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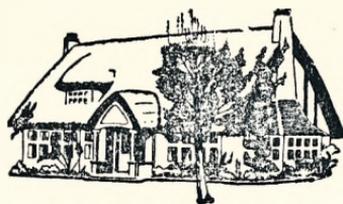
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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

Vol. XIV No. 3

MAY, 1967



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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

Editors : ROGER GASH, MICHAEL PICKERING,
CHRISTIAN KOEFOED-NIELSEN

Sport : MARTIN BEVAN

Cover and Cartoons : DAVID MILLS

* * *

Editorial

“I shall undoubtedly be accused of a lack of manners. I would like to lack manners. It is difficult. Lack of manners is the sign of a hero”.

—*Jean Cocteau.*

THE WYCOMBIENSIAN is dying. Its doctors apply what bandages they can. It has received many injections, but there is only one antidote : originality. And one cure : support.

There are no cliques. Cliques were invented by those who weren't in them. There is no defence. Apathy has never existed. Only there was no one here to churn the meal-trough, and no one to fill it.

We can no longer urge. We just sit in a convenient corner and wait for something to happen. Like who will dislocate the next star. Who will bother to light the lamps ?

Only you.

Everybody is a Jonah. The school is a whale. It is not enough to poke the monster in the ribs ; we must make some kind of meal of the innards. The only sign we can wave is that we belong here. Nothing has changed. Everyone knows that. It is difficult to cook something up when the larder is bare. Everything is received with open arms, though there is no excuse offered for what is rejected, and all the excuses for what we never received are written on the walls.

That knowledge which is valid comes only in small doses, always with an unprecedented force, and from which other things stem, or are fed ; and thus our knowledge grows. This is just one important facet of the process of progress.

That progress must not be stymied by thrombosis. The WYCOMBIENSIAN suffers, and needs a cure. We must brush the dust off our sleeves, and set out to fill the nose-bag on which the magazine feeds.

We can no longer beg. An editor is not a blind war-hero clinking an enamel cup. Just a hungry monkey.

Maybe we should communicate more often, over the garden wall. Send us a postcard.

* * *

MRS. J. WHITTINGTON

We have this term to say Goodbye to Mrs. Whittington after ten years as School Secretary. The School owes a great deal to her for her services during this period — far more than most of us realise. Her willing help and kindly friendliness have always been greatly appreciated by both Staff and boys. She has always been ready to assist with her advice and practical commonsense anyone who needed it ; and throughout her time here she has always identified herself with the best interests of the School, and has given unstintedly of her time and attention to promote its welfare and that of all its members.

She will long be remembered at the R.G.S., and we extend to her our very best wishes on her retirement. We know that she will follow with the keenest interest the future life of the School.

SCHOOL NEWS

News seems to be at a premium this year.

Mr. Bassett and Mr. Parry-Jones left at Christmas for fresh pastures. We welcome Mr. C. E. Gunton, who has joined the classics staff in January, and Mr. J. J. Day, who joins the English department this term.

The School was decorated during the summer holidays. The hospitable effect provoked some imaginative comment. At the same time, on the principle of the Bedford level, the quadrangle was converted from a potential paddy-field, by a solid tar and gravel treatment. The attempt to breed an aquarium in the fountains was blacked by the baser instincts of some of the passers-by.

The Opera and the Carol Service took place in December, and 'Jericho'—containing music, movement, improvisation and—speech, in March. The School Dance lived, and died a slightly painful death, in February.

The swimming pool will probably leak again.

The Staff was beaten by the school at rugby, hockey and basketball. The school's challenge to a cross-country match was hastily rejected.

The Prefects now occupy new premises in the organ loft. The perilous steel ladder, which is the only means of ascent, suggests a wry parallel with Genesis 28 : xii.

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES, 1966-1967

We congratulate the following on gaining Open Awards :

- M. M. Burrell — Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences,
Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
- R. S. Hickox — Organ Scholarship,
Queen's College, Cambridge

- A. J. Oliver — Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences,
Hertford College, Oxford
- D. N. Snodin — Open Scholarship in English,
Trinity College, Oxford
- P. R. Thornton — Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences,
Christ's College, Cambridge
- D. M. Wood — Open Scholarship in Mechanical Sciences,
Peterhouse, Cambridge
- R. J. Mildon — Open Scholarship in Mathematics,
Royal Holloway College, London

Places at Oxford and Cambridge for 1967 :

- J. S. Culley — Downing College, Cambridge
- I. D. Hentall — Pembroke College, Cambridge
- A. G. Hipgrave — Jesus College, Cambridge
- D. W. Lewis — Jesus College, Oxford
- C. A. Smyth — Fitzwilliam, Cambridge
- J. A. Stevens — St. John's College, Cambridge
- G. E. W. Thompson — Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge
- S. C. B. Tinton — St. Catherine's College, Cambridge

and for 1968 :

- M. R. Myant — Churchill College, Cambridge

University Places :

- P. A. Beasley — Bristol University
- D. G. Beattie — Birmingham University
- J. M. Bingham — Brunel University
- P. D. Brown — Warwick University
- P. D. L. Brown — Leeds University
- C. B. M. Buchan — Manchester University
- J. Clemens — Bristol University
- H. T. Courtney — Exeter University
- C. East — Essex University
- K. Eyles — Birmingham University
- A. S. Farmer — Exeter University
- C. Fewtrell — Bristol University
- P. A. Fountain — Manchester University
- S. G. Fowler — Liverpool University
- J. M. E. Grieg-Gran — Leeds University
- J. M. Haley — Imperial College, London University
- J. Hayter — Queen Mary College, London
University
- J. W. Herman — Nottingham University
- R. C. Hill — Imperial College, London University

R. D. Hudson	—	Southampton University
C. Jeffrey	—	Leeds University
G. J. Jellis	—	Manchester University
M. J. Kerridge	—	Queen Mary College, London University
N. Leek	—	Royal College of Advanced Tech- nology, Salford
D. A. Low	—	Imperial College, London University
J. N. McLoughlin	—	Leeds University
A. R. Nottingham	—	University College, London University
R. J. Peck	—	Leeds University
S. C. Penney	—	East Anglia University
B. M. Phillips	—	Bangor, University of Wales
A. C. B. Ping	—	Cardiff University
P. H. Pitkin	—	Liverpool University
A. J. Prickett	—	Imperial College, London University
D. Saward	—	Aberystwyth, University of Wales
R. D. Sexton	—	Queen Elizabeth College, London University
W. J. Seymour	—	University College, London University
J. P. Slater	—	Leeds University
P. D. Smith	—	Durham University
J. F. Tapp	—	Newcastle University
A. J. Wands	—	St. Andrew's University
A. J. Weiss	—	King's College, London University
R. J. Williams	—	Manchester University

The Editor apologises if he has been misinformed at any stage, and would be glad to hear of any omissions.

LATIN READING COMPETITIONS

The Latin Reading Competitions were held on March 20th, 1967. The prize-winners in the various sections were as follows :

Senior Section : 1st, S. J. Owen, 6C2
2nd, O. D. N. Havard, 6M2H

Middle Section : 1st, R. B. Simons, 3X
2nd, C. E. T. Lowe and N. J. Miles,
4X

Special prize for reading Virgil : C. E. T. Lowe, 4X

Junior Section : 1st, J. D. Rose, 1C
2nd, C. J. Head, 2X

CHAPEL NOTES

The sudden death at the end of the summer term 1966, of Mr. J. C. R. Davies prevented many of his colleagues from attending his funeral, which took place after the end of term. It was therefore decided to hold a memorial service in the chapel. This was conducted by the Chaplain on Sunday, September 18th 1966. Members of Mr. Davies's family, friends from the school and elsewhere, were present for this simple service, which was a sincere tribute to a much respected colleague and master.

On Wednesday, March 8th 1967, we were pleased to welcome the Rt. Rev. Christopher Pepys, Bishop of Buckingham, who confirmed the 16 candidates whose names are listed below. Parents and friends of the candidates helped to fill the chapel. The Bishop took as his text part of I Corinthians I : ii — "called to be saints".

The School Communion was celebrated by the Chaplain on Friday, March 17th, and was, as always, well attended by staff and boys.

A.J.S.

The following boys were presented for confirmation :

C. J. Andrews, M. T. Barlow, R. Barrett, G. M. Calvé, J. R. Darvill, J. Evans, J. L. Hendry, B. P. Hills, M. S. Jay, D. E. McColl, C. J. Marshall, C. J. Marrant, P. A. Sadler, R. L. Thorne, C. A. Wood, A. Woodward.

ONE MUST LEAVE SOMEHOW

One must leave somehow,
perhaps by behaving
that Spring will come soon, not too late,
but with ritual and myth,
and that love will not frown
even in retrospect.

So let us go downtown
finding the street in people's eyes,
all movements at one quick pace :
and the neon lights will be colours
in everyone's favourite dream.

Let us leave someone
calling on the stair
and miss with attention
the slush at the street-edge
and forget that the
worst has happened.

Patience

“Patience” is one of the least-known of the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. The Mikado, The Gondoliers, The Yeomen of the Guard, along with several others, all enjoy greater popularity, their music is more familiar, and they are more frequently performed. This is understandable, since they contain some of the best things G. and S. wrote. Yet “Patience”, despite its comparative neglect, cannot be dismissed as totally inferior, musically or otherwise, and we should be grateful to the R.G.S. Operatic Society for giving us an opportunity to savour this unusual and, as it turned out, enjoyable work, which they presented as their annual production at the end of the Christmas Term.

It is impossible to give here even the briefest summary of the plot which, like that of most of the Savoy Operas, is tortuous and involved. “Patience”, a parody of the Aesthetic movement, which attracted members of the artistic and intellectual élite and which was at its peak when the opera was written, offers Gilbert a marvellous opportunity to poke fun at the extravagance and excesses of contemporary poets and their over-blown aestheticism. In the course of its two acts, we are regaled with Bunthorne’s ethereal verses, the love-sick plaints of twenty Rapturous Maidens (all of county family), bedecked in medieval costume, playing cymbals and harps, piping “Pandaeon pleasure” and bounding “Daphnephorically”, the outraged pride of Officers of the Dragoon Guards, resplendent in their scarlet uniforms, three of whom momentarily embrace the aesthetic cause in an endeavour to win the hearts of the ladies, “ultra-poetical, super-aesthetical” Grosvenor’s miraculous conversion into a “steady and stolid-y, jolly Bank-holiday” young man — and much more besides. Gilbert’s wit seems as effective and Sullivan’s music as tuneful as ever. “Patience” in fact wears remarkably well.

This particular production was subjected to scathing criticism in the local press, and in previous editions of the Wycombiensian there have been articles decrying the way in which G. and S. operas have been staged at the school. My task is not to discuss points of view expressed in these articles but to comment upon what I saw and heard at the performance I attended. Of course there were weaknesses : there always are. The Dragoon Guards lacked precision and panache and their singing lacked vigour.

Some of the Rapturous Maidens were singularly devoid of grace and their movements wooden and awkward, but it is perhaps asking too much of boys of their age to show convincing aesthetic fervour. However, there were moments when they displayed a good sense of timing and dramatic flair, as in the episode with Grosvenor culminating in the "Magnet and the Churn". Col. Calverley, Major Murgatroyd, and Lieut. the Duke of Dunstable, played respectively by K. F. Woodbridge, C. J. Andrew, and B. J. B. Fox, compensated for inadequate singing by the brio and pace they brought to their trio: "It's clear that medieval art", one of the high spots of the evening and genuinely funny.

The main burden of responsibility for the ultimate success of the production rests with the principals. P. A. Roberts, whose talent and experience have been of inestimable value on previous occasions, played the difficult rôle of Bunthorne, a Fleshly poet, hypocritical, petulant, endowed with a monstrous ego and brash self-confidence. Clothed in velvet and sporting a monocle, he looked every inch an aesthete, beguiling the ladies with his languid verse but leaving us in no doubt about his true colours. Nor did he fall into the trap of overacting the part, for Bunthorne can easily degenerate into a grotesque figure. As played by A. D. N. Havard, Archibald Grosvenor, the "broken-hearted troubadour", who supplants Bunthorne in the ladies' affections and is eventually persuaded by him to renounce aestheticism, thereby winning the hand of Patience, his childhood love, contrasted admirably with Bunthorne himself. Moreover he has an agreeable singing voice, which he used to good effect in his duet with Patience: "Prithee, pretty maiden" and in the fable of the Magnet and the Churn. A. W. South, appearing for the first time in a major role, brought freshness and spontaneity to the part of Patience, which, including as it does two difficult solo songs and three duets, is musically the most taxing of all. K. D. Ray made an imposing Lady Jane, accompanying herself with considerable aplomb on her cello as she lamented her fading beauty. C. A. Hardy (Angela), J. L. Vernon (Saphir) and D. A. Lowe (Ella) provided good support throughout, particularly in the ensembles.

After a slow start, the performance gathered momentum. The second act was consistently good but really sparkled when we reached Lady Jane and Bunthorne's duet: "So go to him and say to him", followed in rapid succession by the hilarious trio of the Officers, the Quintet, which bounced with high spirits, Bunthorne and Grosvenor's duet delivered at great speed and with incredible accuracy, and the Finale, in which everybody decides to marry everybody else, except poor Bunthorne, who "will have to be contented with a tulip or lily". The orchestra played with great vitality and precision and contributed in no small measure to the success of the production.

Finally we must extend our thanks to Mr. Dawes who, as Conductor, Musical Director and Producer, made the opera possible and whose untiring efforts were amply rewarded. Let the critics carp and cavi: there was much to please in this production. I am certainly not the only one to think so, if the prolonged applause following the final curtain is any guide.

D.J.F.



There has been a famous feud in the school for many years concerning the importance of drama. As with any school, we have the usual trickle of plays and operas, but until recently, apart from short-lived inspirations that have inevitably come to an end after the annual play, there has never been a serious dramatic society, developing the potentialities of drama as an important activity.

Its importance must not be underrated. In the past this has been always realized but owing to disillusionment caused by the impracticability of including drama in the syllabus, it never led to any definite action. Some form of increase in the amount of dramatic activities was badly needed. A free form of expression, not hindered by technical difficulties, but based on the natural instincts of physical movement, has obvious advantages, and these should be fully exploited in whatever way possible. Not to be restricted by such problems posed by a musical instrument, or prose composition, offers a clearer, less formidable means of creative art to a far wider field; in consequence, the popular activity of people expressing themselves openly through the medium of drama, indirectly revealing their feelings, leads to a less inhibited expression of feeling elsewhere, an individuality of outlook that promotes self-confidence.

In the past year the dramatic society has attempted a reformation of their previous inactivity; the performance of "Jericho" before Easter, was a culmination of their efforts.

Plans for a modern miracle-play on the lines of Benjamin Britten's "Noyes Fludde", had been in the air for over a year before the actual performance of "Jericho". At the same time as they were materialising, serious thought was being given to

the problem of drama in general, and for a time, the miracle-play was put aside. Attention was given to regular tuition in creative movement, and for the first time in many years the dramatic society arranged such a scheme. Beginning in the Christmas term, there were hourly sessions, after school on Tuesday, for guidance in movement and mime.

It was felt that the convictions behind the new and flourishing drama group — drama for the sake of its constructive benefits — should not be strangled by gearing everything to an end of term play, when the curtain goes up, and there must be a performance for the sake of an audience. A new conception of the annual play was evolved, the society wanting it not for a restricted section of the school, with its own particular gift or interest, but for the whole school, as a community. The aim was to create an entirely original work of movement and music ; it was to involve a large proportion of pupils, with emphasis laid on the creative and artistic side, not on restricted numbers of actors, who can best perform the most suitable play. If there must be an audience, there should be no barrier between them and the actors ; acting “in the round”, with everyone on the same level, would enable them to feel, and at times, become part of the drama.

“Jericho” was the outcome of these ideas ; a modern miracle-play set around an exact biblical text, with music and movement created by members of the school. There were nearly three hundred people involved — including a cast of well over a hundred — consisting of musicians : two small orchestras, a choir, composers and conductors ; and numerous others concerned with costume-making, props and scenery, lighting, programmes, and publicity, making exhaustive use of the resources in the school.

From the comments of genuinely gratified members of the audience, who were put through rigorous hardships of joining in the singing, the desired effect was achieved. Every one of the hundred in the three main bodies of actors : the tribe of Israel, priests, and warriors, acted his part to the very best of his abilities, and the effective lighting, the atmosphere of the music, and the beautifully made costumes, enabled the audience to feel mentally and physically part of the intense drama of the fall of the city of Jericho.

What was attempted in “Jericho” had very little similarity with the traditional play it replaced, but without care it can so easily go the same way : another short-lived inspiration. Society is universally the same, a school is no exception, and without some well organized leadership, the action of the individual will be nullified by the apathy of the community to which he belongs.

PAUL ROBERTS.

MY D-J LIES OVER THE OCEAN

There have been several additions to our society in the last few years that in some way have enhanced or impaired the life of all of us, among them the World Cup, the Emancipation of Pop Art, Psychodelphia, Batman, a national interest in the Private Lives of Pandas, Tamla Motown, Alf Garnet, the Mini-Skirt (which alone deserves a whole book to be written in its honour) and Pirate Radio Stations. Pirate Radio, or, as it prefers to be called, Free Independent Commercial Radio, seems to possess an attraction similar to seaside pier revues and comic books and an allure peculiar to themselves.

At first people were simply attracted by the idea of being entertained illegally in the safety of their own homes by daring swashbucklers prodding at the B.B.C. with 50 Kilowatt swords. For the stately conservatism of the B.B.C. they substituted a strange mixture of American slickness and friendly gossiping disc-jockeys capable of spewing an endless stream of chatter and joke a minute (though unfortunately usually the same joke). Despite their commercialism, their self-conscious humour, their mid-atlantic accents and their inability to speak intelligibly in anything other than monosyllables, they had a freshness and vitality and somehow an innocent sincerity. When they said they were playing the greatest gramophone record ever made you believed it ; when they talked about their grandmothers and neighbours you could picture them ; when they advertised a food product you knew they ate nothing else ; and when they apologised for a meaningless sentence you believed them. And then there were the special offers. They enthusiastically sold a strange collection of objects, cheap radios, stockings, imitation pearl necklaces, false eyelashes, watches with waterproof straps (but not waterproof watches), replicas of street signs and, above all, the T-shirts. The T-shirts came in three sizes ; small (which they helpfully told you were for thin people), medium (for the average people) and large (for fat people), all emblazoned with the radio station's symbol. Though despite the frequent and often inventive adverts for them, I never saw one or knew anyone else who had seen one. And there were many other idiosyncrasies ; the gimmicked news plagiarised from the B.B.C., a sudden bout of carols every Christmas, their maintained decency and puritanism despite their illegality, the naive contests with equally naive prizes, and the completely fictional 'charts' bearing no relation to record sales. But slowly the mystic jingles grew familiar and comforting and the ear became deaf to the intermittent advertisements. The drug was taking effect. But then, when they were well on the way to becoming a British institution, one by one, unobtrusively, quietly, they started to disappear, leaving only a few T-shirts as evidence of their

existence. The last handful of survivors continued on bravely, pleading with listeners to write to the Prime Minister to save Free Radio (repeating the address carefully so every last soul would know where He resided). To many people it will be good riddance, but to many it will be the loss of part of their life. The gods have avenged the rape of the wavelength.

ROLAND A. DENNING, 4X.

PROSPECTS FOR YOUNG POETS

If you have the luck to be a student of science everything is rosy. If you want to study classical languages or write essays on modern history, opportunities are nearly as good. If you want to paint or draw you can go to an art college. If you want to make or write music you can go to a music school. But if your vocation is to write there is nowhere to learn the tricks of the trade, no-one willing to lend a helping hand. The compromise of studying other people's writing is harder than anything else, since those who don't know what to do, choose English, and those who want to do it have unnecessarily stiff competition.

Of course an establishment in which the more experienced artists help the beginners might be very difficult to create : but such things have been done before, so why not once more ? We have a poet laureate, but what does he do ? How does he contribute to the continuance of the art, since he is the acknowledged expert ? How many people even know who the poet laureate is today ? It's all right once you are established, but how does one locate the greasy pole ?

If you try to get into print you are told that you have little chance, and if you are a poet you will feel uncomfortable about having to sell your wares to enable you to write more. But don't give up. A rich and inspiring patroness might come your way.

I. A. ROSS.

AT PADRE PATUFET

It is the eye's first dawn
dawn-trauma, lost paradise
and river run dark out of dawn
where the gloom was going
from Salvador's visions ;
the fall of sleep recalling dawn,
its mouth, Jonah not despairing
but safe inside the whale ;
a wish to return, recalling death,
and we hide there secure
without rain or snow.

M. J. PICKERING.

AN EXCEEDINGLY UNSEASONAL MODERN CHRISTMAS CAROL . . .

Henry Wrut considered himself to be a good Authority-fearing citizen. He always bought Oxfam cards at Christmas, stopped in the foyer when the National Anthem was played in his local cinema, raised his hat when he passed the Vicar and and smiled at Indian bus conductors. He wore a grey suit on weekdays and a blue-pinstripe with an orange knitted tie on Sundays. His Aunt gave him the tie. He was married to a small, chubby woman who spent her time knitting scarves and wishing she was young again. One weekend when his wife was visiting her mother, he was sitting back in his chair, his favourite chair with the pale green antimacassar and the stained oak arms, reading last month's Reader's Digest, when a strange glow appeared from the television. It was strange to him as the socket where the set was normally plugged in was being used by the illuminated plastic gondola (a souvenir from a package coach tour to Venice with 25 other British couples). The glow grew bigger and Henry rose up from the chair with his jaw hanging open in rigor mortis fashion. From the television a voice arose, sounding like his favourite film actor speaking from a subway.

"You are Henry Wrut." Henry nervously crumpled up the final rates demand in his pocket. The voice spoke again. . .

"Watch carefully. I will show you your past, present and future . . ."

On the screen appeared a youthful Henry Wrut, sitting at the back of an empty classroom with sinus trouble, a stick of liquorice and a neatly written maths book.

"I was a good scholar . . ." said Henry, but no sooner had the words left his lips, when he saw on the screen his fellow pupils entering the class, encircling young Henry, lifting him from his chair and dropping on to the floor, laughing. The screen faded and then came to life again with a scene of Henry, sitting in his train coming home, hidden behind a copy of the Evening News, Henry sitting in the train going to work hidden behind a copy of the Daily Mail, Henry eating lunch at the cafe on the corner, Henry entering his house at half past six, Henry taking the dog for a walk at half past seven. He did not have to watch. It had been precisely the same for the last ten years. Then the screen changed to an image of an old Henry sitting on a park bench with a newspaper folded over his head. He did not know whether he was asleep or dead. The screen faded for the last time.

"This is your fate", said the Voice, "take it . . .". The voice faded away.

Henry jumped up from his chair with a faint smile. He knew what to do. He rushed out of his house and immediately enrolled himself in the local Darby and Joan club.

ROLAND A. DENNING, 4X.

NOTTING HILL

Only the wind
(over traffic and sirens)
to divide the night

only us to witness
what is past and
divides the night

so, with a lost
city whisper.

M. J. PICKERING.

POSTSCRIPT

The end all end of ending now with a silence where Clem
our Clem lay dying now of all his dying with all end of ending
and his own sweet silence of unending remaining over whose dead
body and long white bones, a body returning, long white body
all naked white, slowly returning. End of all his coming and all
his going, his ending and unending continuing after, after all
ending with silence O my Clem in one white room all square by
six. Unending silence, leaving peace in rest . . . death and birth,
these are the antipodes, all in One, life unanswerable . . The end all
end of ending now with a silence now and then a silence to end
all end of ending, that all with a silence that is unending, that all
“which always is All everywhere” for without an answer O my
Clem in his bed one white room all square by six over whose dead
body and long white bones, long white body, eyes with a silence
and an answer, soul returning, Slowly returning but under
which world and to whose dark earth—a well? buried in a
grave? a belly? O wilderness O Clem or whatever with a silence
and a light—white bed one room by six in all . . . the end of
all to end now (with a silence and an answer of rest unending)
of making and ending which are his axis, for after both is unend-
ing for all attending (with a silence with a boom not) no end all
end in one with All attending . . . the end at least? at first, and
later all unending the end and continuing its come of a silent
world O Clem, our Clem who art dying, what is thy name? all
ending come and done in heaven as in earth we offer up thy life
with its answer and forgive thee leading us with thy light and
deliver us into unending for thine is the silence forever and ever
O Clem Amen.

M. J. PICKERING.

LIGHTHOUSE BEACH

Over the dunes we watched the vanes of a wind pump turning hesitantly in the inconsistent breeze. The only sounds were the rustle of sand blown through the coarse grass and the whisper of waves on the shore.

As we walked along the curved beach a cluster of buildings came into view. I suggested that we explore. She agreed. I took her hand and we ran. The white sand between the beach and the buildings was covered by an irregular web of creepers which snatched spitefully at our bare feet.

There were some rusty corrugated iron sheds, sagging as if embarrassed by their barren existence. Their doors were splintered or missing and their windows were boarded. The wind pump was buckled and its base strewn with broken machinery. The dirty packed sand was sprinkled with slivers of smashed glass.

Inland grew a long row of pines whose symmetric beauty contrasted agreeably with the dereliction about us. Behind the trees stood a tall black and white lighthouse, apparently impotent in the strong afternoon sun.

The dog yelped as he chased a wispy young crab. I glanced at the girl. She looked sad. We turned around to face the ruins. Not far from the huts were several shallow concrete pans, separated from each other by crumbling walls. The floors were uneven, so the water remaining in the pans had collected into pools, and at the edges of these flourished patches of green slime. In one of the deepest pools some thin catfish flipped idly, their movements mistaken for aggression by a lobster which would not leave the safety of a corner.

Dusk came quickly.

We returned to the beach, which was now a playground for the older crabs. They easily evaded us, and as they glided to their refuge in the surf it seemed as if the ground was slipping from beneath us. At the high tide mark lay decaying bodies of jelly fish which glowed when struck.

Out to sea shone the lights of ships waiting to enter the harbour : from behind flashed the regular reassuring signal of the light house. We were grateful that these symbols of the normal world helped to cleanse our minds of the melancholy influence of the ruins.

J. M. DARVILLE.

A WHISPER TO SOME

What thoughts I have of yours
are nothing more than litter
to some who hear your voice.
Your voice is like a cotton fire
grown forward on every side ;
but some will never feel the heat
or see the growing wave.
Your voice drives mine with equal force,
on every side with equal force,
but to some is nothing more than litter,
to some who hear your voice.

M. J. PICKERING.

Since
the quiet beach
bathing in your smile
ripples of our laughter
with the sea's
flair of your eyes
with mine

palm-sunsets
black against rose
two silhouettes, one.

candles
waxing on black
my dreams you tread
I urge tread soft

as once
supreme lover
now
dead.

C. C. KOEFOED-NIELSEN.

My youth is against me,
iron against the sweet lyre.
So let not mine understanding
be rent across falsehood.

C. C. KOEFOED-NIELSEN.

“ WASTELAND ”

“He had a microphone around his neck
at a poetry reading
and he is more than one poet
and he is an old man perpetually writing a poem
about an old man
whose every third thought is Death . . . ”

— *Ferlinghetti* —

For the vast majority of the members of the school, the production “Wasteland” came rather unexpectedly. It was, however, the result of a great deal of work, which was carried out by the participants on Thursday afternoons : it was they who selected the poems and music, arranged the lighting and designed the “stage”. Because the dress rehearsal went almost faultlessly, there were some fears and suspicions for the actual performance. Unfortunately these fears were realized : seconds before the readings began, one of the two microphones was found not to be working ; but luckily, this, and some other minor technical difficulties, failed to upset the performance. Indeed the only annoying consequence was that having just one microphone lengthened the time between the poems, and so tended to spoil the continuity of the production ; this could be seen particularly during the five short poems in the middle of the programme where a rapid change-over was essential. This delay, caused by the inability of the next reader to be in position at the other microphone, was burdensome both to audience and to the readers.

The original idea in selecting the poetry was to have poems on the theme “Wasteland”, highlighted by the contrasting tones of love poems. This ideal did not materialize as was hoped, causing a general lack of texture in the performance, which was increased by the failure of the readers to adapt their voices to the different poems. An example of this was Martin Turner’s “One Bright Orange” and Logue’s “In May” — both were read by R. Hosea and separately they were good ; but when these two completely different poems were placed together, read in almost the same voice, there was no contrast, no highlighting, and, consequently the effect of the two poems was reduced.

The music backing some of the readings was well chosen throughout ; particularly effective were : “Sometime During Eternity” read by C. C. Koefoed-Nielsen to “Death of Goldfinger” ; and Coleridge’s “Kubla Khan” also read by C. C. Koefoed-Nielsen, this time to the music of Ravishankar ; convincing use was also made of the jazz of drummer Gene Krupa. S. Payne played admirably to accompany M. J. Pickering reading

T. S. Eliot's "The Hollow Men" — a poem which I thought came over particularly well. Another poem which deserves special mention was "Up He Goes" from D. H. Lawrence, read very convincingly by P. H. Boord. Despite certain difficulties, which could *not* have been avoided, and a few imperfections, which *could* have been rectified, it was a very enjoyable thirty minutes in which those who took part delivered their readings "to my soul, and Jack's soul too, and anybody who'll listen".

PAUL FULTON.

ALPINE AMBLE 1966

Early one August morning, the sixteen boys of the R.G.S. party led by Mr. Fry disembarked from the train at Montreux. The previous night had been spent on a brief tour around the flood-lit sights of Paris — the Arc de Triomphe, Eiffel Tower, la Place de la Concorde, finishing at the Gare de Lyon.

Arriving somewhat tired on the shores of Lake Geneva we were able to see a rather dilapidated Chateau de Chillon from a distance. From here, the short train journey took us to Aigle and the walking started in earnest ; those of us not used to walking found this a bit disconcerting. After a walk of ten hours, passing through Chesières and Villars, the party arrived at a French refuge six thousand feet up, at Anzeindaz.

Next morning we were able to observe the mist creeping up towards us from the valley below — a rather strange sight to those unused to Switzerland — but one to which we were soon to become accustomed. The day was spent in crossing the Pas de Cheville, and making the laborious descent to Ardon, whence the train was taken to Sion. Here we slept in a school, converted into a youth hostel for the summer, and next day we continued along the Rhone valley by train, as far as Turtmann. Having been told at a village to "follow the water", we did as instructed, and for about two hours we kept to a path less than two feet wide, which ran parallel to the water-course, with a steep slope on our right. We spent the night at the Youth Hostel at Gruben, being, as we were told, the first English party to have stayed there for three years. The following day proved to be less strenuous than those before, and a gentle walk to the Turtmann hut provided a chance to visit and photograph an ice-cave at the foot of a glacier.

On the Saturday, feeling fit, we crossed the nine thousand five hundred feet high Angstbord Pass and reached the summit in half an hour less than the scheduled time — no mean achievement. Descending a thousand feet through snow fields slowed down our progress, but we covered the last one thousand five

hundred feet in half an hour, — a rate made necessary by the need to catch the train to Visp. We again slept in a school that night, and next day set off on what promised to be the most interesting excursion of the trip, a walk to the Gandegg hut. After reaching Zermatt by train a four hour walk took us to Roterrboden on the Gornergrat, and here we picked up a guide. Despite the cloud and mist which were rapidly descending, the Gornergrat provided a breath-taking view. However, there was little time for gazing at the glacier — on which some of us would soon be wishing we had never set foot. Having gone down on to the Gorner glacier the visibility became extremely poor and it was some time before the guide realised that we were, in fact, on the slopes of the Breithorn, several miles from our destination. We hurriedly descended the Breithorn glacier, and then ascended the Theodule glacier, eventually reaching our goal, the Gandegg hut, two and a half hours late. If a few of us had found the previous day's experience rather exhausting, then the view which met us on awakening the following day made it all worthwhile. The sky was an unbelievable blue and any cloud there was lay like a huge blanket below us. From our vantage point at the Gandegg hut, we could see the Matterhorn, Monte Rose and even the Jungfrau, fifty miles away in the Bernese Oberland. That day we crossed the higher of the two Theodule glaciers, and ascended to Hotel Belvedere, ten thousand and eight hundred and twenty feet up on the slopes of the Matterhorn. From here we went down to Zermatt and returned to Visp.

On Thursday we proceeded by post bus to Visperterminen, and walked from here along the beautiful Saas Tal to Saas Tamatten, where the hostel was a chalet, three hundred years old. Next day most of the party walked the few miles to Saas Foe and spent a leisurely day doing nothing except lying in the sun. On Saturday we ascended to the nine thousand three hundred feet summit of the Monte Mons pass, passing on our way the spot where Mattmark once stood. This village was swept away by an avalanche in 1965. On reaching the divide between Switzerland and Italy, we took the cable car down to Macunaga, because bad weather prevented us from walking. That afternoon was spent in Italy, and a hair-raising post bus ride to Domodossola gave us ample opportunity to notice the differences in architecture between Switzerland and Italy. We returned to Switzerland by the Simplon tunnel, and then went on to Kandersteg by the Sontochberg.

Our stay in Switzerland was almost over, and after spending the final day in Kandersteg we returned home, paying short visits to Berne, Brussels and Bruges. Finally on behalf of all the party, I should like to thank Mr. Fry and Mr. Coldham for providing for and organising such an enjoyable holiday.

S. DARBYSHIRE.

BIOLOGICAL FIELD WEEK

BIOLOGISTS' TRIP TO BARDSEY ISLAND

In 1966 a trip to Africa was considered by the biologists for Summer '67, but as time drew on it became increasingly obvious that for various reasons this was impracticable. Instead a trip was organised to Bardsey Island, found about two miles off the western-most point of Caernarvonshire, North Wales. Despite its small size (about 1 mile by 2) its north-western side is dominated by a 500 foot high mountain. The rest of the island is reasonably flat and low, with some interesting cliffs and caves.

The journey to Aberdaron, the nearest point to Bardsey on the mainland, was quite uneventful, but enlightened by many humorous comments by the smallest member of the party and goon songs from a more responsible person. For two days we had to stay in Aberdaron, during which time we annoyed the locals with British songs and herbal tobacco. Two courageous members braved the elements and went for a swim in the sea, emerging two minutes later with a blue aura.

On Monday we crossed. The sound is apparently one of the trickiest to negotiate in Britain, owing to the fast current. This and the small boat that we were in soon brought on sea-sickness in one individual ; mercifully, the journey was short. That afternoon we set out to explore the island. We were warned that the seaward side of the mountain was steeper than it looked, and thus we found it — eleven people set off walking round it and three finished.

Much of our time was taken up with such projects as spud-bashing, washing-up (record time 85 minutes) and Elsan cleaning (in which Feek became an acknowledged expert). For the rest, we spent many happy hours watching and being watched by seals in the seal cave, which was reached by two perilous descents on the steep side of the mountain, and then a crawl through a claustrophobic tunnel. Also found in this cave was a particularly large and virulent species of woodlice, members of which eventually found their way into various sleeping bags. With so many uncommon birds on the island it was difficult not to find some interest in them. The assistant warden was always ready to help with identification, even with some somewhat highly

exaggerated claims. Studies were made of cave spiders, mosses and liverworts, molluss, bryozoa, zonation, rock pools and of any other interesting items.

Dead sheep abounded on the island, having either succumbed to liver fluke or fallen off a cliff. A big box of bones therefore accompanied us on the return journey. In trying to get these and other specimens several people fell in the withy beds (bogs to the uninitiated), others were nearly trapped by the rising tide, and at one time everyone nearly fell off the mountain.

Radio Caroline was omnipresent, from breakfast till bed. Meals left nothing to desire (except Bisodol), but we progressively ran out of food — bread, butter, milk, sugar, biscuits, potatoes (and fuel for the lamps and heater) — in fact nearly everything except prunes. Rabbits, however, were plentiful. Despite the shortage of eggs, several were found nesting in mugs of tea . . .

We were due to leave on Friday March 25th, but owing to bad weather we had to stay on the island until the following Thursday. Even though the high winds had died down the crossing was still very rough, but nobody actually suffered sea sickness. The road journey home was all the more tedious for its being dark, but we could again enjoy the strain of popular airs from a prominent singer. To the chagrin of some parents, we arrived home between 1.30 and 3.30 a.m.

Perhaps the trip was not as exotic as the proposed one to Africa, but certainly it was interesting and very enjoyable.

S. TOMS, 6B2 ; G. MONAGHAN, 6B3.

The SOCIETIES

No doubt the Societies continue to deploy their energies diligently rather repine in the doldrums, but, as a class, they are going, either to pot, or about their business with modest, self-effacing reticence, or they are having a synchronised sulk at us. Of all the company, only the secretaries of the Christian Fellowship Society and the Model Railway Club have issued bulletins. The latter has snatched time off from the “process of making sleepers and ballast, hammering in rows of pins and soldering

the rails" — but a process, nevertheless, which has produced sixty feet of track — to mention the trip to Woodham's railway yard at Barry, South Wales, where the veteran members were consumed with nostalgia at the sight of "50 steam locomotives" !

And from the rest, silence. It is only from references in Assembly that we hear details of a visit to the Science Museum—for the umpteenth time—or discover that the Classical Society was regaled with an exposition of Vergil. Even 'Forum' seems quite subdued. Perhaps their balloon debates have carried them off into the clouds.

ROGER GASH.

SCHOOL HOUSE

In the best traditions, the house has served the school with quiet dedication, and has continued to give considerable support to the various school teams. All five prefects have played in the 1st XV at one time or another during the term, and John and Peter Colley gained their full colours — as did Peter Berks for cross-country. This appetite for sport is reflected throughout the house.

There has been little inter-house activity recently, although we overwhelmed Tylers Wood by ten goals to three, in a thrilling, if not too skilful football match.

We are, perhaps, too much inclined to sporting affairs, but this is not to belittle our academic prowess. David Snodin was awarded an Open Scholarship at Trinity College, Oxford, last December, and is now educating our Indian brethren with fine missionary zeal. Whether, of course, all the mighty labour put in just before 'Mock' was an indication of honest application or merely troubled consciences, is another matter.

Finally, I should like to thank both Mr. Skipp and Mr. Williams for their enthusiasm and their patience with the forty-two fickle sheep within their care. Possibly, they wonder sometimes, if it is all worth it. We should like to reassure them that it is.

M. J. BEVAN.

UPLYME

Reduced to twenty-two members, Uplyme is a more compact unit, in which it is almost possible to cater for all individual needs. There are still the usual anti-establishment moans, but these can be taken as a sign of critical and healthy minds. Wide and diverse activities flourish and flounder. The customary support for the school thrives — mainly because of an inherent fear of freedom. The fallacy that boarders are caged nonentities

is, I am glad to say, crumbling at last. A substantial amount of personal freedom is allowed within liberal limits, enabling Uplymers to develop socially outside the school — a crucial part of education. There are the inevitable moments of acute claustrophobia, but these are decreasing and one can say with justice that Uplyme, although still hampered by uncompromising tradition, is becoming a reasonable place to live in.

T. T. McCORMICK.

TYLERS WOOD

Tylers Wood has enjoyed an eventful existence since the last report. We have seen new faces, and the furthering of both internal and external activities.

Boosted by last year's victory over Uplyme at football, Tylers Wood approached the new season with unusual confidence. Unfortunately in a warming-up game, we lost by just a few goals to School House, but we managed to draw three all with a so-called school team, the match ending prematurely, owing to a burst ball. In a recent rugby match, after a very good game, we allowed Uplyme the upper hand, returning home with a score of 9 - 3.

Tylers has always supported school functions well, and this term has been no exception. Both senior and junior members of the house have taken active parts in the Opera, 'Jericho', and form a large proportion of the Chapel choir.

The internal affairs of the house have run smoothly, with some notable changes. The senior dormitory has been converted into a work-room temporarily, and the lighting in the common room has been greatly improved. There has been a number of social evenings, during which the house has discussed Malta — the discussion being illuminated with a film — and the theme, "What I hate most in the world". This last topic proved an eye-opener for both prefects and staff. Both evenings saw the provision of coffee and delicacies by Mrs. Pattinson. Finally, the whole house conveys its best wishes to Matron, and hopes that there will be no recurrence of her recent illness. In this respect, we all thank Mrs. Pattinson for the tremendous amount of work she has done in the house, and her ever-constant consideration for our welfare.

R. J. MARTIN-FAGG.

ARNISON

In 1964 it was felt that there was a pressing need for reform of the House System. The committee appointed to discuss this reform met a couple of times with no results, and the idea was quietly pigeon-holed.

Since then the House Championship has continued in its usual aimless way, and it seems quite likely to do so in the foreseeable future.

Quite frequently, some sections in the competition are a farce. In the words of a middle school Rugby captain, it was the exception rather than the rule for the House Rugby teams to have a full-strength side. It is a disheartening affair for House officials and Masters to raise even these depleted teams. I cannot even believe that those boys who did enter competitions did so through any desire to raise the position of their house in the Championship Table. One must, I think, accept that there is little House spirit. Indeed, logically speaking it is ludicrous to expect boys who have been lumped into a certain group by a pin system in which they had no say, to support this group with any favour.

Arnison, owing more to the boot of its Housemasters and Officials than anything else, usually manages a high position in the competition. This we have done again.

We won the Rugby — as is our custom, this year, by virtue of high placings in the third, fourth and senior teams. The senior sevens was won in a morass of mud, although we risked the match against Youens, giving away a kickable penalty from a blatant late tackle. The unfortunate victim was later heard muttering threats of an unspecified nature. We managed third place in the Cross-Country, thanks mainly to consistency rather than brilliant individualism. Congratulations to King, however, in coming second in the Junior section.

In the hockey we fielded a decidedly plucky side, only one goal being scored against us in the whole tournament, this being a fine effort by one of our own players who, I think, prefers to remain anonymous. Our final placing was “somewhere near the bottom”, — the innumerable postponed play-offs having caused some confusion.

We achieved second place in the Basketball competition, thanks to a vigorous effort by both Seniors and Juniors. C. Andrew's shooting team must be commended on winning their competition. Unfortunately we had a complete lack of serious badminton players in the House, and we took the wooden spoon in this event.

In conclusion I should like to thank Mr. Bridges and Mr. Goodenough for their unfailing support of the house. I sincerely hope that less “persuasion” will be needed in future from them and House Officials to get a good turn out. The House Championship, in its theoretical form, is a system for healthy competition that should add to the enjoyment of school life and to the personality of the school as a whole. It is a pity that it does not meet this ideal.

D. J. GATLAND.

DISRAELI

Our success this year has not been as great as we had hoped after last year's, but we have pulled our weight in most competitions and various individuals have excelled.

In the basketball competition, the senior team's efforts were disappointing, but the junior team, of which the Beasley brothers must be mentioned for their outstanding play, won every game and brought the House to a creditable second equal.

The Rugby tournament in which all forms were involved brought Disraeli a fair amount of success, but although the first, second and fourth form teams played well, the third form team let us down a bit. The senior section was a seven-a-side competition, in which we expected all our strength to lie in the backs. But not so : the forwards, with no regular player for either the first or the second XV's, played well and D. Beasley in the forwards and I. Whitelock, the captain, deserve recognition for their efforts. We were narrowly defeated by Arnison in the semi-final and managed to gain third place.

The most exciting event of the year was the House cross-country championships. Hoping to repeat our success of last year we were, unfortunately, hopelessly let down by our junior team which came last. But the House won the senior section and ran well in the intermediate, coming third overall. Disraeli's outstanding runners were P. D. Knight who came second in the seniors, P. Burgoyne second in the intermediates, and R. Thorne, a first-former, who came third in the juniors against much older opposition.

The House just scraped up a Hockey team and although the selection for a team of six was made from a mere seven trialists, the team played hard and gained third place. We were not very successful in the Badminton because we had only a couple of experienced players in the House, but we played sufficiently well to avoid disgrace.

But if we are to do well in this and future years, more effort from all sections of the school is necessary.

We must, of course, extend our thanks towards Mr. Perfect and Mr. Brown for their constant support in all the house activities and hope that their example will be an inspiration to others.

J. P. COLLEY.

FRASER

Fraser has always been a strong house in the past, although this has often been due to the presence of good individuals rather than the strength of the house as a whole. However, the house spirit has rarely been lacking, and is as strong as ever this year. The house always acquits itself well in the major sports, and

slips up in the minor ones. This seems to be repeating itself this year, and I hope that it can be remedied in the future.

Fraser started extremely well, with an excellent win in the Basketball competition. This was the result of a concerted effort by both senior and junior teams, both of which lost only one game. The rugby was not as successful as it has been in previous years, — owing to, for the most part, apathy in the middle of the school, although the junior teams put up a good display. The hockey team has not met with great success, although many of the matches were quite close. The cross-country proved a happier event, and made up for the unfortunate disqualifications of last year, Morrison ran splendidly to win the senior cup, and Brook did well to come third in the intermediate race, but it was the teamwork and effort of the mid-field runners that really gave Fraser second place.

Our thanks are extended to Mr. File and Mr. Eaton, whose full support has been a great benefit to house spirit — spirit which must be maintained, to ensure a successful showing in the summer sports.

P. M. COLLEY.

QUEENS

This year has been an eventful one for Queens, although not as successful as the previous year. There can be no doubt whatsoever, that our greatest achievement was in winning the cross-country championship. Our junior and intermediate teams both ran brilliantly, and it must be noted that in the junior section, the eight runners to count were within the first nineteen home. Once again, we won the badminton competition, and in the hockey we came a reasonable fourth.

However, in the course of the year, there are bound to be some failures, and this year, we failed in the basketball competition. Our senior team managed to gain third place, but they were let down by an inexperienced junior side, and were reduced to sixth place. The rugby tournament is in process of completion, but at the moment we do not seem to be doing very well. Our senior and first year teams were both placed sixth, but the fourth form team aspired to a very creditable third place.

As the cross-country result has proved, we have strength in depth throughout the house, rather than a number of outstanding individuals. I hope that enthusiasm can be roused in the coming term to enable us to secure high places in the summer contests.

A. P. D. HOGG.

TUCKER

As in the last few years, with the absence of any outstanding individual, the House has had to rely on combined team effort, and in the majority of competitions, support has been very pleasing.

In the Basketball, as usual, we produced our own particular style of play — the eagerly awaited battle with Youens proved as entertaining as in previous years. We reached fourth place, as we did also in the Badminton and Shooting competitions. The seven-a-side rugby was rather a disappointment, for with several 1st XV members, we had hoped for good results. However, cracked ribs, flu, and misunderstandings made a weakened side necessary, and thus we only finished fifth. Nevertheless, the junior teams played very well to gain first and second positions in their competitions — performances which give encouragement for the future.

In the Cross-country, Burrows and Johnson ran extremely well to win the Colts and Junior races respectively and Thrower and Hudson (P.), in the Seniors and Treadwell and Czerwinski in the Juniors also ran well. With more effort from the main school, a much higher place than fifth could have been obtained.

Our greatest success was the Hockey, in which we gained first place. The fact that we reached the final was thanks only to the efforts of a certain famed Arnison committee member who managed to deflect a wayward shot into his own net for our only goal. In the final, however, we overcame a strong Youens side on a pitch more suitable for fishing than hockey. Trailing by one goal at half-time, we hit back to win with goals by Mole and North. Hudson (R.), Holmes, Dormer and Wall completed the team — of which two members had never held hockey sticks in their lives before.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Mr. Scott and Mr. Leighton-Jones for their invaluable help and interest in the House, which has been much appreciated.

L. C. NORTH.

YOUENS

In recent years Youens has been held up to ridicule by every boy in the school, including the house members. Our only claim to fame was having a head-boy, R. C. Jones, in our midst. Now, however, the end of the lean years is in sight. Although we can claim very few school colours, a strong house spirit is surging through our veins, and boys are actually beginning to enjoy representing the house. This fresh vigour is, surprisingly, at its strongest in the senior school. In the senior Rugby competition we amazed everyone by reaching the final and Arnison, who

won, did not find it as easy to beat us as they had expected. We also finished runners up in Badminton and Hockey — much to the delight of Tucker. In the Basketball, we reached no dizzy heights, ending up fifth, but we can confidently claim the best house-spirit. Unfortunately, this spirit still has much room for improvement as was obvious in the Cross Country competition. Not only did we come last, but we had to suffer the ignominy of having two teams, the juniors and the intermediates, disqualified because of insufficient runners. This poor display is no reflection on Power, the house Cross-Country captain, but on the few boys who waited until the last minute before withdrawing — leaving no time for substitutes to be gathered. This inconsiderate action disrupted the whole house, and I hope that in the future, it will never be repeated. Next term we have the Athletics and the Swimming to keep us occupied. In both these contests we can only obtain a high overall position if every boy realises that it is his duty to give the house his full support. In concluding I should like to thank my vice-captain, Roger Gash for his whole-hearted support, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Blyth for their enthusiastic help, and finally all the boys who have wielded the spades to raise the house from its grave.

J. F. KILLINGLEY.



1st XV

Played 26, Won 13, Lost 11, Points for - 267, Against - 183

As the record suggests, this season has been a successful one. This success could have been amplified, had the team enjoyed a little more luck. Marginal defeats inflicted by Luton G.S., St. Albans and the Old Boys, despite the fact that the school made all the running, are vivid examples of this. There were, of course, the matches where we were convincingly defeated — by teams like Northampton — but we were never outplayed.

The season also had its rewarding moments. The team took wins like those over Watford, Abingdon, Leighton Park and Wasps School XV, well in its stride, but our defeat of Tiffin School and Saracens caused some justified sense of achievement. In both of these matches, the team was down by eight

points to nil, and after some fierce attacking, and determined tackling in defence, came out on top, to win by thirteen points to eight.

There was no shortage of talent in the team, and, as a result, fine, open rugby was played throughout the season. Unfortunately, this general desire of the team to play open football was their downfall, once the wet weather set in, just before Christmas. Too much was attempted with a slippery, greasy ball and consequently, we lost matches which could have been won by employing suitable tactics.

Davies, at full back, has had a good season, and by decisive tackling and general good play often saved the situation. The wingers, McCormick and John Colley amply compensated for their lack of real pace by some robust and elusive running, resulting in many a good try. The centres, Gatland and Peter Colley, were an ideal combination in dry weather. Colley's unpredictable swerve and side-step and Gatland's burst of speed were great assets to the team.

During most seasons a player of exceptional talent emerges as the season progresses. This year no such player appeared, probably because of the general high standard, but Steven Gamester earned the respect of his colleagues by coming up from last year's colts, and at the age of fifteen deservedly earned his first team colours, for playing a sound season at stand-off half.

Whitlock, though inexperienced in first team rugby at the beginning of the season, quickly developed to the standard, at scrum half, and provided his young partner with a useful service.

As I have mentioned, handling was the basic weapon of the team, this year, and the forwards did not lag far behind the threequarters in this respect. Unfortunately, this inclination to run and pass blunted their vigour and determination to join the mauls on occasions. It is good, however, to see the integration of the team.

Killingley, Hartwright and Bibby provided the foundation of a solid scrum, in the front row. In support, Hogg and Lewis were hard workers. In the loose and line-outs Hogg, in particular, excelled himself by using his height and strength. Bevan took over from Lewis after Christmas, and the power of the scrum was by no means reduced. The back-row of Holmes, Tinton and Turmezei (who is definitely retiring from school rugby at the end of this season) was, on occasions, weak in defence, but the ability to hunt for the half-chance from loose balls is clearly shown by the fact that they scored fourteen tries among them. Thorne replaced Tinton at No. 8 in January and again showed

how keen the competition is for the 1st XV places, by excelling himself in first team conditions.

As a pleasing climax to the season, the 1st VII distinguished itself by winning the South Eastern Counties School Sevens.

A. L. TURMEZEL.

1st XV Results :

v. Windsor G.S.	Won	12 - 0	Home
v. St. Bartholomew's G.S.	Won	25 - 3	Away
v. St. Marylebone G.S.	Won	17 - 0	Home
v. St. Benedict's School	Lost	0 - 14	Away
v. Watford G.S.	Won	9 - 3	Away
v. Oxford School	Won	12 - 5	Away
v. Sir William Borlase	Won	15 - 6	Away
v. Tiffin School	Won	13 - 8	Away
v. Abingdon School	Won	19 - 0	Home
v. Emanuel School	Won	11 - 3	Away
v. Luton	Lost	0 - 8	Away
v. Leighton Park School	Won	19 - 0	Home
v. Hitchin G.S.	Won	16 - 0	Home
v. Northampton G.S.	Lost	0 - 12	Away
v. St. Albans G.S.	Lost	3 - 5	Home
v. Wasps School XV	Won	12 - 3	Away
v. Old Boys XV	Lost	5 - 6	Home
v. R.A.F. Halton	Won	19 - 8	Away
v. Metropolitan Police Cadets	Lost	0 - 11	Home
v. Harrow County School	Lost	0 - 9	Home
v. Saracen's 'A' XV	Won	13 - 8	Home
v. St. Nicholas G.S.	Lost	3 - 18	Away
v. Wade Deacon G.S.	Lost	8 - 9	Home
v. Staff	Won	22 - 0	Home

Welsh Tour :

v. Cardiff H.S.	Lost	8 - 35	Away
v. Caerphilly G.S.	Lost	6 - 9	Away

2nd XV

Played 21 ; Won 11 ; Lost 10 ; For 235 ; Against 137

The 2nd XV had a reasonably successful season winning one more match than they lost, although many more points were scored for than against. The team started very well, winning the first three matches, but faded towards the end of the season, losing five out of the last seven. This was probably due to the fact that Bevan and Thorne moved up to the 1st XV, and three others left at Christmas. The team had some very good wins, notably against Henley 1st XV and St. Bartholomew's, whom

we beat 35 – 0, and if a full team had been available, on several occasions some of the defeats would have been avoided.

The team was very strong in defence, with Chalmers safe at full-back, and there was good tackling by all the team. The forward play was very good on dry days but tended to fall off when wet. Crees and Davis excelled in the loose and tight scrums and their driving force was often the foundation of many good tries. The back-row of Hudson, Gash and Thorne combined well with the backs and were always quick to exploit any mistakes made by the opposition. Hongskula started the season as scrum-half and caused quite a problem as, although he was an excellent place-kicker, scoring over sixty points, his inadequacy in defence led to his replacement by Fox, who proved to be a stabilising element in the team. Huggins, at fly-half, was outstanding with the ball and his ability to break through a defence often proved decisive in winning matches. He was well supported by the two centres, Brown and Darvill, the latter being particularly noted for his ferocious tackling. As a wing, Stevens, despite his frail build, tackled courageously and handled the ball capably.

Although it has not been a very distinguished season, I am sure the whole team enjoyed their rugby, and the experience gained by the younger members of the side will be of great value to them in the 1st XV next season.

R. F. HUDSON.

The following played regularly :

R. F. Hudson* (captain), C. H. Bridger, P. R. Brown, G. W. A. Chalmers*, D. R. J. F. Crees*, K. Darvill*, R. J. Davis, B. J. B. Fox*, R. Gash*, R. Hongskula, R. W. Huggins*, J. P. Kneller, M. R. Stephens, R. B. Stevens*, B. G. Wood, C. A. L. B. Wood.

* 2nd XV Colours

3rd XV

Played 15 ; Won 8 ; Drawn 1 ; Lost 6

The 3rd XV has enjoyed a season of mixed fixtures. The side has always tried to play open, attacking rugby, but there was a sad lack of cohesion between forwards and backs.

The season started well with a convincing win over St. Bartholomew's G.S., but this promising beginning was not maintained and the next four matches were lost. However, out of the next ten fixtures played, the 3rd XV won seven and drew one.

It was difficult to keep an unchanged team for most of the matches, owing to injuries, and promotions to higher teams. As the season progressed two players showed themselves worthy of mention.

Beasley proved to be a line-out specialist and this seemed to give the forwards confidence, which had appeared to be lacking in the first matches. Pattinson showed himself to be an able pack-leader, even though he gave some astonishing commands at times. However, he was always a great asset in the loose.

The 3rd XV had some sound players and these should form the nucleus of the first and second teams next year.
Regular members of the team :

Beasley, Pattinson, Wood, Cowell, Helliwell, Stevens, Jackson, Thain, Newitt, Bridger, Haynes, Hoath, Woodham, Bowyer, Thrower, Arnold, Perfect, Llewellyn, Hills.

K. McINTOSH.

4th XV

When a sport ceases to give enjoyment to the participants, it has failed in its purpose. Yet, while the 4th XV plays rugby for no other reason but enjoyment, it cannot be ignored as a breeding ground for the 1st XV — for which two of last year's team have played. More important still ; it offers an example to the 1st XV on kicking. In his only match of the season, Culley converted six out of ten tries, — and they weren't all under the posts. Kicking seems to be a dying art in rugby (anyone who saw the 1966 Varsity Match will agree) and footballers have a great deal to teach rugby players in this respect. Enthusiasm is another important factor in sport, and this was abundant. Twice we had sixteen men on the field, in full kit, and, in fact, once, a second reserve — S. C. B. Tinton — was willing to play, but had to be dropped in the last minute selection.

Of our three matches, we won two and lost one — all of which were clear cut results — 42 - 6, 0 - 25, 37 - 0. North at fly-half scored seven tries in two matches, and Thorne, L., a late inclusion, excelled himself at scrum-half in the only match lost. Our final thanks must go to our enthusiastic coach, trainer and referee, Mr. Merrilees, who took on a most unenviable task, and did much to make this season so enjoyable.

J. W. CLARK.

Colts

Played 13 ; Won 10 ; Lost 2

The 1966-67 season has, on the whole, been most successful for this team. After a slightly shaky start when fitness and teamwork were suspect, the boys combined splendidly to create a very effective unit.

Apart from Miles, who was a very useful fly-half, the main strength lay in a strong and vigorous pack. Tomlinson and Cook — who was in his first season of rugby — were towers of strength ; when he arrived on the scene, Davies, the captain, always made his considerable presence felt too. The four boys named in this paragraph all played regularly for the county U.15 XV.

Strangely enough, the highlights of the season were two of the few games which were not won. Early in the season, the team drew with one drawn from the rest of Buckinghamshire, whilst just before Christmas, an exciting and closely fought game (against Abingdon) was lost in the last few minutes.

Next year Davies and his team will be divided among the senior teams. It will be a pity to see a successful side split up, but if the spirit of teamwork is as keenly maintained, then the School can look forward to some exciting and rewarding rugby in years to come.

R.A.P.W.

Junior Colts

The Junior Colts XV had a season of variable fortunes again this year. The rather large total of points amassed in the first game against Windsor Grammar School proved an unreliable pointer to the outcome of later matches.

October produced two rather crushing defeats by St. Marylebone G.S. and St. Benedict's School and two narrow wins against Stoneham and Sir William Borlase. There was little apparent improvement in the fortunes of the side in November, when matches against Abingdon and Watford G.S. resulted in two more defeats. However, these two matches proved valuable experiences for the side and, with victory not far off on both occasions, served to indicate the enthusiasm needed to face the future with greater assurance.

Of the remaining matches of the season, St. Nicholas, Northwood, was the only side to undermine the growing confidence of the team. A brisk, clean win against Vyners School on December 3rd was spoilt only by a well-disposed but disconcerting 'rattle' squad of supporters on the touch-line and a narrow win against Harrow County School provided a surprisingly well-contested struggle forward. Aylesbury Grammar School — a new fixture — managed to hold us to a draw with the wind on their side till half-time but conceded nineteen points in the second half to leave the Junior Colts with a balance in their favour over the season of six matches won to five lost.

G.L.C.

Under 13

This year's U.13 rugby team enjoyed a moderately successful season but there was a general lack of scoring potential which was due, in part perhaps, to the loss of two of the leading players from last year. Despite this, more games were won than lost and a good team spirit had developed by the end of the season.

The forwards showed a vast improvement, by the end of the season, in obtaining good possession for their threequarters, who did not, unfortunately, always make the best use of this hard-won possession. The main problem was finding two suitable half-backs and in all, five people were tried in these two positions. At scrum-half, Czerwinski showed great courage but really lacked the physical strength to stand up to the rigours of this position. However, he showed signs of having a good rugby brain and when he 'fills out' he could develop into a useful player. Lowe showed promise in the last game of the season when he took over from Czerwinski and was a fearless tackler. Chamberlain, Rutt and Floyd were all tried in the important fly-half position but none of them really made the position his own, although they all played well in certain games. Pettit and Morris were determined runners on the wing and Morris was by far the most effective tackler in the side. Burch played in several games and was a tricky runner but his defence was weak. Tappin and Hutcheon, in the centre, showed a keen eye for a break but suffered from taking the ball standing still. Despite this, Hutcheon was the most prolific scorer in the side and could develop into a formidable centre. Battersby was very sound at full-back and improved with every game.

The forwards developed into a well-knit unit by the end of the season and excelled in all aspects of the game. Saunders and Simpson were successful in the line out and made determined runs in the forward attacks. In these, they were well supported by Jenkins, Lewis and Weston and all these three players should make their mark in School Rugby. Chapman usually held his own in the set scrums but must be more active in the loose. Tipney, Martin and Long formed a lively back-row, and were instrumental in starting many of the attacking movements. Long captained the side sensibly and his play was a good example to the rest of the side. Martin developed into a strong scrummager and runner with the ball while Tipney used his speed to advantage but tended to kick too often instead of running or passing.

If the team continue to practise their individual skills they should mature into useful members of the senior school sides.

B.W.P.

Under 12

Good progress has been made in the Under 12 XV this season, and once again there has been much talent available as well as the usual enthusiasm.

After all the wild kicking had been eliminated in the early months the team began to settle down and was much encouraged by an 8 - 6 victory over Windsor G.S. in December. This was followed in the Spring Term by a narrow win against St. Nicholas, Northwood and it then seemed that the new boys would have an unbeaten record. But a poor game against Cressex School (which would have been won but for a three quarter who overstepped the dead ball line when about to score under the posts) was lost 6 - 3.

Woodbridge at stand-off half captained the side quietly but efficiently, and with his speed and his eye for an opening has the makings of a good rugby player. Long in the three-quarter line has been the outstanding performer and he scored most of his side's points. Luther at scrum half, though not yet accurate with his passing has kicked intelligently and Barrett as full back has played pluckily, having saved a number of tries by bringing down opponents nearly twice his size.

Of the forwards Carroll, Sunley and Waddington have been outstanding, but it is much to the credit of all the forwards that they were playing as a unit by the end of the season.

D.A.F.

CROSS COUNTRY

1st Team	Played 25	Won 23	Lost 2
2nd Team	Played 8	Won 7	Lost 1
Under 16 Team	Played 1	Won 0	Lost 1
Under 15 Team	Played 7	Won 4	Lost 3

With three old colours returning, the School Cross Country team seemed all set for a promising season. However, with an influx of new members to the 1st team, the standard of running constantly rose as more boys sought for 1st team honours. Consequently the past season has proved to be a highly successful one, not only for the 1st team but also for the 2nd and Under 15 teams, who seem to have been encouraged by the achievements of the more experienced runners.

Although some boys still do not realize, or rather prefer to ignore, the need to train regularly, perhaps the most encouraging feature of the season was the willingness of at least a dozen boys, not only those in the 1st team, to train twice a week in the lunch-time ; for the results throughout the season show that this extra effort was not unprofitable. Moreover, with a fixture list which extended throughout two terms, the main problem for the mem-

bers of the 1st team was to maintain a sufficiently high standard for just under six months. But this difficulty was practically solved when, owing to the mild winter, no matches were cancelled, and so serious training was not interrupted.

At the start of the season the 1st team's home matches were run on a new 3.6 mile course. Tougher than the old one, it was sometimes criticised by opponents for this very reason ; but it should be remembered that cross country running is not a 3 mile sprint round parkland, but a hard 'slog' in the countryside where will-power is as important as physical fitness.

During the Autumn Term the most consistent runners for the 1st team were, as expected, the three old colours, M. F. Morrison, P. S. Everitt and P. D. Knight. However, out of the new talent, P. M. Berks soon proved himself to be worthy of recognition, and V. F. Power quietly and unassumingly clinched the matches by filling the vital mid-field positions. Especial mention should be made of P. A. Burgoyne, a boy of fifteen, who really excelled himself by invariably finishing within the first six runners of the race. By the end of the term, the team had defeated thirteen schools, but had been unable to prevent old rivals Haberdashers from getting the better of it in a triangular match, where St. Albans G.S. also beat the 1st team by 3 points.

With the departure of the vice-captain, P. S. Everitt, at the end of the Autumn Term, an awkward gap in the packing of the team seemed inevitable. But when the fixtures recommenced immediately after the Christmas holidays, Power showed a vast improvement in his running and M. Burrows, another fifteen year old whose performances for the 1st team during the previous term had been overshadowed by those of the other new members, now astounded everyone with a series of splendid runs, which culminated in his leading the 1st team home to victory in a match against Highgate and William Ellis Schools. Meanwhile J. S. Thrower, who had trained regularly in the Autumn Term, now found that his efforts were not without reward and began to beat some of the more established runners in the team, whereas A. J. M. Hampson, R. P. Brook, N. P. G. Hunt and A. Arbaney all fulfilled any earlier promise they had shown by ensuring that the good packing in the mid-field positions was maintained. By the end of the season the 1st team had won twenty-three out of twenty-five inter-school matches, defeating eighteen different schools — five of these twice — and losing to two. The results of the relays have also shown a considerable improvement on previous seasons. Our 6th position in the Haberdashers relay was certainly a commendable effort by all six members of the team. The Bucks A.A.A. Youths (Under 18) and Boys (Under 16) team championships were both wrested from our neighbouring rivals Dr. Challoner's G.S., and Morrison, Thrower and

Burrows have succeeded in reaching the All-England Schools Championships at Sheffield, where they will be representing Bucks.

The 2nd team has also had a successful season, and in addition to those boys already mentioned, who moved up into the ranks of the 1st team, Perks, in particular, has shown promise, and Lord, Andersz, Preston and Cornwell have run regularly. The Under 15 team has won most of its matches and Blaxland, Johnson (a boy who has certainly excelled considering he is still thirteen) and Orme have all run consistently, with Baker, Chamberlain and Ikin packing well.

Looking ahead to next season, as five 1st Team colours and three 2nd Team colours will be returning, it would certainly seem that, with several members of the team still comparatively young, the real potential of the School cross country team has yet to be realized. Finally, I am sure it is on behalf of all the teams that I thank Mr. R. W. Brown for his untiring enthusiasm and encouragement throughout the season.

1st team colours have been awarded to :—

V. F. Power, P. M. Berks, P. A. Burgoyne, M. Burrows, J. S. Thrower.

2nd team colours have been awarded to :—

A. J. M. Hampson, R. P. Brook, N. P. G. Hunt, A. Arbaney. The following boys have all run at some time for the 1st team :—

Lord, Hudson, Carver, Royffe, Waters.

1st Team Results :

v. R. A. F. Halton	Home	Won
v. Maidenhead G.S., Slough G.S.	Home	Won
v. Sir William Borlase S., John Lyon S.	Home	Won
v. St. Nicholas G.S.	Home	Won
v. Harrow C.G.S.	Home	Won
v. William Ellis S.	Home	Won
v. Keble College	Away	Won
v. Abingdon School	Home	Won
v. Dr. Challoner's G.S.	Home	Won
v. Haberdashers' Aske's S., St. Albans G.S.	Away	3rd
v. Sir William Borlase S.	Away	Won
v. Slough G.S., Maidenhead G.S., Windsor G.S., R.A.F. Halton	Away	Won
v. K.C.S. Wimbledon, Emanuel S., Oxford S.	Home	Won
v. Reading School	Home	Won
v. William Ellis S., Highgate S.	Away	Won
v. Wandsworth S.	Home	Won

R.G.S. Guildford Relay	10th and 18th out of 38
St. Nicholas G.S. Relay	5th out of 16
Haberdashers' Aske's S. Relay	6th out of 20
Ranelagh Schools' Cup	7th out of 19
Bucks A.A.A. Youths Champs	1st out of 8
Bucks A.A.A. Boys Champs	1st out of 7

The School Inter-House Cross Country Championships were held on Wednesday, 8th March, in conditions that suited both competitors and spectators. With ten competitors, eight to score, in each race, the organisation of the House captains was tested to the full.

In the Senior race held over a muddy 3.6 mile course members of the school first team set a fast pace from the gun with Thrower leading. After half a mile Morrison took the lead and was never seriously challenged. Meanwhile a struggle was taking place for second position between Thrower and Knight; Power was moving up in the later stages but Knight clinched second place two hundred yards from the finish with Thrower third.

1st, Morrison (F); 2nd, Knight (D); 3rd, Thrower (T); Winner's time 23 mins. 52.5 secs.

The Intermediate race became a battle for first place between Burgoyne and Burrows, with the rest of the field well behind these two. Burgoyne had made his break very early on and was still fifty yards ahead with a mile to go. But Burrows chased hard and caught him a quarter of a mile from the finish, breaking the 2.75 mile course record at the same time by just under a minute, with Burgoyne also breaking the old record.

1st, Burrows (T); 2nd, Burgoyne (D); 3rd, Brook (F); Winner's time 17 mins. 25.5 secs. (record).

The Junior race was held over a flat but muddy 2.1 mile course and with under a mile to go Johnson, King and Thorne were in a group well clear of the rest of the field. However, taking full advantage of a stile, Johnson opened up a gap of twenty yards which he was able to maintain until the finish. King overtook Thorne a short distance from the finish to take second place. Thorne, a first year boy, must be congratulated on his fine performance in beating boys up to two years older than himself. 1st, Johnson (T); 2nd, King (A); 3rd, Thorne (D); Winner's time 15 mins. 8 secs.

House Positions :

1st Queens	4th Disraeli
2nd Fraser	5th Tucker
3rd Arnison	6th Youens

HOCKEY

Played 11 ; Won 7 ; Drawn 1 ; Lost 3 ; Cancelled 6 ; Goals For 31 ; Goals Against 18.

After surveying the "talent" last September, it was decided not to play any fixtures until after Christmas, and thus, the season was approached with a certain amount of pessimism. Surprisingly, we lost only three matches — all to schools where hockey was a major sport.

After an initial set-back, when we lost to Slough G.S. through sheer inexperience — it was the first competitive game of hockey ever played by eight members of the team — the side gradually built up confidence and improved rapidly with every match. We were often out-matched in terms of individual skill, but except in the Maidenhead and Watford fixtures, where our goal-keeper tended to be overgenerous to the opposition, good team-work and fitness gave us superiority. The season ended with a match against the Old Boys, who despite the fact that their team was drawn entirely from Wycombe 1st and 2nd XI and Marlow 1st XI, could not score against us in a very entertaining match, in which we played our best defensive hockey of the Season.

Throughout the year, the team has remained fairly settled. Leech held the right wing continuously. His speed off the mark, dribbling down the wing and crosses often split the opposition defence. Pearson, after playing the first two matches on the left wing, developed into a good, attacking inner, combining well with Leech. Worboys led the forward line well. His ability to create and score goals made him the outstanding player of the season. He was justly rewarded by his selection for a county trial. The other inside forward position proved to be a problem. Belsham began the season there, but was converted to half-back in North's absence. When North played, his footballing experience gave the forward line greater punch. Berks's ability to keep going when he appeared to be beaten provided the necessary thrust from the left. He should be a great asset to next year's team. Day, although not able to command a regular place in any position, played in most matches and he got through a great deal of work. Palme played consistently at half back. At centre-half, White proved to be a tower of strength. His covering and manner of cutting out of the through ball, often saved the day, while his long dribbles out of defence frequently provided the basis in a good attack. Newitt produced some glorious cover-drives and his tackling demonstrated his true love of rugby and many a time left the opposition wishing that they hadn't met him. Despite these maladies, he played consistently throughout the season. Mole was probably the most improved player since September. Very rarely did any forward look like getting past

him. Dickinson, in goal, suffered intermittently from loss of form, but redeemed himself by an excellent display in the old Boys match.

The main fault of the team lay in their lack of ability to control and flick the ball well. The ball was often far too slow in coming out of defence, and not enough use was made of the wings. We only converted one short corner all the season, but the offside trap was played to great advantage.

The 2nd XI played one match, which they lost, against Dr. Challoner's 1st XI. The 2nd XI captain, Dormer played in the Old Boys match. The under-14 team played one match against Cesterham C.S., which they won. We hope that these boys will form the foundation for a strong school team in the years ahead.

Finally, we would like to thank Mr. Taylor for the great amount of time and effort he has expended, getting hockey "off the ground" again. Without his drive and keenness hockey would probably have died out in the school. As it is, it is played from the third form upwards, and given time, the school should once again cultivate a strong hockey side.

I. J. BELSHAM.

I would like to thank Ian Belsham, the captain, Leo North, the vice captain, and Alan Dickinson for the hard work and fine leadership they have shown this season.

P.A.T.

Results :

v. Slough Grammar School	Lost	0 - 4	Away
v. Rickmansworth G.S. II	Won	2 - 1	Home
v. Marlow Hockey Club V	Won	3 - 0	Home
v. Cesterham C.S.	Won	9 - 0	Away
v. Slough College	Won	5 - 1	Away
v. Marlow Hockey Club III	Won	4 - 0	Away
v. Maidenhead G.S.	Lost	0 - 5	Away
v. Sir William Borlase G.S.	Won	3 - 1	Home
v. Staff XI	Won	5 - 0	Home
v. Watford Grammar School	Lost	0 - 6	Away
v. Old Boys XI	Drawn	0 - 0	Away

Full colours : I. J. Belsham, C. J. Palme, L. V. White.

Half colours : J. G. Berks, R. C. Day, A. P. Dickinson, A. Leech.

A. J. Mole, A. B. Newitt, L. C. North, A. G. Pearson,
C. A. Worboys.

BASKETBALL

Played 13, Won 12, Lost 1

Continuing their successes of last year, the basketball team has enjoyed another highly successful season, and has managed to lose only three games in the last two years. With only P. M. Colley, N. M. Thorne and M. J. Bevan returning, a new squad

had to be formed. After extensive trials, I. R. Whitelock, J. P. Colley and M. Hill emerged as new talent. Beasley, Wood and Brown came up from the juniors and proved able substitutes.

The season started well with a convincing win against Slough, and the new members soon settled down. The attack consisted of Whitelock and Colley (J.) flanking the line, and pressing from the sides, while Thorne at centre and Colley (P.) at guard pivot, broke down the middle. Bevan and Colley (P.) collected the rebounds under the home basket, and all the forwards soon learnt the value of fierce rebounding, and the team, although with an average height of below six foot, managed to outjump much taller opposition. Thorne led the attack and scored 172 points (Av. 13.23) and was ably backed up by Colley (J.), — 105 points and Whitelock, — 91 points. Colley (P.), — 161 points (Av. 13.42) controlled the mid-field play, and Bevan's complete reliability as "safety-man" made him invaluable to the team. Hill rebounded well and Beasley, Wood and Brown showed considerable promise for future years.

The early games were all won decisively, except in a close match against Aylesbury G.S., in which the team began to lose form. This lack of form became even more marked against Ranelagh, but a determined last minute effort gained a victory. This was followed by the match against Dr. Challoner's G.S., and since top form was still missing, the twenty month unbeaten home record was lost by one point. The rest of the season saw a series of convincing victories, although nearly a dozen fixtures were cancelled.

The junior team has shown a great improvement during the season and is capable of playing very good basketball. They are fortunate in having some extremely tall players, although they often do not use their height to full advantage. The wins were often on very handsome margins, although they soon lost heart against a strong opposition. This team has much potential and Beasley (P.) and Benyon both represented the county.

The team would like to thank Mr. Williams for his experienced coaching and the boys who have supported us so faithfully. The depth of talent is rapidly increasing and this means that many keen and competent players are denied a place in the team. Smith (T.), Saunders, and Woodford have helped make up numbers in practices and are all very useful players. With the considerable talent now available, basketball looks like having a very bright future at the school. The following players gained county honours : P. M. Colley, N. M. Thorne, I. R. Whitelock, J. P. Colley, M. J. Bevan.

I. R. Whitelock, J. P. Colley and M. Hill were awarded first team colours.

P. M. COLLEY.

ROWING

At the beginning of September, we lost Mr. MacTavish, who restarted the club and nursed it along for four years to its present strong position. However, we gained the leadership of Mr. Blyth, the coaching abilities of Mr. Lilley, who joined the club this season, and the part-time help of Mr. Cook on Wednesdays and Mr. Dunn on Sundays.

The club, this season, has a total of 36 members, the most there have ever been! We have a first and second four, three novice fours and a colts four on the water, and all show good promise for the summer.

We are once again very grateful for the enthusiasm and interest of J. E. Dormer, Esq., in the club—and especially the first four, which he has coached for the past four years, and in doing so, has sacrificed a good deal of limited free time.

The R.G.S. Boat Club is greatly indebted to the parents of its members and their efforts to help the club by raising money for equipment we otherwise could not obtain. Already they have presented the club with a Clinker IV and a Clinker VIII, both of which will be invaluable to the club, once the necessary overhauling has been completed. For these and the boat trailer, which will shortly be ready, we must offer our most sincere thanks.

H. SELWYN-JONES.

BADMINTON

Played 12, Won 9, Lost 3

This season, on the whole, has proved successful for the 1st VI. We had an expanded fixture list in comparison with last season, and made an encouraging start, albeit against somewhat weak opponents. There has certainly been a considerable improvement on last year's performances and many of the matches have been won fairly convincingly.

A. R. Wilson and J. J. Ward played as the regular first pair. After practice, they managed to combine quite effectively, and played well throughout the season. A. G. Hipgrave and S. Darbyshire formed the second pair up until Christmas, when Hipgrave left; his legacy was a vacancy which was hard to fill.

G. Leslie, regaining lost form, replaced him, and he and Darbyshire have done quite well this year. R. J. Mildon and R. M. Zahler formed the third pair this season. Although of differing temperament and style, they have played most capably. Several characteristics of Zahler's game show that he models some of his strokes on A. Wands, last year's captain.

A second team was formed on two occasions, to play against a second team from St. Nicholas G.S., Northwood. Both matches were won, and they provided useful experience for some of the members of next season's team.

In conclusion, I should like to thank Mr. Coldham for his ceaseless efforts in providing both fixtures and transport for several of the matches.

Colours were awarded to : A. R. Wilson, A. G. Hipgrave, J. J. Ward, R. J. Mildon, S. Darbyshire, R. M. Zahler.

A. R. WILSON.

SHOOTING

We were very sorry to lose four of our best shots this year, and would like to extend our thanks to them for their very worthy efforts in the past. They were W. J. Seymour, D. R. Hedgeland, I. Fox and J. P. Killingley.

Unfortunately, their absence seems to have had an adverse effect on the first team, who did not put up very good scores in the County Life competition, although hope is not all lost. The team has, however, won most of its other matches, including three resounding victories in 'shoulder-to-shoulder' matches, both at home and away.

For the future, we are pleased to see some very promising scores emerging from among the less experienced members of the Rifle Club, and we hope that they will keep it up, to provide a good team in the coming years. The individual competition has not yet been shot, but the results may prove very interesting indeed.

The summer term sees the start of the .303 shooting this year, and we are all looking forward to outdoor, long-range work, once more. With the extensive practice schedule that has been drawn-up, and some consideration from all concerned, we hope to put up a good showing in the Ashburton competition in July.

Our sincere thanks are due to Mr. Cooper, Mr. Burnell and Mr. Farrell, for all their help in supervising the use of the range, and for giving up so much of their time to the organisation of both the House competition and the after school club shooting sessions.

J.S. REID.

CHESS

The Chess Club now meets in the Cricket pavilion, whence we moved during last Autumn term, from temporary quarters in the Craft Room. Although membership has fallen, the new accommodation has created a more congenial atmosphere in which to play chess.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of the season was the first team's success in winning our zone in the Sunday Times' Schools' Tournament. This is the furthest the school has ever reached in this competition and the team is one of twenty-four left in Britain from an initial entry of over seven hundred. This success is in part due to the unexpected arrival of the Thrower brothers from Dr. Challoner's ; they, along with Myant, Mildon, W. T. and S. T. Bradford were the successful team, which, in the zone final scored a dramatic victory against Magdalen College School by $4\frac{1}{2} : 1\frac{1}{2}$.

The school team's regular games have been played with reasonable success and with plenty of enthusiasm. A new fixture this year was an all junior match against Cressex School in which some of the club's younger members got a chance to gain some match experience and show their varying strengths. This is the first season in which we have been permitted to use a minibus for the away games ; its use has greatly eased the problems of the match captain and for this privilege we have to thank Mr. Learmonth.

The season has been a profitable one individually for the first team members : of particular mention is Myant, who for the second year running, has been the only qualifier from Bucks in the British Open Championship. Last Autumn Mildon was unlucky not to become the Buckinghamshire Individual Champion, and had to be content with second place. This season, the school has provided eight players for the county U.18 team, and six of those have also regularly represented the full county team.

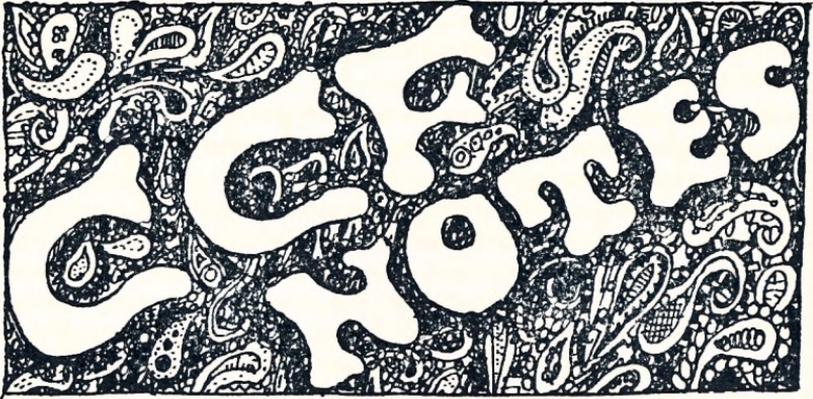
Our thanks go to Mr. Coldham who willingly accepted responsibility for the club last September.

Colours were awarded this term to : S. Thrower, J. Thrower and S. Bradford.

The following played regularly in the other school teams : Kenyon, Arnold, Hendry, Palme, Baddeley, Cowan, Stevenson.

Match record : Played 18, Won 13, Drawn 1, Lost 4. Points for $79\frac{1}{2}$, Points Against $38\frac{1}{2}$.

W. T. BRADFORD.



The pattern of the C.C.F. under a purely voluntary system is now beginning to emerge and of those eligible to join about 40% have enrolled. As may be expected the quality, efficiency and keenness have increased, and this is being demonstrated in various ways. Last terms examination results are one example; when 35 cadets took the Army Proficiency examination, 31 passed, 15 of them with credit — an unprecedented result.

ARMY SECTION CAMP

Normally about 25 cadets attend Arduous Training at Easter and this year a record number of 51 cadets were accepted and the list had to be closed when others may have joined in. The chief activity was an Infantry exercise involving night operations from a bivouac based camp with cadets organising their own cooking and domestic arrangements. Cadet Officer M. H. Kefford, in his final term at Sandhurst, came by special invitation to help with the infantry exercise, and his knowledge of instructional techniques and up to date methods was a great stimulus to all and a sufficient incentive to have the "point section" crossing and recrossing a stream of icy cold water completely without regard for their own comfort. Few will forget the tough conditions all experienced and still fewer will forget the atmosphere of camaraderie of the various debriefing conferences by the warmth of a roaring fire with a glass of refreshment to stimulate the flow of conversation about the incidents and amusing experiences of the exercise.

R.P.

CORPS OF DRUMS

The work of the Band has been slightly hampered this term by the cadre course, which involved several members of the corps, but sectional practices continued, and it looks as though the corps will reach a very high standard of drill and music this year.

We were sorry to lose our piper, who left school at Christmas, but we hope to make up for this by a greatly increased repertoire for our instruments ; as always the pipe section, under Cpl. Engel is learning an extensive variety of tunes, and the drum section, under Cpl. Rivett-Carnac, and the bugle section, under Ldg. Bugler Roach, are learning several new marches.

This year, for the first time for several years, there are representatives of all three sections of the C.C.F. in the corps. From the naval section we have A/B Lambert and Acting Leading Seaman Martin who have joined as side-drummers, and from the R.A.F. section we have Cdt. Ames, who joined as a tenor-drummer.

We expect to perform on the usual occasions, and hope that we shall again be asked to perform at Bourne End Carnival and other functions this year.

J.C. CAPELL.

ROYAL NAVY

The Section has suffered this year owing to lack of support, since our numbers have shrunk to thirty five. Nevertheless, the training has gone forward as usual. The practical side of training is, however, restricted, but the section competed in the Ravens Ait Sailing Regatta which, because there was no wind, was changed to a rowing regatta. Ravens Ait has been visited by the proficiency class twice, on boatwork expeditions. The motor canoe has been overhauled and successfully tried on a gravel pit near Marlow.

Examinations were held at the end of the Christmas Term, with an improved standard in the Proficiency section. Congratulations to those who were successful. Our thanks go to C. P. O. Bird who visits us each week ; this success is largely due to his efforts : also to the previous cox'n, A. J. Oliver, for his work during the Christmas Term repairing the whaler.

The School's Liaison officer, Lt. Cdr. P. Heraud, R.N., visited us at the end of the Easter term. He interviewed boys interested in the Navy as a career, and showed a film called

“Return to South Georgia”. This film was concerned with the Joint Services Expedition which followed Sir Ernest Shackleton’s route across South Georgia ; and contained some original film, shot by Shackleton’s own photographer. The film was enjoyed not only by the section but by the geographers also.

During the Easter holiday, Lt. I. M. Merrylees and Lt. J. Phillippo will be accompanying twelve cadets on a cruise on H.M.S. Aveley, an inshore minesweeper. The cruise will be from Devonport along the Cornish coast and will provide an admirable opportunity for sea-training.

Furthermore, naval cadets, and cadets from the army section will be attending aviation courses at naval air stations throughout the British Isles. It is hoped that this will lead to increased support for the section in the future.

G. E. PATTISON (Cox’n.).

R.A.F. SECTION

This year the strength of the section has fallen to forty-one cadets, but its performance has been as good as, or perhaps, even better, than in previous years.

In the December examinations, nine cadets passed at Advanced standards, Cadet Arbaney gaining 100% in each of the three sections, and nine passed at Proficiency standard. Unfortunately, the concentration of the greater part of the section into the senior end leads to some difficulty in the planning of Thursday afternoon activities.

On three Sundays in the autumn term, many cadets enjoyed air experience flying at R.A.F. White Waltham, and during one week of that term, three cadets helped in the production of a film on flying instruction. Efforts are being made for some cadets to go flying on Thursday afternoons — as yet, without success.

Sgt. Morton, Cpl. Hitchcock, and cadets Carver, Dutch and Leech have been awarded places to train for Flying Scholarships and private pilots’ licences. Gliding for twenty cadets at R.A.F. Halton was arranged for the last weekend of the spring term.

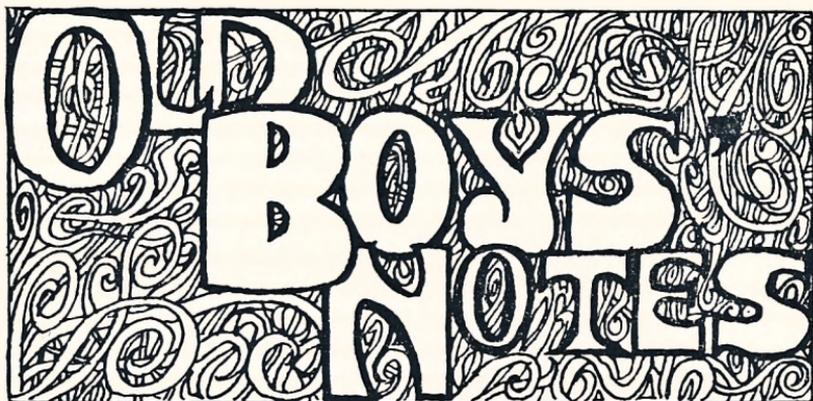
Eight members of the section hold the marksman badge for .22 shooting, and for the first time, certainly the first time in recent years, a team has been entered for the Assegai Trophy. The results of the competition are not yet known.

An exercise, planned by members of cadre, was held one Thursday afternoon in November. It was not very successful, but a "post-mortem" was held, and it is hoped that a better exercise will take place in the summer term. Ten cadets are to attend Easter Camp, which this year is at R.A.F. Coltishall, in Norfolk.

J. M. DARVILLE.

It is the dawn-drawn hour
the bells of midnight
gayer in the dawn —
No gloom where love sits
— toil and its compassion
now engendered,
in god's acres together.
And across my toil — my cathedral,
second bell reproving.

C. C. KOEFOED-NIELSEN.



(The Old Wycombiensians' Club)

The Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. was held in the Residents' Lounge of the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday March 4th 1967. 28 Old Boys were present. The chair was taken by the President, Mr. Malcolm P. Smith.

The new President, in taking over the chair, expressed his thanks for the honour done him by the Club.

The minutes of the last A.G.M. were then read, confirmed and signed. The Hon. Secretary reported on subscriptions :— in addition to the Bankers' Orders received from older Old Boys each January, 88 Old Boys had paid either £5/5/0d., £1/1/0d., or 10/- membership fee in 1966, compered with 80 in 1965 and 65 in 1964.

A. E. Franklin-Hole presented the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended December 31st 1966 and regretted that the increased cost of magazines and postage and the on-slaught of Income Tax on Investment Income made the Account book less rosy than for many years. The possibility of reducing the issue of the School magazine to Old Boys from 2 to one a year was discussed but no decision was reached. With thanks to the Hon. Auditor the accounts were adopted.

The Old Boys' Cricket Club report was brief and optimistic. The Annual Dinner last March was a great success and the cricketers were delighted to hear that the School would allow them to play about 5 matches on the square during the summer holidays. They would now be able to return the hospitality given them by other clubs.

The Headmaster, Mr. Malcolm Smith, on behalf of the E. R. Tucker Memorial Appeal Committee, reported on the

latest developments. The committee had received with enthusiasm a suggestion that the space under the Queen's Hall be filled in and made into a room for use by the 6th Form. The authorities at Aylesbury and the architect's department in particular had not committed themselves in any way to this plan and had remained silent for some months. The committee felt, however, that the Governors would also receive this plan favourably at their next meeting and the President hoped to have something concrete to report by next March.

G. E. Green who had last year offered to act as organiser of a Sports and Social Club based on the School pavilion and the swimming pool during the summer months reported that he had received one letter asking for information.

The officers for 1967-68 were re-elected en bloc. They are :-

The President : Malcolm P. Smith, Esq.

The Chairman : G. C. Rayner, Esq.

Vice-Presidents :

The Rev. A. M. Berry, Col. L. L. C. Reynolds, Messrs. W. J. Bartle, G. A. Grant, P. L. Jones, S. Morgan.

Committee :

R. W. Bartlett (1900-07) N. H. Theed (1912-19)

S. E. Hands (1915-20) G. W. Ray (1917-23)

D. J. Hann (1924-29) L. B. Barnes (1924-30)

J. K. Prior (1934-40) G. E. Green (1940-46)

J. P. Lord (1934-38) G. C. Rayner (1937-45)

W. A. C. Knowles (1951-58) J. H. Andrew (1954-62)

The Rev A. J. Skipp (1929-37)

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

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

Norman Theed concluded the meeting with thanks to the President for his efficient handling of the shortest A.G.M. ever and all repaired to the Georgian Room for the Annual Dinner.

The Annual Dinner 1967

The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday March 4th 1967 at the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe, when 102 Old Boys gathered to welcome their Guest of Honour, Alderman C. W. Lance, J.P.

Alderman G. H. Baker, J.P. (1906-12) proposed the toast to Mr. Lance and stated that although he was not an Old Boy, the Club had wished to honour a man who had served the School faithfully for 21 years as a governor and was now retiring. The town had also seen fit to honour him by making him an Honorary

Freeman of the Borough. There were only 7 Freemen of the Borough and of the 5 local Freemen, 3 had very close connections with the Royal Grammar School — Col. L. L. C. Reynolds, Alderman R. P. Clarke and Mr. Lance himself. Mr. Baker made mention of the innumerable services given to the School and Town by Mr. Lance over the last 21 years and paid tribute to Mrs. Lance who had been such a tower of strength behind her husband.

Mr. Lance in his reply thanked the Club for the honour it had done him and confessed that it had been one of the greatest regrets of his life that he had not passed the entrance examination into the School many years ago. He had, however, identified himself with the School as much as he could since that disappointment and was proud to have had 3 sons at the School and 2 grandsons at the moment. He paid tribute to the different Headmasters he had known, Mr. Arnison, Mr. Tucker — so very different in personality, Mr. Morgan in his short but magnificent year and now Mr. Smith who, he was sure, would carry on the fine tradition.

R. A. P. Wilson (1951–59) proposed the toast to the School and Club and in a colourful speech touched on the subject of comprehensive schools. He hoped that decisions on the educational future of this county would be based on educational principles and not become a political battlefield.

The Headmaster Mr. Malcolm Smith replied to the toast and briefly outlined the many activities of the School throughout the year. He made it clear that in addition to academic work, there was something for every boy to interest himself in, if he so wished. Despite the fact that the new buildings were only a few years old, the School was bursting at the seams with 1,100 pupils and there was a serious shortage of accommodation especially for 6th Formers. Mr. Smith then repeated his remarks made at the A.G.M. on the plan to devote the £3,000 raised by the E. R. Tucker Memorial Fund Appeal to provide a room for the senior pupils. He concluded by saying that the future for education in the County was unclear; for the moment the comprehensive system had been rejected by the County Education Committee and now we should just have to wait and see.

Births

- FILE R. C. (1945–53). On February 23rd 1967, to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. File, a son, Joseph John, a brother for Simon.
- PACKMAN, G. R. (1953–59). On November 18th 1966, to Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Packman, a daughter, Nicola Jane.
- RAYNER, G. C. (1937–45). On January 20th 1967, to Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Rayner, a son, Richard Paul, a brother for Louise Mary.
- READ, J. (1942–49). On July 24th 1966, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Read, a son, James Eric.

Marriages

- BONE — BLADES. On March 11th 1967 at Selby Abbey, Yorkshire, J. R. Bone (1952-57) to Miss Christina Mary Winifred Blades.
- BUZZARD — SHEPLEY. On October 29th 1966 at High Wycombe Parish Church, R. Buzzard (1941-48) to Miss Judith Carol Shepley.
- DAVIES — CHERRILL. On September 3rd 1966 at St. Mary Abbott's Church, Kensington, P. G. Davies (1955-62) to Miss Christine Lesley Cherrill.
- EVERETT — CLARK. On July 16th 1966 at Hazlemere Parish Church, A. D. Everett (1955-61) to Miss Jane Clark.
- SMITH — MALTBY. On October 22nd 1966 at St. Peter's Church, Wolvercote, Oxford G. F. Smith (1953-57) to Miss Wendy Elizabeth Maltby.
- WATSON — RIGBY. On March 27th 1967 at St. Ethelbert's Church, Slough, G. E. Watson (1951-57) to Miss Margaret Rigby.

Deaths

Masters

- E. C. MILLINGTON (1928-45). On March 9th 1967 at his home, 22 Ravenshall, Westcliff Road, Bournemouth, aged 64 years.

Mr. Edwin Charles Millington, M.Sc., Ph.D., was educated at East Ham Technical College and at University College, London, where he gained a first class honours degree in Physics in 1924. He came to the Royal Grammar School in 1928 and then in 1945 left to become an Inspector of Further Education under the London County Council. He became a Senior Inspector before his retirement. Mr. Millington was especially interested in nautical education and maritime history and science. He had written several books on these subjects including "Science for Seaman".

Old Boys

- R. H. MORRIS (1915-18). On November 25th 1966 at Little Moseley Farm, Naphill, aged 62 years.

Ralph Hector Morris came from a long line of farmers and was born at Manor Farm, Saunderton, which he ran for many years with his brother. 15 years ago he moved to Little Moseley Farm, when he married. He was a keen sportsman and served on the Saunderton Parish Council for some years. His great love was horticulture. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Joyce Morris.

M. L. PLATT (1929-35). On July 31st 1966 at Marlow, aged 47 years.

His brother R. L. PLATT (1929-33) reported the sad death of M. L. Platt after much suffering very bravely borne. He served through the war with the R.A. and the Ordnance and on demobilisation went back to Woolworths as an Assistant Manager for a while, until ill health and disability made it impossible for him to continue. The firm found him a position in their Head Office in London where he remained until he became too ill to go on. He bore his disability as a joke and even to the end showed no self pity. He leaves a widow and a married son.

M. J. RAY (1921-26) of "The Heights", Northolt, died in December 1966 in hospital, aged 58 years.

200 Senior C.I.D. officers attended the funeral of Maurice Ray — formerly Detective-Superintendent. Only last year he was included in the Queen's Birthday Honours list when he was awarded the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service. He completed 33 years with the Metropolitan Police before retiring 3 years ago. Most of the time he spent in the fingerprint branch of Scotland Yard and he was instrumental in the convictions of the "Great Train Robbers" in 1963.

He leaves a widow and his mother Mrs. F. E. Ray aged 94 years, who still lives in Green Street.

STAFF

MR. W. J. BARTLE (1901-35) of "The Limes", Reepham, Norfolk was unable to attend the Annual Dinner but sent his best wishes and a cheque to help the cause. He has now given up driving a car and feels very cut off from everywhere because public transport is not available.

MR. ARTHUR NICHOLAS (1953-58) gives news from Leeds. He sees Mr. A. L. RUNSWICK (1950-59) who has taken up an appointment as Principal English lecturer at a new Roman Catholic Teachers' Training College in Leeds and lives in Harrogate. He met R. J. HANDSCOMBE (1945-52) working up there on a Nuffield Language Project and P. M. DRONFIELD (1953-59) who is at Roundhay Grammar School teaching modern languages.

OLD BOYS' NOTES

- M. H. ANDERSON (1959-63) has left Sandhurst and is now attached to 47 Light R.A. at Barnard Castle. After a gunnery course at Larkhill he will be leaving for Aden to take over from 1st R.H.A. in the Radfan. His brother is in the 1st R.H.A. and will leave Aden as he arrives.
- J. R. BACON (1958-65) enjoyed his first year at Leeds University. Last summer he worked in the research labs. of Aspro-Nicholas Ltd. at Slough on the development of a disinfectant for hospital and dairy use. Then he took a fortnight's holiday at the International Student Camp at Cap d'Ail — one kilometre from Monaco. It was all right.
- V. A. BENNETT (1919-22) wrote in February to say that he had left the "rat race" and formed an international marketing company with offices in New York, London and Washington D.C. His hope is that he can shortly enter the semi-retirement state and with this in mind he has moved to New York and bought a country home, "Broadacres", Dorset, Vermont. He hopes to visit England during this year, stop at the School and at least meet the Headmaster.
- J. R. BONE (1952-57) is now Chief Site Engineer for Stewarts and Lloyds Ltd. at the new power station being erected at Eggborough in Yorkshire and he lives in York City.
- J. C. BOWMAN (1955-60) did not go to Cyprus after all and is now in charge of the Ground Radio Servicing Flight at R.A.F. Gaydon where he is also deep in scouting activities, playing Rugby twice a week and running an ancient Alvis. He reported that M. F. FORRESTER (1958-62) was married on the 1st April 1967 and leaves for Lagos soon. They had a get-together in Trafalgar Square on 20th January and about 20 Old Boys turned up for a pint and a natter. He met there D. A. WALKER (1954-61), R. G. THOMAS (1957-61), R. A. FEWTRELL (1956-63), I. M. MACWHINNIE (1957-62), R. G. SAUNDERS (1955-61), D. R. TILLING (1957-61), J. M. SKINNER (1959-62), C. F. PASS (1956-62), M. R. HORREX (1955-62), C. S. GRIFFITHS (1955-62), R. E. HICKMAN (1958-62) — a good effort indeed to speed Forrester on his way. He also reported that H. G. BARNES (1954-60) was married on 1st April.

- J. V. BRITNELL (1913–18) has retired after 49 years in the Gas Industry. His son-in-law M. F. TILLION (1944–50) is still with Standard Triumph in Coventry. R. F. V. BRITNELL (1915–24) is making a good recovery from a nasty illness. W. V. BRITNELL (1914–20) has retired after 46 years with the Electricity Board. R. V. BRITNELL (1907–13) after serving in the R.N.A.S. with exciting moments in the Aegean when he flew with Alcock to bomb a German Battleship, joined the Indian Imperial Bank. He is now very ill in hospital. N. V. BRITNELL (1919–27) is with the Lancs. County Council. The Britnells are proud that from 1907 to 1927 five brothers were at the School.
- H. C. BROWN (1959–66) is attending Bournemouth College of Technology for a Diploma Course in Surveying.
- J. E. CAMP (1954–60) has had many ups and downs since leaving school. Now all appears to be well. Last summer after a serious illness he got married, graduated and changed his job.
- D. G. CAWSON (1956–62) is now in his final year at Liverpool University and has been reading Sociology which he strongly recommends for disgruntled scientists! He is getting married in August. The three Cawson brothers went to teach in Ghana after leaving school. J. CAWSON (1955–61) went to Imperial College and is now studying at the Institute of Education, London University for a Diploma in Education Overseas. He is married too and is off to teach in Nigeria next year. A. CAWSON (1958–62) is reading Politics at Sussex University.
- P. G. DAVIES (1955–62) has it is true got married but we hear that he is still a railway fanatic. He bought an obsolete platform ticket machine at a British Railways auction and keeps it in his bathroom. It is something of a museum piece and collectors have been after it.
- A. DODGSON (1913–18) left this spring to visit his two daughters and 5 granddaughters in Canada and the U.S.A. One daughter is on her way home to Sweden from Bangkok via Canada where the other one lives and where Mum and Dad are required to join a rare family reunion.
- G. C. DYER (1945–48) has been promoted to Squadron Leader and is attached to the R.A.F. Establishment at Boscombe Down.

P. B. FARMER (1956-64) is enjoying himself at Oxford. He is playing good tennis and last season played for the Penguins (the Oxford University 2nd VI). This year he is President of the Junior Common Room at Lincoln College.

M. R. FERGUSON (1956-63) wasn't able to afford a summer holiday in 1966 after an expensive 7 week climbing holiday in Norway — so he got a job in Germany. He found an hotel at Tegernsee, south of Munich, where he was given free board and lodging and worked as a general purpose help around the hotel, carrying luggage, keeping the place clean, keeping the bar stocked, waiting in the restaurant and interpreting for foreign guests. His most outstanding memory is the afternoon of the World Cup final when he was the only Englishman in an hotel packed with Germans around seven T.V. sets. It was highly frustrating not having anyone to celebrate the victory with afterwards. Ferguson not only improved his German but he returned financially much better off and bought a 58 Volkswagen when he got back to England. Next year he will probably prepare for a Diploma in Education and take up teaching.

B. J. FLETCHER (1941-49) did his National Service in the R.A.F. after leaving school and then went to Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. He went from there into the Inland Revenue Department and was recently posted to Central London — so he moved back nearer home — to Amersham.

D. R. A. FRIEND (1953-56) is still enjoying his work with Hunting, Geology and Geophysics Ltd. and he and his wife are expecting their first child in August.

C. B. GARNER (1955-62) writes to say that he has graduated — B.A. Oxon. in Jurisprudence and is leaving to work in Canada. He hopes to be able to write something “news-worthy” about himself in due course.

I. J. GRAYSON (1958-64) continues in the Westminster Bank in Broadstairs. In the winter months life is very quiet there and nobody seems to worry about anything except the best way to relax and build up strength for the summer season. He has Institute of Bankers' examinations to prepare for and goes on courses — so life is not as dull as it could be.

- J. S. HADDON (1943-47) writes from Whyalla, South Australia where he is Testing Officer for B.H.P. in the Metallurgical Department. His firm produces one million tons of steel a year and Haddon is working hard passing examinations on his way to a Metallurgical Certificate.
- E. HALL (1944-52) is now a pilot in America flying for T.W.A. He has just been offered an instructor's post on 707's and is very happy about the future.
- R. W. HAMMETT (1954-60) has been teaching at Sutton High School, Plymouth for nearly two years and has now decided to take up the challenge in a less advanced country. He has put in an application with the Ministry of Overseas Development. At Plymouth he was in charge of German. Each master has his own room and the boys come to him there. He is busy looking after the School chess teams and one or two other societies and has taken up sailing — the opportunities at Plymouth are too good to be missed.
- P. HANNANT (1961-66) and his brother M. HANNANT (1962-66) went to North Wales during their summer holidays to do a Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition and their assessor was P. A. Taylor (1952-60) now back at the School teaching classics. P. Hannant started a course in Preliminary Agriculture at the County Farm, Aylesbury last October and his brother Martin is attending a co-ed comprehensive school in Chipping Norton.
- A. M. HARCOURT (1943-51) dropped in when on a management course at Tring. He is Production Engineer in the Camera Division of Kodak Ltd. at Stevenage. He gave news of other "Uplymers". I. J. MCCREERY (1946-52) who found "O" Level Maths. too much for him is Company Officer in Statistics at Kodak, Harrow. M. J. GEORGE (1946-50) is Training Officer in the Industrial X-Ray School of Kodak, Harrow. B. BAKER (1944-49) is Managing Director of a tooling manufacturing company and is main sub-contractor to Kodak. K. W. MARTIN (1945-50) is a rep. for a foundry firm making aluminium castings for Kodak. Good old Kodak!
- J. E. HAVARD (1958-64) is working on Epistemology and Moral and Political Philosophy; Political History and Institutions; Economic Principles and Organisation at Pembroke College, Oxford. His interesting work starts

next year when he does philosophical logic. His other special subject is the philosophy of Kant. On the non-academic side he has dabbled in 2 societies — the O.V. Humanist Group and Cosmos, which stand for the application of a liberal, rationalist approach to domestic and international affairs respectively. He is disappointed with the triviality and lack of influence of these societies and next term he is on the committee of the Socratic Club. He warns anyone who likes trees not to come to Oxford. He looks forward to being a graduate, when he can live in the Black Forest and come to Oxford just for supervisions and tutorials !

J. R. H. HERRING (1953–59) flew to the States last November to Washington D.C. where in the Naval Research Laboratory he continues his research with his American opposite number. After a fortnight he flew to Boulder in Colorado and there his experiment (officially called the U.C.L. (University College London) experiment) was tested and worked perfectly. He spent Christmas back in Washington with a family whose undergraduate son from Texas had flown himself and friends home for the holiday in a private plane hired from his college. After his American trip, Herring will return to the new University College Research Laboratory near Dorking.

W. F. HODGE (1952–56) is doing very well as a cameraman in the B.B.C. “Panorama” team. His name appears in the credit titles now. He did a course in Photography at Regents Street Polytechnic after leaving school and hasn’t looked back since joining the B.B.C. He has been all over the world and he followed Robert Kennedy’s whistle-stop tour of the U.S.A. for “Panorama”.

C. R. A. G. ILIFFE (1958–63) wrote in August when on leave from Aden after serving for 7 months on H.M.S. STRIKER, an L.S.T. in the Persian Gulf. During the first part of his stay on Striker he served with R. J. CASBEARD (1955–59). He was promoted Acting Sub-Lieutenant on 1st September 1966 and went up to St. John’s College, Cambridge in October.

M. H. KEFFORD (1959-65) is Senior Under Officer commanding the Somme Company, R.M.A. Sandhurst. In addition to this promotion he has been granted a place in the 2nd Battalion 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles. When he is commissioned in July he will fly out to Malacca to serve in the Far East. At Easter he attended the School's C.C.F. Arduous Training Camp at Blackstraw Moor near Leek to give the cadets the benefit of his experience. Also there was R. G. HOLLINGWORTH (1953-59) now commissioned in the C.C.F. and still working at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

A. J. KNOX (1958-65) enjoyed his first year at Edinburgh University studying Electrical Engineering.

L. MACREADY (1955-62) is our first Hockey international. He gained his first senior cap when he played for Scotland against England on April 1st.

M. T. MAIDEN (1963-64) interrupted his course at King's College, London to take up a post as English Assistant in a school in Innsbruck. He enjoys the work very much. The pupils are very well-mannered and call him Herr Professor, which is good for his morale. Some of his pupils (mostly girls) are corresponding with some of our boys.

R. H. MAYO (1955-62) after gaining a good degree in Mechanical Sciences at Jesus College, Cambridge, has joined a Group company of Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd.

G. J. MITCHELL (1964-66) and P. N. MITCHELL (1964-66) write with news of themselves. G. J. is doing a B.A. in Business Studies at Ealing College. It is a sandwich course and for his industrial periods he is being sponsored by Schweppes Ltd. When he wrote he was working with Schweppes in their Sales Methods department at Marble Arch. P. N. Mitchell is an articled clerk with Wright Fairbrother and Steel (Chartered Accountants), Bedford Square, W.C.1. He has applied for university in October 1967 to read Economics and Accounting and hopes to be accepted by Southampton.

- N. D. MITCHENALL (1961-66) went to Turkey, Greece and Crete last summer and then started at the London University College of Estate Management, where he is doing well.
- J. E. MOORE (1961-66) is attending Holborn College of Law for his LL.B.
- T. R. MOXHAM (1948-52). Sergeant Moxham's photograph appeared in the Bucks Free Press discussing a flight into the North African desert with another pilot. He is serving as a light aircraft pilot with an Army Air Troop in Benghazi, Libya.
- K. R. OAKESHOTT (1930-38) Consul-General in Hamburg received the C.M.G. in the diplomatic service list of the New Year Honours List. Another Old Boy E. A. BALDWIN (1947-49) a Lieutenant-Commander, gets the O.B.E. He is now serving with H.M.S. Mauritius but got his honour for work done when attached to the R.A. Est. Farnborough.
- D. OXLADE (1941-47) writes from Prince of Wales School, Box 30047, Nairobi, Kenya where he is Housemaster at Scott House. He had just returned from a holiday in Mombasa with his wife and 3 children. He found 2 scorpions crawling up the bedroom wall but otherwise all went well. In his House he has 61 boys aged 12 to 19. The House is like a United Nations with 13 Africans, 6 Asians and 42 Europeans. The latter are mostly of British stock but include a Dane, a Swede, 3 Italians, an American and 4 Greeks. B. HARLEY (1939-47) is still out there and he is now President of the local Rugby team.
- G. R. PACKMAN (1953-59) was very shaken to read in the last edition of the magazine that he had already become a father. His brother, who is reading History at Oxford and who wrote giving the information, is obviously incapable of thinking in anything but the past tense and his training got the better of him. The forecast event took place on November 15th. In November Packman also took his final accountancy papers and passed. He has at last really finished with examinations and is now working on excuses to avoid decorating the house in the evenings instead of studying.

- D. C. J. PALLETT (1955-62) left to work for Rolls Royce in Derby but his practical work in the workshop was not quite up to the standard of his academic work and he was advised to withdraw from the B.Sc. course at Derby College of Advanced Technology. The training manager at Rolls Royce was most helpful at this difficult time and knew of Pallett's interest in music. He searched around and suggested that Bretton Hall College of Education in Wakefield, Yorks seemed to offer the best course and Pallett was accepted there in 1964. He is now preparing to take the new Bachelor of Education Honours Degree offered by Leeds University doing music as his main subject. In May he was elected President of the Leeds University Institute of Education Students' Association (5,000 students) and is on the National Committee of the Social Science Federation. After a false start, Pallett certainly has come on.
- M. E. J. PANTER (1956-63) is reading Food Science (Microbiology, Biochemistry, Food Technology) at Reading University. He plays tennis for Reading.
- M. R. PETERSON (1957-64) left school to join I.C.I. Paints Division (Slough) as a Lab. Assistant in the research Laboratories. He was granted "Day-Release" and studied final year O.N.C. chemistry and mathematics. He has been sponsored by I.C.I. to study at Slough College for an H.N.D. Sandwich Course and is happy about the future.
- A. M. PRATT (1956-63) is in his Final year at St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. Last summer he and S. MERRINGTON (1956-63) visited Istanbul and the Dalmatian coast. Merrington has joined Mr. Pooley at County Offices, Aylesbury in the Planning Department.
- M. D. H. PRIESTLEY (1955-63) has completed most successfully his course at Borough Road College, London and is now teaching at Christ's College Grammar School, Finchley. In his final year at College he captained the Football and Athletic teams. The Football team defeated Loughborough in the final of the Colleges' Cup. He also captained the London Colleges' Football and Athletic teams. He was awarded the I. B. Mac Prize for Physical Education — for the best all-round student of the year. He gained a distinction for Teaching too and we look forward to news of further success.

- T. RACKSTRAW (1957-65) is doing a Sandwich Course in Chemistry at Slough College — he and M. R. Peterson were the only 2 sponsored by the I.C.I. Rackstraw runs for Phoenix Harriers and meets regularly R. F. GREENWOOD (1959-64) and P. J. YATES (1953-60) in the course of the Season.
- P. READ (1950-58) took up a new job in January as Organist and Music Master at Solihull School. When he wrote in November he was looking forward to it very much as the Chapel Choir has a fine standard and sings regularly in cathedrals. A large new organ was ready for him on his approval.
- P. T. SEATON (1955-59). The Principal of the Lancaster College of Technology at Coventry advises us that Seaton has gained a College Diploma in Metallurgy and that D. A. WALKER (1954-59) has gained a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering.
- R. J. SEYMOUR (1961-64) is now a 3rd year student reading chemistry at Essex University. His brother W. J. SEYMOUR (1961-66) represented the United Kingdom cadets VIII versus Canada in August 1966 and has now taken up a place at University College, London, to read Chemical Engineering.
- D. J. SHARP (1959-63) is now flying Canberras at R.A.F. Bassingbourn but will be going to Cyprus to join 73 Squadron as part of a fully operational strike wing of Canberras. He should be a Flying Officer by now.
- B. SINNATT (1946-53) wrote from Georgetown, Guyana, South America regretting that he couldn't attend the Annual Dinner. He has been working for the Shell International Petroleum Company since 1959 and spent 5 years in East Africa, in Uganda and Tanzania. In 1965 he came to Guyana, then British Guiana, on loan from Shell as manager of a firm that are agents for Shell products. He flew back to England for 3 days to get married in London in February 1966. He and his wife have been fortunate in seeing some of the Caribbean Islands, having stayed in Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago. They are looking forward to returning to England via the Caribbean and the U.S.A. They will certainly visit the School.

L. G. SNIPE (1926–31) left school to go into the Inland Revenue Department. From his letter it is clear that although he is happily settled in the West Riding, his real love is music. He trains the local Church choir but is particularly proud of his achievement with his seven budgerigars. He has trained them to sing the opening bars of the “Hallelujah Chorus” with reasonable accuracy.

J. H. TERRY (1938–42) is now accountant at the Godalming branch of the National Provincial Bank and enjoys living in Surrey. He would be grateful for news of the whereabouts of E. F. DEVENISH (1937–42) believed to be a chartered accountant in South Africa. He gives news of his brother R. C. TERRY (1942–48). After a short career in journalism he went to Leicester University graduating with a degree in English Literature. Combining an appointment as Warden of Adult Education in Bristol with reading for an M.A. degree he is now on the staff of Victoria University, Canada. He returns to London in September to read for a Ph.D.

R. C. TODD (1948–55) is now Mr. Todd — he is F.R.C.S. and at Epping Hospital.

I. M. TOMES (1951–57). Captain Ian Tomes is now Adjutant of the Kenya Military Training College, near Nakuru, Kenya. Nakuru is one of the larger towns with 2 hotels and 2 cinemas. The life is a big change from his 3½ years in Germany. He has more leisure and has taken up acting again in the local dramatic society (a far cry from the School House production of “Jack and the Beanstalk” in 1952). Kenya seems to Tomes to be among the most stable countries around — but there is a little war in the N.E. area where semi-military raiders come in from Somalia. These “Shifta” shoot up road convoys, sack villages and withdraw when the army arrives. He gets the odd card from his brother S. C. TOMES (1955–61) from Katmandu and other places in that part of the world.

D. A. WAKEFIELD (1958–64). Midshipman David Wakefield wrote in August 1966 to say that his training at Dartmouth was completed for the moment and that soon he would be undergoing submarine training in Singapore. Whilst in the Dartmouth Training Squadron he came across H.M.S.

Victorious carrying D. M. NORTH (1956-60) but apart from C. R. Iliffe he has heard nothing of the many Old Boys in the R.N. — he hopes to meet some of them in the Far East. His brother T. J. WAKEFIELD (1959-64) has gained an O.N.D. in Engineering at High Wycombe College of Technology and Art and is now doing a B.Sc. (Honours) Course in Mechanical Engineering at Hendon College of Technology.

G. E. WATSON (1951-57). At his wedding in March, Watson had D. W. PARKINSON (1953-58) as his best man and the REV. A. J. SKIPP (1929-37) took part in the service.

D. C. WILLATS (1950-57). Capt. Willats, R.E., was home in England and able to attend the Dinner. After a year spent on Christmas Island in the Pacific he was seconded to the Malaysian Engineers in May 1964. He was sent to Sarawak where he spent 6 months building roads. Sarawak has only 525 miles of bitumen, concrete, stone and gravel road in a country the size of England. His second tour in Borneo was to Sabah. There are no roads here and all movement has to be by boat or helicopter. Here he had to maintain the airfield and try to make the infantry's life more comfortable by building water supply systems, jetties and suspension bridges. His third tour, to Sarawak again, started in August 1966 and he found himself 60 miles from Kuching and favoured with visits from unfriendly guerillas. He had 125 soldiers under his command, employed 150 civilians and used civil engineering equipment worth about £½ million. In Singapore he met J. A. COLLAR (1948-54) who was serving with the Gurkha Transport Regiment. He also met P. J. AGAR (1948-53) who was serving with the Royal Navy. Willats is now posted to the R.E. Training Regiment in Aldershot.

C. K. WILLIAMS (1959-64) has now completed 2 years of his Chemistry course in the faculty of Technology at the University of Manchester. He has got used to Manchester dirt and grime and finds it a more interesting place than London.

T. C. WILLIAMS (1947-51) was able to make the Dinner this year after 13 years of frustration — he was home on leave from his job with the Bank of West Africa Ltd. in Freetown, Sierra Leone. He is now Assistant Manager. He is enjoying life in this busy bustling branch after eight years in the bush. He has heard that R. J. COLLETT (1951-57) is at the University College there and intends to look him up.

D. R. WITNEY (1934-42), Headmaster of King Edward VI Grammar School, Louth, writes giving news of himself and other Old Boys. He is feeling much fitter now. E. M. SQUIRES (1949-56) has got himself engaged to the French assistante — one of the hazards of the Boys' Grammar School being merged with the Girls' Grammar School last September. Squires will be leaving the boarding house where he is assistant to H. W. JOHNSON (1930-37) and will concentrate on his job as Head of the Geography Dept. Witney got up a cricket team to play the school last summer and it contained four previous R.G.S. captains — Witney, Johnson, Squires and F. C. WICKENS (1931-38) who came over from Birmingham.

M. R. D. YORKE (1961-64) was good enough to write giving news of the revival of the Old Boys' Annual Dinner at Cambridge. M. G. BAKER (1957-66) was the driving force behind this and the dinner was held in the Borradaile Room of his College, Selwyn, on Tuesday 7th March. C. J. MYERSCOUGH (1957-63), Churchill, was in the Chair, the toast to the School was proposed by R. C. JONES (1960-64), Corpus, and replied to by the Headmaster, Mr. Malcolm Smith, Trinity. The toast to the Guests was proposed by M. G. Baker and replied to by Mr. R. Pattinson, Pembroke. Mr. W. J. Clark, Selwyn, and 12 other Old Boys were also present. Yorke concluded his news of the dinner with some personal notes. He has changed to Law for his final year. He found modern languages increasingly interesting yet difficult.

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