



FOUNDED IN 1949

FELIX

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

No. 438

Friday, 10 December, 1976

FREE!

NUS set to sell Endsleigh



Cathy Handford and other students from Chem Eng 1 who collected £226 for Rag last Saturday by pushing the bed (above) down Oxford St. With average of £18.90 per collecting can Chem Eng 1 came top in the Guilds Year collections earning themselves a barrel of beer in the process. Aero 1 who collected £232 (£17.91 per can) came second by measuring Oxford St in Imperial units. In all £836 was raised for Rag. Top individual collector was Mark Corrigan with £46.

IC Union delegates to this weekend's NUS Annual Conference are expecting NUS to announce plans to sell its insurance company, Endsleigh Insurance (Brokers) Ltd. This follows remarks by Dave Aaronovitch, NUS Vice President for Services, to External Affairs Officer Hugh Barrett that the NUS Executive would tell the conference that this was the only way to save NUS from financial ruin.

Similar but more subtle hints were given by NUS DP Pete Ashby last week at Liverpool. These tie up with the opinion of ULU President Richard Silver who has unconfirmed reports that senior NUS Executive members believe this to be the only course which would allow NUS to maintain its current research and campaign activity.

The desirability of a cash injection was confirmed last night by NUS Press Officer Francis Beckett. He agreed that NUS could not sustain its current activity without it. Whether NUS would sell Endsleigh will be left to the conference to decide. However it would solve NUS's

present problems.

Mt Beckett denied that the Executive had already decided on Endsleigh's fate.

The need for a cash injection comes two weeks after the collapse of NUS Travel which wiped off £44,000 of Endsleigh's operating capital. The full cost to the Union is to be revealed on Saturday at the conference's annual session on finance. Endsleigh last year made a £100,000 after tax profit.

A big Dutch insurance firm, GAUDA, is known to be interested in buying Endsleigh at around £½m.

Other informed sources suspect that the Executive might ask Conference for the power to sell Endsleigh if this becomes necessary between conferences.

Clarke to go?

ICU appears likely to support moves to oust Charles Clarke as NUS President at this weekend's NUS Conference.

The moves to get rid of Clarke have already been started from both the ultra left and the Federation of Conservative Students (FCS) on the right.

FCS Chairman Mike Forsythe believes the two groups will vote together as both believe in a strong viable Union. With the collapse of NUS Travel 'The whole credibility of Union is hanging in the balance, that's why Clarke has to go' said Forsythe.

ICU delegates are likely to support the moves to sack Clarke following the acceptance by last week's IC Union meeting of Nick Brayshaw's recommendation that the Union back no confidence motions in the Board members - Charles Clarke, Dave Aaronovitch, Chris Morgan and Penny Cooper.

RSMU reject women diners?

Problems could lie ahead for RSMU following a debate on whether women should be allowed to go to Mines fresher's dinner. The question put to the meeting, that women be allowed to attend their departmental fresher's dinner, was defeated. This result does not become RSMU policy nor does it affect the RSMU constitution.

However it ranspired in the debate that the RSMU constitution already allows women to go to the dinners. The relevant part reads 'The privileges of the Union accorded to members shall include the right to attend and introduce guests to such functions as may be arranged by the Union'.

Pressed as to whether these included dinners, RSMU President Paul Kurowski commented 'If you're going to interpret that part of the constitution as such there is nothing to stop anyone in the Union going to any of the fresher's dinners'.

Mr Kurowski feels that is now up to RSMU General Committee to interpret the constitution and decide whether the current practise - where only men attend the departmental fresher's dinners - should continue. At present RSMU does arrange a Ladies freshers' dinner which has equal numbers of men and women.

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felix



In a spontaneous reaction to the tuition fees increase announced by the Government recently, 17 students from 12 London colleges visited the home of Education Secretary Mrs Shirley Williams last Friday at 8am.

As reported in FELIX last week, the students delivered 2,500 signed letters protesting at the fees increases, particularly their discrimination against overseas students.

Four students from IC delivered some 1,200 letters from IC students. Among the IC delegation were the PG, External and Academic Affairs Officers.

The students were later invited into Mrs Williams house for a cup of coffee and a chat. Whilst sympathetic to their cause she offered little hope of the situation easing. As regards overseas students she opposes a 'quota system' which she said 'smacks of apartheid'.

letters to the editor

Deranged films at SCAB evening

Sir, - We have read with avid interest (?) the stirring piece, printed in last week's Felix issue, written by 'SPUP' of Physics

Firstly, the reputation of SCAB Evenings as a forum for 'Artistic' expression is well known, even amongst physicists. Although the offending performances affected Mr Spup nobody was forcing him to stay and continue watching the films. Secondly, intelligent people should be able to decide whether they wish to look at something or not. Thirdly, blue films were not the only form of art to be performed during the evening.

We would like to point out that although we do not appreciate the finer art in performances of this nature, we see no reason to persecute others who attend, either for sexual satisfaction or just a good laugh. This can be illustrated by the fact that a sizeable proportion of the audience at the RCS Smoking Concert persisted in making remarks to the stripper about the whereabouts of her alsatian and eels. If this fine fellow took the trouble to find out the views of other people, he would see that the majority of people enjoyed both evenings' entertainment.

We look forward, with great anticipation, to the meeting between Mr Spup and Ms Millington, that well known entrepreneur of erotica.

Civ Eng 111
c/o Scotland Yard Porn Squad
MIKE ELKIN
(Physics 2)
DAVE WRIGHT
(Physics 2)
3rd December 1976.

**COPY DEADLINE
FOR NEXT ISSUE -
MONDAY 2pm**

Sir, - Following the letter from SPUP, Physics 2, printed in last week's issue, I would like to make some comments myself about the SCAB evening events which he (I assume, perhaps mistakenly, that SPUP is a male) found so upsetting, the way I see the situation, and lastly about an Editorial Policy I should like to see invoked in all future issues of FELIX.

Firstly, though, I must say that the rantings of this unfortunate (on his own admission) individual are reminiscent of those of the estimable Lord Longford and Mary Whitehouse, who, at great risk, subject themselves to deplorable and unspeakable depths of filth and depravity in order to protect the 'public at large'. What right have these self-appointed savers of our souls to say which book, television programme, film or show we should or should not see? What right has SPUP to say that it is necessary to 'rid College of any future threat of obscene showings'?

But what of these films, the 'obscene showings'? Yes, they were degenerate - by definition, a blue movie can be nothing else! - and I, like SPUP, viewed the scenes of bestiality with contempt. But, in my case, as was evidently lacking in SPUP's, there was mingled with this initial revulsion a touch of humour; if provided only by the pathetic attempts of the 'actors' to prompt the hound, which seemed perpetually to forget its lines, and the altogether crummy editing.

SPUP knew what he was going to see - blue movies. If (and we can only assume that he did know his own opinions on such forms of 'entertainment' before going into the showing) he felt that he was going to be so upset

by the whole affair he should have stayed away. That way he would have saved himself much embarrassment and anger and possible mental derangement.

But who is this SPUP character anyway? Nobody knows. There are lots of people to choose from in Physics 2, and of course, that might be put in to throw you off the track. But the final point I wish to make is this: it is a fine and noble thing to write to FELIX saying how good this, how bad that, how obscene the other. But it is quite another kettle of fish to actually sign your name to your views and be recognisable as the possessor of a belief, opinion, or mishegoss. It is only right, after all, that a person without the guts to put his name behind his argument should not have his argument heard.

Yours
DUNCAN SUSS
Elec Eng 2.

What transport thorn?

Dear Sir, - In response to Derrick Everett's 'Orange Mole' column last week we must point out that transport is not 'a thorn in the Union's side', rather it is a great asset.

ACC and RCC transport is self financing and is run efficiently by ACC and the RCC transport sub committee.

There certainly are a lot of problems in this area but at present RCC and ACC have them well under control.

Yours Sincerely,
Andy Nelson
Merlin Hibbs
Mike Elliott
Nicki Whitehead
Richard Szczepanski
(ie the RCC Executive)
6th December 1976

The problems of parking

Dear Sir, - The other morning, with my H-Zone parking permit proudly stuck on my windscreen, I attempted to park in the allotted zone in Imperial Institute Road.

But lo! It seemed that H-Zone was already full of other blighters, who far from parking neatly side by side, had parked in any-old-how with exaggerated spacing. Eventually, after much 'to'ing and 'fro'ing, I managed to squeeze in between two vehicles.

At this point, a problem became apparent, since I was now unable to open the car door. I swiftly wound down the window and individually transferred my briefcase, flask and sandwiches through the window to the front bonnet. I then dexterously climbed out through the window and stood between the two cars, opened my door - as far as I could - and stretched inwards to wind up the window.

At this point - when the window was nearly closed - another problem became apparent. I was unable to reach in far enough to close the window fully.

With some considerable difficulty, I managed to get the window fully open again. I then climbed back in to the car, wound up the window and locked the door from the inside.

I then opened the front window on the opposite side, climbed out and opened the door. To my relief the clearance between my car and the adjacent vehicle was about an inch greater on this side, and I eventually succeeded in winding the window fully closed.

As I proudly shut the door and locked it, my triumph was crowned - by a standing ovation from a window on the 6th floor of the Biochemistry Department.

ANON.
Ed's note: This letter is genuine and the author's name and address were supplied with the letter. Both have been omitted at his request.

Letters

All letters for publication should reach the FELIX Office no later than Monday 2pm for publication the following Friday. Letters should be brief - preferably less than 200 words - legibly written on ALTERNATE lines or typed double spaced. In future no letter will be printed unless genuinely signed, although the editor will uphold requests for an author's name to withheld in the published letter.

IMPERIAL COLLEGE WIND ENSEMBLE ANNUAL FROSTBITE CONCERT TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER 1976

PROGRAMME:

Anderson: Sleigh Ride

Holst: March from Moorside Suite

Jacob: An Original Suite for Band

Long: Christmas Rhapsody

March, Intermezzo, Finale

EVERYONE WELCOME



FELIX

NEWSPAPER OF IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

NUS 4

As a student journalist I have taken surrealist's view of NUS Conferences in the last two years. Rarely has conference come up with substantial pieces of new policy of relevance to students.

It is easy to criticise NUS as irrelevant, but that judgement fails to appreciate the potential of a national union. In times of economic cutbacks and inflation it is most important that we have a national body capable of negotiating on our behalf. Despite its faults NUS has a highly respected (by the Government) Education and Welfare dept and has negotiating links where they are needed.

If, as expected, Conference decides to sell Endsleigh to save the Union then NUS will be no less strong as a negotiator. Rather than opt out we should stay in and play a continually increasing in changing NUS to what we want.

Govt logic

Last week the Social Services (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill received its second reading in the Commons. This will stop students claiming social security/supplementary benefit during the short vacations. It also stops students claiming benefit for rents of their digs, flats etc over these vacations. Now that's alright if you live in an IC hall and don't pay rent over Xmas provided you go home. At least 2/3rds of IC students live

out and most pay a retainer or full rent over the Xmas holidays. Your grant doesn't cover this retainer and you were allowed to claim benefit for this.

Mr David Ennals (Social Services Secretary) says the Government considers the bill contains 'sensible measures for students'. So much for the Welfare State (sic) and the Labour Party. Let's hope the latter wake up before the bill's final reading. Otherwise this measure will put another nail in the coffin of the principle of 'Higher Education being available to all regardless of wealth'.

Are Women really a problem?

I was rather bemused to learn that few in RSM Union knew that women in RSM had a right to go to their fresher's dinner if they so wished. I could perhaps see why they shouldn't go if I hadn't heard Stuart Arden, Mines Pornographer, say that the jokes at the Chaps Club - the all-male Mines social club - dinner were suitable for mixed company. Besides which dinner goes have no obligation to drink a yard of ale.

Special thanks to Paul Ekpenyong, without whose help Felix would not have come out this week. Apologies to Chalky whose article suffered a pasting up fault.

More Staff

There is always a need for staff on Student papers; no paper - except the complacent ones - can say it's ever overloaded with staff. FELIX welcomes anyone who wants to contribute to their (the student's) paper. Especially needed are people who know how to

use a drawing board and would like put the paper together - literally. We call these Paste Up Artists, they're held in high regard as they stick the pieces of typeset copy on to pieces paper that are printed to become your paper. Patience and clean hands are the desired virtues here.

Also in demand are book reviewers who get free copies of the works they review.

FELIX

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Collating - Many thanks to Jane Turner and Gordon Chandler.

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Hampson welcomes Consoc growth

At a meeting of IC Conservative Society, last Tuesday, Dr Keith Hampson MP welcomed the growth of University Conservative Associations and their growing influence in the Students Unions.

On his main theme 'Higher education', he expressed a necessity for a balance between the general liberal courses and the job-orientated ones. The main problem, he said, is there are too many 'arts and humanities' students and too few 'Science and Engineering Ones'.

This is particularly so in the Polytechnics where the

courses are being offered to make use of the facilities left by the declining teacher training courses. Dr Hampson also suggested that Engineering courses should have a greater 'industry-approach', for example sandwich courses.

Commenting on the education cuts, Dr Hampson accused the Left of being more prepared to cut higher education on the grounds that it was only available to an elite which included just a small proportion of the working class. He himself would like to see a new approach to higher education with a much greater

emphasis on the provision of a adequate student grant.

Dr Hampson closed by expressing his disapproval at the two-tier fees rates for home and overseas students. He felt it was a bit of a sham when most home students had their fees paid by their local education authority.

He suggested that when an overseas student is not supported by his or her government that Britain might supply funds from her existing Overseas Aid fund.

Solution to last week's x-word

W	O	R	L	D	A	T	L	A	S
A	R	E	T	E	S	T	A	G	E
R	I	E	M	N	I	O	S	L	A
M	O	S	E	S	A	L	T	E	L
I	N	A	N	E	N	I	S	T	I
N	A	M	A	C	E	V	I	A	N
G	N	E	C	H	O	L	D	M	G
P	O	N	E	A	T	N	E	E	D
A	D	O	B	E	N	O	C	N	A
N	E	G	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y

There were no correct answers submitted.



Executive Matters



Welcome back to the article which has become the king-pin of FELIX (by virtue of its regular absence). A couple of important items to mention, so:

WHITE LIES

by John White
IC Union Hon.Sec.

All you have to do is say "You're Chalky White of the Daily Mirror and I claim my £5", no, no, no I mean "I'm a Reciprocal Member of your Union and I would like to use your facilities". Don't, however, whatever you do, forget to bring your *authorised* IC Union Card with you.

Situation Vacant

There is a vacancy for the post of Union Fairy.

The rates are the standard Union rates ie £1 per hour and the working conditions are excellent.

Anyone willing to stand on the top of the Union Office Christmas Tree for the next month should contact the nearest psychiatrist of Happy Farm or both.

Christmas Cards & New Year's Eve

Just a reminder to all you lovely people to send me a Christmas Card (one from each of you, that is!)—you know the address *Chalky, IC Union, Imperial College, London SW7*. May I extend an open invitation to a celebration of the New Year: Meet you all in the Union Bar on the evening of Friday 31st December from whence, after suitable refreshment, we shall wend our way to Trafalgar Square where we shall all catch pneumonia from having a late bath.

Have a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. Take care and so long.

Seeing as you will all shortly be toddling off to Bermuda or St Moritz-under-Lyme for your Christmas Hols, this had better be *le fin* in articles as IF'ers would say.

Tuition fees

The Union has been anything but dormant on this issue. Firstly Rick and Hugh posted nearly 1,300 letters through Shirley Williams' letter box and got an interview on LBC, a paragraph in the Daily Telegraph and a cup of tea from Shirley. Next, the matter is due to be discussed within college during the next week or two, culminating in the governors having to decide what level of fees to charge next session.

PRES CUTTINGS

by IC Union
President
Nick Brayshaw

I NEED:- Information from any student who is going to find himself in financial difficulty next year, or may even be forced to leave due to the level of fees. Any info will be treated in the strictest confidence — I am not interested in names, merely statistics, so for heaven's sake let me know on internal 3915. It's for your benefit.

Refectories

The Refectory Committee decided (in

Rail Cards

Soon after having had my article run off last week I discovered that *Rail Cards* are now available over the counter at an outlet in Euston Mainline Station. Again, bring along two passport size photos, your *authorised* Union Card and £6.50.

NUS Referendum

On Tuesday March 8th there will be a debate on the many and varied aspects/pro and cons of membership of NUS. Friday will see (hopefully) a spread in FELIX on the same subject and then, coincident with the Sabbatical Officers' and Deputy President's elections (on Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th) will be the secret ballot. I feel that the time between the debate and the referendum is very necessary in order to enable everybody to fully examine and analyse the situation.

IC Summer Fete

The Rag Committee is currently in the process of organising a Summer Fete for



its wisdom) to a) use the regulating mechanism (set up by the governors) more regularly.

b) Increases across the board by 2% from January '77.

c) Increases of 5% on all functions.

The sheer blind stupidity of the people responsible for thinking up and agreeing with these suggestions (and that goes all the way up the college hierarchy) leaves me speechless. This term the takings are up by approx 15% which represents a 5% increase in profit ratios (approx). This rise is largely due to the lack of bad publicity in the Union's media. This rise in takings can be zapped to smithereens by a couple of articles in FELIX so anyone who has a say with the governor's ought to do some fast talking!!

NUS Referendum

The referendum will not be at the same time as the sabbatical elections, you fat-head Dewey. That was never said, suggested or agreed by the meeting. What was agreed was that the referendum will be held in the spring term. It would appear that the most sensible time to hold this referendum is before the sabbatical elections so that they do not degenerate into a question of 'in or out'. There are far more important issues to elect a president for than whether we stay in NUS or not.

Saturday May 7th is the second Saturday of the Summer Term. This extravaganza will be held in Prince's Gardens and will be opened by a suitable dignitary. The whole event is to be finished off with a bar-b-que and a disco in the evening.

All we need now is your help and a promise from big (or Sir Brian) that it won't rain.

If you are interested in helping to get this shindig on the road then please drop in and see me or drop a line, via the infernal trial, to IC Rag c/o IC Union.

Election Fever

The competitors are on their marks, the starter is poised (that's me — swoon, swoon) and they're off ...

WHAT UNION POST ARE YOU GOING TO STAND FOR NEXT YEAR?

The Christmas Vac. is upon us and all there is left to do is to sit around, stick a pin into the Union By-Laws, 'List of Officers', and say "well if that idiot can do the job, why the hell can't I?"

"Indeed why not, Sir/Madam!" I reply.

Think hard on the subject, once you come back after the vac. the second term will flash by and before you know it Thunderbolt Sproggins will be elected to the post you're still dithering about. The best thing to do is talk to the present holder of the post or me (Isn't it exciting! Scream!) cos I'm dead nosey!

Membership Reciprocal Agreements

Somewhere in this FELIX, hopefully below this article, you will find a list of Colleges and Universities with whom IC Union has a Reciprocal Membership Agreement. This agreement is such that we can use their facilities and vice versa whenever either be in the locality, if you see what I mean.

Anyway, what it boils down to is that if you look through the list and discover the Wolfgang J. Flywheel College of Physical Education for young ladies which just happens to back onto your country retreat — then you can use this agreement and go and have a swill in their bar or join their Hatha Rugby Club.

Linstead Hall: The rush to

The present Linstead Hall was opened in 1968 and built from funds donated by the same beneficiary as the present £350,000 given for its extension. The new benefaction came in January this year and was conditional on College being in a position to start building by January 1977. The College duly set up a working party that considered the plans submitted by architects Norman and Dawbarn.

The plans were also scrutinised by Westminster City Council's (WCC) Department of Architecture and Planning when they received the amended College plans. Since July the College and the Department have been in consultation, ironing out design problems and servicing arrangements.

These negotiations were so successful that the Department gave the College plans a clean bill of health in a report to the WCC Town Planning Committee meeting of 28th October. In particular the Department rejected the ideology of a low rise development for Princes Gardens. They thought that a third type of architecture — in addition to the terraced houses and student halls — would not be appropriate to complete the square. They felt the college plans retained the Gardens' essential characteristics.

The Department also decided that a population density of 200 persons per acre was 'not inappropriate for student accommodation'. Thus they rejected the Knightsbridge Association's (KA) submission that a density of 85-100 be adopted for the new



The space that refuses to be filled at present.

spend £350,000000

building. Attached to their report was a draft letter to IC giving planning permission.

The Department's recommendations were overturned at the Town Planning Committee meeting and the design rejected on grounds of height and general design. The meeting was well attended by the KA, who had lobbied the Councillors beforehand.

The mood of the meeting was such that a member of College remarked that it was a case of "How do we reject these plans", not "Whether we reject them".

Since then the benefactor has extended the deadline to January 1978. The extension will be fully discussed at a Governing Body meeting today week.

The College proposal

The proposed extension to Linstead Hall has been planned by the College Architects to a layout and design which embodies the advice and requirements of student representatives who were members of a Working Party first established in 1972 to consider the further development of student residential accommodation in Prince's Gardens. Although earlier schemes for loan-financed development had to be abandoned through lack of finance, the offer by the Anonymous Benefactor made possible the realisation of plans which have been the subject of careful consideration for some years.

The extension is planned to provide 95 residential places on the site immediately north of Linstead Hall and above the existing calorifier chamber which was specially designed as a base for a new building. So as not to intrude a third architectural design into the Gardens (in view of the preservation order on 8-15 Prince's Gardens on the north side) the architectural design reflects broadly the rhythm and style of Linstead Hall, it follows the same structural grid and has identical floor heights for ease of communication. In order to take account of views expressed by local residents the overall height of the building is three storeys lower than Linstead Hall itself; for aesthetic considerations and for economy of maintenance improved materials are to be used on the exterior of the building, and the design of study bedrooms has been improved to reduce sound emission — a point of concern to the local residents.

Internally a typical floor is designed on a "communal corridor" principle around which study bedrooms are double-banked, the corridor being divided by fire doors to permit 4 or 5 students to share a utility room (galley) bathroom and separate WC and shower compartment — a simple flat concept — but also allowing, if necessary, for a wider social grouping of up to 16-20 on one floor. Vertical circulation is by staircase and lifts. The building includes two self-contained flatlets for the accommodation of married students. The concentration of the rooms in a single block does not contravene the permitted densities laid down by the planning authorities, and contributes to developing the Gardens to their full potential. The College Architects have been in close touch throughout the planning stages with the officers of the Planning authority, whose publicly expressed advice was that the Architects should not do other than conform to the lines of the square, in order to retain the essential characteristic enclosure which is typical of London squares.

Having looked deeply at the various plans put forward for the Linstead extension the two of us feel inclined to agree in principle, with the height of the College design. Like W. City Council's own Architectural and Planning Dept we are against a low rise extension. The square should be completed with a medium rise development — like Southside and Linstead — as originally envisaged before the 'listing' of 8-15 Prince's Gardens.

We feel that any low rise development would destroy the square by adding a further architectural design. We hope that the Royal Fine Art Commission (RFAC), who have been asked to comment on how — low rise or medium rise — the square should be completed, will come to a similar conclusion. If they do this may provide sufficient grounds for a College appeal to the Department of Environment.

However, we are less keen on the way College has approached the extension's design. There seems to have been insufficient discussion within College. We were hardly endeared to learn that Linstead warden Dr Carabine did not receive a copy of the College plans — as submitted to Westminster CC — and had to get one through devious means.

Further, *Topic*, the College magazine, has not been allowed to publish as much as it would have liked on the College plans. We realise that in the future interests of the College some matters should not be made public immediately — however does this rule out a completely 'quiet discussion'?

We feel that whatever the comment of the RFA Commission further discussion is needed — especially concerning the facade and interior details. This is an area where it would be useful to involve the warden, Dr Carabine, even though he has not been designated warden of the new extension.

We would ask the question that if one of the terms of the benefaction has been changed (the time limit) is it absolutely impossible to change others if either College is consistently denied planning permission or changes are warranted to provide a better hall?

Further more we are not completely satisfied that the terms of the benefaction were not influenced by top college personnel.

This supplement is intended to stimulate discussion on the Linstead extension. Letters on the subject are welcome since they will help to provide a wealth of ideas to construct the new brief to the College architects.

The uncredited articles in these four pages have been written by College, the Knightsbridge Association and Professor Wiggins. For further information consult FELIX No. 433 (5th November).

David Crabbe & Clive Dewey

College is living in Rip Van Winkle land

The Knightsbridge Association is a typical local amenity society brought to life by '960's legislation as a consultative body to the planning authority, Westminster City Council, for development within its area.

About a generation ago Imperial College acquired Princes Gardens and with it permission to construct term-time hostels and vacation-time hotels. Thus the College received permission to demolish the houses in Princes Gardens in the days before public consultation. One can now hypothesize that a better solution might have been to house students in the central College area, thereby enlivening the campus deserted after the day's work.

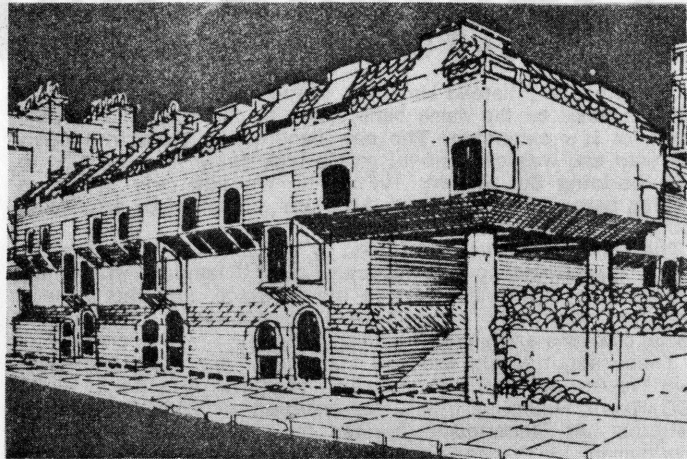
In the last two years the College has made application to increase the existing student population in Princes Gardens from 600 to 1500, though the subsequent listing (by the Dept of Environment of Nos 8 to 15 reduced the increase to 600 persons. During these proceedings the Association has sought to co-operate with the College to produce a solution acceptable to its neighbours: and repeatedly the College has declined.

It has to be said that after a decade of experience, neighbours to the Halls are confident that what amounts to a virtual replica extension of Linstead Hall would result in a sharp deterioration of desirable standards of a normal domestic environment. Indeed we believe that any new building should have a domestic rather than hotel emphasis. To many it seems that the College, in pursuing its 20 year old plan, is more like Rip Van Winkle than a University in the forefront of scientific development and equipped with an industrial sociology department.

This summer, the Knightsbridge Association, challenged to make constructive proposals, very reluctantly set about producing its own scheme. At root we believe it necessary to retain the residential area in the South Kensington mix, to avoid not only a Bloomsbury death, but the sort of dangers of central city disintegration that have been emphasized by the Planning Minister and his predecessor: there are many ominous examples to be avoided if the enormous exodus from London of those in search of better living conditions is to be stemmed.

Overcrowding is one of the repulsive features of city life: certainly the College has already overtopped the historic density of its own (and the adjoining) Square. Proposals to increase it would account for one quarter of the whole of Knightsbridge simply invite resistance. Our scheme then is designed to mend the gaps in Princes Gardens with useful buildings to house an optimum and not just a maximum additional population.

On the east side our proposal includes a car park in the existing basement, decked over with 3 tennis courts (with an all weather finish), and a series of covered games courts with maisonettes above accommodating a student population of 72. Other facilities, including a medical centre and a creche, are



A sketch of the proposals put forward by the Knightsbridge Association (looking from the present Garden Hall on the north side of Princes Gardens).

located in several storeys above the existing boiler house. To the east of Linstead Hall open car parking would be obscured by a pergola.

In our view, a building four storeys in height is sufficient to blanket from sight the back of Ennismore Gardens terrace. Continuing to use the materials of the original builders — brick and stucco — the style would balance the mews design and the articulations of its main street Victorian neighbours.

On the north side, some sixty students would be accommodated in a low rise building fronted by a double storey conservatory common room. Apart from the attractiveness of such a feature the proposal is aimed at satisfying the Planning Authority's desire to see design sympathetic to its Victorian surrounds. Such a height would continue the line of the heavily emphasised porticos: the exposed terrace end would mimic features from its main facade.

Conceptual design of student halls of residence has made radical progress in the last 20 years: our own design, put forward solely in outline, incorporates this progress and we are confident it would meet with the approval of those whom it is intended to accommodate.

THE COLLEGE SECRETARY REPLIES

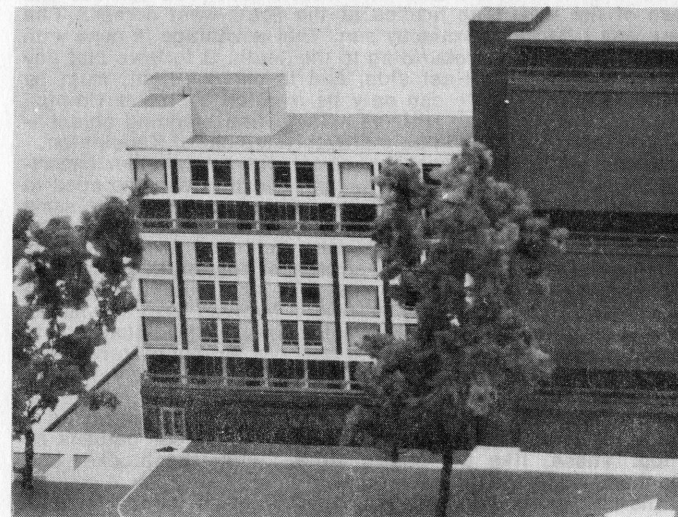
'It's a question of where you draw the lines'

The College Secretary, Mr Davies has been one of the major spokesmen for College on the Linstead proposals. As such FELIX felt that it would be only courtesy to let him reply to some of the points raised elsewhere in this feature.

Concerning extent of College policy in influencing the terms

THE WARDENS' VIEWS

More open discussion needed



A model of College proposals for an extension to Linstead Hall.

10 years ago when plans for the present Linstead Hall were being drawn up, its warden designate, Civil Engineer Dr Paul Minton, was deeply involved in consultations with the College architects. Along with then Domestic Bursar, Carl Seaford, and Senior Warden Mr Stephenson — his equivalent now would be the College Senior Tutor — Dr Minton spent a considerable time formulating Linstead's design. He was involved in the planning from the early stages, something which has not happened with the present warden, Dr Carabine, over the extension plans.

In fact whilst Dr Carabine has been involved with the Working Party on the Linstead Extension he has only been so since just

of the benefaction, Mr Davies said there was 'no consultation about the precise terms of the benefaction'.

As to whether the money donated could be used for a new hall rather than an extension he pointed out that as the same benefactor had given the money for the original Linstead Hall, 'not un-naturally he or she envisaged an extension to Linstead and College did not quarrel with that.'

Questioned if College had asked the beneficiary to change any conditions he commented that 'College had informed benefactor about the rejection of planning permission.'

Mr Davies refuted the suggestion that the views of the Knightsbridge Association (KA) had not been taken into account. 'College has had meetings with KA and some of the points they raised have been met.'

Furthermore, he emphasised that although College had to have 'things done fast', this in no way implied that there was inadequate consultation or that the urgency was a cause of the ultimate rejection of the plans.

He was sure that the composition of the Working Party was adequate. He added 'there has to be a limit as to the numbers involved in the planning process. It's a question of where you draw the lines in this matter.'

He further pointed out that Dr Ken Weale — College Tutor and an ex-warden — had been involved with the working party from the beginning. The inclusion of Dr Carabine was not implied because he was the present warden. Wardenship has a tenure of five years and Dr Carabine need not necessarily be the warden when the extension is opened.

Mr Davies was not prepared to comment on the findings of the Royal Fine Art Committee, or on possible College policy as seen in the new brief for the architects. He felt that it would be inappropriate as the Governor's will discuss the question of the Linstead Hall extension at their meeting a week today.

A typical courtyard — showing the mezzanine section and roof gardens — as envisaged by the Wiggins and Gardiner Scheme.

after the time the plans had been submitted to College by the architects Norman and Dawbarn. His role was as observer in attendance, assessing the plans and presenting any points raised by the Linstead Hall Committee.

He feels the Working Party have been lumbered with a plan which is, in essence, a repeat of the Northside plan for a hall above the sports centre (the plan was subsequently dropped because the foundations of the centre were not suitable).

He has never really been happy with the proposals for an extension, favouring the idea of a separate hall. Initially, he raised this with the Working Party where the idea received some sympathy. But the terms of the benefaction appeared to be explicit, requiring an extension to Linstead Hall.

The Linstead Hall Committee did not react favourably to the Working Party's proposal either: they did so on the grounds that there would be a large number of students in the present common rooms, and that these would be the only access to the new building. Dr Carabine conveyed this to the Working Party, along with modifications made by Paul Jowitt, then sub-warden of Linstead and himself a Civil Engineer. These modifications included the provision of an entrance at ground level. These modifications were accepted by the Working Party.

Dr Carabine emphasises that his criticism is not really of the architects plans — as long as the building is functional and attractive — but of the brief presented to Norman and Dawbarn and the manner in which it was drawn up. He recognises that the College had a tight schedule, being required to start building by January 1977. However, he feels that 'to some extent, consultation within College was curtailed at very early stages when perhaps it would have been of most value.'

The Working Party did not discuss the Knightsbridge Association or Professor Wiggins' alternative plans, Dr Carabine said. For various reasons they have not met since July.

He expressed relief on hearing of the extension of the time limit, and sees it as providing an opportunity for further discussion. This could centre around both the type of residential unit required and the wishes of outside groups, especially the Knightsbridge Association and Westminster City Council. He thinks there is a need for involving students wardens and administration in any future working party to produce a concept of residence suitable for everyone.

On the suggestion of an open meeting on the subject, Dr Carabine commented that it might be a good idea if there were enough people interested. 'After all', he said, 'if a competent firm of architects have not managed to produce an acceptable building within their brief, then it indicates that one ought to go back and discuss the constraints', (of the brief).

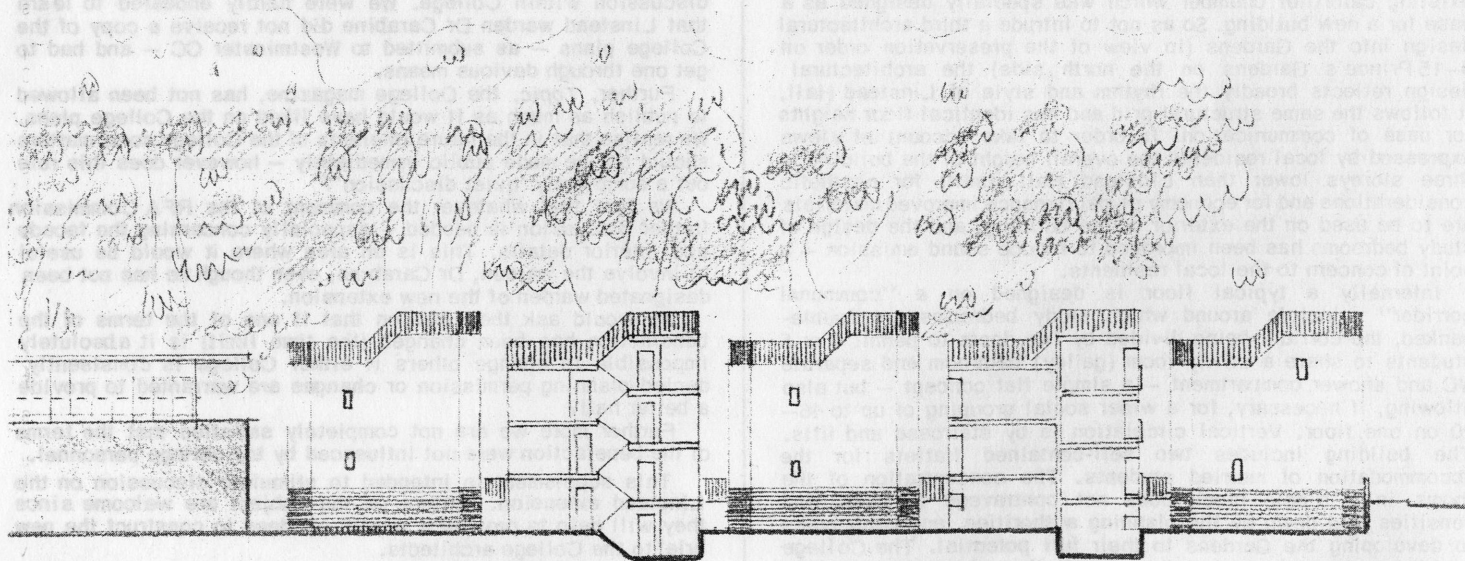
He felt it was pointless to speculate on alternatives at this stage — in fact he did not know the College plan had been rejected until it was published in FELIX — but thought the consultation with the Fine Arts Commission was good since 'an aesthetic consideration is needed at this stage.'

Dr Carabine's call for more discussion was echoed by Mr Frank Potter, Warden of Keogh Hall, Southside and a former warden of Linstead. He does 'not know how one can go ahead without more discussion.' He sees the extra year as giving a chance for a 'new beginning' with all parties, including students and wardens, involved in consultation.

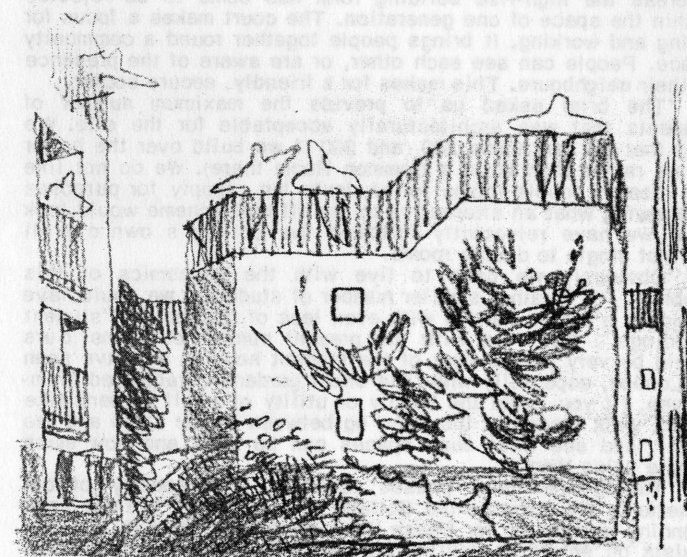
His personal opinion of the design of the extension was that it was incongruous with the present Linstead Hall. He also felt that management problems would arise and there was the possibility that a requirement of 'double sittings' at meals would result in some students not feeling part of Linstead.

Mr Potter is 'not keen' on the idea of an open meeting. He favours quiet discussion, of discussion which he feels is now absolutely necessary.

David Crabbe



A longitudinal section through three courtyards of the plans drawn up by Wiggins and Gardiner. It shows the mezzanine arrangement of study bedrooms around a central staircase. The existing Linstead boiler house is shown on the left — common rooms or study bedrooms are planned here.



An alternative plan from Professor Wiggins & Stephen Gardiner

Human habitation for students

People have begun to hate universities. If you doubt this, look at the newspapers — empty of understanding of what universities do, and full of malice towards students, invariably imagined in a state of parasitical dependence on the long suffering taxpayer. The cut-back in university expenditure which started well before the squeeze, is just one reflection of the state of public opinion.

There are many reasons for this view of us. One reason is the self-absorption of universities. The most perfect expression of the self-centredness of London University is its building policy.

The Sunday Times for 10th August 1969 wrote:

"London University, whose reputation for philistinism was already secure, has struck its shrewdest blow yet against the forces of beauty and pleasure Woburn Square is gone it is gone by the will of what is supposed to be a great seat of learning and culture financed by public money and spurred on by good intention. It is worse than a crime. It is a folly. All those responsible should be ashamed."

But conservationists are not the only people who distrust the University. People who care about modern architecture are equally concerned. Apart from the Royal College of Art, what good building has the University put up in Kensington? The Secretary of the Royal Fine Arts Commission once wrote to Norman and Dawbarn, architects then as now to Imperial College,

"The quality of the design (of the IC campus) seems to express a great commercial concern rather than a seat of learning and research."

Will the new Huxley building in Queens Gate refute this charge?

There are conservationists and there are connoisseurs of architecture, and there are neighbours overshadowed and ignored. But there is yet another group who find IC's present buildings wanting — the students themselves, who complain about the isolation which has resulted from the plan you find at Linstead Hall, four rooms to a cell with virtually no other reference point between the cell and the whole building. The remedy for this is not another plunge into the unknown — a hotel version of the same unsuccessful building form. What is needed is a way of building which has proved its ability to answer to the needs of a community.

That at least was the possibility I envisaged, and which the shame I have long felt for the University, prompted me to commission Stephen Gardiner to explore, when the College unveiled its plan to enclose Princes Gardens again, and to overwhelm with yet more high buildings the space and air which the square had accidentally got from the clearance of its East side. The guidelines I gave Stephen Gardiner were, first, the need to design an alternative which students would be happy in; second, the position of the site in the existing square; third, the special character of the neighbourhood as a whole. He drew the drawings which can be found in the Union Office. He writes about his scheme:

"The alternative to a high-rise concrete slab block extending Linstead Hall northwards (with inevitable internal central corridor, lifts and uniform windows), is a scheme with low buildings spreading across the whole site between Ennismore Gardens Mews and the hedge which marks the beginning of the square. This means a series of domestic scale buildings which can be arranged to make a series of courts between three and four storeys high. The court, like the street terrace, is a building form which has been tried and enjoyed over centuries, whereas the high-rise building form has come to be rejected within the space of one generation. The court makes a focus for living and working. It brings people together round a community space. People can see each other, or are aware of the presence of their neighbours. This makes for a friendly, secure society.

"The brief asked us to provide the maximum number of students that was architecturally acceptable for the site. We find that we can house 280 (and 300 if we build over the boiler house rather than build a Common Room there). We do not like the idea of double rooms for students but, simply for purposes of showing what an alternative to the official scheme would look like, we have reluctantly followed the College's own overall ratio of single to double rooms.

"Obviously we have to live with the economics of this problem. For a rather smaller number of students, we could have designed a better scheme with even less of the feel of 'student buildings'. But even with the present number of rooms, ours would be very unlike most of the student housing we have seen in London, especially when the small gardens established themselves. (If you doubt the beauty or utility of small gardens like these, walk around in the City, eg between Carter Lane and the River, and see what such spaces can be like, and how much people value them.)

"Taking the three phases together, the capacity of our scheme is the same as the College's if, when the College seek planning permission for Phase III in the 1980s, the City Council insists on enforcing daylighting regulations and removes three storeys (= 80 students).

"The guidelines of the existing square and the adjoining mews streets of the neighbourhood confirm the rightness of courts among buildings. The square contains a large garden and the courts are like echoes of this garden. They continue it as smaller gardens. At the same time, it has to be remembered that when this Victorian square was built over a hundred years ago it was all of one stucco piece, and the trees were saplings. It was never a spacious square, but one thing saved it. The South side was built lower than the East and West sides. (You can see one or two of the remaining houses at the South-west corner.) The square was tilted to the midday sun. That advantage is gone with the great height of the rebuilding to the South. It follows that any proposal to close the East side, and to cut out light, must be avoided. Such enclosure can only be avoided by low buildings, and by treating Linstead Hall as a large free standing object — with an effect which would be thoroughly typical of Kensington.

"Without going into a maze of detail, there is another important factor which influenced our design, and this was the need to relate the level of the site to the level of the square. At the same time, the level of our rooflines had to match the level of the mews roofline. These two things were achieved in one move — by raising the level of our site (at present one storey below that of the square) by four feet. The section — and thus the staircase plan with two rooms off every landing — evolved from this move. We use a mezzanine section where the lower ground floor starts from the present level of the site and our entrance starts from the new level. It sounds complicated but is really very simple, as a glance at our drawings will show. The traditional college staircase plan with between 14 to 20 students off it creates a pleasant domestic arrangement which leads to roof gardens at the top. These, like the courts below, unify the blocks, and relate them to the square as a whole.

"The roof gardens provide a communal space for the inhabitants of each block. The courts are a place where all the students in the scheme and from elsewhere would come across one another in a natural way as they do in countless other universities — Cambridge, Durham, Oxford, Bologna, Harvard, Cracow, Amsterdam, Prague, (to name but a few).

"There are people who disagree with the idea that the back of Ennismore Gardens could define the western side of Princes Square. They dislike these backs. But these very people would condemn half the students in the official scheme to look close up on no other view than the one they say they dislike. Our alternative would involve planting trees and grass — in making something which would be good to look at and live in.

"I am sorry the Union Executive did not invite me to their meeting to explain our drawings, which they have misunderstood in certain important ways, or respond to a further suggestion of a meeting with students. A letter of clarification of the drawings was sent to Mr Brayshaw on 16th October, which I hope he will show to any students who are interested in problems of domestic or communal architecture."

When Stephen Gardiner had made his drawings we had them costed by the quantity surveyor who had acted for the Linstead Hall building. Our building costs slightly less than the College's at Phase One and 19% less per student housed at Phases Two and Three. What is more, the low-rise alternative would admit of piecemeal additions after Phase One, and would enable the College to complete student accommodation gradually with the help of small benefactions. The plan is flexible. It is to be favoured if what the College really wants is to accommodate as many students as soon as possible.

There is something for a technologist to think about in these economic findings. The ugly solution need not be the cheap one, and the cheap solution need not be the ugly one. The time is coming when people will require technologists to find solutions which combine simplicity with beauty and economy and congruity to the needs of everyday life. The Princes Gardens scheme combines mediocrity and defiance of neighbourhood with very high cost — money which would be better spent providing more student accommodation here and now.

I think people would stop talking about the need to enclose the square and undo the fortuitous benefits of the demolition of the East side of Princes Gardens if they would try to think what things would be like on the ground when the Phase Three block, daylighting infringements and all, is finished, and when the process which began with blocking of the light from the South is completed. In a situation like this, it is the emptiest formalism to speak of the classic qualities of London squares in connexion with Princes Gardens. Consider Bedford square: It is wider in extent and lower on all sides — as well as complete. In Princes Gardens, where so much has gone wrong already, what is needed is an architectural idea which will make the best of what remains: a sense of space, and light from the East. As it is, if the College has its own way, the gardens will be overwhelmed — and by a building which I have yet to find any member of Imperial College call beautiful.

Let me end where I began. In the Universities we have to learn to live in harmony with the city, else we shall eventually be starved out of the city. I leave to Leibniz, a philosopher whom I think I can rely on Imperial College to respect as co-inventor with Newton of the infinitesimal calculus, the last word on what sort of loss that will be for the community of learning.

"....thus a new maxim — which goes completely against the old one has become necessary; namely that students and scholars should participate as much as possible, and be as much as they can with people and in the world."

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

by Hugh Barrett ICU External Affairs Officer

Conference: The heart of NUS operations

As you are reading this illustrious column, a band of eight intrepid delegates from IC will be making their way to the Winter Gardens Blackpool for the twice yearly NUS Conference.

For those of you who are unaware, NUS Conferences are the ruling body of NUS and consist of delegates from all colleges within NUS. The number of delegates per college is apportioned according to the number of full time students attending each college.

ICU will be sending 5 delegates who will take part in deciding both NUS policy next year and how the NUS exec spend their money.

Autopsy on NUS Travel

At this conference the main topic of debate will be the collapse of NUS Services and many motions have been submitted on this controversial subject. Apart from the motions calling for the nationalisation of NUS Travel and so on, there are some reasonable amendments, most of which seek to ensure that the

remaining services (NUS Marketing and Endsleigh Insurance) remain student controlled and profitable.

The other financial debate will be concerned with the NUS estimates for next year. These outline in some detail how the executive will spend their money. As most of you will know NUS is in some financial difficulties due to losing £43,000 when travel went bust (because of an off-set agreement with the bank). This, together with the recent spate of Scottish disaffiliations, means that NUS will have very little to spend on campaigns next year.

ICU says cut International work

The ICU delegation will be proposing that all the money NUS currently spends on international work (Chile, South Africa, Portugal etc) is transferred to the more important domestic campaigns such as Grants, fees, social security and overseas students.

The other motions to be discussed are on Grants, Overseas Students, Racism, South Africa and the NUS Constitution. On the Constitution motion IC has put an amendment calling for the introduction of direct elections for the NUS executive. This unfortunately stands very little chance of being accepted.

ICU has also put amendments in on South Africa and Grants - the Grants amendment calling for the abolition of the parental contribution and discretionary awards as the main aims for next year's grants campaign.

The rest of the business of Conference is taken up with the executive report of what they have done in the past year.

All night bars.

This may sound a heavy workload and conference is in session from 9am till 12 midnight to get most business discussed - the only compensation is that the bars don't close until 6am!

Finally, following last week's incredible 1200 signatures on the letter to Mrs Williams about fees, I'd like to thank the people who did most of the hard work in collecting those signatures - the Departmental Representatives.

Alors, encore une fois, un autre article from les portails d'IF. Cette semaine nous avons beaucoup de chose de talk about, mainly le wedding de Mademoiselle Ross, et Monsieur Downs. Oue, c'est vrai!!! C'est finally happened!

Dropping the vernacular pour une mo let me wish them both my heartiest congratulations and best wishes for their future life together.

Sans doute there will be beaucoup about this soon (confer the Times, Personal Column).

if only

What else has happened - can anything else rise above this event? Eh bien, votre LSO. Debate went tres bien, n'est-ce pas? Mais, moi, je always liked Andre Previn - hasn't il got un sustan smashing! Aussi, merci beaucoup pour une Rag Week superbe, mais je think que I should have won the Rag Queen Competition. I did enjoy le soir SCAB; les films bleus, eels sont beaux. J'agree avec Monsieur Chalky, que le jour Morphy n'était pas assez dirty; neanmoins il did achete me un bun in Harrods.

Encore, moi aussi je have tried to pense up un nom for this column and je thort it would be une bonne idee to call it "Lag-at-IF".

Finally, I would just like to remind you that the IF Ball is next term. Tickets are now available from Paula, IF Social Secretary, at a cost of only £10 per double ticket. This year we shall be holding it in the Ballroom at York House so come down and get your tickets soon or ring up to reserve a ticket at 723 3333 ask to be put thro' to Madame C. Lyons. A la prochaine, joyeux Noel et bonne annee.

Nicola Braybeech.

The IF Only column

Do you know how to handle a secretary?

'Secretaries are a waste of time'. '60% of secretaries are status symbols... they beget the hieracchial system where everyone worries about the thickness of the carpet, the size of the office and the shortness of the secretaries' skirts'. (Evening Standard, 22nd November)

I am now well into my 2nd year of training to be a "status symbol". I've been taught in TP (nothing to do with you great author) about the good secretary: hopefully by the summer I will have speeds of 120/100 wpm (words per minute - dumb!) in English/French shorthand, and 60/50 wpm in typing. I will have become a responsible, independent worker, relieving my boss of his work burden. I will type his letters, arrange appointments for him, deal with unwanted visitors. I will be punctual, honest, well-dressed and have a sense of humour.

That's not being a status symbol. It's hard work. Secretaries are a very vital part of business life. They are dedicating their life to make the boss's easier - if he doesn't take advantage of the help offered, more fool he. Indeed there is a certain amount of truth in the statement: *'British executives need to be trained in the proper use of a secretary'.*

On Tuesday, November 14th we are going Carol singing with Guilds - details from IF Union. I hope to see as many status symbols there as possible (and so do Guilds).

JANE TURNER

'Individual Pool Competition

A Pool cue will be awarded to the winner of the Stan's Bar Pool Competition currently being organised. There will also be prizes for those coming second and third. Names and entry fees (20p each) should be handed into Stan's Bar, Southside, by the end of the second week of next term.

'This house believes....'

-----that a successful debating society is essential to Imperial College's welfare and cultural well being.

Well that's one motion, which would probably be carried quite easily by IC's recently revived Debating Society. The Debating Society has been formed to stimulate discussion and organised argument in a civilised forum.

The society's first main function is an inter-CCU debating competition; this gets underway on Monday with the other two debates next term. The CCU will be competing for a magnificent inter-CCU trophy awarded to the best CCU debating team in the three debates.

The subject debate on Monday 13th December (at 6.30pm in Sheffield Lecture Theatre A) is 'This house would

rather have written Gray's elegy than taken Quebec'. It is taken from a now famous quote by General Wolfe who was actually given the task of taking Quebec, an event which affected world history.

As the debate - between Guilds & RCS will have finished by 8.30pm you can still go to one of the parties (Life Sciences etc) afterwards or even go home and finish writing that report which had to be finished by today!

The society has also lined up debates with MP's lined up and a trip to Oxford Union Society for next term. If you are interested in this trip let club officials know at Monday's debate, or drop a line (giving your name and dept), to Adrian Bagnall, IC. Union office, or ring Pam., the Union receptionist (Int. 2232).

WHAT'S ON

FRIDAY 10th DEC.

Concert

IC Choir: Works by Haydn, Kodaly, Rossini. 8.00pm. Great Hall. Tickets on the door 80p Students 60.

Theatre

IC Dramsoc Present 'The Flies' by Jean-Paul Satre. 7.30pm. Union Concert Hall. Tickets 60p, Students 40p on door or from Dramsoc storeroom (int 2854).

Film

IC Filmsoc present 'The Mattei Affair' 7.30pm. Mech Eng 220. Free admission with membership cards, otherwise 25p.

Disco

IC ENTS Disco. 8pm. Union Refectory. 15p.

Gig

'City Boy' & the 'George Hatcher Band' at Kings Coolege, Surrey St, The Strand, WC2. 7pm. Admission £1 in advance, £1.30 at door.

Foster Bros & TFB & Aquilla at Queen Mary College (Mile End Road or Stepney Green tube). 7.30pm 50p.

Miscellaneous

RCS Christmas Party. 20.00
ICWA Lounge. Bring a bottle and a friend or a friendly bottle.
RCS Xmas Party: 8.00pm.
ICWA Lounge. All RCSU members invited

Orienteering Club Lunchtime meeting: 12.40pm. Union Senior Common Room. Cheap lunch available.

SATURDAY 11th

Theatre

Dramsoc present 'The Flies' by Jean-Paul Satre. 7.30pm. Union Concert Hall. Tickets 60p, Students 40p on door or from Dramsoc storeroom (int 2854) Last Night.

Gig

City University/LSE Ents present a Christmas Romp with 'Mud' and 'Dence'. Admission £1.20 in advance, £1.40 on night. Great Hall, City University, St John's St, EC1. (Angel or Farringdon tube).

IC Ents present The Flamin' Groovies in the Great Hall, Sherfield Building. 8pm. Tickets £1.50 in advance. (£1.30 to IC students) from the Eng's Office (IC Union) this lunchtime or £1.60 on door.

Miscellaneous

Carol Service. Speaker, Roger Forster. (International Evangelist). 7.00pm. St Paul's Church, Onslow Square. Near S Ken Tube Station.
Royal College of Science Year Collections 10 - 10.30am
RCSU Office. London. See Social Reps for details of your

year's stunt and when and where to appear. Bring a friend or two

SUNDAY 12th

Disco

QEC Disco, 8pm, Union Bar, Campden Hill Road, W8. 20p. SU cards required. Nearest tube Hight St Kensington.

Film

'Permission to Kill' shown at Chelsea College Students Union Hall. 7pm, 15p.

MONDAY 13th

Club Activity

Wellsoc Film. '1 Million years BC'. 7.30pm. Mech Eng 220. 15p. All welcome!

Miscellaneous

IC Debating Society's first debate. The Inter - CCU Tournament: - Guilds v RCS. The motion is 'This house would rather have written Gray's elegy than taken Quebec'. 6.30-8.30pm. Sherfield Lec. Theatre A Free.
Dramsoc: Auditions for Spring production 'French without Teera'. 6.00pm. Senior Common Room. Everyone Welcome.
Life Sci Dept Party. 20.00 Bot/Zoo Common Room. 50p. Live Band.
Chemistry Dept. Party. 20.00 Union Lower Refec. 40p.

TUESDAY 14th

Club Activity

Science Fiction Club Film: Invasion of the body Snatchers' 6.30pm. ME 220. 15p to non-

members.

Pakistan Society Eid Film Show. 5-50pm. Mech Eng 542. Free. All welcome. 3 films will be shown including 'Islamic summit conference - Lahore' Jewish Society's 'Grand End of Term Get Together Party'. Food, fun, people, music. Chemistry 231 at 7.30pm.

Miscellaneous

RCS Carol Singing. Free Punch in Bot/Zoo Common Room at 6.30pm.

IC Wind Ensemble: Annual Frostbite Concert. IPM Queen's Tower. Programme includes works by Holst, Anderson, & Long & Jacobs.
Guilds Carol Singing & Christmas Party. 7.00pm. Union Bar. Leave Union Bar 7.30 and return (hopefully) for mince pies etc.

WEDNESDAY 15th

Club Activities

Meteorological and Environmental Society: 'Nuclear Power, Environments and Politics' A lecture by Professor Kibble. 1.00pm. Lecture Theatre 3, Blackett Lab.
Dramsoc: Auditions for spring production 'French Without Tears'. 7.00pm. Senior Common Room. Everyone Welcome.

Film

QEC Film Society 7pm. Queen Elizabeth College, Campden Hill Road, W8. 25p. SU cards required.

Miscellaneous

Maths Dept. Party. 20.00. JCR. 30p.

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	£85.35 return

FELIX SPORT

Diving medals reward versatile IC efforts

Once again the versatility of the members of IC Swimming and Water-polo Club was put to test, with swimming, diving and water-polo competitions all in the space of one week. Although good performances were recorded, it was only in the diving pool that IC hit the medal trail.

Water-polo

On Monday night the IC water-polo second team entertained the Amphibians in the Winter Handicap KO. The match started with the IC team five goals better off on handicap, but finished at 14 goals to 10 in the Amphibians' favour.

Swimming Heats

Meanwhile, on the swimming front, a small IC contingent was battling its way through heats of the ULU Swimming and Diving Championship. This year saw IC field an extra-strong Ladies' team, being represented in the 110yds freestyle by Cecilia Nevill and Wendy Lowe. In the Men's section John Bagnall, Francois Hindlet and Rory Lewis all made it to individual finals, with Ian Shott and Colin Dale just missing out in the back-stroke respectively.

Diving medals for IC lads

Two days later the team returned to Malet Street for the final. First on the programme

was the diving, which turned out to be IC's best event. Yair Tamir won the gold medal, having turned up half an hour early to perfect his dives, with Francois just being pipped for second place by half a point.

Disappointing swimming Finals

Unfortunately the IC swimmers were unable to repeat this performance. In the 440yds freestyle Rory set the initial pace but was eventually overtaken and forced into third place, while John comfortably finished sixth with a point for IC. The individual medley produced a similar result, this time Francois gaining third place and John coming in fifth.

In the blue ribbon event, the 100yds freestyle, Rory lost his chance to win the title three years running on the final turn and had to be content with fourth place.

The evening was completed with the team relays. The medley team, consisting of Ian Shott, Francois, Rory and John, finished well down the field against some strong opposition. However certain members were saving their energy for one final effort in the freestyle relay and the IC team of Rory, Francois, John and Dave Lowther obtained a creditable second place.

Tenpin Bowling

Alcohol rules out marathon success

Excess merriment and a tiring 12 hour marathon bowl accounted for some rather mediocre ten pin bowling results last weekend. At one stage the IC 2nds beat the IC 1st - such was the state of the teams.

On Saturday the club had bravely made their way to Birmingham for the annual Brum Marathon - 12 hours non-stop bowling and drinking. The last few members of the team really caught the spirit of the occasion by entering with a barrel of beer. This provoked a large cheer from the crowd.

The man of the match must be Nick Gascoigne, who, under the 'affluence of incohol' staggered and collapsed to the line more often than anyone else.

It was here that the seconds beat the firsts. Although Simon Spurrier hit the gate and suffer the penalty of 50 pins, the marathon was worthwhile in that Pete Churchyard scored 201, so achieving national recognition at long

last.

Another person who showed the team how to bowl was Ted Phillips, who the Club welcomed back. Thanks are due to Phil Blumson, Rupert Wilcox-Baker and Sue James for scoring, time-keeping and drinking (surely not in that order - Ed), and to the patient supporters. The club had a very enjoyable night out.

The following night brought out the true effects of the marathon. At the Airport Inter League's Tournament Final the Club slipped from 4th to 12th equal with Brunel University, who'd also been part of the Brun Marathon.

The only bowler showing true form was Paul Bartlett; the others: Simon Spurrier, Graham Hillman and Effendi A-Ramman, merely showed immense exhaustion. Nevertheless the team did visit the bar for a deserved rest before returning.

Simon Spurrier
(Captain)

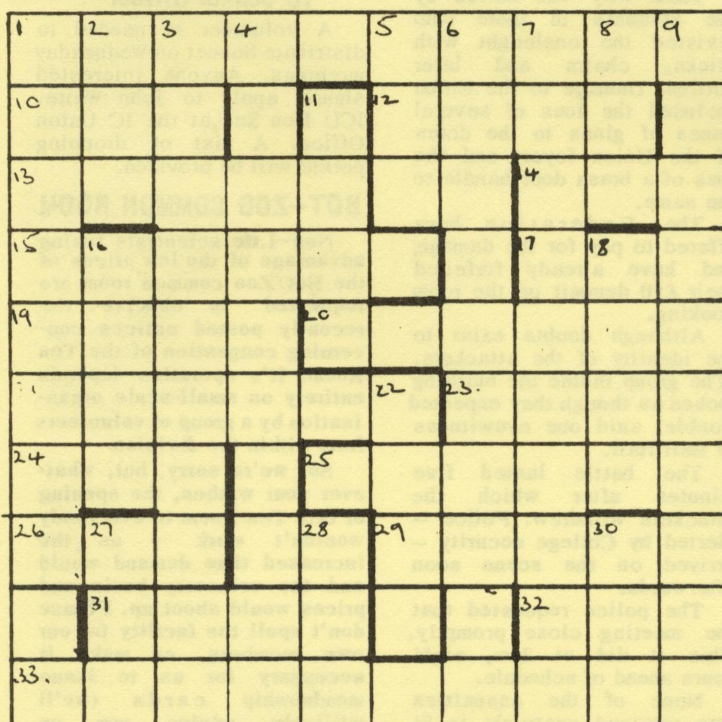
RUNNERS WANTED

Would any women interested in running Cross-country, either this Saturday (in the UL Championships) or next term, please contact David Rosen (Physics PG, Int 4458.)

Jewish Society

Grand 'Eng of Term Get Together Party'. Food, fun, people and music. Chemistry 231 at 7.30pm on Tuesday (Dec 14th).

PRIZE X-WORD No 5 by Alice



ACROSS

1. Cleansing can make satin Robes rough. (10).
10. Doesn't sound near (3).
12.But even further and we end up furious (4).
13. Slave in what he owed (5).
14. Small plant; soft f'rinstance? (3).
15. Relative material is main cause of sickness (6).
17. Extra stroke at the fourth? Sounds like ed (3).
19. She starts from the foreign backdoor (4).
20. Ducks and apparently causes compression (6).
21. Cut grass across before flyer for animal (6).
23. See (hats) from escapes (4).
24. French animal, or scottish one (3).
25. Foreign wood has only part hydrous content, so is not mature (6).
26. Rodent done away with; the first? (3).
29. Part opera starts centrally in South Africa (5).
31. Comical cutter's cooking programme? (4).
32. Foreign nest makes noise if upset (3).
33. This and the sun can give us the outlines (10).

DOWN

1. Draws out at the end; still the same but not as before (10).
2. Shows disgust at rhyming with 10 across (3).
3. Courage on the ropes? Sounds like thin material (5,5).
4. Bothers mout badly, and gives me instrument (10).
5. Twisted grass we hear (3).
6. Transport for the sun? For a Period anyway (5,5).
7. Etre avec sa mixture, et avec L'interieur etranger de ux fois mettaient A L'interieur (10).
8. Good extract contains a poem (3).
9. Plant protection from the Dark? (10).
11. Drink and get tight (4).
16. A particle which appears even smaller without my french (4).
18. Write at very bottom of letter? Does even better (4).
22. Neat and ruffled host (4).
27. Trust a friend to chop off the wrong end of Idi (3).
28. Tell from the toll though, shortly (3).
30. Foolish light pressure? (3).

Ed's note: Please not, grid contains two unclued words, both in Chambers.

Solution to last week's X-word on page 3.

A £1 prize will be awarded to for the first correct answer to this X-word - usual rules.

THE NEEDY HELPERS DESPERATELY NEED YOU

A grunt comes from a heap of cardboard boxes and plastic bags on a park bench, and a grimy hand reaches out from under the heap for the warm drink offered. Soon a whiskery face, bleary-eyed and pinched with the idd appears.

This is a scene which occurs every night on which soup-run takes place; when members of IC Community Action Group (ICAG) travel down to the Charing-Cross area at about midnight to walk around the Embankment Gardens and Strand Palace, to give the "dossers" — who sleep-out there — something warm to drink, and to have a chat to them.

The soup-run is just one of the ICAG's activities, the group's aim being to give direct help to people in need, whether it be children or old people.

At present we have a dire lack of people. We especially need help on:

Soup-Run

ICAG members are picked up from Falmouth Kitchen on Monday nights at 11 o'clock, and on Friday nights from Tizard kitchen at 11.30pm. If you want to come along, just turn up; you'll be taken back home by mini-bus afterwards.

Play-Group

A group of kids from deprived areas in London is accompanied by ICAG members to, for example, one of the London parks, to have a good time and to get them out of their sometimes depressing environments. ICAG members are picked up from the Union arch-way at 2 o'clock on Sundays, so if you like children, come along at this time.

Cottage weekends are also organised for children. Here ICAG members go with them

to a country cottage to have a weekend away from London. It can prove to be the first time that some of the children see such mundane things as cows.

Visiting Old People:-

This can be quite successful if you get on well with people, and the old person tends to become like a second grand-parent in the end. If you would like to visit an old person once in a while, we can put you in touch with somebody.

Blood-Doning:-

ICAG is also responsible for the blood-donating sessions held in College, and is badly in need of somebody to take over the organisation of this. If you are interested contact Dave Millard or myself (Cheryl Whiffin). This activity helps save people's lives and is well-worth supporting if you can. Whilst we're on the subject, a few weeks ago IC donated 394 pints of blood — many thanks to those who helped.

ICAG also needs a publicity officer to do posters for the various events; and above all we need drivers. If you are over 21, and fancy doing a bit of driving in the College mini-bus, let us know.

Cheryll Whiffin — Beit Hall 126. Metallurgy PG. Internal phone — 3457.

Dave Millard — Rayleigh House Warden. Chem Eng. Internal phone — 2575.

FOR SALE

Garrard SP25 MK III Stereo record deck. Including Plinth, cover, magnetic cartridge. Exc. condition £20 o.n.o. Contact P Tyler Elec Eng 3.

SPORTS RESULTS

Cup matches — Saturday 4th December:-

1st XI 1 v 1 Kings College Hospital
2nd XI 2 v 6 King University 2nd
5th XI 10 v 1 QEC 2nds

The 1st Team Game will be replayed on Saturday (tomorrow).

Imperial College Debating Society

CITY AND GUILDS vs.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

MOTION

This house would rather have written Gray's Elegy than taken Quebec"

SHERFIELD THEATRE A

6.30 pm on Mon. 13th Dec.

Thumbs up for January travel

The setting up of a London Student Travel Bureau (LSTB), as put forward by ex-IC president Trevor Phillips three weeks ago to replace the liquidated NUS Travel, took a step towards inception this week.

Representatives from the student unions who would run the Bureau's offices — at IC, University of London Union & Queen Mary College — met two main travel companies SATA (who operate air flights) and Transalpino (who operate traintravel).

The meeting, on Wednesday, agreed details to supply the Bureau with SATA and Transalpino services. Negotiations with British Rail to sell their Railcard have already been successfully concluded. ICU president Nick Brayshaw, who attended the meeting, said that the way is now open for a viable LSTD. A few minor operators have yet to be seen and the final go-ahead could be given late next week. If this happens the IC travel office could re-open in January.

Union riot

Eight people were taken to hospital at the weekend following a five minute battle between rival Turkish students at IC Union.

The trouble began during the all day annual conference of the left wing Turkish Federation of Students in the Union Lower Refectory last Sunday. A right wing group of students stormed the Union building just after noon, and tried to get into the Refectory.

Their way was barred by the students in there who resisted the onslaught with sticks, chairs and later bottles. Damage to the Union included the loss of several panes of glass to the doors of the Union foyer, and the loss of a brass door handle to the same.

The Federation have offered to pay for the damage, and have already forfeited their £50 deposit on the room booking.

Although doubts exist to the identity of the attackers, 'The group inside the building looked as though they expected trouble' said one eyewitness in Beit Hall.

The battle lasted five minutes after which the attackers withdrew. Police — alerted by College security — arrived on the scene soon afterwards.

The police requested that the meeting close promptly. This it did at 2pm, eight hours ahead of schedule.

None of the casualties was retained overnight in St Stephen's hospital.



XMAS

PARTY

FRIDAY 10TH DEC.
20.00

ICWA Lounge

Tickets from RCSU
Office (FREE!)

Limited number available

CAROL SINGING

TUESDAY 14TH DEC.

Meet Bot/Zoo Common R'm
18.30hrs For FREE Punch

Year Collections

SAT 11TH DECEMBER

Can RCS Collect

£1,000 in a Day (again)?

Find out by turning up at

RCS Office

10.00 am.

IC CHOIR CONCERT

—TONIGHT—

8pm Great Hall

Tickets on the door
80p (students 60p)

TOYS WANTED

Any kind of toys, whether old or new are urgently wanted for a bunch of kids who would otherwise have no Christmas presents. Please bring the toys to the C & G Union Office.

IC Sennet Officer

A volunteer is needed to distribute Sennet on Wednesday mornings. Anyone interested should apply to John White, ICU Hon Sec, at the IC Union Office. A list of dropping points will be provided.

BOT-ZOO COMMON ROOM

Non-Life scientists taking advantage of the low prices of the Bot/Zoo common room are requested to observe the recently posted notices concerning congestion of the Tea Room. It's operation depends entirely on small-scale organisation by a group of volunteers from within the division.

So, we're sorry, but, whatever your wishes, the opening of this Tea Room to everybody wouldn't work — as the increased time demand would end the voluntary basis and prices would shoot up. Please don't spoil the facility for our own members, or make it necessary for us to issue membership cards (we'll willingly advise you on starting up a similar system!)