

THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN



Vol. XII. No. 11

MAY, 1959



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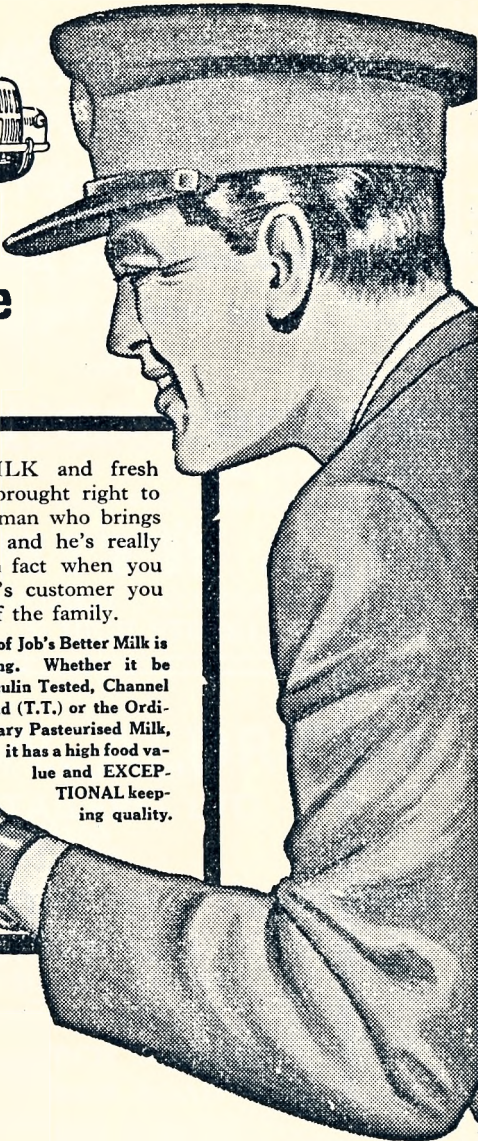
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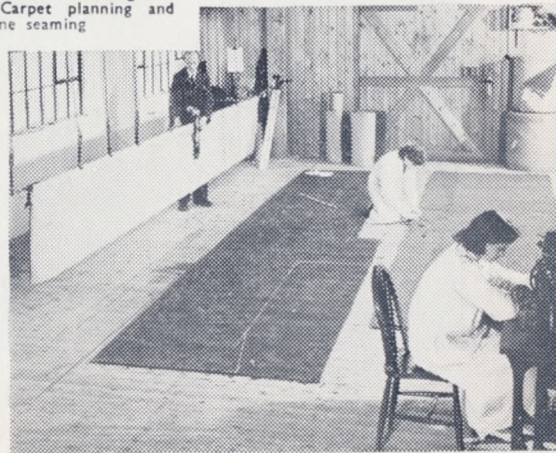
Top Right: Test hanging curtains

Centre Left: Upholstering

Centre Right: Marking out pelmets

Bottom Left: Loose-cover cutting

Bottom Right: Carpet planning and machine seaming





1ST XV.

D. G. ASHBY (Touch Judge), R. PRATLEY, R. A. O. STOCKWELL, R. J. COLLETT, S. A. LEADER, J. S. SIMPSON, K. R. MILLER,
R. W. TABNER, W. A. C. KNOWLES, R. F. J. QUIRKE.

S. G. R. PACKMAN, A. W. RALLEY, R. C. JONES, P. J. MULLER (Capt.), P. J. BLOKLAND, J. R. BORKAS, A. BRINN

THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

(THE MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, HIGH WYCOMBE)

Editor : R. W. TABNER

Sub-Editors :

R. C. JONES

D. G. ASHBY

M. G. SWIFT

EDITORIAL

Necessity, we are told, is the mother of invention ; but it would seem that such things do not apply at the R.G.S. Every year, a few boys at the top of the School endeavour to produce a magazine worthy of the name, yet what help do they receive from the vast majority of the School? Nearly everyone is content to leave the task of "writing something for the School mag." to the next fellow, who in his turn, leaves it to someone else. In the end, the editors are compelled either to write the whole thing themselves, or else make do with what they can extract, painlessly or otherwise, from their fellow-prefects. Below the sixth form, despite the editor's attempts to whip up interest, most people seem oblivious even of the existence of the *Wycombiensian*.

This apathy, however, is not confined to literary matters, but extends to other fields as well. Too many boys think of their time at school as a painful necessity : something to be endured rather than enjoyed. But if one is to derive the greatest possible advantage from a grammar school education—and that is surely the purpose in coming to the School in the first place—one must be prepared to join in the various activities which are organized at the School. Every house captain is familiar with the difficulties of producing enough boys to run or play for the house ; and the reason for these difficulties is usually not lack of ability, but lack of interest on the part of the members of the house.

Some of the blame for much of this must lie in the very size of the School. We have now something in excess of 900 boys attending the R.G.S., and many of them do not, therefore, feel that personal relationship with the School, which they would if it were considerably smaller. But the remedy for this unfortunate state of affairs must lie with the boys themselves. If they are prepared to make the very most of their time here, by pulling their weight and giving their support to such things as the School magazine, they will find that the School can give them, in return, much which they cannot find elsewhere.

ALAN KING

The whole School was shocked to hear when we reassembled in September, of the news of the death of Alan King while on holiday in Germany.

A memorial service was held in the School Hall on the first Friday of term, when the Headmaster gave the following address :

“ We are gathered here to-day for the saddest of all tasks—to pay our last tribute to a most deeply respected, greatly admired and sincerely loved friend and pupil, Alan King, tragically removed from our midst at the height of his promise.

“ I know that a chill of horror descended on all the School when the dreadful news seeped through at the beginning of the holiday, that he had lost his life whilst bathing with some friends in North Germany : it seemed incredible that our Head Boy, who had achieved while at school practically everything that any schoolboy could set his heart on, had been taken from us. He was a young man of outstanding intellectual promise, great firmness of character, integrity of life, kindness to others, resolution, and steadiness of purpose ; during his last year he became Head Boy, gained a State Scholarship for Classics, forced his way by sheer grit into a very good School Cross-country Team, and finally gained an Open Classical Exhibition at Jesus College, Cambridge, where undoubtedly a fair future awaited him.

“ During his last term he had gone to Germany, first to teach in a well-known boarding school, and later to act as Tutor to the sons of the Graf von Platen, of The White House, Oldenburg ; in both these places his high qualities made the deepest impression ; in a short time he gained the respect and affection of his peers and his elders, whose sympathy and thoughts I know are with us especially to-day. Above all, however, he possessed a true goodness and unselfishness, a Christian faith and certain assurance such as I have never met before in a boy. It seemed, therefore, all the more cruel that one of such high promise, such a good life, and such a firm faith, should be called suddenly from the scenes of his triumphs. Indeed I have been inescapably reminded by his loss of that loveliest of all laments in our language—Milton’s ‘ Lycidas,’ written to express his sorrows and to perpetuate the noble character of a friend who lost his life by drowning in the Irish Sea ; he too was a Cambridge man, a Chassical Scholar and a poet, a devoted Christian, a teacher of the young, and by the strangest of chances was called King. Milton pictures the grief felt for his loss by the Sea Nymphs, the Goddesses of Poetry ; by Cambridge at losing so fair a son, and by St. Peter at having to

receive in heaven so early, so good and noble a spirit, when so many lesser people were spared to live !

“The language of Milton used then of Edward King, we echo to-day of Alan : but grief-stricken though we are, and moved to deepest sympathy with Alan’s bereaved parents whose noble courage and triumphant faith have been an inspiration to us all, we feel that we *know* as Milton knew of his friend, that, though the body dies, the soul lives on uncorruptible.

‘ Weep no more, woeful shepherds, weep no more,
For Lycidas your sorrow is not dead,
Sunk though he be beneath the watery floor.
So sinks the day-star in the ocean bed,
And yet anon repairs his drooping head,
And tricks his beams, and with new spangled ore
Flames in the forehead of the morning sky ;
So Lycidas sunk low, but mounted high,
Through the dear might of Him that walked the waves,
In the blest kingdoms meek of joy and love.
There entertain him all the saints above,
In solemn troops and sweet societies.
That sing, and singing in their glory move,
And wipe the tears for ever from his eyes.’

“ Just before Alan was buried, far away on the Baltic shore, I was walking with Mr. King in the garden of the Count in whose house Alan had been a guest ; we were talking of our certainty of immortality, of our assurance that Alan’s goodness, his spirit, would live on in the hearts of all who knew him ; and as we talked, I said to Mr. King, ‘ Have you looked up at the crest of the Graf and noticed the family motto that surrounds it ? ’ It was that line of Latin that I had printed at the bottom of the Order of Service :

‘ constans vivat super funera virtus,’

which means, ‘ True goodness lives on for ever, unchanged, beyond the tomb,’ There, as we met to mourn our dear one, and as we meditated on the mysteries of life, was the clear message coming down through the ages, standing there in rain and sun for hundreds of years—that goodness does not perish—as Jesus said to His disciples, ‘ He that loveth Me shall never die ’—and that is, I think, our message of hope and consolation to Alan’s dear ones, whose sorrow we so deeply share.”

SCHOOL NOTES

On September 12th a memorial service was held in the School Hall for the late Alan King.

In the last full week of the Autumn Term a production of H.M.S. *Pinafore* was performed.

The Prefects' Christmas Dance was held on Monday, December 15th. Part of the credit for its success must go to Mr. Pursey, who was a most witty and efficient M.C.

In the 1st XV *v* Staff and Guests match, held on Wednesday, March 11th, the 1st XV won by 5—3.

On Monday, March 16th, a concert given in the School Hall by Professor F. Jackson and his wife was greatly appreciated.

The Boxing Championships, won by Disraeli, were held on March 18th.

Congratulations to :

D. M. Cunnold for his Open Scholarship in Mathematics at Jesus College, Cambridge.

C. J. Date for his Open Exhibition in Mathematics at Jesus College, Cambridge.

STAFF NOTES

Although we have been joined by no new regular staff, we would like to welcome five student masters who are doing teaching practice here :—

Mr. W. T. Brown, who is teaching Geography ; Mr. R. H. Sale, who is teaching Classics ; Mr. C. D. S. Sidgreaves, who is teaching Music; and Mr. G. R. Grace and Mr. D. W. B. Spriggs, who are teaching History and Physics respectively.

We shall, unfortunately, be losing Mr. D. W. Broadbridge at the end of the Summer Term, for he is leaving to take up the post of Head of the Department of English at Ickenham Grammar School. He has been a most enthusiastic house master, and although his presence will be missed, we wish him every success in his new appointment.

GOVERNORS

The whole School and Staff want to extend their warmest congratulations to our two Senior Governors on the great honour that is being conferred on them by the Borough of High Wycombe in recognition of their long and devoted services to the Town.

Our Chairman, Alderman R. P. Clarke, C.B.E., M.A., and our late Chairman, Mr. P. C. Raffety, J.P., are both to be presented with the Freedom of the Borough of High Wycombe at a Special Meeting of the Council to be held on April the 30th in the Town Hall. A large number of senior boys expect to be present at this important occasion. Mr. Raffety and Alderman Clarke are the Senior Governors of the School. Mr. P. C. Raffety was Chairman from 1947 until 1956, having been appointed to the Governing Body in 1926. Mr. R. P. Clarke became a Governor in 1931 and they were both members of the Governing Body when the present Headmaster was appointed.

Alderman Clarke is of course the Senior Alderman, and Father of the High Wycombe Council. We like to think with pride that it was in part the Chairmanship of our Governing Body, as well as the very great services to the Town as a whole, which particularly called for this outstanding recommendation.

Three Old Boys of the R.G.S. were presented to the Queen Mother when, as Chancellor, she attended the London University ceremony of presentations of degrees at the Albert Hall.

A. F. GILES (1949-55) gained his B.Sc. and is working at Broom & Wade Ltd., High Wycombe.

S. R. C. MALIN (1948-55) gained an honours B.Sc. degree in Mathematics and Physics and has joined the staff of the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Hurstmonceux, and is assisting in the compilation of the work magnetic dileation charts for 1960.

D. J. THOMAS (1945 51) gained his Ph.D., having received his B.Sc. three years ago ; he has joined the Amersham Radio-Chemical Centre.

P. C. RAFFETY (1888-93), when conferred the distinction of Honorary Freeman by the High Wycombe Borough Council, was the second Old Boy to be so honoured. COL. L. L. C. REYNOLDS (1888-94) was made a Freeman in 1923.

R.G.S. BENEVOLENT FUND

Just before Christmas the School made a special collection and raised over £20, which was divided between Dr. Barnardo's Homes and the Mayor's Fund. As a result of this effort it was decided that it would be a good thing to start a regular Benevolent Fund with voluntary weekly collections.

Each term a committee of boys and masters meet to decide what good causes to support ; and accordingly donations of £10 are being sent to the N.S.P.C.C. and the Country Holidays Fund.

THE SCHOOL CONFIRMATION SERVICE

The School Confirmation Service was conducted by the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Buckingham at St. Francis' Church, Terriers, on Thursday, March 19th, 1959. The Bishop was assisted by the Vicar of Terriers, the Rev. E. Shaw, by the Rural Dean, the Rev. A. L. Evan Hopkins, and by the Rev. John Skipp, who acted as Bishop's Chaplain.

In his sermon to the candidates the Bishop gave them as their motto the promise which our Lord made to His disciples, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you, and ye shall be My witnesses . . ." He said that they were the Lord's disciples of today, and would receive the same power as had those early disciples by the "laying on of hands"; not, he emphasised, the noisy, violent power which is so evident in business and politics, but the quiet confidence to face life and its difficulties as a true disciple of the Master, and to be His witnesses.

The need to bear witness for God was all the greater in this age when so many new scientific processes and laws were being discovered, and which so many people failed to realise or admit were God's gift to mankind of the "things hidden in the world." They were given to us, he said, to enrich life, but were too often turned to evil purposes by man.

The names of the 35 boys confirmed were :—

C. B. Antill	B. J. Hankey
J. M. Barlow	B. H. Hart
J. F. Blakesley	I. A. Johnston
P. Booth	R. M. Layton
A. R. L. Brain	R. J. Martin
M. W. Clarke	S. Merrington
P. S. Cockerham	J. L. Newman
R. H. Coward	M. J. Payne
T. M. Davis	J. S. Ray
W. D. Downing	B. A. Richards
J. L. Evans	M. S. Rothwell
C. H. Farmer	J. D. Slack
R. A. Fewtrell	R. C. Smith
P. A. J. Findley	C. D. Wagstaff
J. N. Fowler	D. R. Walker
N. C. Gravette	A. D. Warren
P. D. Hamilton-Eddy	S. J. Whiteman
	P. E. Woodend

On Friday, March 20th, 180 boys and masters made their Communion at the Annual Service at St. Francis'. The Vicar of Terriers was the Celebrant, and he was assisted by the Rev. John Skipp.

H.M.S. "PINAFORE" 1958

It was with a sense of relief—like that which a batsman feels on a return to form after a bad patch—that we (both the School and the town) welcomed the return of Gilbert and Sullivan at Christmas, after their year's absence. For Christmas 1957 had been the first without a Gilbert and Sullivan opera since the first adventurous performance ten years before. However, mingled with this sense of relief was a certain timidity and apprehension lest the "come-back" performance should fall short of what had come to be considered the normal high standard. The only "planned" difference was that this year there should be four performances instead of the usual six—six performances in the space of five days being considered (correctly) too arduous, particularly for treble voices.

The opera chosen was H.M.S. *Pinafore*, not, perhaps, one of the most popular of Gilbert and Sullivan operas. It is fair to say that, while music and words are inextricably joined in these operas, they are renowned more for Sullivan's music than for Gilbert's words. *Pinafore* is unusual in the sense that its tunes, although known, are not so popular as, for instance, those of *The Mikado*, *The Pirates* or *Iolanthe*, and pleasure obtained from this opera comes as much from the subtlety of the dialogue as from the delightfulness of the music. Audibility and clarity of diction must, therefore, be as essential as tuneful and lively singing. Also, *Pinafore* had the advantages—and disadvantages—of having been performed by the School before, in 1951.

One of the greatest pleasures that those within the School receive from the opera is seeing a collection of rough and unconvincing shapes transformed into an imposing and realistic set. We thus watched with interest—and, perhaps, some doubts—the work of Mr. Eaton and his assistants (whom we now forgive for their disturbance of lessons). The result was magnificent: the quarterdeck of the ship with all its trappings and in the background Portsmouth harbour with its pattern of shipping.

In the opening scene, this set was enhanced by the "gallant crew" of H.M.S. *Pinafore* busily preparing their ship for inspection. The industry and apparent indifference of the sailors gave the whole scene an air of reality. If there is a criticism of the male and female choruses it is that reality in both cases was sometimes achieved at the expense of volume and audibility (which we have claimed as vital to this opera). The male chorus convinced us—and, no doubt, their captain—of their "sobriety, integrity and attention to duty" and sang quite well in support

of their captain. It has become traditional for the audience to await with growing expectancy the entrance of the female chorus. One doubted whether the sisters, cousins and aunts would successfully survive the transformation from male to female appearance. The girls "gaily tripped" and "lightly skipped" and our doubts were answered.

Since this was the first opera for two years the leads were of necessity inexperienced, but this was not really apparent in their performances. It will be no injustice to the rest of the cast if mention is first made of J. E. Burnell's splendid portrayal of the fussiness of Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. He had won the sympathy of his audience long before the climax to his performance came—as we had expected—in the trio "Never mind the Why and Wherefore." After five encores he seemed still willing to entertain, but the audience had clapped itself out. The romantic lead, Ralph, was very well played by J. E. Camp, who combined the great virtue of audibility with a pleasing and powerful tenor voice. We look forward to his future performances. His leading lady, J. F. I. Pryce, "sold" his feminine charms as Josephine quite convincingly and sang his rather difficult solos well.

G. H. Duffie, as the noble and "hardly ever" blasphemous Captain Corcoran, maintained his dignity throughout both in his singing and acting. Indeed, he seemed merely contemptuous if not unaware, of Sir Joseph's antics. Bill Bobstay (C. J. Gee) and Bob Becket (J. H. Dawes and T. P. Thirlway) were worthy representatives both in voice and appearance of his gallant crew. R. W. Paine, as the pessimistic Dick Deadeye, successfully excited in the audience—and cast—a mixture of revulsion and pity. Garner, as the "midshipmite" was admirable in his unobtrusive omnipresence. Of the other female leads, B. Carritt (first cousin Hebe) led his ladies with due femininity and said his postscripts well. Little Buttercup is a very difficult part for a young boy to play, but R. W. Gravestock sang well and audibly and was surely the rosiest and reddest, if not the roundest, beauty in all Spithead.

It is unintentional that once again the last persons to be mentioned are the members of the orchestra and the production team. The orchestra, conducted by Mr. Dawes, must receive the highest praise—as it always does on these occasions—by playing not for itself, but in sympathy with the singers. Let us, then, join with the crew of H.M.S. *Pinafore* in giving three cheers for all those responsible for a fine performance, especially Mr. Dawes and Mr. Gaster. May it be many years before there is another interruption in the succession of Gilbert and Sullivan operas at Christmas.

J.W.P.

“THE CREATION”

Josef Haydn was no doubt inspired to write an oratorio when he heard some of Handel's works in London in the 1790's. At any rate, the outcome of his activity was the work that we know as "The Creation." That it is not generally regarded as a masterpiece to stand next to "The Messiah" is due only to the fact that it is much less well known. When rehearsals began, many of the members of the School Choir were hearing it for the first time.

The production of "The Messiah" only two years ago set an example against which all succeeding School productions of oratorios must be compared. The general opinion of the audience as they left the Hall after "The Creation" was that it far surpassed its predecessor. A performance of the complete work would have meant that many of the audience would not have reached home until the early hours of the morning. It was decided to perform the first two of the three parts. This made an effective programme in itself, finishing as it did with the two choruses—"Achieved is the glorious work."

Of the three soloists, two had sang in the "Messiah" performance. A last-minute crisis arose when Mr. Harry Barnes was unfortunately indisposed, but everyone was grateful to the confident way in which Mr. Bernard Baboulene stepped into the part at extremely short notice. His pleasing, lyrical rendering of the solo tenor part betrayed no lack of confidence. Mr. Kenneth Tudor is now an old friend of the School, having appeared at two previous productions. He sang the bass solos with firmness and assurance. Miss Rosamond Strode delighted the audience with her flexible singing of the solo soprano role of Gabriel, and she contributed greatly to the success of the whole performance.

The School made its main contribution in the choruses, with a choir of nearly 150 voices. Some of Haydn's choruses make heavy demands on the choir, but there was very little sign of tiredness in their singing, even at the end of the evening. The climax of Part I, the chorus "The Heavens are telling," was sung with the utmost vitality, and proved to be the most impressive moment of the evening.

The Choir received admirable support from the orchestra, whose accompaniment was always energetic. The orchestral writing of "The Creation" is very descriptive, and their playing always displayed precision and assurance. It was perhaps unavoidable that the continuo had to be supplied on a piano rather than on a harpsichord.

Mr. J. S. Dawes deserves the highest praise for his admirable conducting of these large forces. Throughout the rehearsals, he has always displayed unflinching enthusiasm, and must be credited with the very satisfying final performance. M. G. SWIFT.

C.C.F NOTES

As the size of the School increases, so does the strength of the C.C.F. The total numbers now exceed 600 and there are very few contingents throughout the country comparable in size.

A start is being made to make the training more interesting, and two week-end camps have recently been held with a view to developing initiative, endurance and self-confidence. These camps have been partly aimed at preparation for the more arduous camps which are to take place in the Welsh mountains at both Easter and Summer. In each of these camps there will be an expedition of three days and two nights in the "open" which will enable cadets to qualify for that section of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award if they so wish.

The C.C.F. is now the proud owner of its own transport, having taken advantage of a recent War Office concession to purchase a 3-tonner. The contingent can now look forward to excursions every Thursday to the river or Bisley, or an escape and evasion exercise in the country. R.P.

R.A.F. SECTION

An encouraging number of cadets make the R.A.F. Section their choice after passing Certificate A, Part I. There are, at the present time, 142 cadets in the Section. We are fortunate also in having a large group of N.C.O.'s who are keen and effective in their work. The Section has contributed to the newly-formed N.C.O.'s Cadre, a substantial quota of cadets who are doing very well in their training. In the examinations held in December, 1958, 15 cadets were successful in gaining the R.A.F. Proficiency Certificate and 18 cadets gained the Advanced Training Certificate. These are excellent results.

Arrangements are now completed for the Easter Camp which is to be held at R.A.F. Station, St. Mawgan, near Newquay, in Cornwall. Although 44 cadets wished to attend this camp, the accommodation available at R.A.F. St. Mawgan has restricted this number to 30. An interesting and attractive training programme has been organised and it is hoped that considerable flying experience will be gained at this camp. Further opportunities for those cadets who were disappointed in their applications to attend this camp will arise in connection with the camp to be held in the Summer. E.M.

R.N. SECTION

Five years ago there were 25 boys in the Naval Section: today we have 116, and we are the largest section in the country. Although our numbers are large, it cannot with honesty be said that we are as efficient as we should be, and much more effort is required from everyone to bring us to a reasonable standard. With only 25 boys the organisation was easy, but with our present numbers a great deal of the responsibility for an efficient section rests with the leading seamen and petty officers. Our aim during the next year is to improve our standards in all things and I hope every member of the section will give of his best.

Summer training last year was held at H.M.S. *Collingwood* and for the new entries was most interesting, although the more senior members found the programme rather too elementary. This year two Summer training camps have been arranged. One party is going to the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, and the other to H.M.S. *Collingwood*.

During the Easter holidays this year a course has been arranged at H.M.S. *Dryad*, the Navy's School of Navigation. The purpose of this training is to prepare cadets for the Proficiency Examination, Part I. It is hoped to condense a year's work into this week. If successful we hope to run similar courses each year.

Two training week-ends were organised during the past two terms, one at Buckingham and one at Wilton Park, the Army's education centre. Both courses catered for all three sections with the emphasis on leadership and initiative training and proved very instructive and enjoyable.

Many boys went on Naval courses last Summer and had a most interesting time. Once again the Commando course was over subscribed, but those who went had a very tough and very enjoyable time.

The School C.C.F. has now purchased a 3-ton truck which will make the weekly journey to Bourne End much easier and at the same time enable us to transport our boats without having to hire a lorry.

This year there will be no general inspection, but it is hoped that we shall be able to have a field day when we could embark some cadets on to one of the ships taking part in operation "Shop Window," the Navy's open day, when all types of weapons will be seen in action.

Three boys were promoted to Cadet Petty Officer this term, N. C. Gravett, W. M. Douglas and A. C. Paine. Douglas is leaving us this term to join the Merchant Navy and we wish him the best of luck.

D.T.N.

A VOYAGE WITH THE BRITISH NAVY

During the Summer of 1958 I had the good fortune to serve on H.M.S. *Carron*, a modern destroyer attached to the Dartmouth Training Squadron. Her job was to act as main escort and judge of the 1958 "Tall Ships Race," from Brest to Las Palmas. The entire trip lasted just under a month, and included visits to Brest, Corunna, Las Palmas, Santa Cruz and finally Gibraltar. I was one of 30 keen C.C.F. cadets chosen from various public and grammar schools up and down the country. On board we worked the same hours and kept the same hours as the ordinary seamen for, as we soon discovered, this was no deck-chair cruise. When at sea, we were called at 6.45 a.m. and worked from 7.45 a.m. to 4 p.m., and when in harbour we were called at 5.45 a.m. and worked from 6.45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and were allowed the afternoon and evening on shore.

Leaving Plymouth late on Wednesday evening, we arrived at Brest on Thursday, and by 10.0 a.m. were secured in the naval harbour under the high walls of the fifteenth-century castle that surrounds part of it. In the afternoon I had a walk around the town but found nothing exciting. By Friday all the yachts had assembled in the outer harbour and the four other escorts had arrived. There were two classes of yachts: those of less than thirty tons racing from Brest to Corunna, and those, of course, from Brest down to Las Palmas, in the Canaries. We left harbour at 7.30 a.m. in fine sailing weather. The yachts made a magnificent scene as they all moved out to their starting positions. One could not help but marvel at the larger vessels such as the *Amerigo Vespucci*, an Italian ship of over four thousand tons, and the *Christian Radich*, a vessel manned almost entirely by boys of under 18 years of age.

Sunday was spent at sea with only the occasional glimpse of a yacht. On Monday at 9.0 a.m. we entered Corunna and secured alongside the quay, immediately attracting a crowd of obviously impressed Spaniards. Perhaps it was the unaccustomed air of proficiency and smartness about our ship that aroused their interest, or maybe they had just come to laugh at us toiling away with "rag and bluebell" on some piece of brass, while they were having their siesta. By Tuesday, however, most of the small yachts had arrived, together with *Amerigo Vespucci*, which was not taking part in the race. On this afternoon, from 4 to 6 p.m., our ship was open to visitors, and over 2,000 came on board.

I found Corunna much as I had imagined it: very hot, few modern ships, typically Spanish architecture, dark-eyed women and countless soldiers lounging around in ill-fitting uniforms.

Once one left the main street the town was a maze of back streets and alleys. There was a good beach, which provided excellent bathing, although once out of the water we had to put our towels round our costumes, which were considered indecent. As we left Corunna on Wednesday evening about sixty rockets and flares were fired from different parts of the ship.

Thursday and Friday were passed uneventfully at sea. During Saturday morning we passed close by the Madeira Islands. They looked really beautiful, being quite mountainous and apparently rising vertically out of a deep blue sea, appearing brownish in the light morning haze that surrounded them.

On Sunday morning we arrived at Las Palmas and stayed there for six comparatively dull days, refuelling, painting and generally sprucing up the ship. Most mornings we had a hair-dresser on board, who provided a convenient "skiv" from work. During our stay there were a couple of dances held at the Yacht Club ; the Consul entertained bathing parties from the ship ; a team of dancers performed for us on the quay, and later on board, and some local guitarists sang and strummed for us.

Las Palmas stretches for about ten miles along a narrow strip of coast and has a population equal to that of Bournemouth. There is little selection in the way of shops, and the streets are infested with rather slick types who continually approach with the idea of selling you a Parker 51 (made in Japan), or cheap watches and lighters. Five out of six of the cars were British and all the buses and electrical appliances were products of British factories.

On Saturday, together with all the other yachts, we left for Santa Cruz, about sixty miles away on a neighbouring island. During our three-day stay there we went on a coach trip to Puerto de la Cruz, on the other side of the island. The scenery was quite breath-taking, for the islands are very mountainous, with peaks of more than 12,000 feet. Most of the journey we were at about 6,000 feet, well above the few clouds, with the sea showing in between. Banana plantations, water reservoirs, and irrigation channels were everywhere, together with Spanish houses and vineyards.

We left for Gibraltar on Tuesday, and early on Thursday morning, as we approached the straits, we could see lights on both the African and Spanish coasts. During our two-day stay the ship was painted from bows to stern ; there was a cricket match against a sister destroyer, H.M.S. *Contest*, which we won ; and a trip round the Rock. The town itself consists of one long High Street, with most of the shops selling cheap Japanese goods of all kinds.

We left Gibraltar early on Saturday morning and were soon through the Straits and heading along the Iberian coast. That evening we saw the lights of Cape St. Vincent, and the following evening those of Cape Finisterre. We arrived back at Plymouth on Tuesday morning after a very enjoyable but strenuous cruise of some 4,000 miles.

D. P. MAY, VIS.

ALFLUENCE OF INCOHOL

I had twelve bottles of whisky in my cellar, and my wife told me to empty the contents of each and every bottle down the sink.

I said I would and proceeded with the unpleasant task. I withdrew the cork from the first bottle and poured the contents down the sink, with the exception of one glass which I drank.

I extracted the cork from the second bottle, did likewise, with the exception of one glass which I drank.

I withdrew the cork from the third bottle, poured the whisky down the sink, with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

I pulled the bottle from the cork of the one next and sink of it and threw the rest down the glass.

I pulled the sink out of the next glass and poured cork from bottle, then I corked the sink into the glass, bottled the drink, and drank the pour.

When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand, counted the bottles and corks and glasses and sinks with the other, which were thirty-nine, and as the house came by I counted them again ; and finally had all the houses and bottles and corks and glasses and sinks counted except one house, which I drank.

P.S. I'm not as much under the alco influence of incohol as some think I am.

D. A. KING, VIS.

RETRIBUTION

The man was afraid. He had every reason to be : fear, that sickening fear of the hunted, had been with him for two days—ever since he had killed. Two days earlier he had burgled the mansion of a wealthy banker and come away with a small fortune in diamonds and pearls. Unfortunately, when everything seemed to be going so well, he had been surprised by a maid who chanced

to enter Madame's bedroom on some errand or other. Which of the two was more petrified it is difficult to say, but he, seeing the woman in the mirror, had recovered first, and had spun round, levelling a pistol ; there had been a single report, a sharp crack—no more—deadened by the heavy curtains and tapestries of the room. The only other noise had been the sound of the woman's body hitting the plushly carpeted floor. Then, silence . . . no one had heard. The man was paralysed ; from that moment he knew fear. He stared at the body, at the blood already congealing on the carpet. He started. The window which he had left open slammed in a sudden evening gust ; or had it ?—the air seemed to have upon it the stillness of Death. At all events, it roused him from his stupor. Pocketing as many loose diamonds as he could see in his blind panic, he let himself down by a rope from the window and fled, across the garden and beyond—driven on by fear, the dreadful memory of that thing in the bedroom ; looking over his shoulder often, expecting to see some thing there, ready to strike him down in his cowering flight, waiting until he could run no longer, then approaching slowly for the kill, enjoying the man's exquisite agony of fear.

That was two days ago. Now, he thought, he was safe. Somehow he had managed to reach London, and the Docks. He had got aboard an ancient and rotting sailing ship by simulating drunkenness after he had ascertained from a member of the crew—also inebriated—that the ship was leaving on the evening tide for the Madeiras. He had stowed away in a chain locker, and aimed to reveal himself when they were so far out, that the master would be obliged to sign him on as an extra hand. In the chain locker it was almost dark, apart from one or two shafts of light : the stench of the Thames' slime still clinging to the chains was insupportable. But he felt the diamonds in the lining of his waistcoat, and he felt warm and even forgot the vision of that awful Thing. The old ship was rolling slightly, the waves of the Estuary slapping at her ancient plates, making her shudder—it was as though she knew that she was carrying this man, and was ashamed. Every now and then, with an extra steep lurch of the ship, the chain clanked and shifted uneasily.

Suddenly the man knew another fear. That chain . . . its weight was capable of crushing, of pulverising him if it moved . . . if it moved. He sweated, and felt sick at the thought. Suddenly the stench of the mud seemed to heighten, seemed to reach out across the darkness and embrace him in all its repulsiveness. With an effort, he fought down a rising feeling of nausea. But that chain, if it moved . . . he broke out in sweat again. The sea seemed to be shortening and steepening—just what the man did not want. He forgot his early fear of the Thing, everything was now excluded from him except the chain locker, the sea, and

that thick nauseating stench. With a fumbling hand, he lit his last cigarette ; in the flare of the match, he saw at the other end of the locker that chain, crouching like a black, cold, inexorable stinking beast, waiting . . . waiting to crush him. He looked away again, quickly, a wave of blind panic rising before his eyes. It was now pitch black, and the weather was rapidly worsening. The chain was creaking and groaning regularly now, adjusting and settling itself, he thought, for the final pounce. In spite of the cold, the man was sweating terribly. He stretched an arm, and his hand touched something—something cold and miry. He stifled a scream, but the hair of his scalp prickled uncontrolledly. But he could not reveal himself yet, he had to stay in that stinking prison in the mounting storm. The old hulk was pitching and rolling terribly now, and as the fury of the storm was mounting, a fury of panic was mounting in the man, making it only a matter of time before his sanity cracked. Suddenly the end came : the man lost his nerve and hammered with both hands on the wall of his prison, offering wealth unbounded to the man who would let him out. But his words were lost to the wind and spray. He felt the icy fingers of fear clutching at his throat, squeezing out his life ; he tried to scream, but no sound came. A white veil rose before his eyes as the ship crashed into the bottom of a trough ; the chain seemed to rise, and then slid. Something inside the man's brain exploded, then there was nothing.

The solemn burial at sea five days later was in no way deceived by the man, but it was the least that the God-fearing master could do. The stolen diamonds were never recovered. They are still with the man.

P. J. MULLER, VIM.

THE WAGES OF SIN

A long time ago, while I was still a comparatively newcomer to the School, I noticed that there was, in the main corridor, a glass case which, for most of the week, remained untouched and unnoticed. On Friday mornings, however, it was always a scene of great excitement and no little trepidation. My inquiries as to the cause of all this were met with answers ranging from an unbelieving " Eh ? " to the slightly more helpful reply of " Pre's." From this latter remark I concluded that it must be connected in some way with the prefects. As to the exact nature of this connection, I was not completely clear ; but having observed that the prefects appeared to be in a perpetual state of insolvency, I concluded that it must be a form of " exchange and mart," by which they sold off the various articles which they had confiscated during the week.

I remained in this blissful state of ignorance for some time, before a friend suddenly confronted me with the words, " Yorrón."

I finally elicited from him, between the mouthfuls of "wagon-wheels" and gulps of milk, that the thing which I was "on" was something known as "Preezmeetin." It was not, however, until I took a closer look at the "exchange and mart" board that I realised the full significance of his words. For there, nestling at the bottom of a list of boys whom I knew to be hardened sinners was my own innocuous little name.

Being well aware that "failure to attend is an added offence," I duly presented myself for trial outside the hallowed doors at the end of the Gym Block. I was not alone, and the sight of the criminals, standing white-faced and penitent, awaiting their appointment with Nemesis, has had a lasting effect upon me. At last, however, the doors opened to reveal the portly figure of one of the most revered of the prefects, and in a "basso profundo" voice he bade me enter.

Once inside, I found myself surrounded by more prefects than I had ever seen before, and immediately I was met with a barrage of orders.

"Stand up straight and take your hands out of your pockets!"

"Are you chewing?" (suspiciously)

"Behind the chair if you wouldn't mind" (very politely)

"Take your hands off it!"

"Are you deformed or something?" (not so politely).

Then, having assured the Head Prefect that my name was Whipplehide, I was asked to wait outside and not to run away, while my fate was being decided. I was afterwards asked to re-enter, and with a somewhat uneasy feeling I stood behind the chair to hear what punishment had been decided upon, and then bent over it while the sentence was carried out. All this was, of course, rather painful, but at least I now know the significance of that innocent-looking glass case.

ANON.

MAYBE TOMORROW

Suddenly from everywhere in the damp blackness of the night came a searing yellow glare. It rushed in, cutting and painful, filling every dark corner and blasting its unbearable brightness through closed eyelids. With it came a heat so intense that it struck and tightened the skin. While it remained there was an agony made greater by the knowledge that there was no escape, nothing could protect the eyes from this blinding pain. Then (as though it had been switched off) it was gone. The soft, refreshing darkness swam in and bathed the aching eyes that felt as though a dozen knives had slit them. Great hanging patches of dark green and red danced in the air where the light had damaged the nerves.

Then they saw it. In the far distance rolling upwards from behind the hill, a rounded cloud on a long stalk like a beautiful but poisonous, pink toadstool. From it came showers of pink and yellow light, and below it, spreading into the night, was a dangerous red glitter, like a snake waiting to strike. It was the cloud of war, the cloud of slow death by wasting disease, the cloud of the hydrogen bomb.

They stared at it, fascinated, hypnotised, like a rabbit watching a stoat. They forgot the noise. It came a little later like a solid wall of hard, exploding steel. It rammed into their ears, bursting their eardrums and splitting through their heads like a wire through cheese. With the noise came the blast, which was like the flash and the noise, but with physical force. It tossed them like table-tennis balls ; and houses collapsed sideways like broken books.

The little flares that had started up when the heat of the flash came were spread into a raging furnace. The whole landscape was pushed sideways and cracked and broken.

The horrible cloud rolled silently upwards as though trying to see farther and farther into the distance as its evil force sped from it in all directions. It seemed to be hugging itself in a vicious, silent glee at the destruction. It looked as though it would fall and bring the whole sky crashing down with it.

Those who had been in some shelter and were still alive tried to remember the advice they had been given. The fall-out ! Keep sheltered until the fall-out was over . . .

The valley had remained a Nature reserve ever since the hydrogen bomb had been dropped on it during the war. In it, the trees, stimulated by the invisible electrons of radioactivity, had reached and twisted into huge and grotesque shapes. Their leaves were red, blood-red. Around their arching roots, little creatures snuffled and pawed. They ran on their hind legs, had tiny heads with no eyes or ears, and their four arms waved in constant search. They were comical, almost human.

J. C. HOLDBROOK, VIs.

SCANDALOUS ?

Many years ago, when even the present prefects wore rosy cheeks and short trousers, a few, very brave sixth-formers, decided to produce a weekly magazine, and display it in the glass cases which adorn the walls in the Geography Block. Unfortunately, however, its life was not an unduly long one, and eventually it ceased to exist. The last few years in particular have seen several attempts to resurrect "Spotlight," as the magazine was called, but each has had only limited success. The

rather faded leaves of parchment at present occupying the cases, appear to have been in residence for somewhat longer than their stipulated seven days.

In the past two terms, however, a rival magazine, under the guidance of Messrs. Rice, Nott and Garnett, and with the illuminating title of "Scandal," has made its appearance. Its success has been spectacular, to say the very least. Starting from a humble fifty copies, its circulation has risen to well over a thousand, and demands for copies have come from nearly every school within a radius of ten miles or more. So interested are other schools, moreover, that many have sent contributions of their own for perusal by the editors ; and there have been rumours that the magazine numbers staff, as well as pupils, among its readers.

For its appeal, "Scandal" relies upon a somewhat "goonish" humour ; but it is always original and done cleverly enough to hold its regular readers and at the same time attract new ones. At the time of going to press, "Scandal" had just brought out its tenth edition ; we hope that there will be many more to come.

WHO KNOWS ENGLAND WHO ONLY ENGLAND KNOWS ?

As soon as I had recovered, physically and financially, from a cycling holiday in the Swiss Alps in 1957, I set to work to earn sufficient to go abroad again. The holiday of 1958 was rather ambitious, but I had a good deal of luck and managed to keep to a schedule while covering over 3,000 miles in five weeks. Needless to say, I did not cycle this time but travelled by train, walking and hitch-hiking. I decided to go alone, but in actual fact was never on my own for very long.

I decided to cross Belgium, Germany and Austria, making the Italian Dolomites and Venice my goals, and to return across Switzerland and France. The holiday was certainly one of contrasts. In Cologne I dined with the Managing Director of one of the largest industrial firms in Germany. In Italy I used to lunch by the roadside on grapes and peaches. One evening, at a mountain hut at a height of 8,000 feet in the Dolomites, it snowed. For the rest of the five weeks I journeyed under blue skies. Lifts en route varied from five-mile rides in disreputable old lorries, to a 425-mile ride with two pretty Belgian girls.

I used the special train service available to students between London and Cologne, where I spent three days at the home of a German boy, who spent Easter Term 1957 at school and with whom I have been corresponding ever since. By train up the

familiar Rhine and Neckar valleys, I came to Stuttgart, on the northern fringe of the Black Forest, where I had been invited to stay with two boys whom I had been climbing with above St. Moritz the previous summer. Stuttgart is an attractive city set amidst wooded hills and is the home of Mercedes Benz. On one hill stands the lofty Television Tower, a German architect's dream come true, rising 700 feet into the sky and commanding an exceptional view over the city and the surrounding forests. In the company of a German boy I continued along the autobahn to Munich. I spent a whole day in this interesting city and visited, amongst many other places, the Planetarium and the Deutsche Museum, which is the largest science museum in the world.

I then travelled by train to Germany's most popular Alpine resort, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, and spent the next week in lovely Austria. In the company of a student at Vienna University, I visited castles and museums in and around Innsbruck on a scooter. Another day was spent amidst some of the most beautiful scenery in the Alps. From the snow-covered Grossglockner, the highest mountain in Austria, sweeps down a mighty glacier, across which I was able to walk and then climb for hours, towards its source along well-marked paths and across ice-fields. From this paradise I had a ride on a German motor-cycle a hundred miles to Cortina, in Italy, where the Winter Olympic Games were held in 1956. After a pleasant evening in the town, I had a warm sleep in a hay-store.

In the Dolomites there are no hostels, no trains and coaches are infrequent. After waiting two hours outside Cortina for a coach or a lift, I tired of standing by the roadside under the burning sun and inquired about the times of the coaches, if any, to my destination for that day—Canazei, another mountain resort. I was informed in Italian that the only coach of the day was due in six hours' time and it was suggested that I should hitch-hike. My Italian was too weak to explain my plight, but five minutes later an Italian couple offered me a lift over the highest pass in the Dolomites, the Pordoi, to Canazei. That afternoon I climbed to the 8,000 feet Marmolada ("Jam Mountain") glacier and returned by chairlift. After a cold and uncomfortable night in an unfinished house, I resolved that the next night should be spent in an hotel, regardless of cost. On my second day in Canazei, I walked thirty miles along gravel roads, paths across fields, woods and marshes and climbed over two passes, arriving back in the town completely exhausted but rewarded by the exceptional views I had seen. That night I did sleep in an hotel, even if it was only in the bathroom of the Hotel Belvedere. I spent two days in and around the 8,000 feet "Rosetta" mountain hut, fifty miles to the south of Canazei, and then hitch-hiked one hundred miles down from the mountains to Venice, on the Adriatic coast.

Venice, lying on islands in a lagoon on the coast, has a charm all of its own. I could write a good deal about this city, which is a veritable theatre, but let it suffice to say that I spent three busy days there in pleasant company, sightseeing and swimming in the Adratic. From Venice I crossed Italy in two days to Genoa, on the Mediterranean coast. My next destination was Lausanne, in Switzerland, where I had been invited to stay for a week with two friends with whom I have been corresponding, in gradually improving French, ever since I was in IIIx. It took me one day to travel from Genoa to Lausanne, and I had one 250-mile lift with a Genoan travelling to Switzerland for his holidays. Luckily, he spoke French and we chatted during most of the journey from the rice-fields of Italy, over the barren St. Bernard Pass, to Lake Geneva.

The two friends in Lausanne were very kind to me—I had visited them in 1956 but had only been able to spend a few hours with them on that occasion. In a week I had time to explore the city and its port of Ouchy, to bathe in the lake, and to visit Evian-les-Bains, in Savoy, France, on the other side of the lake. After an extremely pleasant week, I continued along the lakeside to Geneva. On leaving the city, I passed the buildings of the United Nations, and then crossed the Swiss frontier. As I was waiting by the Customs Office, the two charming girls mentioned earlier offered me a lift to Brussels. This was more than I had ever hoped for, and we had an enjoyable twelve-hour ride across France, arriving in the Belgian capital at 11 p.m. By midnight I had found accommodation in a cheap suburban hotel. I spent the next day at the World Fair, with which I was greatly impressed. After another night in the same hotel, I was offered a lift to the coast, and arrived home in Slough twelve hours later.

Sufficient money was earned for this holiday by working on Saturdays during the winter months. I have now saved enough to go abroad again and have been invited to stay in Vienna with a family I met last summer.

Now all that remains is for me to reach Vienna!

D. A. KING, VIs.

25th HIGH WYCOMBE SCOUT TROOP

After months spent in bringing on its new Patrols and gradually raising its standards, the Troop has over the last two terms undertaken an ambitious programme, calling for a great deal of effort from all its members.

In the Autumn, quantities of paint, wallpaper and boarding were brought in and an attack was launched on the old Scout Hut.

This, dirty and decrepit as it was, still seemed a more desirable H.Q. than our gloomy meeting place in the Hall. The spare-time labours of two months transformed the Hut from an unglamorous rubbish dump, into a bright and airy room with four smart Patrol corners, which give privacy to their owners and fold away when not in use. We even managed to fit in a Den for the Seniors. As one parent remarked at Open Night, the old place is still falling to pieces, but at least we've done our best with it ; even the rats which moved in with us last term (via holes in the floor) probably appreciate the change. Perhaps they attributed the whole thing to the 6th Scout Law . . .

Open Night ! That was the big project of the Spring Term. It began when we were planning our Patrol Drama Competition. A.P.L. diffidently suggested that it might be a good thing to have an audience this year. From that idea blossomed the rich entertainment we offered to all interested on March 19th : four plays, elaborate displays in the Hut (by arrangement with the rats, who heard that ladies were expected and kindly went out for the evening) and a Campfire. More than thirty parents came to this, our first venture of the sort ; and our Guests of Honour were the Headmaster and the District Commissioner, Mr. Butters.

After some finely-produced plays the Drama Shield was presented by Mr. Butters to the Peewits, whose "suspense-packed drama," *The Return of Vlonstriege*, was adjudged the best by Mr. Broadbridge. The victors, who had scored heavily in most of our major initiative competitions this term, then went on to receive the coveted Lesser Trophy from the hands of Mr. Davies.

Next, our guests were invited to see the Scouts at work in the Hut, where detailed and realistic displays of Mapping, Tracking, First-Aid, Pioneering and Signalling aroused great interest. Meanwhile in the Hall the Seniors were erecting a 20-foot Wigan Flagstaff. After refreshments, the visitors were transported into the magic circle of the Campfire, and in the glow of log fire and oil lamps joined us in some rousing (but tuneful) songs and stunts.

When, at the close, the Rev. A. J. Skipp had led us in prayer, the parting comments of our guests amounted, quite simply, to "SEE YOU NEXT YEAR," And so they will.

P.M.H.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Last term and this we have had a mixed bag of entertainment, cultural and otherwise. A visit in November to the Canonbury Tower Theatre in Islington, where we combined a tour of the

Elizabethan tower and rep. theatre with a good meal at a local hostelry and a sparkling performance of "The Importance of Being Ernest," by the Tavistock Players, was enjoyed by everyone, especially the junior members, who regarded it as a mild kind of debauch, and were careful to wear a dissipated air accordingly! This term we have made a regular feature of play-readings in the Wednesday lunch-hour. We have argued our way through Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" and rollicked with "Captain" Boyle and Joxer Daly in O'Casey's "Juno and the Paycock." Quite a lot of talent has been disclosed in the ranks of the keen supporters from the Junior School, and some very creditable "Oirish" accents were "heard to advantage," as school play reviews *used* to say!

There have also been joint play-readings and social evenings with Pipers Corner School, and these, again, will be a regular feature in the future. It is extraordinary how the numbers of Society members seem to swell mysteriously on these occasions! Yet, let us not carp, but rather rejoice that these activities are so popular, no matter for what reason!

Last, but not least, our thanks are due to Mr. Broadbridge, who, earlier this term, gave a very interesting and spirited talk, illustrated by excellent drawings, on the Elizabethan theatre. He succeeded in drawing a vivid picture, not only of the actual theatre buildings and productions, but also of the manners and playgoing habits of that rumbustious age. We were glad to hear that the champing of comestibles during a performance was as familiar to those Elizabethans as to the New Elizabethans of this enlightened nuclear era, and that "Standing in ye Ninepennies" was not unknown to Beaumont and Fletcher.

And how delightful to learn that, in those halcyon days of free enterprise (not to mention free-booters) plays were meant to please, and if they did not, forsooth, there was a more corporeal target for one's penny norange (yes!) than the pale, unwinking eye of the "idiot's lantern." I.T.V., A.B.C., B.B.C., and X.Y.Z., please note.

May we say in parting that we are always glad to welcome new members from throughout the School, and that the Treasurer, A. B. Miller, is always highly receptive to new names and shilling subscriptions. Among forthcoming attractions, there will be, it is hoped, a visit early in the Summer Term to Stratford Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, where, if we are lucky, we shall see a performance of "Othello" by Paul Robeson and a very distinguished cast.

D.C.F.E.

SOCIETY NEWS

Two years ago, the Jazz Club wondered whether, with its membership of 75, it was the largest society in the School. Today, the Science Society has well over 200 members, and this indicates that the period when there was a "deplorable lack of support for the School Societies" has now largely passed. The last few years have witnessed the appearance of several entirely new societies, and a corresponding increase in the amount of activities. Indeed, now there is the ever-present problem of clashes between these various activities.

Not only is the Science Society the largest in the School, it also claims to be the most active. Because the range of interest is so extensive, outings to satisfy all the members have been difficult to arrange. The most outstanding excursion was that of 120 boys, accompanied by five masters, to the London Planetarium. The programme, "Under Southern Skies with Hillary and Fuchs," was both interesting and instructive, and the trip was enjoyed by everyone. Last term outings were made to Horlicks, of Slough, and Kodaks, at Wealdstone. This term, a trip will be made to the Railks factory at Loudwater, and it is hoped that another visit, or rather, visitation, will be made to the Planetarium. One of the most outstanding features of the Society has been its film shows. Seven of these were shown last term, some had to be repeated, and they have varied in subject-matter from motor racing to radio-astronomy. Their popularity has been such that another dozen have been ordered for this term. The Science Block will soon provide exceptional facilities for lectures and film shows. It is to be hoped that interest in science will grow accordingly.

Among the other very active societies have been those closely connected to the field of music (in the widest possible sense). The Music Society received a slight setback when B. Tetmar, its secretary for a long time, left last year. However, the Society is now flourishing again, and its weekly concerts are attended by an increasing number of listeners. A small party went to the Royal Festival Hall in November, to hear a magnificent concert of the music of Beethoven and Brahms, played by Arthur Rubenstein. The main event, however, was a visit to Sadlers Wells by 40 members to see "The Marriage of Figaro." This proved to be a most successful evening, and the wide support that the outing received was most encouraging, and augurs well for the future. As usual, Mr. Dawes and Mr. Gaster have proved invaluable in their advice and help.

At the beginning of the year the Jazz Club changed its title to the Jazz Appreciation Society. As planned, record programmes

occurred nearly every week, playing all kinds of jazz from "Jelly Roll" to Gerry Mulligan for anyone who cared to come and listen—unfortunately not many did. This sorry state was reflected in the poor response to most of the various trips which the hard-working secretary spent so much time in arranging. There were however, enough people interested in the older forms of jazz to make trips to hear George Lewis and Louis Armstrong possible. Quite a number also attended one of Count Baxe's concerts, which was up to his usual high and thoughtful standard. It is hoped to get enough people together to run a trip to hear Chris Barber when he comes back in April, and tickets will also be available, in most cases, to see other jazzmen who will be visiting us. This term a service was started where anyone can sell, buy or exchange records. Unfortunately the scope is limited by lack of enthusiasm and money, so these last terms have not been as active as they might have been.

The discovery that the substantial funds of the Historical Society had been "misplaced" at the end of last year, has prevented the adoption of an extensive and ambitious programme. Nevertheless, in the Autumn Term, more than thirty boys enjoyed a trip to London for a tour of the Houses of Parliament, conducted by Mr. John Hall, M.P., followed by a visit to the Public Records Office. In the Easter Term, the boys who attended the lecture on the Manchurian Crisis, kindly given by Mr. G. R. Grace, found it stimulating and worthy of much more support. This is essentially a year of retrenchment and recuperation. The membership is high for a society whose appeal is limited, and it can look forward to a flourishing future.

Anyone who has been in the main corridor at lunch-time will testify that the Chess Club is a thriving concern. Unfortunately, if the outlook is bright in the Junior School, there are signs that Chess is rapidly losing popularity in the Senior School. In fact, whilst a great deal of losing chess, blind chess, acceleration chess and even draughts is played, very little orthodox chess occurs. This lack of interest is reflected in the poor record of the teams. Nevertheless, at the time of printing we are still in the Bucks & Berks Shield, and have sent three players to represent the county in an under 18 Inter-County tournament. The following players have regularly represented the School Senior team: R. A. P. Wilson, J. P. Baker, D. C. Cox, G. H. Cunnold and P. Mayo.

In the last few months the Christian Fellowship has been more active than ever before. There have been excellent and well-supported talks by outside speakers and by masters on a multitude of subjects.

The Twentieth-Century Opinion Society has also had speakers from outside the School, and its meetings have been the

scene of much lively debate. Attendances have so far been quite large, but it is felt that more people at the top of the School might take more interest in this society. Mr. Jones has worked wonders in organising the meetings.

The Modern Language Society has also been very active over the last two terms. Many French and German films have been shown, mostly to good audiences. Two very successful outings were arranged, the first with the High School, to Schiller's "Kabale und Liebe" at Oxford, and the second to L'Institut Français to see Molière's "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme."

Now in its second year of existence, the Aeronautical Society continues to flourish. The high-lights of its activities this year have been a visit to Vickers-Armstrong and a talk given by F/O. Rickard, R.N.Z.A.F. It was unfortunate that only twenty people could go to Weybridge, as the visit was extremely instructive and enjoyable. At F/O. Rickard's meeting, at which he talked about his work, his replies were both informative and entertaining. Both the model flying and the competitions have been very well supported again this year. The Society thanks all the welcome assistance given by the staff.

The main event in the activities of the Camera Club was its competition, which Mr. A. L. Runswick kindly judged. Interest in the Society is keen, as shown by the high quality of the entries. Enlarging classes have been held on Friday afternoons.

The Stamp Society still continues its unspectacular activities. Interest is keen, and buying and selling has been prolific at the Monday and Friday exchange meetings. A very successful trip was run to Harrison's in High Wycombe last term. Mr. A. C. Hills has regularly helped the Society in matters philatelic.

HOUSE NOTES

At the beginning of the Christmas Term all the boys were allocated to six new Houses. The names of the four old ones were retained and Kings and Queens were reintroduced after a lapse of some twelve years. The change certainly seems to have been for the better, as the increase of interest in House activities has been very marked.

Points are awarded for every House activity and these are cumulative. The House gaining most points during the year becomes Top House.

House points for the Christmas and Easter Term, with notes on some of the activities, are given below :—

	A.	D.	F.	K.	Q.	Y.
Boxing	11	5	2	0	5	8
Cross-Country	12	15	6	9	20	3
Chess	12	15	9	0	3	6
Basketball	15	5	11	0	11	5
Rugby	15	0	20	15	10	30
Badminton	8	5	11	15	0	0
	<u>73</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>52</u>

Cross-Country

Altogether in the three age groups one hundred and sixty boys entered for their Houses and some very good performances were seen. Currell (Queens) ran very well in the Senior event to come in first and equalled the School record which he had made earlier in the season with a time of 18 minutes 27½ seconds. Watters (Queens) came in second and Yates (Kings) third. Gone are the days when the 1st Rugby XV could place some of its members in the first six home ; to get a good placing needs constant training and practice, and this says a great deal for the cross-country team.

Weston (Kings) won the Colts' race with a time of 19 minutes 33 seconds, followed by Gelder (Kings) and Culley (Fraser).

In the Junior event Charlton (Queens) ran very well to win and Blythen (Disraeli) was not far behind ; Sifton (Queens) came third.

Points scored by the Houses are shown below :—

	A.	D.	F.	K.	Q.	Y.
Junior	187	116	269	318	90	317
Colts	241	197	243	157	202	148
Senior	166	107	262	214	118	338
	<u>594</u>	<u>420</u>	<u>774</u>	<u>689</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>803</u>
	3rd	2nd	5th	4th	1st	6th

Basketball

As usual, the Basketball caused great interest and every lunch-hour the Gym. was packed with dozens of spectators. Disraeli played exceptionally well to win the Senior League, but came bottom in the Junior event. Queens and Fraser were equal first in the overall result.

		Wins	Draws	Losses	Position	
Arnison :	Senior	...	3	1	1	2
	Junior	...	2	1	2	4—
Disraeli :	Senior	...	4	0	1	1
	Junior	...	0	1	4	6
Fraser :	Senior	...	2	2	1	3
	Junior	...	2	2	1	2—
Kings :	Senior	...	1	0	4	5—
	Junior	...	2	1	2	4—
Queens :	Senior	...	2	1	2	4
	Junior	...	3	0	2	2—
Youens :	Senior	...	1	0	4	5—
	Junior	...	3	1		1

Chess

The tournament eventually came to an end some weeks late, but it is a very difficult game to time-table. Final result:—

1st, Disraeli ; 2nd, Arnison ; 3rd, Fraser ; 4th, Youens ; 5th, Queens ; 6th, Kings.

Badminton

This is a new game to the School but has found an enthusiastic following. All the Houses somehow managed to produce a team and the games went on long into the evenings after school. Final result:—

1st, Kings ; 2nd, Fraser ; 3rd, Arnison ; 4th, Disraeli ; and last equal, Queens and Youens.

Rugby

The Senior and Colts' teams were selected by forms. Only boys in the 5 uppers and sixth forms played in the Senior tournament and boys playing for Colts' teams could be drawn from any part of the School except the 5 upper and sixth forms.

Some very keen and hard rugby was played in the second rounds of the Senior tournament, particularly between Youens and Fraser. Their first game was a draw and the replay was only decided after extra time in Fraser's favour. The final was played between Fraser and Arnison and proved a most entertaining game. Fraser won 11—5.

Youens House in the Colts' tournament were very strong and their vigorous, and at times skilful, rugby was a pleasure to watch. They won all three games decisively to become the champions.

SENIOR "KNOCK-OUT" TABLE

Kings	}	Queens	}	Arnison	}	Fraser (won 11—5)
Queens		Arnison				
Arnison	}	Youens	}	Fraser		
Youens		Fraser				
Disraeli						
Fraser						

COLTS' "KNOCK-OUT" TABLE

Kings	}	Kings	}	Kings	}	
Queens						
Arnison		Arnison				} Youens
Youens						
Disraeli		Youens		Youens		
Fraser		Fraser				

Boxing

The introduction of six Houses instead of four presented an ideal opportunity to revise the House boxing system. Its weakness had always been that too few boys entered, some holding back in all modesty and others in fear and trembling. With the incentive of bonus points and with the admirable assistance of Housemasters, both the modest and the timid were persuaded to enter for the sake of their House. Friendly persuasion and good publicity met with great success in Arnison House particularly. They managed to acquire 54 points from entries and qualifying rounds alone, their nearest challengers being Disraeli with 28 points.

This initial effort was not quite enough, however, to carry Arnison to success and as the finals day approached it was evident that Disraeli possessed the greater number of skilful boxers.

The position was still open on Finals Day, but was soon decided beyond any doubt in favour of Disraeli.

Of the 141 preliminary bouts the following deserve a mention.

Hussey (D)	beat	Paine (Q)
Clarke (Y)	„	Bowman (A)
Smyth (D)	„	Orchard (K)
Cullen (Y)	„	Dawes (A)
Miller (F)	„	Jones (A)
Duncan (D)	„	May (Q)

Some boys were unlucky enough to get to the finals and then to be deprived of their moment of glory through injury to their opponents. Of these, P. Muller, Cullen and Hussey boxed well throughout and deserve mention.

The cups for the best boxers were presented to G. Stossler in the Senior School and to M. O'Hanlon in the Junior School.

May we offer our thanks to Mr. N. Theed for presenting the prizes, Dr. E. Shand for his attendance as medical officer, to Mr. A. Rhodes for refereeing so admirably, and to the judges, Messrs. C. Franks, G. Folley and J. Lane.

RESULTS

1. 6st. and under ...	... O'Hanlon (A)	beat	Clarke (Y)
2. 6st. 7lbs. and under ...	... Blythen (D)	"	Jones (A)
3. 7st. 7lbs. and under ...	... Malec (F)	"	Bentley (A)
4. 8st. and under ...	... Rogers (D)	"	Brain (Q)

Bouts already decided

Ham (Q)	beat	Sifton (Q)
Tranter (D)	"	Davies (A)
Barlow (Q)	"	Green (F)

Senior School

5. 7st and under ...	... Smyth (D)	beat	Allen (D) Walk-over
6. 8st. and under ...	... Bevan (Y)	"	Newton (D)
7. 9st. and under ...	... Stossler (Y)	"	Dorsett (Y)
8. 9st. 7lbs. and under ...	... Duncan (D)	"	Clarke (Y) Walk-over
9. 10st. 7lbs. and under ...	... Humphries (F)	"	Tabner (Y)
10. 1st. 7lbs. and under ...	... Bond (D)	"	Coleman (A)
11. Over 11st. 7lbs.	... Gilbertson (A)	"	Pain (A)

Final Points

1. Disraeli ... 138	3. Youens ... 90	5. Fraser ... 69
2. Arnison ... 127	4. Queens ... 76	6. Kings ... 49

RUGBY RETROSPECT

In 1947 Mr. C. M. Haworth took over from Mr. H. Brin Rees the organisation and training of the 1st XV. Many boys have had the benefit of his enthusiasm and interpretation of the game of rugby. A more conscientious person it would be difficult to find. He has spent innumerable hours over the past twelve years in arranging fixtures, supervising training and attending every School game with one or two rare exceptions.

A vast number of boys owe a great deal to Mr. Haworth, for he has enabled them to acquire the necessary skills and the correct attitude to the game, which has given great pleasure to the boys who played in the 1st XV while at school, and in every standard of the game outside school, from small club to international sides.

Last summer Mr. Haworth decided to retire from the rugby scene, and it was with great pleasure, and at the same time trepidation, that I accepted his offer to take over: pleasure because I love the game of rugby and trepidation at following such a respected predecessor.

D.T.N.

1st XV

School matches : Won 8, Lost 4, Points for 148, Points against 78.

Other matches : Won 2, Lost 0, Points for 14, Points against 9, Cancelled 3.

Unlike the beginning of last season, when 'flu depleted every team and made training periods uncertain, we managed to get a

reasonable amount of training into the first half of the Christmas Term despite the bad weather. Practice on the field was supplemented by regular circuit training in the gymnasium, which has improved the strength and stamina of the boys in the 1st and 2nd XV's.

P. J. Muller has been a quiet and efficient captain, and has led his team by personal example of a very high standard. The leader of the forwards and the vice-captain, R. C. Jones, has managed to weld his forwards into a workmanlike pack.

The season has been one of contrasts ; some matches the team played without cohesion or any apparent drive, whilst on other occasions the rugby was first-class and brought a glow of pride into the hearts of the School supporters. The number of poor games, I am pleased to say, were few, but two come to mind. The first was away against Luton Grammar School, when we lost six points to nil. Our forwards seemed to lack a common purpose and the three-quarters had many dropped passes. The other game was against Leighton Park School at home. Here the vital spark seemed to be lacking and, although on occasions there were individual highlights, there was no combined effort and we lost by nine points to six.

At the other end of the scale was the match against Saracens' Gipsy XV, which the supporters and the team are unlikely to forget. Everyone played well, but perhaps R. Pratley at open side wing forward may be singled out for an outstanding game. The whole scrum, in fact, played as a unit and the front row, with R. C. Jones and W. A. C. Knowles as props and A. W. Ralley hooking, at last showed their true form and had the lion's share of the ball. The three-quarters also shone ; P. J. Muller, receiving a good pass as usual from G. R. Packman, acted as a fine link and displayed some excellent runs and kicks. R. D. Smith on the wing delighted everyone by his speed.

A general criticism which may be levelled at the team as a whole and the forwards in particular, is their slowness to warm up. On many occasions it was not until half-time that they came to life. The Abingdon game was an example of this. I'm sure the result of this game, a draw 0—0, might have been very different if the boys had come to life a little earlier.

Outstanding in this year's pack was A. Brinn, who played number eight. He has played immaculately : his line-out is work well above average, his tackling "text book," and the amount of effort put into every game beyond reproach. On the open side of the scrum R. Pratley has shown that an ex-centre can become an excellent back-row man. His tackling and covering have given many opposing stand-offs and centres a great deal to think about. P. J. Blokland at blind side was always up on the loose ball and his speed and backing up could always be relied on.

J. Simpson and S. Leader in the second row have done a great deal of hard work and have been the backbone of the scrum. Ralley has hooked well and played hard, but the prop forwards have taken a long time to settle down. However, since R. C. Jones has been playing in the front row the scrum has been working far better. R. A. Stockwell as a prop shows promise and will no doubt be a very useful player next season. W. A. C. Knowles also as a front row man has been most useful in the loose and has a safe pair of hands, but his binding has been suspect at times.

G. R. Packman at scrum half and P. J. Muller at stand-off have proved a very good pair. Muller's appreciation of the game with his strength speed, kicking and tackling has decided many matches, and the passes he received from G. Packman were always accurate if lacking in length. Packman, despite his small build, never failed to fall on the ball when necessary and always had an eye open for gaps near the scrum.

The centres, K. R. Miller and R. W. Tabner, have settled down well after a shaky start. Miller's agility and Tabner's speed have made them a useful pair. R. Quirke on the left wing has played steadily and well and, although not outstandingly fast, is a hard runner. J. Barkas, a very good fast winger, left school at Christmas and was replaced by R. D. Smith, who, although lacking in experience, shows great promise. Our full-back, R. J. Collett, also left school at Christmas. He played in ten games and proved very reliable. His successor, A. W. Fountain, has filled the gap well, though lack of experience sometimes gave cause for alarm, but he is learning fast, and I'm sure will give a very good account of himself next year.

The following boys have played regularly for the 1st XV : P. J. Muller* (Capt.), R. C. Jones* (Vice-Capt.), R. J. Collett†, A. W. Fountain†, R. Quirke†, K. R. Miller†, R. W. Tabner†, J. Barkas*, R. D. Smith†, G. R. Packman†, W. A. C. Knowles†, A. W. Ralley*, R. A. Stockwell†, J. Simpson†, S. A. Leader†, A. Brinn*, R. Pratley†, P. J. Blokland*.

Also played : I. A. Barnard, G. F. Smith, M. F. Turner.

* denotes Old Colours.

† denotes New Colours.

2nd XV

Played 13, Won 6, Drawn 3, Lost 4

It is difficult this season to judge the 2nd XV fairly. By the end of the Christmas term it had lost only 2 out of 11 matches, scoring 161 points against its opponents' 50, but by the end of the season it had played 2 matches more, and lost them both. The points score then stood at 170 for, 119 against.

The explanation for this apparent collapse is not difficult to find. One member of the team left School at Christmas ; others filled vacancies in the 1st XV ; influenza took its toll. In fact, in the latter part of the season, the team, as a team, had ceased to exist. Vacancies in it were valiantly filled by members of the 3rd and 4th XV's, always willing to turn out on a Saturday afternoon to fight against overwhelming odds.

The first part of the season, on the other hand, was resoundingly successfully, reaching its zenith when Watford Grammar School 2nd XV visited High Wycombe only to lose 8—3. Earlier the School had lost to Watford, away, 3—14, and so the return game became a needle match in which, from the first to the final whistle, there was no let up by either side.

The away match against St. Benedict's was also an exciting one. The 2nd XV led 11—6 until the last minute of the game, when a St. Benedict's wing broke through down the touchline to score under the posts. As soon as the goal had been kicked, "no-side" was blown.

The 2nd XV had its faults, however. There was an inability to start playing boisterous football until after half-time. Corner flagging was an almost unknown form of tactics. The scrum was often disinclined to shove at the critical moment, and three-quarters lost ground by running back. When, however, the team played well, it was an impressive and formidable foe. Forward rushes proved very difficult to stop and the backs cut through their opponents with well co-ordinated line movements.

If mistakes were made, a great deal of very useful experience was gained and it is to be hoped that next season's 1st XV will benefit from this season's 2nd.

The following were awarded their 2nd XV Colours : M. D. Humphries, A. I. Barnard, J. H. Comer, R. J. Coppock, A. W. Fountain, R. W. Fox, A. C. Pain, B. A. J. Quirke, A. J. Riley, J. D. Seale, G. F. Smith, R. C. Smith, R. D. Smith, M. F. Turner, R. P. Williams.

3rd XV

Played 9, Won 9, Lost 0, Drawn 0, Points for 161, Points against 18

This has been a most successful season with the team winning all its games. Cunnold and Luscombe, who succeeded him later in the Christmas Term, were enthusiastic and vigorous captains, and the side responded well to their leadership. The chief satisfaction must come from the number of young ex-Colts who played for the Thirds and who will surely find places in the more senior teams next year.

The following boys were awarded their 3rd XV stockings :
Luscombe, Cunnold, Dedman, Douglas, Ward, Evans, Hall
Smith (J. D.), Seale, Gillett, Yates, Dronfield, Nash, Sparks,
Johnson, Dawes.

4th XV

Played 2, Won 1, Lost 1

The 4th XV has played its customary two fixtures with its usual enthusiasm and gusto. The spirit is there, even if skill does seem to be lacking at times.

COLTS' XV

Won 6, Lost 3, Drawn 1, Points for 96, Points against 79

In the first half of the season, apart from good home wins over Windsor Grammar School (11—6) and St. Marylebone Grammar School (17—5), the team struck a bad patch, losing away games at St. Benedict's School (0—16) and at Watford Grammar School (0—20). In both these games its opponents were much bigger boys, and in the former the team was handicapped by the loss in the second half of their scrum-half, Hope, with a damaged thumb.

In this period the team showed itself to be very unsteady under pressure and apt to make the most elementary mistakes. Thus, for example, in the Watford game, after a Watford penalty kick at goal had failed, a Watford player was allowed to follow up and touch down without any defender attempting to stop him.

A welcome improvement was shown in the home game against Stoneham School. This was played in very bad conditions, but the team showed commendable initiative in playing an "open" game and well deserved to draw (3—3). Thus encouraged, it won the next three home games, beating Southfield School (8—3), Luton Grammar School (8—3) and Leighton Park School (19—0).

On the whole, therefore, it was a moderately successful season. There was no lack of enthusiasm to play in a team, so that on one occasion we were able to field two almost entirely different teams, one against Sir Wm. Borlase's School in the morning (12—3), the other against Henley Grammar School in the afternoon (8—18).

The chief defect was the lack of a player capable of holding the team together when under pressure ; though there was the promise before the season was over that both Clark and Dorsett were beginning to fill that role adequately. The forwards were all hard-working and when they had learnt to work as a pack, they became a force to be reckoned with. In mid-field there

were three well-balanced runners in Dorsett, Harding and Clark, each of whom handled well and had a good ability for finding gaps. When they have learnt the advantage of a swift pass out to the wing as well, there should be no lack of scoring power.

The following boys played regularly for the team : Collins, Dupond, Holland, Rolfe, Saunders, Steward, Tuffs, Taylor, Hailstone, Priestley, Hope, Layton, Harding, Clarke, Dorsett, Stossler, Casbeard, Broadley.

JUNIOR COLTS

Played 11, Won 7, Lost 4

The backs in this year's Junior Colts team were remarkable for two things, their small size and their courage. In the early part of the season this lack of size was a handicap, but a reorganisation of the back division, and the return of Fewtrell to the team, resulted in the team finishing the season in very handsome fashion. The forwards developed into a fast and compact unit, playing with considerable fire and dash, in particular Rogers, Harding and Mason. Glass also proved a sound fly-half after the reorganisation, and Orchard developed into a very promising full-back. The side was very well captained by Smyth, who himself set a high standard of courage for his team.

The following played : Smyth, R. L. (Capt.), Bevan, I. F., Brandes, A. N., Brown, C., Barr, R. A., Bettinson, J. H., Bunce, S. W., Burrows, K. E., Brett, C. R., Clark, R. B., Cronin, B. H. J., Davies, J. M., Davies, J. A., Everitt, M., Fewtrell, R. A., Fountain, R., Fone, S., Glass, D. A., Goodchild, J. M., Harding, R. C., Lawson, A. D., Mason, M. J., Orchard, D. G., Pass C. F., Rogers, C. G., Rothwell, M. S., Seale, G. M., Snodien, S. R., Spittle, P. B., Whitwham, I. R. W., Wright, K. G., Wilson A.

JUNIOR XV

Played 7, Won 2, Lost 4, Drawn 1, Points for 51, against 99.

The team, which seemed promising at the start, did not do as well as expected. There was a tendency to rely too much on individuals and no one settled down in the key position of scrum-half.

The backs were potentially good, but they must learn to pass correctly and to tackle with determination. The forwards were too often playing as individuals, although they showed, in the drawn game against Langley G.S., how well they could play if they were together.

Packman played consistently well and was an admirable captain.

The following played : Packman (Capt.), Horley, Lane, Solomon, Dorkings, Marshall, Moores, Ward, T. S., Davies, D. M., Harris, Williams, Sifton, Brain, Blythen, Smyth, G. M., Ham, Clark, P. R. G., Austin, R. J., Ferguson, D.R.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

1st XV

Sept.	27	Windsor Grammar School	...	Home	Won	42	5
Oct.	4	St. Bartholomew's G.S., Newbury	...	Away	Drawn	6	6
"	11	St. Marylebone Grammar School	...	Home	Won	6	0
"	15	Watford Grammar School	...	Home	Won	11	5
"	18	St. Benedict's School	...	Away	Won	6	5
"	25	City of Oxford School	...	Home	Won	19	0
Nov.	8	Watford Grammar School	...	Away	Won	8	6
"	12	Tiffin School	...	Away	Lost	6	9
"	15	Abingdon School	...	Away	Drawn	0	0
"	26	Emanuel School	...	Away	Won	19	15
"	29	Luton Grammar School	...	Away	Lost	0	6
Dec.	6	Leighton Park School	...	Home	Lost	6	9
Jan.	24	Saracens' Gipsy XV	...	Home	Won	9	6
"	31	Jesus College, Oxford	...	Cancelled			
Feb.	7	Balliol College, Oxford	...	Cancelled			
"	21	No. 1 Wing, School of Technical Training, R.A.F. Halton	...	Away	Lost	3	9
Mar.	7	Sir William Borlase's School	...	Away	Won	16	3
"	11	Staff and Guests	...	Home	Won	5	3
"	25	P. D. Fry's XV.	...	Home	Lost	6	10

2nd XV

Sept.	27	Windsor Grammar School	...	Away	Won	66	3
Oct.	4	St. Bartholomew's G.S., Newbury	...	Away	Lost	3	8
"	11	St. Marylebone Grammar School	...	Cancelled			
"	15	Watford Grammar School	...	Away	Lost	3	15
"	18	St. Benedict's School	...	Away	Drawn	11	11
"	25	Aylesbury Grammar School 1st XV	...	Home	Won	9	3
Nov.	8	Watford Grammar School	...	Home	Won	8	3
"	12	Tiffin School	...	Home	Drawn	0	0
"	15	Abingdon	...	Away	Drawn	3	3
"	26	Emanuel School	...	Away	Won	37	0
"	29	Luton Grammar School	...	Away	Won	5	0
Dec.	6	Leighton Park School	...	Away	Won	17	3
"	13	*Wycombiensians "A"	...	Away	Lost	9	13
Jan.	17	Southfield School 1st XV	...	Cancelled			
"	24	Lord William's School 1st XV	...	Cancelled			
Feb.	7	Henley Grammar School 1st XV	...	Cancelled			
"	14	Stoneham School 1st XV	...	Away	Lost	0	30
"	21	No. 1 Wing, School of Technical Training, R.A.F. Halton	...	Away	Lost	11	21
Mar.	7	Stoneham School 1st XV	...	Home	Lost	0	34

* School "A" team.

3rd XV

Oct.	4	Sir William Borlase's School 2nd XV	...	Home	Won	8	3
"	15	Watford Grammar School	...	Away	Won	9	0
"	18	St. Benedict's School	...	Home	Won	16	0
"	25	City of Oxford under 16 XV	...	Home	Won	28	3
"	29	Slough Technical School 1st XV	...	Home	Won	30	0

Nov. 8	Watford Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	8	3
" 12	Tiffin School	...	...	Home	Won	22	6
" 26	Slough Grammar School	...	...	Cancelled			
" 29	Luton Grammar School	...	...	Away	Won	30	3
Dec. 6	Leighton Park School	...	...	Away	Won	10	3
Jan. 31	Wycombiensians' "B"	...	...	Cancelled			

4th XV

Oct. 15	Watford Grammar School	...	...	Home	Lost	6	11
" 29	Slough Technical School 2nd XV	...	...	Home	Won	29	0

COLTS XV

Sept. 27	Windsor Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	11	6
Oct. 11	St. Marylebone Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	17	5
" 18	St. Benedict's School	...	...	Away	Lost	0	16
" 25	{ Sir William Borlase's School	...	...	Home	Won	12	3
" 25	{ Henley Grammar School	...	...	Away	Lost	8	15
Nov. 8	Watford Grammar School	...	...	Away	Lost	0	22
" 15	Stoneham School	...	...	Home	Drawn	3	3
" 22	Southfield School	...	...	Home	Won	8	6
" 29	Luton Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	8	3
Dec. 6	Leighton Park School	...	...	Home	Won	19	0

JUNIOR COLTS XV

Sept. 27	Windsor Grammar School	...	...	Away	Won	20	8
Oct. 11	St. Marylebone Grammar School	...	...	Away	Won	6	5
" 18	St. Benedict's School	...	...	Home	Lost	5	11
" 25	{ Sir William Borlase's School	...	...	Home	Lost	0	14
" 25	{ Henley Grammar School	...	...	Away	Won	11	9
Nov. 8	Watford Grammar School	...	...	Away	Lost	0	9
" 15	{ Stoneham School	...	...	Home	Won	28	0
" 15	{ Langley County Secondary School	...	...	Home	Lost	8	12
" 22	Southfield School	...	...	Home	Won	8	6
" 29	Luton Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	11	3
Dec. 6	St. Nicholas Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	26	0

JUNIOR XV

Oct. 4	Sir William Borlase's School	...	...	Away	Won	13	3
" 18	St. Benedict's School	...	...	Home	Lost	12	20
Nov. 8	Watford Grammar School	...	...	Away	Lost	0	21
" 15	Langley County Secondary School	...	...	Home	Drawn	3	3
" 22	Sir William Borlase's School	...	...	Home	Lost	3	6
" 29	Luton Grammar School	...	...	Home	Won	17	11
Dec. 6	St. Nicholas Grammar School	...	...	Home	Lost	35	3

CROSS-COUNTRY

As was expected, the cross-country team could not reach the exceptionally high standard of last year's team. Five of last year's Colours have left.

Nevertheless, only four matches were lost and none to other schools. D. W. Cox was a very conscientious captain, well supported by the other remaining Colours, J. L. Currell, M. K. Hussey and D. P. May.

Early in the season Cox and Currell were very prominent ; towards the end of the season, however, Currell came to the fore, winning the County Championships and putting up very creditable performances in the Ranelagh Schools, Southern and National Championships.

M. K. Hussey, being too old to compete for the School in any of the youth championships, did well in the Junior events.

A. L. Watters and P. J. Yates, both very young, began running extremely well towards the end of the season and promised great things for the future.

The Colts and Junior Colts both had very successful seasons. We would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Sheppard and Mr. Edginton for their unfailing interest and encouragement.

Colours were awarded to J. K. Bonnett and A. R. Watters. Others who ran were : P. Yates, T. Coleman and M. G. Smith.

Army Apprentices, Arborfield	...	...	...	...	Won
Vale of Aylesbury A.C.	...	...	...	...	Lost
Bishopshalt School	...	...	...	...	Won
Harrow County Grammar School	...	...	...	...	Won
Nautical College, Pangbourne	...	...	...	...	Won
Keble College, Oxford	...	...	...	...	Won
Wadham, Exeter, St. John's, Balliol Colleges, Oxford	...	...	...	...	Won
R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	...	...	...	...	Lost
Wycombe Phoenix Harriers and Vale of Aylesbury A.C.	...	...	...	...	3rd
Culham College	...	...	...	...	Lost
Watford Grammar School	...	...	...	...	Won
Ranelagh Schools Championship	...	...	...	...	5th
Southern Counties Championship	...	...	...	...	20th
County Championship	...	...	...	...	3rd

BASKETBALL TEAM

The most notable feature of this year's Basketball has been the widening of the fixtures to include some of the Watford teams who play in the Watford League. Although a new fixture has usually meant a new defeat we have been losing against good adult teams on good courts and the experience gained has enabled us to beat most of our regular opponents. Twice during the season our strength was divided so that two matches could be played in the same evening. On both occasions one was lost, the other won. This practice makes us more liable to defeat, of course, but on the other hand, it does give match practice to a larger number of boys and has helped to build our team for next year.

Congratulations to R. W. Tabner, J. Priestley and M. Humphries on gaining their Colours, and to R. C. Jones, P.

J. Muller and R. W. Tabner for exceeding 100 points during the season.

Other boys who represented the School were: Coward, Bond, Wood, C. R., Brinn, Hillyard, Dawes, Perfect, Yates.

RESULTS

Newlands Park (2)	...	...	...	...	Lost (2)
Slough Grammar	...	...	...	Won	
*Slough Teachers	...	...	...	Won	
Mill End Old Boys (2)	...	...	...	Won (1)	Lost (1)
R.A.F. Halton (2)	...	...	...	Won (2)	
*Watford Grammar	...	...	...	Won	
*Coombe Old Boys (Watford)	...	...	...		Lost
Pegasus, Watford	...	...	...		Lost
Achilles, Watford	...	...	...		Lost
*R.A.F. Naphill (2)	...	...	...	Won (2)	
*Southfields Grammar	...	...	...		Lost
*Sir William Borlase's	...	...	...	Won	

Played 16, Won 9, Lost 7

* 'A' Teams.

HOCKEY, 1958-59

At the beginning of the season the School team was built around a nucleus of boys who had played a little hockey before. By the end of the season these boys found that many of the newcomers to the game were beginning to make strong claims for places in the School side. Several are showing great promise for the future.

Enthusiasm carried the team through their first games, but now many have developed considerable skill and the side is playing as a team.

The main reason for not having scored more goals has been over anxiousness in the opponents' circle, resulting in wild, rushed shots and forwards obstructing each other.

Defence and approach work has generally been impressive.

Shackell has been the most consistently dangerous forward, strongly backed by Tomes and Barrett. In the defence, Ashford is sound and always hits the ball hard. Payne has been a most reliable goalkeeper, a position admirably filled by P. B. Barnes when Payne was not available. In the Staff match, Matthews and H. G. Barnes proved to be very promising players.

Four matches were played in the Autumn Term, but owing to bad weather and other school activities only one was possible in the Spring Term. It is hoped that we shall have many new figures next season.

M.J.E.

RESULTS

					F.	A.
v High Wycombe 3rd XI	...	...	...	...	2	6
v High Wycombe 4th XI	...	...	...	...	4	2
v Newlands Park	...	...	...	...	0	8
v Germains School, Chesham	...	...	...	...	8	1
v Staff	...	...	...	...	0	4

BOAT CLUB

Winter, of course, is the slack season for all watermen and there has been little activity to report. One or two of our doughtier "blades" have braved Thames' swollen floods to keep their hand in on Sunday mornings, but, on the whole, this winter has been a period of comfortable hibernation for R.G.S. oarsmen, as for other aquatic "beasts"!

We look forward, however, with zest—nay, gusto!—to a sunny summer at Marlow. Even though some who go down to the river do not always go to row all the time, but—fairweather sailors, these—may be seen disporting themselves in, rather than on, the water, and airing their worthy persons on the grassy banks, nevertheless, we shall again be getting into trim for our modest annual engagements. These, although they may be restricted to Wallingford Regatta—where we were lucky enough to win the Lord Glyn Challenge Cup for Under 17 Schoolboy Fours when it was first presented the year before last—and to Marlow Regatta—where we add our dim glow to the brilliant lustre of the shining lights of England's rowing aristocracy—are nevertheless red-letter days for all staunch members and supporters of the Boat Club. Indeed, we cannot wish them more staunch, but we could wish them more. Like all ancient and honourable institutions (!) we badly need infusions of new blood from time to time. Especially are we eager to enrol members of the Middle School, who, though they cannot join in on Wednesday afternoons, may row on Sunday mornings in limited numbers.

For this and all other privileges we are indebted as ever to the Marlow Rowing Club, our mentors, who kindly allow us to use their boats and gear. We are very grateful for all their help and encouragement.

D.C.F.E.

CRICKET CLUB 1959

Captain P. J. BLOKLAND
Vice-Captain R. C. JONES

Old Colours returning :

C. D. Waller, D. H. Bond, K. R. Miller.

On July 21st at 11.30 p.m. the Cricket Club will embark at Harwich on the first part of the tour of Holland. This is the first time that a School team has undertaken a foreign tour, so it is impossible to forecast the results of this new venture. It is only to be hoped that the different type of wickets and the overwhelming Dutch hospitality will not affect the cricket too much.

The cricketing fraternity in Holland, although small in numbers compared with the English-speaking countries, is extremely keen. All of the games, including a two-day match against the U.D. Club in Deventer, are against men's sides and the opposition will be strong. However, there is one aspect of the game in which the School XI should be supreme: the fielding of School sides for the past six or seven years has been of a high standard and has done much to keep the School on top in inter-school fixtures. It is in this department that the games should be won on the Tour.

The Tour party will consist of thirteen players and competition for these places will undoubtedly make for even greater keenness in the ordinary school games during the first part of the season. The party will be completed by Monday, June 22nd, but the nucleus of the team will be announced well before this date. Special tour ties, blazer emblems and pennants have been ordered and will be available from the School outfitters as soon as invitations have been issued.

The School attack contains no "throwers," so incidents on the field of play should be non-existent! There is no doubt that when the party arrives back at Harwich on Friday, July 31st, there will be a store of happy and varied memories that will last for a long time. This trip could well be the start of a long-lasting association with the people of Holland.

The School season will start with a three-day coaching scheme during the first part of the holidays. Six Dutch boys will attend this, as they are staying for a week at Tylerswood as guests of the School. The five old "Colours" returning this season should form the core of a very useful School XI.

H.W.J.

OLD BOYS' CLUB

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CRICKET CLUB

Season 1959

President : E. R. Tucker, Esq., M.A., J.P.

Chairman : R. F. Emery, Esq.

Captain : J. E. Woodward, Esq.

Vice-Captain : D. T. Nightingale, Esq.

Hon. Secretary : H. W. Johnson, Esq., Tylerswood, Hazlemere, Bucks.

Hon. Treasurer : A. B. Ward, Esq., c/o Hull, Loosley & Pearce, Ltd., 19 Oxford Street, High Wycombe.

Hon. Fixture Sec. : H. D. Howard, Esq., 170 White Hill, Chesham, Bucks.

Hon. Auditor : H. C. T. Briden, Esq.

General Committee : Messrs. M. Bridges, M. J. Eaton, R. P. D. Sharpe.

Last summer certain Old Boys expressed a desire to form an Old Boys' Cricket Club. Permission was obtained from the Old Wycombiensians' Club and on October 23rd, 1958, fourteen Old Boys met together in the Memorial Pavilion and agreed to start the Old Wycombiensians' Cricket Club. It was felt that as so many members were already playing for local clubs, Sunday fixtures only would be played ; and as the new club had no home ground all the games would be played away.

A full fixture list for the coming season has now been arranged and the Club will have its first game at Penn Street on Sunday, May 3rd, the day after the Old Boys' Dance in the School Hall. It is hoped that many Old Boys will come along and support the team at this, and other games.

The Club needs as many playing members and Vice-Presidents as possible. If the response is great enough, it will be possible to run two teams in 1960. Old Boys who are interested in this venture are asked to contact the Hon. Secretary. The fixture list at the end of this report and an extract from the rules will give an idea of the scope and aims of the Club.

The School is now one of the biggest Grammar Schools in the country. It is producing good school teams in Athletics, Basketball, Cricket, Cross-Country Running, Hockey, Rugby, Shooting and Tennis, and is also playing Badminton and Fives at inter-school level. It is a great pity that the Old Boys' Club of a school of this size and standing is unable to offer the boys who leave each year a welcome to a first-class Old Boys' Sports Club. The School is producing a well-trained " feed " and it is hoped that the Old Boys will soon be in a position to make use

of this wonderful source of talent. A great deal of hard work will be needed to realise such an ambition. There are, already, people willing to do that work ; all that is needed is whole-hearted support from Old Boys, near and far, whatever their sporting qualifications may be, to get this Club going. This kind of support could be the force needed to make the Cricket Club the first of many such activities, taking place on a sports ground owned by the Club, with a Club House in which to continue the "good fellowship" referred to in the rules below. 1962 will soon be here. One speaker at the Old Boys' Dinner asked that the Old Boys be allowed to take a great part in the celebrations of that year. By all means let us take our part ; but let us at the same time be in a position to offer the present boys a Sports and Social Club, in which they can take their place when the time comes.

Extracts from the Rules of the Old Wycombiensians' Cricket Club :—

2. The objects of the Club shall be the promotion of cricket and good fellowship.

3. That only members of the Old Wycombiensians' Club and members of the School Staff be eligible for election as playing members.

4. That Old Boys, School Staff and Parents of past and present boys be election as Vice-Presidents.

5. That only Old Boys have the power to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

7. That the Annual Subscription be :

Vice-Presidents, 10/-.

Playing Members, 15/-.

Playing members under 21 and/or Students, 7/6.

12. and that the real and all other property forming the remainder of the Club assets shall be vested in the Committee of the Old Wycombiensians' Club.

H. W. JOHNSON, *Hon. Sec.*

FIXTURES 1959

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Time</i>
May 3	Dancer and Hearne Sports Club	2.30
" 10	Old Merchant Taylors	2.30
" 17		
" 24	Pressed Steel Sports, Oxford	2.30
" 31	Watlington	2.30
June 7-		
" 14	Stokenchurch	2.30
" 21	R.A.F. High Wycombe	11.30
" 28	R.A.F. Medmenham	2.30
July 5	Pressed Steel Sports, Oxford	2.30
" 11 (Sat)	Royal Grammar School	11.30
" 12	Watlington	2.30
" 19		
Aug. 3 (Mon.)	Old Oxford Citizens, Oxford	11.30
" 30	Winchester	2.30
Sept. 6	Nettlebed	2.30
" 13	R.A.F., High Wycombe	2.00
" 20	Marlow	2.00
" 27		

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

The Old Boys' Dance was held at the R.G.S. on Saturday, March 2nd, 1959. It is hoped that dances will again become one of the regular features of the Club.

The notice of the Old Boys is also drawn to the following :—

A new Club tie with a distinctive design has been decided upon, and notice will be given later of when and where the ties will be available (price 11/6—17/6).

The newly-formed Cricket Club will have Sunday fixtures only, and will be exclusive to members of the Club.

If members fail to receive the School Magazine it is generally because they have not reported some change of address. Moreover, new occupiers do not usually bother to return the Magazines, which are often, therefore, simply thrown aside—a loss to the Club.

Life subscriptions are now £5 5s. 0d. Bankers' orders for annual subscriptions are now 7/6.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

With the kind permission of the proprietors, the Annual General Meeting was held in the Residents' Lounge of the Red Lion Hotel on Saturday, February 28th, 1959. The chair was taken by the President of the Club, Mr. E. R. Tucker : 36 Old Boys were present.

J. P. Lord gave details of the Old Boys' Dance of Mar. 2nd, and N. H. Theed of the proposed new club tie, a print of which was passed round and later shown at the Dinner. The tie will feature a gold crown upon a dark background, with the date 1562 printed underneath.

Mr. Franklin Holes gave a comprehensive survey of the balance sheet for 1958, but unfortunately this only served to show more clearly the unsatisfactory state of the Club's financial affairs. The excess of Expenditure over Income for 1958 alone came to £29 3s. 11d., and the total deficit is now £348 16s. 9d. This matter is to be discussed by the committee, but it is obviously not enough to trust to luck, and hope that the £50 of Premium Bonds recently purchased by the Club will bear fruit and end our financial difficulties. It was also stated that although 92 Life Members had subscribed the voluntary £2 2s. 0d., only three had issued instructions to their bankers to change the bankers' order from 5/- to 7/6.

The officers of the committee were re-elected *en bloc*, with J. W. Pursey and H. W. Johnson added to their number. Mr. G. A. Grant was added to the list of Life Vice-Presidents.

Silent tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mr. H. G. Brand.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

The usual caterers found it inconvenient to provide a meal at the R.G.S., and so other arrangements had to be made hurriedly. Owing to advanced booking, the only appropriate date available at the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe, was Saturday, February 28th, 1959.

The Georgian Room of the hotel was filled to capacity by O.B.'s whose years at the School ranged from the 1890's to nearly the 1960's.

To commemorate his 25 years as Headmaster, Mr. E. R. Tucker was the Guest of Honour of the Club.

The Chairman of Committee, J. K. Prior (1934-40) presided, supported at the top table by Governors of the School, ex-members of the Staff, Mr. W. J. Bartle, the Rev. H. M. Berry, Messrs. G. H. Grant and R. Matthews, and senior Old Boys.

Paying tribute to the Guest of Honour, Alderman R. P. Clarke, Chairman of the Governors, said that he was one of the interviewing Governors when Mr. Tucker was appointed Headmaster in 1933, and it was one of the best things they had ever done for the R.G.S. The School had grown enormously in educational stature and was in effect a public school—its scholastic achievements had been “absolutely remarkable.”

D. R. Witney (1934-41), recently appointed Headmaster of King Edward VI Grammar School, Louth, described Mr. Tucker as no “figurehead,” but a very real person who enjoyed living and being a headmaster.

Replying to the toast proposed to him by Witney, Mr. Tucker said that the School had been a source of great joy to him and his family. The R.G.S. had changed with the times and was doing its job by providing the opportunity for everyone who cared to take it. There were 900 pupils, 210 of them in the sixth form, 78 boys were going to a university and 2 to Sandhurst. The new Science block was halfway up and new developments included a new Hall and Teaching block. By the centenary year of 1962 it was hoped that the Chemistry Laboratory would have been converted into a chapel for boarders and that the School would have its own swimming bath.

The School founder had been Queen Elizabeth I and they all hoped that the present Queen would honour the School by visiting High Wycombe during 1962.

Proposing “The School and Club,” A. Harcourt (1943-51) hoped that the Club would take an active part in the preparation and celebration of 1962.

The smiling faces of the diners as shown in the local press showed the appreciation of the Old Boys for the witty remarks of Mr. C. M. Haworth (1936-59), who responded to the toast.

There were no signs, after the formal proceedings were over, of anyone keen to leave the vicinity of the bar.

Births

ASHFORD, R. G. (1941-47). On February 26th, 1958, at Wellington Hospital, New Zealand, to Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Ashford, a daughter.

HICKMAN, H. C. (1939-46). On March 23rd, 1958, at Guildford, to Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hickman, a second daughter.

PRIOR, J. K. (1934-40). On December 11th, 1957, at Brighton, to Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Prior, a daughter.

WESTNEY, M. E. W. (1939-45). On September 26th, 1958, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. M. E. W. Westney, a daughter.

WICKENS, D. J. (1935-42). On March, 5th, 1959, at Bushey Maternity Home, to Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Wickens, a son.

Marriages

McQUEEN—GODDEN. On December 27th, 1958, at the Catholic Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury at Sevenoaks, L. J. McQueen (1928-32) to Miss Godden.

WALKER—GORE. On August 9th, 1958, at St. Mary's Church, Boxford, B. G. Walker (1947-51) to Miss Olive M. Gore.

WILLIAMS—MESSENGER. On July 14th, 1958, at Holy Trinity, Aylesbury, T. C. Williams (1947-52) to Miss Anne D. Messenger.

Deaths

A. D. ALLEN (1899-1904). On February 6th, 1959, suddenly in hospital, aged 71 years.

W. T. BRINDLEY (1910-15), O.B.E., K.P.M. (late Ceylon Police). On August 13th, 1958, at Weybridge. He was 62. At the R.G.S. he was a School prefect, a football colour and captain of cricket in 1915. He joined the Army upon leaving school, was twice wounded while serving with the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, and left the Army with the rank of Captain. He then accepted a post in the Ceylon Police Service, with which body he remained until about three years ago, having reached the position of second-in-command.

He played cricket regularly for Ceylon, appearing against the Australians and other touring sides, and on one occasion the *Ceylon Fortnightly Review* devoted a complete page to him as a sporting celebrity. His innings of 82 not out against Jardine's M.C.C. side was an outstanding achievement. A complete sportsman, no ball-game came amiss to him, and his skill at darts was proverbial. He left a widow and one son.

B. M. HALL (1946-51). On October 11th, 1958, suddenly, aged 23 years.

On leaving School, he joined Courtaulds as a chemist; served eighteen months with the R.A. in Hong Kong, and then rejoined Courtaulds at Maidenhead. He won many trophies as a long-distance runner, and last year he won the 3,000 metres steeplechase in the County Sports at Aylesbury. He was also a swimmer of no little ability.

OLD BOYS' NOTES AND NEWS

T. W. ABDALLAH (1946-54), after getting married in December 1958 to Miss Sally Mason of Croydon, went to Australia to work for a firm making ties. He is in Australia for keeps and finds life very much on American lines (drive-in cinemas with bars), but life can be a bit pointless. The summer this year was fantastic, with several days with temperatures in the 100's. His address is 1A Little Gold Street, Brunswick, Melbourne, Victoria.

MR. G. W. ARNISON (1905-33) very much regretted his inability to be present for the Reunion. He had just started heat treatment and exercises for arthritis. The heat is very pleasant, and he attacks the exercises, which are not so pleasant, with all the vigour he can and hopes for the best. Both Mrs. Arnison and he are delighted with the engagement of their grand-daughter Mary, only daughter of Captain and Mrs. Graham Ardron to John Michael Forth, son of Mr. R. C. Forth, of Habor Beauchamp, Somerset, and the late Mrs. Forth. Mr. Arnison has still to walk along "Arnison Avenue," the name given to the new road running from Bowerdean to Terriers along that little valley in front of the R.G.S.

R. G. ASHFORD (1941-47) has yet to come across an O.B. after two years in New Zealand, although he heard that M. SMITH (1944-51), who was in the same shipping company—the Shaw Saville Line—has settled down in the country after he had "swallowed the anchor." Ashford is now working as an Executive Trainee for Woolworth (N.Z.) Ltd. His address is 34 Salek Street, Kilburnie, Wellington, New Zealand.

G. H. BAKER (1906-12), as chairman of the High Wycombe Relations Committee, operating from the U.S.A.A.F. base at Daws Hill, attended the service of consecration for the American Memorial Shrine at the Church of St. Clement Danes, London.

G. W. BAKER (1949-53), as far as is known, is the first O.B. to win a gold medal for rowing. He won it in the Diamond Skulls at the 1958 British Empire Games at Cardiff; later, with his friend Michael Spracklen, he was chosen to represent Great Britain in the European Games in Poland. He is a qualified architect.

L. G. BAKER (1914-18) has been made an honorary life member of the High Wycombe Cricket Club for his brilliant play and tireless work over many years. He has also been elected President of the High Wycombe Rotary Club.

E. BANKS (1922-26) emigrated to Australia when he left the Army after the war. He is married and has two sons aged 21 and 17. In a letter to his parents in Princes Risborough he writes of the 100-105 degrees temperatures in Hobart, when 23 babies died from the heat, berry fruits were cooked on the trees and factories closed. Banks works in the Hobart *Saturday Evening Mercury*.

MR. W. J. BARTLE (1901-35) to show his regret at not being able to attend the Dinner, gave £1 to the Club funds. He leads a very active life and is regarded in the parish as a bit of a phenomenon. He takes so many patients to the hospital that he is allowed to visit wards at unorthodox hours and he even helps the staff with the discipline of awkward and difficult patients.

R. W. BARTLETT (1900-07), one of the sponsors of the arboretum in Hughenden Park, will be pleased to receive offers of donations and to give information about the scheme.

R. D. BARWELL (1945-54), after passing out from the R.A.F. Officers Cadet Training Unit, has been granted a short service commission as Pilot Officer in the Education Branch.

REV. A. M. BERRY (1924-33) is another very active ex-member of the staff. Not only is he one of the most regular supporters of the Club, but he now brings to the function his son Leslie and grandson Montie, both O.B.'s of the R.G.S.

J. A. BLAND (1939-46), according to his sister, is due back from Canada in April, too late for the Dinner.

A. E. BRANCH (1919-23) is chairman of Wycombe Art Club. Taking a hint from the famous Cookham artist, Mr. Stanley Spencer, he will suggest to the committee that a section of the Club's Exhibition next year be devoted to "rejects."

J. E. BROOKS (1949-53) has sent news of the following O.B.'s—a pity more O.B.'s can't do likewise. P. W. E. JEANS (1949-52) has settled in Auckland, New Zealand, as an insurance agent, spending most of his efforts on the Maoris. He has met so many Old Boys that he has ideas of forming an O.B.'s Club. He spends a good deal of time with Brian Ransley. Brooks himself has joined the relief staff of Barclays Bank, Reading district. At the Green Street, High Wycombe, Branch he met B. J. BENNETT (1942-49). According to Brooks, B.J.B. is still blowing his trombone and producing children.

R. COLGROVE (1952-58) just before Christmas fell over on some ice at Leeds and fractured a bone in his right elbow. He was not able to write for eight weeks and has to work extra hard to try to catch up by Easter.

J. A. COLLAR (1948-54), a lieutenant in the R.A.S.C., could not attend the Dinner because his leave ended on February 8th and he had to return to Germany; his tour there is nearly over and he hopes to be posted to somewhere warmer.

G. A. CULLEN (1950-56) is kept quite busy at the Veterinary College preparing for his 2nd Pre-Clinical Exam, in March. He has many social and business engagements and is captain of the Riding School. He met Owen and Mitchell in London, but has not met any other O.B.

ALLAN DOGSON (1913-18) returned happy but broke from Sweden. He and his wife went there to see their Swedish granddaughter and stayed over Christmas.

G. C. DYER (1945-50) has been promoted to the rank of Flight Lieutenant in the R.A.F. after six years' service. He has served in Canada, Cyprus, Singapore, and was at Christmas Island during the nuclear tests.

B. J. FLETCHER (1942-49), demobilised after 18 months, went to read history in Sidney Sussex College, and in 1953 went into the Inland Revenue Department. It is an arduous occupation but mobile, and he has already been to Banbury, Chelmsford and Romford. He writes that D. G. VEALE (1941-49) went into the civilian side of the War Office. For some 2½ years he has been in Cyprus with his wife. His brother, B. H. VEALE (1946-53) works in a Government department at Whitehall.

A. F. GILES (1952-55) has obtained his B.Sc. Engineering and the Diploma of Associateship of the City and Guilds in June 1958. He is now on a post-graduate course at Broom and Wade Ltd.

L. GLENHILL (1948-53) could not be at the Reunion because he was awaiting a posting to the Mess Officer Cadet School in Aldershot.

D. J. GREEN (1934-38) has now moved to post of Squadron Leader in the Advanced Flying School, R.A.F. Oakington, near Cambridge.

W. O. HAINES (1913-19) was unanimously nominated by High Wycombe Town Council as Wycombe's next Mayor. He was elected to the Council in 1950 and it is the first time this century that a son has followed his father as Mayor of the Borough. He is the proprietor of the furniture firm of Owen Haines and Son, and has for many years taken an active interest in many local affairs. He is a member of Wycombe Divisional Education Committee, a Governor of High Wycombe College of Further Education and of Mill End Secondary School. His father was Mayor of Wycombe from 1917 to 1919 and for several years was Governor of the R.G.S..

FRANK HALLASEY (1913-19), although he could not fly to Europe owing to his business in Toronto, found time to send the Club a generous donation of 20 dollars.

R. D. HARMAN (1944-50), Lieutenant R.N., has yet to attend an O.B. Dinner. After being a submariner for three years, he is now serving on H.M.S. *Spiteful*, based at Plymouth. One of the O.B's he has met around the world was Malcolm Lockheed (1941-45) when as a Captain he was stationed in Gibraltar. Harman is married and has two children.

J. A. HARRIS (1926-33) was recently appointed Headmaster of Salisbury County Primary School, Kilburn, N.W.6.

H. C. HICKMAN (1939-46) was elected A.M.I.E.E. in September 1958.

R. B. HUMPHREY (1948-56) spent three months before Christmas at Larne, Northern Ireland, working in the largest turbine factory in Europe and gained valuable turbine experience. He has since returned to start the third year of his apprenticeship in Rugby. He will be running for the B.T.H. in the National and A.E.I. Cross-Country Championships at Peterborough in March.

W. P. P. JEANS (1942-47) is experimenting with bigger and better tubes with Electronic Tubes.

M. LACEY (1947-55) is now in the final year of his Engineering course at Imperial College, London. This is part of the training for a Technical Officer's job in the R.A.F. Later he hopes to be absorbed into the R.A.F. to start proper work.

MR. R. MATTHEWS (1909-19) was immediately recognised at the Dinner by all those who had met him as second master of the School. He enlivens his retirement at Stanley Crescent, W.11. by visits to his family in Hull, where four lively grandchildren see that he and Mrs. Matthews get plenty of change and recreation.

J. E. MILLBORN (1939-45), paying and sending thoughtfully a stamped addressed envelope for two Dinner tickets, wrote that R. J. WEST (1939-44), as a qualified Chartered Surveyor, was Deputy Engineer and Surveyor with Wycombe Rural District Council.

C. MINTER (1949-54) has just been sent back to England as medically unfit, the first time for three years that he has been back. He leaves the Army next year and intends to attend college for ordination. His future plan is to rejoin the forces armed with a spiritual sword (R.A.Ch.D.) instead of a temporal one.

P. D. F. MITCHELL (1928-36), Wing Commander R.A.F. Retd., after a lapse of 22 years, wrote to the Headmaster for news of the School and O.B. Club. After a very varied career he has retired from the R.A.F. and works as Jaguar's Manager in London, where he is enjoying himself meeting very interesting people. He has a madcap daughter of eleven and has placed her in a convent school in Ealing hoping that they will be able to turn her into a young lady.

R. D. MITCHELL (1948-56), although he has no news of himself, writes that he met R. (DICK) DICKINSON, who is captain of one of the teams of Streatham R.F.C. Dickinson, after spending two years teaching in Spain, has settled with a firm of surgical instruments and would like to contact "Foggy" Waters. Mitchell sees B. P. Bowers, J. W. Beckford, P. J. Dean, D. P. Nash and J. M. King lurking in odd corners of King's College. Dean is already known as a fine cross-country runner.

A. K. MARKS (1946-52), after studying at Westminster Hospital, gained his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degrees at London University.

C. MORRIS (1914-19), who won the Samuelson Cup for the best-kept farm of over 100 acres, has been nominated as next Chairman of Wycombe R.D.C. His grandfather, Dr. W. Morris, was the first Chairman of the Council when it was formed in 1894.

R. PIERCEY (1935-41), who has not had much contact with the R.G.S. for the past 15 years, suddenly saw a young boy in a School blazer coming across the tarmac at Biarritz. He invited him into the cockpit on the flight home and the names mentioned in their chat brought back very happy memories. Piercey regularly flies over the School, and by observing the new buildings, including the Memorial Pavilion, realises that the old school is still thriving.

P. C. RAFFETY (1883-95) is to be one of the four new Honorary Freemen of the Borough to mark their eminent service to the Borough.

B. RANSLEY (1949-52) is the proud owner of a bright red motor car.

L. RAVEN (1938-43), although he has been for the past three and a half years in the Engineering Design Group at Harwell, has yet to meet an O.B. he can recognise. He finds he has quite a lot in common with an old boy from Borlase School, Marlow, who works with him.

A. REDRUP (1949-53) had the shock of his life when he saw in the newspapers a picture of the runners leaving Buckingham Palace with the silver baton, containing the Queen's message, to be carried by relays of county athletes along the route to Cardiff for the Empire Games. He and another Wycombe Phoenix Harrier had been training hard for the occasion, but owing to a shocking mix-up got the dates confused. Substitutes had to be found at the last minute. Redrup has been appointed Captain of the Wycombe Phoenix Harriers.

B. J. ROGERS (1951-57) wrote in December 1958 to say that he was on board *S.S. El Morro*, one of the older tankers of the B.P. Tanker Co. Ltd., to whom he was indentured as a Navigating Officer. He wrote in February of this year from the *S.S. British Sailor*, one of the company's larger ships (32,000 tons), on the way to the Persian Gulf. He had no idea where he was going after that, possibly Australia, in any case much to his regret he would not be at the Dinner. He was delighted with the copy of "Scandal" sent to him by his sister.

E. J. REEVES (1943-47) has passed the final examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

P. J. RICKARD (1944-50), when he left School, emigrated to New Zealand, where he and his parents live at 45 Ranfarly Street, Christchurch. He is a Flying Officer in the New Zealand Air Force and has flown all over the South Pacific. At present he is in England on a conversion course, when he will be transferred from flying Sunderlands to Canberras.

J. N. ROBINSON (1928-33) rightly wrote to complain about his non-receipt of the *Wycombiensian*. He landed in England from Nigeria in September to find himself posted to the backwater Marlborough Farm Camp in Warwickshire.

T. ROSE (1929-34), secretary of High Wycombe Film Society and director of several films of local interest, was a regular broadcaster in a B.B.C. series of Monday evening programmes.

D. G. SAINSBURY (1943-50) in November 1958 passed the Law Society's Final Examination and has been appointed Assistant Solicitor to Torquay Borough Council. He will be pleased to contact any O.B. in that area. He wrote in January to say he was shortly getting married and would be too busy to come to the Reunion.

J. D. SALMON (1926-31) names a large number of relatives who have been to the R.G.S. since his father left about 1902. His son, aged 11 years, is due shortly to go to Sutton Valence School; A. C. THORNE (1926-31), his brother-in-law, is editor of the T.V. Comic, and a couple of years ago was President of the Dartford Free Church Council, and has been Chairman of Dartford Round Table, also Area Chairman. Salmon's spare time is taken up by the Parish Council, Rural District Council and Hospital Management Committee.

J. A. SAUNDERS (1943-50) now works in London as export manager to Richard Hill Ltd., of Middlesbrough, steel reinforcement makers. He has met, while at home, NEIL HONOUR (1941-48) farming in Oxfordshire and Shropshire.

J. R. SHEPHERD (1944-51) could not attend the Dinner because he, his wife and their baby daughter were returning to Northern Nigeria.

J. H. SIMMONS (1947-55), after getting his degree at King's College, London, is enduring a third month of his National Service in the Royal Signals at Catterick.

M. O. SIMMONS (1946-55), after finishing three very happy years at Oxford, where he thinks he was the first R.G.S. scholar to take the Mathematics Finals, is now at 111 Dundee Street, London, Ontario. After turning down two years' research in Statistical Mechanics as a job with A. V. Roe of Canada, he accepted, on the advice of his tutor, a post as an Actuaries Student with the Northern Life Assurance Co. Ltd. in Ontario. He sailed on the *Empress of England* 18 days after his finals and works in an air-conditioned office. He says he will always be grateful to the R.G.S. for all the kindness and patience he received from the Headmaster and Staff.

D. L. SMETHURST (1949-55), after returning from Cyprus, was demobilised after Christmas and is enjoying a long holiday before entering the banking profession.

D. W. STEVENS (1933-40), a specialist in early English music and *Daily Telegraph* critic, went to New York to secure from America foundation funds to put English musical research on a more solid footing. Musical societies in England, including the Plainsong and Medieval Music Society (of which he is

secretary) have no established quarters or lecture rooms, common to other learned societies. His immediate purpose is to attend the annual convention of the American Music Society in Boston. On his return he will record for the B.B.C. a series on historic houses and the music bound up with their past.

G. M. STEVENS (1924–27) could not come to the Dinner, for as long ago as July he had booked seats for his staff to see “My Fair Lady” on that day. He has added property to his thriving business in the High Street, Stevenage. He is Worshipful Master of the Stevenage Lodge this year and has been elected Senior Vice-President of the Rotary Club, and will be delighted to hear from any Old Boy Rotarians at their weekly meetings on Wednesdays.

J. S. STEPHENS (1925–30), as freelance designer, has travelled all over the world, to Rome for “The Little Hut,” Tripoli for “The Black Tent,” France for “A Tale of Two Cities.” He also worked at Beaconsfield on the television adventure series “Ivanhoe.” He was the art director of “The Passionate Summer,” which was featured at the Odeon, High Wycombe.

R. N. STONE (1938–42) has recently taken a post in N.E. England and lives at 3 Dene Villas, Chester-le-Street, Durham. He would like news of Fredericks, Ginger and others of his years at the R.G.S.

J. W. K. TAYLOR (1918–24), to his sorrow, was not able for the very first time to be present at the O.B.’s Dinner. He had promised to take his son, Rooney, very seriously injured in a motor-car accident, on a much-needed holiday.

D. J. THOMAS (1945–52) has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the Faculty of Science, London University.

R. W. THORNE (1951–57) sent Mr. Davies a painting of the ship on which he spent his last term, visiting Gibraltar, Lisbon, Antwerp, Glasgow and even Aberdovey. He also spent a fortnight with the R.N.A.S. at St. David’s, flying over Wales in jets, helicopters, dressed up in a flying suit, oxygen mask and gloves, feeling just like a naval air pilot. When he wrote he had just reached the rank of Midshipman and felt that from now on life would certainly start improving.

P. C. TUCKETT (1941–45), married and with a son, has become a partner in a firm of Veterinary Surgeons practising at Aylesbury and Winslow.

R. G. UDEN (1930–35) received his guests at a cocktail party in the Red Lion, High Wycombe, given by the Shell Mex Co. Ltd. to engineers from industry in the district. Uden is the Branch Sales Supervisor.

JOHN WALTER (1923-28) is making good progress in his new job with Sanderson Fabrics. He is in charge of their new department supplying furniture manufacturers only.

D. WILKINS (1950-55) sent £2 2s. 0d. from his new address in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. He feels that the garden in which he has spent countless hours for two years is at last beginning to show results—it was a very rough, uncultivated waste.

T. C. WILLIAMS (1947-52) is now manager of the Bank of West Africa Limited in Bonthe, Sierra Leone. The wife he took back with him is the sister of another O.B., J. K. Messenger. Bonthe is an island of about 5,000 off the coast of Sierra Leone and produce is carried to the ships by lighters. There are a handful of Europeans, but Mrs. Williams is the only wife and finds life full and interesting. Although he does not think that there are any O.B's in Sierra Leone, Williams believes there are a few further down the coast in Ghana and Nigeria.

Subscriptions for 1959 are now due. O.B.'s using Bankers' orders are asked to inform their bank managers, where necessary, to increase the order from 5/- to 7/6 please.

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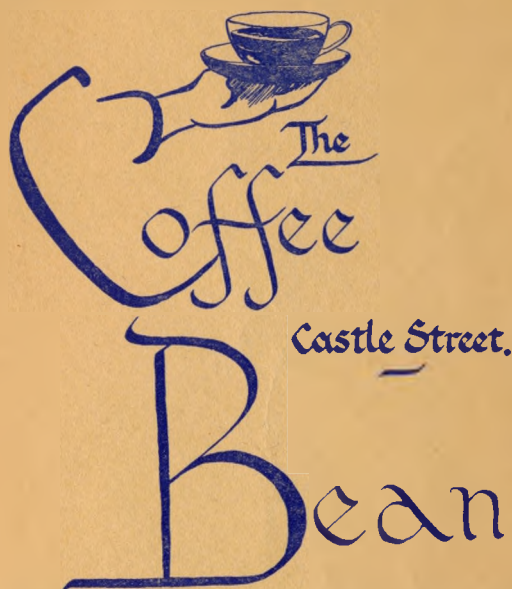
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