



Academics fry as Governors cook books

One hundred jobs are to be lost at Imperial College, it was revealed at Governing Body on Friday. The staff cuts are being introduced as part of a plan to counteract an estimated debt of £3 million by 1988. The College is also aiming to attract an extra 100 overseas students, in addition to the increases already planned, in order to offset the debt.

Financial problems have arisen because of a new pay deal for academic staff, a shortfall in the targeted recruitment of overseas students, and a low grant from the University Grants Committee. A paper put to Governing Body by the chairman, Sir Henry Fisher, proposed three areas in which money should be saved or raised. As well as staff reductions and an increase in overseas students, it was suggested that the terms on which research contracts are carried out be altered.

The first proposal was to reduce the number of all types of staff by a total of 100, which, it is estimated, should save £2 million. Some staff would be removed from the College payroll, to be funded by research grants. The rest of the reduction would be achieved by voluntary redundancies and voluntary early retirements, by freezing vacancies and, as a last resort, by compulsory redundancies.

Commenting on this suggestion, John Fecamp of the ASTMS said that staff cuts would be opposed if they were caused by College having to fund pay rises. Technical staff are not represented on the Governing Body, and they are subject to a non-replacement policy, where staff who leave are only replaced if their post can be demonstrated to be important for teaching or scientific work. Mr Fecamp explained that during a similar series of staff cuts some years ago, College gave ASTMS an assurance that compulsory redundancies would be avoided if at all possible. Any move to introduce such redundancies would bring the College into dispute with the membership of ASTMS throughout

the country, he added.

The Rector, Prof Eric Ash, said that the 5% staff 'cuts' would not be structured and would not be implemented immediately. He added that he had 'no worry' about the staff which remained being able to keep up the present level of teaching. He defended the proposal to increase the number of overseas students, explaining that the College is at

present below its target level for both overseas and other, low-fee-paying students. When asked about the availability of accommodation for these extra students, Prof Ash said that he was sure there would be enough places for first year undergraduates to be guaranteed a year in. The guarantee to first year overseas postgraduates might have to be ended, he added.

Student Accommodation Officer Lesley Gillingham told FELIX that she had only found out about the proposal after Monday's ICU council meeting, at which the paper was discussed. She said she was sure that all the new undergraduates could

be given places in student accommodation if the new buildings in Evelyn Gardens were acquired. This would probably mean that no home postgraduates could be given places, she added.

The planned increase in overseas student numbers was severely criticised by ICU Council, and members suggested that College had not considered the implications of such action. Concern was expressed over overseas students' welfare, accommodation and overcrowding in departments. ICU Hon Sec Dave Colley later described College's attitude as 'mercenary'.

IC beat the Blues



Imperial College's Boat Club First Eight beat Oxford's boat race crew to win the "Mackintosh Trophy" on March 7th. The newly created trophy was awarded to the fastest university crew taking part in this year's "Reading Head of the River Race."

Not Jelly-roll Morton

Dear Dave,

All pop and other non-classical recordings in the Haldane Library are bought by an annually-elected Student Record Buyer out of Union funds, and not, as many users believe, by the Library. This session students have every right to complain about the lack of new recordings since this year's Student Record Buyer, Adrian Johnson (Aero II), has failed almost totally to carry out the job for which he was elected, in spite of efforts by us and Union officers to get him to do so. He has bought only 33 recordings so far compared to the normal average at this time of year of about 150, and he has ignored our requests to get on with the job. He has also taken away request cards and kept them so that we have no idea who has asked for what. To those of your readers who are rightly complaining to us (and blaming us for what Johnson has failed to do), I have to say that the Library can do nothing—it is the Union to which he is answerable.

Why should Johnson be permitted to get away with behaviour which so insults the Union and those of its members who elected him? And why should your readers have to wait until next year (when many will have left) for their requests to be satisfied? I am not aware that Union record funds can be carried over from one session to another, so money not spent this session will presumably be totally lost.

Yours sincerely,
Richard G. Williams,
Haldane Librarian.

Voice of the Union?

Dear Dave,

During my time here at Imperial College of Science and Technology I have been led to believe that the Union is a non-political body concerned with the non-academic side of student life, as well as student welfare; FELIX, being the voice of the Union should, presumably, reflect this.

Accordingly, I was very surprised to find that the article about the address by Tony Benn should merit a front page position, whilst a talk by Sir Clive Sinclair (a true pioneer in

the fields of Computing and Electrical Engineering) to over 300 students, did not even receive a mention.

I trust that this omission was merely an oversight by the Editor and not an attempt to bias our political judgement (talks by Sir Geoffrey Howe and Cecil Parkinson also did not receive a mention).

Yours sincerely,
Michael van Messel, Physics III.

Voicing Objections

Dear Dave,

Once again sabbatical elections are upon us, and once again interest in ICU is at such an unprecedented level that there are less candidates than ever for the four posts and the Hustings UGM was numerically inqurate (despite some creative accounting). However, the STV system of proportional representation allows for the populace to register its dissatisfaction with candidates by abstention so that where the abstention vote outnumbers the total votes for all candidates, the election must be re-run from scratch with new candidates being allowed to take part. But lo! We already have one candidate 'elected' unopposed. Was the populace allowed to register their dissatisfaction here and require a re-run? (No comment is intended here about the actual candidate concerned; the same situation has arisen almost every year I've been here and has always seemed equally iniquitous). No vote is taken on single candidates, and yet the method by which candidates can essentially be rejected works just as well whether there are one or more running for a post. Why aren't we allowed to make our voice heard just because apathy was so rife that someone had no opposition?

Yours sincerely,
JA Fagandini, EE IV.

NATO offensive

Dear Dave,

I read the article on collective defence by David Burns in last week's FELIX. There were some major inaccuracies in what he reported. When Tony Benn spoke at Imperial about two weeks ago he did indeed advocate the withdrawal from NATO but he stated that his views on defence differed from those of the majority of the Labour Party in that he wanted a strong nuclear deterrent outside

NATO. The 'opinion' by David Burns implies that Mr Benn wanted no nuclear deterrent. I think most people in Britain would clearly argue that if there is a nuclear armoury on this soil then it should be controlled totally by this Government. It is the opinion of most of the people with whom I have discussed this that at present this is not the case. It seems to me that this is what Mr Benn wanted. The article then goes on to imply that only the Soviets train their forces 'in a highly offensive role' but in Eastern Africa (Kenya) the Marines are trained in offensive roles to attack the Soviet forces in Ethiopia and they maintain unnecessarily large bases in Mombasa and Malindi. Mr David Burns needs to research his articles more clearly in future so as to avoid giving his readers a biased inaccurate view.

Yours sincerely,
W Murambu.

Counsel for the defence

Dear Dave,

I am sorry that Mr Murambu finds my research inadequate. As far as I know Tony Benn MP has of recent years stood on an entirely non-nuclear platform and I am amazed that anyone should suggest otherwise. As for Kenyan Marines in Ethiopia, after extensive additional research, I am unable to find a single reference to Kenya ever having been a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, and it was NATO to which my article was devoted.

Dave Burns

Second thoughts

Dear FELIX,

Reading Mr R. Brown's letter in FELIX 6/3/87, one is left with the impression that he is guilty of the narrow-mindedness of which he accuses the respondents to his original letter. He seems to assume that since the respondents do not agree with him they have not "listened with open hearts." I'm sure if they re-read it carefully a thousand times over they would still come to the same conclusion, as would Mr Brown. What's the big deal in having "friends who are or have been prostitutes, heroin addicts, alcoholics or tramps"—a friend is a friend is a friend.

Yours sincerely,
Vijay Kumar

Another man speaks

Dear Dave,

One can't help feeling that Clare Murphy's concern (FELIX March 6th) for the rights of women is a bit misdirected.

I would think that there are few people on either side of the argument over abortion who would fail to have compassion for the woman who finds she has conceived a child and faces the prospect of nine months pregnancy and of birth with dread.

If indeed, then, the solution is to allow the woman to "choose what is going to happen to her body" should we not, before pushing this too strongly, allow and encourage her to know what the facts relevant to this choice are? That the foetus, as shown for instance by the technique of In Vitro Fertilization (as well as medical evidence and human experience) is not her own body but that of another individual; that the abortion operation is not as simple as having an appendix out—perhaps films of what actually happens to the woman's body and the foetus should be shown more widely, in the cause of women's rights; that many, probably the majority, of women who have had abortions suffer great mental traumas (Post Abortion Syndrome—see the current issue of *The Spectator*).

But perhaps more importantly, it does appear that Ms Murphy's advice (along with many others) belies a rather dangerously cavalier attitude towards sexuality and the creation of life. Is it really helpful to advocate abortion as a long-stop to 'contraception failure,' suggest wilful conception as "wrecking good prospects" of being a "baby machine" and, indeed, derogue a father attempting to care for and take responsibility for his and his partner's child as dastardly "daring"? Does all this not, thus, discourage the woman from regarding her womb as it is, an inherent and positive part of her sexuality through which new life is carefully and magnificently fostered, but rather encourage it to be seen, almost, as just a dustbin of desire? Does this advice not, indeed, discourage us from regarding this new life as the good and valuable thing each of us knows it is, but rather encourage the woman and society (and the father of course please) to regard it as a silly disease?

It is perhaps no wonder to find, where such attitudes are prevalent, distraught and confused unexpectedly pregnant women; so distraught and confused as to go through with an abortion.

Yours sincerely,
Hugh MacKenzie, Civ Eng RA

Win a Holiday from STA

● It seems that naughty FELIX has been misleading you again with a few inaccuracies. Not only will the overall winner be picked on Saturday **9th** May but we won't be publishing any of the answers until **after** that date. All the questions will be repeated again in FELIX (May 8th issue) and all answers must be in by 5.30pm that Friday. If you choose to answer the questions each week and get the answers in by the following Wednesday your name will be placed into a weekly draw of entrants with a prize of a £10 travel voucher.

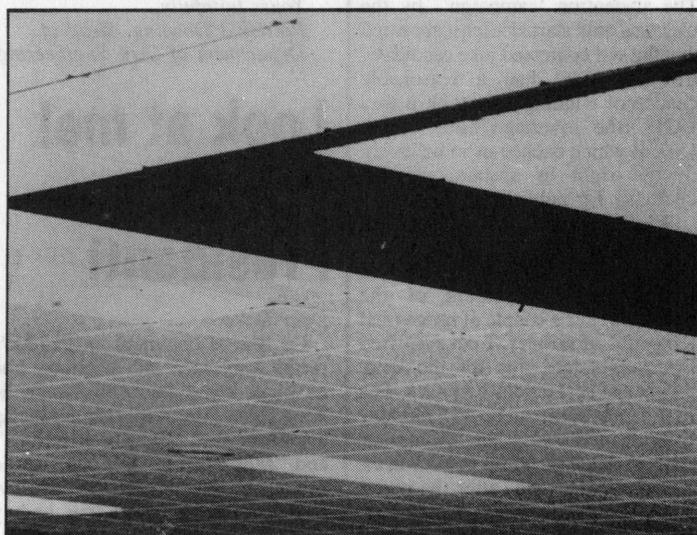
● The first winner of the draw was Mark Ball of Chemistry 3 who correctly answered both questions.

● All entries should be addressed to the FELIX Office, and must be marked "STA Competition". For further information contact either FELIX or Mark Fletcher, in the STA Office on level 2 of the Sheffield building.

Answers to the FELIX Office by 1.30pm on Monday April 27th.

● This week's questions are:

1) What part of College is this?



2) When was the Union Building extended?

Were you supposed to write an article for the Alternative Prospectus?



Deadlines

Departmental Articles March 20th

All other Articles March 27th

Departmental articles are invited from
Chemistry, Met & Mat Sci, Min Res Eng

Extensions on demand

Anyone interested in contributing
photographs, articles or *anything*, contact
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Please check Union
pigeonholes or contact Pippa
Salmon c/o the FELIX Office
for further details

*Thanks to those clubs which
have already submitted
articles!*

Felix

Cwis wites

Dear David,

I must reply to Ian Howgate's 'Press Release' in FELIX 767, and give the point of view of those involved in the abstentions 'campaign'—something that was noticeably lacking in the last issue. The abstention 'campaign', by the way was only started after it appeared that the self confessed joke candidate, Bill Goodwin, had a reasonable chance of winning. We took it to a UGM (the sovereign body of the Union) which backed us in believing in the right to abstain and the necessity for publishing it.

What of the campaign itself? On the scale of election campaigns, it was tiny. No knocking on doors, no leaflets, no harassment of the electorate, just a couple of badges and a handful of posters. I am surprised that Ian blames this for the large number of abstentions he found. The first papers were put up on Thursday evening, following the UGM. Ian realised that abstentions might win the following weekend, after the poster had only been up for one day. A successful campaign indeed. Perhaps a more likely reason for the number of abstentions would be the almost complete lack of a campaign by either of the candidates. They didn't even bother to produce a handout (although Ian did produce a large number of copies of his 'Press Release' giving his reasons for pulling out). It is rather arrogant to suggest that students should vote for you, if all they know about you is a short speech to a UGM. It was this complacency that lead to the abstentions, the abstain campaign only put the views of a large number of students into words. The candidates have only themselves to blame. Ian might have his own reasons for standing down, but looking for scapegoats fools no one.

Finally, it is rather presumptuous for Ian to assume the students do not realise the consequences of abstaining. If this is so they were equally not aware of the consequences of electing someone. Students are rather less naive than he supposes, and it is insulting for him to suggest that we do not understand what we are voting for if Ian had taken the campaign as seriously as he took his withdrawal, we might all be better off.

Yours in reply,
Chris Martin, Doc PG.

Open door

Dear Editor,

With reference to the letter in FELIX, Wednesday 11th March 1987, if the "group of civil engineering students" wish to discuss any grievance concerning the Department, my door is always open.

Yours faithfully,
Patrick J Dowling, Head of
Department of Civil Engineering.

Look at me! I'm the President!

Dear Dave,

I'd like to comment on FELIX's recent coverage of elections and hustings. We all know how apathetic IC is about things political but using headlines like "Boring Elections" and "More Boring Elections" would seem to encourage the apathy. Certainly the coverage was unduly cynical.

The turnout for the RCS elections may have been poor but 250 people bothered to vote. How many will do so again after reading the derisory coverage in FELIX? The elections and hustings were almost portrayed as a standing joke.

The piece on the RCS election results wasn't even factually correct (Fiona Nicholas is Life Sci not Physics). Union elections are news stories and deserve to be covered as such—accurately and without bias.

Clare McErlane,
RCS President Elect

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Unfortunately we are unable to publish the letter signed "One of the few" as the writer's name was not supplied. We can withhold names if requested to do so: The writer should contact David Jones in the FELIX office (3515), or Robert Daniel via the Union office.

Election Blues

Ian Howgate's decision to withdraw from the election for ICU President has got to be one of the most childish acts by any sabbatical candidate. No doubt he feels that the meagre abstain campaign was directed at him personally; he is quite right to think so. The students who advocated abstention had been very unimpressed by his histrionic performances at ICU Council. Though none of them were prepared to oppose him, it was grossly arrogant of Ian to opt out of serious campaigning in the way that he did. I agree it is difficult to approach elections in a positive manner when there is only a half-serious candidate standing against you, but this is no excuse for degrading the election procedure by adopting a half-serious approach yourself. It was this action which precipitated the abstain campaign. Ian's argument that neither he nor Bill Goodwin would be in a position to run again after a 'victory' for abstentions just doesn't wash; he is in a far less credible position to stand a second time after pulling out once, much in the same impulsive manner as he is given to storming out of Council. The onus is always on the candidate to prove his or her worth. The emergence of a (limited) abstain campaign should not affect this.

And now for the good news

Last Friday Governing Body announced a cut of 100 jobs, to be spread across all areas of staffing. Where this is to mean a drop in the number of academic staff (and it is a possibility that this will be where major reductions are made) the policy will be to transfer staff to research contracts, and take them off the payroll. Hence there will be more staff engaged solely in research work, and fewer teaching students.

At the same time Governing Body have "noted" the College policy to increase the number of overseas students by an additional 100 in October 1988. This is on top of increases which were already planned. The general attitude at Governing Body was that "it has to be done," which, I suppose, is a practical view. Once again, however, it will be students who are most

inconvenienced by the College tightening its belt. Without a new Hall of Residence it will be impossible to take another 100 students and maintain the guarantee of a place in Hall to all first year undergraduates. IC cannot afford to drain more resources away from teaching. UGC cuts and the Government's education policies have already contrived to overemphasise the value of research work. If this trend is allowed to continue, the College Governors can expect to read far more FELIX letters like the one which caused such concern last week.

Note on letters page

The talks by Messrs Howe and Sinclair were not covered because I forgot about them (again). Cecil Parkinson's address was not covered because he said nothing of any significance.

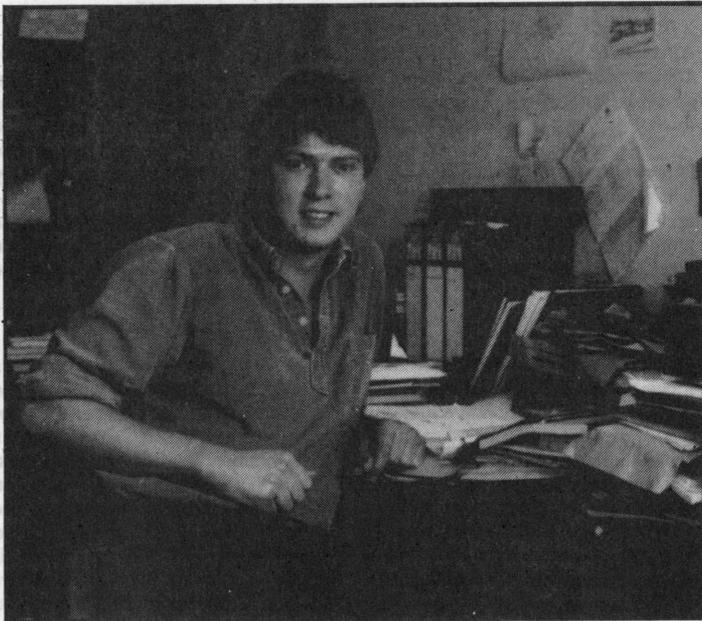
Earlier this term FELIX was attacked for giving too many column inches to Leon Brittan and Peter Goosen of the South African Embassy. Our policy is to cover as much news as we can as accurately as possible. If there are any more self-righteous bigots who are thinking of writing in they can save themselves the trouble; I have no interest in this sort of correspondence.

Credits

Many thanks to the following for their help on this issue and on FELIX throughout the term: Dave Burns, Kamala Sen, Pippa Salmon, Nigel Whitfield, Andy Bannister, Chris Martin, Chris Edwards, Judith Hackney, Dave Williams, Liz Holford, Charles Robin, Stuart MacFarlane, Aidan Kershaw, Sarah Kirk, Robert Daniel, Chas Jackson, Rachel Black, Jane Spiegel, Bill Goodwin, Gail Turner, Francis Miers, Sundiatu Dixon-Fyle, Al Birch, Hugh Southey, Sunny Bains, David Rowe, David Bottomley, Christine Taig, Jackie Peirce, Dave Colley, Neil Motterram, Drain & Hamster, Aaron Kotcheff, special thanks to Rose Atkins and Steve Shackell.

Obituary

José Molina



On Monday the 9th of March José Molina, a Mexican PhD student in the Department of Mathematics, suffered a fatal accident at approximately 1.30pm when riding back home from Imperial. His death has deeply saddened his close friends and the whole community at Imperial College, especially the Latin American community, the Choir and Chamber Music societies and the Overseas Student Committee. José was a very bright and active student, with an endearing personality, extremely friendly and was greatly involved in many activities at IC.

José read Physics at Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana in Mexico City. He joined IC Physics Department in October 1981 to do a one-year MSc course in Applied Optics. During this course he showed a great potential to undertake research. He started his PhD in October 1983 under the supervision of Dr John Elgin and was, at the present moment, in the writing up stage prior to undertaking postdoctoral studies. Besides being a very capable student (he had already published four papers and given some seminars at Cambridge), José had great musical talent and organising skills. He was the Chairman of the Choir society from October 1985 to 1986 and the treasurer of the Overseas

Students Committee for three years, and still had the energy to perform a guitar concert with the Chamber Music society on the 2nd of March. Restless and unstoppable he was always ready to help and offer the best of himself to everybody. We have no doubt that with this great charm, intelligence and energy José would have achieved great things in his life. He will be greatly missed by us all. May he rest in peace.

Sara Smith-Pease, Juliet Joynson, Benjamin Macias, Dr John Elgin for the Mathematics Department, Joel Alonso on behalf of the Latin American Society, Hilary Todd on behalf of the IC Choir Society, Ini Urua on behalf of the Overseas Students Committee, Derik Wilson on behalf of the Chamber Music Society, Ann Wilson, Eurgenio Mendez, Luis Zenteno, Fernando and Ana Mendoza, Silvia Ruiz, Rina and Jorge Rojas, Gabriela Rueda, Silvana Zapacosta, Juan Martinez, Charles Penman, Antonia Estandia, Lizbeth and Benjamin Rogel, Doris Retsina, Ricardo Perez, Francisco Villaseñor, Javier Rosenblueth, Roberto Suzman, David and Sarai Juarez, Patricia Souza and other friends.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday March 18th at the Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Road.

“The usefulness of an engineer is proportional to the square of the number of people he knows”

Sir Harold Harding

Cynical at first glance, but don't get us wrong. A nod, a wink and a funny handshake won't get even an OC onto the Board of Directors. That isn't what we are about. However, look at it this way. If you try to learn everything for yourself from scratch you will never learn enough. Much better to have access to other people's knowledge so you can take short-cuts.

Who was Sir Harold Harding? Well if you don't ask, you'll never find out.



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Christine's Bits

The letter from a group of civil engineering postgraduates (FELIX 11/3) seems to have caused widespread consternation around the College. It is most ironic that it was printed when it was. Last Friday the Governing Body of Imperial College approved a plan to offset a large projected budget deficit. As well as increasing revenue from research contracts, the aim is to 'lose' one hundred staff and to recruit one hundred extra overseas students over the next year. Some of the one hundred staff will be academics transferred onto research grants but the majority it seems will be real job losses from academic, technical and non-technical staff. Since the academics hold the balance of power at College it is not difficult to imagine where most of the job losses will actually come from. It's worth noting that there is nobody on Governing Body to represent the non-academic staff; it seems to fall to the Students' Union and those external governors with Trade Union sympathies to attempt to put forward their viewpoints.

As for recruiting a hundred extra overseas students, it would be ludicrous to pretend that this extra

increase in numbers (regardless of nationality) is not going to put considerable strain on central, departmental and accommodation facilities.

The plan approved by the Governors may be felt to be essential, but its effects are likely to be damaging; fewer "teachers", even more emphasis on research; less technical support; more overcrowding; even worse accommodation shortage. Sad day indeed.

Was it Worth it?

In today's financial climate it is inevitable that students (especially from overseas) are seen more and more as Income to the College. Recruitment has to be done, but there should at least be some honest about the situation.

How many students here feel they were misled by IC's recruitment drive? Most of the recruitment literature I have seen is pretty honest about things like accommodation but how true a picture it paints of the academic life in departments it is hard to say. (Incidentally this is why the Union's Alternative Prospectus is so necessary) I can only hope that the

complaints outlined in the letter in the last FELIX are not too widespread.

As for those particular complaints, they have not gone unnoticed by the College, but if some of the students concerned would contact me (int 3501) or Gareth Fish, the Union's PG Academic Affairs Officer (via Union Office) we will follow up your specific problems as far as possible. This applies to any other postgrads with academic grievances. Alternatively you could contact your department's PG tutor—who is supposed to deal with problems like this.

Information and Publicity

It seems I owe everybody an apology for my part in failing to publicise the big NUS march a few weeks back. This was not due to any wish to keep Imperial as insular as possible. As the NUS send IC Union no information we (ie, Union Officers) learn about such matters in much the same way as anybody else. It is most unfortunate that none of us who were vaguely aware of the event remembered to put it in FELIX.

There does seem to be a separate information problem here, though. Take the ULU 50% cuts situation for example. If we can have 4000 leaflets distributed in FELIX, several articles in FELIX including a front page headline, two UGM motions, a guest speaker and a poster campaign—and still be told that the Union had not told the students anything about it (letters,

FELIX 6/3) then I wonder where the problem really lies. Unfortunately four sabbaticals can't be omnipresent to tell everyone about everything in person. After the sabbaticals and staff, a students' union is only as good as the students who get involved in it, after all. Constructive suggestions and practical help are more than welcome from anyone who thinks we should be doing better.

Norman's Lives On

The good news is that the Union Snack Bar will be open as usual during the day time over Easter. So anyone who's still around can get real food, real coffee, etc, etc, at probably the cheapest prices in London—without those awful term-time queues. Ground Floor, Union Building, Beit Quad—for anyone who's not discovered it yet.

Finally

A request for volunteers (particularly women) to work for the Women's National Cancer Control Campaign. WNCCC produces information about cervical and breast cancer detection and organises seven mobile screening clinics. They are flexible about hours and are based near College, off Park Lane—so if anyone can spare them a few hours a week, let me know and I'll give you further details.

That's all for now, have a good Easter break...

Love Christine.

Opinion; Bedtime for Democracy?

Mark Cottle

Having been severely disillusioned by the recent fiasco of a Presidential election I am convinced that the Union Constitution needs re-examining. It is apparent from student reaction to Union General Meetings that the Union is failing to attract the interest of its members to important matters which may affect their facilities, welfare and rights. In this situation it is clearly possible that the Union could eventually end up being run by anyone who cares to be pushy enough, with no regard for anyone who disagrees with them.

The most important part of the Union in terms of whether it serves its members or tries to make them serve it, is the Executive. A poor Executive will impose its own opinions rather than represent other people's. Last year's President and DP were severely censured for this attitude, but little could be done to actually make them take any notice. We can either pray for saintly people to be elected or look at the whole Constitution to find ways in which the flow of opinion from students to their representatives can be made more effective.

One obvious thing to do is make sure you are electing the right people.

It is unfortunate that all electors in College-wide elections have to judge candidates on the information produced by those candidates. There are UGM speeches and questions but these are very limited. I would like to see some way for candidates to be personally challenged. At least in national elections we can see politicians being grilled by interviewers. Of course there are problems of media bias. There is also a good case for restricting questions to keep out spiteful personal attacks. But the electorate has a right to challenge those who seek to lead it. I find it very worrying when I encounter people who try to clamp down on freedom to speak out and question as happened at the beginning of the Hustings UGM.

My second point about elections concerns the role of the returning officer and the election committee in interpreting the election rules. This year Dave Colley has been zealous in his enforcement of the rules. Unfortunately he has also been rather erratic in his interpretation of those rules and has occasionally come close to allowing his own personal opinion to override them. It has always seemed to me that if something is not

specifically and explicitly laid down in such rules then it is not up to one person to decide "the spirit of the rules" and effectively decide a new one. I realise Dave was trying to be fair in his own mind but I still find his action disturbing.

Finally on a more positive note I want to suggest that the representation system in the Union is overhauled. Most people do not want to have to sit through long and boring meetings just to take an interest in one or two points. Therefore I suggest we come up with some way to cut down the amount of bickering on political issues that occurs at UGMs. If there was an alternative forum for debate of all types to which interested parties could go, then only more meaningful business could be sent on to a UGM. This would cut out irrelevant motions such as those concerning national political issues un-related to students and joke motions. I hope the Union Planning Group might consider ideas along these lines with particular attention to the future role of Council and the Exec.

Additionally, I don't think the system of elected reps of all sorts is necessarily the best way of gathering the views of students generally. I

would like to see a better use of surveys and referendums to try to get a response from people who would not normally attend committees. This year's survey which I helped produce has shown that it is possible to get an extremely useful response in such a manner. The survey inevitably had its flaws which are now revealed, I hope whoever is around next year will learn from this experience. Ultimately if student unions won't try to be experimental models for new democracy what hope is there elsewhere?

WELLSOC MEMBERS

are invited to submit articles or stories for next year's Wellsian. Prizes of £10 and £5 for the best entries

If a complete story of this year's sabbatical election campaigns were to be written it would have to start some time around the mid 1960s. All this year's candidates were mere babes at the time, and all were quite clearly dropped on their head before their skull had a chance to harden, otherwise they would have gone out and got a proper job instead of poncing around at Imperial for another year.

However this account will confine itself to the more recent events. It is now 1986, and the unfortunate children mentioned above have done a reasonable impression of growing up and are now bickering their way through numerous committees at IC Union—not realising that these revered institutions were set up to keep them out of the way of real students. Some attempt to make a name for themselves by proposing silly motions that the Chair stuff a pair of the president's socks up his nose (they're just so wacky these students!). Others threaten to storm out if anyone disagrees with them—this rather backfires if no one cares about their departure.

Autumn is here, and already Ian Howgate is making a huge effort to get his name into print. He has failed dismally in the storming out battle by charging off into the wilderness at the Silwood council meeting before realising he's 30 miles from anywhere with no way to get home till it finishes! He's also writing long and boring letters complaining that the FELIX news staff are out to get him. His principal target is professional drop-out Mark Cottle. As paranoia is one of the first characteristics of a sabbatical this appears a good move.

As this term commenced more candidates started appearing. Alan Rose (who is to Imperial College what...err...Alan Rose is to Imperial College) began to drool at the mention of a ballot paper. Meanwhile at FELIX, Chris Edwards (the man who gave art a bad name) was trying to take on every piece of artwork in college. Judith Hackney also seemed eager, and Grenville Manuel was taking elocution lessons in an attempt to lose his phoney "working class" accent. No one showed much interest in becoming Deputy President or Hon Sec, thus proving that three years of academic work at Imperial doesn't send everybody crazy after all.

Then the election papers went up. The starting gun...they're off! Alan Rose immediately put his name up for Deputy President, for no particularly valid reason—maybe he was standing as a joke candidate. If so the joke probably doesn't look so funny now that he's been elected unopposed.

Talking of joke candidates going sour, the first person to throw a hat into the ring for the job of Chief Pratt (ie President) was Bill Goodwin, of Mech Eng 2. With the backing of the mighty QT Soc joke machine behind him he stood on a 'Charlie Chaplin' platform. Ian Howgate also signed up, standing on any platform he could find. In addition someone from

Holland who just happened to be passing through the building put his name up for Deputy President, and was promptly disqualified by Dave Colley, who as Returning Officer had started on a moral crusade to see that the torch of democracy burned bright at Imperial.

Chas Jackson and Symon Corns decided to run for Hon Sec, despite the fact that both knew that the post could be done by someone with the intelligence of an electric toothbrush.

Miss Hackney and Mr Edwards put their names up for FELIX Editor. The FELIX election was targeted for particular attention by the Rev Dave Colley because both the candidates had romantic links with people controlling the student media. Judith Hackney was romantically linked with Dave Jones, this year's FELIX Editor, and Chris Edwards was deeply involved with someone who was running Graffiti Club (himself).

As the papers were taken down the campaigning started. Bill Goodwin's posters consisted of the words 'Vote for Bill' in letters 2mm high on an A3 sheet, obviously unaware that the last time subtly achieved results in Imperial College was 1932. Chris Edwards had huge flashy posters which had been silkscreened, but a silk screen is no substitute for imagination. The bookshop started to sell hundreds of black marker pens as beards, pipes, moustaches and obscene speech bubbles began to appear faster than willies at a barnight.

Symon Corns revealed his true strategy by producing only two posters, both of which were put up in the Guilds Union Office.

The next event was the Hustings UGM, where all the candidates get a chance to force their unrealistic policies down the throats of the great masses. However the great masses decided that enough was enough, and decided not to attend.

The meeting therefore took place in front of a dismal crowd, with the Rev Dave Colley getting all upset because some candidates were getting hit by paper darts more often than others. Arch-funster Mark Cottle proposed a motion saying that an abstain campaign be allowed, which Howgate associate Dave Lowrie objected to. When the meeting had shown that it thought a 'campaign' should be allowed (obviously less than enthralled about the candidates on show) Dave Lowrie tried to end the meeting before the speeches had even started. However a little imagination by those in control kept the show on the road, and Lowrie adopted the usual Howgate rearguard tactic (storming out to sulk).

The speeches were less than enthralling. Bill Goodwin managed to rescue a damsel in distress who had been carried away by an evil villain, while Ian Howgate scored maximum points on the snorometer and no one got carried anywhere. Alan Rose, unopposed DP, stood up and managed to give everybody a lecture on how amazing and wonderful he was which

gave everyone a good laugh until they realised that he really meant it.

The hustings for Hon Sec were less eventful, as both Chas Jackson and Symon Corns were serious candidates who wanted to do the job. The same was true with the speeches for FELIX Editor, although some of the claims made by one candidate must have been less than serious. Even the dozing audience were sussed enough to figure that claiming you single handedly do everything on the paper, and then claiming it will be better when you take over and do everything, is pushing it a bit!

The next piece of excitement was the Presidential campaign, where Bill Goodwin and Ian Howgate started to run each others' campaigns. Having been rather left out of the fun so far nutty anarchist and 'Grensheet' editor Grenville Manuel decided to object on the basis that this threatened his claim to the title of "college's wackiest man". Meanwhile Rev. Colley was engaging in some anarchy of his own by inventing rules to allow joke publicity and then getting his committee to overturn them. This particularly annoyed poor innocent Bill who had spent lots of money trying to be a complete joke only to be taken completely seriously!

It now became clear that the real contest was between Messrs Colley and Goodwin to see who could be most irrational. Mr. Colley insisted that only he knew the spirit of the rules while everyone else insisted this sounded like dictatorship. Mr. Goodwin struck back by telling people on an alternate basis that he was,

- 1) A joke candidate put up by QT Soc
- 2) A serious candidate put up by Charlie Chaplin.
- 3) A joke candidate put up by Ian Howgate.
- 4) A serious joke who was putting up with Ian Howgate.
- 5) Next year's president.
- 6) This year's president.
- 7) Ian Howgate.
- 8) ...that's enough serious jokes-Ed.

Miffed by the fact that he was coming last in everything Ian stormed out and in doing so produced his only effective propaganda of the entire campaign. Then everyone who'd been taking things as a joke took them seriously and everyone who'd been taking things seriously declared it was all a joke. The election committee decided it was a farce (which most of the voters had realised from the beginning) and invalidated the election.

No one seemed too upset by the results of the valid elections. Meanwhile the defeated crept off to be consoled by their friends and Accomodation Officer and union hack counsellor Lesley Gillingham. So now we can look forward to a re-run and the chance to see the same bunch of professional egotists appearing soon on walls and leaflets everywhere—it really isn't so different from all those old silent slapstick films they put on TV when there's nothing else to fill the gaps!



It was during the 1950's that the term Third World was first coined. A Chinese Foreign Minister observed that the world had become divided into three clear areas, the First World, that of the superpowers, the Second World, that of the industrialised Northern nations, and the Third World, that of the post colonial, underdeveloped nations. In more recent years it has become fashionable to consider the divide as being purely between Northern countries, where "Western Civilisation" was born, and the Southern nations, which industrialisation had passed by.

Examination of precisely where the more modern industrialised nations fall geographically, shows the divide to be less clear. Exceptions to the idea of a strict North-South divide are manifest in the area around the Pacific Basin, and the Middle East. Efforts at lumping nations together because of their geographical location are probably too simplistic, and it might be better to consider the problem of World poverty in a less divisive manner. Even the initial premiss, that

come about without full cooperation, and dramatic alterations in the attitude of the Northern states. The industrialised nations, it decided, must aid the situation by "helping the developing countries to pay their own way." The increased interdependence of the North and South meant that economic reform on the part of the North would ensure its own future economic prosperity.

The Commission questioned the desirability of maintaining high rates of economic growth in the developing nations at the expense of exhaustible natural resources, and also to the detriment of the environment. The terrible inroads into our finite areas of rainforest came about as a direct result of developing nations stripping a resource which would bring in valuable income. The morality of Northern pontification about such a situation could not be justified unless they provided suggestions as to alternatives. Nor could it be justified, when it was industrial demand in the North which provided the markets for such raw materials.

broke in 1973 dealt a heavy blow to hopes for economic enlightenment in the North. The irony of the oil crisis was that although the non-industrialised oil producing countries of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries were key in causing the crisis, the economic backlash struck the other non-industrialised countries just as hard as it hit the North.

The poorer nations of the world can only realise their economic potential if they are assisted by the North in becoming producers of goods, rather than mere exporters of raw materials. As they become increasingly prosperous, openings will increase for trade between the developed and developing nations. There could be a period when the North would be contributing more than it received in the way of new markets, but eventually, the Third World would become sufficiently prosperous that mutually beneficial trade would be possible.

The massive debt which developing countries have amassed in their quest

finance for the developing nations is likely to dry up, and a large part of the North's banking system is going to collapse with it.

The major draw back with much of the current lending to the Third World is that the greater part of it is devoted to investment in programmes which do not produce financial rewards in the time allowed to pay off the debt. The Commission urged greater direct injection of finance into Third World economies. This would have to be carefully monitored, as in order to produce satisfactory social improvement, such a flow of cash must be directed towards infrastructure investment. Much of the wealth obtained by the oil rich states was observed by the Commission to have passed out of the reach of the majority of the people in those countries, and had little impact on their standard of living.

The fate of the very poorest nations on earth was singled out as deserving special and unique attention. For many of these nations, their plight is not just one of poor economy, but one

NORTH-SOUTH

0°

David Burns

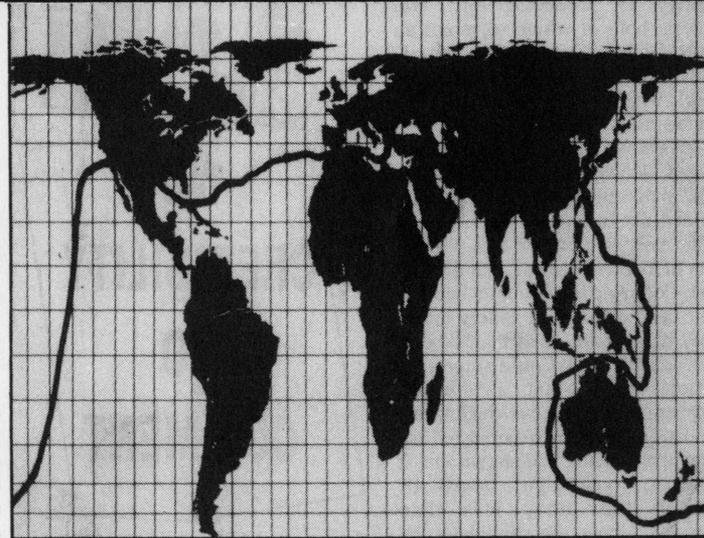
The plight of developing nations

the World is comprised of three groups of nations, has become outdated, with the advent of emerging industrialisation in many areas.

Continuing poverty, famine, national debt and war throughout the globe have spurred on the formation of numerous organisations, the writing of a multiplicity of reports, and massive aid campaigns over the past thirty years. Still, many nations remain grossly underdeveloped, and desparately poor.

In 1980, one of the most wide ranging and constructive reports for many years was produced by the Independent Commission on International Development Issues, under the chairmanship of Willy Brandt. With opinion from all sides of the problem, the lamentable exception being the Soviet Bloc, their "Programme For Survival" forms the most objective examination of all aspects of World development ever attempted.

The fact that the underdeveloped nations are dependent on the industrialised nations in economic and material terms is of great concern to the Commission. Over 90% of the world's manufacturing industry is based in the North, and although the Third World has a strangle hold on raw materials, it relies on Northern technology to extract them. It can be seen, and was concluded by the Commission, that improvement in the situation of the Third World cannot



The Third World has therefore been at pains to negotiate more just economic trade agreements, the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs being a particular target for reform. The modest recession of the early seventies meant that the North was less susceptible to the South's demands for fairer international trade agreements, which they viewed as detrimental to their shaky economies. It has always been a problem that the North is unwilling to make economic concessions at times when it is suffering from its own monetary troubles, and the Oil Crisis which

for rapid economic development is also a cause for great concern. Nearly 40% of the developing countries' debt is carried by the private banking markets of the North. Spiralling repayments have crippled many poorer nations' economic growth. Loans are then taken out to service loans which are due for repayment. The whole uncertain business of borrowing and repayment is just holding together, and the newly industrialised nations are barely managing to hold their heads above water. However, if the unsteady accumulation of debt collapses,

of a harsh climate and deteriorating ecosystem which threatens to make their lands incapable of supporting the population. Major programmes of reforestation, soil management, energy and mineral development, communications and improved health facilities were all recommended. There can be no question of these nations being able to support this type of move on their own, and international cooperation in the North to alleviate the crisis is the only possible course of action.

In all efforts to promote development in what is, rightly or wrongly, termed the Third World, national differences are encountered which impede the process. The very fact that many developing countries already devote huge sums to armaments to fight their neighbouring states, hinders their development. It is the North which supplies those arms, although disturbingly, the emerging nations are nurturing their own arms industries to produce more finance. The light may dawn on both superpower blocs, and the arms supply from the North dry up, but could we then justify intervention to prevent the spread of Third World arms? It is just another illustration that it is not only the North which has to come to its senses in the effort to produce a decent world for all. The "Programme For Survival" will be a global effort, if we are all to survive.

The death penalty has been abolished in more than ten countries since 1977, reflecting the worldwide trend away from execution as a form of punishment. During this time, there has been an upsurge in the number of death sentences and of executions in the United States of America. Amnesty International considers that the death penalty is a "cruel and inhuman punishment, brutalising to all who are involved in the process." Its unconditional opposition is based on the belief that no crime, no matter how repugnant, can justifiably be responded to by the cruel treatment of prisoners. The United States come under special scrutiny, being one of the very few western states to retain the death penalty.

The advocates of the death penalty often claim that it acts as a deterrent. However, many papers which have been written on the subject (including those by official UN and US researchers) have concluded that most intending murderers do not consider the consequences of their actions.

Twenty eight American states

Texas between 1973 and 1977, blacks who killed whites were at least five times more likely to receive a death sentence than whites who killed whites. In addition, in Florida, blacks who killed whites were 40 times more likely to be sentenced to death than those whose victims were black.

It has been suggested that the correlation of low social standing with death sentences is due to the lack of public sympathy for such people. However, a far more obvious factor is their inability to hire good defence

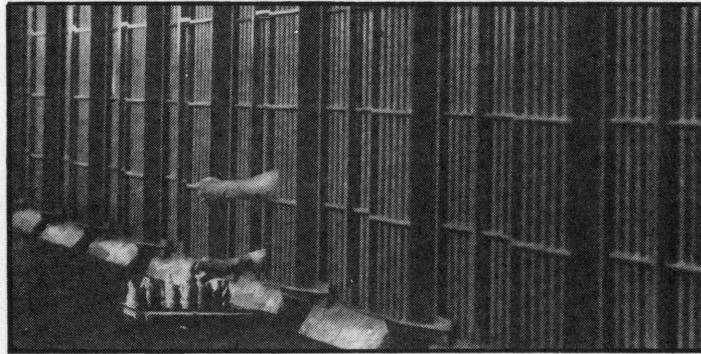
conviction-prone and less concerned about constitutional rights and wrong convictions than juries which were representative of the general public's view. This was deemed to be a violation of the defendant's rights.

The practice of "plea-bargaining" also produces some unexpected sentences. The prosecuting counsel may decide to offer not to prosecute for a capital offence, if the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offence or agrees to testify against a co-defendant. Texas juries also take into

hostage with his accomplice and was buying petrol at the time of the murder. The Georgia Supreme Court found that although he did no commit murder, he "should not have left the victim alone with a man he knew to be dangerous."

The most disturbing justification for the death penalty is that it is a fitting form of retribution such "legal vengeance," the repetition of the very acts which society condemns, appears to be both immoral and illogical. No civilised country authorises the raping of rapists or the burning of arsonists' property. The taking of human life is far more serious an issue even than these matters. The innocent victims—the families of those on death row and of those executed, and indeed, those people wrongly executed (at least 23 in the USA this century) receive a far greater punishment than could ever reasonably be justified for the guilty.

Those sentenced to death do not just suffer the loss of life. They often spend many years on "death row", in most states confined for hours in



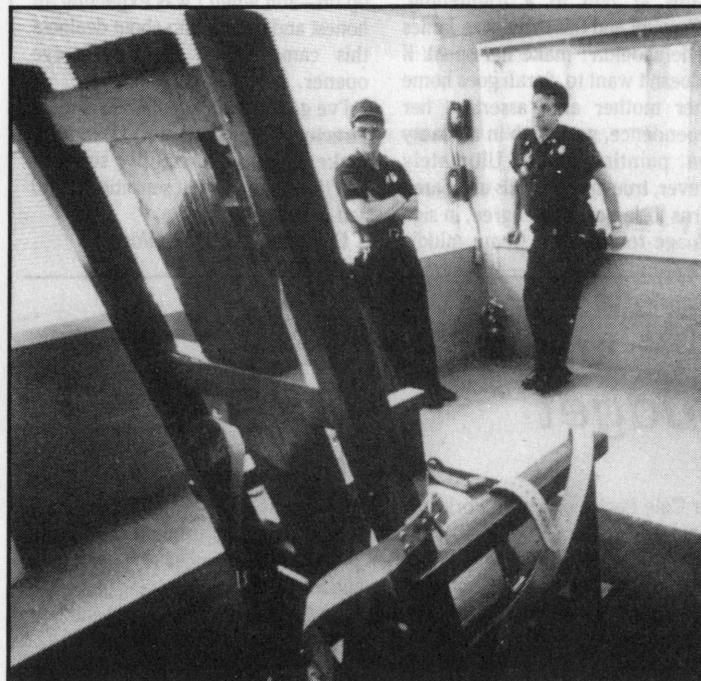
DEATH IN THE USA

Pippa Salmon looks at Amnesty International's campaign against the death penalty in the USA

authorise the execution of murderers who were under 18 at the time of the crime and there have been several recent cases of mentally retarded or ill defendants being sentenced to death. In one such case, the defendant had an IQ of only 65, with just 20 fewer he could have been institutionalised. Three of the eight known executions of under age offenders, since 1980, were in the United States, despite the US Government having signed international and national treaties rejecting such action.

Another argument in favour of execution is one of economy, preventing the expense of supporting a prisoner perhaps for fifty years or more. This overlooks the fact that capital trials necessarily involve an enormous amount of judicial time and great expense, which can be more than twice as much as the cost of life imprisonment. The belief that execution is necessary to protect society from the convicted murderers is unfounded: of the 2646 murderers who were released between 1900 and 1976 in 12 states, only 16 were convicted of later criminal homicides.

Many people have criticised the way in which the passing of the death sentence depends significantly on arbitrary factors such as race and social status, as well as location, composition of the jury and competence of the trial counsel. One study showed that in Florida and



lawyers. Between 1972 and 1976, 62% of those sentenced to death were unskilled and overall 60% were unemployed only 3% were professionals or technical workers.

The exclusion of capital juries in most states of those who oppose the death penalty is another apparent anomaly. An Arkansas court found that the resulting juries were more

account the projected "future dangerousness" of a defendant. These and other measures have resulted in such disparities that for example, in 1985, Doyle Skillern was executed just before his "equally guilty" accomplice became eligible for parole. Other strange results include the execution of Roosevelt Green who, having robbed a shop, left the

cells less than 6ft by 9ft, with no windows or natural light, poor sanitation and no opportunities for rehabilitation, with social or occupational facilities. Many prisoners as a result suffer mental or psychological damage and while this causes obvious problems for those later released, psychiatrists are often required to treat insane prisoners so that they might be fit for execution.

This, as well as the involvement of health personnel in the actual execution, raises serious questions about medical ethics. It is compounded by severe doubts as to the lack of physical cruelty involved in the death penalty itself. There have been well-documented reports of prisoners having prolonged convulsions when subjected to lethal gas, and cases of several electric shocks being required over a period of up to seventeen minutes before the prisoner could be declared dead. Even such methods as hanging, the firing squad or lethal injection have caused extreme pain to several prisoners.

The respected physicist and former Soviet dissident Andre Sakharov has declared "I regard the death penalty as a savage and immoral institution that undermines the moral and legal foundations of a society. I regret the notion that the death penalty has any essential deterrent effect on potential offenders. I am convinced that the contrary is true—that savagery begets only savagery."

FILMS

Children of a lesser God

This film is typical American crap which has predictably been nominated for hundreds of Oscars. It is the story of the search for 'true', 'profound' love between James Leeds (William Hurt), who is a hearing teacher of the deaf, and Sarah Norman (Martee Matlin) who is a completely deaf cleaner in a school for the deaf and hard of hearing. Marlee Matlin is actually hearing impaired in reality and so are all the actors who have parts as pupils at the school. This fact makes the film seem incredible in its badness. It is a sentimentalised idealised, glamourised, even pornographic rendition of romantic love, women, and deafness. Sarah Norman is portrayed as mysterious and beautiful in her deafness. James falls in love with her and persists with her until she reciprocates his feelings. He wins her over by falling into the school swimming pool which Sarah likes to swim in alone and naked (and the cameraman loves it). When James falls in the pool he is fully clothed, and the scene, although 'funny' and 'touching' has suggestions of the beautiful sensuous mermaid luring the sensitive male into the water where she seduce him. I found this inappropriate and therefore disturbing. When it is established that Sarah and James love each other they move in together and the film then focuses on the lovers' efforts to find adequate means of communication. Sarah's means of communication are sign language and sex, and she is brilliant at both. But this is not good enough for James. At the height of sexual passion he feels

he cannot get close enough to Sarah and wants her to be able to at least say his name. However, Sarah apparently discovered at an early age that when she tried to speak she didn't look beautiful anymore, so she gave up on learning to talk. No matter how hard James tries, Sarah won't try to speak. Although one night when James makes her desperate, Sarah



screams at him in a frightening, horrific way and this convinces James that he shouldn't make her speak if she doesn't want to. Sarah goes home to her mother and, asserting her independence, gets a job in a beauty salon painting nails. Ultimately however, true love prevails and Sarah returns to James. They agree, in sign language to work out some middle

realm of communication between speech and silence. What a happy crappy 'meaningful' ending. The music throughout contributes in working emotions up so that no one thinks too much. It even affected me, and I knew as soon as the film started that it was a really bad film: The opening sequence shows Sarah writhing frustratedly around in bed with make-

up on—and when I was expecting an honest and serious film about deafness this came as an immediate eye opener.

I've got nothing against this female director's (Randa Haines) attempt to make a film on an emotive subject I just think she made it sensational and self-defeatingly sexist.

Catherine Manolopoulos

Desolation
Rose

R2D2

Things are never as complicated as they seem. The only true complexity is uncertainty—everything else is pretension and artificiality. Yet there is a fundamental human drive which insists on the hidden meaning and the mystical interpretation. And this stems, illogically, from the insecurity and fear which drives most of us to the consoling gods of power, wackiness, and investigation. There are one thousand and one such gods and all of them sing in silence or suffer out of tune.

I browsed through the Serpentine Gallery yesterday. There was a room containing three lead spheres, each half a meter in diameter. The room was entitled 'The three thoughts' in the way rooms often are. I looked around and there were three spheres in a room...is there any need to elaborate or to regress into hidden meanings?

I crawled into the bar once and there they were. The flies. They were swarming and buzzing and flying into walls. The seventeen per cent enigma which forces one to reach for the insecticide. But then I am a fly myself. Be consoled. Be very consoled.

And now the thought of dinosaurs are plodding about my brain. They are quite unlike the neural crickets which chirped only a month ago. 'Raffle yourself' they said. There are no losers because the winners are losers. In retrospect the whole thing is satanic. A prostitution. There is no need to elaborate or to regress into hidden meaning.

Can you imagine how impractical it would be to spend one's life in a suit of armour? Consider the costs of dry cleaning, the problems of riding a bicycle, or addressing the United Nations in armour. And yet all of these things seem more practical to me than the personality armour of the politician or the short-sighted armoury of idealism in which the election candidates hide.

Quick, call the Rag Mag Editor, I feel a joke coming on. But jokes are not funny. The only funny thing is life, and even that's not funny.

THEATRE

"Shoestring Budget"

Money, Money, Money! West End musicals can't survive without it—and so the punter is forced to pick up the bill. But you do get dazzling lights, sets that really work, coming up through the floor, flying in from the rafters and everywhere else. The final product? Slick.

High Society is not a normal stage musical; anyone expecting a carbon copy of MGM's hit film of 1956 may as well save their pennies (and overdraft) as it's very different. Richard Eyre (Director of *Guys and Dolls*, NT) has taken the original songs and padded the stage version out with

other Cole Porter songs. It works, to a degree.

Trevor Eve, of *Shoestring* fame, takes over the lead and obviously enjoys himself, although Natasha Richardson manages to command our attention through the majority of the show. The chorus—in many cases, better singers and dancers than the stars—manage to keep a discreet distance for the large part, but completely take over in That's Jazz. As a film, *High Society* didn't have chorus numbers and so Eyre closes the first half with *Well Did You Ever?*, sung by stars and chorus alike. It

seems a shame that this particular song has lost its original duet form, although the chances of Trevor Eve and Stephen Rea improving upon The Crooner and Old Blue Eyes rendition is slim.

The songs that Crosby and Sinatra made so famous come across nicely but unfortunately the best number is not from the film. Angela Richards' rendition of *In the Still of the Night* is haunting and beautifully staged, simplicity rearing its head high above the razmatazz. If you can afford it, it's great fun, and if you can't well never mind, who wants to be a millionaire.

Glad to be gay, sad to be hated

In the past month or so a great deal of attention has been devoted to the subject of Gay and Lesbian people at Imperial College, with the co-opting onto Council of Robert Daniel as Lesbian and Gay welfare officer leading to a healthy level of debate in the FELIX letters page.

The above decision has been criticised, albeit constructively, by many who in my opinion do not fully understand the situation. I must admit that the atmosphere at Imperial College towards minorities is improving, however slowly. I don't think that this is nearly enough.

One of the functions of any education should be, as the cliché has it, to prepare the individual for life. My interpretation of this is that the childhood or teenage prejudices people entertain when they arrive here should for the most part have vanished by the time they leave, hopefully producing a generation of responsible and open minded adults. I believe that with respect to the average attitude to homosexuality, Imperial is failing, and badly.

For Gays and Lesbians, the

atmosphere here is not good. The degree of hostility and ignorance displayed by some has to be seen to be believed. All the old clichés which I thought had gone for good have been trotted out in conversation by people who I had previously regarded as being intelligent and aware. Lines like:

"Of course, when queer men do it, there's so much blood about"

"While you are setting up a Gaysoc, why don't you set up a Child Molester soc for good measure?"

"Most of these homos are commies you know."

"Hitler may have been rough on the Jews, but he had the right idea about pansies."

—and one which really made me laugh:

"I don't mind you being...er...gay, but you'd better keep away from my daughter!"

No, I don't understand that one either.

Seeing these stupidities in cold print does make you realise that society in general, and Imperial in particular, has a problem. People don't seem to

realise that such statements can be extremely hurtful. Even the best we can expect is not great. Several people have said to me:

"It's OK by me if you're gay, as long as you don't mess with me." I suppose this is well meant, but I still find it rather insulting. Why should I want to mess with them anyway? As for the other sentiments above, I can assure readers that I am not a commie or a child molester, and if there really was a lot of blood about when I 'did it' I certainly wouldn't 'do it' at all.

Mind you, remember that this sort of thing is about the best we can expect from a lot of people. The worst can be very bad indeed.

I spent my last summer vacation at home in Cornwall, and towards the end of the holiday I was attacked by three men with knives; despite my best efforts I wound up in hospital. The reason for the attack was simple: They had discovered that I was gay. This was the only reason. I had neither robbed them, assaulted them or threatened them. I didn't even know them. I am sure you can understand my wish to promote a society in which

this doesn't happen.

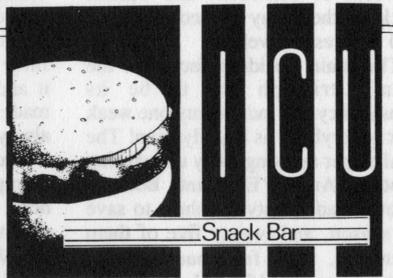
How can this be done? Obviously, people have to be shown that their fears and prejudices are groundless. Gays and Lesbians need to stand up and say: "Look, here I am. I'm not so bad really, am I?"

I realise that this is the hell of a step to take. I should know: I have. Encouragingly, at least at Imperial, I have had very little hassle...yet. Having said that, it is not for me to tell people to 'come out of the closet' at Imperial. This is a decision which can only be made by the individual. I do feel, though, that the more who do this, the better it will be for all of us, gay or not. Remember that many here have never met anyone who has declared themselves homosexual: How can they know what we are like?

In years to come, I would like to be able to write about this subject without using the words 'us' and 'them'. If this is to happen, the change must come from everyone.

Let's try, shall we?

Andrew Bannister



'NORMAN'S'

**WILL BE OPEN FOR
THE EASTER VAC
AT LUNCHTIMES
WEEKDAYS UNTIL
FRIDAY 10TH APRIL**

**"All the usual fine food and sarcasm"
(The Union Bar will be open as well)**

UROP '87

The 1987 Directory for the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme is now available from your Departmental Vacation Training Officer. About 120 members of staff are offering undergraduates the chance to join in their research and the Directory gives the details.

The name of the game is participation and undergraduates joining the scheme will be working, in their own time, alongside postgraduates and research assistants, on an actual research programme. Whilst you can start at any time, the main activities are in the vacations. In the summer, many of the supervisors are able to offer payment for your efforts. The scheme is organised so that the payment is in the form of a bursary, so you don't pay tax or NHI contributions and foreign students do not need a work permit. Whilst the amount is negotiable with your supervisor, the recommended maximum is £75 per week for ten weeks.

This year the Old Centralians are offering some summer bursaries for City & Guilds students to work in UROP. Applications have to be in by the end of term.

After a successful try-out last year, the University of Delaware in the States is offering five UROP places for IC students this summer. Details are given in the Directory.

To get your copy, see your Departmental Vacation Training Officer or contact Professor J C Anderson, Room 713, Electrical Engineering Department.

Rowing, Saturday March 7th; Reading Head
IC beat Oxford

Rowing success

Imperial College beat Oxford's Boatrace crew. But Imperial's extraordinary coach Bill Mason was far from happy. Make no mistake, however, Imperial has now proved itself superior to Oxford.

The confrontation took place at Reading Head. Imperial were contesting the inaugural race for the *Mackintosh Trophy*, awarded to the fastest university crew. Conditions could hardly have been worse: sporadic snowfalls and a strong wind conspired against the competitors. The wind whipped up large waves and the snow dampened everyone's enthusiasm for a fifteen minute race.

In a head race crews row over a set course, one team following the next after a gap of around fifteen seconds. Hence, the result cannot be assessed immediately. Bill Mason (once Olympic silver medallist) saw his first eight row past three places behind Oxford. IC Looked to be performing so much below their usual potential that Bill hardly recognised them. The crew felt the same way about their

row and were utterly disconsolate. Imagine their surprise the, when the results were announced. Despite so obviously failing to perform as expected, IC beat Oxford and ran away with the *Mackintosh Trophy*.

The second eight were likewise frustrated with their performance. But, their disappointment also belied a magnificent performance. They came second in the *Mackintosh Trophy* and also second in the Senior A division. Perhaps only four other university first crews could perform as well as this.

Imperial's success extended to the two other crews racing. Imperial stole the Senior C pennant and also won the novice category. The Novices in particular performed extraordinarily well. They rowed in a thirty year-old wooden boat, which looked quaint and ungainly beside the modern lightweight boats used by all their adversaries. Despite this disadvantage the novices, who all learned to row at IC this year beat their nearest rivals convincingly.

RSM Football

Forename "nickname" surname



Once again, for the second season in succession, RSM 1sts have emerged victorious, this time finishing as champions of Division One by a massive margin. The side maintained its superb early form after the mad beer-drinking excesses of Christmas to vanquish the mealy-mouthed opposition to all-comers, and earn the right to hammer IC 1sts into submission next season, while at the same time packing the yokels and inbreeds of Camborne and Cardiff back on their way by scores of 4-2 and 7-1 respectively.

The main deciding factor in the team's triumph has to be its consistency and lack of any one weak link; everybody is equally crap! The goalkeeper and singularly uninspiring captain Andy 'Elephant Bottom' Reeves had twenty six shots to save all season, and twenty five of them went in, the full backs Dave Conneybeare and Tim Hardwick are always steady (a.k.a. useless) while the central defenders, Alex 'Chopper'

Wardle, Keith McScotty, Old Man Nige Owen and Trevor Watkins are all noted for leaving silvery trails wherever they may go.

The midfield comprised Martin Brook, Andy Lett, Steve Woodward, Phil Fury, Gurel Turk and Dave Bumzdoggs and they constituted the most foul-mouthed, unpleasant, unwashed, slovenly group of raving homosexuals ever unfit to grace God's clean earth. The attack scored occasionally but was generally to be seen disappearing over the horizon or waving to the crowd. Still, Amin Jafar Cake and Tim 'if it moves kick it and if it doesn't, glass it' Fisher made up the numbers and were always good Canadians.

Eddie Gadd played once and got cramp after twenty minutes. And here, for the record, are the vital statistics:

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
18	15	1	2	62	17	31

Top scorer: Amin Jafar—22
Player of the year: Top secret

Pistol Competition, Wednesday March 4th; UCL, Kings College, LSE and IC

Pistol over the opposition

Rifle and Pistol Club

It was 6 o'clock on March 4th when the teams arrived at the range for the ULU pistol competition, four teams of four people were competing from UCL, Kings College, the LSE and of course IC. Each team member was to shoot ten shots at each of two targets giving a maximum team score of 800. There was also to be an individual top ten competition. As the competition progressed it quickly became obvious that only two teams would be in contention for first place, IC and Kings.

Although the scores were only announced at the end, King's had evidently been out-psyched by a superb IC team performance. It began when our first shooter S Considine dropped one shot due to running out of time and still scored more than their best. Our next two both scored very highly, tying for top score. The honours went to P Deeks over S Brooker on the number of inner bulls. Even the supposed 'weak link' in the form of last minute sub R Winskill came 4th individually. When the final scores were announced the expected IC domination was confirmed. The

final scores were:

Team scores	Individual comp.
IC 701	1) P Deeks 180
King's 548	2) S Brooker 180
LSE 405	3) S Considine 174
UCL 327	4) R Winskill 167

Football, Wednesday 4th March; IC 2, St George's 4 (Cobham)

Moral victory

After last Wednesday's victory over St George's at Harlington, a slightly different IC sixth team departed for Cobham on 4th March for their last game of the season.

The sixths were immediately disadvantaged (not just by missing the train) since this week's three mystery players went by car and never arrived. So, cruelly reduced to eight men, the sixths, with a combination of teamwork and an outstanding performance in defence from Brian Radukic, battled well and were unlucky to be 3-1 down at half time. The St George's goals all came from

penalty-area scrambles when the man to man-and-a-half marking system broke down.

In the second half St George's scored after ten minutes to go. Irwin Chin playing his last game for Imperial again narrowed the deficit with his second and better goal of the match and season. Having rounded a defender from Mike Harper's through ball, a delicate chip beat the oncoming goalkeeper, to make the score 4-2.

Swapping goalkeeper Mike Kemp with the now cramp-stricken Irwin Chin didn't produce any more goals and so with a moral victory the sixths

retired to the bar to make the most of a surfeit of tea tickets.

Thanks to all 36 players who have made intermittent appearances this season and have shown a level of commitment and enthusiasm worthy of any team in the club making my job far easier. I hope they have enjoyed playing as much as I have enjoyed captaincy.

The team: M Kemp, I Chin, M Harper, B Radukic, C Knight-Evans, H Shah, A Bamford (Capt), A Gamble. Missing presumed dead: M Radley, R Dark, K Hillier.

Water Polo Saturday 28th Feb; IC in 4th position

Refreshing game

IC water polo team's first match in this year's UAU national finals in Shrewsbury was a comfortable 14-6 victory over Sheffield. The result made IC overnight leaders with the evening's other two matches, Birmingham vs Liverpool and Liverpool vs Bristol ending in draws.

IC's first game on Saturday, against our arch-rivals Bristol, was closely fought as expected. For 3½ quarters there was nothing to choose between the sides at 5-5, but with about 2 minutes left Bristol edged ahead. They added another in the closing seconds as IC threw everything

forward in an attempt to equalise.

IC's next game against Liverpool was another hard fought contest with neither side giving anything away. However, a loss of concentration in the 3rd quarter saw IC slip from 5-4 up to 10-5 down. A spirited fight back in the 4th quarter ensued but with time on their side Liverpool finished 11-8 winners.

As IC entered the last game of the tournament, against Birmingham, we knew we could only finish 4th. However, Birmingham needed to win to take the trophy, a draw or loss allowing Liverpool overall victory.

So Birmingham won the trophy again. As for IC, we won much praise for our play, the quality of which is not reflected in our overall position of 4th. The whole 13 played their best in this fine team performance but special praise must go to the first 7 players whose resilience and determination took us "so near—and yet so far!"

The team: D Wall (C), R Pearson, P Richardson, A Langman, S Davis, J Street, N. Irland, M Dixon, N Mayall, P Jackson, N Rothwell, P Dunne, J Moore

Hockey Sunday 8th March Stephenson's Cup

Inter CCU competition

Last Sunday at Harlington the three CCU hockey teams met to play for the Stephenson's Cup. The first game was between RSM and RCS. RSM finished the first half leading by only 1-0 despite much pressure. The second half was very hard fought, the final score being a 2-2 draw. The next game between RSM and C & G saw a relatively uneventful first half but within 30 seconds of the second half RSM had taken the lead thanks to Mark Rayfield. This was to set the tempo of the rest of the game, the final score being 4-3 to RSM.

This left RCS with the task of

beating C & G by two goals to be sure of winning the cup. They began well, taking a 2-0 lead fairly early on against a slightly tired looking C & G. However, C & G did not give up by any means but battled back to draw the game 2-2, their second goal coming from a short corner within seconds of the final whistle. As a result RSM retained the Stephenson's Cup for the second year, thus rounding off a very successful season in which they also beat Camborne and almost certainly gained promotion into the ULU first division.

Alasdair Martin, RSM Club Capt.

SocSoc

We are still active and have two speakers coming up soon:

April 29th—Austin Mitchell MP. He is a former broadcaster and Labour MP for Great Grimsby.

May 5th—Denzil Davies MP. He is the Labour front bench spokesman on defence and will be talking on the unilateralist defence policy that the Labour Party will adopt if elected. Denzil Davies will be speaking in Huxley 340 at 1.00pm

Our AGM is coming up soon and will take place on May 12th at 1.00pm.

Bridge too far

The intrepid bridge club team made a trip to the frozen wastelands of Bath to meet the country bumpkins in the quarter finals of the Portland Bowl—the premier knockout universities teams competition.

Having brilliantly trounced Reading University in the last round by turning up, we prepared for the next round of battle by pitching camp in Bath, flying the IC flag. After arduous discussion of bidding and tactical strategy, the team lost the psychological advantage by playing Black Maria to the early hours of Sunday morning.

This may have accounted for being 31 International Match Points down at the half way stage—equivalent to being 10-0 down to Liverpool. In spite of...*look, you lot, this bit just doesn't make any sense at all...* put up a valiant rearguard action to spin off three small slams in a row to pull back 25 IMPs in the next quarter.

After this breath taking comeback from the brink our heroes go forward to the finals of the Portman Bowl at the Café Royale over Easter.

FilmSoc presents...

Walt Disney Double Bill
This Thursday (March 19th) IC Film Soc presents a Walt Disney double bill starting with *The Sword in the Stone* and followed by *Winnie the Pooh and Tigger Too* in Mech Eng 220 (doors 7.30pm).

Walt Disney: American animator and executive whose name is a household word all over the world. Formerly a commercial artist he produced his first Mickey Mouse cartoon in 1928, using his own voice. He then went on to make some of the best movies ever and managed to pick up four Special Academy Awards and twenty-one (to my knowledge) Academy Awards for shorts. We have

picked two of the best examples of his work available on 16mm

The Sword in the Stone is set in the dark ages. A young forest boy named Wart becomes King Arthur. This feature Cartoon with several excellent sequences was one of the last of a dying breed. Soon after, economy of draughtsmanship showed up in a flatness on the screen.

Winnie the Pooh and Tigger Too—this classic tale needs no introduction. If you have seen it you no doubt will want to see it again, and if you haven't seen it then don't waste this opportunity of seeing this classic cartoon.

£1.00 non-members, 50p members.

One Last Time

Any copy which is not double-spaced or is in any way difficult to read will from now on be instantly binned. You have been warned!

This is a "Nasty Notices" production, in association with the FELIX "Creative Use of White Space" division

Thank you

The Environmental Society would like to express its thanks to all those who gave their support to Environmental Week, which was held in the College from March 6th—11th. The money raised through donations to the JCR stall and by the sale of books and posters will be donated to a Third World charity, so the week has been of benefit to the needy as well as an important step towards increasing environmental awareness.

Particular thanks are due to the many people who gave up their spare time to help organise the events, run the stall, and write articles for FELIX; also to the College authorities and IC Union for giving financial and material support.

Finally we must congratulate Stuart McFarlane, who has invested a huge amount of time and effort, on a mission accomplished. Without Stuart's hard work and dedication, Environmental Week would never have got off the ground, let alone been such a success.

Wise Owl

Sir Geoffrey Howe came to IC two weeks ago and spoke to almost 200 people about the Government's foreign policy and the benefits of free market economies to developing nations. He explained how "London School of Economics Socialism" has failed to help particular African states combat famine and disease, while a free market approach has enabled poverty to be overcome in comparable nations.

The Foreign Secretary put forward an alternative view of scientific developments and new technology to those of Huxley's "Brave New World," saying that modern communications are forcing totalitarian states to become more open, as has been observed in Russia. As to the West's approach to countries "East of the Iron Curtain" Sir Geoffrey reminded us that the Government's policy of negotiating about arms from a position of equality has resulted in Mr Gorbachev making proposals to reduce the number of all intermediate range missiles. Sir Geoffrey was certainly not advocating indiscriminate building of nuclear weaponry; he explained how a dialogue between the two sides of the Iron Curtain must be developed to create greater understanding and respect between the nations.

The power of the press

On the January 24th last year, five and a half thousand printworkers of the *Sun*, *The Times* and the *News of the World* went on strike and were dismissed. Rupert Murdoch, the paper's owner did not need them anymore. He had been putting the finishing touches to a new, high-tech plant in Wapping in the preceding months, and simply moved production there. The unions were powerless to stop him.

In the 70's this would have been unthinkable: No-one would have been prepared to operate the Wapping plant, and if they had tried, it would have been picketed en masse and nothing would have been able to get in or out. Moreover, nationwide distribution would have been paralysed: Murdoch would have been forced to give in.

This shift in strength was of course caused by the Thatcher government and the economic conditions prevailing since it came to power. The two main unions involved, the NGA and Sogat '82, did try to set the wheels of the once-formidable union network in motion, but they were frustrated at almost every turn by the new Trade Union Laws, Rupert Murdoch's careful planning and the change in attitudes since the 70s. Before they could even call for a strike, the Union leaders heeded a majority in a secret ballot or they would have been liable to prosecution and the sequestration of their funds at the hands of Murdoch's lawyers. They could not get the operators of the new plant to come out in sympathy: Years of high unemployment had made some unions, especially the Engineers and Electricians, agree to one-union factories and no-strike deals with new investors. All the printworkers in the Wapping plant came from the EETPU, the electricians' union. They were well paid and had no wish to be re-supplanted by the very people they had just replaced. They could still have throttled the Wapping plant by picketing, but the new Trade Union Laws forbade a picket to deny access forcibly to a place of work. The plant

was mass picketed anyway on several occasions, but it only led to pitched battles with the police which only led to bad publicity while achieving nothing. As for trying to prevent distribution, not only were the distribution workers very reluctant to 'black' Murdoch's newspapers, but Murdoch had also bypassed them with an alternative distribution system using a road haulage firm, TNT, instead of the traditional railways.

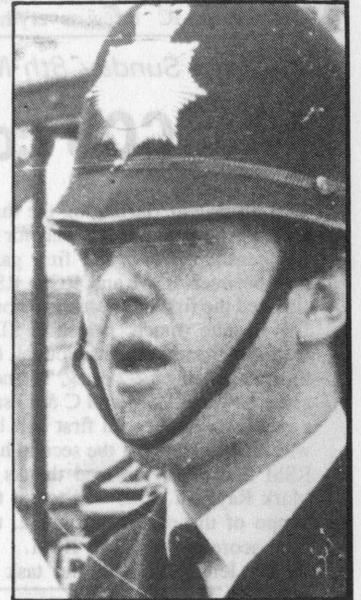
Since they had all been sacked rather than made redundant, Murdoch did not have to offer the workers any compensation or redundancy money. But as soon as it became apparent that he held all the cards, he began making the unions offers to settle the dispute, since the bad publicity was not solely confined to the unions, the riots going on outside the plant were beginning to tell on the workers inside, and the security costs of keeping the pickets out were running very high. However, all his offers were rejected by the unions because they wanted at least some of the sacked to be reinstated and recognition at the new plant. Murdoch refused to give either. He was interested only in redundancy payments. The deadlock continued with Murdoch gradually raising the value of his offers (at one time he even offered to give the unions the old Times printworks in Grays' Inn Road, for them to print a labour orientated newspaper, but this was refused). Eventually, the union leaders became convinced that the struggle was hopeless, and recommended one of the offers to their membership. The rank and file turned it down with an overwhelming majority in a secret ballot. This happened several times until in January this year, with their very existence threatened by injunctions and sequestrations, Sogat and the NGA settled the dispute without a ballot.

Why had the dispute begun in the first place and why had Rupert Murdoch used such ruthless means to solve it? The unions had been using their power in the 60s and 70s to win better conditions for themselves. The workforce had become more and

more unionised. Strict demarcation lines were drawn and different sections of the workforce were run by different unions. Nobody was allowed to do another's job. If one small section of the workforce went on strike, a whole newspaper could grind to a halt. This led to great economic inefficiency. Furthermore, great advances were being made in the technology of printing newspapers, but no British newspaper owner could install any new machinery because it meant shedding jobs, which the unions would not allow. As a result, by the 80s, British newspapers were using 19th century technology and were chronically overstaffed compared with those overseas. Rupert Murdoch owned a large international media empire of which British papers were only a part. He was having financial trouble in America getting a new venture off the ground and needed a lot of extra money. The obvious place to make large savings was in Britain, where his newspapers were very inefficient. He needed the money quickly, so he issued an ultimatum requiring large reductions in the workforce. The unions, who still believed in their own strength, roared with laughter and were sacked.

Wapping deeply shocked the Labour movement. It resurrected the spectre of that which they had spent the whole century trying to fight: The ruthless and unscrupulous employer who made life so miserable for the masses in the nineteenth century. But their unreserved support for the sacked printworkers laid them open to accusations of attacking the police and undermining law and order. And their condemnation of the trade union laws led to a conflict of loyalties between democracy (in the form of pre-strike ballots) and many of the unions, which were against them. Bitter divisions opened in the TUC between the Electricians, who had run the Wapping plant, and the print unions. While everyone must have known that someday Fleet Street inefficiency had to end, the way in which it did aroused all their most deep-seated fears and misgivings.

The Tories, particularly the right-wing, received the whole affair with thinly disguised glee, and could barely abstain from their gloating enough to make long faces for the violence that went on outside the printworks. To many of them it was revenge for the years of what they saw as union blackmail.



Wapping has changed Fleet Street for good. The other owners reacted to it with extreme hypocrisy: Condemning Murdoch for his ruthlessness while using his example as a threat to make the unions accede to thousands of redundancies. Some papers have followed Murdoch out of Fleet Street, nearly all are introducing new equipment. Thanks to Eddy Shah, who had a similar, if smaller experience to Wapping in Stockport, and who launched a new newspaper 'Today' using new technology, Fleet Street will never be the same again.

Wapping has affected industrial relations not only in Fleet Street, but nationally also. For better or for worse with the Miners' strike of 1984-85, it has fulfilled the Tories' dream of severely curtailing union power.





DP counts UGM attendance

What's On

WEDNESDAY

Tafseer of Qur'an1.00pm.
Prayer Room (9 Prince's Gardens). Talk given by Dr Darsh. See Islamic Society.

Circuit Training.....12.30pm.
Beit Gym. Free to Keep Fit Club members. £1.00 membership. See J Day

Imperial Workout.....1.00pm.
Southside Gym. Please wear something comfortable and bring training shoes. £1.00 membership, 50p per lesson. See J Day.

IC Wargames Meeting.....1.00pm.
Union Dining Hall.

10-Pin Bowling.....2.20pm.
Chem. Eng. Foyer. £4.00

Rock 'n' Roll Routines.....3.00pm.
Dance Club in the U.D.H. 70 pence.

Tap Dancing.....5.00pm.
Dance Club in the Lounge. £1.00.

Social Evening.....8.00pm.
Main Refectory, Sherfield. Ballroom, Latin American and Rock 'n' Roll. 70p students, £2.00 non-students. See Dance Club

FELIX Radio Show...9.00pm.
IC Radio 301m 999kHz MW. Dave Jones and the FELIX mob present two hours of unordered mayhem. FREE!

THURSDAY

Youth Hostelling Club12.30pm.
Meeting in Southside Upper Lounge.

Fencing Club12.30pm.
Union Gym. Professional Coaching for beginners and experienced fencers.

BUNAC12.45pm.
JCR. Everything you want to know about working and playing in America.

Phil Soc1.00pm.
Every Thursday in Chemistry 231, until 2.00pm

Arabic Class1.00pm.
Prayer Room (9 Prince's Garden). See Islamic Society.

ICSF Library Meeting.....1.00pm.
Green Committee Room. Access to our vast Library, Organisation of future events and news from all over the SF World. Members Only.

Imperial Workout.....6.00pm.
Southside Gym. Please wear comfortable kit and bring running shoes. £1.00 membership, 50p per lesson. See J Day

Judo.....6.30pm.
Union Gym. Beginners Welcome.

Disney Double Bill ...7.30pm.
Mech Eng 220. *Sword in the Stone* and *Winnie the Pooh and Tigger Too*. £1.00 non-members, 50p members. See IC Film Soc.

ICCAG Soup-Run.....9.15pm.
Weeks Hall Basement—normally back by 11.30pm. See Derek Hill, Physics III.

FRIDAY

Friday Prayers12.55pm.
Union Building, Halaal food provided. See Islamic Society.

Christian Union.....6.00pm.
An entertainments evening courtesy of Mags. 53 Prince's Gate. All welcome, buffet provided.

Fencing Club6.00pm.
Beginners and experienced fencers welcome.

● **Cross Country** and Athletics Club annual dinner. 21st March—get signed up.

PERSONAL

● **M.P.** I'm still waiting for your answer. Lots of love & hugs (hopefully!) T.L.



Small Ads

ANNOUNCEMENTS

● **A big thank you** to all who acted, wrote sketches, prepared food, cleaned up, sold tickets or helped in any way with the Elec Eng Revue—thanks for making it a success. And a special thank you to Ann for putting up with me. Alastair.

● **ICSO** (and especially Jon and Dave) would like to say a big thank you to Dave and all the FELIX staff for their expert help and advice—Pure Guinness!

● **Dave** would like to say thanks to Jon 'PP' Wood for his constant supply of Guinness.

● **ICU Rag Mag** cover competition—Have you got what it takes to design a cover for the IC Rag Mag which enjoys a strong reputation and a circulation of 10,000 copies? Closing date for entries is June 1st 1987. The Editor's decision shall be final. Submit all entries to Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne, Rag Mag Editor, Civ Eng II. The only reward is to see it in print.

● **We are seeking** enthusiastic articulate technical writers of articles on PCs and practical computing for a new electronics magazine. Contact Nick on 01-870 2298

● **Well no. 12**, they were too cryptic for me.

● **Sarah H.** How about a religious experience together in organic lab? I just love your long hair and flares. From Richard W.

● **Jason Reese** will be appearing in his silly hat and apron every Tuesday night at the Warren Street MacDonalds, What a silly burger he is.

● **What the hell** can you say about a sherry tasting except that it is not the same stuff as at College Dinners.

● **Thanks** to the rest of the committee for putting up with my absence and bad spelling.

● **Matt S. to Ann J.:** If it's so cool to have a small one, why have I got such a big one?

ACCOMMODATION

● **Thanks** a lot Andy & K, love P.

● **Place** at Hamlet Gardens in shared room, all male flat with TV, newspaper and all mod-cons. Available from beginning of Easter Holiday. Around £20 per week (£27.25 per week without housing benefit). Offers o.n.o. contact M. Gans UGI Civil Engineering.

● **Two attractive** and charming young ladies wish to share flat but not bodies. Contact vis Peter Drummond-Smith, Chem Eng IV.



AIDS results

IC Union has instructed the Executive to oppose discrimination against AIDS sufferers and HIV carriers. A motion passed at the Results UGM requires the Exec to allow any AIDS patient or carrier equal access to Union and College facilities. In addition, the Exec will be writing to the College authorities and the Health Centre, requesting statements on the official position on the AIDS issue.

Most sections of the motion, proposed by Robert Daniel, were passed without opposition. There was some discussion on the sections relating to policy on access to spor-

ting facilities. Guilds President-elect Dave Tyler pointed out that the Rugby Football Union had banned carriers from taking part in that sport. An amendment, proposed by Guy Perry, limited the 'equal access' policy to those sports where the ruling body had not issued a directive to the contrary, and this section was passed in this form. The only section of the motion not to be carried denied the right of employers to demand that any person take an HIV test. This section was defeated on the vote. Quorum was then called.

Rerun

The election for ICU President will have to be rerun. Bill Goodwin, the only candidate standing for the post following the sudden withdrawal of Ian Howgate, decided not to appeal against Election Committee's decision to invalidate the election. ICU Hon Sec Dave Colley gave a report in his capacity as Returning Officer at last Thursday's results UGM. He explained that he had permitted Messrs Goodwin and Howgate to use their 'joint' posters when they had been presented to him already printed. His original decision had been not to allow them. When the matter was discussed at Elections Committee it was decided to follow the written rules as clearly as possible and Mr Colley's ruling was overturned.

Next year's non-sabbatical Union Officers were also elected at the Results UGM. As none of the elections were contested, each of the following were returned unopposed: Adrian Johnson (Internal Services Officer), John Noble (Entertainment Officer), Alistair Seymour (UGM Chairman), Lindsey Wishart (Women's Officer), Neil Motteram (External Affairs Officer), Pippa Salmon (Welfare Officer) and Nigel Baker (Rag Chairman).

Zeebrugge

Members of the Chem Eng department organised a raffle and cake sale for the Zeebrugge ferry disaster appeal last Monday. The event took place on the JCR and Chem Eng Concourse and raised over £500. The organisers would like to thank everyone who supported the event. Any donations can be made through the Nat West Bank who will provide a special credit slip for the purpose.

Not boring

The last of the Constituent College Union elections took place yesterday in Mines G20. A well-attended Mines UGM listened to speeches from candidates for the posts of President, Vice President, Honorary Secretary and Foreign Students' Officer.

The election drew College-wide interest due to the candidature of Jane Spiegel (Geology) and British high jumper Geoff Parsons (Min Tech) for the post of President.

The final result was Geoff Parsons (President), Paddy Coleman (VP), Chris Davies (Hon Sec) and John Riding (Foreign Students' Officer).

Conman again

The conman who has stolen hundreds of pounds from IC students was nearly caught by police last Friday. The man approached a Chinese student who realised his real identity and attempted to set a trap. On being asked for £1000 the student said that he had no money with him, but arranged to meet the man at 5pm in front of the Royal School of Mines. He then alerted the police who rushed to the scene, but arrived a few minutes too late to apprehend the man. Police are now trying to trace the owner of the car, a Fiat Uno, which the man was driving.

The conman is still using the same story to get foreign students to part with money. He claims to be a French airline steward and always asks for a substantial sum, offering a fake gold watch as surety. Anyone who is approached by this man should contact College security immediately on 3370.

Pot-bellied

Monday's IC Union Council meeting voted to 'award' a flower pot to the holder of the post of Haldane Library Record Buyer, currently held by Adrian 'Jelly' Johnson. The motion, proposed by Pete Wilson and Mr. Johnson, originally sought to award a pot for the Record Buyer to sit behind the Union Bar, but was amended by Alan Pose to the final form. Mr. Wilson accepted this amendment, and Mr. Johnson, being absent, could not do a lot about it.

Tortured

Between 9.00am last Thursday and 9.00am the following Friday, most of IC Amnesty Group interned itself in a 'camp' in the JCR, on a diet of bread, water and IC Radio. This was done in aid of prisoners of conscience throughout the world, with particular emphasis on Ivan Starovoit, IC Union's adopted prisoner.

Not at all boring

A student from St Mary's was elected sabbatical President of the University of London Union (ULU) at the annual meeting of ULU General Union Council (GUC) last Saturday. John Tilsead, current Societies Council Chair at ULU, beat Dermot D'Riorden, also a medical school candidate, by 54 votes to 33 at the Council which has delegates from all the colleges in the University of London.

The two other sabbaticals were also elected at the meeting. Peter Robertson, current GUC Chair, was returned unopposed as Vice President (Finance & Administration) and Lachie Stewart (UCL sabbatical) beat Susan Moyses (SSEES) for the Vice

President (Services) post.

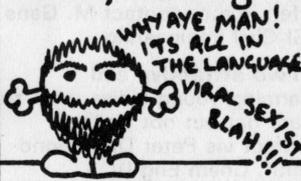
All the candidates promised to try and increase involvement in ULU, but said that it would not be easy. They pledged to keep the 3Rs campaign against the 50% cuts in ULU, and Mr Stewart promised that ULU would become a more campaigning organisation.

ICU President Christine Taig said she was disappointed at the number of IC delegates that turned up. Only three official delegates and three stand-ins actually attended, out of a usual delegation size of nine. This was after all the sabbatical candidates had attended a hustings at IC especially for these delegates to ask questions.

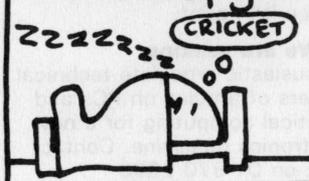
MR MEN

No 5... Back in search of Mr Women

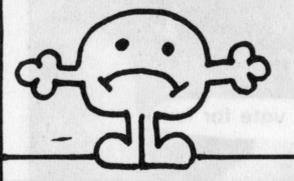
Here's Mr Gren, the Grensheet editor, ranting on



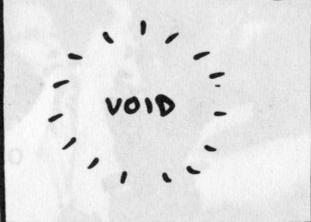
And here's the FELIX editor, Mr Sleepy...



No joy there! Who can Mr Easy ask next?



Not Mr President that's for sure.



By Mark