webb and promising South London farmer J Roberts narrowly beaten in Christmas Day

Laweston Parlaiff by "hopefuls" B Holt and P Wegner. Youthful Royal School of Music entrant M Fuller disappoints by "trailing in last."

PWRC

GLIDING

Four Flew Solo Pilots During Vac.

Despite Hurricans and other wasties the gliding club has had a very successful christmas vac with four members going solo. These were John Haig — Ferguson Mines II, Alison Jordon Chem 1, Andy Lincoln EE1 and Peter Sharp ME1. All four of them joined the club last term, Alison and John never having touched the controls of a plane before. John fortunately just managed to go solo prior to the Lasham Christmas dinner, otherwise the alcoholic content of the brandy butter on the Christmas pud would have rendered him grounded. The other three all went solo during a five-day cause at the end of the Christmas vac. Alison distinguished herself by going solo at 8.45 on New Years day probably making her the first new solo pilot of 1976. She is also the first girl student to go solo with IC for approx six years. Let us hope that there will be more.

ORIENTEERING

IC Put On The Map

On the Sunday following the end of last term, three club members took part in a South — East League Event at Angley Woods in Kent. David Rosen put Imperial College 'on the map' by winning the 8.4 kilometre A course in 74 minutes. Rob Allinson, IC champion in cross-country tried his hand at the sport for the first time. Running the 6 kilometre B course, he soon caught on, coming in a very creditable 21st, and doing the fastest time for his age group. Pete Johnson took 97 minutes, only twelve minutes slower than Rob, and was third in his age group.

The club has a fairly full programme this term with nearby events suitable for everyone taking place on the next three Sundays. For further details, see the club noticeboard in the Union Entrance Hall or contact David Rosen on Internal 4463.

Thanks must be expressed to ex-student members Paul Minton and John Young for braving the weather to instruct.

Nigel Leak



Felix

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Could you afford to be a Married Student?

"Mature Students with families, often running two homes and committed to a higher level of expenditure than the average student, cannot live on their present level of grant without extreme difficulty and without putting their families at risk".

This was a statement contained in a paper which was recently submitted by the NUS to the Department of Education and Science (DES) to supplement its 1976 grants claim. NUS has revealed that mature students, especially those with children, are living below the poverty line.

Students with families face difficulties because of anomalies in the way that the grants' regulations operate. A mature student's allowance is linked with previous earnings. NUS believe the allowance should be based on age alone. Additionally, the allowance paid to dependants by DES is less than the child allowances paid by the Supplementary Benefits Commission. Students

are unable to claim payments for large items such as children's shoes and winter coats and are unable to claim family income supplement.

The NUS paper hopes to alleviate the hardship caused to mature students as a result of discrimination by DES. It gives special mention to those families where the parents are unmarried and

therefore face even greater problems. There are 600 mature students at IC.

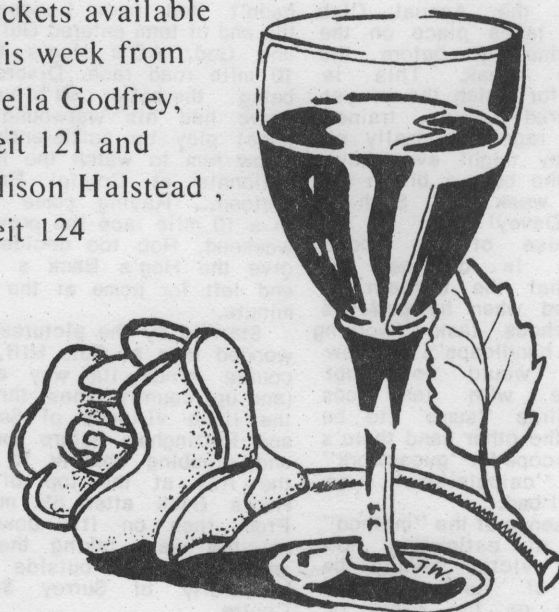
Most problems occur when both husband and wife are students, as opposed to those couples where one has a full time job. The Student Aid Fund was recently used to supplement a price rise of £1 in the nursery fees and to keep them at £10.50 per week per child. This is still a large chunk out of anyone's grant and some students have found it hard to afford this service. Mature Overseas Students sometimes face even greater problems. No allowance is

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