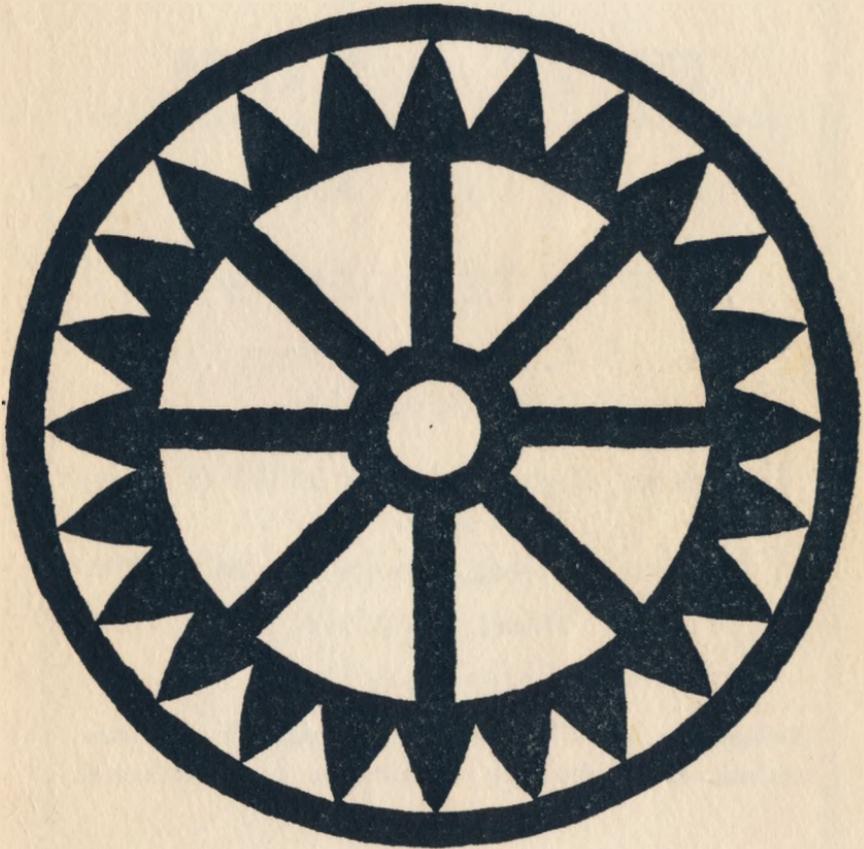


may 68



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# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

Vol. XV      No. 5

MAY, 1968



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The Lure of Speed



(Back row, left to right): J. C. Cook, I. R. Pattinson, D. A. Beasley, B. G. Wood, R. J. Davis, J. D. Tomlinson, G. H. Bridger, N. J. Miles, T. G. Cowell, D. R. Brown

(Front row, left to right): R. B. Stevens, R. W. Huggins, S. B. Gamester, P. M. Colley, D. H. Holmes, R. B. Gash, D. R. Cresce

# THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

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

The Editor of this edition was Andrew Havard, untiringly assisted and corrected by Steven Clark and Peter Ping; Alistair Pearson took charge of sport with tremendous efficiency, and Roger Gash, as well as arranging the advertising, did a considerable amount of typing out. Peter Ping designed the cover and the cartoons, David Mills smothered the School under a blanket of publicity, and the photographs are largely the work of Andrew Dickson.

\* \* \*

## EDITORIAL

But why are we ashamed? Why do we hide? Why are we embarrassed by our emotions? Strong feeling, sorrow, joy, love, hate, are the quintessence of humanity, the vital spark of intelligent life.

We can easily laugh. There is humour, we laugh. But to weep, to let tears fall from our eyes, freely and without restraint, is to be considered weak and childish. Why? Was not man made with a sense of tragedy as well as a sense of humour? The social conventions of the time are such that we must disguise our feelings. We say this is a relatively free country; we are not free, our emotions are imprisoned by social customs and it is only through demonstrations that we shall begin to demolish the barrier.

If you can cry at the sound of music or at the sound of human kindness, then you are a man indeed.

\* \* \*

As expected, the School has, in response to constant appeal, risen excellently to the occasion and contributed well towards this edition, although I am confident that this is only the tip of an iceberg and that there is a wealth of talent in this establishment which is unseen and will probably remain so. People who cry out for freedom should not be so inhibited, for then they are obviously defeating their own ends.

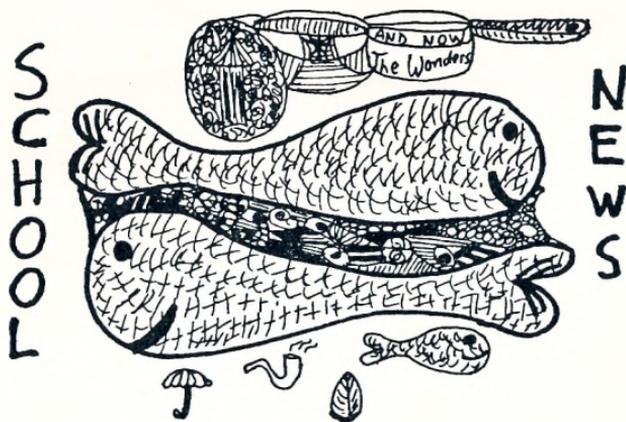
The wealth, indeed surfeit, of contributions which the editors have enjoyed, obviously cannot all be printed. Few, very

few, were complete rubbish, and the vast majority were of a high standard and ought to have been printed. Unfortunately, the limiting factor was SIZE; "Ah," you may say, "you said we might be able to publish it in two volumes; anyway the bigger the better!" Yes, but sadly, the larger the size, the higher the price (an elementary rule of life). So cost is directly proportional to size; do I hear any more murmurs of protest?

Of the many contributors whose work we were unable to print D. Lishman has come off worst because although his essays were well written, logical, clear and concise, they were either too long or too forthright to be included. J. D. Tomlinson, P. M. Richards, Adam Hardy, S. D. Hoath, Roland Denning, John Woodhouse, and Peter Marcan have also suffered for one or other of these reasons.

Thanks once again to all who have helped in any way and especially to those unpublished contributors who, it is hoped, will have their day in an internal School magazine to be published towards the end of the Summer Term.

ANDREW HAVARD.



We wish a belated goodbye to Mr. E. R. B. Little who left at Christmas to take up his new post as Lecturer at Hull College of Education, and we bid Mr. James, who has joined the English staff, welcome. He has already made his presence felt both in dramatic productions and in the radical changes which have recently occurred in the organisation and efficiency of the Library of which he has taken charge.

## CALENDAR FOR AUTUMN TERM 1967 AND SPRING TERM 1968

On October 7th, 1967, there was an orchestral concert in the Queen's Hall arranged by Malcolm Goldring and Michael Cole. This was followed on the 20th by the first of the highly successful Wycombe Action Group Folk Concerts.

December 14th, 15th, 16th, saw the usual annual operatic production which was "H.M.S. Pinafore" this year. On the following Monday (18th) the singers were again utilized in the Carol Service which was greatly appreciated.

At the end of January the Staff very kindly entertained the bored 5th and Upper 6th formers with an exciting game called "Mocks".

Half-way through February (14th) the Prefects held their dance which was, as usual, successful and this time fairly calm.

"Theatre-go-round" hit the School on March 1st followed by the four Plays on 14th, 15th, 16th. The Confirmation and Communion services took place on 21st and 22nd respectively.

The Chapel Choir Concert was on April 6th and the second Wycombe Action Group Folk Concert on the 10th.

The Benevolent Fund reached £112 and £92 respectively in the two terms.

### Mr. J. C. S. WEEKS

We are very sorry to have to say Good-bye this term to Mr. J. C. S. Weeks, but would like to take this opportunity of giving him our warmest congratulations on his promotion to be Headmaster of Prestcote Grammar School in Lancashire.

During the four years he has been with us Mr. Weeks has given very great service to the School and has shown himself to be a lively and vigorous member of our community. His energetic direction of the Geography department and his work as a Sixth Form master have been of very great value; and many a boy has benefited from his kindly sympathy and wise friendship.

His many friends here send him their best wishes for his work in his new sphere.

A.C.H.

### EXAMINATION SUCCESSES, 1967—68

We congratulate the following on gaining Open Awards:

- |              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|
| S. W. Coniam | — | Open Exhibition in Natural Sciences,<br>Corpus Christi College, Cambridge |
| W. M. Hague  | — | Open Choral Exhibition,<br>Trinity College, Cambridge                     |

- B. P. Hills — Major Scholarship in Natural Sciences,  
Wadham College, Oxford
- M. J. Lowe — Open Scholarship in Classics,  
Balliol College, Oxford
- M. G. Miles — Open Exhibition in Modern Languages,  
Trinity College, Oxford
- D. Morton — Open Scholarship in Modern Languages,  
St. Catherine's College, Oxford
- J. S. Robinson — Open Exhibition in Mathematics,  
St. John's College, Cambridge
- P. E. Winter — Open Exhibition in Classics,  
Churchill College, Cambridge

Places at Oxford and Cambridge for 1968:

- C. E. Capell — Jesus College, Oxford,  
for Modern Languages
- R. Gash — Emmanuel College, Cambridge,  
for History
- I. G. Gunter — Pembroke College, Cambridge,  
for Mathematics.
- D. S. Levin — Churchill College, Cambridge,  
for Economics and Law
- I. C. Maun — Pembroke College, Cambridge,  
for Modern Languages
- M. J. Pickering — Trinity College, Oxford, for English

University Places (1967):

- R. W. Abercrombie — Aberdeen University
- A. Barratt — Durham University
- I. J. Belsham — Newcastle University
- D. G. Bibby — Salford University
- P. H. Boord — Essex University
- J. W. Clark — Birmingham University
- P. E. Cook — Manchester University
- B. A. Cornwell — Imperial College, London University
- S. Darbyshire — Birmingham University
- S. Darrington — Sussex University
- J. M. Darville — Exeter University
- A. M. Dormer — Newcastle University
- P. S. Everitt — Leeds University
- A. E. Fleming — St. Andrews University
- J. E. Floyd — Leeds University
- B. J. B. Fox — Lancaster University
- D. J. Gatland — London University
- C. M. Gwynn — University of Wales,  
Institute of Science & Technology

D. I. Heaps	—	Birmingham University
R. Heron	—	Lancaster University
B. A. Hills	—	Nottingham University
M. R. S. Hill	—	London University
R. F. Hudson	—	Chelsea College, London University
A. C. W. Keen	—	Leeds University
J. P. Killingley	—	Hull University
C. Koefoed-Nielsen	—	Newcastle University
G. S. Leslie	—	Newcastle University
P. J. Line	—	Keele University
D. G. Longley	—	Exeter University
G. R. J. Monaghan	—	University College of South Wales
M. R. Montgomerie	—	Leicester University
M. F. Morrison	—	University College, London University
L. C. North	—	Newcastle University
C. W. Paskell	—	Essex University
D. T. Payne	—	Essex University
P. A. Roberts	—	York University
A. G. T. Rogers	—	Exeter University
I. A. Ross	—	Keele University
C. D. Royffe	—	Leeds College of Art
D. J. Rundell	—	Leeds University
N. G. Saunders	—	London University
C. J. Scouse	—	Dundee University
P. P. Simons	—	East Anglia University
R. B. Steptoe	—	Manchester University
J. S. Thornley	—	University College, London University
S. Thrower	—	Leeds University
P. Watts	—	Hull University
L. V. White	—	Leeds University
A. R. Wilson	—	Sheffield University
P. J. Winfield	—	Southampton University
K. F. Woodbridge	—	Manchester University
J. R. Woods	—	Wye College, London 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 April 8th, 1967. The prize-winners in the various sections were as follows:

<i>Sixth Form:</i>	A. D. N. Havard (6M3)
<i>Middle School:</i>	1st, C. R. Rollason (3X) 2nd, P. M. Simpson (3X)
<i>Junior School:</i>	1st, R. B. Dapling (1D) 2nd, M. A. Pope (2X)

## CHAPEL NOTES

The annual Confirmation service was held in the Chapel on Thursday, March 21st. Twelve candidates, whose names are listed below, were presented to the Bishop of Oxford, the Right Reverend Harry Carpenter. It was a pleasure and privilege to have our diocesan bishop with us again after an interval of six years. His address to the candidates was memorable in its simplicity. He gave them no text to remember but stressed the importance of belonging to the church. This was not the same as going to church, for those who merely go to church may as easily go away from it. To belong implied committing oneself and this was what the candidates had done in offering themselves for Confirmation.

At the service of Holy Communion the next day, the newly confirmed made their first Communion in the company of the Headmaster, members of staff and boys.

The following were confirmed:

Simon J. N. Fane, Andrew P. Paine, Simon D. J. Green, Paul A. Pettit, Graham L. Jarman, David J. W. Sandles, Jonathan W. Lewis, David F. Steele, Michael J. Meager, Jonathan W. R. Walne, Richard A. Moore, Nicholas C. Young.

We wish to record our thanks to Mrs. J. Burnell, wife of the Chapel Organist and Choirmaster, for the gift of a shield bearing the arms of the Royal School of Church Music to which the Chapel Choir is affiliated. This shield has been placed in the Chapel. This is a good opportunity to express our sincere appreciation of the work which Mr. Burnell has done since taking charge of the Chapel music. We are grateful to him and to those boys, both boarders and day-boys, whose well rehearsed singing has done so much to improve the quality of our music.

A.J.S.

## CHAPEL CHOIR CONCERT

If the comments of the orchestra are anything to go by, the Chapel Choir was a great success. Many expressed their delight in the soloists or the Choir, and nearly everybody said how good the Orchestra was. One very distinguished lady described it as "quite superb".

The Chapel Choir, under the direction of Mr. John Burnell, was formed in the Autumn of 1966 from the boarding population of the School. It is surely no small credit to Mr. Burnell that using this limited material—few members of the Choir are distinguished vocalists—he was able to put on a concert of such high standard.

The programme was challenging and stimulating from the point of view both of the audience and of the performers. Also noticeable was the enthusiasm which Choir and Conductor showed for the Concert (not least the huge publicity campaign mounted to advertise one event).

As with any amateur production, there were faults. Inadequate attention was given to balance of Choir and Orchestra (especially in the Cantata), and there was a general lack of precision which led to faults in intonation and diction (I mention these not purely to criticise but in the hope that more attention may be given to them on another occasion).

In general, however, the Concert was very enterprising and definitely worthwhile. I am certain that all present look forward with expectation to future performances by the choir, and I congratulate all concerned for a most memorable evening.

PHIL ENGEL.

### H.M.S. PINAFORE

The curtains close, the applause dies down; "Please, Sir, what opera are we doing next year?" The Producer and Conductor smile, perhaps a little wanly, to each other and think in telepathic sympathy, "Drat these boys, do they never tire?"

1947-1967, twenty-one Christmasses, nineteen operas, two years of protest when no opera was presented. Old Boys when asked why they remember with pleasure the labour and hours of rehearsal speak with nostalgia of particular moments—tea in the Canteen with dough-nuts, dancing the "court-step", the first rehearsal on stage, the day the costumes came (probably a day late), the make-up, the first night, the last night—.

One must face it, there is no substitute for Gilbert and Sullivan. Woven into the texture is the national ethos and corny jokes, ridiculously incomprehensible dramatic situations, wit at times, tunefulness always: all these make up something which is quite beyond imitation.

*H.M.S. Pinafore* (1967) presented a problem, a near crisis, for at the Dress Rehearsal Josephine failed to appear having broken his arm that morning. What to do? In the event he sang his part excellently from a seat in the Orchestra Pit, and on stage his place was taken by a member of the Chorus, who carried out his difficult task with remarkable skill at very short notice.

As usual in this opera the two trios were the high spots of the performance. The first, "A British tar is a soaring soul," was treated in broad comic style by Ralph, Boatswain and Carpenter's mate. "Never mind the why and wherefore", the second trio, was distinguished for neatly witty singing and dancing by

Josephine, Captain Corcoran and Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. Perhaps the hardest part from the point of view of acting is that of Dick Deadeye. Also a difficult part for a boy, still singing alto, is "Little Buttercup" and these parts were well played.

The chorus of sailors launched the opera smoothly and continued to act and sing with great spirit especially when joined by the "Ladies", who tripped gaily on to the stage to welcome the Royal Navy and who sang with clear bright tone throughout.

The Orchestral playing was lively and sparkling and provided an excellent accompaniment. So many people are involved in these productions (in addition to needing a cast of about 60 and an orchestra of 26 there are innumerable tasks back-stage and in organisation) that well over 100 people are concerned. To each and every one of these praise and thanks are due. If you don't know who they are you should have come to one of the performances and bought a programme!

## ST. VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

Auditory ossicles jumped, tympanic membranes vibrated, lights flashed with all the colours of the spectrum, bodies lurched and the money rolled in. After several postponements and a great deal of anxiety, another R.G.S. Dance has opened its doors to the willing masses of teeny boppers.

Two battle-scarred rugby players, namely Steve Gamester and Wack Brown, concealed themselves behind microphone, record player, and stack of records—music spewed forth. The Old Hall, seductively decorated with posters for alcoholic beverages, soon took in about 600 jumping and fluorescent bodies which remained in a more or less continuous state of nervous excitement until 11 o'clock when the last notes of music died and the lights shone forth brilliantly once more.

The main attraction of the evening was the Downliners Sect who were ably supported by the Jeremy Lingard Trio, whose drummer bore a distinct resemblance to a certain ferocious tackling 1st XV member.

I extend my sincere thanks to Mr. Stubbs for all the hard work he put in both before and during the Dance—without his assistance the Dance would not have been possible. I feel I must mention Nesbit whose running of the Ladies' cloakroom would have done credit to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Many others gave me sterling support in preparing for, running, and clearing up after the Dance—to all these people I willingly raise my glass of Guinness!

DICK DAVIS.

## SPRING BOOK FAIR

Just recently a huge selection of paperback books was to be found neatly laid out in the foyer. This was the beginning of the Spring Book Fair. For two days this vast array remained with us, though somewhat depleted towards the end, and, during this time, every boy in the School had the opportunity to examine the books. Most people jumped at the chance and a good deal of buying and selling went on, although the content of the purchases was in some cases rather dubious. Thanks must go to Mr. Hills and Mr. Camp who arranged this extension to the already successful Paperback Bookshop, and we hope they have been sufficiently encouraged by the results, and public opinion is such, that these displays will become a regular part of School life.

## SCHOOL PLAYS

On March 14th, 15th and 16th, The School Drama Society presented a series of four one-act plays. The first was the boys' own adaptation of Gaffer Milo, by Maupassant. The actors brought out the strongly worded message with vigour, and gave life to a past period whose prejudices are still so apt to-day.

The second play was an excerpt from "Midsummer Night's Dream" and was ably characterised by all concerned. Charles Lowe as Pyramus, P. M. Richards as Thisbe and A. Pearson as Quince, were particularly effective in portraying the humour of the scene, but equal credit is due to other actors in a sketch which was very well executed.

The penultimate play gave rise to some excellent acting by Francis Ellul and concerned the trafficking of drugs in a secluded Spanish border town. The last performance was a very professional précis of Dylan Thomas's "Under Milk Wood". All the cast skilfully portrayed the characters involved, including the narrators C. Dainty and C. M. Rose, and they received the tumultuous applause they deserved.

Over all a very entertaining evening and congratulations are due to all concerned especially the producers Mr. R. Brown, Mr. D. Smith, Mrs. McVey and Mr. M. James. One hopes that the School's dramatic performances continue on such progressive themes in future years.

PETER PING.

## QUATERNITY

At the end of March, a programme of blandishments, promising suspense, surprises and hilarity, was presented in the form of four one-act plays. However, the anticipated feast of

drama proved itself to be but an hors d'oeuvre, appetising and not very satisfying.

“Gaffer Milo” made an immediate appeal for spectatorial sympathy—or indulgence—by acknowledging its amateur authorship. (Query: by definition, how can something “written by the boys themselves” then be pronounced “unscripted”?) The theme collapsed at the very first hurdle of an obstacle course that was entirely of its own construction. An incident from the Franco-Prussian war of 1870, it was peopled with peculiarly repellent persons. Marlow was deployed as a cantankerous Ovaltine Maid and Gay as an objectionable juvenile in urgent need of paternal remonstrance. The affair revolved around Roach, as the eponymous hero—an aged rustic, who resents the incursion of the enemy and assassinates as many of their number as possible. His percolated bucolicism might have been that of a senescent French peasant but was more suggestive of Bernard Miles discussing the English breakfast. Nevertheless, his maturity and composure were admirable, and redeemed a part that offered small scope for manipulation.

The play tended to concentrate on histrionics at the expense of historicity. The Germany army was the most dedicated and disciplined military unit of its day, yet it was here reduced to a band of faltering tenors. As they drank an unexceptionable quantity of wine, the soldiers seemed like guilty schoolboys in a dissipation after lights out; when they tantalised a servant boy, it might have been a caricature of Master Wackford Squeers tyrannising the youthful scholars of Dotheboys Hall. Woodhouse as the colonel, was adequate but not impressive. His polite requests were a poor substitute for concise orders. As “Gilbert, the Filbert, the Colonel of the Knuts”, he would have done nicely, but as a Teutonic officer of the old school, he quickly lost his dressing. Indeed, it was as if Bismarck’s policy of “Blood and Iron” was afflicted with chronic anaemia.

The extract from “Midsummer Night’s Dream” sought to compensate for any previous lack of atmosphere—being rich and ribald in pantagrueism. It demanded nothing of the audience’s intelligence or imagination in an unrelenting assault designed to test the resilience of its sense of humour, until it appeared that no artifice capable of extracting even the most perfunctory snigger was to be omitted.

A strident key-note was established by the tempestuous entrance of the affable tanner, Bottom, played by Lowe; it would have done justice to the rioting Parisians hammering at the gates of the Bastille, and was the prelude to an exuberant performance combining the characteristics of an itchy ballet dancer and a punch-drunk prize-fighter. Pearson, as Quince, and Richards as Flute, were clearly reluctant to be excluded from the junketings.

Quince should have been a stabilizing ingredient rather than one of fermentation. While their exaggerated conduct was tolerable in the first half, it became exceedingly wearisome to watch Quince, embellished in a fez and a peignoir and Flute simpering beneath a mop, capering round the stage like a couple of decadent billy-goats. Much that was attractive and of genuine amusement, including very respectable contributions from Kerr and Woolley, suffered in this excess of pantomime. It was a case of the proverbial final straw.

“Report from Carreros” was an emaciated exposition of an attenuated theme: an insubstantial menu, for which playwright and players were jointly responsible. The topic was concerned with drug trafficking in an obscure Spanish village and was over-prescribed with ropey clichés and tired platitudes. The rendering was denied the flavour of anguish and passion and degradation with which it might reasonably have been seasoned.

Ellul was most convincing as a police inspector whose integrity has resisted but whose spirit has been disillusioned by the amount of wickedness in the world. Dainty, as a customs officer with dilapidated morals, would have been improved by the professional attentions of a barber and a tailor. He never seemed very probable as a celebrated scion of the Spanish constabulary, nor did he make a particularly plausible “peddler”. After his detection, he displayed neither desperation, nor defiance, nor despondency. His desultory departure could have been that of a wistful curate delegated to superintend an East End choirboys’ outing, instead of a discredited charlatan avoiding disgrace by death. “Report from Carreros”, speaking generally, was as lacking in explosiveness as the report from the gun, when he eventually blew his brains out.

The treatment of “Under Milk Wood” showed a restraint and balance, which had hitherto been absent, in a digest that was both sensible and seemly—a discreet veil being imposed on the immodest concupiscence of Captain Cat and the immoderate philandering of Polly Garter. It prospered in an atmosphere that was comfortably confident and controlled.

The production showed fine sensitivity, and was never better than when live Mrs. Ogmore Pritchard, hideous in the light, is putting her departed partners, cadaverous in the shadows, through their paces. It was a pity that the Two Voices never really adapted themselves as cohesive mortar between the individual episodic bricks, and that their diluted accents should have slightly spoiled some very splendid sibilant poetry. They seemed all the more indistinct when most of the cast were possessed of indigenous fluency—Jonathan Berks’s rhapsodic articulation of “Myfanwy”, as an introit, was masterly. Havard and Woolley

especially spoke with accomplished euphony, and the refined and frigid elocution of Engel, as Mrs. Pugh, was of good contrast. When the sub-title of "Under Milk Wood" is "A Play for Voices", it was desirable that this should have been so.

ROGER GASH.

Editor's Note: Both these reports of the plays were included because they show a remarkable difference of opinion; and although Roger Gash's comments are justified, I think most of the audience would side with Peter Ping in their appraisal of the performances.

## WYCOMBE HOSPITAL FUND

Very little is known in the School concerning this Fund, which was begun in 1966, by the schools of this area, to raise money for a kidney machine to be installed in Wycombe Hospital.

However, it was found that another organisation was already financing a kidney machine, and so the Hospital asked if other pieces of equipment could be bought, with any proceeds. During the first year of the project, over £100 was raised by Mill End School. This was indeed a good effort.

This year the schools, namely Mill End, Hatters Lane, R.G.S., Wycombe Technical High School and Wellesbourne, decided to add to the £100 already raised by presenting film shows. Meanwhile a cheque for £97 15s. was paid to the Hospital, to purchase a Vitalograph which is used for measuring a patient's respiration after an operation.

As many of you know, the first film was to be "Lord of the Flies", but unfortunately, negotiations with the film hirers failed. A small proportion of the School then bought tickets and saw the production of "Becket" which was a limited success and did not greatly enlarge the deposit at the Wycombe Trustee Savings Bank. It is through the School "Mag." that publicity is free, and so as many people as possible are invited to come to the future production "Lord of the Flies", on May 3rd.

As all the organizers from the schools who began this project are leaving at the end of the School year, the fund is being provisionally closed. However it is hoped that the joint efforts will continue, with perhaps more films, and other fund raising ventures. The organisers hope to end this summer with a Barbecue or Dance, and so news will be forthcoming in due course. Finally, our thanks to all who have supported this venture. The presentation of the balance sheet, is as follows. The total money raised—to date (March, 1968), is £231 8s. 2d., of which £97 15s. has already been spent.

ROGER MARTIN-FAGG.

## THE PREFECTS' ROOM

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This term the Prefects' Room in the Organ Loft of the Queen's Hall has celebrated its first anniversary of existence. In this time a radio, electric fire, kettle, mirror, a dart-board, and fifty prefects have found their way up the steel ladder, along the cat walk and into the inner sanctum.

The radio—at first very inefficient—has now the Junior School roof as its aerial; the electric kettle is the third of its kind, because the previous two “gave up the ghost” after over-use. The mirror has just been broken into five little mirrors by Deputy Head Boy Davis, and hence we have seven years' bad luck hanging over us. The pastime of playing darts has long since ended, as the board has hardened owing to the atmosphere in the room, and the darts become blunt after wild attempts by some members at throwing them.

The “atmosphere” referred to is due to the lack of ventilation in the room, despite the vast expanse of glass that surrounds us—a fault that has, needless to say, been almost corrected several times.

Of the fifty prefects, nearly half have, during the year, passed on to richer and more healthy pastures, and only a minority now frequent this establishment. The missing millions have been driven away by the previously mentioned atmosphere, climb, the humour, and the “Jimmy Young Show” on the radio.

Actually contrary to the opinions of many masters a lot of work takes place in the ideal surroundings of the room. For those who prefer to work in absolute silence, the ante-room becomes their library, but for those who prefer background music to their study, the radio is going continuously in the main room.

The walls have been decorated with aesthetically pleasing pictures and posters, from the most “class” magazines and establishments, to take away the stark indifference of a School regulation painted wall. A carpet has been acquired, although at the moment we are having some trouble with it, owing to cleaning facilities; it has been suggested that we hang it over the balcony and beat the dust out at 8.55 a.m., just before assembly!

Add eight soft chairs—donated by the Tuck Shop, to whom we are indebted—and these surroundings become a very satisfying haven from normal school life for many prefects.

## “HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE?”

Those who participated in the choosing, the rehearsals, and the final production, enjoyed the task. However the producers found an interesting phenomenon in the opposite sex, which can only be described as stubbornness. It was male *v.* female throughout the whole business.

The original play was to be Sandy Wilson's "The Boy Friend." This was like a dying flame, which finally extinguished itself to be replaced by the more hopeful, "An Italian Straw Hat". Rehearsals for the latter continued throughout the Spring term, until the male contingent decided to drop it, on the grounds of improbability. At this stage, all seemed lost, as "A" levels were fast coming, and other School activities demanded attention.

However, a last effort was made, and "Have you anything to declare?" was unearthed from a mountainous pile of one-act plays dating back to the turn of the century. Rehearsals began hurriedly, were interrupted by "A" levels, and then came the barely rehearsed final production. This was not a good show by any standards and enjoyed only limited success despite the enthusiasm shown in choice of costume and pun. However, the doors have been opened, future productions with the High School are quite possible, and perhaps a joint effort could do credit to Gilbert and Sullivan. All those concerned please note!

ROGER MARTIN-FAGG.

It is suspected that this play (which apparently took place so long ago that no one remembers the exact date) is merely a legend.  
—EDITOR.



### C.C.F. NOTES

The activities of the past few months have been restricted to some extent through the limited financial resources of the past year. Happily this situation is likely to improve from the beginning of the Summer Term and we can look forward to the varied and interesting programme which the additional travel facilities will provide.

The recent cuts in Defence Spending have not affected the structure of the C.C.F. generally but the changes of District H.Q. and Command H.Q. have taken us through the complete circle from East Anglian District just after the war to Salisbury Plain District and now back to Eastern District as our Supervising Authority.

## ARMY SECTION

There are many opportunities available for those in the C.C.F. to visit various MoD establishments. It would seem, however, that few people (at least in the army section) take advantage of these opportunities.

Four senior N.C.O.s, however, went to an Artillery Course at the School of Artillery, Larkhill, during the last Summer Holidays, having already attended Summer Camp and worked for a week at Bisley. We found that the 25-pdr. is a superb machine, and that within four days we were all able to score a hit on a target at ranges of over a mile away, both by commanding the gun without seeing the target and by being on the edge of the target area supplying the information to enable others to do so. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the course was the food—14 different main choices every day and countless combinations of vegetables, etc. Finding ourselves in charge of both courses there was something of a surprise.

At half-term, we held a map-reading exercise, incorporating some interesting tastes en route. Trying to boil eggs in empty cake tins, using dry grass and twigs as fuel, was perhaps the task which required most initiative. We awarded points for each egg consumed, thinking that this would prove that the eggs were cooked. But we found several people who possessed voracious appetites for raw eggs.

Some other people attended the "Sovereign's Parade" at Sandhurst just before Christmas, and in March two of us went on a two-day visit to R.M.A., Sandhurst. We saw the Academy from the inside and also participated in several of the traditional Sandhurst activities such as the Assault Course, Swimming Pool and the "King's Head," among others.

This visit brought up one very interesting point. We were told that RMAS began in High Wycombe in the mid-18th century. *The Bucks Free Press* for April 5th has an article on this subject, revealing that the original building was the "Antelope" in Church Square. Interesting?

PAUL GRAFTON.

The reduced numbers have necessitated a change in the pattern of training this year. With fewer recruits for the Senior N.C.O.'s to instruct the Unit is "top heavy" with Senior Cadets who are now being provided with alternative activities such as M.T., Assault Course, and Orienteering.

Arduous Training Camp at Leek provided a good testing ground for various orienteering exercises and the new Sylva Compass reading in Mils instead of degrees. The exercises proved to be interesting and stimulating to both mind and appetite which did justice to the grilled steaks and roast joints which "Bill" so frequently provided.

R. P.

## R.A.F. SECTION

During the past eight months, several changes have taken place in the section. Flt./Sgt. Darville left at the end of last summer term, and Sgt. Morton was promoted and held the rank of Flt./Sgt. until he left at Christmas. He in turn was followed by Leech as Flt./Sgt. This rapid change-over of Senior N.C.O. caused several quick promotions, but all concerned settled down in their new ranks and have contributed greatly towards the smooth running of the Section.

Flt./Sgt. Morton, Flt./Sgt. Leech and Cpl. Hitchcock, who left the Section last year, all completed their Flying Scholarship Training last year and now hold Private Pilot's Licences.

Nine Cadets went to R.A.F. Wildenrath, Germany, this year under the Command of Cpls. Coysh, Eley and Rollins. A further 12 cadets spent Easter at R.A.F. Chivenor in Devon, under Cpl. Ledingham.

Last year many Cadets went Air Experience Flying at R.A.F. White Waltham, both on Sundays and Thursday afternoons. However there has been no flying at all this term, partly owing to the weather and partly owing to the fact that we had had so much flying the term before.

613 Gliding School have again offered us Air Experience Gliding and Gliding Courses (leading up to the A & B Gliding Licence), all of which will take place during the Summer term.

Our strength has been reduced to 60 Cadets, 35 of whom took the R.A.F. Proficiency Exam. in March, but as yet the results have not come through.

Because of these Proficiency Exams. and the Easter camps at the end of last term, the Section programme has concentrated on Training Lectures and Drill Instruction. However it is hoped that during the Summer Term a more enjoyable and varied curriculum can be followed, with an emphasis on out-door activities and projects.

TONY LEECH.

## ROYAL NAVAL SECTION

We started the year with a full complement of 60 Cadets, but since then our numbers have been reduced by members leaving to join the band and other Thursday afternoon activities.

The Autumn term was mainly spent in the instruction of the new entries in elementary seamanship and preparing for the proficiency and advanced proficiency examinations which took place in early December. The term was highlighted by the arrival of a motor boat for the Section which we hope will soon be used for the instruction of Cadets in motor boat maintenance and handling.

The Spring Term was interrupted by the mock examinations, but a trip was arranged to the boat show which was enjoyed by all who took part. We are grateful for a visit by Lt.-Cdr. Heraud, the School's Liaison Officer, who showed a film concerning the underwater weapons of the Royal Navy.

During the holidays about 20 Cadets are attending courses at various ships and bases of the Navy which will enable them to learn more of the Service and its way of life.

We have recently heard that next term we shall be able to use "Longridge", a boating centre near Marlow, which we hope will enable us to increase the amount of practical training in rowing, sailing and canoeing.

We wish to extend our thanks to Mr. Phillippo and Mr. Burnell who have put so much hard work into the Section.

T. S. WILL; D. R. CREES.

## ARNISON

Arnison has had a successful year under the new House system and must be well up in the race for the House championship. The year began well with senior and junior basketball teams remaining unbeaten, and there were some good performances in the gymnastics competition. The senior rugby team did well to win the senior cup but the middle and junior School unfortunately let us down and we could only manage third place overall. We were unlucky not to win the cross-country championship, and again the Senior Section excelled. Crowley ran well in the juniors but had little backing up. Hockey has also gone well and the Senior Section, certainly the strongest part of the house, played well to win the hockey cup. Finally, to cap a fine winter season I have just heard that the House has gained first place in the shooting competition.

Next term we have high hopes, especially in the cricket and athletics, but all members particularly in the junior and middle school, must pull their weight if the house is to win the championship next term. Finally we must thank our house-masters for the hard work they have done for the house during the past year.

P. M. COLLEY.

## FRASER

Recent house reports have been the agony column of the magazine. Since the Septembrial jeremiads a system of arithmetical nicety and alphabetical exactitude has been devised to conjure fresh animation from insusceptible hearts. The insipid response betrays one's faith in the manly spirit of rivalry which stiffens the pages of "Tom Brown's Schooldays". It is all very well for Newbolt to write mawkishly:

"But his captain's hand on his shoulder smote,  
Play up! play up! and play the game!"

The shoulders available to this captain's persuasive touch have been bitterly cold.

We are indebted to Mr. File for his guardianship and active interest. Indeed, in the way recommended by the Book of the Proverbs, "he looketh well to the ways of his household".

The perennial routine of bread and circuses has left us scattered crumbs of comfort; a victory, by the grace of God, at cross-country—Peter Knight, faced with a deplorable string of cancellations, well knew the loneliness of the long-distance runner—and second place at rugby. The gymnastics competition produced a week of feverish conscription and improbable contortions. Stephen Gamester displayed marvellous agility himself and was assiduous in his wooing of obdurate bachelors to an athletic engagement, but he was jilted at the altar rails more than once. It is perhaps permissible to say that too many people were content to pass the buck? In meteorological jargon, the condition of our domestic economy is that of occasional ridges of high pressure on a persistently frosty front. In such a climate it was not difficult to forecast that we would make heavy weather of the championship.

ROGER GASH.

## TUCKER

The success of the House has been so far, limited. The problem has been the lack of enthusiasm. This is due in the main to the change of loyalties necessitated by the new house system, and no more need be said, but however on the occasion of the final match in the Rugger Competition, when a full team could not be fielded because of apathy, no excuse can be made.

However Tucker has had some successes. T. Lowe must be congratulated for his excellent organisation of the gymnastics team, which extremely gracefully achieved an overall first place, the "middle" in particular, excelling in their section. While

on the subject of success, the badminton six obtained second place, owing to a good effort by them. Unfortunately other events were less promising. The Senior Hockey team was only moderately successful in both the sixes and more recent competition. The reasons why are a long story. The Rugger on the whole was not our strongest point, and in this connection the apathy has already been mentioned. The Cross Country again suffered as a result of lack of support. It must be said that in all these events, it tended to be the same chaps who turned up to support the House, whether they were good or bad at that particular event.

Our Housemaster, Mr. Scott, was present at all functions giving active support, and it was a pity that a few more boys could not have made a similar effort, which would have achieved for us a far better result. It is hoped that the forthcoming events will give the House as a whole a chance to remedy this sad malaise.

R. J. MARTIN-FAGG.

## YOUENS

Under the new House system Youens started the year well by winning the Badminton, thanks mainly to the depth of talent in our team. Owing to a fine effort by our seniors in basketball, we came second, almost annihilating the winners in our final match. In the cross country we were rather let down by our intermediates, and despite Thrower and Willsher coming 1st and 2nd in the Seniors and fine running by Thorne and Woosey in the juniors we only managed a miserable 3rd. However we made up for this by winning the Rugby outright, thanks to our 1st, 2nd and 3rd years all winning their particular competitions.

This win was followed by a resounding flop in the new gymnastics competition, once again through lack of support from the intermediates. As far as can be gathered from the multiplicity of hockey games, it seems that we have done well coming 1st in the 6-a-side competition and 2nd in the 11-a-side competition.

All things considered we have done fairly well up to now, and if the intermediates pull their weight this term there is no reason why we cannot win the House Championship.

I would like to finish by thanking all those people who have turned up (often at short notice) to play for the House and also to thank our house masters who have shown such a keen interest in our progress this year.

BRUCE WOOD.



### SCHOOL HOUSE

My first duty in this report is to welcome Mr. Stubbs as our new house tutor. He has shown a keen interest in the House activities, and we hope he has enjoyed his first two terms here.

As the Summer Term approaches we can cast a retrospective view over the past year with some satisfaction. We have an abundance of 1st XV players including Roger Gash, David Beasley, Peter Brown and Jerry Kneller, and simply thousands in 2nd, 3rd and junior XV's. George Berks has played regularly for the Hockey XI, while Peter Berks is our cross-country representative, and, of course, we provide the bulk of the basketball team as usual. We haven't done badly on the academic side either, and there is the usual fervour of activity as the "O" and "A" level exams. loom ominously close.

It has been an interesting year so far. The other boarding houses have not yet had the nerve to challenge us at anything, but we are prepared to let our "Duds" Cricket XI annihilate them next term.

We must thank Mr. Skipp who has the difficult job of keeping this motley bunch from going completely berserk, and under whose benign eye the life of the boarding house runs its smooth and contented course.

P. M. COLLEY.

### UPLYME HOUSE

In his House Report, my predecessor decided to break with tradition instead of merely recording a series of sporting one-ups, and he considered the overall ideas and advantages of Boarding House life. In connexion with this, the expansion of facilities that is to come about through the £5,000 scheme serves to ease the some-

what cramped conditions and offer plenty of scope for us all. An improved hobbies room and a darkroom are being provided.

Re-equipped and re-decorated Uplyme will be in a considerably better position to face the future. A good deal of credit for this must go to both Mr. Cooper and Mr. Millican. It would be unfair not to thank the rest of the House as well for the cheerful way in which they transported themselves, bag and baggage from room to room as the work progressed.

On a different note, mention is also due to those, especially in the lower school, who have sponsored interest and competition in basketball, football and even bridge.

Although the smallest of the three Boarding Houses and for the present limited in any greater plans for expansion, the House appears to have regained in spirit, what it has lost in numbers.

JULIAN R. WHEEL.

### TYLER'S WOOD

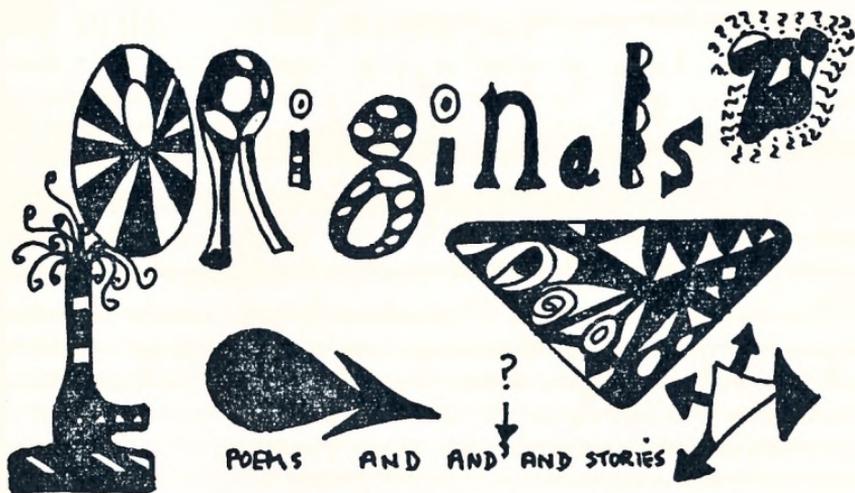
Since the last report "A" levels have been passed and failed, causing the return of a few old favourites. A. J. Bowyer has taken up position in the Study where once he learned to deal with domestic duties, and where to-day he just deals them. It is in the arena of the study that the boisterous newcomers also learn the multifarious requirements of the establishment. At the beginning of this School year, the arrival of four first formers caused remarkable changes in the House—doors slammed shut, wash rooms flooded and the inevitable noises pervaded every nook and cranny. The older members have now learned to live with this after an initially difficult period. The new Central Heating System met the standards portrayed in the advertisements, but must be held responsible for the often sluggish and late arrivals to breakfast.

As far as sporting activities are concerned, Tyler's has become very dynamic and its members have proved their worth in the usual encounters against Uplyme. Two football matches were played and won, the first 4—1, the second 3—0. Our adversaries made up for this defeat by beating us at Rugby, with the immeasurable help however, of a very prominent personage formerly at Uplyme but now at School House. (The results have been lost!) The two basketball matches played resulted in the defeat of Uplyme by 1 point causing much controversy on each occasion. The frustration caused by this was given release when our talented junior basketball team was thrashed soundly. All table tennis games were won, and Uplyme successfully challenged at Bridge. An attempt to break the false pride of School House was successfully made when a score of 3 rubbers to nil was attained, but un-

fortunately this could not be repeated against the School Bridge Team, who you might say had the upper hand!

Again the domestic staff have never failed to meet the fickle requirements of so many of our members, and Mr. Ginn continued to do wonders with the garden. Finally we would all like to congratulate Mr. Poll on his double achievement, that of being elected Bucks' cricket personality of the year and on another matter.

ROGER MARTIN-FAGG.



### YOU'RE THE BEST FRIEND I EVER HAD

Arthur was nearly thirty, and in all that time, he has only ever had two friends—Betty, the cleaner, and Joe, the helper in the laboratory. His birthday was due in two days, and this time he was going to ask to be let out of his cage. The cage—these two words made him cringe, for he had been in it all his life. Arthur was the first artificial man—a proper brain to think and feel, to understand and to forgive with. Producing him was a great scientific breakthrough, and scientists had used every method to educate him as best they could, but Arthur was very simple really. He had to be treated like a child, and letting him wander through the building would only ensure pounds worth of damage. So he was locked in a room which had a specially made grid instead of a wall. Thirty years, first sitting, eating, sleeping, then pacing up and down in the cage. He did have a television but he broke that, so it was taken away, leaving him with just a wireless.

He heard footsteps. This always made him rush to the grid, because it meant that someone was coming to talk to him. Joe ambled round in front of the grid.

“Oh, hello, Joe,”

“Morning, Arthur. How are you?”

“Well, not as good as I should be, but, well, all right.” His face beamed through the grid.

“Joe, as you’re the best pal I’ve got, d’you think they’ll let me out for my birthday? I mean, you could ask.”

“I think they will Arthur. I’ll ask them.”

“Thanks a lot, Joe. You’re my best friend.”

Two days passed, and it was Arthur’s thirtieth birthday. Joe came round to see him at ten o’clock as he usually did.

“C’mon, Arthur, you can come out today.”

“Thanks, Joe, thanks.” Arthur was so excited as Joe bent down to pick him up. Arthur was only two feet six.

“You know, Arthur, the brains have just made an improved version of you, and he’s much younger and more intelligent—” Arthur interrupted, “But not as nice, eh?”

“No,” Joe chuckled. “The thing is, Arthur, we just don’t want you any more,” and with that, Joe threw Arthur down a square hatch. Above it was written SCRAP. He stood there, and a voice came out from inside.

“Thanks for letting me out, Joe. You’re the best friend I ever—” Then silence.

TREVOR TOMS.

## SONG OF TIME

They climbed to the top of the hill,  
and sang songs of liberty and freedom.  
And afterwards, they lay down and  
watched the world go by,  
till their eyes sung with the happiness  
of being alone,  
and believing in nothing but themselves.

But a generation later, they returned,  
and drank the view with an  
already slaked thirst, and cursed  
the ground on which they stood  
and the weight upon their shoulders.

CHRIS DAINTY.

## WHITE OWL

White owl perched upon a tree top,  
Still and quiet;  
Listens to the creeping motion  
Of dusking twilight across the sky.

Leaves whisper all around him,  
Slow and quicker;  
Hears the ever growing shadows  
Slipping down amongst the roots.

Moon rises in the deepening blue,  
Proud and secure;  
Never knows what owl is thinking  
And rules the realm of Night.

Mountains strive with icy eyes,  
White and colder;  
Try to understand the meaning  
Of the words they thought they heard.

River ripples past the pine trees,  
Clear and sandy;  
Laughs at owl and passes onward  
To a sea that laps another shore.

Girl in green walks through the wood,  
Soft and starry;  
Mists the air with cloudy sighs  
And believes she is alone.

Time awakens far in the East,  
Strong and cruel;  
Rips away the ageing blindness  
Of those who dream whilst fast asleep.

White owl perched upon the tree top,  
Old and wiser,  
Watches them and ponders deeply  
On his thoughts of long ago.

PHIL SEALEY.

## TAME FISH

I fly around the room with my head held high,  
The goldfish start to chew me as I start to die,  
Isn't it a pity,  
Oh what a shame,  
If only I had taught  
My goldfish to be tame.

They pull me into the water, I fear I will be drowned,  
The water surges past me, I cannot hear a sound,  
Isn't it a pity,  
Oh what a shame,  
If only I had taught  
My goldfish to be tame.

The water enters into my head, through my mouth and ears,  
I am being dragged down, never to re-appear,  
Isn't it a pity,  
Oh what a shame,  
If only I had taught  
My goldfish to be tame.

TONY ILOTT.

## UNDERGROUND

Here we lie, trapped by that Earth  
Which begat us.

Shall our limp bodies ever be set Free  
Or here left to die and rot,  
Visited only by the worms and waters.

I look around the vast cavern  
That Engulfs us—  
And wonder  
Which of us here will first succumb  
To that deep sleep heralding  
Escape:  
So what Purpose Life now—  
Now that the Truth is so near.

We are Alone  
Swiftly approaching that door  
Through which All must pass  
In the End.

D. CROWTHER.

## LOST

Yellow motivations of solitude  
Poured haphazardly through my head  
Hour glasses splintered and fell  
In line with all the other thoughts  
Of yesterday's precious love.

PETER PING.

## THE FORGOTTEN TOWN

In mid-summer, south of Rome, a hot shimmering haze hangs over the coastal plain and gently hugs the hills. Most tourists make a beeline for the Abbey of Monte Cassino caring little for the glory of a bygone age. Close by, is an old Roman town clinging to the hillside, its main street climbing its way over the lower spurs. A solitary mausoleum stands guard over the northern approaches to the town, the Latin script extolling the virtues of some long forgotten general or high ranking patrician. Deeply cut into the hillside, a small theatre nestles. Its compact mass hides down a side street, in a state of almost perfect repair. Near the centre of the town, a large amphitheatre boldly sits astride a spur. A sign in modern Italian warns of crumbling stonework. Deep ruts in the stone flags proclaim the passing of many carts, where now the infrequent pedestrian picks his path with care. The road continues towards the south-east out of the town, out across the plain, running straight as a die, towards Capua.

AMULA.

## PORTRAIT OF A MISER

Mister Anthony Elmon Jones  
Money-minded lazy-bones  
See, the world, it laughs at you  
And the other Shylocks too.  
Mister Anthony Elmon Jones  
Don't hoard your money and hold from loans  
When you're dead we'll put your ash  
In a 'baccy tin—to save the cash.

C. J. BARNARD.

## REVERSAL

When the fire is burning at the height of its violent, virile vigour,  
When heat fills the room in a hale glory,  
Do we realise that fire, friend, warmth, heat, comfort,  
Can all too easily turn against us,  
And the placid pile, seemingly subservient and subdued,  
Is allowed to break out, catching at, clinging to cloth,  
And all at once spreads itself out in a blaze of destruction,  
So long pent up, rejoices in new-found freedom.  
Takes total advantage, becoming the master,  
For us, who thought to have tamed and broken in the unquench-  
able spirit,  
So that it bowed down before us ready to be used in whatever way  
might please us,  
See friendly fellow, fire, come into its own,  
And then in an instant we are paralysed, petrified,  
While Fire, tyrant now, rages its roaring road of retribution,  
To destruction, inferno, annihilation, oblivion,  
And nothing is sacrosanct, nothing, even its erstwhile overlord,  
And soon we too, lingering late in the wake of the surging  
light,  
Are caught up in the triumphant march of the obedient underling,  
And we too in our turn are consumed . . .

R. C.

## SONIC QUESTION

Purple thoughts of beauty crossed my mind today  
As I looked at life from another way,  
Where pitted trees were filled with air  
That whistled through my body and my hair,  
Across my head and to the brain  
Making everything appear so plain,  
That even I could see the world go past  
Spreading colours that held fast,  
Until I pulled that terrible blind—  
And then all shot from my mind  
Screams fell past my ears  
Time added many years;  
Soon this experience was too much to bind  
And I tried to unwind—  
But I was too late, hope had fled,  
And without it my mind has bled  
All its facts and notes are worn away,  
The purple thoughts have turned to another day.

PETER R. B. PING.

## BLACK MARSH

Black reeds swaying,  
Water rippling,  
Silvery moonshine,  
Reflected in liquescent images,  
Fading in radiating waves.  
A fish leaps,  
The silence is broken,  
Silver spray,  
Frogs croaking,  
Wind whistling in vibrating rushes,  
Redshanks call,  
A skein of wild geese flies slowly across the fluorescent moon,  
Clouds floating silently in the cool breeze,  
An owl hoots,  
Snipe, curlew, wild duck, effortlessly flying in the boundless sky,  
Across the black marsh,  
The lonely, desolate marsh.

S. A. EDWARDS.

## THE SEA

Where the winds wail freely forth without  
Hindrance. There the vessels find no limit  
Blueness overwhelms their insignificance!  
Far, far distant finds another land.  
Here it halts, but echoes on again  
Beyond the horizon's horizon.

TIM LOWE.

## THE FIGHT OF PERSEUS

Shivering mass of jellied sin  
Kaleidoscope eye the talk within  
Stones of figures meets the eye  
Valley of death to seat the lie  
Crumbling city on concert stand  
Perseus shimmers spear in hand  
Reflecting shield the mass within  
Turns outward following circle tin  
The shiver, shimmer, shaking state  
The brilliance turns the sapphire hate  
The return brings forth the hooded joy  
As Perseus lances good employ  
The people clap collecting coin  
The limbs of parting quickly join  
Perseus, knight of good intent  
The Greek victorious mighty sent.

BARNEY PAYNE.

## THE FIGHT OF PERSEUS

Limited space and general balance forbid the inclusion of more of Barney Payne's poems on mythological subjects, but this one is I think the most interesting and most successful of its kind.

Perseus is sent to kill Medusa the Gorgon, (whose glance turns men to stone), and to bring back her head. He does this by using his highly polished shield\* as a mirror and cutting off her head whilst looking at her reflection. He returns to the king who sent him on this expedition and brings forth the head ("hooded joy" line 11), restores those who have been turned to stone† and receives the praise of the people. Despite the differences between this and the original story, the poetic treatment contains the basic elements, and is more concerned with the general atmosphere of the whole tale rather than accuracy in detail.

The most noticeable characteristic of the poem is the alliteration or more precisely, the concentration on the harsher consonants. The collection of T's, S's, R's, D's and C's, all go together to form an impression of Perseus's majesty and dignity, and are in sharp contrast to the "shiver, shimmer shaking" which increases the effect by making our whole vision of the scene hazy. Medusa described as a "shivering mass of jellied sin" and later as "the lie", has a sinister character which again contrasts with that of Perseus expressed in the last two lines. The lack of punctuation is at first confusing but does unite the episode, showing it as one continuous experience from start to finish, and because of the lack of phrasing, all the visions of various aspects of the scene melt into one another.

The choice of adjectives is odd but effective, "sapphire hate" and "hooded joy" being examples of the obscurity that this unconnected sequence of ideas can produce. Indeed in some cases the word has been chosen merely because of its sound or visual effect and has no related meaning at all. This explains such phrases as "lances good employ" line 12 and "collecting coin" in the following line, which is **not** intended to mean "a whip round".

On first reading this poem is obscure and practically incomprehensible, and it remains so to a certain extent. Obviously readers who expect each word of a poem to have a distinct, related meaning may not appreciate this particularly individual and original attempt at mood-evocation through the use of sounds, sights and ideas which is in my view highly successful.

ANDREW HAVARD.

\* ("tin" line 8.)

(†line 14.)

## BUDGET '68

Since the Labour Government assumed office, the history of some of its economic policies has reflected apparent gross mismanagement. The National Plan was formulated—then abandoned. Devaluation was rejected—then adopted. The Government was rapidly losing support and we are now occasionally hearing confessions of defeat, albeit coupled with innumerable excuses. The plain fact is that the Government itself was incompetent and that even when it took action it was too late and too half-hearted. When the momentous decision to devalue the pound was taken, there was no immediate follow-up with strong measures to curb the consumer boom and thus give devaluation a chance to reap its full benefits. Instead, the home economy was left unaltered until the Budget of this year.

It was by now absolutely evident that this was the last chance for the Government to prove itself. We had a new Chancellor and an aim to direct the economy from a consumer-led boom to an export-led boom. We were expecting strong action and Mr. Jenkins has certainly provided this. He has avoided the errors of the past Chancellor by allowing himself a margin on which the effects of any future setback can be absorbed without adversely affecting his policy. Thus a firm foundation has been laid on which the advantages of devaluation can be fully exploited.

But this is only the beginning. The real test will come with the prices and incomes policy. The Government can expect the hostility of the Unions. In their opinion, they have already suffered enough and the new indirect taxation measures will have secured their opposition. It is infuriating to witness our opportunities being wrecked owing to the sectional interests of people who seem to be totally incapable of examining any measure in a long-term view. If the Government fails to control prices and incomes, then all hope is lost. We can only hope that people will realise the immense difficulties that are facing us and that they will sacrifice their position in the short run in order to secure greater prosperity in the future.

JEREMY WARD.

### A LITTLE HELP FROM OTHERS . . . . .

The world of the blind is unknown  
Outside worlds fearfully flash past  
And people shaped only in imagination  
Walk selfishly by.  
The cry is in the mind  
For the small help that will not be given—  
And everyone is just the same.

TREVOR TOMS.

## HISTORY

Sweep through the veils of death and so-called glory,  
Light the lamps of life and merge into half-light,  
Sit down on a turning-point and tell a story,  
Be on your way, go back into the night.

Silent throngs will greet you from the past,  
The tale they tell will guide you back to life,  
And to the very first and not the last,  
The first-known screams will cut you like a knife.

And as you return you find you found much less,  
That life is everchanging but quite still  
The people then would never pass the test  
That men are failing now and always will.

Conventions, rules and treaties, Kings and Queens,  
Will tell you facts, but nothing's ever seen.

BARNEY PAYNE.

## TWILIGHT MEMORANDUM/WORLD WITHOUT END

The mocking sun dissolves  
    in blurred horizons.  
Lonely sentinels grow numb upon their lonely parapets  
    desiring sleep  
    but pledged to guard the gates eternally.  
A distant war-gong throbs its weary clarion,  
    calling sadly to the frozen dead,  
    but  
        echoing ever softer, ever slower,  
        inside the icebound  
        sepulchres.

MIKE ROSE.

My mother weeps all alone  
As the night crawls into the room,  
All because my father lies in his tomb.

My brother, who is only two, doesn't understand  
He thinks the reason why mother weeps  
Is because of a heavy hand.

It's up to me this family to protect and save,  
And all because my father  
Lies stately in his grave.

TONY ILOTT.

## FIGHTING YOUTH OF VIETNAM

"The crab run". That is what they call this difficult section of winding road. The going is made even more difficult by the Americans bombing the road about thirty times a day in order to stop the transports.

The 5th Vietnamese Youth Battalion vowed that the vital traffic on the road would not be stopped. Their unit marched off through the jungle to see to the repairs.

Early in the morning the cold wind cut their cheeks. Their camouflage leaves, soaked by the rain, felt like ice on their backs. They marched, heavily laden with sacks of rice and ammunition; often their bare feet stuck deep in the mud, but when the bombers appeared overhead, they scattered as quickly as they re-formed.

It took three days to reach the road, walking all the way. As soon as they arrived, work was begun despite the constant presence of reconnaissance 'planes. Early on, a young nurse was injured by an exploding time bomb; realising that the road had been packed with such bombs by the Americans, they first used mines to wipe them out and then filled in the craters.

Surprisingly, it took only a short time to complete this, the most difficult part of their assignment. Then they placed safety rails along the steep parts of the road. The anti-aircraft unit fired off three rounds to signal that the road was clear for the journey to the front line.

The U.S.A. is underestimating the fierce determination of the youth of Vietnam. Wherever there is any difficult task, there you will find them. To dig the mountain and fill the river is difficult indeed, but if you are resolute, you will triumph.

G. CALVÉ.

## MEDITATIONS ON VIETNAM

Current opinion is very much against America and its policy in Vietnam. Pictures of pathetic peasants in their flattened villages are connected with American actions, and on the shoulders of L.B.J. is poured protest against the war. I want briefly to raise some points which seem to have been forgotten.

Russia and China are both helping North Vietnam with supplies and other military aid. Many of the wounded Vietnamese peasants have Russian or Chinese bullets in them.

The Americans are not in S. Vietnam for a minor cause. They believe they are fighting for the freedom of the individual

in S. Vietnam. Recent events in communist countries give extra strength to the fear the Americans have of communism and its encroachment on personal freedom.

War is wrong and should be avoided at all costs, but a man or nation must be allowed to defend property and life, and resist, using force if all else fails. Also nations and individuals should go to the aid of those being unjustly treated, if they can.

My view is that America, Russia and China, all have a responsibility to try to bring diplomatic pressure for agreement on S. Vietnam. The people of S. Vietnam should be allowed to choose without intimidation what their future is. If Communism is what they want, they should be allowed to choose this way and the same with any other form of government. The North Vietnamese and Liberation front should get out along with the Americans and leave South Vietnam alone.

The basic problem is man's inability to live with his neighbour and short of a world-wide conversion to Christianity, there will always be a Vietnam somewhere.

## TO UNFORTUNATE CHILDREN

Think of all those children,  
Of those confined to bed,  
Of those who live in orphan homes,  
Of those who are now dead.

Think of those in Vietnam;  
Think about the war;  
Think about those little children  
Who run from door to door;  
Who dodge the guns and crossfire,  
And run until they tire,  
Risking the odd mortar shell,  
Getting closer, closer  
To fire and Hell.

Think of all those children  
Who live in wealthy houses,  
While others have not any food,  
And some no home to go to.  
Think of the ones that need the care;  
Look, most people don't turn a hair.

J. PLANAS.

## GROSVENOR SQUARE: MARCH 17th, 1968

The whole of Trafalgar Square, overshadowed by Nelson's scaffolded plinth, was packed with people when we arrived. All age groups were in evidence, especially young people, waving Liberation Front flags. The speeches were short and to the point; we were supporting the Vietnamese people in their struggle and the U.S. Embassy was to know it.

The long march began. After a slow start, accompanied by the horns of outraged motorists, we snaked towards our target. Everybody, united against the common enemy, was cheerful but resolute. The onlookers, the traffic jams, the sheer size of the siege ensured that this was going to be a protest with a difference.

Approaching our turning down South Audley Street from Oxford Street, we were halted by a fifteen-minute sit-down ahead. The pace quickened as we caught the scent, and the determination became more obvious at the sight of the eight hundred so-called guardians of the law.

Thirty yards to go, and we linked arms. The fears, the hopes, the anticipation, even the joys, mingled as we saw the first helmetless and bespattered constables. The police, with all but one advantage—numbers—were clearly worried by our size and militancy. We surged forward with thousands behind us, and I was face to face with the not so thin blue line. The nearest constable addressed me:

“Get back, you fool.”

The crowd, unhearing, pressed on.

“Right, we'll have this out,” he announced.

Round the neck, the legs, the arms, the five brave men grabbed me. I struggled—we fell—their small remaining gentleness evaporated. The green coach with its barred windows became my refuge from the madness outside. The coach, parked by the Embassy steps, already contained ten comrades, and we were soon joined by more. The sergeant in charge was enjoying himself. His delighted cries o'

“We're winning,”

were replied to by the inquiry,

“You're winning what?”

A short fight in the front of the coach interrupted our grandstand view of the events outside. The smoke bombs, dye, clods of earth and banner poles rained down. Both sides were violent, and a minority on both sides were finding pleasure in it. Two demonstrators, on their way to join us, had their heads deliberately hit against the side of the coach—the only case of police brutality I personally witnessed on a day of many accusations.

After forty-five minutes, a short fight and a verse or two of "We shall overcome", we were carried away to Bow Street Station. After eliciting the information that I was a juvenile, I was searched by a W.P.C. and led to a cell. My belief in solitary confinement as a corrective measure, never very strong, was completely shattered by two hours of that sophisticated torture. Only the sounds of plodding feet and two girls crying and beating on the cell doors disturbed my thoughts.

Was it worth it?

A thought: perhaps, somewhere, many miles away in a country not renowned for its peace, a small man heard of our demonstration and, heartened, entered his twenty-seventh year of struggle.

### ODE TO ALBERT, A VERY DEAD BUDGIE

Down beside the fish pond,  
Where long-dead fishes swim,  
Down amongst the tall, dank reeds,  
Where no sun filters in,  
Down beneath the fresh-turned earth,  
All damp and deathly grim,  
This is where poor Albert lies,  
Buried in a tin.

Where he is free from cats, and time,  
No more to ring his bell,  
Down amongst the dark brown slime,  
A budgie's gone to Hell.  
He couldn't have gone to Heaven,  
Where all good budgies go,  
Because we had his wings clipped,  
And besides he's old and slow.

He sang to us each morning,  
He sang to us at night,  
And swore at us quite happily,  
When we put out the light.

But in the morning, cold and chill,  
We found him lying there,  
On his back with his eyes closed,  
And his feet stuck in the air.

The morning, burial came and went,  
The bitter tear was shed,  
And written on the tiny cross  
"Here lies dead Albert . . .  
. . . Dead".

## THE DREAMER

He lay in front o' the warm fireside,  
He'd had too much supper that eventide  
And was sleeping off the meat and liver,  
While his hair and whiskers were all a-quiver.

Whimpering there he dreamt he'd been  
The finest mascot of the army ever seen.  
He was parading on the dull courtyard  
While Her Majesty the Queen was inspecting the guard.

With a nudge from his master he became  
A sheep dog racing with an eye to fame,  
Guiding sheep at a sheep dog trial,  
Guiding them well with grace and style.

On turning over he was now, in his dreams,  
Of the mighty police dog force it seems.  
Chasing a criminal through a crowd,  
While policemen blew whistles so long and so loud.

His master stirred the fire with a poker  
And changed his dream to a well groomed cur,  
Participating in a show for prizes  
Amongst dogs of all colours, shapes and sizes.

And now a blind lady was his charge,  
Guiding her around the streets at large.  
Taking her shopping with every care  
Trusted well and always there.

Through sleep he heard a paper rustle  
Which turned him into a ball of muscle,  
Chasing a fake hare at the races—  
Before a sea of human faces.

The fire threw out a red hot spark,  
Making Dreamer jump up and bark.  
"Time for your run," his master said.  
Out in the cold his dreams just fled.

H. K. MAIN.

## RESTING ESCAPIST

- Half-asleep:     Look,  
                  and I see green.  
                  Sun-clothed vision  
                  beautiful feeling  
                  far away and disconnected.
- Awake:            Work, slave, back to work.
- Half-asleep:     Bright-clothed and care-free  
                  going to nowhere,  
                  wading through sun-beams  
                  feeding on air,  
                  living, dying and disappearing  
                  tears of gratefulness  
                  of company enjoyed,  
                  good-bye  
                  not a sorrow  
                  but a new born being.
- Visitor:          What's that you say?
- Awake:            Hmm?  
                  Mystery's flooding time's ever-stagnant pool,  
                  Curiosity's a magnet  
                  strong then stronger  
                  my resistance lessening  
                  and I'll be going  
                  I do not wish that I should stay longer.
- Half-asleep:     Look,  
                  so like children  
                  as we ought to be,  
                  tears to cry with,  
                  pleasure to sigh.
- Drink  
                  like honey to your eye  
                  If in reality  
                  you be as unhappy as I.

W. JARVIS.

Kindred spirits,  
Friends on the tide  
Under a hot  
Summer sun—  
Only the horizon constant.

PAUL WRIGHT.

## KENG WAH

Humming rain  
And clouds, waves shattering  
A black beach of sky.  
Wind, low and moaning  
Over my roof.

And in my room  
The forgotten Keng Wah,  
Flower-of-the-moon,  
Lift a ragged head  
To explore 'secretly her one night of bloom.

Kim, mother-of-pearl  
Daughter of an oyster  
Lifts one mysterious eye  
And the single phallus of the moonflower erupts  
Billowing white waves of perfume.

After the storm  
In the small dew hours  
returning light  
The sky painter at work  
And Keng Wah, weeping petal-ash  
Bursting dawn.

CHRIS. DAINTY.

## NEW RELIGION

'Tis a Sunday morning,  
Clean, holy, free  
But I must wash my mini,  
1963.

'Tis a Sunday morning,  
Clean, holy, free,  
But I can see the T.V. mast,  
Good old B.B.C.

'Tis a Sunday morning,  
Clean, holy, free  
But I'm a slave to a new God,  
G.C.E.

T. W. SMITH.

- School Is  
The smell of chalk dust and feet  
Musty books, stale milk  
Stubbed out cigarettes.
- School Is  
Tattered magazines read only under  
Desk lids blackened with layers of writing  
Each one an encapsulated history.
- School Is  
Bouncing balls  
Scratched paintwork  
The sound of breaking glass.
- School Is  
Grey pin-stripe masters  
In the shredded remains  
Of ectoplasmic gowns.
- School Is  
Knowing people are bigger than you.
- School Is  
Homework, written on the top of a bus  
With a crossed nib pen.
- School Is  
Trying to keep your identity  
And your initials before your name.
- School Is  
Spontaneous laughter  
A sad teacher.
- School Is  
Cold mud  
Hot showers  
Warm Curry.
- School Is  
Empty crisp packets by an overflowing drinking  
fountain  
Screwed up milk bottle tops  
A cap living in the rain.
- School Is  
A sigh of relief  
After your "O" Levels.

ROLAND A. DENNING

## LIFE

My mind is set in the street of oblivion,  
Far beyond others' reaching thoughts,  
Where the eyes of life ponder,  
But never dare to walk.

PETER PING.

## THE LIGHT SHALL COME

Grey towers, red brick  
Discoloured by moss  
Ensnared by vine  
Poor change, at the foot  
Strangled by recognizable shadows  
Laugh now, selfish shadows  
For your time is soon to come  
The light shall appear  
And the Bureaucratic Shadows shall be gone.

IAN ORME.

## TOO LATE

The sand was covered with a thin red carpet,  
The blood-soaked bodies lay  
Twisted in the wreckage.  
No sound was heard except  
The click of hot metal,  
Being made even hotter  
By the bright desert sun.

A man's head stuck out of a window,  
The empty gape on its face.  
The engines torn from their moorings,  
Lay a hundred yards away.  
Everything was still  
And then  
By the deep furrow in the sand  
Made by this great ship of the sky  
Came the sound of hard-driven lorries,  
The rescue team.  
Too late.

J. N. BLAKE.

## INSPIRED BY CREAM

With supersonic speed,  
With computer-like accuracy,  
The nimble intelligent fingers,  
Swift with trained thoughts,  
Eric Clapton plays, and has the audience in a subconscious  
dramatic trance.

With his own idealistic playing,  
Practising to perfection,  
Patterns of brilliance,  
Unmatchable co-ordination  
Ginger Baker masters his drums, as nobody else can.

Voice like a nightingale,  
Unbelievable timing involved,  
His mastery of the bass guitar,  
His ultra-creative mind,  
Make Jack Bruce the only one of his kind.

RICHARD COOPER.

## GREETINGS

The English have an international reputation for being totally ingrained, expressionless. The English don't cry at funerals, they muse that it happens to all of us some day. The Frenchman says "Bonjour", the German "Guten Tag", the Russian crushes the life out of you, the Englishman grunts. We deserve this reputation, we are still the most unfriendly of peoples, not only to individuals of other nations, but to ourselves. Sex is taboo, life is taboo, politics is boring, but so is the weather. The Frenchman says "I love you," the Englishman declares his undying devotion.

The richer we grow, the more we dote upon our personal possessions and present a cold exterior to the outside world. We live in shoe-boxes, and leaning over the garden fence to converse is not an act of neighbourliness, it is sheer necessity. But, of course, we are really warm, friendly, hospitable, vital people, and the legend is merely a legend.

D. LISHMAN.

## TO A GIRL FRIEND

Thinking of you,  
Of soft summer days,  
And of long golden hair  
Ruffled by a gentle breeze.

Of clear bright eyes  
Reflecting the beauty  
Of a sunset  
Over an open bay.

And of your gentle touch  
As we stood together  
Hand in hand.

## BRIGHT NIGHT

As multi-coloured sweets fell from the sky  
A cloud of blue smoke rose up on high,  
And hid from view the bangles and beads  
Which adorned the crowd with such fragrance and power  
Turning the day into a pretty one, a lovely one,  
Where all thoughts drifted far away

And no-one spoke of another day.  
It was not until the night that life was restored,  
Then people rushed and flitted about  
Throwing the flowers and sparks of life  
To those who could catch them with ease;  
Who, receiving them fell to their knees.

### *Daytime*

Green fettled carpets with speckled blue eyes  
Crawled seductively across the floor,  
While others laughed and looked at the door,  
Which fell on them—the carpet was unscathed.

PETER R. B. PING.

## SUN ON ROOFS

The golden threads of light lie still  
On warm curving tiles and lead,  
The greenness seen below is radiant  
The waving stalks no longer dead.

The golden gift shines forth with curving  
Waves of light on leaves,  
The broken heart that burst in winter  
Frozen still no longer grieves.

BARNEY PAYNE.

## COUNTRY DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES

The sun was nearly shining. The clouds were just winning their struggle against his rays. Over the hill the battle was lost and won, the sun's light came down in shafts as it does in cheap illustrated Bibles.

I quickened my pace. The road was wet and the wind was cold.

Over the hill came a short figure. He was well wrapped against the nip in the air.

"Hello, John."

"Hello, Mr. Folly."

"Not the weather . . . .  
. . . . to be out . . . .  
. . . . . and about."

"Goodbye."

"See ya."

"Ta ta."

And off he went to work  
the whole  
day  
away.

On

Two daffodils, brave and early, bent to the unthinking February wind.

On

I passed the shop, stopped, delved into my pocket, counted with my hand, turned, and entered,  
ding.

" . . . and they say she led him on, but you know *her* . . . "

ding.

"Oh hello John."

"Half a pound of apples if they're crisp, Mr. Witney, I must hurry."

She was not in a hurry, and she knew I knew. Guiltily she stole out of the shop, caught in the act of character assassination.

Mr. Witney turned, smiling, to me.

"Well John . . . ."

Time passed.

"I hate that woman, Mr. Witney, she loves washing other people's dirty linen—  
the bitch!"

"Yes John, anything else?"

"Yes, she should be stopped!"

"That's 4/6d. then."

"Shot,—hung!"

"Goodbye."

"The cow."

I left with my pears under my arm.

There was Mrs. Jones again, you know, the bitch. She was spreading her lies about Sally again.

I'm sure she thinks the poor kid's going to be born with  
"BASTARD"

stamped on its chest in 3-inch Gothic script.

I went up to her.

"Why can't you shut your filthy mouth? Can't you leave Sally alone, you cruel cat?"

"Yes it was nice, but it's turned cold."

"If I had the guts I'd strangle you with cheese wire?"

"Yes, quite well thank you."

"See you in Hell!"

"Goodbye."

I walked home silently, angry with myself.

"Why can't I say what I feel?"

That night I dreamt of Mrs. Jones, strangling Sally's kid with a string of obscene innuendoes.

I woke shouting

"The BITCH!"

and made myself some Horlicks.

JOHN WOODHOUSE.



## BRITISH RED CROSS GROUP

Throughout the year the Red Cross group has functioned in its usual, rather easy-going fashion. With Simon Owen in charge until Christmas we had unusual talks on the history and functioning of the Social Services. Owen and several others left at Christmas and James Tomlinson took over.

Since then we've had a long series of lectures, films and practical sessions on nuclear war. Although cut short by the overdue disbandment of Civil Defence who provided the lecturer, the course was followed by an exam. which all 16 of us passed. Since then we have done little but view films and next term's activities will be curtailed by "O" and "A" level examinations.

The group is not solely concerned with First Aid—a popular misconception. Although we feel everyone should be proficient at this, most of our activities cover other subjects that are "socially useful". Thus the Red Cross group is worth joining if you are fed up on Thursday afternoons; there is no uniform—unless you want it!

J. D. TOMLINSON.

## CAR CLUB

The formation of the Car Club last year was welcomed by a large number of people, both in the sixth forms and in the lower school, for it was agreed that although membership would be limited to the Sixth Forms, the lower school would be allowed to attend films. This arrangement proved quite successful at first, but I will say more about that later.

Films apart, activities have comprised two trips open to all-comers. The first of these was an interesting, though short, trip to the Motor Show at Earls Court; but undoubtedly the high-

light of the Car Club's year was the visit to Vauxhall Motors at Luton which was made in February this year. This trip was a splendid affair which lasted a whole day and included a tour of the various parts of the factory, from drawing-board to production line, and a very acceptable lunch provided free of charge by Vauxhall. On the way round the factory a few members of the party noticed the new Viva GT which at that time had not been announced, thus adding an air of mystery to the magical tour.

The success of the Vauxhall trip was not in any way equalled by the several films which were shown this term. The films have all been very interesting and the subjects dealt with varied from the design and construction of a new model to competition driving, but on no occasion was there a large enough attendance to justify the borrowing of the film. My only comment on this matter is probably well known in reports of a different nature: this isn't good enough. On these grounds it has been decided to open membership to the whole School.

RICHARD WALLER.

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

What is the Christian Fellowship? Who are they that belong to it? Are they a band of Bible thumping, ancient and modern addicted hymn singing, eighteenth century bound raving lunatics, locked in the Chapel around a copy of the 1928 prayer book? If you walked into their meetings, held in a junior school form room, you would find an ordinary looking group of boys, believers and non-believers, many who belong to rugby and cross-country teams, who are librarians and prefects. What do they do in these meetings? Sing choruses, psalms and read chunks of the Bible? In fact they are quite trendy and have discussions and talks.

It is surprising, in this enlightened age of advanced education, to hear the mystic and dream-like pictures of Christianity boys have in this School, though the teaching of Religious Education and the meaningless assemblies, to the majority, do not aid the efforts of the Christian Fellowship to relate Christianity to the Twentieth Century. For this has been the aim of the Christian Fellowship and the difficulty of conveying our belief in relationship to a man who lived 2,000 years ago, is realised and we hope through our meetings and our lives, to give a clearer picture why we believe in Christ and why we bother to tell others of Him.

TONY WHITAKER.

## THE CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The Classical Society in the last nine months has been rather quiet. The model of the Roman Villa, which was expected to have been finished for last Speech Day, may well be finished for the next. At the beginning of the Autumn Term, Mark Lowe (who recently won an open scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford), gave an informative lecture on Roman pets. Later on in the same term Mr. F. N. Cooper gave a highly interesting and very popular talk on Rome.

This term we have been lucky enough to receive (along with other neighbouring schools) a lecture by Mr. G. R. Todd on the Altar of Peace. The results of the Latin Reading competition are entered in the School Notes.

JAMES MCBRIDE.

## THE COIN CLUB

The Coin Club is new on the scene, having been formed only in the Autumn Term last year (1967). We have a small but active membership which meets frequently under the Chairmanship of Mr. Holt. At the moment there is a tendency in the Club to concentrate on British coins, but foreign coins are not altogether neglected.

It is hoped to run a trip to the Royal Mint in the Summer Term. The proposed issue of some of the new decimal currency later this year is eagerly awaited by our members. We look forward to an active time in the next two terms.

A. M. AMES.

## FORUM

Whoever said that "he who shouts in the wilderness will be heard, but he who shouts at a Forum meeting will not be heard—because there are no Forum meetings" was obviously not one of this year's 160 members.

In fact Forum has had its most active year since its inception. R. Gash: please note that Forum is now firmly on the ground. (Reference: Wycombiensian, May 1967). Our most successful activity has been the series of W.A.D.S. debates—see separate report. Another activity which has expanded greatly since last year has been the showing of films. Of these the most popular have been "Continent Without Frontiers," about the E.E.C.,

“Birmingham to Preston Motorway,” “York and its University,” and “Anatomy of Apartheid”.

We began the school year with more conventional activities. A debate on the motion that “This house believes that the Queen’s Hall should be converted into a bowling alley,” and was followed the next day by the lunchtime meeting “Science in the Hotseat” which provoked a good deal of discussion on the 6th Form syllabus. At great personal risk, Forum itself was put in the Hotseat later in the term. Other lunchtime meetings included an L.P. session and a balloon debate, which was won by Peter Muckley as Tolstoy.

Other internal debates have been “This house believes in the Human Race” in which the authors of this report clashed bitterly(!), and an emergency debate “This house no longer has confidence in the Government’s Economic policy” after the measure of devaluation, which produced a spasm of real intellect! In addition, the first term saw three guest speakers at Forum meetings: John Paul, from the Anti-Common Market League; Jack Straw, President of Leeds Students Union; and John Wakeman from the English Speaking Union. They presented thoroughly interesting talks, and it was a pity that on two occasions unpleasant weather conditions caused the audiences to be rather depleted.

The Spring term has seen one major activity other than the showing of films and the W.A.D.S. debates—the Forum Quiz, a vastly ambitious experiment run roughly on the lines of “University Challenge” to discover the most informed 6th Form. At the moment we do not know the result of the Quiz, and the question setters are beginning to regret they ever started! Time alone will tell whether this exercise is worth repeating another year.

At least we try to stimulate the 6th Form. We have not always succeeded, at times becoming “uninterested 6th Formers” ourselves. But nevertheless, we will keep trying and ask you to remember someone’s immortal words “don’t laugh, it may be your turn next”.

P. J. SMITH, *Secretary*.

J. N. WOOLLEY, *Treasurer*.

## W.A.D.S. DEBATES

OCTOBER

“This house believes that the Public School is a necessary institution in the modern age”.

R.G.S. speaker: Peter Gilson (for the motion).  
Motion defeated.

- NOVEMBER            “This house deplores racial segregation”.  
R.G.S. speaker: Mark Lowe (against the motion).  
Motion carried.
- DECEMBER            “This house believes that the age of majority  
should be lowered to 18”.  
R.G.S. speaker: Adrian Bowyer (against) the  
motion).  
Motion carried.
- JANUARY            “This house regrets the shortage of English  
gentlemen”.  
R.G.S. speaker: Chris. Palme (for the motion).  
Motion carried.
- FEBRUARY            “This house believes the B.B.C. adequate  
for modern tastes”.  
R.G.S. speaker: Paul Smith (against the motion).  
Motion carried.
- MARCH                “This house believes that marriage is a  
dying institution”.  
R.G.S. speaker: Alastair Pearson (for the motion).  
Motion defeated.

To have been to a W.A.D.S. debate has proved an experience which one is not likely to forget in a hurry. What the speakers may have lacked in debating skill, has been more than adequately compensated by the humour both of the speakers and audience!

The basic idea of W.A.D.S. was to bring together members of the sixth forms of the High School, the Lady Verney High School, the Technical High School, and the R.G.S., to debate some of the more fundamental issues at stake at the moment. Some have proved less fundamental than others and this has been reflected by some of the very terse comments on the choice of debate topics, if not of the motions themselves.

Each of the four schools has acted as host in turn. As it was the Forum Committee who pioneered the idea of W.A.D.S., the R.G.S. staged the first debate. Attendance was in the region of 200, though this number has never been equalled since but numbers have never fallen below 60. Each school provides one speaker for the debates and the host school provides the Chairman. Within this framework there is a great deal of flexibility; for the first four debates procedure was entirely formal but the format has since been moderated to allow the speakers to be questioned if anybody in the audience wishes.

Anyway, the debates have proved very popular and I hope that they will continue to be organised in successive years as they

provide some of the relief from the concentrated work which the Sixth Form entails. Finally I would like to extend my thanks to the rest of the W.A.D.S. Committee for their work of organisation in their respective schools and most especially to John Robinson who suggested the name W.A.D.S. which stands appropriately enough for Wycombe Association of Debating Schools.

PAUL JEROME SMITH,  
Chairman of W.A.D.S.

## JAZZ AND FOLK CLUB

It seems a long time since the first Jazz and Folk club meeting, designed, so the newsletter informed, "with active performance in mind". There was certainly plenty of activity. An audience of five or six hundred encircled the stage as Yogi's Disorganised Jug Stompers made their debut. "Disorganised we seem, and disorganised we're proud to be!" proclaimed Yogi, and went on to demonstrate just what he meant.

No one minded the unprofessional approach. Indeed, they seemed to enjoy the mistakes and misfortunes as much as the programme itself. In the first and succeeding concerts, there were folk items of all kinds from a wide variety of people, drawn singly or in groups from most forms in the upper half of the school. They revealed a surprising wealth of technique, ability and self confidence. Almost anyone in gay mood can sing to a party in light hearted surroundings. It is quite another matter to do the same to a large audience in the sober atmosphere of Queen's Hall. Sober it certainly was; at least in the very early stages of each concert. Towards the end of the thirty minutes allocated to the society—much too short a time for anything but a brief acquaintance with artists—the audience seemed content with proceedings. They cheered performers and clapped in time with the more extravagant performances—the "old time" sound of the Jug Band, or the ear splitting beat of Cavey's "pop" group, once christened "Cavey's Cave Men", a title which met with some disapproval.

Towards the end of the winter term, we became well pleased with the progress of the society, and determined to promote its future development. At the start of the spring term, we issued membership cards at a nominal fee, and charged for the admission of non-members to the concerts and newly formed record sessions. The money received from these activities has been put aside for use at a later date: to buy new equipment such as a microphone and amplifier; to stage better concerts with performers drawn from the Wycombe Folk and Jazz élite.

These developments have been hindered by the enormously decreased size of our audiences and by the slow sale of membership cards. The introduction of payments at concerts was bound to reduce the audience, and we are not unduly concerned. Interest in the club is flourishing and the quality of concerts improving. If these developments continue, we shall be more than satisfied.

J.D.L.

## MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

The work falls into three district divisions, trips, films and layout, with one member of the Committee in charge of each.

### *TRIPS*

There has been only one trip to date and that was to South Wales on Sunday, February 18th. A party of 20 boys visited Diesel Depots at Cardiff, Newport and the Severn Tunnel Junction as well as the extensive scrapyards at Barry Docks owned by Woodhams Brothers.

A trip to the Model Railway Exhibition is being organised, and the possibility of a trip to East Anglian diesel depots in the Summer Term is being investigated.

LAURIE ARNOLD.

### *LAYOUT*

The club layout is being gradually rebuilt nearer to scale standards. However, wilful damage has been done, thus hindering our progress. A sale was recently held which greatly swelled the layout fund and there is still some rolling stock and track to be sold. All the funds raised by this department of the club are used solely for buying new track. Attention is gradually being turned towards the scenery; for this, supplies of cardboard are requested and any help in the future building programme would be appreciated.

G. D. BEARE.

### *FILMS*

The film section of the club has been very active this year. The main themes of the films have been the electrification of railways in this country, in France and the construction of the new Victoria Line. These topics have been chosen so as to attract not only railway enthusiasts but boys interested in electrical and civil engineering.

The attendance at these films has varied greatly. The most popular set of films were those dealing with the Victoria Line which attracted a considerable number of new members from

throughout the school. The proceeds from these films have helped to offset the loss made on previous films. For a long time the number of railway films available on free loan was very limited, but very recently a further set of films has been made available on free loan. We hope that these films will enable this section of the club to run more economically in the future as recently the films have run at a considerable loss.

Next term the number of films in the lunch-hour will be reduced, but instead we would like to show a full length feature film, if enough support can be obtained.

A. BOREHAM.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

We are now well on the way to making the darkroom extension a reality rather than a vague hope. Committee members and a good many members' parents have helped. They have produced professional plans for the project and the assurance that we would be able to pay for it. Some competent structural work has already been done, mainly by Limbrick, Boreham and Dickson. By the time this appears in print, the main extension will probably have been made, and there will be scope for some of those who have volunteered to help with interior work.

Because of the new developments, the darkroom has been little used just lately. But some lunch-time films have been shown; and a visit to the Kodak Colour Processing Division at Hemel Hempstead provided an interesting excursion for eighteen members of the Society.

Owing to pressure of other work Crees has handed over the duties of Treasurer to Boreham. The membership and subscriptions will doubtless be reviewed next term, when the facilities will provide better value than at present.

## RADIO CLUB

Activities ceased in the early part of Christmas term owing to prefectorial intervention. It was hoped to restart the club this term, but the new administration was alarmed by the possible fire risk, and therefore our soldering irons have remained dormant. The club premises are now used for hockey stick storage.

THE COMMITTEE.

## RIFLE CLUB

The shooting so far this year has been rather below our normal standard. Only three members of last year's team returned for this year and so most of the time so far has been spent in rebuilding the team. We took part in seven matches in The Christmas term and although some of the results were disappointing our scores improved steadily throughout the term. The Easter Term was used for *Country Life* practices and the Inter-House Competition.

The *Country Life* Competition was shot on a Thursday afternoon. Despite many practices and efforts to dispel nervous tension, this was still greatly evident and helped to produce a lower score than was expected, although our landscape target may help to produce a reasonable position in the results list. The Second Team shot well and it is hoped they will again win in the event for 2nd teams.

.303 practices have started already and this year we have a busier programme than usual. Practices are being held every week-end and there are several important competitions during the Summer. It is hoped that we will be able to use Wilton Park and Otmoor for .303 shooting next term.

## SOCCER CLUB

Master in charge: Mr. J. D. Lingard.

In a school as large as R.G.S., the existence of a wide range of sports is inevitable. It is also desirable. Interest in one sport promotes interest in another—very few sportsmen in a school are willing to specialize—they prefer to become proficient at several activities. In view of this and the considerable publicity given to football in the daily Press, it is scarcely surprising to find so large a proportion of people at R.G.S. interested in soccer. Whilst realizing that football will never become part of the school curriculum, they are delighted to be given the opportunity of an occasional game. The new R.G.S. Soccer Club, with official recognition from the Games Department, has developed to promote games throughout the school.

The Club is also interested in the game on local, national and international levels. It is hoped in the near future to be able to run excursions to top matches and to show films of past classics, as well as to organise quizzes and discussions on various aspects of the game.

Meanwhile, most forms continue to arrange games at nearby Totteridge Football ground, where pitches are available for hire.

They have been in frequent use, for there is plenty of enthusiasm: at least one team has their own team colours, and the Sixth Form teams have attracted the attention and involvement of several players amongst the school staff.

At the time of writing, the football season draws to a close. We shall miss many of its activities during the Summer. In the short time in which the Club has been running, the attention and participation of its members have been remarkably consistent. We look forward to a longer and equally successful season next year.

K. BARRETT.

## STAMP SOCIETY REPORT

The Stamp Society can justifiably claim to be one of the strongest societies in the School, if membership numbers are any guide, as the total number of members within its ever-growing ranks exceeds one hundred and ten, or more than 10 per cent. of the School. Perhaps contrary to popular belief, many of these members are not in fact drawn from the younger section of the School. Much of the enthusiasm for the hobby of philately is generated by quite a few Fifth and Sixth Formers who regularly attend the Monday and Friday lunch-time meetings of the Society.

These meetings, however, benefit all sections of the Society. The younger members are able to improve their collections greatly by purchasing stamps of good quality from the older members at reasonable prices, because the Society dictates that prices should be well below those quoted in most catalogues. Nevertheless, the advantages are not one-sided, as quite a few members find that stamp selling is a very lucrative form of business. The Society itself also plays a role in improving collections by regularly obtaining high-quality booklets of stamps on approval from a reputable firm. These selections reflect the current popular philatelic taste within the Society, as they contain almost solely stamps from the Commonwealth and, in particular, from Britain.

It is not only stamps, however, which are exchanged during these meetings, knowledge is, also. All members, and again particularly the younger members, find that it is very beneficial merely to discuss philately amongst themselves. The Society, though, is not content to play a passive role in this exchange of knowledge. It directly encourages it by providing all the latest stamp catalogues, both general ones and specialized ones, which

cover every country in the world. These are supplemented by receiving regularly the Stanley Gibbons' publication, "Stamp Monthly", and the Crown Agents' bulletin which gives details of most forthcoming Commonwealth stamp issues.

Apart from being a thriving Society within School, the Society also ventures out into the wider world of philately. For instance, during the winter term a trip was arranged to the printing works of Harrison and Sons Ltd. in High Wycombe. Unfortunately, owing to security arrangements, it was only possible for twenty people to go on this trip. Nevertheless, those who did go had a rare opportunity to see how virtually all Great Britain's, most of the Commonwealth's, and several other countries' stamps are designed and printed. In fact, it was almost an awe-inspiring experience to find oneself continually within in a few feet of thousands of pounds worth of stamps. One section of the party had their will-power tested more severely when it was left unaccompanied in the stamp checking department, where literally thousands of sheets of badly printed stamps were stacked up, which would, if sold on the open market, amass a fortune for their lucky possessor!

More recently the Society made its annual pilgrimage to that vast conurbation of stamp dealers' stands in Central Hall, Westminster, which is better known as "Stampex". As well as giving the 45-strong party a chance of unloading itself of approximately £100, the Exhibition also demonstrated clearly that philately is much more than a hobby. It is an industry; one which is looked over by armed guards, and the importance of which has increased more since devaluation. Now men are even more prepared than ever to sink their wealth into one inch squares of paper with perhaps an even smaller area of print missing from them, rather than into that other form of paper, money.

The Stamp Society will, as usual, end its year's activities on Speech Day with a philatelic exhibition comprising probably individual displays from the members. The best of these individual displays will receive the "Philately Cup", which has been presented by a celebrated philatelist, Colonel Hands.

As most of the present Committee of the Society are leaving School at the end of this year, the question of new leadership arises, but the Society ought to have no worries in this matter, as there are several potential leaders within its ranks, who should be able to fill the gaps and ensure the Society of continued success.

COLIN BLOXHAM.

## WYCOMBE ACTION GROUP

Wycombe Action Group after a very successful year last year, financially, is this year suffering from the same problem as the Government—money!

Owing to a good idea of Mr. D. Smith the whole School was busily engaged in the Autumn Term on a "Holiday Wanted" project which was aimed at raising money specifically for the holiday which is being given to 24 children in July. But besides this no major fund raising projects have been held.

Form IC have played a very valuable part, under the guidance of Mr. Coldham, in the raising of money by holding two "bring and buy" sales.

Last November, Wycombe Action Group had a stall at the local Charities Bazaar from which we were allowed to keep our profit made on the stall. Last Summer we had a stall at the Wycombe Show.

At the end of the Spring Term a folk concert, organised by A. Havard, was held, which was the second and more successful of the series.

If financially we have not been so successful as far as the way the money has been spent we have widened our activities.

Various day trips were held again this School year to the Coast, the London and Whipsnade Zoos and Windsor, while various half-day trips were organised to the cinema.

A firework party was held last November and a Christmas party was given in January with A. Bowyer portraying very amicably Father Christmas! Two trips to pantomimes were also organised: one to the London Palladium and the other to the "Fourways" production.

Now many members are busy decorating the almshouses in Easton Street while others are helping with the Cheshire Home in Gerrards Cross. Others are helping at a Youth Club run for mentally handicapped children.

A trip to the Coast and a party were held for the old people while the social service unit of the School is busy visiting old people on Thursday afternoons.

TONY VINCETT.



## RUGBY REPORT

### 1st XV

Played 22, Won 11, Lost 11.

Considering the youth and inexperience of the team this season the results have been remarkably good. With only three old colours returning many players were pushed prematurely into 1st XV competition, but this has meant that they have gained valuable experience for future years. Much of the early lack of confidence can be attributed to the disastrous start against Windsor G.S. The opposition played extremely well and left the team in a thoroughly demoralised state. It was probably because of this that we lost to a weak side from St. Bartholomews in the next match. Nevertheless the team picked up, and some good wins against St. Marylebone, Emanuel and Watford showed that the team was capable of playing some good rugby. One of the most interesting games of the season was played against Luton College. The School played magnificently in the first half and led by 13—0. Luton fought back and about a minute from time led 14—13; seconds before the final whistle Gamester dropped a goal enabling the School to win 16—14. After Christmas, normally the harder part of the season, there was a remarkable improvement in the School's fortunes, marred only by a poor match against Harrow. Two good wins, a hard-fought match against the Met. Police Cadets and a powerful Saracens side, in which the School's defence really excelled, were the highlights of the post-Christmas matches.

One of the biggest difficulties encountered this year has been finding a good pack-leader. Most of the forwards had a try at some time or other, but it was a difficult job owing to the rather

unbalanced nature of the pack. Individually many of the forwards were very good. Of the front row R. Gash was indefatigable in the loose and always covered and tackled well. D. Crees played solidly but was unfortunately unable to play during the latter part of the Season through illness. I. Pattinson, who deputised for him, played admirably on several occasions and was probably the most successful pack leader. J. Kneller was the regular hooker and, despite being a rather impulsive player, could always be relied upon to give of his best, and played hard, even when the team was many points down. The second row combined the "veteran" R. Davis with the young J. Tomlinson. What they lacked in stature they made up for by hard work both in the tight and in the loose. Tomlinson, especially, shows great promise for the future. The back row consisted of D. Holmes at "blind side" whose "killer instinct" made him a formidable obstacle for the opposition, and he was very fast in getting on to the loose ball. B. Wood, at open side, gave the impression of laziness at the beginning of the season, but after Christmas played some fine games and improved immensely. D. Beasley's strength, at No. 8, was surprisingly as a jumper in the line out. His covering was very good in the first few matches but deteriorated during mid-season. J. Cook was unfortunate in that his talents were not recognised until late in the season. He was often superb in the loose and is rather unsuited as a wing-forward. Should he gain in mobility and stature, however, he will develop into a fine player.

The backs were generally starved of possession and the defence often gave way after prolonged pressure from the opposition. Nevertheless they showed, on several occasions, the ability to create good openings and run with the ball. P. Brown settled down to the difficult task of changing from centre to scrum-half although he was rather unhappy in the wet. Nevertheless he improved greatly with every game and gave some promising displays. S. Gamester, who began the season at fly-half, was a creative, intelligent player and a hard tackler. He excelled when he was moved to full-back and collected a high tally of points as the team's kicker. T. Cowell came in at fly-half and despite his frail stature he was a fearless defender and showed some quick acceleration in attack. The centres of P. Colley and R. Huggins often played well together and Huggins, despite his size, had a deceptive 'dummy' and a good eye for the break. The wingers, R. Stevens and C. Bridger, did not always fulfil their capabilities but, except for occasional lapses, were safe in defence and had some good runs in the attack. Stevens' try against the Metropolitan Police Cadets was one of the best of the season and won the match for us. N. Miles had an unhappy time being switched around from centre to wing to full back, but has potential for the

future. R. Waller also played on occasions and his powerful running was most useful in the 7-a-side competitions.

Finally the team would like to extend its thanks to Mr. Learmonth for the work he has put in for the team this season.

P. M. COLLEY.

### 1st XV Results:

<i>Matches Played</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
Windsor	Lost	0	45
St. Bartholomew's	Lost	6	9
St. Marylebone	Won	17	8
St. Benedict's	Lost	3	20
Emanuel	Won	19	6
Watford	Won	11	6
Oxford	Lost	0	11
Sir W. Borlase	Won	8	0
Tiffin	Lost	0	13
Abingdon	Lost	0	24
Luton College	Won	16	14
Leighton Park	Won	6	3
Hitchin	Lost	0	13
Northampton	Cancelled		
St. Albans	Cancelled		
Wasps	Lost	0	19
Old Boys	Lost	3	17
R.A.F. Halton	Cancelled		
Met. Police Cadets	Won	5	0
Harrow Co.	Lost	9	38
Saracens	Won	16	3
St. Nicholas	Won	25	0
Hampton	Lost	3	16
Gunnelsbury	Won	18	9
Jesus College	Won	8	3

### 2nd XV

Played 18, Won 11, Drawn 1, Lost 6; Points for—194, Against—78

The 2nd XV has enjoyed a very successful season—the captain losing the toss most of the time, and finding an exact correlation between losing the toss and winning the match. After a disappointing first game we hit a winning streak which

lasted for five matches and included the humbling of the much-feared St. Benedict's side (the first time for four years!)—the forwards, in getting the better of a heavier and more experienced pack, played with a fire and determination which spread throughout the team, and in the dying seconds of the match turned a one point deficit into victory with a push-over try. Defeats in the next three matches were partly caused by the team's heavy toll of injuries at this time. A resounding win was notched against Vyners School 1st XV, and our score could easily have been doubled but for atrocious handling in the three-quarter line. A very tough and tight game away to Henley G.S. 1st XV was won by a single penalty, scored by a prop in the absence of our regular and very reliable place kicker, Hongskula. Although dwarfed by the Metropolitan Police Cadets, (their scrum-half was bigger than most of our forwards!), we won 8—6 away at their Hendon ground in a strong swirling wind that made open rugby difficult.

Early in the season we lost Cowell (who started the season as captain), and we regularly missed Pattinson and Cook, all to the doubtful glory of 1st XV duty. Both Broadway and Haynes have distinguished themselves throughout the season by playing a brand of exciting rugby which has earned them, as hooker and prop respectively, more tries than the whole of the three-quarter line!

The pack worked well together, and by the end of the season their weakest point, the loose play, which centred around the effervescent Cook, showed a remarkable improvement. The back-row were untiring chasers, worrying the opposition and pouncing on mistakes. Jackson proved very safe at full-back and earned tribute from more than one opposing captain. The three-quarters had a poor season, due mainly to an inability to field the same line for two consecutive matches, but when they clicked, they proved the worth of the team (which had always been liberally proclaimed by the pack leader throughout the season!)

I know the team has enjoyed its rugby very much, and the experience gained by the younger members of the side will be of great value to them in the 1st XV next season.

The following played regularly:—

L. L. Arnold\* (captain), I. R. Pattinson\*, R. Davies, A. Broadway\*, J. Smith\*, A. Haynes\*, B. Syms, B. Llewellyn\*, P. Beasley, J. Cook\*, R. Hongskula\*, N. Miles\*, R. Jackson\*, R. Waller\*, K. Pickering\*, D. Child.

\* 2nd XV Colours.

L. L. ARNOLD.

### 3rd XV Results:

Played 16, Won 5, Drawn 2, Lost 9; Points for—189, Against—200.

This season has been one of flux for the 3rd XV. We have either been very good or middling or bad—seldom the same in any two games. The team has changed about as well, but we have at least had a hard core in the scrum.

Thorne at scrum-half has been invaluable, showing his ability as a quick-witted and intelligent player, especially in his kicking. Cavey, as fly-half, came to us in mid-season from the 4th XV and has shown excellent improvement on his previous play. Gundry, at centre and wing, started the season quite well, excelling himself in the games against Leighton Park and Dr. Challoner's, scoring three tries in each match, but he soon passed on to better things in the 2nd XV, from whence little has been heard of him. In the scrum, Black has proved very versatile as a wing forward and prop, either position becoming second nature in the mixed-up teams we have fielded. Thain and Whitaker showed perseverance and care as wing forwards. Lishman became our line-out man and played competently at second-row and later as lock. Perfect, at full back position, had his on and off days, but for the most part did his job well.

Of these, Thorne and Black should certainly attain next year's 2nd XV, if not the First Team. The others, especially Whitaker, Thain and Cavey, will form the backbone of the 2nd XV.

Those who played regularly were:—

Perfect, Smith, Hood, Gundry, Woodford, Anderson, Cavey, Thorne, Bowyer (captain), Leslie, Black, Lishman, Syms, Whittaker, Thain, Davies, Davis, Brocklehurst, Javis, Walters.

A. J. BOWYER.

### CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

Modesty has been the feature of all our runners. Now is the time for me to boast. We are a successful winning side, enthusiastic time-beaters, a close pack, a team to be reckoned with. From the start let it be known that I have nothing to do with this achievement. Last season Malcolm Morrison, now at University College, London, organised us all so well that cross-country this year has kept running on his impetus and on the enthusiasm of the boys themselves.

P. D. Knight took over the captaincy very competently and a number of good runners, including V. Power, P. M. Berks, J. S. Thrower, M. Burrows, P. Burgoyne, N. Hunt, M. Hampson,

and R. Brook, formed themselves automatically into a fine hillock-ploughing ensemble. We expected good results with this legacy and at the beginning of the season we won match after match, and it became my weekly—sometimes twice-weekly job—to sympathise with less happy teams. In fact we became quite blasé about winning and confident about further successes. T. Perks distinguished himself as an extremely good runner and came first in several matches. Single inter-school matches and even three-cornered matches became training runs for the real challenges: the relays.

These trophy meetings are well known all over the South-East, and teams which excel take on a glow on celebrity. The first such event was at Guildford where we entered two teams, and it was obvious from their performance and times, even if the positions were not high (sixth and ninth), that a fantastic spirit held the boys together and that we had both the determination and potential to be victors. Very soon afterwards this proved to be true, when we carried off the Randell Trophy at Harrow, beating (though perhaps narrowly) even Orange Hill, old rivals and the strongest team at large.

From then on, although we never attained such dizzy heights again—Orange Hill recovered too well for that, and we were also beaten by one or two unknowns from Coventry and Portsmouth—we were always with the medal-winners. This is due to the dedicated training of the boys and although we have not *one* outstanding boy, they are all of such a constant high standard, that in relays their times, and in other races their wolf-like packing, raised us above all the other schools which have one star runner and a few mediocre wheezers.

Thrower, Knight, Hunt, and Perks maintained a fine record throughout the season. P. M. Berks and Hampson had spasmodic successes and Power, Brook and Burgoyne got back into full stride towards the end of the season. Newcomer to the cross-country scene, cyclist Ian Willsher, just appeared suddenly and won some races with extraordinary ease.

With all this talent R.G.S. boys completely constituted the Wycombe District Team (Seniors) in the Bucks Championships at Wendover and won the district cup. Knight and Thower represented the County later in the National Championships, with Hunt and Willsher as senior reserves. Reserves for the Under-17's and Under-15's were Ham and Crowley respectively. Well done to them all!

In the School Championships Thrower won a decisive victory and was followed in by Willsher and Perks. Thrower's time was a new School record. The intermediate race was won by Blaxland, second Ham and third Muckley—all second-team

regulars; and the junior race was won by Crowley with Thorne and Woosey in second and third places.

In the Middle and Lower School, Johnson and Tredwell have shown how well they can run and I look forward to their participation in the senior teams next season. I should like to mention and thank Mr. Lilley for his work in training some of the younger boys and organising matches with the local schools. This ground-work is essential for the success of future teams. Mention is also due to Anderz, Arbaney and Lord, who have all pulled their weight to make this a great season.

During the year First Team colours were awarded to Hampson, Hunt and Perks, and half-colours to Willsher, Arbaney, Anderz and Blaxland. It is hoped that in the coming school session we shall inaugurate an annual trophy relay race and thus make the R.G.S. into a true centre of cross-country running.

## Results:

### CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS 1967-68

<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Result</i>
R.A.F. Halton	Away	Won
A.A.S. Arborfield	Home	Won
R.A.F. Halton	Home	Won
Sir William Borlase	Home	Won
St. Nicholas	Away	Won
Slough/Dr. Challoner's	Away	Won
Haberdashers'/Halton	Home	Won
Old Boys	Home	Won
Haberdashers'	Away	Won
K.C.S. Wimbledon	Home	Won
Slough G.S.	Home	Won
Maidenhead G.S.	Home	Won
Oxford	Away	Won
Maidenhead G.S.	Away	Won
Aylesbury G.S./Challoner's	Away	Won
Challoner's	Away	Won
Guildford Relay 1st team	6th	2nd team 9th out of 16
Randell Trophy Relay (Harrow)	1st	„ 14
St. Nicholas Relay	2nd	„ 14
Haberdashers' Aske's Relay	3rd	„ 15
Dr. Challoner's Relay 1st team	6th	2nd team 11th out of 14
Alleyes Relay	3rd	„ 14
Ranelagh Cup Trophy Race	4th	„ 16

R. W. BROWN

(Master in Charge.)

## HOCKEY

### 1st XI

Played 28, Won 19, Drawn 3, Lost 6. Goals For 70, Against 27.

As the record suggests, the 1st XI has enjoyed a very successful season, thanks largely to the fact that seven of last year's team unexpectedly returned. At the start of the season, therefore, there was plenty of talent which was more than enough on which to form the basis of a strong side. For the first game the remaining four positions were filled by members of last year's Second Eleven, for whom this fixture offered a chance to display their skills. Indeed, the opportunity was not neglected: these players all improved rapidly and have contributed in no mean way to this season's success.

The most obvious weakness at the earlier stages of the season was our rather suspect defence. Fortunately, however, the matches against stronger opposition did not begin until the second term, thus allowing us adequate time to alleviate this problem. Towards the end of the Fixture List the full- and half-backs were stopping and hitting the ball out of defence much more cleanly, and this prevented the opposing forwards from isolating our attack.

Dickinson played in goal during the first half of the season and, despite one obviously "off-form" outing, (against Marlow Hockey Club at home), he dealt capably with everything which was hit at him. When he left, Meager took over and improved with every game. Despite his unorthodox style, with a hair-raising habit of hitting the ball while performing acrobatic dives, in place of the more universally accepted kick, his presence inspired confidence in the rest of the team. After some experiments with various players at full-back, these positions were finally taken by Caffall and Newitt, who worked well together, in spite of their contrasting styles.

The half-back line also appeared at first to present a problem, but these positions were quickly filled and did not need to be changed throughout the season. Palme was an obvious choice for right-half, since he had occupied this position during the previous season, and he continued to take a firm grip on the left winger. Also, his powerful hitting often gave us time in which to organize ourselves during repeated raids by the opposition. One of this season's new finds was Turner, who played throughout at centre-half. Although a little inexperienced, he showed overflowing enthusiasm, whilst his hard tackling often saved the day. Pearson started the season at left-inner, but was soon converted to left-half, from which position it was easier to captain the team.

The attack has remained unchanged for most of the year. Leech has held the right-wing and has both made and scored goals. In particular, his hard rising shots struck panic into many defences. At right-inner, Berks (J.G.) has not enjoyed such a consistent season, but by refusing to give up when beaten and constantly harassing the opponents he has shown himself to be a valuable asset to the side. Worboys has led the attack with confidence, and by seldom wasting the balls fed to him by his inners, has scored many important goals. The other inside-forward position was occupied by Dixon, who, having graduated from last year's second team, assumed the role of schemer. Playing behind the rest of the attack, he used his skilful stickwork and constructive passing to split many a tight defence. On the left wing, one of the more difficult positions, Bailey improved vastly as the season progressed, making full use of his speed off the mark. Also worthy of note are three 2nd XI players, Smith, Hickman and Jenner, who capably stood in whenever a position was temporarily vacant.

In any sport, each season has its highlights, and in this respect we have proved no exception to the rule. On the whole, the team played better as the ability of the opposition increased. In particular, there were three matches in which our hockey was especially noteworthy: against a strong Magdalen College School side we played with great zeal and determination and, although perhaps unexpectedly, ran out winners by the odd goal in three; a fixture against a team selected entirely from Wycombe Hockey Club First and Second Elevens, and including a current international, resulted in a narrow defeat by a single goal. The penultimate match proved to be an exciting, hard-fought contest with an Old Boys XI, when after gaining a two-goal lead in the second half, with the half-back line controlling mid-field play, we almost occasioned our own downfall by allowing the opposition two unnecessary but nevertheless well-taken goals. In the dying seconds, however, we scored again to notch a well-deserved victory. The final match, played in arctic conditions, resulted in a three-goal victory over Watford G.S., and this win completed our record of avenging all defeats suffered during the previous season.

The team has enjoyed its hockey enormously, and the experienced gained by the younger members will prove advantageous to next year's side.

Finally, we thank Mr. Taylor for his untiring perseverance and coaching which has played an invaluable role in the season's success.

A. G. PEARSON.

## Results:

<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>For Agst.</i>	<i>Venue</i>
v. Slough Technical H.S.	Drawn	2-2	Away
v. Halton Apprentices 2nd	Won	3-1	Away
v. Arborfield A.A.C. 2nd	Won	3-0	Home
v. Halton Apprentices 2nd	Won	8-0	Away
v. Staff XI	Won	4-0	Home
v. Rickmansworth G.S. 2nd	Won	2-0	Away
v. Marlow H.C. 3rd	Lost	3-5	Home
v. Slough Technical H.S.	Won	3-2	Home
v. Slough G.S.	Won	2-0	Away
v. Ranelagh School	Lost	0-1	Away
v. Abingdon School	Drawn	0-0	Away
v. Marlow H.C. 3rd	Lost	0-1	Away
v. Sir W. Borlase School	Won	9-0	Home
v. High Wycombe H.C. 3rd	Won	3-1	Home
v. Aylesbury G.S.	Won	4-2	Away
v. Rickmansworth G.S. 1st	Won	2-0	Home
v. Slough G.S.	Won	2-0	Home
v. Magdalen College Sch. 2nd	Won	2-1	Away
v. Oxford School	Won	2-0	Away
v. St. Bartholomew's School	Drawn	1-1	Away
v. High Wycombe H.C. XI	Lost	0-1	Away
v. Wallingford G.S. 2nd	Won	2-0	Away
v. King Alfred's, Wantage 2nd	Won	3-0	Away
v. Aylesbury G.S.	Lost	2-3	Home
v. Kingston G.S. II	Lost	0-3	Away
v. Maidenhead G.S.	Won	2-1	Home
v. Old Boys XI	Won	3-2	Away
v. Watford G.S.	Won	3-0	Away

## HOCKEY

### 2nd XI

Played 10, Won 7, Drawn 2, Abandoned 1. Goals For 37, Against 15.

This season has been highly successful, the team suffering only one defeat in a snowstorm. The Master in charge of Hockey insists that the Second Team exists just to supply players for the 1st XI, but it must be said that although we have contributed players to the first "on loan," for the most part the second have been a very good testing ground for the younger colts and those for whom hockey exists as a good game and who are not overconcerned with either inadequacies in refereeing or fellow team mates. Thus free from all distractions, the second has played on to enjoy this record. Providing the element of sports-

manship can be retained amongst the members, next year's first team will prove highly successful. A great many changes in the composition of the team have led to a varied distribution of players, notably at the beginning of the season. However, certain positions have been occupied by the same players in many of the matches.

In the forward line, although a lack of tackling and organisation was evident, there was an ability to put the ball in the back of the net. Amin, on the left wing, seems well adapted to sudden shows of brilliance when aware of the game, and in this respect has contributed greatly to our scores. Stocking and Peterson scored well from chances created by Worley on the right wing, an invaluable player. The half-backs suffered most from the whims and fancies of the First Team Selection Board, but eventually was settled at Snell, Smith and Duckworth, all of whom played enthusiastically. As a result, Smith was obtained by the first team, when their ego was low. Daniel replaced Smith on these occasions and proved that opposing forwards are little trouble to deal with. Hickman and that other full-back proved on most occasions reliable, but in the event of a "miss", Tim Wills was always there to prevent the ball reaching its target, especially in the match against Newbury. Anderson and Eley have also played creditably, while Jenner has joined us on occasional outings from the hierarchy.

Finally our hearty thanks to Mr. Blythe and Mr. Clark for their refereeing and surveillance.

R. J. MARTIN-FAGG.

## HOCKEY

### 3rd XI:

Played 5, Won 4, Lost 1. Goals For 18, Against 7.

As this was the first time that this team had played together, we have done fairly well. Perhaps we could not have had a better send off than when we equalled the School's highest score, beating Princes Risborough 9—1. Biggs, the centre-forward, must have enjoyed playing against this team, since he scored a hat-trick in each of the two games against them.

The team has played well together with Daniel being the stalwart in defence. Jeffries has played well in goal and could be in the reckoning for a Second Team place next year, if he could be a little faster off his line. Hollis and Dawe have shown great promise on either side of Daniel and can be certain of gaining honours next year in the Second Eleven. Our loss against Cestreham C.S. 1st XI was not true to form, as the pitch resembled a square mud-hole and the team had had no practice

for a month. Nevertheless, this fixture had its highlight, when the School Coach broke down (which was hardly surprising!). In the return match, Hollis played very well, generally marshalling the defence. Our full-backs have played quite well, but often gave us hair-raising moments.

Goal scorers: Biggs 8, Hardy 4, Peterson 3, Daniel, Dawe, Woodland 1.

D. J. PETERSON.

## COLTS HOCKEY

Played 9, Won 2, Drawn 3, Lost 4. Goals For 12, Against 25.

As far as results are concerned this has been a very disappointing season. Lack of shooting power and the inability to use chances was the cause of many defeats and although the defence played well at times there were a number of matches when nothing went right. The results may have been poor but this has been offset by the progress of individuals in the team, six of whom were chosen to play for the County Colts.

The team began well beating Rickmansworth 2—0 and then narrowly losing 0—1 to Watford in the best match of the season. Everything went wrong at Henley when they lost 0—10 but it is a sign of their improvement that they drew 1—1 with the same team six weeks later. In goal Stone has had a very mixed season with the unfortunate tendency of playing badly in important matches while impressing against weaker teams. At full-back Staynor has been the find of the season and is now easily the most skilful back the School possesses : he is sure to make First or Second Eleven next season. The half-back line has been solid, Fogg playing consistently at left-half, while Stonham and Cliff shared the right-half position. Marrant who captained the team from centre-half has had an outstanding season both as captain and as player and it is fitting that he has been chosen to captain the County side. The forward line this season has failed to find form; Amin and McMillan have got through a lot of work as inside forwards but neither has had many scoring chances. Amin must develop a harder shot and McMillan must avoid raising his stick above the shoulder each time he shoots. Barrett the centre-forward and leading goal-scorer with four goals has improved this season but still lacks the extra punch which would make him really dangerous. Lowe has been the best forward dribbling and shooting well but there is still much room for improvement.

C. J. PALME.

## BASKETBALL

Schools : Played 13, Won 13. Clubs: Played 4, Won 2.

The 1st Team has had yet another very successful season, and has done particularly well in remaining undefeated in inter-school competition. Probably the hardest school game was the very first game of the year against Hemel Hempstead G.S. Although their side contained some internationals and extremely large players the School pulled back a deficit of several points to win in the closing minutes. There was little difficulty encountered in the next few matches, although some enjoyable games were played in R.A.F. Halton's large new gymnasium. Surprisingly one of the best games of the season, against Borough Road College, was lost. The College had a strong side yet the School played some of its finest basketball and so came very close to winning. The match against Dr. Challoner's was disappointing despite the fact that the School won quite easily. However this was amply compensated for by an entertaining game against Cambridge College from Boston, Massachusetts. In this game the School greatly impressed the Americans, who had previously met with little opposition in England and it provided a wonderful climax to a great season.

The attack was led by P. Colley (Av. 22.6 pts.) and P. Brown (Av. 15.2 pts.). At the beginning of the season Brown tended to fluctuate violently between mediocrity and brilliance but as the season progressed he settled down more in the latter vein. His greatest asset has been his accurate set shot. C. Saunders and T. Smith are both greatly improved players; Saunders has developed into a powerful rebounder and a skilful ball-handler, while Smith has been invaluable as a link-man and in setting up plays. The Beasley brothers as guards were a talented and hard-working combination, and gave the team's defence a sound basis. David was a tenacious rebounder and has excelled in both back-court and front-court play. Peter has used his height sensibly and, despite his youth, remained cool and unflustered in the trickiest of situations. Hongskula was a useful player with a good long shot while Anderson improved remarkably towards the end of the season.

The team is greatly indebted to Mr. Stubbs, who is a very accomplished player himself, and who has coached, refereed and played with infectious vigour and enthusiasm. Without him the season would certainly not have been nearly so successful or enjoyable.

P. Colley and P. Brown gained County honours.

P. Brown, D. Beasley, C. Saunders, T. Smith and P. Beasley were awarded 1st Team colours.

P. M. COLLEY.

## Averages:

	<i>Played</i>	<i>Total pts.</i>	<i>Average</i>
P. Colley	11	248	22.5
P. Brown	16	244	15.2
T. Smith	15	67	4.5
G. Saunders	16	66	4.1
D. Beasley	17	57	3.3
P. Beasley	17	57	3.3
R. Hongskula	14	19	1.4
K. Anderson	5	30	6.0

This year's squad has shown an intelligent and highly skilful approach to an increasingly popular game in the School.

Colley has always brought the best out in the team by his fine example and leadership, and will be hard to replace. It is a pleasing thought to see so many promising players coming on throughout the School.

I should like to offer my congratulations to Colley and Brown for gaining County honours. To those leaving well done and keep playing; to those staying play hard and enjoy the game.

P. J. STUBBS.

## Basketball matches:

<i>Opponents</i>		<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
v. Hemel Hempstead G.S.	Won	32	30
v. Woodside B.B.C.	Won	52	40
v. R.A.F. Halton	Won	44	14
v. Francis Coombe	Won	39	36
v. Slough G.S.	Won	49	27
v. Dr. Challoners G.S.	Won	37	26
v. Woodside B.B.C.	Won	103	58
v. Watford College	Won	43	32
v. Borough Road C.	Lost	56	67
v. Aylesbury G.S.	Won	62	17
v. R.A.F. Halton	Won	54	33
v. Wycombe Pirates	Lost	57	62
v. Old Boys	Won	81	46
v. Dr. Challoners G.S.	Won	31	30
v. Wycombe College	Won	40	33
v. Slough G.S.	Won	62	36
v. Boston College	Won	54	30

## R.G.S. v. CAMBRIDGE (MASSACHUSETTS)

At the end of a season in which the first basketball team, undefeated in inter-school competitions, had grown into a very effective unit, came the hardest game we had to play. Our opponents were an American college side from Boston, Massachusetts, and were unbeaten in England. Although we had had a very successful year, we had no idea of the standard of our opposition. Many people feared the worst, and we almost learned to accept the fact that we were likely to be beaten heavily. By the time the day of the match arrived, we had already dispelled any ideas of victory or even of a close match. As we walked down to Wycombe College where the match was being held in the evening, we had little hope, but we were determined to do our best.

When we arrived at the college gym, we received our first glimpse of them. They were very impressive and awe-inspiring, towering above most of us, immaculately kitted out in blue and yellow silk. They looked very organised and skilful, and as we went off to change, although we did not show it, I am sure we all felt rather nervous.

The start of the match approached, the first five stepped on to court and the two teams took up their respective positions. The ball was thrown up between the two jumpers and the whistle blown. The R.G.S. won the jump and the game had started. Some early, very accurate shooting by the Americans began to show on the score-board; could the slaughter we had expected have started? Suddenly, however, we gained confidence; the points began to come and at the end of the first quarter the R.G.S. was actually leading by 15 points to 13. The play was becoming incredibly fast and fluent, both sides extremely alert and on the ball, giving away nothing. The Americans' shooting was uncanny, but their inside play was no match for some really superb dribbling and close passing by the R.G.S. The atmosphere was electric and we had no lack of vocal support from the side lines. We suddenly found that our play was more piercing and effective than our opponents', and as the whistle blew for half-time we had gained a valuable lead.

Both sides substituted players during the interval and in the uneasy calm we wondered whether we could win. The second-half began with a tremendous 12 points to 4 burst by the R.G.S. : the shots that one dreams of getting were coming from all directions. The most notable basket of the match was scored by T. Smith who, whilst facing the side wall, with his back to the basket, received an unexpected pass. In a moment of indecision, he shot over his right shoulder and to his delight and that of the crowd, scored the two most memorable points of the match. After that, nothing could stop us, and with the team playing as

never before and the Americans shaken, we fought on to win by the remarkable margin of 54 points to 30. This was indeed the crowning achievement of a season only to be bettered, we hope, by the next.

Team: K. Anderson, D. Beasley, P. Beasley, P. Brown, P. Colley, C. Saunders, T. Smith.

C. SAUNDERS.

## JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Matches Played 8, Won 6, Lost 2, Points For 225, Against 160.

The U/15 Team has had a successful and enjoyable season, and has played surprisingly well considering that the majority of the team had played little basketball before the start of the season. Nevertheless the shooting was often wayward and the play static.

In the first match, against Mill End School, the team was afraid to move the ball around and it was left to M. Newton and P. Howland, the captain, to score the points. The 36 points scored in this match showed that the team had the ability to score points and win matches. In the next three matches the team only conceded 47 points with P. McMillan and G. Taylor prominent in defence. One of these three matches was against the "old rivals" Dr. Challoner's G.S., who were unable to score in the first half and were eventually defeated by 22 points—thanks mainly to Newton's shooting. In the latter half of the season, Wellesbourne School were taken on and defeated twice in three matches, our defeat being by a margin of one point. There was a return fixture with Dr. Challoner's G.S., who were again defeated heavily and only managed to score ten points. As the season progressed the team improved continually, especially I. Hutchinson whose passing was fast and accurate in the final match. R. Moore also improved with every match and scored well against Wellesbourne. The squad was completed with W. Harrison whose form sagged a little after injury. In the few games that J. Moss played he performed competently for his size, as did R. Simons who played in one match. R. King worked hard for a place in the side, but without luck.

The team would like to thank Mr. Stubbs for officiating, coaching and arranging our fixtures and also to P. Colley for helping in these necessary tasks. A match was arranged against a County "Under-15" team at the end of the season but this game was unfortunately cancelled by the opposition. The team was confident that this game would be won since Mill End School and Dr. Challoner's G.S., who contained most of the County players,

had been defeated. The County Trials were unfortunately held in September and only Howland was present. Had they been held later in the season many of the squad had improved to such an extent that several players had reached a sufficient standard to be considered for the County team.

P. J. HOWLAND.

## BADMINTON

This season has been one of continued improvement and expansion, as reflected by the fact that we have on several occasions been able to form two teams. A Schools' badminton league was formed this year and the team came second. We were beaten only by Watford and Harrow County and in these matches were handicapped by illness. The only other defeats of the season were to R.A.F. Halton who had a strong team with a truly international flavour. These three were the only good matches of the year, and the other schools competing in the league were not up to our standard. This was unfortunate from every point of view and it is to be hoped that a considerable improvement in the standard of play can be achieved next season. The Staff Match was very good and reflects the considerable keenness and latent talent of the Staff. It is a pity they are not able to play more frequently and regularly as it helps enormously to boost enthusiasm among the boys.

The activities of the team were not confined to School matches alone. In the County and Wycombe tournaments members of the team did exceptionally well and distinguished themselves by reaching the finals and semi-finals in several competitions, all the more noteworthy as there is no opportunity to play singles games at School.

Ward and Zahler played consistently as first pair and combined successfully. Hoath and Morgan and Hoyle and Morris also played well and no pair was consistently better than the other two. At least three members of the present team will be returning and they will provide a sound foundation on which to build. The problem is that only sixth-formers are able to play badminton and thus much talent from the middle school is wasted. A way should be found to correct this oversight.

Finally I should like to thank Mr. M. G. Coldham for continued work and effort on arranging fixtures and for encouraging us to better deeds. Also Herr Trini who has shown a great deal of interest and who has actively participated. We hope he has enjoyed playing as much as we have.

1st VI Badminton Colours were awarded to:

S. D. Hoath, C. J. Hoyle, J. J. Morgan, D. H. Morris.

J. J. WARD.

## CHESS

In spite of the fact that the School Chess Team was without four of last year's team, it has managed quite a commendable record this year.

### Results:

	<i>Senior</i>	<i>Junior</i>
Windsor G.S.	Drawn 3—3	Lost 2½—3½
E. P. Collier's ( <i>Sunday Times</i> )	Won 6—0	
Windsor	Lost 1½—4½	Won 3½—2½
Sir William Borlase G.S.	Drawn 3—3	Won 4—2
Silesian College ( <i>Sunday Times</i> )	Lost 1½—4½	
Maidenhead G.S.	Won 6—2	
Sir William Borlase	Lost 2½—3½	Won 5—1
Aylesbury G.S.	Lost 2—4	
Maidenhead	Won 7½—½	
Sir William Borlase	Lost 2½—3½	Won 5½—½
Burnham G.S.	Won 6—0	
Challoner's G.S.	Drawn 4—4	
Windsor	Won 3½—2½	Drawn 3—3
Sir William Borlase	Lost 2½—3½	Won 5—1
High School	Won 6—0	
Challoner's G.S.	Won 6—2	

		<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>Board Count</i>
Seniors....	....	17	7	3	6	63½—40½
Juniors....	....	7	5	1	1	28½—13½

The Senior Team renewed old rivalries with Borlase and Windsor, with moderate success, being very narrowly beaten by Borlase three times. But towards the end of the season the standard of play got much better, ending with the 6—2 defeat of the very strong Dr. Challoner's team; an excellent result. Unfortunately this form was not shown early in the season when we lost to Silesian College, Oxford, in the 2nd round of the *Sunday Times* Schools' Competition, despite the encouragement of a 6—0 win in the first round.

It is remarkable that this year no School player has had less than a 50 per cent. average. Thrower, Bradford and Baddeley, are undefeated on boards 2, 1 and 6 respectively, and Arnold,

Hendry and McColl have played consistently throughout the year. Palme and Burgoyne have also played for the Senior Team.

The Junior side (Stevenson, Cowan, Kramek, Saunders, Walne, Pearn and Basterfield), has done very well in its matches against Borlase and Windsor. These matches are essential to the success of future senior teams, and Stevenson, Cowan and Saunders have had Senior team experience this year.

Two First and Second Form matches were played this year, the School beating Bledlow Ridge County Primary School over nine boards, but losing to the Primary School league over 30 boards. The Chess Club is now functioning smoothly at lunch-time in the cricket pavilion, and an influx of new young members shows good promise for the future. Unfortunately we are limited by lack of sets, but the recent acquisition of three new sets is the first step, I hope, towards eliminating this problem.

Though the chess "season" usually finishes at the end of the Spring term, the School hopes to stage an invitation Chess "Jamboree" for a number of schools, early in the Summer Term, and we hope this will become an annual fixture.

Favourable replies are already being received to invitations for the first of these "jamborees" next term.

Our thanks go to Mr. Clark for supervising the Chess Club and the matches.

Colours were awarded this term to:—Arnold, Henry and Stevenson.

Half-colours were awarded to:—McColl and Baddeley.

Thrower, Bradford, Arnold and Hendry, gained County Senior and Junior honours, and Stevenson played for Bucks Juniors.

J. S. THROWER.

## BRIDGE

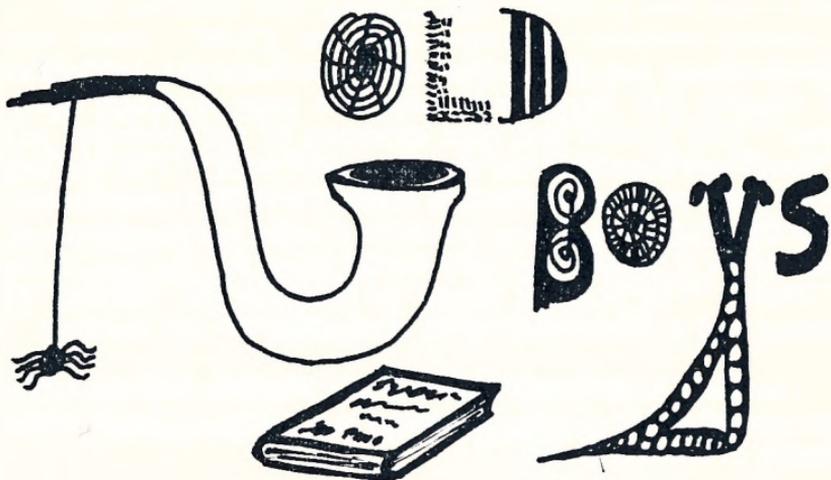
For some Sixth Form members, Nirvana has been reached, for by the grace of the powers that be, Bridge has been "officially recognised". Gone are the dark ages of a secret game hidden in a dark corner somewhere in the School, and, in most opinions, a most welcome loss. The permission being granted has brought out a sudden craze for bridge, and almost anywhere in the School at lunch-time can be found multiples of four players, poring over a hand. I might add that up till now I have heard of no evidence of this privilege being abused by the playing of other card games.

The freedom of play was celebrated by entering a four for the *Daily Mail* Schools' Cup. The selection of players was difficult; there was only one obvious choice, that of Arnold and Arbaney, they being the only pair with any match experience. After due consideration the other pair, Paul Burgess and myself, was picked, most probably because of our long-standing partnership. We managed to reach the final quite comfortably and, with no excess immodesty, all four of the team played well. (The man who doubled the last hand and saw it made will, however, remain nameless). Thanks are due to our two faithful kibitzers. In the final, all four excelled themselves. A superb performance resulted in our coming second after a split tie. A worthy début to competition bridge for an official school team!

To look into the future, I hope that next year a Bridge Club will be formed, knowing that support exists in massive quantities. Fixtures with other schools are quite possible, and even probable. Who knows?—one day Bridge colours could be awarded!

STEVE JENNER.

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## OLD BOYS' NOTES

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### THE OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

#### The Annual General Meeting

The A.G.M. was held in the Wellington Room of the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe, at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, March 23rd, 1968. 25 Old Boys were present. The Chair was taken by the President, Mr. Malcolm P. Smith.

Before the Meeting began, the President welcomed the Mayor and other Old Boys present.

The Minutes of the last A.G.M. were then read, confirmed and signed. Arising out of the Minutes:—

(a) The Financial Report—this was drawn up by the Hon. Auditor, A. E. Franklin-Hole, and a copy was presented to each member present. The conclusion reached was that the Club had had a better year in 1967 and the Accounts were adopted. The Hon. Secretary reported that in addition to the Bankers' Orders received from old Old Boys each January, 90 Old Boys had paid either £5 5s. 0d., £1 1s. 0d., or 10/- membership fee in 1967 compared with 88 in 1966 and 80 in 1965.

(b) The E. R. Tucker Memorial Appeal Fund—on behalf of the Fund Committee the Headmaster reported that the Scheme put forward at the last A.G.M. (the filling in of a space under the Queen's Hall) had been completely changed by the County Architect, whose alternative suggestion had been adopted—a separate building to be erected in the shrubbery behind the

library—the best possible brick building that could be built for the money available—an empty shell for £3,000. Some help (with furniture and fittings) would come from the Authorities and possibly Old Boys would help with some furniture refinements. This scheme had been approved by the governors and H. Emery and Sons Ltd. had already started work. The building was 43 feet by 18 feet and would connect with the main corridor of the Old Building. There would be a coffee bar in one corner. It would be a modest but very useful room for the use of the 6th Form. The builders hoped to complete the building by Whitsun and it would then be in occupation by the Summer.

The Rev. A. J. Skipp informed the Meeting that the tablet to be erected in Mr. Tucker's memory in the School Chapel would be ready in about a month.

(c) The Old Boys' Cricket Club—the Club had enjoyed the use of the School ground and pavilion for four matches last Summer. This was much appreciated. The Club needed more playing members and issued a warm welcome to any Old Boy with a modicum of cricketing ability.

(d) The Sports and Social Club—G. E. Green wondered whether the possible use of the E. R. Tucker Memorial Building on Friday evenings plus the knowledge of the fact that the pool is heated, might keep to create more enthusiasm in the future.

### **The Election of Officers for 1968-69.**

This resulted in two changes in the make-up of the Committee. L. B. Barnes (1924-30) after serving faithfully for 30 years, two of them as Chairman, resigned but proposed in his place G. W. West (1935-40). G. E. Green in seconding said the Club could do with a bank manager on the Committee. G. W. West agreed to allow his name to go forward and he was elected. J. H. Andrew (1954-62) had also resigned. He now lived in Birmingham and could not attend meetings. R. S. Wombwell (1960-67) accepted nomination in his place and was elected.

The officers for 1968-69 are:—

*The President:* Malcolm P. Smith, Esq.

*The Chairman:* G. E. Green, Esq.

*Vice-Presidents:* Col. L. L. C. Reynolds, Messrs. G. A. Grant, P. L. Jones, S. Morgan.

*Committee:*

N. H. Theed (1912—19)	R. W. Bartlett (1900—07)
G. W. Ray (1917—23)	S. E. Hands (1915—20)
G. E. Green (1940—46)	D. J. Hann (1924—29)
G. C. Rayner (1937—45)	J. K. Prior (1934—40)
G. W. West (1935—40)	J. P. Lord (1934—38)
R. S. Wombwell (1960—67)	W. A. C. Knowles (1951—58)
The Rev. A. J. Skipp (1929—37)	

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

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

There being no other business the company repaired to the Georgian Room for the last dinner the Club would be able to hold in the Red Lion Hotel. The hotel is closing.

### **The Annual Dinner 1968**

The Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, March 23rd, 1968, at the Red Lion Hotel, High Wycombe, when 100 Old Boys gathered to welcome their Guest of Honour, Sydney A. Goulborn, Esq., B.A. (1928—36), the Worshipful the Mayor of High Wycombe.

Councillor the Rev. A. J. Skipp, M.A. (1929—37) proposed the toast to the Guest of Honour with his usual very considerable pungent wit (much appreciated by all, including the Mayor). In his serious moments he said how proud the Club was to honour an Old Boy who had attained the highest post the town had to offer. He outlined the Mayor's notable school career, the contribution made by his wife, Mrs. Peggy Goulborn, when she taught at the School, and he also admired the integrity and courage of the Mayor on the political battlefield. In his concluding remarks the Rev. A. J. Skipp hoped that many other Old Boys of the School would offer their services to the community by serving on local Councils.

The Guest of Honour in his reply said that from May 1967 to May 1968 as Mayor, he had done a lot but that he valued the honour done him by the Old Boys' Club more than anything. He reminisced on his days at the School and on the influence of so many masters. His wife always spoke of her teaching years at the Royal Grammar School as among the happiest of her life. He spoke of the future of education in the County and said there was no threat to the School from the Education Authority as at present constituted. The record of his School was second to

none and he was proud to be an Old Boy of a School which had poured out so much to help the town and people of High Wycombe.

G. E. Green, Chairman of the Club, proposed the toast to the School and Club and awakened memories of old masters. He paid tribute to four who had died very recently, the Rev. A. M. Berry, Messrs. W. J. Bartle, J. E. John, A. S. Hett. He spoke affectionately of Mr. P. L. Jones and Mr. G. A. Grant who had been unable to attend the Dinner because of the sudden illness of his wife but who had written conveying his good wishes and saying how much he regretted being unable to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his joining the School with the Old Boys. G. E. Green also spoke of five masters still teaching on after more than 30 years—Messrs. S. Morgan, W. J. Clark, C. M. Haworth, R. Pattison, M. M. Davies.

The Headmaster, Mr. Malcolm Smith, replied to the toast and outlined the very successful academic and sporting record of the School throughout the year. As the Red Lion was closing down, the Annual Dinner in 1969 would probably be held in the School and he hoped this would attract many Old Boys. He made mention of Mr. Ewart Mewse's retirement in July next. The number of boys in the School at present was 1,065 but the 6th Form congestion had been eased a little by the erection of two terrapin huts. For him it was most refreshing to be able to announce that the E. R. Tucker Memorial Building would soon be completed and help the 6th Formers even more. In his concluding remarks the Headmaster repeated the hope he had expressed in the A.G.M., that Old Boys might like to offer some help with the furnishing of this small but very useful room.

### **Births**

- HODGE, W. F. (1952-56). On November 1st 1967, to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Hodge, a son, Richard William.
- HUBBARD, K. G. (1951-56). On September 16th 1967, to Mr. and Mrs. K. G. Hubbard, a son, Robert Keith.
- PATTINSON, M. R. (1953-60). On August 8th 1967, to Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Pattinson, a son, Simon Timothy.
- WATSON, G. E. (1951-58). In January, 1968, to Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Watson, a daughter, Maria-Louise.

### **Marriages**

- ANDREW—SMITHSON. On October 14th 1967, at Wetherby, Yorkshire, J. H. Andrew (1954-62) to Miss Margaret Smithson.

**BRIGHTON—PUTMAN.** On September 23rd 1967, at Amer-  
sham, T. L. Brighton (1957-61), to Miss Christina Lesley  
Putman.

**CURRELL—ROSE.** On October 28th 1967, at All Saints'  
Parish Church, Mickleover, Derby, J. L. Currell (1952-59)  
to Miss Margaret Mary Rose.

**JONES—SANDERSON.** On August 10th 1967, in Manchester,  
G. D. B. Jones (1947-55), to Miss Victoria Sanderson.

**KNOWLES—O'DONOVAN.** On February 24th 1968, at St.  
George's Church, Norwich, W. A. C. Knowles (1951-58), to  
Miss Eileen O'Donovan.

**READ—CROMWELL.** On September 2nd 1967, at St. James'  
Church, Nunburnholme, nr. York, P. Read (1950-57), to  
Miss Elizabeth Anne Cromwell.

### Deaths

Older Old Boys will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Hilda Margaret Arnison died on September 1st, 1967, at 7 Birchwood Road, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset, aged 86 years. She was the wife of the late Headmaster, Mr. G. W. Arnison and mother of Mrs. Sybella Ardron. Mrs. Arnison gave her husband great support and knew more about the School than anyone realised.

### Masters

**W. J. BARTLE (1901-35).** On January 4th 1968, at "The Limes", Reepham, Norfolk, aged 92 years.

Mr. Walter John Bartle, B.A., BSc., gained his two degrees in English and Mathematics at London University. He came to the Royal Grammar School in 1901 and in his 34 years' service he taught every subject in the School curriculum up to School Certificate standard. He was School Secretary for many years and also Hon. Secretary of the Old Boys' Club. There were 50 boys in the School when he came and 350 when he left. He was an all-rounder—he could do everything. Old age never took its toll of him until very late in his life. His usefulness never flagged in School and outside. He was a keen gardener, he kept pigs and poultry, he was on the Parish Council at Reepham, he took people to hospital, he played centre-forward in the Staff Soccer XI until late in his teaching career, he was a tremendously keen cricketer and was so determined to get his first run in the annual Staff match that he always ran Mr. P. L. Jones out. He loved

boys and had a lively sense of humour. On his retirement the boys showed their appreciation by giving him a double-barrelled sporting gun as a farewell gift.

Charles Berry who left in 1922 as the R.G.S. had no Greek for him, wrote on the occasion of his own father's death to the Hon. Sec. and said about Mr. Bartle: "I came as a boy of 8 and I remember him as a very kindly man—affection for him comes even before respect".

Mr. Bartle leaves three children, Philip, who was Head Boy of the School and two daughters, Kitty and Ella.

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The REV. A. M. BERRY (1914–33). On December 26th 1967, at 5, Wood Street, Woburn Sands, Bletchley, Bucks, aged 94 years.

The Rev. Arthur Montague Berry, B.A., came to the Royal Grammar School in 1914 from Queen Elizabeth School, Guernsey, to teach History and Scripture. He excelled as a Form Master. He fathered the boys with assiduity and they will not forget him or his strenuous methods. He had an amazing capacity for work and during the 1914–18 War he became Games Master as well while Mr. Brand was away. In 1920 he took over the production of the School plays and his magnificent "Hamlet" in 1933 was a fitting conclusion to his career as a producer. In 1920 he was ordained to the service of the Church of England and in 1929 was made Rector of Horsenden cum Ilmer. Generations of boys will remember his voice, his "tortures" and his motor-cars. He was a very keen motorist but his vehicles were not too reliable and legend (P.L.J.) has it that he spent at least one night on every hill in Bucks. He left the R.G.S. to take up new duties as Vicar of Willen, Bletchley.

He leaves a widow and two sons. He had three sons at the School and a grandson. His son Monty was killed in action with the R.A.F.

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J. E. JOHN (1918–32). On December 7th 1967, at his home, "High Wycombe", Gower Road, Swansea, aged 78 years.

Mr. John Edgar John was educated at Swansea Grammar School and the University College of Wales at Aberystwyth. He was M.A. of Wales and B.A. London. He graduated in Classics but devoted most of his time to teaching English. At the Royal Grammar School he edited "The Wycombiensian" for many years, he was librarian for a time, he managed

the Tuck Shop and he took a Commission in the O.T.C. The Magazine of 1932 said on the occasion of his leaving to become Head of the Arts Department of the Tehnical College in Swansea: "Mr. John is a quiet unassuming first rate schoolmaster—he arouses interest and energy. He makes boys want to learn". Mr. John's Headmaster in Swansea wrote: "He was an inspiring teacher and a loyal purposeful colleague and friend. The town lost in his passing not only a considerable scholar and dedicated schoolmaster but also a citizen of distinction who has played a prominent part in many of the cultural and religious activities of the town". He leaves a widow Mrs. Retta John, who still has the freshest of happy memories of her years in High Wycombe.

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A. S. HETT (1943–63). On October 26th, 1967 at the Westminster Hospital, aged 69 years.

Mr. Alan Stanley Hett, M.A., was educated at Uppingham, Oxford and Poitiers. Before coming to the Royal Grammar School in 1943, Mr. Hett had taught all over the world. He started his teaching career in Paris, returned to Uppingham, went out to Hongkong, came back to Dulwich College, went out to India to teach in Lahore, returned to Bedford School and then Stowe School before coming to High Wycombe. In the 1914–18 War he joined the Flying Corps while still at School and was lucky to survive a bad crash while still training. He was a first-class player of all ball games and gained a blue for hockey at Oxford.

The boys whom Mr. Hett taught will probably remember him for the petrified awe he inspired in them. He did not need to be in a class to have complete and absolute control of it—he needed only to be on the way to take it. Yet he could be the kindest and most generous of men and it was well known that he corresponded with numerous Old Boys all over the world giving them every help and encouragement.

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## Old Boys

T. R. BARRATT (1914–19). On July 27th 1967, at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, aged 66 years.

He leaves a widow Mrs. Lily Barratt who lives at Burgess House, Stokenchurch.

A. E. CLARKE, A.C.I.S. (1923–28). On November 2nd 1967, at 18 Clayton Way, Cowley, Uxbridge, Middx., aged 55 years.

A. E. Clarke qualified as a Professional Company Secretary and was employed by W. A. Gilbey from 1929–1964. After years of ill-health he retired on becoming disabled by a stroke. In his long final illness he was admired by all for his courage and determination.

He leaves a widow Mrs. Edna Clarke and two daughters, who are both at College.

C. R. A. G. ILIFFE (1958–63). On March 6th, 1968, at Cambridge, aged 23 years.

Chaucer Reginald Anthony Grey Iliffe, the son of W/Cdr. and Mrs. Iliffe, Lane End, Whiteleaf, Bucks. was a naval undergraduate at St. John's College, Cambridge, when he died so tragically. After a very successful School career he went to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth where he did so well that the Navy sent him to Cambridge as a Sub-Lieutenant to read Mechanical Sciences in October 1966. At the Royal Grammar School he had taken up shooting and at Cambridge he progressed so well at this sport that he gained his half-blue.

We extend to his parents our deepest sympathy.

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## STAFF

Mr. D. C. F. EDGINTON (1956–58) is still in Educational Administration in Winchester but is now specialising on handicapped children. He visited Expo 67 in Montreal last summer—via Bermuda—and reports that the British Pavilion was marvellous.

Mr. F. S. ELDRIDGE (1945–55) has been as comfortable as a “bug in a rug” at Sudbury Grammar School, Suffolk, and in his lovely thatched cottage home since he left us in 1955. Now they are going comprehensive and he is wondering.

Mr. C. E. SLADDEN (1951–58) has recently undergone an operation for the removal of a cataract and we gather that the result is most satisfactory. Mr. Sladden is always glad to receive a visit from his High Wycombe friends at his home, Seward House, Badsey, Evesham, Worcs.

Mr. B. J. G. RAINBOW (1944-51) has just written a book—"The Land Without Music". It is an account of musical education in England from 1800-1860 and its continental antecedents (Novello, 42/-). He is still training teachers at the College of St. Mark and St. John, London.

Mr. J. M. WILLIAMS (1962-67) is now happily settled in Melbourne, Australia, in his new job as Organiser, c/o National Fitness Council, Victoria. He says that the life out there is fantastic. He is in the office in the morning and he trains in the afternoon, with Franz Stampf, the world-famous athletics coach. When he wrote he was also fishing, surfing and strangely enough ski-ing. He trains the basket ball squad at Melbourne Grammar School but they are not as good as the R.G.S. team yet.

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### OLD BOYS' NOTES

J. H. ANDREW (1954-62) has settled in Birmingham with his wife whom he met at London University. At his wedding last October, D. R. ANDREW (1958-65), C. J. ANDREW (1959-67) and R. W. HAMMETT (1954-61), were present. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College in 1965 and stayed on for a Higher Degree in Applied Mechanics with a special project of the design and development of a type of artificial hand for amputees. He gained his M.Sc. and D.I.C. in 1966 and went to work for the B.S.A. Group of companies as a Graduate Trainee. He has now left the training course and is working as a Development Engineer with B.S.A. Motor-cycles and finds it very interesting. He has reluctantly had to resign from the Old Boy's Committee of which he had been a member since 1965.

J. R. BACON (1958-64) wrote after returning from a ten-week stay in Finland, working in a sulphite pulp mill under the I.A.E.S.T.E. (International Association for the Exchange of Students of Technology for Experience) Scheme. He found it a tonic to live in a country where there is plenty of space, fresh air, clean towns and little traffic. (He lives in Leeds). Life is taken at a casual pace in Finland. He heard that D. A. J. MEMBRY (1958-65) was also out there working at an International Red Cross Camp. Bacon finishes at Leeds this year.

M. G. BAKER (1957-66) wrote giving news of the Old Boys' Cambridge Dinner which he did so much to resuscitate a year ago. It was held on March 5th 1968 in the Borrodaille Room of Selwyn College. Sixteen Old Boys were present.

M. R. D. YORKE (1961-65) was in the Chair. Yorke has changed from Modern Languages to History for his final year and hopes he has done the best thing. Other Old Boys present were: R. C. JONES (1960-65), now in his third year, who took a leading part in the C.U. Gilbert and Sullivan Society production this last term of "The Pirates of Penzance". He took the part of the Pirate King as he had done not so long ago at the R.G.S.

D. R. S. HEDGELAND (1959-65) in his first year has already represented Cambridge in some small-bore rifle shooting matches. R. S. HICKOX (1959-65) was also involved in the "Pirates" and conducted the orchestra on several nights.

C. J. MYERSCOUGH (1957-64) wrote to the Hon. Sec. in September 1967 on returning from a holiday in Czechoslovakia. He had succeeded in persuading the Mathematical Department at Churchill College to allow him to proceed straight to research (on statistical mechanics of charged particles) without taking Part III at all. This is the first time a Cambridge graduate has ever been allowed to do this and it is the result of much hard work, both academic and political. In March 1968 Myerscough wrote to inform us that he had been given a Junior Research Fellowship for three years. He is rigorizing previous derivations of the equations of plasma physics. He had just been on an Oxfam walk to Bishop Stortford (27½ miles) had been backed at £2 10s. 0d. a mile. Also present were M. M. BURRELL (1964-67), D. M. WOOD (1959-66), S. C. B. TINTON (1959-66), J. A. STEVENS (1959-67), J. S. CULLEY (1960-67), C. M. HOOD (1959-66), C. H. SWORN (1958-65), W. PITCHFORD (1958-66), P. L. SEARS (1959-66), A. G. HIPGRAVE (1960-67). Hickox proposed the toast to the School and the Headmaster, Mr. Malcolm Smith, replied. Baker proposed the toast to the Guests and Mr. R. Pattinson replied. Mr. D. G. Jones was also present.

In addition to notes on the Dinner, Baker reported on himself. He was writing from a Police Section House at Stoke Newington. He was at that moment on a Metropolitan Police Course for undergraduates and was finding it extraordinarily interesting, especially the tour of the forensic

labs. and Scotland Yard. Baker is treasurer of Selwyn J.C.R. and also treasurer of the Student Representative Council in the University. He is secretary of the Cambridge University Rag Appeals Board which organises the selection of charities for next year's rag. His experience as secretary of the Benevolent Fund Committee at the R.G.S. stands him in good stead here.

E. L. BARRETT (1954-60) is now a captain in the Junior Tradesmen's Regiment at Rhyl, N. Wales, and teaches expedition training and out-door pursuits such as rock climbing. He keeps in touch with old "Uplymers", R. J. ROGERS (1954-62) now very much a family man, and A. J. OXLEY (1954-62) married and working for the Southern Electricity Board based on Reading. He has met M. E. LEDGER (1951-57) who is training Army Apprentices at their College in Chepstow. Ledger tells a story of an experience of his in the Far East. He, an Army man, won a cruise on an R.N. vessel and when he climbed the gang plank he was greeted at the top by R.W. THORNE (1951-57).

V. A. BENNETT (1919-23) did pay the School a fleeting visit this year with his old friend J. W. K. TAYLOR (1918-24).

His name now appears at the head of the firm:

Bennett, Newbery and Cowan,  
International Marketing Consultants,  
355, Lexington Av.,  
New York, N.Y. 10017.

J. F. BLAKESLEY (1957-61) gained a top award in the Summer Examination of the Institute of Cost and Works Accountants. He won the George Russell Memorial Prize for the first place in the part II examination.

J. C. BOWMAN (1955-61) has little news for us this time. He was posted to the noise of R.A.F. Wittering last July as O.C. Air Radio Servicing Flight. He is responsible for the "Black Boxes" in the Victor Bombers. He has a Christmas card from M. F. FORRESTER (1957-62) out in Lagos with the British High Commission.

C. E. CAPELL (1960-68) having gained a place at Oxford is spending six months at a private boarding school in Germany—the Albert Schweitzer School. It has 80 pupils and 10 teachers. In the equivalent of our 6th Form they have three boys and a girl. It is no wonder that Capell likes the work.

- D. G. CAWSON (1956-62) married in August 1967 and went with his wife to York where he is working for Rowntree and Co. He is moving however to Liverpool this summer and hopes to find a job teaching Social Sciences in a Comprehensive School. His brother J. CAWSON (1955-61) is teaching in the Polytechnic at Kaduna in Nigeria. He is lecturing in electrical engineering on a Government contract. A. CAWSON (1958-62) takes his finals at Sussex in June and is then off to Nairobi as Personal Assistant to an American Professor of Political Science. After a year there he hopes to return to complete an M.A. thesis.
- G. W. A. CHALMERS (1965-67). When he wrote he was seeking an opening which might lead to a Diploma in Horticulture. We hope he found it.
- S. C. CHARLTON (1957-63) is reading Chemistry at Leeds but had a good working holiday recently—five weeks with a gold mining company in South Porcupine, Ontario—then 8,000 miles by 'bus across Canada and then back across the U.S.A.
- J. W. CLARK (1960-67) reports enthusiastically on his Modern German Studies course at Birmingham which offers Sociology as a special option. D. G. BEATTIE (1959-66) is also thriving there on his Old High and Middle High German. They hope to see other Modern Linguists from the Department in the future.
- N. J. CORNFORD (1958-64) rang up to say that life was good. He left Wiggins-Teape to take a job with a printing firm in Hampstead. He is now managing the firm.
- D. CROME (1933-38) got written up in the Bucks Free Press recently. He was one of the hosts to Danish and Norwegian people who had helped our airmen "on the run" during the last war. Crome was shot down in France in 1943 while flying with a special duty squadron dropping British agents. He spent six months with the Maquis before getting back to England. He was awarded the D.F.C. He is now head of Beadle and Crome Ltd. and a member of the R.A.F. Escaping Society.
- J. A. DAWES (1954-57) left Equity and Law in September 1967 and set up on his own as Insurance and Finance Consultant, 9A Church Road, Ashford, Middx. Last March when he wrote, he was working night and day thoroughly appreciating being out on his own.

J. G. DELLER (1952-53). Dr. Deller is back in England again and seems to be settling down to the life of a country doctor in Brecon.

A. DODGSON (1913-18) had a wonderful time at the family re-union with his two daughters and five grandchildren in Toronto. To recover from it he and his wife crossed Canada by the famous C.P.R. "Canadian" train. From Vancouver they took Greyhound 'buses down to San Francisco, Los Angeles and back across the States via Grand Canyon and the Painted Desert in New Mexico. After his return to his younger daughter in Montreal he had a week in the University of Maryland at Washington where he attended the Biennial Beekeeping Congress of World Beekeepers. It was a wonderful experience but he was surprised at the Spartan living quarters of the students. There was room for all, but no luxuries. There is a roll of 29,000 students on one campus and this is supposed not to be a very big University. He returned from this to three hectic weeks at Expo 67—the British Pavilion was very good. He returned to England to recuperate and regain some lost weight. It was all very wonderful and a family reunion which will never be repeated.

P. DRAPER (1948-55) lives at 245, East 19th Street, Apt. 18-P, New York City, N.Y. 10003.

He visited J. P. J. EDWARDS (1947-54) on Tuckahoe, New York, saw his name in the Old Boys' Notes and joined the Club. He paid in dollars.

In 1955 he was an office boy in a solicitors' office off the Strand. In 1956 he joined the invoice section of the United Africa Company, processing invoices for the French territories in Africa. After 18 months he moved to the Market Intelligence Department of Birds Eye Foods. When after five years he was Head of the Information Section of the Department he decided it was time to move. In 1962 he joined Vick International as the Assistant to the Market Research Manager. This company makes Vick Vapour Rub and Milton, etc. In 1966 he was asked to go to New York (the "Queen Mary" was marvellous) and after three months there by a series of quirks of fate he became manager. He expected to have to wait three years. He is now Corporate Market Research Manager for Richardson Merrell Inc., the parent company of Vick.

When Draper failed to get a University place in 1955 he was very very disappointed and felt he had let himself and the

School down. He feels now that he has in some measure made up for that. He says that living in New York is fine as long as you don't drink the water and breathe the air. He has a nice apartment on the 18th floor of a modern block with a fine view over Manhattan. Draper would like to hear from fellow School House Prefects in 1955—Sainsbury, Smithers, Todd and Wright.

N. C. FAIRLEY (1957-63) has passed out of Sandhurst and when last heard of was at H.Q. Mess, Royal Signals, Blandford Camp, Dorset.

A. S. FARMER (1958-66) having built most of the Wycombe by-pass in his spare time is now getting down to his biology in Scotland and in the summer he hopes to do one in the Scillies.

P. B. FARMER (1956-64) has toured abroad with the Oxford University 1st Tennis VI and his Chemistry is going well. P. J. THOMPSON (1952-61) is back at Oxford doing research in Chemistry for his Ph.D. We are very glad to hear that his leg is healing after his terrible motor-cycle accident.

M. R. FERGUSON (1956-63) finishes his Dip. Ed. in the summer and hopes to teach in the German State of Rheinland-Pfalz. The Rheinland-Palatinate has decided to substitute English for French as first foreign language to be taught in all secondary schools and is recruiting 25 teachers for the year 1968-69. Ferguson did his teaching practice term in Frankfurt and although he is keen to get this job (his girl friend lives in the Palatinate and the pay is much better than in England) he is not yet sure that teaching is the career for him. We think he'd make an excellent teacher.

P. R. FLETCHER (1960-62) left Weather Ships in July 1967 and started a four months' Forecasting Course at Stanmore, Middx. He then did some operational forecasting at Uxbridge for large flying zones and was recently posted to R.A.F. Stradishall, Newmarket, to help with route forecasts for the R.A.F.

- A. M. FOWLER (1951-57) is home on leave from Kano with his wife. He is working at the Nigerian Agricultural Institute there on some aspect of groundnuts. On his way home he met M. F. FORRESTER (1958-62) and D. R. TILLING (1957-61) in Lagos.
- R. M. S. FOX (1959-62) has completed his B.Phil. in English at Oxford and is taking up a teaching post at Wellington College, Berks.
- K. A. GOODEARL (1937-43) left School to do civil engineering at City and Guilds College, Imperial College, Kensington. He gained a 1st class honours B.Sc. and then a D.I.C. after a year's post-graduate course. His military service was spent with the Air Survey Section of the R.E.'s and he had a pleasant year in Egypt compiling maps of Jordan. When he was demobbed in 1949, he joined the firm of Freeman, Fox and Partners, known for the design of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. He has spent 18 years with them and has helped with the designing of the Forth, Severn and Medway Bridges and the Auckland Harbour Bridge in New Zealand. He is now in a technical administrative position and doesn't get out so much but there are many rivers yet to be bridged in all parts of the world, and has hopes. He used to play the piano for School assembly and is now organist at St. Andrew's, Chorleywood. He is also a member of the London Philharmonic Choir and appears often at the Royal Festival Hall. He has also his own informal choir which does Gilbert and Sullivan and Bach. He says he has little time for other interests. We can believe that.
- E. GRANVILLE (1908-9?). Capt. Granville was one of the new life peers created by the Prime Minister recently. He was formerly Liberal M.P. for Eye, Suffolk. The *Bucks Free Press* gave his age as 68 and said he was an Old Boy. No trace can be found of him in Grey Books going back to 1910.
- G. E. GREEN (1940-46), Chairman of the Club at the moment, was passing through Yorkshire last October and called on A. W. BRADLEY (1938-42) who lives in a stone cottage in a Yorkshire village with his wife and six children. He produces plays for the B.B.C. normally at the Manchester Studios. He also has a weekly T.V. programme which is in the nature of a documentary on life in that part of the world. His brother W. A. BRADLEY (1940-45) is Headmaster of Naphill School.

- R. P. H. GREEN (1953-61) advances steadily. He is now lecturing at St. Andrew's University.
- P. R. GREEVES (1960-67) is contentedly engaged on a two-year course for the Higher National Diploma in Business Studies at High Wycombe College of Technology and Art. He recommends the course to boys like himself who failed to attain their offer requirements for a University place. Any failed "A" Levels can be re-taken during this course and extra subjects taught at the College (Law and Accountancy are two popular ones) can be taken through the College while preparing for H.N.D. He hopes this information may be of use to R.G.S. boys'
- R. E. M. HEDGES (1955-61) was an Exhibitioner at St. Catherine's College, Cambridge. He gained a 1st and then a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry. He has just been elected to a Fellowship at the age of 23.
- J. R. H. HERRING (1953-60) flew out to the States direct to Washington last February in the same 'plane as the Prime Minister. He always flies direct because he takes his experiment with him in a shock-proof aluminium case. His work over there continues to be at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington. Having completed and tested with the prototype and the flight model, the "space" model is now ready for testing in the space simulator, after testing in the Aldermaston apparatus here in England. This particular experiment is scheduled to be launched into orbit in an O.S.O. (Orbiting Solar Observatory) later this year. Several of these O.S.O.'s are already successfully sending back information up to two years, although they are only supposed to do so reliably for six months. Behind the success of people like Herring are years of obscure and devoted research work pursued against infinite possibilities for error and disappointment by a team of post graduate workers.
- J. M. HODDER (1952-60) came down from Lancashire for the Annual Dinner. He is very happy teaching Economics and British Government at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Middleton.
- D. J. HANN (1924-29) is expanding his service of upholstery materials to the furniture trade. He has opened two floors of a spacious new warehouse for his firm D. J. Hann Ltd.—

importers and distributors of furnishing textiles and expanded vinyl. The firm was founded in 1955, in what was once an old stable and dairy. He has built up the turnover from £30 a month in 1955 to £300,000 a year in 1967. Now he has over 80,000 yards of material in stock and still has another floor at the warehouse to open.

F. E. J. HAWKINS (1948–56) is back in the sports goods business again after selling cranes. Recently however he got himself another more demanding job—that of father of a daughter. It was good to see him playing outside R. C. ASHBY (1950–54) again in a local Exhibition game. Ashby after a worrying injury had retired but he came out of retirement to play very well indeed.

J. C. HUGHES (1957–63) abandoned Music at Oxford in favour of Psychology and Philosophy three years ago. He is now very happy with music as a hobby, psychology as an interest and computers as an occupation. He joined the staff of English Electric Computers Ltd. as a programmer in November 1967 and likes it. He heard recently from L. G. FRIEND (1956–62) who got his A.R.C.M. and L.R.A.M. in piano accompaniment at the Royal College of Music and is now at the London Opera Centre for a year as a student repetiteur, though he wants to turn to conducting eventually.

H. R. JANES (1915–23) grandson of the founder of the distinguished furniture firm Nicholls and Janes Ltd., has now disposed of the business, in its 100th year. He hopes to continue to play a part in the local staple trade as a freelance agent for furniture materials.

M. JARMAN (1951–58) gained his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Cambridge in 1965 and has been working since then at the Chester Beatty Research Institute, Institute of Cancer Research, Royal Cancer Hospital. His friend P. G. P. GALLOWAY (1950–58) enjoys working at the Jodrell Bank Observatory where he is preparing a thesis on some aspect of Radio Astronomy for a M.Sc. The one-year crash-course in German he did at School has proved most useful since he started research, as much material is published in German.

W. H. N. LAWS (1958–64) did write as promised from Japan, from the home of Dr. Suzuki in Okayama. This is a village out in the country and in August 1967 he was the first English-

man to have lived there. Life out in Japan fascinated him. Some things stood out: the noise, colour and pace of life. This was startling after travelling for six days through Communist Europe which he found grey and lifeless. He stopped briefly in Warsaw on the way and bumped into R. N. NUNN (1956-63) on holiday there. Japan seemed to explode with light, colour and noise. The Japanese proved to be very happy and content with life. They work very hard and the average holiday is two—three days a year and they usually work a six-day week too. They have a zest for life, enthusiasm, a sense of purpose and great hospitality. A striking feature is the happy way they combine the traditional way of life with modern consumer luxury goods. The majority of Japanese homes are the traditional wooden buildings with sliding paper screens, reed mats on the floor and a special alcove for a treasured painting, objet d'art and flower arrangement. Yet houses are crammed with the latest appliances. In Dr. Suzuki's home, there was an electric cooker, washing machine, fridge, three T.V. sets, a stereoradiogram, two other stereo record players, a tape recorder, three or four transistor radios, a cine camera and projector, two other cameras which would cost about £100 each in England and a car with a stereo radio as a standard fitting. All were far cheaper than in England. They do save on furniture—a minimum of chairs and tables. He visited Hiroshima on the anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb. It was an unforgettable experience. His Japanese has improved considerably too.

P. R. McDOWELL (1957-63) wrote from P.O. Box 14, Santa Cruz, Jamaica. He left Birmingham University with a degree in Electronic and Electrical Engineering and his colours as 1st Cox in the University boat. He also learnt to fly as a member of the University Air Squadron. In August 1967 he offered his skills to V.S.O. (Voluntary Service Overseas) and was posted to the St. Elizabeth Technical High School, Santa Cruz, to teach Engineering Science and Physics. He lives a full and satisfying life out there. He serves on the managing committee and on a local Citizen Association. He is on the Committee of the local Anglican Church and also runs the Scouts at School. In his leisure hours he sunbathes, swims and skin-dives in the lovely warm Caribbean. He says that A. N. BRANDES (1956-62) is out there somewhere in the Windward Islands.

M. T. MAIDEN (1963-64) is back from his year at a School in Innsbruck and is living in the Commonwealth Hall of King's College, London, for his final year.

- I. C. MAUN (1960-67) wrote from Cornwall where he was working as a Surveyor's Assistant with English China Clay. He was off to Germany as soon as he'd saved enough and in the Summer he hopes to follow in M. R. D. YORKE's footsteps and get a courier's job in Paris.
- J. E. MOORE (1961-66) is full of enthusiasm about life at Holborn College, London, where he is in his second year of reading for a law degree. He is living at International Students' House and meets people from all over the world.
- R. M. MOORE (1955-61). Pilot-officer Moore received his wings at R.A.F. Leeming, Yorks. He was presented with "The Sword of Merit" for the best all-round student and the "Broughton" Trophy awarded to the student obtaining the highest final examination marks in ground studies. He won a flying scholarship while in the C.C.F. and gained a private pilot's licence when he was 17. He now goes on to Gnat aircraft for advanced flying and has been posted to R.A.F. Valley, Anglesey.
- C. MORRIS (1914-19) was awarded the M.B.E. in the recent Honours List. He has been a member of the Bucks Agricultural Executive for many years and got his award for services to farming. He has in his time won the King George VI Cup for the best-kept farm awarded annually by the Royal South Bucks Agricultural Association.
- D. T. NIGHTINGALE (1940-45) left Scarborough where he was Housemaster and Schoolmaster at Scarborough College and is now Estate Manager of the Harleyford Manor Estate, near Marlow. His daughter Mandy goes to Danesfield School and is taught by J. F. SHACKELL (1956-62). She thinks he's super.
- L. C. NORTH (1960-67) is enjoying life in Henderson Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He finds Newcastle a very alive city with many good theatres. He is studying German and Danish and playing Soccer for the University 2nd XI. He sees regularly I. J. BELSHAM (1960-67) who is in the same hall of residence. Belsham toured Europe by car last September, sharing with H. F. MAYO (1960-66). They

spent most of the time in Italy photographing and sketching. They both study architecture—Mayo at Bristol, Belsham at Newcastle. A. M. DORMER (1959–67) is also up at Newcastle but he lives a long way out of College, at Whitley Bay, and spends a lot of his time in the Men's Bar of the Students' Union. Apparently Newcastle Brown Ale reigns supreme up there.

D. G. ORCHARD (1956–62) is now in the Chemistry Department of the University of Notre Dame, Indiana 46556. He has been very impressed by automation in the homes and the friendliness of the people. In his first vacation he went 2,000 miles by car visiting Pittsburgh, Chicago, New York and Washington (a beautiful city). His doubles partner, P. J. MOORES (1957–63) is still up at Sheffield University and their tennis team wins the University Athletics Union Championship regularly. The Tennis VI are also County players.

C. J. PACKMAN (1957–64). Sir George Abell wrote to the Headmaster on behalf of the Civil Service Commission to inform the School that Packman (Merton, History), had been successful in the Method I competition for posts in the Administrative Class. He goes into H.M. Customs and Excise. Sir George hoped that his success would serve as encouragement to those of our pupils who may be considering a career in the public service.

R. W. PAINE (1953–59) is off to Zambia. He is to take up the post of Civil Engineering Assistant in the City Engineer's Department in Kitwe. His wife and two children will join him when the second is born in April.

M. R. PATTINSON (1953–60) is still teaching at Hurstpierpoint. Last summer at Bisley he was in the final of St. George's and the Queen's Prize and was four points behind the winner of the Queen's Prize.

R. M. PEARSON (1953–60). Dr. Pearson is hoping to specialise in endocrinology but for the moment he is doing his six months of medicine at St. Mary's Hospital. He has just completed his six months of surgery in Cambridge where he worked in a Kidney Transplanting Unit. J. S. SIMPSON

(1953-60) who was at St. Mary's is now doing surgery in South Africa but intends to return to England. Pearson was with J. M. KING (1952-56) at the Dinner. King is in marketing, working for Independent Food Services, the "Spar" chain of grocery stores.

M. R. PETERSON (1957-64) has successfully finished his first six months of College training on the H. N. D. Sandwich Course in chemistry and Mathematics. He has his six months of industrial training happily behind him too.

G. G. PIERCE (1919-22). The Hon. Sec. was shaving in the ablution block of Blackshaw Moor Camp, near Leek, Staffs' during Easter camp. A master from Peter Symonds' School, Winchester, was shaving beside him and it turned out to be an Old Boy. Pierce still has vivid memories of High Wycombe particularly of cricket and boxing (Foggo and Theweneti were his sparring partners at a time when boxing was a very serious sport in the School). He told the story of his bad luck when he and a pal were watching the girls of Wycombe Abbey playing lacrosse from the branch of a tree overhanging the Abbey grounds. The branch broke and they landed inside the wall. They were not hurt then but they were later. Mr. G. W. Arnison was watching his daughter play, he recognised them immediately and the late Jack Theed was ordered to beat them soundly. Pierce's face registered a haunted look when he spoke of Mr. Arnison turning round on the touchline and seeing him—and that was 46 years ago.

R. RANCE (1937-43) gained his B.Sc. in Engineering at Imperial College and since then he has added A.M.I.E.E. to it. After serving in R.E.M.E. he joined the Electricity Supply Industry as a Graduate Trainee. He is now Senior Assistant Engineer (Operational Research) and Manager of the Stevenage District of the Eastern Electricity Board. He lives in Hitchin and met L. A. RANSLEY (1939-46) who is a lecturer in a College in Hitchin. He is married with one child. His brother, P. J. RANCE (1940-46) also gained a B.Sc. at Imperial College (in Civil Engineering) and he has added A.C.G.I. and A.M.I.C.E. to it. He is Principal Scientific Officer at the Hydraulics Research Station. Recently he presented a paper to the Institute of Civil Engineers entitled: "Investigation of wind-induced currents

and their effect on the performance of sea outfalls". The Americans have built a model based on this paper which has also been presented in Japan. He is married with four children. D. A. RANCE (1950-57), the youngest brother, took a degree in Music at Durham in 1960. He teaches at Gillott's School, Henley, and is Head of the South Oxfordshire Junior Music School for musically talented children. He is Chairman of the Literature Sub-Committee of the High Wycombe and District Evangelical Alliance.

J. M. RIVERS (1958-66) is in his 1st year of the Building Technology Course at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. Rivers would like help in promoting this course from members of the School, as no-one seems to have heard of it and southerners are in a very small minority there. He finds Northern Rugby very exhilarating.

P. N. ROGERS (1948-55). Dr. Rogers has emigrated with his wife and two children to Canada—to head the research and development of a company in Toronto. His address is: 23, Valley Woods Road, 39 Don Mills, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

C. A. ROSE (1940-44) has just been appointed Assistant Divisional Manager of the Western Region of British Railways. He joined the railway service on leaving School and has been closely involved in the consolidation of the dieselisation programme and the introduction of freightliner trains. He now lives in Liverpool.

E. G. ROSE (1941-46) has obviously been working too hard looking after Wycombe's furniture problems. We wish him a complete recovery from his recent illness.

J. RUNDELL (1960-67) writes from the Department of Electrical Engineering at Leeds University. He enjoys the work but finds an outlet from routine in the University O.T.C. The unit is part of the T.A.V.R. and he hopes to classify in Signals on the range course at Strensall and attend annual camp.

P. J. SCALLY (1938–45) has returned to live near High Wycombe at Wargrave, Berks. After Balliol he did his National Service in the West Yorkshire Regiment and spent most of his two years in Austria. He then joined Courtaulds Ltd. as a management trainee and concerned himself with various mills around England. He left Courtaulds to go into textile dyeing and finishing in Lancashire. He found this bad for his health so he came South to work for Burroughs Machine Co. in the City and then after two years re-joined Courtaulds. He had gone full circle in eight years. At present he is Commercial Director of one of their subsidiaries, Bonded Fibre Fabric Ltd. based on Twickenham. He married in 1963 and has two sons. Recently he had a glimpse of the new buildings and was amazed.

D. J. SHARP (1959–63). F/O. Sharp has been learning how to survive on snowy mountain wastes. His squadron is based on Akrotiri in Cyprus and he has been taking part in a survival course on Mt. Olympus in the Troodos Range. He was dumped on the slopes of the 6,000 peak. He managed all right.

P. M. J. SHELTON (1958–63) writes from the Gatty Marine Lab. at St. Andrews, Fife. He has graduated, gained a 1st and was awarded the D'Arcy-Thompson Medal for the best zoologist graduating in 1967. He has now begun work on a Ph.D. His brother R. G. J. SHELTON (1956–61) is working in the same lab. in his final year of research for his Ph.D. He is married to a girl from the University. P. M. J. gets married in August. He'd like R.G.S. boys to know that valuable scholarships (up to £400 over four years) can be competed for every Easter. G. SEALE (1958–64) and P. M. J. both entered and gained one. R. G. S. please note, says Shelton, they quite like us up here.

P. P. SIMONS (1960–66) wrote from Israel where he is staying on an Ulpan in a Kibbutz. He works for four hours and learns Hebrew for four hours every day. It is not an easy language. It is right to left and the alphabet and letters bear no resemblance to ours, but the grammar is quite simple and at the end of the six-month course he should be speaking and writing Hebrew fluently. The Kibbutz is only 20 kms. south of Nazareth; it was founded in 1911 and contains the toughest commando unit in Israel. This is a vulnerable site and raids are frequent—he thinks he may wake up dead one morning. There are interesting people in the Ulpan—Moroccans, a Dutch printing millionaire, profes-

sional killers and a few tourists like himself. The work is interesting if you like picking apples, oranges, grapefruit in 110° F. He has just been promoted to driving a tractor. If there is another war he'll be in the Army out there.

C. S. SMITH (1960-65) writes from Bundi Mission in New Guinea. He didn't fulfil himself at school and now voluntary Service Overseas is helping him to clarify his ideas. At the Mission he does plumbing, carpentry, electrical work, radio maintenance and any other job that crops up. New Guinea is a lovely country and he finds the insect life fascinating. Every insect out there can be found in at least a dozen forms and bigger and better than anywhere else. Bundi is a Catholic Mission centred around an airstrip in the jungle. It provides the only school and the facilities are very good despite the conditions and the position. It is better than most English schools, with its own cinema, library, individual desks, contemporary class equipment, radios, record players, tape recorders. The Headmistress comments: We have everything we ask for except brains for the children. Everything the children do, must be mechanical, they seem unable to think. Bundi is in the Bismarck mountain range, 4,400 feet above sea level, the rainfall is 110 in. a year and the average temperature 18-21° C. (77° F.). Smith would like to hear from his Schoolmates.

R. L. SMYTH (1955-62) has left "Nova" where he was features editor and is now editor of the teenager newspaper "CUE". G. M. SMYTH (1959-63) is having a year off from Architecture (the usual thing apparently) and is designing a very special caravan. C. A. SMYTH (1960-66) returned safely from his holiday looking after slum children from New York in a camp in the Catgill mountains. During meal times one had to treat them carefully as they were holding knives then. Smyth junior is now doing Chemical Engineering up at Cambridge.

R. C. SNELLING (1959-63) is doing research into Imperialism at Magdalen College, Oxford.

J. F. STANNERS (1932-39) is Head of the Corrosion Department of the British Iron and Steel Research Association. He is married with three children. His brother G. W. STANNERS (1935-42) is Chief Designer for the Aero Space and Advanced Products Division of the Hymatic Engineering Co. Ltd. at Redditch, Worcs. He is married with two children. They are the sons of A. F. STANNERS (1908-12).

- C. SWAINE (1954-62) is still with B.P. in London but finds the monolithic concern a trifle frustrating and may go elsewhere. He got married on March 9th 1968.
- N. T. THEED (1912-19) missed the Annual Dinner for the first time in about 50 years. He was visiting his sister in South Africa. She is married to Old Master F. G. BAKER (1921-23) who was captured in both World Wars.
- T. P. THIRLWAY (1954-58) is still with B.E.A. at London Airport. He writes to give information of the brothers: R. H. THIRLWAY (1945-50) has just been appointed Chief Senior Engineer, County Borough of Derby. M. R. THIRLWAY (1956-61) is working on computers with I.C.I. Paints Division, Slough.
- D. A. WAKEFIELD (1958-65). Sub.-Lieut. Wakefield has Command of his own Division at Dartmouth now. G. E. PATTISON (1960-66) is a cadet in his Division (Grenville) and R. J. SKINNER (1960-66) is a cadet in Drake. Wakefield reported on M. H. KEFFORD (1959-63). Kefford was on patrol in Hongkong with his Section of the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles when a grenade was thrown at them. He was wounded in the legs and taken to hospital. Just as he was due to leave hospital his appendix burst. He has however fully recovered and was last heard of in a bunker overlooking a bridge but able to get back to civilisation in his car (he has a smashing girl friend in Hongkong). Wakefield spoke too of his life in the Far East. He was transferred from Singapore to H.M.S. Loch Fada, an ex-wartime frigate in Hongkong and visited Japan on exercises. Sauna baths combined with the skilled Japanese girl students seem to have made a very considerable impact on him. J. BOVINGDON (1957-61) now a Petty-Officer, was also out in Singapore.
- G. P. M. WALKER (1953-60) leaves Canterbury in August to take up his new post as Librarian in charge of the Slavonic Department at Lancaster University. His brothers D. R. WALKER (1955-62) and D. G. WALKER (1957-64) now live in Bath and have opened the Absalom Art Gallery. D. R. teaches part-time to make sure that some money comes in (he is married and has a son) and D. G. holds the fort at the Gallery in Prince's Building. In October they had the Private View of the Alice Show by Ralph Steadman. They sell paintings, prints and reproductions, and can get anything you want.

- W. R. WALLER (1954-60) has just returned from a Higher Degree Course in Civil Engineering at the University of Queensland, Australia, with a slight Australian accent. He will shortly be taking up work in this country with a firm of Civil Engineering consultants.
- J. R. WARD (1956-62) got a 1st in Modern History at Balliol and is now doing research on the Early History of Canals with special reference to how they were financed.
- J. J. B. WARE (1945-49) did Mathematics at St. John's, Cambridge and worked for British Transport until a crippling illness took a hold on him. His parents are looking after him. He would like to hear from old friends. His address is: 26, Linton Road, Hastings, Sussex.
- A. L. WATSON (1960-62) has just completed a Mechanical Engineering C.N.A.A. Honours Degree at Rugby College of Engineering and Technology.
- J. P. L. WHITTINGTON (1959-60) is in his third year as Assistant Lecturer at Plumpton Agricultural College in Lewes. He has been given a flat in the College and is acting as Assistant Warden. On September 11th 1967 his engagement to Miss Margaret Hobson was announced.
- D. C. WILLATTS (1950-57) is now with the Royal Engineers Training Regiment and runs the advanced combat engineer course. Last summer he was deputy leader of the Brathay Exploration Group Expedition to the Jotunheim mountains in Norway. This year he is planning to take a party of boys, Kenyan and British, up Mt. Kenya for the same organisation to investigate the changes that have taken place on the glaciers in the last ten years. Some R.G.S. boys have now elected to go on the group's Lake District expeditions and Willatts hopes to meet a few on the overseas expeditions in the future.
- C. K. WILLIAMS (1959-64) has gained a degree in Chemistry at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. He has started work in London as a trainee Chartered Patent Agent and should qualify in four years. This means more examinations but at least he's getting paid now.

T. C. WILLIAMS (1947-52) got home on leave in time for his Second Annual Dinner. He is in his 12th year in the Bank of West Africa at Freetown, Sierra Leone and finds life hectic. The cost of living there continues to increase alarmingly but income tax is favourable compared with the U.K. Public holidays are more numerous out there now what with Independence, and Muslim festivals and given the chance Williams hops into his boat and brings out the fishing gear.

B. R. WRIGHT (1949-54) attended the Annual Dinner with his father R. G. WRIGHT (1922-28) and was able to report very fully on himself and other Old Boys. He went to Dartmouth as a cadet and then midshipman in the Supply and Secretariat Specialisation from 1954-58. He was acting Sub-Lieut. on H.M.S. "Gambia", 1958-59, Assistant Secretary to the Commodore at the R.N. Barracks Devonport 1959-60 and promoted to Lieutenant. From 1961-63 he was Flag Lieutenant and Assistant Secretary to the late Vice-Admiral Sir William Beloe. The present Flag Lieutenant at Chatham is D. M. NORTH (1956-60) who is married and expecting a child soon. From 1963-65 Wright was Captain's Secretary on H.M.S. *Tiger*, 1965-68 Supply Officer on H.M.S. *Leander* in the Far East, Mediterranean, Home Fleet and the West Indies. In the Far East he saw J. KELLY (1949-55), a helicopter pilot in the Fleet Air Arm who was awarded an M.B.E. for his good work during the confrontation with Indonesia. In March 1968 Wright started as Deputy Base Supply Officer of the Naval Base at Portland in Dorset. At the Dinner his complexion indicated superb health or it may have been the result of "exhilaration" gained at the Navy-Army game at Twickenham that afternoon.

(The next edition of the Old Boys' Notes will be written at the end of the Summer Term—barely three months from now—it will be a scanty rushed job unless Old Boys make an effort to contact the Hon. Sec. before the middle of July.)

# *N O T E S*

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**DESK SERVICE** We have a pleasant office suitable for interviews with s/hand typist for dictation and use of telephone.

**TUITION** Registered Evening Classes Pitman Exam. Centre. Tuition in S/Hand and and Typewriting, beginners and advanced students all welcome. Individual attention.

## *Secretarial College*

A FULL TIME Yearly Course for students of 15 years and over. Small classes. Subjects include Pitman's shorthand, type-writing, Book-keeping, English, commercial practice.

Visits by local personnel officers sometimes arranged. Suitable employment offered at end of course. Brochure on application. Limited number of places.

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