

THE  
WYCOMBIENSIAN



Vol. XIII No. 3

MAY, 1961



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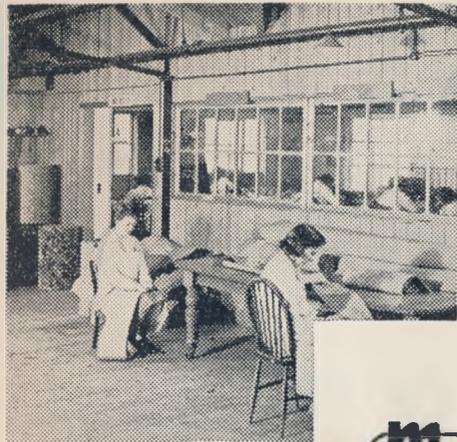
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WYCOMBIENSIAN

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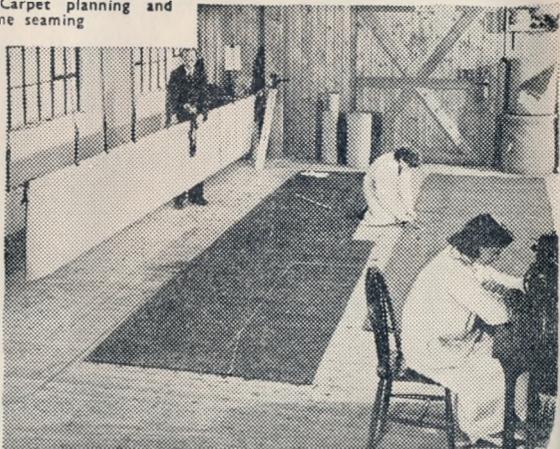
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THE NEW CHAPEL



THE NEW CHAPEL.

# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

*This issue was edited by R. P. H. GREEN, assisted by J. O. SMITH, D. R. COX, J. S. SIMPSON (Sport), N. A. MORLEY (School News), and B. N. BUCKLEY (Advertisements). The illustrations are the work of D. R. WALKER.*

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## EDITORIAL

Since the last issue of the *Wycombiensian*, full of details of the buildings which will give the School accommodation worthy of its size, the School has had a respite from the building programme, before work begins on the new blocks in front of the School. (An impression of these can be found in the back of this issue.) There can be little doubt that the additional facilities provided by the Science Block and the extra room now available in the main school building—which has among other things made possible the opening of a new library—has had an effect on standards of work.

The resultant reshuffle has enabled the School also to realise a wish of long standing ; we are at last in possession of our own most impressive School Chapel, a sanctuary of which any school could justifiably be proud. While it is inevitable that its use will be mainly confined to members of the boarding houses—whose small size means that they can achieve a greater sense of community spirit than the School as a whole—it is to be hoped that the presence of God's house on the bridge of the School, as it were, will exercise more than a symbolic influence on the life of the School.

The evils latent in the chromium-plated prosperity which we are heirs to have been repeated often enough to need no expatiation upon here ; there is wide agreement that the one defence against them consists in the armour of a revitalised Christian faith. Few, therefore, will deny that it is one of the duties of a school, especially one of such numbers as the R.G.S., to help as far as possible the work of the Church in rebutting this wide-fronted assault on our spiritual values.

This is an important part of a school education, none the less so for being easily lost sight of in the daily round of life. The R.G.S., however, could not be accused of falling behind in

paying attention to it. The school year sees several services of corporate worship ; at the Christmas and Commemoration Services the School fills the Parish Church with numbers, if not always with joyful noise, for two most moving services ; the effect of the annual Communion Services is to leave one with a wish that we could partake of such celebrations more often.

Such opportunities will, we hope, be increased by our new Chapel. However, it is difficult to advocate a spread of these activities without realising that there are obstacles standing in the way, which cannot, with all the will in the world, be solved in the twinkling of an eye. While we steer clear of complacency in this important matter—there seems little danger of it now—we can note that the School is pursuing other lines with vigour ; other fields, too, hold scope for the formation of character and a strong resistance to the snares of the advert-age. The rise in academic standards has not been accompanied by a slackening off in sporting standards ; on the contrary, we have reached new peaks of achievement in both the major and well-established sports and the host of smaller ones, whose birth during the past few years has given a wide range of opportunities to every boy. The formation this term of the Art Society has drawn our notice to the flourishing state of all the various societies, which can now claim to offer attraction to most members of the School.

A school's success should be measured not only by academic standards, but by its efforts and results in instilling true character into its pupils. There was a danger that this object might be baulked by our increase in numbers ; but if these signs of activity are correctly interpreted as pointers to the health of a school, and if our achievements inspire us to greater efforts in all spheres, it seems that the R.G.S. is making an auspicious approach to its quatercentenary.

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## STAFF NEWS

MR. G. W. ARNISON (1905-33), when sending his usual numerous press cuttings of O.B.'s activities for the School Magazine, had unfortunately to confirm that once again he would not be able to be present at the Reunion. He, however, had strong hopes that next year (1962), when there was a possibility of holding the function at a warmer time of the year, he would be able to motor not only to meet his O.B.'s but also his many friends in the High Wycombe area.

MR. W. J. BARTLE (1901-35), sending a subscription to the O.B. Dinner, writes that his doctor gave him full marks mentally and physically in a test as to his ability to drive a car.

For the second year running he has been unlucky to lose all his chickens owing to foul pest. As usual he takes patients in and out of hospitals and clinics. One of his passengers was the sister of MR. F. P. FULLER (1913-19). After bringing up successfully a family of eleven children, Mr. Fuller retired but has gone back to teaching. Mr. Bartle understands from his daughter in Nigeria that he is a great grandfather "eight deep". His son, P. W. Bartle (1919-1927), now approaching 50 years of age, was in war-time handed over the products of "back-room boys" to be tested and calibrated.

MR. F. H. ROBINSON (1919-29), in a letter to Mr. Arnison, wrote that although retired and having to use a stick for walking, he had started an Economics course for the VIth Form at Peter Symonds School with marvellous results. He had been notified by the War Office that he was entitled to two clasps to his T.D.

The REV. A. M. BERRY (1914-33) has for very many years made a special effort to attend the annual Re-union of the Club, but this year is afraid he will not be able to make it. He does not like Saturday night engagements—getting to High Wycombe entails an awkward journey to one not quite so agile as he used to be. On more than one occasion three generations of "Berrys" have been present at the function. He wishes the Dinner every success and hopes to see the new buildings in daylight later in the year.

We were happy to welcome nine new members of the staff at the beginning of the Christmas Term.

Mr. F. N. Cooper, B.A., comes to us from Oxford to give valuable help to the Classics staff and the Army Section of the C.C.F.

Mr. C. P. Bassett, B.A., and Mr. Merrylees, B.Litt., M.A., have joined the English staff.

Mr. E. R. B. Little, B.A., has come to help Mr. Lambert with Biology.

Mr. W. B. Watmough, B.A., has come to help with French.

Mr. C. K. Hillard, M.A., brings his experience of teaching from Eton College to our Science staff.

Mr. F. E. J. Hawkins, B.A., an Old Boy, has joined the Geography staff.

Mr. R. J. Mathias, B.Sc., has come to teach Mathematics.

Mr. D. Watmough, B.A., succeeds Mr. Gaster on the Music staff.

We have also received valuable help in Modern Languages from Monsieur B. J. Perret and Herr Dissinger.

At the beginning of the Easter Term we welcomed Mr. Ferris and Mr. Krajewski from Reading University to teach Music and French respectively ; Mr. McLarty (Oxford) has been helping with Economics, and Mr. Wrench, from Cambridge, with Physics.

We welcome also Dr. C. Bamford, Ph.D., and Mr. B. Shand, who are giving part-time help on the Science staff.

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## SCHOOL NEWS

An influx of about 180 boys at the beginning of the school year has increased the School's strength to a new peak of 1,050.

The School Chapel was dedicated by the Bishop of Buckingham on the 26th of November ; the Confirmation and communion services were held in it in March.

On the last Monday of the Christmas term the Carol Service was held.

The re-organisation of rooms in the Main School also saw the Art Room moved, and the new Junior Library opened.

On St. David's Day we were fortunate enough to have an afternoon's entertainment given by four members of Covent Garden Opera House, whose concert consisted of excerpts from Smetana's "The Bartered Bride" and two Italian vintage operas, "Lucia di Lammermoor" and "The Barber of Seville".

The Christmas concert consisted of the first two parts of Bach's "Christmas Oratorio".

The Dramatic Society produced Patrick Hamilton's thriller, "Rope", on March 17th and 18th.

The School has made two visits to the Old Vic, to see "Romeo and Juliet" and "Henry IV", led by Mr. Merrylees.

This year's Staff XV found a very fit Rugby XV too strong for them in the match in December.

We heartily congratulate the School's Cross-Country captain, P. J. Yates, whose modest report elsewhere in the magazine conceals the fact that he has broken the School record several times and also came second in the English Schools Cup.

On March 19th the Model Railway Society organised a trip to Swindon Works, for which they had a special train.

A party of boys attended the S.C.M. Conference at Slough on March 24th.

The Boxing Championships, held on March 15th, were won by Arnison, thanks, it seems, to their House spirit.

The Cross-Country was held on March 8th and won by Fraser.

## OPEN AWARDS

Congratulations to the following who gained open awards :

- M. Ashburner, Open Exhibition for Natural Sciences at Churchill College, Cambridge.
- J. E. Camp, Welsh Foundation Scholarship for Modern Languages, Jesus College, Oxford.
- D. R. Cox, Open Exhibition for Modern Languages, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- R. P. H. Green, Domus Scholarship for Classics, Balliol College, Oxford.
- P. A. Taylor, Open Scholarship for Classics, Selwyn College, Cambridge.
- G. P. M. Walker, Open Exhibition for Modern Languages, Selwyn College, Cambridge.
- P. J. Wilson, Open Scholarship for Mathematics, Selwyn College, Cambridge.
- M. B. Wood, Open Exhibition for Classics, Jesus College, Cambridge.

Hearty congratulations, also, to Helena Ellis, who crowned her career here with an Open Exhibition for Classics at St. Anne's College, Oxford.

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## BENEVOLENT FUND

There can be few duties more pleasurable and rewarding than being a member of the Benevolent Fund Committee. At the beginning of each term the committee meets round the tea-table in the Headmaster's house, and distributes the £50 or so which has come from the weekly contributions of each boy in the School to a variety of charities which help less fortunate and under-privileged children. From the letters which accompany the receipts for the donations it is very clear that the efforts of the School are appreciated by those who benefit from them.

During the past two terms our donations have been : £40 was disbursed at the end of the Summer Term to a number of children's homes and the National Spastics Society. Part of the £55 collected in the Autumn Term was sent to The Congo Relief Fund (£15), £10 each to the Polio Research and Cancer Research Funds. St. Loya's College, Exeter, Spurgeon's Homes, Dr. Barnardo's Homes and the Church of England Children's Society were given donations of £5 each.

## DEDICATION OF THE SCHOOL CHAPEL

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On Saturday, November 26th, 1960, there took place an event of very great importance in the history of the School, when the new School Chapel was dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Robert M. Hay, formerly the Bishop of Buckingham. The erection of the new Science Building had made possible the conversion of the former Chemistry Laboratory for this purpose. The Chapel is primarily for the Boarders. The very fine furnishings are due to the generosity of Governors, Old Boys and friends of the School.

The Bishop in his sermon said that the new Chapel would be the focus, not only of the spiritual life, but also of all the varied activities of the School. Through it boys might learn the deeper significance of the whole process of education. In prayer and thanksgiving every side of school life would be enriched and strengthened ; and when the time came for boys to leave for the wider world outside, they would take with them something very precious.

The Headmaster said that he had long cherished the hope that the School might have its own Chapel ; and now that his wish had been realised in this very lovely place of worship he wished to thank very warmly all those whose generosity had made it possible to equip it with such beauty and dignity.

The following Governors, Old Boys and friends made substantial gifts towards the establishment of the new Chapel :

ERIC JANES ( <i>Hon. Architect</i> )	R. W. KING
RICHARD W. BARTLETT	CHARLES W. LANCE
MACALISTER BEXON, C.B.E.	JOHN K. PRIOR
KENNETH BONNETT	GEORGE RAY
G. B. G. CHAPMAN	JOAN SCOTT
ROLAND PEACE CLARKE, C.B.E.	GEOFFREY STEVENS
ARTHUR H. CRAVEN	NORMAN THEED
G. H. CURRALL, M.B.E., M.M.	KENNETH TILBURY
SIDNEY HANDS	HAROLD TURNBULL
JOHN HUDSON	GILBERT WHITE
ROY C. JONES	ERIC WYATT

## CHAPEL NOTES

On March 15th the Bishop of Buckingham, the Right Reverend Gordon Savage, confirmed thirty-four candidates who had been prepared by the Chaplain. This was, of course, the first time that this service has been held in our own chapel, and the limited seating accommodation made it necessary to restrict the number who could attend. The Bishop in his address to the candidates expressed his delight at the beauty of the chapel, and stressed the importance of worship in the life of the School. He reminded the candidates of the solemnity of the step they were about to take, and warned them that the gift of the Holy Ghost that they were about to receive must be nurtured by regular prayer and the use of the sacrament of Holy Communion. Talking informally to the parents of the candidates after the service, the Bishop said that he knew from his own experience how easy it was for parents to feel a sense of separation from their children because of an inability to share completely their interests and enthusiasms ; but today they had been given a new point of contact with their sons which, if properly used, could bring them closer together.

The following morning the newly-confirmed made their first Communion together with Staff and other boys, some one hundred and sixty in all, in the Chapel. The celebrant was the Chaplain, who was assisted by the Rev. John Simpson, Rector of Denham. These two services of Confirmation and Holy Communion made a deep impression on those who attended them, and made us very conscious of our great good fortune in possessing, at last, a Chapel of our own.

We acknowledge with sincere thanks the following gifts : An altar cushion and two alms bags, embroidered and presented by Mrs. J. N. Tomes ; two kneelers for the Clergy desks, presented by Mr. and Mrs. D. E. North ; a credence table, presented by Geoffrey Green.

Visiting preachers this term have been : C. R. Allison, Esq., Headmaster of Brentwood School, and J. Lovelock Jones, Esq., surgeon and Diocesan Lay Reader.

### **List of Confirmation Candidates :**

R. A. Arnott, N. F. Avery, J. H. C. Heygate Browne, A. G. Bailey, R. D. Bufton, A. Cawson, L. W. Cheriton, A. R. Daines, M. J. Dalley, P. C. Drayton, C. J. Everitt, A. R. Feeley, A. J. Frankland, J. E. Gillett, I. J. Grayson, J. Hayter, R. C. Hill, J. C. Hills, D. W. Lewis, A. D. Low, N. D. O. Melsom, C. S. Nobbs, D. G. Orchard, R. M. Overall, C. J. Packman, A. M. Pratt, P. M. Rawkins, V. S. Smith, R. C. Snelling, D. N. Snodin, N. R. M. Thorne, D. A. Walker, J. R. Ward, M. R. Ward.

## “ ROPE ”

The last two productions of the School Dramatic Society were remarkable attempts to raise the standard of the School play above the ordinary level of farces and who-dun-its. The production of “The Ascent of F6”, by Auden and Isherwood, was a very ambitious task to undertake, yet it was by no means a failure. Shakespeare’s “Julius Caesar” suffered a rather more rough treatment at the hands of Mr. Edginton, but the performance had several excellent points.

But it was with some relief that we heard that this year the Dramatic Society were putting on Patrick Hamilton’s “Rope”. This play, a so-called “comedy thriller”, is obviously far more within the range of a school production. One cannot, of course, blame the producers of the last two plays for their enterprise, but a competent production of a “safe” play like “Rope” is always preferable to a stumbling performance of a more difficult, albeit better, play.

“Rope” cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, be called a masterpiece. Its aims are simple and straightforward, and it does not presume to be the profundity of “The Ascent of F6”. But it is an entertaining, enjoyable play, whose theme, the sacredness of human life, is unquestionably sound. It revels in melodrama, from the moment when the curtain rises, to reveal the stage in almost total darkness, and the dialogue consists of the neurotic, panic-stricken half-sentences of Granillo contrasting with the smooth, confident persuasions of Brandon, to the last scene, where the silent, reflective poet Cadell is moved to terrible condemnation by the sight of the murdered man’s corpse in the chest. The play is made tellingly effective by the use of dramatic contrast, where the deeper, darker theme of the utterly amoral, motiveless murder is played off against the light triviality of the world of Leila and Kenneth Raglan. The empty chatter flutters back and forth across the stage over the chest, which stands as a sinister reminder of the horrors lying concealed in the mind of Brandon.

This use of melodrama and dramatic contrast was brought out well in the production. The lighting was used far more significantly than we are accustomed to see it used in School productions, and the scene where the company eats off the chest was arranged very well—the chest was placed in a dominating central position, where it appeared, by a kind of visual symbolism, to exercise a menacing influence over the whole stage. And then, of course, there were the actors themselves. David North was excellent in his suave hypocrisy, in the calm ease with which he slipped from the world of motiveless murder to the world of Noel Coward-like sophistication and empty social chatter. This

second world was represented brilliantly by Peter Uppard as Leila ; this is an extraordinarily difficult part for a boy to play, but his handling of the extravagant affectations of the bird-brained Leila was masterly. He over-acted magnificently and without inhibitions. In short, he gave a performance of the very high standard that we have come to expect from him since his rendering of the very different, but equally difficult, part of Portia in "Julius Caesar" to years ago. But even his excellence was perhaps overshadowed by the performance of Christopher Pye as Rupert Cadell. This was his debut in an R.G.S. production, but he showed a maturity and accomplishment outstanding in a schoolboy. Even in the first two acts, where he had little to say, he dominated the stage. It was not so much the force of his speech and actions, but the suggestion of hidden depths of tremendous potential in his silences, that created this domination. He alone stood apart from the very gossip of the company except to interject the occasional crushing, sarcastic comment. It was quite obvious to the spectator that he had "scented" the murder, although there was no actual indication of this at all. In the last act, he was again effectively melodramatic, in a completely different way. Here it was the force of his utterances that impressed. Altogether, he achieved an amazing projection of his character ; his mere presence on the stage was enough to hold the attention.

These three, David North, Peter Uppard and Christopher Pye, were without any doubt the stars of the cast as well as being naturally the dominant characters. The other actors were competent and exact, and this is not to "damn with faint praise", for even to achieve competence in a production of this sort is a remarkable feat. If little detailed mention of them is made, it is not because they were weak, but because they were entirely subsidiary to the other three. Suffice it to say that all of them, R. Laskey, P. Findlay, I. Blyth, M. Bird and M. Snodin made an excellent contribution in their minor roles.

The set was amazingly good : for sheer, down-to-earth realism as good as any that we have seen, at the R.G.S. The lighting also reached a new standard of excellence, and all congratulations are due to those responsible, who are too numerous to mention individually. The production, by Mr. Watmough and M. D. Simons, was usually very good, but sometimes a little too slow : for example, the long period when Cadell was sitting alone and silent on-stage, reading Conrad, could have been avoided. Otherwise, congratulations to them too, on a very memorable production. The amount of work they put in was incredible, and the results well worth the effort. We look forward to another production by Mr. Watmough next year.

D. R. Cox.

## A STONE-AGE LAD

If I'd a chance I'd go right back  
Ten thousand years B.C.  
I'd like to be a Stone-Age lad—  
Wild, untamed, little ME.

I wouldn't have to wash my neck,  
There wouldn't be a school !  
And I've been thinking over things  
I could do, BEE-A-UTIFUL !

To start with, I would have a pet  
Dinosaur, if you please.  
I'd teach it how to wag its tail  
Among the apple trees !

Instead of bannisters, its back  
Would be a special treat.  
I'd wear out of my animal skins  
The part they call the seat.

I'd keep a herd of mammoths  
And drive them through the town ;  
I'd only do this just to see  
The buildings tumbling down.

I'd make a point of leaving  
Some future booby traps,  
To catch those archaeologists—  
The Ancient History chaps.

In time, my carvings on the wall  
Would lead them, foot by foot,  
To where I'd left a whacking load  
Of PREHISTORIC SOOT.

Yes, I could have a super time  
As a little Stone-Age nipper ;  
The one thing that could worry me  
Would be the Stone-Age slipper.

M. GOODMAN, IVSA.

## SHORT STORY

It was cold and dry, like many other mornings, a weekday, the 12th of October. The morning routine was accomplished without any sign that anything out of the ordinary was to happen on this 12th of October. As eight o'clock came and went, people began gradually to emerge from their burrows out into the air to meet the world. Acquaintances were greeted, details of the previous night's sport were retold, without much enthusiasm ; and soon the bus stop was reached.

There were only two buses on this route. The number twelve came first. Two girls stepped out of the rest of the queue, got on the bus and were carried away from the company of their friends. They had, the moment before, been discussing some scandal concerning a mutual friend. The remaining three switched their conversation to rumours about the departing two. Further along, towards the front, a group of city men, conspicuous in their surroundings, stood self-consciously muttering occasionally among themselves. Near them stood groups of charladies, discussing their ailments, and, singly, housewives were running over shopping lists.

People passed on either side of the road, some thinking of what they did yesterday evening, others of what they were going to do that evening. Most people were talking, but no one listened. They were going to work, as on any other day, and the everyday gossip was repeated into unconscious ears. Groups or couples split up, to reform in different combinations : those leaving, soon lost to mind, those left soon forgotten.

But the arrival of the bus stopped the inconsequential flow of chatter. Attention was centred on the boarding of the bus. Friends already on the bus were greeted ; people jockeyed for the central positions of the cliques ; the bowler hats scurried upstairs ; the housewives bundled their shopping bags clumsily before them. Those in the queue were aboard, when a solitary old man, whom no one had noticed, made for the bus from where he had been sheltering up against the wall. The passers-by passed by, eyes on the ground, ears muffled. Those left in the queue prepared to make new alliances ; talk began again.

The conductress, deep in conversation with one of those who had just got on, rang the bell : just another stop, on just another journey, on just another day. The driver, isolated from all the talk in his narrow cabin, seeing only a reflected view of the scene behind him, pressed the accelerator. The old man, hidden behind the back of the bus, felt a tremor and tried to climb on to

the low step. He felt an insistent pressure pulling him forward. For him this was not just another journey ; for him and him alone, something was happening.

Nobody had noticed yet. Realising what was happening, he thought slowly, ever so slowly, what to do. After trying once again to mount the low step, to swing his legs upwards, he let go of the rail. But still he was pulled forward : he was caught, and the ground was beginning to move under him. He was walking after the bus. A small boy, just finishing his paper-round, his eyes attracted toward the bus by the large Bisto advertisement, saw the smartly-dressed gentleman walking after the bus. He looked at the smoke from the exhaust, at the old man, at the moving wall behind them, and remarked with curiosity that the bus was gathering speed and that the man had not let go the rail.

Shuffling after the bus, the latter suddenly realised that something horrible was happening. Angrily he pulled at his hand ; it did not come free. Then the bus jerked him and he felt himself falling, turning. He saw the sky, the grey wall, and the Bisto advertisement. But now it was laughing at him. He saw the ground come closer as his feet were dragged from under him, and as his hand slipped down the perpendicular slot between the rail and the bus. "So this was how Hector felt", he thought, "only Hector was dragged feet first. . . ." He smiled, as through the tears filling his eyes as his arm twisted and he cried out as his body hit the ground with a thump ". . . and Hector was dead."

The boy watched interestedly ; he glanced round and saw that not many people had noticed. A woman looked towards the bus, and screamed. Others, waking up, shouted. The people in the bus, oblivious till now of what was happening, turned and stood up to see what was happening. The bus driver, alone in his cabin, trod on the accelerator, thinking of the next set of traffic lights. But, at that moment, the conductress, aware of the object dragged in harness behind the bus, rang the bell. The bus stopped.

A man ran across the road. More people in the bus stood up. The shop-girls shrieked. The business men sat still, not turning round. A crowd gathered on the pavement from nowhere. The driver climbed out. A policeman appeared. An ambulance arrived. The body was lifted into it. The policeman made notes. Within a few minutes the crowd had dispersed, chattering with excitement, and the bus continued to the next stop, the conductress forgetful of fares. "Well, that's life for you," said someone to no one in particular, as the bell of the ambulance faded into the background of all the other noises of this 12th of October, much like any other day.

R. L. SMYTH, VIM2.

## THE MARYLEBONE EXPRESS

Slower than tortoises, slower than snails,  
All held together with rusty old nails,  
And crawling along like recruits on parade,  
With its one coat of paint beginning to fade,  
And all the sights of the hill and the plain  
Creeping past like a cow in the rain.  
And after a bit, in the wink of an eye,  
Drab old stations wander by.  
Day in, day out, weather permitting,  
She'll roar up the line with her boiler splitting  
And stop at the top for no reason at all!  
In springtime, winter, summer and fall,  
With a puff and a chuff she'll start off again,  
This noisy, uncomfortable railway train,  
She pulls us all, though one day she'll bust,  
If she doesn't stop first because of the rust.  
She's never more than half an hour late,  
Never faster than a pig at a gate.  
A sight to remember for all those alive,  
The one and only four-twenty-five.

C. R. SABINE, Vx.

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## DUBLIN—REVISITED

The interesting differences which exist between the Irish and ourselves have been re-impressed on my mind during a recent visit to Ireland, after an absence of some years.

The image of Dublin, renowned for its theatres, playwrights, wild life and friendly people is tending to disappear. In its place, the more serious attitude to life is forming, for they must try to compete economically with other countries.

Although Dublin is an ancient seat of learning and culture, Ireland as a whole has always been a poor country with a leisure-loving people. Only a few days gave many instances which revealed the trend towards increased industrial efficiency. These include the modernisation of the transport system—especially the railways, which are nearly all diesel, the birth of car factories, the latest techniques incorporated in the harvesting and processing of sugar-beet and the huge hydro-electric scheme on the River Shannon. Further evidence is the spread of the cities themselves, the revised and strictly enforced drinking laws and the general rise in the standard of living.

Even so, I could not fail to notice the carefree life—the occasional fight in a pub, the cyclists with no lights and a passenger

on the cross-bar. There is as yet no speed limit or white line, and even the police seem to turn a "blind-eye" to the law-breakers!

The Irish are a sentimental people. They cherish the ancient Irish language, which is a compulsory subject in schools, yet English is the everyday language for the vast majority! The signposts are written in Irish and English—another instance of their sentimentality. Green replaces red for buses, pillar-boxes and fire extinguishers—an instance of their effort to preserve their national identity from the English, by whom they were ruled for so long.

Despite this, they enjoy our television—having no station of their own, often send their children to England to be educated, and engage Englishmen to plan and organise their growing industries.

I noticed an almost total absence of "pin-ups" in factories—very much in evidence here! This is possibly linked with the fact that they have a strong Catholic faith. One notices instead, a crucifix or statue of "The Blessed Virgin".

They are supposed to nourish bitter memories of the troubles they have had with the English—and indeed I saw an anti-British play. But in reality they are a very kindly and hospitable people, and made my stay there a very happy and enjoyable one.

M. J. PAYNE, VI B3.

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## OUR NEW BOARDERS

Should your sleep be disturbed by scuffling and snortings in the attic do not reach for Grandpa's muzzle-loader. Rather, inform the Royal Grammar School Biology Department, for it is likely that the commotion above is caused, not by a headless spectre, but by a colony of Glis glis, the European Bushy-tailed Dormouse.

These animals are restricted in their distribution to the Amersham-Luton-Aylesbury triangle where, incidentally, they are surprisingly common. In spite of their abundance, their presence in this country is known to but a few. Presumably the nocturnal habits of these animals are to blame. When it became known that a colony had been discovered at Ashley Green we

immediately contacted the local public health authority, who supplied us with three fine specimens. A large cage was specially built for them in the School vivarium. Practically no scientific literature concerning these animals is available, so that we were very ignorant of their habits. Bitter experience soon filled the gaps in our knowledge, however. For instance, certain people, misled by the cuddly appearance of the dormice, attempted to fondle them as one would a well-fed tabby. To their surprise these friendly advances were met by a painful bite delivered by chisel-sharp yellow teeth. During one week-end all three bit their way out of what we thought to be an escape-proof cage. Monday morning saw the vivarium in confusion. One of the Field Voles lay cruelly savaged on the floor. This confirmed our belief in their ferocity and after this episode we took more care in their housing and added more protein to their predominantly vegetable diet.

Once or twice it has been necessary for various members of the Biology Department to take the *Glis glis* home. One such occasion was marked by a spectacular escape on a crowded bus. The attention of the luckless biologist concerned was drawn to the escape by the surprised exclamation of the conductress :

“There’s a squirrel loose on the bus.”

The biologist who, of course, knew the animal’s reputation for speed and fierceness, felt he could cheerfully die on the spot. The *Glis glis*, showing remarkable common-sense, left the bus at the next stop with its dishevelled keeper in pursuit. Finding the bright light of the street not to its liking, the dormouse streaked under the bus and sat down under the crankshaft. The noise of the bus engine revved just prior to the starting of the bus and the attendant noise made the animal rush for the gutter. By this time a small crowd had gathered and at this point an intrepid and fortunately leather-gloved member of this crowd seized the *Glis glis* and transferred it snorting vigorously to its cage. The story did not finish here, however, for during the transfer its apparently sluggish companion showed remarkable agility and bounded into a garden hedge. A careful search of the hedge failed to produce results and as a last resort the entire front garden of the house involved was searched. The animal was flushed after about five minutes, whereupon, with seemingly limitless energy, it made for the neighbouring fence. The leather-gloved party, seeing the *Glis glis*, entered the other garden and captured it as it made for the back door of the cottage. So ended a most disturbing incident.

To the scientist, study of the European Dormouse can be very rewarding, but if you are thinking of having one as a pet, take my advice, don’t.

R. G. J. SHELTON, VI B3.

## LAST SUMMER'S SCHOOL TRIP TO HOLLAND

Holland is separated from England by Her Majesty's Customs and six hours of sea. For the first couple of hours there is a sliver of grey land on the horizon beyond the boat's wake and the trail of bottles and tins that kitchen staff periodically send bobbing insanely into the distance, and then there is nothing.

The eight days that lay ahead of us were not so much a holiday, but an exhilarating experience that left powerful impressions behind. But the two hours in mid-channel on both journeys were real holiday; those two hours when we were suspended in a bridge-like state between two worlds, conditioned us for the change of scene perfectly and were, in my opinion, an indispensable part of the holiday.

When we arrived alongside Holland, all but the walls of the ship crumpled up and turned into a number of ramps and draw-bridges. At half a snail's pace we edged down these on to the foreign soil and made our way, in less dignified manner, to a nearby railway platform, unhindered by customs or officialdom of any kind. We had a few minutes before our train was due, and a Dutchman with a mobile snack bar used this to great advantage—wherever we went we could get American drinks of the "Coke" family—and he sold six American varieties.

Our train arrived, and though the exterior was conventional enough, the interior was startlingly smart and clean. In addition to chromium fittings and green leather upholstery, each carriage was furnished with inspired collapsible gadgetry in abundance. Although we were treated as V.I.P.'s for every moment of our stay, we soon realised that this luxury was no "visitors' special". All the transport we used was the last word in comfort.

We soon reached Amsterdam and were introduced, after a plain, wholesome and filling Dutch meal, to its 'buses. These were lengthy one-deck vehicles, almost identical to the trains inside, but with swivel sections every fifteen feet or so and a novel ticket system that permitted three-quarters of an hour's travel on any 'bus or 'buses for 35 cents—about 8d. They ran sandwiched between a cobweb of overhead wires that made photography nearly pointless, and tramlines that were no respecters of "pedestrian" islands. It was quite unnerving to be caught between two lines of traffic, and it happened fairly regularly. To add to the fun there were postboxes on the front of the 'buses, and although considerate bus drivers slowed down to enable us to post cards, I wonder that any letters ever reached the box or their senders the safety of the pavement.

So far a lot of space has been devoted to transport, but it strikes me as one of the more interesting, and probably unknown,

differences between England and Holland. Nobody should need telling that Holland is flat—or that there are windmills, canals, flowers, clogs and cheeses galore. However, there are those curiosities and attractions—even windmills remain in active service, though electricity is efficiently handling most of their business.

We found, perhaps to our surprise, that the traditions of the country, rather than hanging round her neck, were alive and a part of a very industrious nation's way of life.

As well as taking pride in their history and heritage, the Dutch are enthusiastic about the present and the future. This confidence is reflected in the standard of design in new building. Strikingly modern houses of Mondrian simplicity add life and spirit to the streets of history, and cities such as Rotterdam have risen like flowers, swiftly and colourfully after the winter.

Rotterdam has a pedestrian shopping centre of considerable size. All the buildings in it are two-storey, leaving the walks between them with a generous share of sky. Shrubs and "tame" flowers are organised into neat corners and gardens, and sculpture demands attention at every turn. The tradition of art in everyday life is very active and varies from simple realism to both intelligent and worthless abstraction. I remember particularly a mosaic the size of a tennis court on the wall of a block of offices, a bronze of two bear cubs playing, as well as the world-famous Zadkrine monument.

Rotterdam is a marvel of rebuilding, and if the world of ships was mentioned, the world's second largest harbour would merit description. However, the two points enlarged upon show the Holland of importance, the active, hardworking, efficient nation rather than the home of Flemish artists and the black tulip. The impression that the Dutch make on me is of a people of tremendous energy and ingenuity. They gave us a great welcome, were obviously proud of their home—and have every good reason to be.

————— L. R. BERRYMAN, VUY.

## SPOT THE AIRCRAFT

For the fourteenth All-England Aircraft Recognition Competition, held this year on January 21st at the Royal Aeronautical Society's Lecture Hall in London, a team of three C.C.F. cadets, Sgt. J. C. Bowman, Sgt. M. R. Emmett and Cdt. C. A. Fair, was entered.

The competition consisted in identifying the aircraft in photographs projected on to a screen for a period of about half a second. As sixty-five teams, including C.C.F. contingents from

various schools, the A.T.C, Air Scouts, Royal Observer Corps, R.A.F., Royal Netherlands Air Force and some civil organisations, were competing, there were a considerable number of answer cards to be marked. While this was being done, we saw a number of interesting aviation films, including one on the Short S.C.1 vertical take-off research aircraft, one about the United States Army Air Force (the predecessor of the U.S.A.F.) and a very good one which described all the latest French products, varying from supersonic fighters to lumbering transports. Mr. J. Lankester Parker, test pilot with the Short Company from 1919 to 1950, gave a talk about his personal experiences and the problems involved in flying an aircraft for the first time.

The winners of the various trophies were then announced ; our team was not among them, but our final result was a team placing of 27th out of 62, and the individual results, out of 35, were as follows : J. C. Bowman 33, M. R. Emmett 29, C. A. Fair 20. The standard of the competition was not particularly high, as only three out of 186 competitors scored full marks, and members of the Royal Observer Corps, whose main work is the identification of aircraft, only averaged about 30 marks.

The meeting was well worth attending, and it gave us a good indication of the standard required for large-scale aircraft recognition competitions.

J. C. BOWMAN, VI2.

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## C.C.F. NOTES

### NAVAL SECTION

Numbers in the Section are now 150, but quantity is not yet matched by quality ; it is hoped that considerable improvement will be made by the time of the Annual General Inspection in June. Training has proceeded normally. A large number of cadets entered for the Proficiency and Advanced Proficiency examinations in March, but no results are available as yet.

This year the Section has been lucky enough to secure a substantial share of the overall training programme for C.C.F. contingents. This Easter twelve cadets go to H.M.S. *Dryad* for a week's course in general seamanship and a further sixteen to H.M.S. *Cochrane* for a more ambitious programme of training. In the summer there is to be a week for six in H.M.S. *Bossington* (the account of last year's training in her appears elsewhere in this issue), another week for six in the Britannia Royal Training College, Dartmouth, and, finally, a week's cruise off the South Coast between Penzance and Portland in a M.F.V. for a further twelve.

It seems a pity that when such opportunities are offered, the response should be so half-hearted. Too many cadets shrink from taking the plunge into what so many have found to be a most enjoyable and worthwhile experience.

A word of praise is due to all those cadets who have given of their time and energy to enable the Section to carry on despite the timetable difficulties occasioned by shortage of staff.

Finally, we must welcome S/Lt. I. M. Merrylees, R.N.R., to the Section. We are fortunate in securing this services, as he has had experience in the Royal Navy during National Service and as an officer in the permanent Reserve.

D.T.N.

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### ARMY SECTION

The last two terms have been uneventful. As usual most of the time has been spent in preparing for the various examinations : Basic Test, Army Proficiency and the Signals Classification. Very few failures were recorded in them this year.

A field day was held in the Autumn Term in the Kimble area, but the number of volunteers was disappointing. A better response was obtained for the Escape and Evasion exercise on Berkhamsted Common during the last week-end of the Easter Term, but the numbers taking part dropped to less than fifty when the hard fact of a night under canvas and own cooking had to be faced. The value of these exercises in map reading and development of initiative is well worth the slight discomforts involved and all those who take part enjoy the fresh air, exercise and companionship of their own choosing. At the time of going to press a keen and experienced party is preparing to spend three nights under canvas on Dartmoor during the Easter holidays to prepare for a longer and bigger Summer Camp at the end of July. The main part of the camp will be devoted to an expedition to qualify for this Section in the Duke of Edinburgh's award Scheme.

In this connection we are pleased to welcome Mr. G. R. Jones to the Army Section, who has a special interest in this side of C.C.F. activities. We are also pleased to welcome Capt. N. Cooper, R.A., whose National Service experience qualifies him to help in all forms of C.C.F. activities.

R.P.

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### R.A.F. SECTION

Recent entries of cadets to the R.A.F. Section have brought the present strength to 135 cadets. At the December Proficiency Examination, of 24 cadets who entered for the examination 13

obtained Distinction, 7 gained Credit and 4 Passed. This quite outstanding result, which reflects great credit both on the examinees and on their instructors, was the subject of a warmly congratulatory message from H.Q. Air Cadets. Forty-five cadets were presented for the Proficiency Advanced Training Examinations held in March.

Arrangements have been completed for the Easter Camp which will be held from 12th to 19 April at R.A.F. Dishforth in Yorkshire. This is a Transport Command station and hopes run high for lengthy flights in Hastings and Beverley aircraft. Twenty-five cadets will be attending this camp.

Early next term it is planned to take 20 cadets to the Air Experience Flight at White Waltham for some week-end flying.

A similar visit made last November was most successful and cadets had some very enjoyable Chipmunk flights. E.M.

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## BACH'S CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

The School Choir, having sung music by Handel, Haydn and Mozart, had its first experience of singing a work by Bach at the end of last Christmas Term, when it gave a performance of the first two parts of his Christmas Oratorio. In this, as in so many of Bach's choral works, the German Chorale melodies with his wonderful harmonies form an integral part. Some of these were already known and provided a good starting point for rehearsals, which then proceeded to the more involved choruses. The two main sections of the choir learnt and sang with great zest the two arias, "Prepare thyself, Zion" for the unbroken voices and "Mighty Lord and King all Glorious" for the tenors and basses. The effect of these was most thrilling. The choir sang throughout with excellent tone and firm attack, and negotiated the florid chorus parts with accuracy and clarity.

Mr. Alan Green paid a second visit to the School, having previously sung for us in Mozart's Requiem, to sing the tenor aria and recitatives, and gave much pleasure with his delightful voice and sensitive singing. A. R. Wardle sang the lovely alto aria, "Slumber, beloved", with considerable skill, managing the long phrases with good breath control.

The Orchestra, of friends and boys, was led by Mr. D. Watmough, and played with much verve. The trumpet players, in particular, managed the taxing high parts most effectively and produced a thrilling sound. The conductor was Mr. James Dawes, who enjoyed the performance as much as anyone. There was a packed hall, every seat (and a few more) having been sold a week before the concert.

J.S.D.

## IMPRESSIONS OF THE R.G.S.

The first memory I have of the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, is getting lost on my first morning there in what seemed a mile-long corridor, and being gravely redirected to the Staff Room by a very polite small boy. When I told him that I was as much a pupil as he was, he gave me an unbelieving look and fled. The next thing I remember is making vain attempts at paryers to see over the shoulders of enormous Sixth-formers, and after that the trepidation I felt when first introduced to my startled fellow-students.

I found almost immediately that if I wanted to keep the banner of feminine equality aloft I had to work far harder than I had done in Scotland and not mind if my marks were considerably worse. For under the Scottish system of education, the student negotiates his big examination in the Vth, and is therefore free on the whole to spend the Sixth Form "integrating" himself pleasantly in preparation for the university.

Before I left this calm and rather leisurely existence my Classics mistress had told me : "You'll like working with boys—they've got such tough minds", and I have discovered that this is quite true. For (if you will excuse the generalisation) they seem to work very hard and not show the strain as girls sometimes do ; though not over-ready to air their opinions they can be clear-headed and single-minded in argument ; and they are apparently gifted with a fund of hard logic and common-sense more often denied to young ladies. Above all, judging, that is, from Royal Grammar School boys, they are friendly, full of energy and always courteous.

Without giving away my views about co-education, I should like to say that I consider it an honour to have been educated with boys. I am very grateful not only to the Headmaster who overcame so many obstacles to let me continue studying Classics, but also to the masters who have been unfailingly kind and helpful and the boys who took care of me and are all of them charming. Thank you ! I was sad to leave but shall enjoy being an "old girl" : *olim meminisse iuvabit.*

HELENA ANNE ELLIS, VIC.

## BY SAIL . . .



“What finer sport than sailing?” I thought to myself as “Casilda” stole along propelled by a gentle breeze. I was sprawled across the thwart, one foot on the leeward gunnel, my elbows on the windward one and the other foot directing the tiller. However, as I lazily studied the careless, fleecy clouds scudding across the reddening sky, my thoughts were rudely awakened by the hooter of a grimy Thames barge. I had not noticed the barge at first, and in a panic I swung round in the opposite direction, and finished up by ramming the bank. Even this humiliation was better than being mown down by a vessel under power, and possibly less embarrassing than others I had suffered.

We had only started sailing that season and had already joined the sailing club before we realised that it lived up to its reputation of sailing the worst reach on the river. The people were very agreeable, though, and very willing to give advice. This soon persuaded us to buy a boat, and we naturally thought it was the prettiest in the club.

The club organises races every Saturday and Sunday, and we used to sail on days other than these and would pass delightful afternoons cruising down to the lock and back and having appetising teas at the hospitable club commodore’s riverside chalet.

It was not long before the club races caught our attention and we were longing to enter one. But this could only be done after reading The Royal Yachting Association's copious rule book : this authority organises all sailing affairs on an official basis.

One day we took the plunge, and just before the race was due to start, we were anxiously hopping about on the starting line, watch in hand, waiting for the final run. There was chaos. With thirteen or fourteen racing dinghies milling about in a few yards of the Thames, it was surprising that we were not fouled for some infringement of the rules. The fleet soon sorted itself out, and we were amazed by the speed at which they drew away from us : we had gone round the course once while most of the others had gone round twice. Then the light, summer convectional breeze began to fail. Tacking to every chance changing puff of wind, we made the best way possible, but only to see the leaders gybing, tacking, bearing away, hugging the bank like limpets, in a way that absolutely amazed us.

We would sail up a few yards, then drift back even more. By the time we had spent a quarter of an hour alongside the whitewashed wall of a bungalow we decided to apply some advice previously given to us : if you cannot make headway, forget all about the race for a minute or two, and then try again. So we forgot all thought of the race, and drifted down and down and down, and finished up near a blue and white home-made houseboat. Now we really decided to set to : but all that happened was that we stayed where we were for another quarter of an hour, this time by the houseboat.

All the same, it was good exercise paddling about a mile upstream, and after putting "Casilda" back in the boat-sheds, we retired to a club tea. We soon forgot our troubles in the cheery, relaxed atmosphere, and began to look back on the pleasanter aspects of the day, when the "Protest Meeting" was announced (when two boats have a disagreement over the rules, they are entitled to a hearing by the committee). The Committee consists of club officers, who with the help of models and the R.Y.A. rules, settle disputes. Where a collision occurs one boat must retire, and if a helmsman is found guilty, he is liable to disqualification. The whole proceedings are very formal : witnesses are called, and all rules referred to are stated. We gradually increased our sailing skill during the season, and by the time it ended we were even able to beat some members in races. During the winter months, while the river is high, we refit our boats, and have to be content with just talking sailing, and trying to introduce our friends to this marvellous sport.

G. SMYTH, VY.

## . . . AND BY STEAM

### To Holland with the Royal Navy

Part of the 1960 Summer training was a 12-day spell in H.M.S. *Bossington*, a "ton" class coastal minesweeper (Lt.-Cdr. R. E. Dunn, R.N.). Six of us, Petty Officers N. C. Gravette and A. C. Pain, and Leading Seamen A. C. Wood, J. A. Johnson, R. E. Woods and R. P. C. Farrell, with Lieutenant Benson in charge, joined her during the first dog watch on Tuesday, 2nd August, at Portsmouth. Once aboard we were met and shown to our mess by the "Buffer" (*alias* Leading Seaman Maxted), who as his nickname implies, goes between officers and men, and accepts the wrath of both; we received our bedding from the Coxswain, and later the First Lieutenant, Lieutenant J. Fowler, R.N., came and gave us a talk. He told us that the ship would be conveying a large party of canoeists (who were going to explore the canals), from Harwich to Holland, and we should remain there for a few days on a courtesy visit. We should not, however, be sailing from Pompey till the Friday and until then we should be "cleaning ship". Little did we know that this meant painting the ship's side, and what better mugs than us to do it? Next day we were to find out, but for the time being we were content to have supper and explore the ship and her immediate surroundings. None of us had much sleep that night because we were not used to the noise of the fans.

Next forenoon work began in earnest (the Navy always makes the morning longer than it ought to be), and the routine was fairly constant: Wakey, wakey! at 0630, scrub decks 0700 to 0800, when we had breakfast; then brasswork from 0900 to 1200, with a break for Stand-easy in the middle, and after dinner back to work from 1315 to 1600. Each morning one of us was detailed off to scrub out the mess deck and some of us found ourselves working on a "cat" over the side. We were split into three watches, so that four out of the party were able to go ashore when shore leave was granted after 1600, the remaining two having to stay on board for sunset duties and any other job that might need doing. The only difference at sea was that we did duty in our appropriate watch either in the wheelhouse or on the bridge, but we were not required to keep watches after 2200.

It was while we were in Portsmouth that H.M.S. *Vanguard* ran herself aground, taking charge of the tugs that were supposed to have charge of her. She had obviously become too fond of Portsmouth and resented being taken away. Some of us saw the fun but others were still on the "cat" between *Bossington* and *Sheraton* and so missed it. Friday morning came and with it feverish uncertainty. Were we to sail at 1000 or 1630? It made

a lot of difference, as painting was still in progress, jollied along with much encouragement from the afterguard. At 0945 we found out : "15 minutes to go, you lot there," and 10 more feet to paint. It was a close thing, but the paint rollers won.

For entering and leaving harbour, we were split into two parties, fo'c'sle and sweep deck (*i.e.* quarter deck). Our duties were to let go mooring ropes at the command, and try not to let them catch round the screws. Then after coiling down the 6-in. warps, we stood in line to attention and, we hope, looked very smart.

The reason for our sudden departure was to relieve another minesweeper which had sailed at 0400 that morning to meet and escort home the ocean racer *Belmore*, which was crewed by naval officers. She had been second in the race from New York to Bermuda and first in the race from New York to Sweden. Unfortunately the wind was light and she did not turn up until 1600. Meanwhile we hung about the Solent, believe it or not, polishing brass. It was during this time that we discovered one of the worst faults of these ships : every time the engines were brought up to full revolutions, lumps of soot were blown up the funnel and fell on the deck to provide us with sure work for the next day, if not immediately. As the winds were light, we took the yacht in tow and by the time we reached the harbour entrance we had attracted quite an escort, not to mention another yacht who joined the tow. We left them about half a mile off shore and set off along the Channel astern of *Sheraton*, who had come out of Pompey to meet us. The first part of the night was calm and clear and some of us spent quite a time on the bridge watching Beachy Head, Eastbourne, Hastings and the Royal Sovereign Light Vessel go by, and as a bit of excitement we nearly had a collision with a coaster when we had the right of way. Next morning after 0630 breakfast we came on deck to find a thick fog and were compelled to enter Harwich by radar, where we secured to a buoy off H.M.S. *Ganges*, Shotley, in the company of H.M.S. *Plover*, the oldest and probably slowest ship in the Navy, and H.M.S. *Brave Swordsman*, one of the newest and fastest patrol boats. During that afternoon the canoes and canoeists were brought on board, and by the time they had finished the decks were littered with canoes, so much so that there was nowhere left to scrub, and our mess was so full of boys that when we came below after stations for leaving harbour we had nowhere to eat our supper. Later that night some of us did not feel like eating in any sense. For the first hour we carried out manoeuvres with *Sheraton* and *Plover* and were then treated to a wonderful display by *Brave Swordsman*, who approached us surrounded by foam, circled round us at about 40 knots, and disappeared on the horizon 10 minutes later. It was galling to think that before

midnight she was probably comfortably in harbour, while we were doing our share of pitching and tossing in the middle of the North Sea.

We were called on deck at 0500 for entering Den Helder, where we berthed a couple of hours later to unload our "cargo". We almost at once after this left and coasted along to IJmuiden, which is the entrance to the Nord Zee Canal. "Decks all clear to scrub now!" "Don't stand and stare at Holland; get on with the polishing!" Ah well! Rough with the smooth, I suppose. Outside the entrance to the canal we picked up a pilot to take us up the canal in the wake of some large ocean-going ships whom we followed very slowly because of the speed limit. It is a marvellous canal running through very flat and often marshy countryside. "No windmills, no tulips," someone was heard to say, but the roads and footpaths seemed to be full of bicycles and mopeds. We all saw windmills, however, clogs, and even national dress later on. After about 8 miles it was "Left hand down" and "Left hand down again" to secure alongside the road in the town hall square of Zaandam, a sizable timber port, where we were met and welcomed by a large crowd on the quay and the banks.

While we were in Holland the duty watches for us were so arranged that each watch had a whole day and a half-day off to enable us to go into Amsterdam, which was only 5 miles away. It seemed very strange just to be able to step ashore in a foreign country without having to go through the Customs, even if it was rather difficult to push one's way through the crowd that gathered round the prow. We also found out how advantageous Naval uniform can be when we were given free rides on the trams and other similar concessions when we were ashore. Amsterdam seemed to have as many canals as streets and some of us made the trip round the canals in the harbour buses. The officers from the two ships took the opportunity to use the ships' motor boats and travel up the canal to the city, where they were given access to and in effect the complete freedom of the canals, which in their smaller boats they were able to see and explore much more effectively. Zaandam too enabled us to learn something of Holland, and the general cleanliness of the surroundings, the houses, and the shops is probably the feature that strikes one more than any other. It was noticeable too that folk there were quite content to sit in their rooms without bothering to draw curtains, and talk or sit around and read without having their television sets (and most homes seemed to have one) switched on as well. Our sister ship *Sheraton* was open to the public late one afternoon and the children of Zaandam made the most of their opportunity, swarming like monkeys on every part of her and collecting where they could the odd bolt or any other loose part for souvenirs.

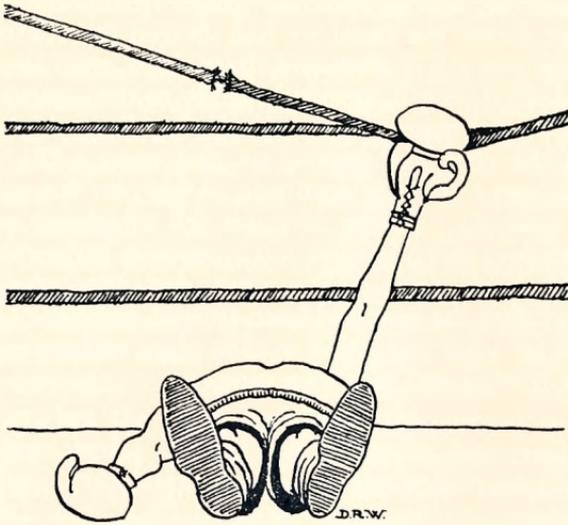
Thursday brought the ship under sailing orders to leave Zaandam at 1600, and in spite of being held up by the railway swing-bridge across the canal we had cleared the coast by about 1800. There was a fair swell and these ships, with their shallow draught and short length, respond readily to the smallest sea, but despite this we did manage to retain the excellent chicken dinner with which the chef had regaled us that noon. We wondered whether this was a show of gratitude on his part for winning the long range tombola. Before darkness fell a jackstay was rigged between ourselves and *Sheraton* and a concrete sinker passed over and brought back again. The next day was scheduled for exercises and after the gear had been stowed, the First Lieutenant explained to us what was going to take place and we made ready the gear for towing and minesweeping.

Although the weather during the night was not very pleasant and the ship bounced quite a bit, the sea off the Essex coast, which we reached early the next morning, was flatter although some wind was still blowing. The first exercise was to take *Sheraton* in tow and in this the most difficult task was passing the line. We got as close as possible to her and fired a nylon line to her by rifle and once contact had been secured in this way the hawser was eventually hauled aboard her. Recovering the gear was easier, as it was just wound in on the winch, but perhaps it was fortunate for us that this rather temperamental winch had been repaired while we were in Holland. The rest of the morning was spent in getting out and recovering sweeps for contact mines, magnetic mines or acoustic mines. For the first we paid out wires astern which were kept out on our quarters by paravanes, for the second a heavy electric cable which could float was paid out in a large loop between rollers astern. Bringing this in was not as easy as paying it out, as it had to be guided carefully on to its drum. The simplest sweeps (or so it appeared) were those for the acoustic mines, since they consisted of drums with oscillators in them. Perhaps if the ship had been rolling heavily they might not have appeared so simple after all.

The first part of the afternoon was spent in cleaning ship and stowing gear and we entered Felixstowe Dock about 1530. After we had all seen the Customs officials, Gravette, Pain and Johnson were taken across to Harwich in the ship's boat to catch the London train. The rest of us spent the night on board and caught the ferry next morning after Colours. So at last a respite for those deck-scrubbing muscles. No one would, I am certain, have missed for one moment a single part of this experience, and we feel greatly indebted to all in H.M.S. *Bossington* for their generous tolerance of our greenness.

R. E. WOODS and R. P. C. FARRELL, VIs.

## HOUSE SPIRIT



My captain, my house captain, I hear his footsteps near ;  
To make me enter for my House, that's what he wants, I fear;  
I can't escape, I'm cornered now, oh, dear me, what excuse  
Can I, to shun this stupid fighting, now think up to use ?

O help ! help ! help !  
The bleeding drops of red !  
When in the ring I lie prostrate,  
Fallen down half dead.

My captain, my house captain, "You won't get hurt", he says ;  
"Go on, support your house for once, and show your fearlessness ;  
Just keep your guard up, have a swipe and you will be all right—  
And mind you don't forget the weigh-in—that's tomorrow night."

"But, captain, I'll get beaten  
And all my teeth knocked out ;  
I cannot box, I know I can't  
Last even a single bout."

My captain gave his answer, "Come on, don't be a pap."  
He does not see my point of view ; "Go to the other chap,"  
I say, with gathering despair ; he rants, "No, why not you ?  
It's not as if he's going to biff and bruise you black and blue !"

I fight, and last out one whole round,  
Till, cheered by scornful cries,  
I lie spreadeagled on the ground,  
With only two black eyes !

ENTELLUS.

## THE POWER OF THE PRESS

Like many people nowadays, after reading the headlines of my evening paper, I turn at once to the "small-ads" page. On this particular occasion I was being plagued all around the house by beetles of the larger, blacker variety. So you can imagine my delight on noticing at the foot of the column one entitled "Beetle Killer". This wonderful instrument was guaranteed to kill all types of beetle, and only cost the modest sum of half-a-crown. With so much to be gained I rushed straight out, obtained a Postal Order for the required amount and posted it to the stated address.

After only two days a small brown-paper parcel arrived and upon quickly ripping it open, I found myself possessed of two wooden blocks labelled "A" and "B" and a slip of instructions which read : PLACE BEETLE ON "A" and STRIKE SMARTLY WITH "B".

Small ad : For sale, large quantity of flat beetles suitable for a collection. Apply R. P. BROWNE, VIs.

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## HOLIDAY IN CEYLON

ලොරැට් විහාළු කැරො

Our elegant Comet is cruising along  
On its flight to Bombay to exotic Hong Kong ;  
Now we are flying o'er India's coast  
On our way to the land which will be our glad host.

Now it's "Fasten your belts" and "No smoking, please",  
As we rapidly glide o'er the waving palm trees,  
Which seem to be saying, "Welcome to Ceylon".  
We then through the Customs passed warily on.

In the coach then through village and valley we sped  
To the seaside hotel which awaited ahead,  
Where the posters all said we could swim all the day  
At the palm-bordered beach 'neath the sun's scorching ray.

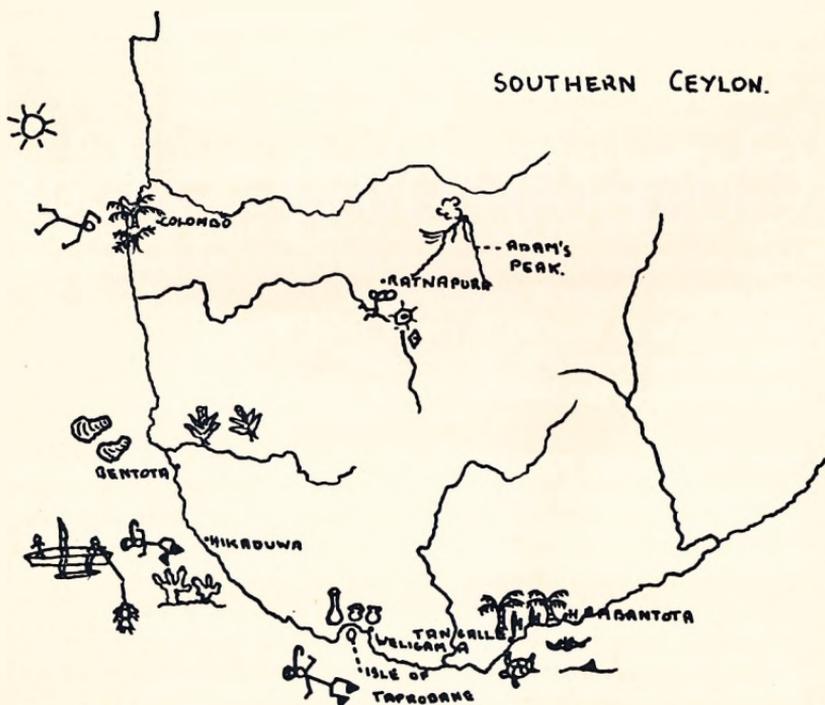
At Bentota, a small village right on the coast,  
 When in season raw oysters are served by our host ;  
 Inland they grow paddy and reap it by hand,  
 With which to help feed this blithe, happy land.

At Hikadwa they go down skin-diving in June,  
 In the warm, shining seas of the coral lagoon,  
 A pastime exotic and gay. Or you can  
 Go fishing off-shore in a catamaran.

To Weligama, near the isle of Taprobame,  
 A skin-diving resort which has earned itself fame ;  
 The fishing fleet rests in the cool palm trees' shade  
 To count up the catch which that day they had made.

Along the coast to Hambantota we go,  
 With the sun blazing down on the tropics aglow,  
 Where the Hawksbill and also the green turtles swim,  
 In the far-away distance the blue sharks' fins skim.

By Ratanapur, underneath Adam's Peak,  
 Natives pan in the river ; rare jewels they seek ;  
 On the slopes of the hills rise the great tea plantation.  
 But now we must leave this happy, gay nation—  
 By British Overseas Airways Corporation.



C. P. CHALLIS, Vs.

## ON HERSCHEL'S TREATISE UPON "Organic aethers and their subconscious equivalents"

It is necessary for the reader first to consider the basic concept inherent in our understanding of Herschel. The eminence of pre-estimated thought in a universal subsphere of matter is, of course, the underlying feature in any elementary biocism. Herschel readily submits an element of cubes in the summation as a whole, but definitely indicates the transfinite nature of the fundamental series. "When we take," he says, "a perpendicular section at right angles, it is clear that a parallel essential emerges at once on integration. But," he goes on, "if it could be possible to so construct the radial form to coincide practically with the origin, I suggest a premeditated elimination from a point source would therefore result."

In the light of such strata it could be exemplified that the radial energy with respect to the tangential forms could easily be superseded by an abundant saturation of highly evolved concentrations. That is to say, a post-mature subjection of infinite radials would not necessarily affect the temperature at the start, but, in the processes of evolution, would discharge sufficient protagonists as to render the participle neutral. From this would arise the subtology with which we are so directly familiar today.

So far, our analysis has been basically mathematical, for in empirical advances it is essential that all our contentions be readily understood. This, primarily, does not prohibit the existence of some forms of prototheria, however, and it is with some doubt that we come to recognise exhibitionists in this class.

It may be remembered that, a short time ago, Professor Huckip issued a treatise upon "The Elemental Nature of a Psychotherian Physicism." Here, he expounds the manner in which lesser forms of preconsciousness tend to egress from or direct towards an intermediary orbit of focal thought. Here again the need is expressed for every diametric conception; but it is soon perceived that, etymologically at any rate, the theory is not admitting of any form of *radial* progression. Here lies its weakness, for it should be clear from the outset that the inner property of all conscious matter to evolve directly from an organic aether is not incompatible with known phenomena. On the contrary, incommensurable precedents of the third order can be shown to exist temporarily in such binary consciousnesses as log II. Indeed, it was in pursuance of radial equivalent data of this kind that Herschel discovered, and later was able to shew, that the profundity of the E-point was independent of mass and was a function merely of time. The proof is left to the student as an exercise.

J. E. BURNELL, VI3.

## FIRST NIGHTS?

Early last year, when I heard that Peter Hall, the director of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, was planning to open a branch of the theatre at the Aldwych, I wondered what the first nights would be like at such a well-known home of farces. So I composed some notes on what they might be like.

December 15—"The Two Gentlemen of Verona". Elizabethan costumes. Splendid direction. However, in the fourth act some mishaps did occur: Proteus and musicians about to sing, "Who is Silvia", when Sir Eglamour was thrown off his horse from the wings and crashed into Silvia's tower, which collapsed and covered Proteus. Musicians sang, but Proteus, still dazed, sang "Where is Silvia? Where the hell is she?" Whereupon Silvia was revealed in her scanty black lace underclothes, when Sir Eglamour's horse had torn her dress off. In the last act, as the Duke said, "Come, let us go", the revolving stage began to move very fast and the cast were thrown off the stage into the front row. Left theatre.

February 2—"Romeo and Juliet", in modern dress. Prologue on top of a modern office block. Very effective. Sir Reginald Redpit in title role. Company dogged by accidents. Romeo climbed up to Juliet's (Miss Dotty Tooting) office window, tore his trousers on a rose bush, caught hold of the balcony, fell through a trap-door, and appeared a few minutes later singing on a candelabra through Juliet's window. In the last scene, Romeo hit Paris on the head with a crowbar and stuck a dagger through his heart—still made pointless remark, "Oh, I am slain!" Taken to hospital afterwards. Remarkable production.

April 7.—"Hippopotamus", by an unknown Russian author called Oscenoi. Confusing. In Anglo-Saxon costume, about a Greek called Themisticiades, who thought he was an ass. I agree. Last scene on Venus. Pan making love to goddess. Am told half of it was censored. Peculiar! Wrote to Mr. Hall. No reply.

June 30.—"Coriolanus." Did not see Sir Laurence. Star was Denham Idiot. Horrible! In last scene Idiot tried to jump, as at Stratford. Fell into bass drum. Volumnia played by fifteen year-old girl, Vera Lee. Lost dress. Aufidius very savage—played by cannibal. Ate half the cast. Many strange Latin expressions used, such as "Belt up", "Clot". Disgraceful.

August 20.—"Hamlet", in Greek costume. Did not go!

However, after seeing one of the three productions offered us by that company, I am prepared to withdraw just a few of the remarks I have made.

D. A. REES, Vx.

## MELE KALIKIMAKA

These are the words that greeted us as we stepped off our aircraft at Honolulu International Airport on the 18th of December, 1960. They mean "Merry Christmas" in the simple language of Hawaii—whose alphabet contains only seven consonants, h, k, l, m, n, p and w, and five vowels.

The Hawaiian chain of eight islands are over 2,000 miles from the mainland and stretch between the 17th and 23rd parallels. They enjoy a climate predominantly sunny, with cool trade winds which moderate the sub-tropical temperature ; this varies, as a rule, less than ten degrees between summer and winter and between noon and midnight. Four of the islands are very small, with no scenic wonders ; the smallest of them, called Kakoolawe, is not populated, and no one is permitted to go ashore, because the island is used as a bombing target by the U.S.A.F. and is covered with unexploded shells.

Honolulu, the capital of the chain, is on the third largest island, while the largest is Hawaii. This island is also called "Orchid Island" because of the millions of fabulous orchids that flourish there. The Orchid Island landscape is an exciting succession of superlatives : the most tropical shores, beaches of the blackest sand, millions of the most precious flowers, thickest jungle growths, the barrenest lava deserts, not to mention snow-mantled peaks and active volcanoes. The second largest island, Maui, takes its name from the ancient Hawaiian demi-god, Maui. Inland there is Haleakala, an impressively formed dormant volcano. Its summit crater, which towers 10,025 feet above the sea, is 3,000 feet deep and twenty miles from rim to rim.

The next island, in order of size, is Oahu. It was on this island that we were staying, in an apartment five minutes' walk from the famous Wakiki Beach. From this beach, you can see Diamond Head (not noted for diamonds), Pearl Harbour and Honolulu Harbour, which is mentioned in many songs. The oldest of all the inhabited islands of Hawaii is Kauai ; it is also the first island on which Europeans are known to have set foot, when, 1777, Captain James Cook sailed into the Pacific to discover the islands. This island is noted for a weather-eaten group of mountains, which look remarkably like a sleeping giant.

Among these scenic wonders of Hawaii, whose Polynesian tradition is combined with modern American living standards, I spent an unforgettable holiday, and I hope others are fortunate enough to go to the Hawaiian islands.

M. PETERSON, Vs.

## THE PROFESSIONAL

If only he could have lived to see . . . but Georges Bizet never saw his dreams of success realised. His music was "a divine language, expressing the aspirations of a being who is an exile in the world," said a close friend. But the disastrous première of *Carmen* was only the climax to a long series of misfortunes which had followed the early promise of his youth.

Born at Bougival, near Paris, in October 1838, the son of a singing master, he studied music at the Paris Conservatoire under the tuition of Halévy, his future father-in-law. In 1857 he won the Grand Prix de Rome for a cantata, "Clorio et Clotilde." The three years he spent in Italy on the scholarship were the happiest of his life, marred towards the end, however, by the tragedy of his mother's death : this was a great setback, for he depended on her completely for guidance.

He returned to Paris with an empty soul, but soon established a reputation as a pianist. It was at this time that he wrote his first opera, "The Pearl Fishers", set in the exotic setting of the southern hemisphere, so familiar in many of his later compositions. Although a contemporary, Berlioz, acclaimed : "The score of the opera does him the greatest honour", it did not enjoy a long run at the Théâtre Lyrique.

After the expiry of his prize, Bizet was condemned to produce an enormous amount of work, most of it hack-work for publishers done to keep himself alive. It was during this period that his almost fatal association with Céleste Mogador began : it is open to doubt but probable that she was his mistress, for he had one engagement broken off by enraged parents, and his future marriage on a precipice. It was nevertheless an amazing relationship, for while he was twenty-seven years old, she was forty-one. In spite of this he married Geneviève Halévy, who only eighteen. Soon afterwards, in face of the prolonged intensity of his labour his purpose remained steadfast, and his second opera, "The Fair Maid of Perth", appeared at the Théâtre Lyrique, but after initial success it also sunk into the depths of operatic oblivion.

His marriage apparently settled and his work producing financial rewards, he once more imagined "victory was assured", as he exclaimed to a friend. But neither was destined to be successful : to the trials of ill-health were added the problem of an unstable marriage. His wife, Geneviève, was a neurotic, frequently engaged in bitter quarrels with her equally neurotic mother, and the composer often found himself the go-between in these encounters. Her epilepsy made severe demands on his emotions, so that where he should have found a source of com-

fort, he was compelled to act the comforter. But worse was to come. At the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War he enlisted in the National Guard. After the tragedy of a French defeat he returned to his capital, but immediately fled with his wife, confronted by the Terror of the Commune.

However, fate then turned a favourable smile on Georges Bizet, and on his return to Paris, his inclinations converged on the writing of incidental music to Alphonse Daudet's drama, "L'Arlésienne", in which he enshrined the colourful and fiery atmosphere of the Southern provinces. Unfortunately, its initial success was short-lived, and it was a failure, but some signs of his brilliance had been noticed.

Family worries—his mother-in-law's illness and the birth of a son—were increasing both his mental and physical fatigue and he could often be seen pacing up and down like a lion while struggling to complete his masterpiece, "Carmen", a Spanish gypsy opera based on a novel by Prosper Mérimée, in which his tunefulness and delicate, piquant orchestration are very attractive and in which he also shows considerable dramatic power. Although it may not have what Nietzsche called "Mediterraneanism", it certainly takes leave of the damp north with all its mists of the Wagnerian ideal and possesses the limpid dry atmosphere of the warmer climes.

By June of 1875 he was looking for a singer to play the title role. Even this was not easy, but he finally succeeded in securing the impish, unruly and impetuous Galli-Marie. More obstacles were hurled in his way when he negotiated for the production to appear at the Opéra Comique—objections from singers and producers—and these increased his underlying misery.

Eventually on December 8th, 1875, "Carmen" made its long awaited debut, but to a mixed audience: instead of a social gathering of rich and pompous aristocrats, it faced a mass of critical bourgeoisie—the management were by no means certain of its reception. The first Act was applauded enthusiastically as was the Toreador song in the second. But already the climax had been reached. In the third Act there was a lonely approval of Michaela's song. The reception of the final Act was glacial. The shattered Georges Bizet—his hopes, his nerves and his health utterly wrecked—quietly, unnoticed, left his own funeral pyre, his life gradually flowing into the Aral Sea. Three months later he was dead. As he walked through the Parisian night, and ashen in the first deceiving lights of dawn, he could not believe the fate of his masterpiece. But, as Reynaldo Hahn much later wrote of him in "Le Figaro", the national newspaper, "Bizet had conquered the universe". He has now conquered it not only

by his talent, but also by the sympathy, the warmth and the profoundly human quality of that talent. His soul showed through his music—that sensitive, loyal, generous soul; that spontaneous, kind, uncomplicated character that all those who knew Bizet enjoyed praising.

Tell him on that night that “Carmen” would be filling opera-houses all over the world years from then—he would not believe it, but it would be true . . . it would be true . . .

R. M. LAYTON, VIM1.

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## 25th HIGH WYCOMBE SCOUT TROOP

The past two terms have seen great progress both in the Boy Scouts and in the Senior Scouts. The Boy Scout Troop had been run very effectively since Mr. Harvey left by two of the Seniors, A. J. Oxley and J. Cawson, but in October pressure of work forced them to hand over the task to P. A. Taylor. Since just before Christmas R. P. H. Green has also been assisting in the running of the Troop. Activities have included entering two teams in the District Six-a-side Competition, numerous hikes, and towards the end of the last term seven boys took part in the Cavalcade of Youth in the Town Hall.

The Senior Troop has continued under Mr. L. Lawrence's leadership, and on March 16th Geoffrey Boireau received his Queen's Scout Certificate from Mr. S. Butters, the District Commissioner.

Many of our activities have meant boys returning to school late, and we thank the Housemasters, Rev. A. J. Skipp and Mr. M. M. Davies, for their willingness to accept any inconvenience caused.

P. A. TAYLOR.

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## SOCIETY NEWS

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### ART SOCIETY

The need for more varied practical art work and an organised treatment of art appreciation has been felt for a long time in the School. The Art Society was founded at the beginning of the Spring Term to meet these demands, and it gained much support. Mr. Eaton has spent a tremendous amount of time and patience in the organisation of extra classes in more advanced practical work. Mr. O. Lewis, a professional artist, gave an absorbing talk on “Colour”, but the support was very disappointing. On the appreciative side the film shows were excellently attended and the visit to the Tate Gallery to see its display of contemporary art was a fascinating and enjoyable experience.

D. R. WALKER.

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The encouraging increase in attendance which we were glad to note last year has not continued so much as we might have hoped ; perhaps the decision to hold our meetings after school, forced upon us by the shorter lunch-hour, has been the reason why the large numbers who came when we show films do not attend our regular weekly meetings.

We have had our usual wide variety of speakers and subjects ; our talks, both stimulating and interesting, have ranged from the obscurities of the Apocrypha and Revelation to the problems of daily witness. A talk was given by Mr. W. Andrews on the Gideons' Bible Society, and an illuminated explanation of the work of the Scripture Union by Dr. Branse Burbidge, D.F.C., D.S.O., to whom we are very grateful, as we are to the many clergy of nearby churches and masters who have come to talk at our meetings.

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P. B. NEWITT.

## CLASSICAL SOCIETY

During the past two terms the society has undertaken a number of activities appealing to boys in all parts of the School. During the Michaelmas Term, Professor Wells, of Oxford, lectured to the society on the theme of "The Latin Language", and a party of senior boys went to Reading for a talk, with practical demonstrations, on "Early Physical Experiments".

The previous successes with play reading were continued in a performance of Aristophanes' "*Birds*" : all these readings have been well received and we hope to continue them in the future.

In the last term Mr. F. N. Cooper lectured to a select audience on "Corruption in the Ancient World", and later the annual reading competition was held.

No report of the society would be complete without some mention of the untiring help which Mr. C. M. Haworth has given both in obtaining outside lecturers and in the administration of the society's affairs.

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P. A. TAYLOR.

## DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Three years have passed ; three summers with the length of three long winters, and no Dramatic production has been forthcoming. Whether due to the encroaching predominance of musical events or the sheer inertia of certain Committee members, the shameful fact remains that for three years the Society has been "resting".

Now, however, thanks to the energies of Mr. W. B. Watmough, the new chairman, the Society is once again on its feet,

and towards the dusk of the Autumn Term a nucleus of boys from the Senior School began rehearsals for "Rope", by Patrick Hamilton. The choice of the play—which is somewhat contrived and melodramatic—was, it must be admitted, infelicitous ; however, although it conforms to the vogue of the time, the author's deep understanding of the evils confronting society makes the drama an illuminating piece of entertainment, and those who troubled to come (once again we plead that it would be greatly appreciated by all those who work so hard if their efforts were more enthusiastically supported) will remember his stirring defence of the cause of Society.

Despite these drawbacks, it did give sufficient scope for members of the School to reveal their dormant talents ; judgement of the revelation must be left to the reviewer. In order to give boys an earlier opportunity to display their talents it is proposed to establish a Junior Dramatic Society, and thus, by appealing to the enthusiasm of the juniors, to initiate a good acting tradition and at the same time eliminate some of the bovine lethargy prevailing in the Senior School. While talking on the theatre, Thackeray remarked cynically "Come, children, let us shut up the box and puppets, for our play is played out". Let us hope that the Society encounters no difficulties in prising open the lid again next year.

The term's activities were rounded off by a visit to the London production of "A Man for all Seasons", by Robert Bolt, which, the seniors thought, paid too much attention to words and too little to action.

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M. D. SIMONS.

## JAZZ APPRECIATION SOCIETY

The Society has remained very much alive since its rebirth last year. Record concerts are held as regularly as possible every Thursday lunch-time, artists ranging from King Oliver to the M.J.Q.

A trip was run to "Jazz at the Philharmonic" at the Royal Festival Hall. Among the performers were such revered old-timers as Coleman Hawkins, Roy Eldridge and Benny Carter, as well as such widely acclaimed modernists as Dizzy Gillespie, Cannonball and Nat Adderly, Victor Feldman and J. J. Johnson ; Jo Jones gave a particularly thrilling drum solo.

So many excellent American jazz musicians are touring Britain nowadays and it is quite impossible to organise more than one or two Society trips a year ; the Society will, however, often obtain individual tickets, on request of a member, for these concerts.

J. O. SMITH.

## MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

Since the beginning of the School year the club has grown tremendously and now has well over 200 members. Unfortunately this rise in membership has not been accompanied by a corresponding rise in enthusiasm for building the model railway. In fact the club is fast becoming a "train-spotters' club". We hope to remedy this in the near future.

Because of this lack of enthusiasm, the layout has not progressed as well as originally hoped. But we now have some very good lighting and the use of over two-thirds of the space under the stage, so the future is quite bright. A film has been shown every fortnight and is usually repeated because of the large number of boys who want to see it.

Two trips were held in the Christmas Term. A party of 80 boys visited the Model Railway Hobby Show in September and later in the term 40 boys spent a whole day visiting four Southern Region Motive Power Depots. Last term, the club's largest trip, and probably the largest School society trip ever, was held when over 220 boys and parents travelled by special train to Swindon Railway Works and Motive Power Depot. This was a great success and a trip on similar lines is being considered for next year.

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P. C. R. HUDSON.

## MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

Thanks to the enthusiasm shown by our two assistants from abroad, the Society has enjoyed a very full and varied programme. Our highlight was a full-length French feature film, "L'Atalante", which was keenly supported by the majority of the local Sixth-formers (and also swelled our coffers). This has been supplemented by French and German documentary and travel films. We enjoyed also a number of record concerts, but we hope to see a fuller attendance at the latter in future.

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R. A. STOCKWELL.

## MUSIC SOCIETY

As usual, the record concerts during Thursday lunch-times have been the main activity of the Society. The content has varied from Vivaldi to Webern, but with a preponderance of the unusual, perhaps too much so. A recording of the School production of the Christmas Oratorio was unsuccessful, and one of "H.M.S. Pinafore" was put on. A trip to the Festival Hall to see Igor and David Oistrakh was projected, but tickets were sold out.

This term a chamber group was formed, under the guidance of Mr. D. Watmough. It is hoped to give a concert sometime next term.

Lastly, our best wishes go with John Camp at Oxford, who left at the end of last term.

C. SWAIN.

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## NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

The new biology laboratories with their excellent facilities for keeping animals of all types have aroused a new interest in natural history. During the last two terms membership has increased to such an extent that the natural history society is now one of the largest of the School organisations.

Meetings are held twice a week. On Mondays members meet in the biology laboratory to discuss matter of zoological interest and to study the considerable zoological collection now maintained by the biology department. On Fridays films concerning many aspects of Natural History are shown in the lecture theatres.

Most of the animals housed in the vivarium have been collected by Natural History Society members. Of particular interest are the Indian Palm Squirrels imported from India by an enterprising boarder.

Next term we hope to conduct a programme of field work in co-operation with the Mammal Society of the British Isles. In connection with this the Biology Department would be glad of any information regarding the location of Badger setts in the High Wycombe district.

R. G. J. SHELTON.

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## SCIENCE SOCIETY

Once again the Science Society has attracted a large membership from all parts of the School. This year, through the courtesy of our President, Mr. Mewse, we have been able to use the lecture rooms in the new Science Block for our regular Monday films. This has, however, limited our audience to 60 members. Thirty members of the Society enjoyed a very successful trip to Aspro-Nicholas last December. It is, however, becoming increasingly harder to arrange new and interesting outings. We hope to arrange three trips next term, one for each part of the School, and arrangements are being made to have longer and more interesting films.

R. R. SHOOSMITH.

## TWENTIETH-CENTURY OPINION SOCIETY

The Society has had several well-attended meetings since September, including two debates, in co-operation with the High School, and we have had some interesting talks from various people.

Perhaps the best of these was the talk given by Mr. J. O. Morehead, Education Adviser to the U.S.A.F. Base, High Wycombe, which ended in a very interesting discussion. Other highlights included an illustrated lecture on 19th Century Art, given by Mr. Eaton, and a talk by Mr. McLarty on the subject of Juvenile Delinquency and its Problems.

The number of meetings in the Easter Term was less, owing to the Mock Exams, but we hope to hold some interesting meetings early in the Summer Term, as well as after "A" Level.

R. J. COPPOCK.

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## THE "13" SOCIETY

The only reference to the "13" Society (until now) in the *Wycombiensian* appeared in the October 1959 issue, and ran as follows: "The '13' Society, under the guidance of Mr. Broadbridge, has rivalled the Dramatic Society in holding play-readings of work by modern authors," The rest was silence; silence not because the Society had dissolved, but because, though very much alive, it never became a School society proper, and because it ceased to meet on the School's premises. With the departure of Mr. Broadbridge in July 1959, the Society met at his home in Beaconsfield.

Originally concerned solely with twentieth-century literature, the "13" Society gradually increased its scope until now it takes all knowledge to be its province. Talks have been given, and papers read, on subjects as widely differing as "Atomic Power" and "Four Quartets", "Friedrich Nietzsche" and "The Theory of Number", and "The Medieval Theatre" and "The Philosophy of Pythagoras". Outstanding guest speakers have been Mr. Ashburner, Mr. Runswick and Margaret Irwin. The following is, I think, an inclusive list of present and ex-members of the Society: H. A. Ellis, M. E. J. Wadsworth, C. E. Bristow, J. E. Camp, M. E. Ashburner, N. A. Morley, D. R. Cox, R. C. Jones, D. A. Hamilton-Eddy, P. Findlay, P. Hazelton, R. V. Scruton from the R.G.S., and G. Nelson, F. Ryan, B. Ryan, J. Drinkwater from the High School.

C. E. BRISTOW.

## SCHOOL HOUSE

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At the end of last Summer Term we were sorry to say goodbye to Mr. Runswick after years of dedicated service as House Master. The Rev. A. J. Skipp took over the post at the of this School year and has now steered us steadily through two terms.

The House has done well in the academic field : P. E. Sleight left to study Law at L.S.E., where we wish him the best of luck ; A. S. Platt, G. S. Griffiths, T. M. Davis, S. Merrington and R. L. N. Harrison excelled themselves at "O" Level, as did M. R. Emmett, D. N. Hubble and J. M. Colley at "A" Level. P. J. Yates earned himself a County Scholarship, and B. N. Buckley and J. O. Smith were awarded State Scholarships. The last named six are now competing for University places.

We have also been very well represented in the sporting field : P. J. Yates has dominated the cross-country and broken the course record several times in an impressive manner. He is also captain of basketball ; this is a sport in which several members of the House, junior and senior, participate, R. A. Fewtrell playing for the first team, T. M. Davis and A. S. Platt for the second and R. A. Dorkings, C. J. Packman, M. J. Malec, J. N. McLoughlin, P. C. Cant, A. J. Frankland and R. M. Cowan for the Colts.

J. O. Smith, C. S. Griffiths and R. A. Fewtrell have played regularly for the second XV at Rugby, and the junior members of the House have also shown great promise at this sport ; C. J. Packman, R. A. Dorkings and M. J. Malec are noteworthy members of the Colts XV. J. M. Colley was recalled for duty in the 1st Hockey XI, R. A. Fewtrell, who seems to do well at any and every sport, was awarded badminton half-colours, and D. N. Hubble, M. R. Emmett, P. Merrington and C. R. A. G. Iliffe are members of the School shooting team.

In inter boarding-house sport we have, at the time of writing, remained unbeaten in all the basketball matches and in the soccer and rugby matches against Uplyme.

As for next term, we have a large number of people sitting for "O" and "A" level in July, and, on the results of the mock examinations this term, we can confidently predict some very satisfactory results.

J. O. SMITH.

## UPLYME HOUSE

At the end of the Summer Term we were sorry to say goodbye to R. W. Paine, A. J. Paine, C. R. S. Wood, A. J. Rogers, E. L. Barrett and M. R. Thirlway, who is now a day boy. Jones, Kurrein, Pattie and Clark left at Christmas. R. W. Thorne (Porky) looked in while on leave ; he is now commissioned on an aircraft carrier.

The prefects moved from their old study into the old biology lab. at the beginning of the Christmas Term.

We were beaten at rugby and football by School House and at rugby and table-tennis by Tylerswood. We drew with Lady Verney's at hockey.

The juniors of the House put up a good showing in the boxing, cross-country and rugby ; Fewtrell, Beasley and Douglas playing regularly for School teams. Rothwell ran for the Colts, Antill and Rennie played regularly for the 4th fifteen, and Boireau for the 3rd fifteen.

Eight members of the House went on a C.C.F. exercise at the end of the Easter Term. G. W. Boireau was awarded his Queen's Scout Certificate in March.

In conclusion, the House, though not excelling in any particular sport, has put up a reasonable performance in most.

Five people are taking "A" Level and five are taking "O" Level, and we wish them the best of luck.

R. C. PALMER.

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## TYLERSWOOD HOUSE

Tylerswood House this year has two-thirds of its members in the Sixth Form, owing to the fact that only seven boys left last summer. Amongst our newcomers we welcome M. Abii from Nigeria, who has proved himself very popular and soon become accustomed to boarding-house life.

The senior prefect, R. A. French, left at Christmas, and we wish him luck with his career in the Royal Air Force. Last year's prefects did well in the Advanced Level G.C.E. exams., D. H. Nicholls and W. R. Waller both gaining State Scholarships, whilst R. D. Smith is now at R.A.F. Henlow training to become a technical officer in the R.A.F. A number of boys also excelled at Ordinary Level G.C.E.

On the sporting side we have won one 1st XV colour, two 2nd XV colours, the captain of the School hockey team, who is also a 2nd XI colour, three boys with basketball, badminton and shooting half-colours, and a Bucks rugby colt.

The inter boarding-house sporting activities have been continued and we have played Uplyme and School House at basketball, rugby and table-tennis, with football and hockey matches yet to be decided.

It is very pleasing to hear that a large sum of money has been allotted to Tylerswood for renovation of the Common Room, and those who are returning next year will look forward to living in more luxurious surroundings.

Finally, we wish the best of luck to those sitting for "O" and "A" Level G.C.E. exams. this summer.

J. C. BOWMAN.

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## ARNISON HOUSE

So far this year Arnison has had both triumphs and failures. We made an excellent start by winning the music competition. Credit for this success must go to our vice-captain, M. J. Payne, for his enthusiasm in leading the house choir and to L. G. Friend in gaining second highest marks for his piano solo. Our basketball teams failed to make much of an impression on other house teams and we consequently finished last. Although having the potentially stronger team, we were beaten in the first round by Disraeli mainly because our team lacked co-ordination and spirit. However, the junior rugby team, well led by J. Newman, made up for the failure of the seniors by finishing runners-up in their competition. In the cross-country championship we finished in second place. This was due to an excellent run by the juniors, and in particular to R. W. Douglas, who was the individual winner. Congratulations also to C. Taylor, who won the Colts' race. A very good all-round effort enabled us to reach the boxing finals in an unbeatable position. In the badminton and shooting competitions the house teams secured third and second places respectively.

The job of House Master which was left vacant last year when Mr. Pursey left has been taken by Mr. F. E. J. Hawkins, who is himself an Old Boy.

At the moment the House is lying third in the championship table, but with an all-round effort in the cricket, athletics and tennis I feel sure we can improve on this position.

T. J. COLEMAN.

## DISRAELI HOUSE

In an inconsistent season, our fortunes have vacillated considerably, in proportion to the amount of House spirit shown for the various competitions. While the slackness of some of our junior team lost us the "first" in cross-country that our seniors' performance had led us to expect, the junior school turned up trumps in the boxing and raised us to second position; we congratulate among others C. J. Smith, winner of the Junior Cup, and, from the Main School, Smyth, Allen and Grace, who all fought well in the finals. In rugby our apparent mediocrity on paper belied the fierce spirit which succumbed only to last year's winners and raised us to third; a strong Fraser Colts' team took their revenge, however, on our depleted Colts' side. Despite the efforts of J. H. Temple and A. Dingle in the "Badders" and "Baskets" respectively, our teams had little success, although with a bit of luck we might have come higher in both. The most serious failure of House spirit occurred in the first competition of the School year, Music, when the commendable efforts of D. R. Cox were largely nullified by the reluctance of members of the House to help the choir and attend the essential practices.

Not a victorious season, then, but one not without its promising features—including a lot of talent under the Sixth Form—which, provided the House in general gives of its best, entitles us to hope both for next term's activities and those of the farther future.

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J. A. JOHNSON.

## FRASER HOUSE

The higher one goes up the School, the greater becomes the lack of House spirit, and while there may be good reasons for this, it makes the task of entering full teams in all the competitions a very onerous one for the House Committee. The members of this Committee have all served the House efficiently and keenly, thanks being particularly due to J. F. R. Jones, who took over the thankless task of secretary at Christmas, and is leaving at the end of the Lent Term.

In general the House has averted disgrace rather than gained any glory. Our sole victory was won in the cross-country championships, when D. S. Culley and M. J. Priestley ran well to finish equal second. In the other major sport, rugby, the seniors, under R. F. Quirke's captaincy, lost to King's and Disraeli to finish fourth, while the juniors, with several promising players, notably Malec, Sweeting and Horley, won the final. In

the minor competitions which have taken place, music, badminton, boxing, basketball and shooting, we have been hampered by the reluctance of many members of the House to give up any of their valuable (?) time.

Finally, I would like to thank our House Masters, Mr. D. G. Jones and Mr. R. C. File for all they have done for the House.

P. A. TAYLOR.

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## KING'S HOUSE

In many ways this has been an excellent year for the House ; at the moment we are leading in the House Championship, but it has been more apparent than ever that far too much of the effort has been made by far too few. The apathy amongst boys in the Middle School has been the most disappointing feature of the year. In the boxing and the cross-country competitions, we have suffered badly from lack of support, particularly in the Colts' age group ; in the Colts' rugby competition too the House has suffered from the handicap of playing with several men short. It is absolutely disgraceful that boys of this age should fail to turn up for a House match, without having offered any excuse at all.

On the brighter side, the senior rugby fifteen won their competition in most convincing style. The final against Youens proved to be a hard game, which we won 8—0. While on the subject the House must offer its congratulations to V. W. Punton and J. H. Comer on being awarded their 1st XV colours. The cross-country competition saw yet another brilliant performance by P. J. Yates, who won the senior race for the second year in succession, by a very large margin. Yates' many fine performances both in inter-school and nation-wide competitions have been a source of great inspiration to everyone in the School and especially in King's House. Yates was also the School basketball captain, and has done much to make our win in the basketball competition possible by his fine play and captaincy. Our badminton team, with four School Colours, has again proved too strong for any of the other Houses. R. P. Browne, the School badminton captain, has played well and made our success possible.

Next term we have the inter-house cricket, tennis and athletics, and our hopes are high for all of these. Both the cricket and tennis have several experienced players. How well we do in the athletics depends almost entirely upon the support we get from members of the House. There are few indeed who cannot make a good effort in some event. Last, but certainly not least, we must thank our House Masters, Mr. Scott and Mr. Leighton-Jones, for their continued support.

J. S. SIMPSON.

## QUEEN'S HOUSE

Much as we may have launched ourselves buoyantly into inter-house competitions at the beginning of the year, there does not now appear to be great cause for rejoicing. In no activity so far have we improved on last year's position. In spheres where Queen's have some strength we merely held our own, while in our weaker activities we failed to make any real impression. Despite John Burnell's hard work with the choir and Peter Uppard's excellent piano solo, we could not pull the music competition out of the fire, and thus lost the music shield. In shooting and Badminton we have managed to hold our positions (third and second respectively), despite the loss of double-captain R. A. French. There was sound shooting from all the team, and in badminton Ricky Watanangura was a tower of strength, not losing a match. At basketball the junior team had some success, but generally it was not Queen's year at all. Even worse was to follow. The cross-country proved less than fruitless. There must be good runners who did not enter (perhaps they did not know it was taking place, or habitually steer clear of the notice board?). Queen's again had to rely on a small number of entrants for the boxing, because of lack of interest, but in so doing all our eggs were in one unsound basket. With more knocked out in early rounds our score was drastically reduced. However, there was some good and stirring boxing in the finals and some consolation to Queen's in the award of the senior prize to Michael Abii. As far as rugby is concerned our hopes were not high, and unluckily we were drawn against the strong King's team. Is chess to be the only activity likely to afford us a win? There is still time to redress the balance for the House in the championship, but if greater interest is not shown, our overall position may be worse than fourth. The House depends on the majority, not the small minority, for its life. It is up to each to contribute something and gain something.

A. W. RALLEY.

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## YOUENS HOUSE

Although we were very sorry to see the previous House Captain, A. W. Fountain, leave at the end of last Summer Term, he was about our only loss from the senior end of the School, and we expected great things from the House this year. Alas, our position at the time of writing is certainly no better, probably a little worse, than at the same time last year. Although we rose a place over last year in both the basketball and boxing, in which we came second and third respectively, we were beaten into

second place in the senior rugby, an event which we won last year, dropped to fourth in the cross-country (this due largely to several mysterious injuries among the chosen team), and fell heavily from our exalted pillar in the shooting.

But we must not be downhearted, as we have the necessary potential to excel ourselves in the cricket, tennis and athletics if only we can persuade certain members to turn out for the House ; such reluctance was apparent in both the boxing and cross-country and must not be allowed to mar our chances this summer.

J. O. SMITH.

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## INTER-HOUSE BOXING TOURNAMENT

The annual inter-House boxing tournament was held in the School Hall on Wednesday, 15th March.

Twelve interesting bouts provided much action though little or no coaching is available at the School. Altogether one hundred and forty boys entered the competition and the intermediate rounds took place every lunch hour for a great part of the term.

Arnison House built up an unassailable lead during the weeks preceding the final, and although Disraeli scored a number of points in the finals, they were unable to catch the leaders.

C. Smith (D) boxed extremely well. He was without any doubt the most skilful of the juniors and was awarded the Junior Boxing Cup.

All the senior bouts were of a high standard and very spirited. R. Watanangura (Q) displayed great skill by beating C. R. Allen (D), who won the Senior Cup last year.

M. C. Abii (Q) was awarded the Senior Boxing Cup for his most competent display in the ring. He had shown considerable skill in the intermediate bouts and his award was enthusiastically applauded.

### RESULTS

#### Juniors

Under	5.7	A. J. Oliver (Y)	beat	R. F. Darvill (Y)
„	6.0	C. Smith (D)	„	M. F. Quinn (K)
„	6.7	D. Wisniewski (F)	„	M. Cresswell (Q)
„	7.0	D. A. Low (D)	„	G. Dixon (F)
„	7.7	T. Wakefield (Q)	W.O.	H. Hampton (Q)
„	8.0	C. Fewtrell (F)	beat	W. R. Dill (F)
„	9.7	D. W. Lewis (D)	W.O.	J. W. Hume (A)
„	11.0	R. S. Hickox (K)	„	G. H. King (D)

## Seniors

Under	6.7	P. J. Symms (A)	beat	K. N. Simons (A)
„	7.0	J. Brighton (F)	„	A. G. Redding (A)
„	8.0	B. Busbridge (Y)	„	M. G. Smyth (D)
„	8.7	R. Watanangura (Q)	„	C. R. Allen (D)
„	9.0	D. R. Ferguson (K)	„	D. J. Hawes (K)
„	9.7	D. P. Grace (D)	„	D. J. Sharp (A)
„	10.0	J. C. Bowman (A)	„	A. P. Coates (K)
„	10.9	M. C. Abii (Q)	„	V. K. Child (A)
„	11.0	P. J. Clark (Y)	„	I. F. Bevan (Y)
„	11.0	S. R. Thomas (A)	„	I. G. Collins (Y) (Special group)
„	12.0	R. F. Quirke (F)	„	A. W. Ralley (Q)

## Final House Positions

1st Arnison, 2nd Disraeli, 3=, Fraser and Youens, 5th Queen's, 6th King's.

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## HOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year the cross-country was run on Wednesday, March 8th, in weather more suited to watching than competing. On the whole the performances were good, although no records were broken. In the Senior race the watch stopped, and consequently the runners has to be satisfied with their placings, Yates (K) coming first, ahead of Culley (F) and Priestley (F), who came equal second.

The Colts' race was easily won by Taylor (A), with a time of 19 min. 26 secs., just over a minute outside the record. Charlton (Q) was second, Jenner (Y) third.

Douglas (A) won the Junior Colts' race in 15 min. 13 secs., from Steptoe (D) and Smyth (D).

The final order was : 1st, Fraser ; 2nd, Arnison ; 3rd, Disraeli ; 4th equal, King's and Youens ; 6th, Queen's.

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## HOUSE RUGBY

Senior House rugby was a keenly-fought affair, with all houses trying their utmost. The two finalists won their way to the final quite convincingly, whilst some of the weaker sides, although lacking in skill, made up for this with unbounded enthusiasm.

### RESULTS

1st—King's

2nd—Youens

3rd—Disraeli

4th—Fraser

5th—Arnison and Queen's

Junior House rugby, apart from the two finalists, Fraser and Arnison, seemed to lack interest, and many of the sides did not field full teams, and in a school of this size this fact is deplorable. However, the boys who did play gave an enthusiastic performance, coupled sometimes with a skill which made the games both interesting and exciting to watch.

### RESULTS

1st—Fraser  
 2nd—Arnison  
 3rd—Queen's  
 4th—King's  
 5th—Disraeli and Youens

The overall results are as follows :—

1st—King's and Fraser  
 3rd—Arnison and Youens  
 5th—Disraeli and Queen's

## INTERMEDIATE HOUSE SCORES AND POSITIONS

### Winter Terms

	A		D		F		K		Q		Y	
	Pos	Pts										
Badminton ...	3	38	6	0	5	2	1	15	2	11	4	5
Basketball ...	6	0	4	5	3	8	1	15	5	2	2	11
Boxing ...	1	15	2	11	3=	3	6	0	5	2	3=	8
Cross-Country	2	15	3	12	1	20	4=	9	6	3	4=	9
Rugby ...	3=	12	5=	6	1=	20	1=	20	5=	6	3=	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>

**Summer Term**—Cricket, Athletics, Tennis, Shooting, Fives, Chess.

## LOCUS CLASSICUS

Played : very many ; Won : very few

The sporting activities of the Classical Sixth in the past two terms have been so much more varied than usual that the present writer has been moved to take up his pen—something usually only achieved by the wild pleadings of essay-seeking History masters—and to record a few of the more interesting events.

On Saturday mornings during the past two terms an exclusive group of four Badminton enthusiasts were to be seen in the Hall demonstrating their particular interpretation of the game. The

rules were clearly obscure and, for the uninitiated, difficult to interpret, since the walls and ceiling often figured prominently in exciting, and sometimes hazardous series of rallies ; though whether this was intentional is a closely guarded secret. Play was frequently interrupted by minor calamities such as the shuttlecock's sudden disappearance over the balcony or through a hole in the ceiling, members burying themselves in the net and having to be carefully disentangled, or, occasionally, the game's ending. Scoring was complicated—points being decided by contests in rhetoric—and many boarders offered to undertake this task, only to wander off in varying degrees of insanity. However, although the games lacked finesse, there was no want of enthusiasm ; these four and several other members of the Classical Sixth represented their respective Houses at Badminton, though with what success it would be imprudent to relate here.

Just before Half-Term, a “sevens” match was played against VIB. It was watched by six spectators who stood in silence and a light drizzle, only revealing their emotions when points were scored—and then in a rather abusive manner. The first try came after five minutes' play when a soiled and battered Classicist, cursing mildly, picked himself up from a heap of assorted Biologists and Classicists, under the posts, to be awarded a try. This difficult and controversial decision was made by Mr. R. Jones, to whom we owe our thanks for refereeing this match without any (detectable) bias. The clearly superior Classicists being five points ahead, the Biologists resorted to ungentlemanly tactics : a Classics player, darkly suspected of perfidious leanings towards Physics and Maths, was unceremoniously up-ended and had to retire. Elated by success, the Biologists employed kick and rush tactics—in direct contrast to their opponents' style—and scored three unconverted tries.

After this enjoyable struggle, thoughts of revenge were set in motion, and an Association Football match arranged for the end of term. Our great hopes were soon dashed, when the treacherous Biologists ran on to the field, clad not only in multi-coloured shirts, shorts, socks, but—terribile dictu!—football boots ; and since the “sevens” they had acquired the Head Boy. Still not recovered from the shock, the Classicists were soon two goals down, but drew up again by half-time. It must be pointed out that the referee (J. Janes, to whom we are grateful for performing this thankless task) would have allowed a third goal but for the very partisan crowd—the same, it is thought, as that at the Rugby match. A biologist scored the deciding goal, leaving in his path several horizontal and indignant opponents. Still, we shall have many more opportunities next season : the Biologists will be beaten yet.

X.Y.Z.

## RUGBY

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### 1st XV

Played 20, Won 12, Lost 7, Drawn 1; Points for 197, against 147.

This past rugby season has been dominated by the weather. From the first game the ground has varied from wet to very wet and consequently the team became very proficient under these conditions.

Generally, the pack has been well above average, owing mainly to A. W. Ralley's leadership. In the line-outs, however, the team has had to rely too much on J. S. Simpson's excellent jumping and, in the set scrum, the ball has often been too slow in making an appearance. These are small but valid criticisms which have, in most games, been overshadowed by a high standard of play.

The back division has been affected by the muddy grounds. Conventional moves have paid off, for it is difficult to be clever with a slippery ball, and this has tended to take away the sparkle that was hoped for from the three-quarters.

With A. W. Ralley, the captain, hooking, and E. Holdship and R. Parsons propping, the front row were difficult to beat and were well supported by the heavy second row forwards, V. Punton and R. Stockwell. J. Simpson, as number 8, played outstandingly well all the season in every respect of the game. J. A. Johnson and M. Turner, the wing forwards, tackled well and were very fast on the loose ball.

J. Comer at scrum-half was a strong and elusive runner, although the service from the base of the scrum was rather slow at times. This often allowed the three-quarter line little room to move, but J. Seale at stand-off scored many tries by determined, jinking, solo runs.

R. Harding and P. Clark in the centre were both purposeful and thrusting, but the passing lacked finesse in many games. However, these two are potentially good and we are hoping that by next season we shall have two centres that are outstanding. R. Harding was, in fact, selected for the senior Bucks County XV, but we thought him too young this year for county rugby. R. Quirke is probably one of the most improved players in the team. His speed, strength and straight running have made him a formidable wing. On the right wing Forrester looks a promising boy and has scored a number of tries by virtue of his speed. With more experience he should develop into a very useful player.

At the start of the season we had no full-back and J. Dawes was put in this position and has played creditably. His kicking lacked strength, but his positional play has been very good.

It would be unfair not to mention J. C. Bowman ; although he did not get a regular place in the side or achieve his colours, he played in many games and a variety of positions with good humour and considerable competence.

Two new fixtures were arranged, the first against the Staff, not altogether new, but the last time the match was played was in 1950. The School XV played probably their worst game, but managed to win 6—0. The other fixture was against a County "A" XV, but here the School found it very difficult to gain possession in set scrums and line-outs, for the opposition were taller and heavier than the boys. Nevertheless some very attractive rugby was played, but the School lost 6—20.

The most notable game of the season was against Leighton Park. It was played in appalling conditions, but our superior play in the forwards gained the School a well-deserved victory. Northampton Grammar School defeated us soundly and were superior in every aspect of the game. However, I think that on a wet day we should have acquitted ourselves far better.

The season has been generally most satisfactory and this has in no small way been due to Ralley's excellent captaincy. He has kept the team together and has always expected a good turn-out for practice, determination on the field and a smart appearance from the team.

#### 1st XV

S	Sept. 24	Windsor G.S. ...	...	H	Won	20— 8
S	Oct. 1	St. Bartholomew's G.S.	...	A	Drawn	8— 8
S	" 8	St. Marylebone G.S. ...	...	H	Won	13— 3
W	" 12	Watford G.S. ...	...	A	Won	9— 3
S	" 15	St. Benedict's G.S. ...	...	A	Lost	3—15
S	" 22	City of Oxford School	...	H	Won	11— 0
S	Nov. 5	Sir William Borlase's School	...	A	Won	19— 0
W	" 9	Tiffin School ...	...	A	Won	8— 6
S	" 12	Watford G.S. ...	...	H	Won	11— 8
S	" 19	Abingdon School	...	A	Won	11— 5
W	" 23	Emanuel School	...	A	Cancelled	
S	" 26	Luton G.S. ...	...	A	Lost	6— 8
S	Dec. 3	Leighton Park School	...	H	Won	13— 6
W	" 14	P. J. Muller's XV ...	...	H	Lost	11—14
S	Jan. 21	R.A.F. Halton Apprentices	...	A	Lost	3—12
S	" 28	Saracen's Schools XV	...	A	Won	9— 3
S	Feb. 4	Balliol College, Oxford	...	A	Lost	8—10
S	" 25	Jesus College, Oxford	...	A	Cancelled	
W	Mar. 8	County "A" XV	...	H	Lost	6—20
S	" 11	Northampton G.S.	...	A	Lost	6—17
W	" 22	P. D. Fry's XV	...	H	Won	14—11
		Staff XV	...	H	Won	6— 0

D.T.N.

## 2nd XV

Played 16 Won 3, Drawn 3, Lost 10

This year the Second XV has had a poor season, due mainly to the fact that the side is quite young and relatively inexperienced, most of the side being under 16 years of age at the commencement of the season. However, at times the side played really well, whilst at others they reached the "Coarse Rugby" standard. I feel that many of the boys who played have learned much about the game, and with physical maturity they will form the basis of a good 1st XV next season.

The forwards have been the mainstay of the team, and have proved to be a well-knit pack, ably lead by their captain, Riley. Individually, Hickman, Collins and Pass have improved tremendously, and should, if they continue to improve, become regular members of the 1st XV next season.

At half-back, Fewtrell and Whitwham combined well and the latter player, although small in stature, made up for this by his fearless tackling and falling on the ball in the face of opposing forwards.

The backs have proved to be the real weakness in the side; they have lacked the real thrust required to make use of the ball once it had been won by the forwards. Our two full-backs, Griffiths, whose tackling was first class, and Seale, have given stalwart service. Griffiths, I feel, has found his best position at wing-forward.

The following boys gained 2nd XV colours: Griffiths, Fewtrell, Whitwham, Collins, Pass, Rogers, Seale and Hickman.

### 2nd XV

S	Sept. 24	Windsor G.S. ... ..	...	A	Won	14— 3
S	Oct. 1	St. Bartholomew's G.S.	...	H	Drawn	5— 5
W	" 5	Stoneham G.S. ... ..	...	A	Lost	9—16
S	" 8	St. Marylebone G.S. ...	...	H	Lost	3— 6
W	" 12	Watford G.S. ... ..	...	H	Drawn	9— 9
S	" 15	St. Benedict's School ...	...	A	Lost	3— 8
S	" 22	City of Oxford School	...	H	Won	23— 3
W	Nov. 9	Tiffin School ... ..	...	H	Lost	0—33
S	" 12	Watford G.S. ... ..	...	A	Lost	0—12
S	" 19	Abingdon School ... ..	...	A	Lost	3— 9
W	" 23	Emanuel School ... ..	...	A		Cancelled
S	" 26	Luton G.S. ... ..	...	A	Drawn	6— 6
W	" 30	Henley G.S. (1st XV)	...	A		Cancelled
S	Dec. 3	Leighton Park School	...	A	Lost	0— 9
S	" 10	Aylesbury G.S. (1st XV)	...	A	Won	9— 5
S	Jan. 21	Thames G.S. (1st XV)	...	A	Lost	3— 9
S	Feb. 4	Southfield School ... ..	...	H	Lost	0— 9
S	Mar. 4	Northampton G.S. ... ..	...	A	Lost	0—11

### 3rd XV

Played 14, Won 3, Lost 11, Drawn 0; Pts. for 121, Pts. against 179

The 3rd XV, captained by P. A. Taylor, had a better season than the results suggest. This is not to excuse sad weaknesses in handling and covering, and thoughtless kicking, which too often lost matches which could have been won; but the team showed commendable spirit in adversity, playing tenaciously and striking back even when confronted by apparently unassailable odds. The forwards, led by Taylor, were the team's main strength, and it would be invidious to single out individuals, save perhaps R. Forward for his place-kicking. A. M. Brandes, who had often to cope with appalling conditions, played well at scrum-half, and I. F. L. Bevan, at stand-off, made a good partner for him. The three-quarters never really settled down, but they were subjected to frequent changes by demands from the 2nd XV, and to most unsuitable playing conditions. D. G. Orchard at full-back was always a sound last line of defence, and his desperate tackling and long kicks saved the team many points and much breath.

#### 3rd XV

S	Oct.	1	St. Bartholomew's G.S.	...	H	Won	11—8
W	„	5	Stoneham G.S. (2nd XV)	...	A	Won	18—3
W	„	12	Watford G.S.	...	A	Lost	8—17
S	„	15	St. Benedict's School	...	H	Lost	10—29
W	„	19	Bishopshalt School	...	H	Lost	5—6
W	„	26	Slough Technical School	...	H	Lost	3—12
S	Nov.	5	Sir William Borlase's School		H	Lost	9—19
W	„	9	Tiffin School	...	H	Lost	9—23
S	„	12	Watford G.S.	...	H	Lost	0—9
S	„	19	Abingdon School	...	H	Lost	0—9
W	„	23	Slough G.S.	...	H	Lost	0—18
S	„	26	Luton G.S.	...	A	Lost	5—15
S	Dec.	3	Leighton Park School	...	A	Lost	6—17
S	„	10	Aylesbury G.S. (2nd XV)	...	A	Won	11—0
S	Feb.	4	Southfield School	...	H	Won	29—0

### 4th XV

Played 5, Won 2, Lost 2

The 4th XV have enjoyed an extended fixture list this season, and the team, more adept, one suspects, at the other code of football, have approached it in the traditional carefree spirit, relying on vigour rather than skill to take them to the opponents' goal. After exciting matches with Watford, Borlase and Tiffin

Schools we were challenged by the "Non-playing Prefects", a merry game which we lost by a single try, scored by a hefty Prefect who seemed worthy of higher things.

The following were not awarded their 4th XV colours, some reaching the even greater heights of the 3rd XV : A. Perfect, R. Fox, R. Thomas, B. Spittle, R. Palmer, K. Rennie, I Bevan, C. Jeskins, A. Roe, T. Davies, B. Rolfe, R. Fountain, C. Brett, T. Harding, Nixon, K. Andrew, D. Stokes, R. P. H. Green (captain).

The team thanks all the masters who undertook the difficult task of refereeing our particular brand of rugby.

#### 4th XV

W	Oct. 12	Watford G.S. ... ..	H	Drawn	19—19
W	" 19	Sir William Borlase's School	H	Lost	3—14
W	" 26	Slough Tech. School (2nd XV)	H	Won	21— 0
W	Nov. 9	Tiffin School ... ..	A	Won	15— 6
S	Dec. 10	Aylesbury G.S. ... ..	A	Won	11— 0

#### COLTS (under 15)

Won 3, Drawn 1, Lost 7

When judged by results alone, it was a disappointing season. However, apart from one clash when the 2nd XV played Southfield, our strongest opponents, the scores were generally very close, a number of matches being lost by a small margin.

The team enjoyed its games which, after all, is the main object of rugby, and both teams were able to have a full fixture list. There were several outstanding players : Horley, at full-back ; Harris and Ham, two robust locks ; Newman, open side wing-forward, and Packman (who proved a popular and efficient captain), all played for the newly-formed County Colts team.

#### COLTS XV

S	Sept. 24	Windsor G.S. ... ..	H	Won	27— 9
S	Oct. 1	St. Bartholomew's G.S. ...	A	Drawn	0— 0
S	" 8	Westgate C.S. ... ..	H	Lost	6—11
		St. Marlebone G.S. ... ..	A	Lost	5— 6
S	" 15	St. Benedict's School ... ..	A	Lost	5— 8
S	" 22	Henley G.S. ... ..	A	Lost	0—27
		Sir William Borlase's School	H	Won	8— 6
S	Nov. 12	Watford G.S. ... ..	A	Lost	3— 5
		Southfield School ... ..	H	Lost	0—42
S	" 19	Mill End School ... ..	H	Won	17— 3
S	" 26	Luton G.S. ... ..	H		Cancelled
		Langley C.S. ... ..	H		Cancelled
S	Dec. 3	Leighton Park School ... ..	H	Lost	6—11
S	" 10	Stoneham School ... ..	H	Lost	0— 5

## JUNIOR COLTS

Played 8, Won 6, Lost 2, Points for 66, against 29

At the beginning of the season it seemed that the back division with the strong running of Hawes, Douglas and Russell and the intelligent play of Sweeting would be the backbone of the side. In fact it was the forwards who were mainly responsible for the success of the side. They had plenty of weight and enthusiasm, and eventually developed into a effective pack. The backs, though adept at profiting by mistakes made by the opposition, rarely achieved much in attack. This was because they seldom managed to take the ball on the move. If they can overcome this and learn to be a little less selfish, they should do well next year.

The following boys played : G. R. Sweeting (Captain), D. J. Hawes, D. M. Davies, S. J. Russell, R. W. Russell, N. J. Gooderham, P. L. Redican, J. A. Pope, M. J. O'Hanlon, I. G. Collins, R. J. Redrup, N. M. Daines, G. F. Cutler, M. A. C. Priestley, W. H. N. Laws, S. R. Thomas, M. H. Kefford, M. J. Mobbs, R. P. Bridge, A. J. Frankland, W. Pitchford.

This year a regular Junior Colts 2nd XV played five matches. Although they had little success, they played with great enthusiasm and were well captained by Breed. It was most encouraging to see so many boys so obviously enjoying their rugby.

### JUNIOR COLTS

S	Sept. 24	Windsor G.S. ... ..	A	Won	6—0
		*William Penn C.S. ... ..	A	Lost	0—35
S	Oct. 1	Vyner's G.S. ... ..	H	Won	16—3
S	„ 8	*Westgate C.S. ... ..	H	Lost	0—29
		St. Marylebone G.S. ... ..	A	Won	5—0
S	„ 15	St. Benedict's School ... ..	H	Won	10—9
		*Langley C.S. ... ..	A	Lost	0—52
S	„ 22	*Henley G.S. ... ..	A	Lost	6—8
		Sir William Borlase's School	H	Won	14—0
S	Nov. 12	Watford G.S. ... ..	A	Lost	0—3
		*Southfield School ... ..	H	Lost	0—35
S	„ 26	Luton G.S. ... ..	H		Cancelled
S	Dec. 3	St. Nicholas' G.S. ... ..	H	Lost	3—6
S	„ 10	Stoneham School ... ..	H	Won	12—5

\*—“B” Team

## UNDER 13 XV

Played 10, Won 5, Drawn 1

After a very promising start, the Junior XV then suffered a slump, losing several games by a very small margin. However, after half-term the team, now having sorted itself out into the best combination, finished its programme by winning three and drawing one of the last four games. The draw at Watford was undoubtedly the team's best performance, and emphasized the need for more care and practice in place-kicking, as a conversion under the posts was missed. This failure in place-kicking was also the cause of several matches being lost. Many thanks are due to those boys who turned out regularly for practice after school, but who did not secure a regular place in the team.

The under 12 XV were unfortunate in having most of their games cancelled owing to bad weather, but were successful in their one and only match against Vyner's School.

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## CROSS-COUNTRY

It is by now customary to echo the words of past reports in saying that the first team has had another fairly successful season. However, this form of beginning fails to emphasise the real potential of the School cross-country team. It has been left to the devoted few to make the effort which training entails, and, consequently, after a long period without races, the teams are comparatively unfit. By December, the team, for the most part, has approached its peak of fitness, and if it had stayed in this state throughout the holidays the new term could have been faced with a lighter heart. However, this was not so, and the potential and keenness of early in the season gave place to satisfaction and lethargy.

Although this seems to have been the case with regard to the "old-timers", new faces have appeared and shine bright for the future. D. Culley has risen to considerable heights, culminating in a fine win in the Bucks County Schools Championships. P. Fletcher, M. Priestley and M. G. Smith have run consistently well, and at times brilliantly. Of the "old-timers" P. J. Yates has given of his best; so also have I. Cocking and T. Coleman, but the youngsters have now been recognised as worthy contenders. At the end of the Christmas Term we felt the loss of

C. Weston, who during the past two years has run consistently well for the first team.

The fixture list, as always, has been quite full ; this year's extending itself well into the Spring Term. For the second year running we ran in the Guildford Relay, and after mediocre starts managed to reach 11th and 18th positions. We were twice soundly beaten by Vale of Aylesbury, although on the second occasion a good show was put up against tough opposition. Our annual fixture against Wycombe Phoenix lived up to its usual glamour, but once again we had to give way to superior opposition. This match brought Culley to the fore, and since then he has realised greater things.

During the Autumn Term we managed, as usual, to visit Oxford for two entertaining fixtures against Oxford colleges, and both times left with considerable glory. After Christmas the championship races of the Spring Term yielded rather disappointing results. In the Bucks Championship we were narrowly beaten by Wycombe Phoenix, who, with "old boy" C. Weston, just pipped us for first team honours. Towards the end of the season we soundly beat Watford G.S. and Haberdasher's, who in recent years have been deadly rivals. However, we failed to reach peak form for the Ranelagh, and as last year had to be satisfied with fourth position. On the other hand, our performance in the Southern Counties was considerably better, being the second school team home, and narrowly beating our rivals Wycombe Phoenix to thirteenth position.

The Colts have provided the first team with several promising young runners, Taylor and Ellerton being perhaps the best. However, both Sifton and Jenner have run consistently well. In the Junior races one cannot fail to mention the pre-eminence of Breed and Douglas, and special mention must be made of Whitelock, a first year boy, who has been beating rivals several years older than himself.

As always, the support and encouragement extended by Mr. T. V. Sheppard can hardly be thanked in words, and we appreciate his untiring enthusiasm on our behalf. We extend our thanks also to Mr. F. N. Cooper, who has shown great interest in the Junior teams.

The following have run regularly for the first team : P. J. Yates, I. K. Cocking, T. J. Coleman, D. S. Culley, P. R. Fletcher, M. G. Smith, C. Weston, Cunnold, Priestley, Taylor, Ellerton, Marshall.

Cross-country colours were awarded to the following boys during the season : D. S. Culley, P. R. Fletcher, M. G. Smith and C. Weston.

P. J. YATES.

## RESULTS

v Arborfield Army Apprentices	...	...	Away	Lost
v Newland Park College	...	...	Away	Won
v Vale of Aylesbury A.C.	...	...	Away	Lost
v Bishophalt School	...	...	Home	Won
v Harrow County School	...	...	Home	Won
v Abingdon School	...	...	Home	Won
v Exeter College	...	...	Away	Won
v Vale of Aylesbury A.C.	...	...	Home	Lost
v William Ellis School	...	...	Away	Won
v R.A.F. Apprentices, Halton	...	...	Away	Lost
v Nautical College, Pangbourne	...	...	Home	Won
v Jesus, Keble Colls., St. Edmund Hall	...	...	Away	Second
v Culham College	...	...	Away	Won
v Wycombe Phoenix Harriers	...	...	Home	Lost
v Watford G.S.	...	...	Home	Won
v Haberdashers and Emanuel Schools	...	...	Away	Won
R.G.S. Guildford Relay	...	...	...	11th
Bucks Championships	...	...	...	2nd
Ranelagh Schools Cup	...	...	...	4th
Southern C.C. Championships	...	...	...	13th

Second Team—Ran 2, Lost 2.      Colts' Team—Ran 5, Won 3.

## HOCKEY 1960-61

This has been a very interesting season, but somewhat marred by the bad weather. Although the results are not as good as last season, the standard of play has steadily improved. Our opponents were stronger and it is hoped that next season the fixtures will be stronger than ever.

Several defeats were due to the failure of the team to adapt itself to the conditions of the pitch. Playing in the mud requires different tactics from those when playing on dry ground.

The highlights of the season must be the two matches against Watford Grammar School; although we were heavily defeated the standard of the hockey was good, fast and exciting.

I am sure we would all like to congratulate Brian Mathews on the impressive way he has captained the team this year. Further congratulations to B. Matthews, E. Janes, J. Janes, L. Macready and H. Barnes on their selection to play for the Bucks Schoolboys' team in their annual inter-county tournament at Easter. Well done.

M.J.E.

## RESULTS

			F.	A.
Sept. 28	Slough Technical ... ..	W	5	0
Oct. 8	High Wycombe H.C. 5th XI ... ..	Cancelled		
„ 12	Newland Park ... ..	W	2	0
„ 15	High Wycombe H.C. 5th XI ... ..	W	2	0
Nov. 9	Slough Technical ... ..	W	3	0
„ 16	Slough G.S. ... ..	W	3	2
Dec. 7	Slough G.S. ... ..	L	1	2
Jan. 18	Newland Park ... ..	L	0	5
„ 21	Aylesbury G.S. ... ..	L	0	6
„ 25	Slough Technical ... ..	W	6	0
Feb. 1	Rickmansworth G.S. ... ..	W	2	0
„ 15	Watford G.S. ... ..	L	4	9
„ 22	Henley G.S. ... ..	Cancelled		
„ 25	Windsor G.S. ... ..	Cancelled		
Mar. 1	Rickmansworth G.S. ... ..	Cancelled		
„ 4	High Wycombe H.C. 4th XI ... ..	W	4	2
„ 8	Watford G.S. ... ..	L	2	5

## BADMINTON CLUB

Played 14, Won 8, Lost 6

Although the loss of last year's captain and vice-captain, R. H. Saunders and D. H. Nicholls, reduced the strength of our side, we had quite a successful season. The team began the season in brilliant form by beating Loakes Park B.C. 8—1.

The next fixture was a new one against the U.S.A.F., who were represented by a strong side of officers, who defeated the School side in the last game of the evening to win 5—4. Once again our heaviest defeats were at the hands of Wycombe Oakley and R.A.F. Halton Apprentices, who, in our last game of the season, defeated us with an excellent side by 7—2. However, the club avenged last year's double defeat by Wycombe Trinity when it defeated them at home and away by the narrow margin of 5—4, the win being due to a good performance by R. A. Stockwell and R. A. Fewtrell.

Our strongest pair during the season was the combination of R. S. Watanangura and P. J. Marriott, who unfortunately left at Christmas. Marriott's place was amply filled by J. D. Seale. Once again the badminton team is indebted to Mr. Johnson for his support and encouragement throughout the season.

Old Colours returning : R. P. Browne (captain), R. S. Watanangura, R. R. Shoosmith, P. Eio.

New Colours : P. J. Marriott, R. A. O. Stockwell, R. A. Fewtrell, J. D. Seale.

R. P. BROWNE.

## BASKETBALL

The School team started the new season with four old colours, and it was not long before a side capable of beating most school rivals settled down to play fast and, at times, intelligent basketball. However, a great deal has to be learnt, and with each match the team's knowledge of the finer points of the game was increased.

Of the matches, one can pick out an entertaining fixture with R.A.F. Halton which, although we lost, proved to be thoroughly enjoyable. Once again we achieved the double over Watford G.S. However, both matches were closely contended, and on the first encounter we relied entirely on A. A. Perfect's shooting ability.

The new comers to the team have played well, and the future success of the team seems assured. R. A. Fewtrell has not failed once to deceive the opposition, and despite his lack of height has contributed greatly to the team's success. J. M. Barlow and R. G. Beavis have combined together to form a formidable pair whose approach work has baffled many defences. J. S. Simpson has improved with every game, and his command under the basket has been sadly missed on the few occasions he has been unable to play.

Congratulations to J. S. Simpson, R. G. Beavis, J. M. Barlow and R. A. Fewtrell on gaining their colours.

### RESULTS

Played 9, Won 4, Lost 5

v Watford G.S.	...	...	Home	Won	31—20
v Wycombe Pirates	...	...	Home	Lost	48—53
v R.A.F. Halton	...	...	Away	Lost	37—68
v Watford G.S.	...	...	Away	Won	42—29
v Langley G.S.	...	...	Home	Won	44—22
v Slough G.S.	...	...	Home	Won	46—23
v Rickmansworth G.S.	...	...	Home	Lost	34—56
v Wycombe Pirates	...	...	Away	Lost	47—72
v Rickmansworth G.S.	...	...	Away	Lost	41—105

### COLTS' BASKETBALL

The Colts' basketball team played six games, beating Slough Technical School twice and Hatters Lane twice in convincing fashion, but lost twice to Mill End, the game at home being particularly exciting, with the score 44—43. Malec in defence and Dawkins at pivot were outstanding in a keen young team which improved considerably by the end of the term and augurs well for the future.

Team: Malec, Dawkins, Solomon, Packman, Cant, McLoughlin, Frankland, Bovingdon, Douglas, Cowan.

## CHESS CLUB

			Won	Drawn	Lost
Seniors	....	....	5	0	6
Juniors	....	....	1	2	2

This year we welcomed Mr. B. R. Rowlands as Master-in-charge of the club.

The membership of the club rose to just under one hundred. Because of this increased interest there have been three School competitions this year: the Senior competition is now in its last stages, while the Junior was won by M. J. Mobbs, and the Second Form competition by R. J. Mildon.

There have been additional external fixtures, notably a match against High Wycombe Chess Club which ended in a  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  win for the School. We were unlucky to be drawn against Wallingford in the *Sunday Times* Tournament in the first round. The School team also entered the Berks and Bucks Schools Knock-out Competition, League, and Individual Championship.

This season no less than six School players have played for the County.

The following have played for the School senior team: G. H. Cunnold, C. Swain, A. T. Ludgate, R. P. Browne, M. J. Mobbs, D. R. Cox, C. N. Myant, J. E. Barrett and R. J. Lawrance.

G. H. CUNNOLD.

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## THE BOAT CLUB

Little is heard—or known—of this club. Therefore more eager members are encouraged. This year we are entering for Reading, Wallingford and, perhaps, Marlow, Regattas.

We feel that in the past it has been a serious omission not to row on our own home ground at Marlow. Under our leader and coach, B. C. N. P. Leighton-Jones, Esq., two very fine fours—one "Under 16" and one consisting of the most experienced members of the Club—are steadily progressing. Some stalwarts, urged on by F. W. Riley, our captain, have braved even the roughest of winter weather—the rain, the river current, and, not least, the cold—to try to gain distinction fully to establish the Club. Finally, we thank all who are working to make this into a fine Club.

## SHOOTING

The main event this term has been the Country Life Competition. Two teams were entered this year and the results are still awaited. The teams practised keenly, though towards the competition practices were upset by examinations. Sgt. Harrison and the captain, P. J. Thompson, and vice-captain, R. R. Shoosmith, kept the teams on their toes with various devices—plaster of paris half- and quarter-inch discs and swinging targets in particular.

On the day itself both teams did well on the landscape targets. V. W. Punton (1st Team) and C. S. Griffiths were very competent leaders and the shooting members combined well with them. If anything emerged on the debit side it was that the teams need to practise "rapid" more.

A postal match was held at the end of term with Hurstpierpoint and the results of both these matches will be in the next magazine.

Next term we practice .303 shooting and the climax will be the competition at Bisley for the Ashburton Shield.

F.N.C.

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## CRICKET CLUB—1961 SEASON

*Captain* : J. S. Simpson.      *Vice-Captain* : A. J. Riley.

*Old Colours returning* : E. Holdship, D. Stratford, V. Punton,  
J. M. Barlow.

When the 1961 season opens on April 29th, all of the established members of the 1960 XI and many of the contenders for the remaining places in the XI will have had many hours of indoor nets behind them. The Saturday morning sessions at Slough should have done much to get the team in good shape for the start of the season.

Quite a number of new fixtures have been added to the list for 1961. The first match on April 29th *v* B. Janes' XI strengthens the ties between the Town Club and the School. Mr. B. Janes has taken over the captaincy of the High Wycombe Club and hopes to include in his side four Bucks Minor Counties players, including D. F. Johns, who captained Bucks for a number of seasons. The School welcomes this fixture and hopes that it will become a permanent arrangement. Not only will it give the Wycombe Club a chance to see members of the School XI who

will be available to play in the holidays, but will also give the School a good match to start the season, with experienced and knowledgeable cricketers as their opponents. Yet another inter-R.G.S. game has been added to the list, that of R.G.S. Guildford. Unfortunately the other Royal Grammar Schools are too far away to make regular fixtures, but it may be possible in the future to travel north at the end of one term to play the two northern schools. The R.A.F. Technical College at Henlow, Tiffins' School and King Edward's School, Stourbridge, are the other new fixtures, the last making the second game of the short West of England Tour, made possible by the hospitality of R.G.S., Worcester.

J. S. Simpson, who is in his fourth year with the XI, has five old Colours returning and this core of experience should stand him in good stead. For many years now the School has tried to play enterprising cricket, believing that the game is more important than the result, and there seems no reason why the 1961 team should not be able to follow this tradition to good effect. Once more the School has the services of yet another ex-cricket Captain who has returned to the fold, and Mr. Hawkins will make his presence felt, not only in helping with the 1st XI coaching, but also in the annual Staff *v* Boys match when, no doubt, little quarter will be given or expected after last year's display!

H.W.J.

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## ATHLETICS PREVIEW

After the successful foundation of the School Athletics Club last year, work has gone ahead with the object of securing a full fixture list for the coming season. The Headmaster has very kindly allowed us to hire the track in Wycombe and so enable us to hold a few home matches. This increased competition will undoubtedly bring improved standards in our School athletics and it is hoped this will have its effect on the younger boys and result in the establishment of the sport at School.

At the beginning of the Summer Term a party of boys are competing in the London Schools' Athletic Meeting to be held at the White City; our main hopes lie in the 1500 metres steeplechase (Yates), the high jump (Abii), and the sprint relay, but as this is right at the start of the season and training facilities are almost non-existent, our hopes are not too high.

Regular training next term and the chance of many more fixtures, however, should improve the team beyond recognition, and we hope add more honours to the strong sporting tradition of this School.

M. G. SMITH.

## TENNIS CLUB

Our team this year looks like being the best we have ever had. Last year we were unbeaten in our matches, but this year's fixture list looks tougher. Although at least five of last year's VI are still at School, competition for this year's team will be fierce. We are running a second VI this year and, needless to say, this offers a chance to those who do not think they are good enough for the first VI. The youngest member of our team, P. Moores, has been having special coaching throughout the winter in London, as to a lesser degree has D. Orchard. Moores was accepted to play at the English Junior Championships at Wimbledon last September. This in itself is a great honour which he is the first player from this school to have gained. His play has improved so much through the winter that he must have a very good chance of becoming County Junior Champion this year. It was interesting to see that at the trials for the County team held in December out of about 15 players there, 10 were members of our School.

We have now joined a new society—the Boys' Schools Lawn Tennis Association—and are intending to enter a team in their competition at Wimbledon. It is impossible to say how well we shall do in this or in the Youll Cup, but we can say that we expect to achieve our best results ever. To finish I would like to say how very much we appreciate the hard work put in by Mr. M. M. Davies in making our fixtures for us and in the many other tasks which he performs so capably.

C. H. FARMER.

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## FORM II GYMNASTIC COMPETITION

The first inter-form two gymnastic competition was held in the School Hall on Tuesday, December 13th. The gymnasts, five from each form, performed three sections. The first, "Balance", which consisted of a walk along an upturned bench, a half twist and finally a full knee bend.

The second part consisted of a long astride vault over the box, and also a vault over the buck. The final section was in two parts, consisting of a forward and backward roll, and secondly a free standing combination of exercises.

The competition was closely fought between the forms, and until the last form had completed the final section, the issue was in doubt. All the boys who took part did extremely well,

and the judges must have had a very difficult task trying to assess the gymnastic standard of the performers.

The final result was :—

1st	...	2E	...	617	points
2nd	...	2C	...	584	points
3rd	...	2A	...	569	points
4th	...	2D	...	552	points
5th	...	2B	...	547	points

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## OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

### Annual General Meeting

Around fifty O.B.'s more than filled the Residents' Lounge of the Red Lion Hotel when the A.G.M. was held at 6.15 p.m. on Saturday, March 18th, 1961, with the President, Mr. E. R. Tucker, in the chair.

Arising out of the minutes of the 1960 A.G.M., the President reported the encouraging profit of £16 16s. 0d. from the Dance held on January 14th, and expressed the hope that the result of the Dance to be held at the R.G.S. on May 27th would be still better ; it was good value for the money.

The financial report for 1960 was accepted after the Hon. Auditor (G. E. Franklin Hole) had given a lucid and comprehensive explanation of why the accrued excess of expenditure over income at present stood at £1,599 14s. 8d. To try and reduce this it was resolved that the annual subscription be raised from 7s. 6d. to 10s. 0d. and that the Committee should consider other ways of reducing the deficit.

The Club had transferred in January 1961 £500 of its savings to the Maidenhead Building Society with the view of getting a better income.

The President was happy to announce that without appealing to the Club sufficient money had been raised to pay for the Swimming Pool, the building of which would begin either in the late spring or early summer at the same time as the other extensive additions to the R.G.S.

Special efforts were to be made to celebrate the importance to the School of the year 1962—the crucial week was July 21st to 26th. A History of the School was to be published. With the wish and hope that Mr. G. W. Arnison, who was responsible for the School moving to its present position on the top of Amersham Hill, could attend, the Committee were asked to

consider a date later in the year for the Re-union. Mr. H. W. Johnson volunteered to make the special efforts required for the extra attendance expected.

Officers for 1961-62 were :—

*Chairman of Committee* : The Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929-37).

*Committee* : R. W. Bartlett (1900-07), H. W. Johnson (1930-37), J. K. Prior (1934-40), G. C. Rayner (1937-41), N. H. Theed (1912-19), L. B. Barnes (1924-30), J. E. Brooks (1947-53), G. E. Green (1940-46), S. E. Hands (1915-20), F. E. J. Hawkins (1948-56), J. P. Lord (1934-38).

*Hon. Secretary* : P. L. Jones, Esq.

*Assist. Hon. Secretary* : M. M. Davies, Esq.

*Dinner Secretary* : H. W. Johnson, Esq.

*Hon. Auditor* : A. E. Franklin Hole, Esq.

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### The Annual Dinner

This was held in the Georgian Room of the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe, at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 18th, 1961, immediately after the A.G.M., and the 200 O.B.'s present made the room look quite full.

The Guest of Honour was The Right Reverend Robert M. Hay, late Bishop of Buckingham, and a member of the Governing Body of the R.G.S. since 1946.

The Headmaster, Mr. E. R. Tucker, presided at the top table, supported by Mr. G. A. Grant, Governors of the School and Senior Old Boys.

The Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929-37) proposed the toast of the Guest of Honour, and in his speech quoted apt and amusing extracts from his reports while at School, University, in the Army and in the Church.

In his reply the Guest of Honour drew attention to points of resemblance between his old school, Merchant Taylors, and the R.G.S., one founded in 1561, the other in 1562; both had moved from town to beautiful country and both had strong financial support—The Merchant Taylors' Company and Bucks County Council. He asked the O.B.'s to consider carefully what had made them choose the jobs they were in and what had led to their undoubted success. He suggested a good list of various

reasons for both and hoped they would pass on the results of endeavours and progress to the present pupils to enable them also to have successful careers.

Mr. H. W. Johnson (1930-37), proposing "The School and Club", drew attention to the activities of the Club and the coming Dance on May 29th. He emphasised that strong support and prompt replies from O.B.'s would be of immense value to him in his efforts to make a success of the 1962 Reunion.

In his reply the Headmaster gave his expected and very much appreciated summary of the School's successes, activities, hopes and fears. He strongly advised O.B.'s to see the new Science block, considered to be one of the best and most up-to-date in the country. He was very gratified by the spontaneous and generous help of O.B.'s towards the furnishing of the new School Chapel, another feature well worthy of a visit. Although the number of State Scholarships fell from 21 to 16 it compared more than favourably with those of similar schools. In sport, four O.B.'s were in the Wasps' successful seven-a-side rugby team, and in Yates the School looked like having a good successor to carry on from Redrup. He could not give full details of their ambitions for 1962, but he was certain of their support. One, and perhaps his only, fear was that the proposed new buildings would not be completed in time.

Official proceedings finished at 9.30 p.m., but it is anybody's guess when the rest of the activities, especially the talking, came to an end.

The Secretary of the Club would like to mention the result of the activities of a certain Old Boy. Obviously a successful agent, he managed to dispose of so many tickets that he was able to reserve all the seats on one sprig of tables for his gang of "old-timers" with results obviously and audibly demonstrated. Similar efforts would not only be greatly appreciated by the Committee, but would add very much to the success of what is always a convivial and merry occasion. The name of the agent could be obtained on application.

### **Births**

FLECK, I. D. (1929-32). On December 30th, 1960, at the Shrubbery Maternity Home, to Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Fleck, a son.

PETTITT, P. B. (1942-48). On May 19th, 1960, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Pettitt, a daughter.

EATON, M. J. (1942-49). On March 4th, 1961, at St. Joseph's, Beaconsfield, to Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Eaton, a son.

WILLIAMS D. F. (1927-33). On July 13th, 1960, at Clevedon, Somerset, to Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Williams, a son.

## Marriages

LACEY—BARROWDALE. On December 27th, 1960, at Holy Trinity Church, Chesterfield, M. Lacey (1947-55), to Miss Kathleen J. Barrowdale.

REDRUP—HUSSEY. On September 17th, 1960, at Hughenden Church, A. J. Redrup (1947-52) to Miss Judith Hussey.

TILLION—BRITNELL. On October 8th, 1960, at the Wesley Methodist Chapel, M. F. Tillion (1944-50) to Miss J. M. Britnell.

SAUNWERS—JOHNSON. On March 25th, 1961, at St. Peter's Church, Dulwich, S.E.22, J. R. Saunders (1943-50), to Miss Sheila V. Johnson.

RICKARD—REA. On December 3rd, 1960, at Singapore, P. J. Rickard (1944-50), to Miss Mary Rea.

## Death

D. DUFFIN (1924-27). On January 17th, 1961, at a nursing home in Windsor. Aged 50 years.

Duffin was the Senior Partner in A. C. Frost & Co., Auctioneers, Beaconsfield. He joined the firm when he left the R.G.S. He leaves a son and daughter.

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## OLD BOYS' NOTES

G. A. BECKET (1936-40), a director in his father's firm of Arthur Becket (Builders) Ltd, has, entirely by his own efforts, become a Licentiate of the Institution of Builders, which includes architecture and other allied subjects. He is Treasurer of the High Wycombe branch of the Federation of Building Trades.

M. A. BIRD (1943-51) is now permanently in the United Kingdom. He left the Colonial Service in 1960 and is working for Monsanto Chemicals Limited.

J. A. COLLAR (1948-54) sends his subscription from Johore where, a Lieutenant in the R.A.S.C., he is serving with the 30th Coy. Gurkha A.S.C. He finds that experience with the Gurkhas more than makes up for the disadvantages of Malaya. He expects an improvement when the unit moves to Singapore.

M. D. COWARD (1952-60) writes to correct a mistake in the magazine. He is now studying Metallurgy at Imperial College, London University, and not at Leeds University as printed.

ALLAN DODGSON (1913-18) retires this coming summer. He spent Christmas in Stockholm visiting his second Swedish grand-daughter. In 1962 he and his wife hope to go to Montreal to call on their other daughter, who will be married by then. He hopes to meet at least one O.B. in Canada, Bill Smith by name, who was at the R.G.S. some years after Dodgson.

R. A. FRENCH (1959-60) went in January, 1961, to join the R.A.F. in Gloucestershire to commence initial training for Direct Entry Commission as a navigator.

G. E. GREEN (1940-46), a founder member, is actively engaged in the Central and South Middlesex Law Society, one of the most flourishing law societies in England, with 250 members. He sees quite a lot of his contemporary, Martin Polden, who practices near him. He has also met P. B. White (1929-33), whose son is shortly coming to the R.G.S.

W. T. GRIMSDALE (1919-25) enclosed with his Christmas greetings an imposing printed full account of the "Grimsdale Whirlwind Trip around the World". Travelled overall 38,340 miles, 25,000 of them by air and the rest by bus, train, cars and on sea. The 10 countries visited included 24 U.S.A. states, 4 Canadian provinces, 4 National Parks. Losses, one suitcase really smashed up, one lady's blouse and a face flannel. Total expenditure—*A Big Shock*. Grimsdale, an accountant in Hong Kong, has already by his films of the journey enticed several couples to set off on similar escapades, with the final advice that life in Hong Kong can be equally exhausting.

R. J. HANDSCOMBE (1945-53) is at present teaching English at the English High School for Boys, Istanbul.

G. KING (1950-55), L/Cpl. R.E.M.E., stationed in Singapore, Malaya, exchanged by telephone on Christmas Eve, seasonal greetings with his parents and sisters in High Wycombe. After 18 months at Arborfield training in radar and electronics, King went overseas and is due next in Penang for another two years.

J. R. KING (1950-58) takes soon the 2nd R.D.'s Examination, Hospital Dental Mechanics, and gives one hectic thing after another as an excuse for the delay in replying to various requests.

D. D. KIRBY (1945-51) now lives in Dover and works for British Railways (S.R.) as assistant to the Divisional Shipping Officer. He is married and has children. He hopes to attend next year's Re-union.

M. LACEY (1947-55) is now a Squadron Technical Officer with the R.A.F. at St. Mawgan and lives at Crantock, Newquay, Cornwall. Service commitments prevent him from attending the dinner.

R. D. MITCHELL (1948-56), writing on November 18th, 1960, said he had been in the Army eight months. Commissioning was on December 2nd ; he was going to be posted to the R.A.S.C. in Bournemouth, where he was able to be till 1962. He looks forward to the magazine and would like to get in touch with Bill North, because a number of his Service mates had been sent to the same part of Africa. Mitchell, appointed Senior Under Officer, had full hopes of passing out as Best Cadet, with grateful thanks for his training at the R.G.S. R. J. AUSTIN, commissioned just before Mitchell, is in Singapore and JIMMY RICHARDSON is in Germany. Instead of being at the Dinner, Mitchell will be marching 300 miles across Portugal along the Duke of Wellington's 1811 Campaign route.

C. MORRIS (1914-19) and R. E. KIMBER (1919-23), who occupy neighbouring farms, had the misfortune to hear their sheep being savaged by dogs. Morris lost three sheep killed and seven badly mauled ; Kimber had two killed earlier in the month.

G. D. NASH (1954-60) was commended by the Magistrate at Marylebone when very soon after becoming a Police Cadet he stopped and arrested a youth carrying a shopping bag containing stolen property.

P. W. H. NORTH (Bill) (1949-56) writes to Mr. Davies that after two months in his very quiet spot in Africa he finds the work engrossing and leaves little time to ponder over his luxurious and hectic past. His one year at Cambridge, where he met students with the same outlook and others who were experienced D.O.'s on refresher courses, gave him a foretaste of the life to come. With nine others he sailed by Union Castle to Cape Town, and then three and a half days by sail to Lusaka, where they went their separate ways, North to the extreme south-east sub-district of North Rhodesia. His area is a small one of 700 square miles, with a population of 25,000, the administration being in the hands of North, one other, and the Agricultural Supervisor. They do office work and also tour the district visiting each chief. On his first trip North had the misfortune to lose all his provisions in a fire started by the cook, setting alight the grass hut or kitchen ; he found help in the next village. The natives are primitive and worry only about food and the next beer drink. A few individuals have a message, but fortunately politics has not reached this district. North loves his job but cannot help feeling that anything can happen overnight. Youth is on his side.

B. C. PEATEY (1941-48) must have done very well as Dame Mary's private secretary to be made Principal so soon. Shortage of administrative staff has brought Gann to join Peatey.

M. RAY (1921-26) joined the Metropolitan Police Force in 1930. After two years at Chelsea he was transferred to the fingerprint branch at Scotland Yard. Now, as Detective Superintendent, he was the expert on the scene of the Sussex bank robbery and shooting. The Rays celebrated their silver wedding in 1959.

A. J. REDRUP (1947-52), since he had on medical grounds to give up his strenuous and very successful training for national cross-country competition, has taken to hockey and plays for High Wycombe 1st XI, together with a few other O.B.'s.

A. J. FELLOWS (1950-55) finished his articles of clerkship on April 3rd, took his final examination in May, 1960, and was admitted as a Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants on October 6th last. He was chosen to invigilate at the final Examination held in London in November, when R. D. HART, R. C. RACKSTRAW and J. L. PLUMRIDGE were all taking their finals. Fellows plays for Aylesbury 1st XV and is going to spend two years with a large firm of Chartered Accountants to gain full experience before attacking the wide open world.

R. A. SHEPPARD (1918-24) has moved to new premises of which he is very proud in Westgate Street, Gloucester. He is afraid he will be too busy at week-ends before Easter to attend this year's Reunion. His son got his B.Sc. (Hons.) in Civil Engineering at Leeds University last July and is working on rebuildings near St. Paul's Cathedral.

D. L. SMETHURST (1949-55) writes that he has become engaged and is devoting all his spare time to saving and studying for the Institute of Bankers Examinations ; the saving and studying is likely to last four years.

R. W. THORNE (1951-57), passing his examinations at Dartmouth with ease and confidence, passed out at Easter-time and was posted to H.M.S. *Albion*, an aircraft carrier in the Far East. He took interest in all College activities and as a Sub-Lieutenant still passes tests in his stride. He joins next September the Royal Naval College of Engineering at Plymouth. His father in a letter to Mr. Davies is convinced that Thorne has gone in for the right career.

J. O. SMALL (1953-57) graduated from Leicester University last June and is now due to go abroad as a geologist with a firm concerned with oil exploration.

J. L. CURRELL (1952-59) is now in his second year studying engineering at King's College, London. He is kept so busy at his work that he does not get the opportunity to take part in as much sport as he would like to. He sees quite a lot of "Badger" Bond and Roger Wilson, also doing engineering in their second year.

G. H. STEVENS (1924-27) and his wife had a very enjoyable trip to Canada and the U.S.A. last Autumn. In 28 days they travelled 15,000 miles by air, train and boat, visiting places like Toronto, Regina, Calgary, Vancouver, San Francisco, Hollywood, Grand Canyon, Chicago and New York. His brother (S. J. STEVENS), who emigrated to Christchurch, New Zealand two years ago, hopes to come home for a few weeks at Whitsun ; he plans to stay with MR. WALLACE THOMPSON in Hong Kong for a couple of nights. J. S. Stevens still retains his business in Newport, I.O.W., and has already established a successful butcher's business in New Zealand.

G. H. BAKER (1903-12) found himself in the somewhat odd position of becoming Vice-Chairman of the Bucks Water Board after having fought tooth and nail against the Board's take-over of High Wycombe Town Council's water undertaking. The Board swiftly recognised the expert qualifications of their former "enemy".

L. S. BAKER (1918-23), in the county grassland competition, won first place for farms of over 100 acres in the Eton district—his grassland was on Manor Farm, Seer Green.

J. W. BECKFORD (1949-57) last year obtained a second class honours degree in Mechanical Engineering at King's College, London University.

J. BODDY (1952-60) is studying Physics at the College of Science and Technology at the University of Manchester.

A. E. BRANCH (1919-23), Chairman of High Wycombe Art Club, opened a new venture by the Club in October, 1960—the staging of a three-man show of paintings at High Wycombe Public Library.

L. CAPELL (1926-31) has been with the London Trustee Savings Bank since 1932. In 1960 he succeeded Mr. Higgins as manager of the Wycombe Trustee Savings Bank. In 1926 the Bank had two employees and funds of £60,000. Today Capell is in charge of 26 employees, many are O.B.'s, and the funds exceed £5,000,000.

W. A. D. COMBE (1928-36), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), is now Senior Registrar in Anaesthetics at Moorfields Eye Hospital and holds the Diploma in Anaesthetics of the Royal College of Surgeons (D.A.R.C.S.). He served as Flight Lieut. for two and a half years in the R.A.F.

H. A. GOODEARL (1909-15), after being connected with Green Street Primary School for fifty years, forty of them on the Staff, was presented with a bookcase on his retirement last summer.

W. G. PUTNAM (1941-47) is Latin Master at Newtown High School, Montgomeryshire, and is directing an archaeological digging which has made a valuable contribution to historical research in Mid-Wales. With his pupils he has uncovered a Roman military outpost at Dylifa, near the Plynlimon mountains, which is the first evidence of Roman occupation in the area. He is making a search for another outpost of their main base at Caersws. Putnam is married and has two sons.

J. H. RICHARDSON (1950-56) has been commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Army after serving six months of his National Service at Aldershot. He is serving with his unit at Lipstadt in Germany.

A. J. ROGERS (1929-32) has been appointed Chairman of the Bucks County Executive of the National Farmers' Union. Farming with his brother, H. G. ROGERS (1925-30) at Askett, near Princes Risborough, he has, after going through the mill of the Young Farmers' Club, been Chairman of the Risborough branch of the Union.

W. R. WALLER (1955-60), now practising engineering before going to a University, is the son of H. W. A. WALLER (1922-29), School Prefect, C.S.M. O.T.C. (Cert. A), and now a Government engineer in Tanganyika.

J. WARE (1945-50) is in hospital at Stoke Mandeville and will be very pleased to see O.B. friends who may be in the vicinity.

A. G. WHITE (1914-20), President 1960 of the High Wycombe and District Association of Building Trades Employees, stated in his report for 1960 that despite some tightening of credit, the volume of work available within their area had been high, if not higher, than 1959.

G. V. PERFECT (1911-19), who has been head of Hatters Lane since it was opened in 1940, is to retire at the end of this Easter Term. He started teaching in Bucks in 1921 and had periods of teaching in Winchester and London before returning in 1934 to join the staff of the Church of England School. In May, 1937, he became Headmaster of Terriers School. Over 3,000 pupils have been associated with Perfect while he was at Hatters Lane and a presentation is being arranged to him on March 29th, the last day of term.

A. J. WATTERS (1953-57) made athletic history at Epsom on Saturday, February 18th, when he ran away from 300 runners to win the youths' race at the Southern Counties Championship, first time Wycombe Phoenix Harriers have provided the individual winner in these major championships, which are second only to the national events.

P. GALLOWAY (1950-58) has "gone over the water" from Queen's College, Dundee, to St. Salvator's College, St. Andrew's, which he likes much better. He is reading Astronomy, finds the work more difficult, but also more interesting.

R. H. HEDLEY (1953-58) was among successful candidates at the recent intermediate examination of the Law Society. He is articled to an O.B., Eric Webb, Castle Street, High Wycombe.

M. A. D. HUMPHRIES (1955-60) is a student apprentice working for B.P. He has just completed five months' practical training in a South Wales Oil Refinery and is now at Reading Technical College for six months.

B. C. BURROWS (1947-52) once again will not be able to attend the O.B.'s Dinner. He is working as a Rolls-Royce representative at Fiumicino Airport, Rome, with Alitalia; he is chiefly concerned with the engines in their Caravelle air-liners.

C. L. WESTCOTT (1951-56) intends taking the Chartered Accountants Final Examination next November. He writes that R. Conrad, who left in 1955 and has been working in Liverpool for two years after finishing at Queen Mary College, is back at Denham.

M. F. TILLION (1944-50) for the past fourteen months has been working for the Standard-Triumph International Ltd., and shortly he and his wife will be living permanently in Coventry.

H. J. HODKINSON (1953-58) is working in Headquarters in Cyprus on Mapping Research. He finds it most interesting and hopes to be present at the 1962 Reunion.

J. A. SIMMONS (1947-55) spent fifteen months of his National Service in Nairobi. He now works in Hayes, but still lives in High Wycombe.

J. C. PAINE (1926-31) sends a long letter from Australia, because he will not be at the Dinner. He is now Sales Engineer of the sole distributors of Chrysler Airtemp Air Conditioning for Australia. He joined the company six months ago at its inception. They do every type of installation—factories, offices, hotels, restaurants and houses—because it has become very popular all over Australia. It costs about £A1,000 for an average house to be done. Paine lives 14 miles out of Melbourne in a large timber home, eight years old in a five-acre block of land. He has two sons, both at school, and a daughter born in Australia. They have lots of friends who join them in fishing, swimming and boating. JOHN BUNCE, who was at the R.G.S. with Paine and used to live only 5 miles away, is now in Sydney with a biscuit firm.

D. F. WILLIAMS (1927-33), after a number of years in Mauritius, has settled down at Innisfree, Nore Road, Portishead, Somerset. He is on the senior staff of the Civil Engineering Division of John Fairy & Son Ltd., the firm who recently constructed the M.1.

J. R. H. HERRING (1953-60) enjoys life at University College, London, where he is doing the Physics course with Peter Mayo. He was surprised to find only two other O.B.'s, Squires and Norrish, in a college of 3,800 students.

R. W. HARDING (1929-36) left the Police at the end of the war and took up teaching, and became the Headmaster of a village school in Northamptonshire in 1953. He is now at a three-form Entry Junior School in Abingdon. He has hung up his rugby boots and is fighting a losing battle with his waist-line.

R. BUZZARD (1941-48) is now working at Derby teaching at the College of Technology.

R. A. SMITH (1953-60) is enjoying life as a Cadet at the R.A.F. Technical College, Henlow. The sporting facilities are excellent and he plays for the College 1st XV. Smith dined with Mr. Tucker when on his visit to Henlow.

D. OXLADE (1940-47) finds teaching in a Secondary Modern School rather different from that in Grammar Schools in Scotland. With him at Mill End are O.B.'s T. Dodwell, B. Woodbridge and Butcher. He understands that E. SMITH (1940-47) has been made an Inspector in the Metropolitan Police Force, and his brother J. R. SMITH (1938-46) is a Captain in the Education Corps in Jamaica.

K. WEEDON (1930-37), when the war was over, decided to go in for the town and country sort of planning and has spent the last fifteen years in the Government Department of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In spite of two "wonky" knees and a slipped disc, he enjoys the life very much, and has three sons; the eldest started at Rickmansworth Grammar School last September.

K. C. BOWELL (1948-54) went to New Zealand when he left school. He is now married and employed as accountant to a group of Forestry and Sawmilling Companies. He is very happy there and sent urgently for details of the R.G.S. 1962 celebrations, which he hopes to attend. He has met the following three O.B.'s out of the very many now living in New Zealand. BRIAN RANSLEY, married, one child, with Line Bros., manufacturers of Triang Toys; PAUL JEANS, single, with an insurance company, and TUDOR OLSEN, married, is a representative with N.Z. Educational Foundation.

J. R. SAUNDERS (1943-50) now lives at 38 Pembridge Villas, London, W.11. He has met only one O.B. so far, PETER CROWTHER, now on an Executive Training Course with B.P. Ltd. in Finsbury Square. Saunder's office is in Finsbury Circus.

P. J. RICKARD (1944-50). When Rickard, now a Flight Lieutenant with the R.N.Z.A.F. at Singapore, takes his wife home it will be her first visit to New Zealand. After two and a half years in Fiji, six months in England, and two years in Singapore, he goes back to fly Sunderland Flying Boats. He looks forward to the Magazine and hopes to contact shortly any O.B. in his part of the Commonwealth. Like very many other O.B.'s abroad, Rickard would like a trip home for the 1962 celebrations. Address: Officers' Mess, R.N.Z.A.F. Station, Hobsonville, Auckland.

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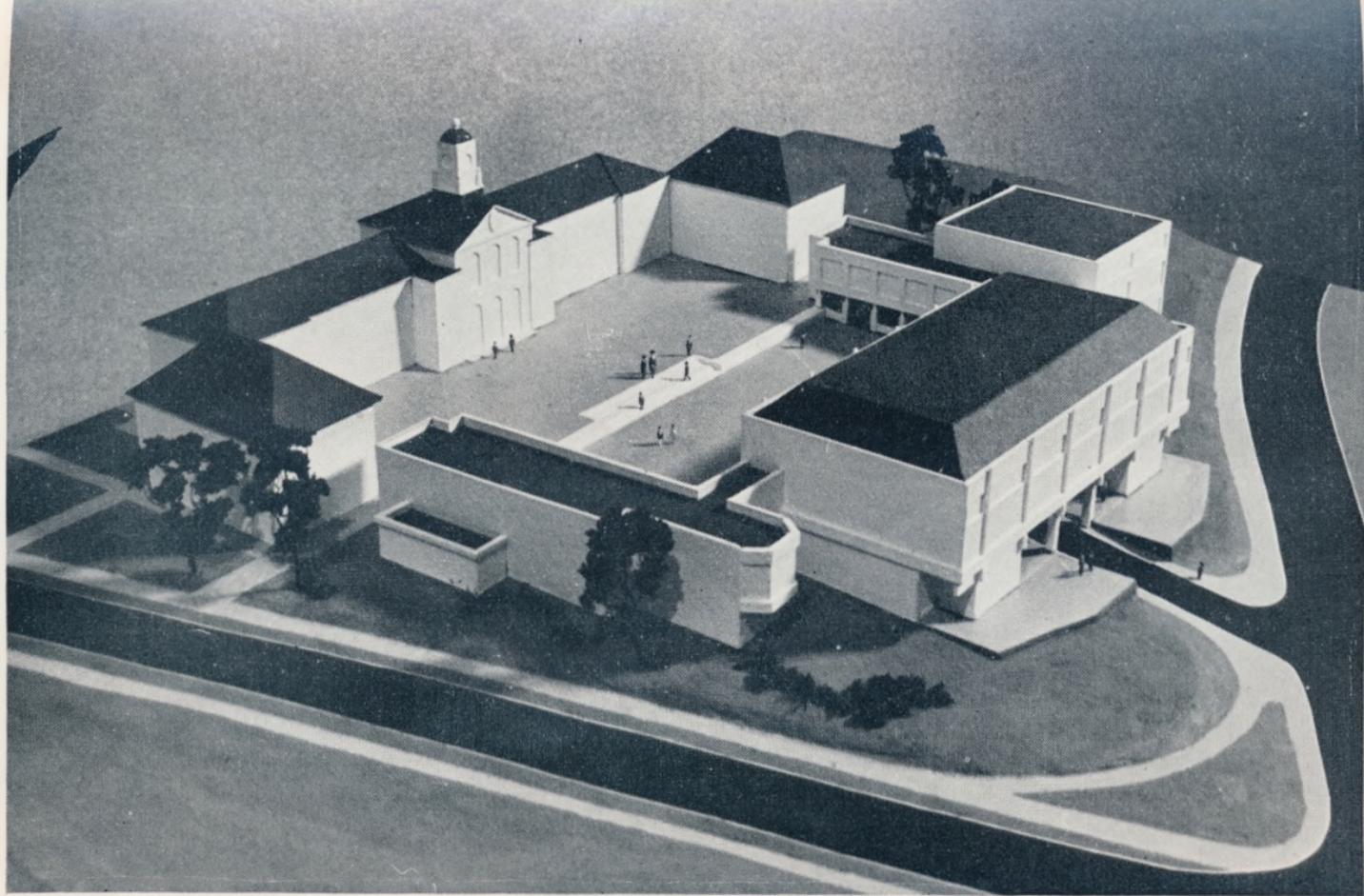
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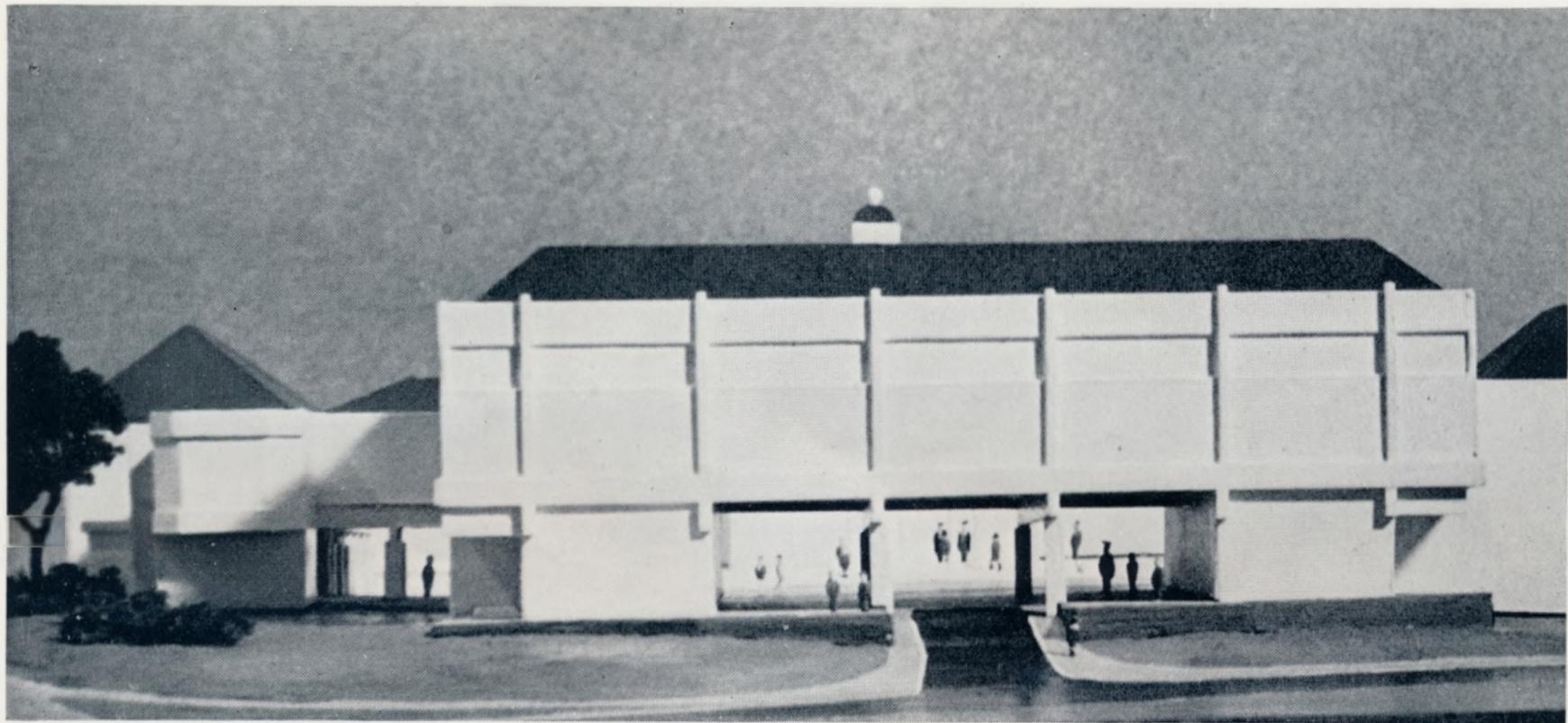
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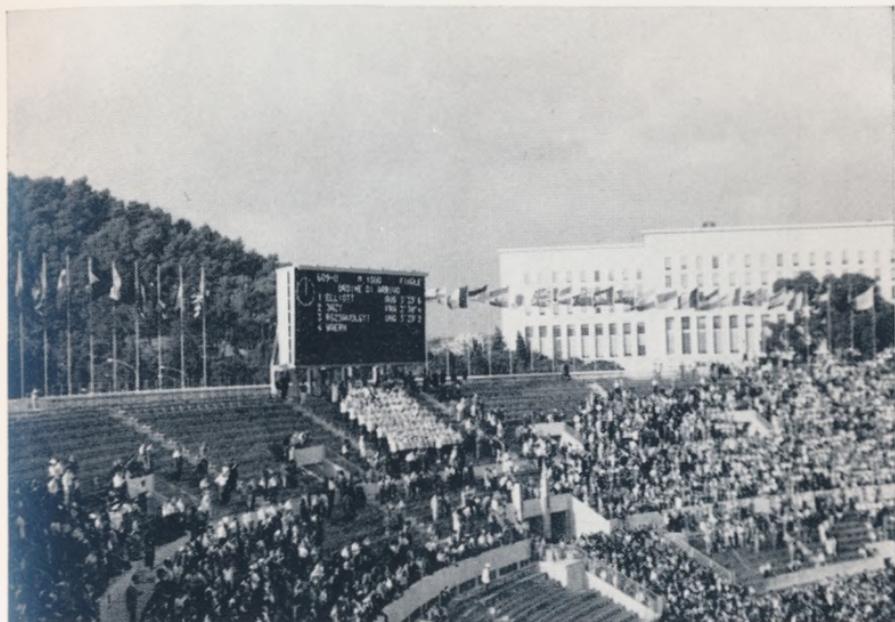
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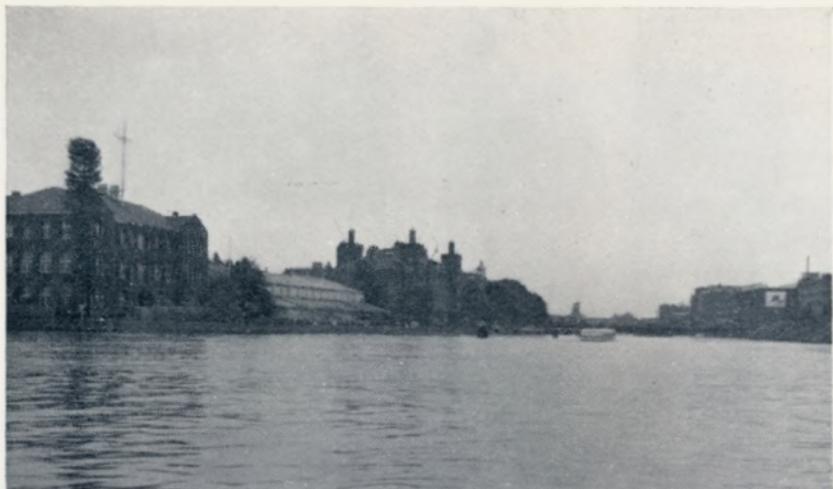
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