

B. C. Peatery 0.3

THE
WYCOMBIENSIAN



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THE WYCOMBIENSIAN

(The Wycombe Royal Grammar School Magazine)

This issue edited by B. C. PEATEY.

EDITORIAL

A contributor who is in a very good position to judge has bemoaned the lack of House spirit in the School, but there is an even graver lack of School spirit. Admittedly, a revolution has taken place in the last year. The idea of wearing School caps and ties, which had become moribund during the war, was infused into the new stock in the School, and thrived until, in the Senior forms, we have a riotous display of red, yellow, green and blue, and even the intellectuals of the VIth have been persuaded to conceal their flowing locks and abandon their aesthetic ties in favour of a more patriotic design.

But this is hardly enough ; there are still boys who look on the School merely as a place where they receive $5\frac{3}{4}$ hours of education a day, a place that, apart from homework, they can leave behind them at 4 o'clock. Yet, if we consider the number of out-of-school activities promoted by the School, no one is uncatered for. There are the School matches, three or four each Saturday, which anyone is free to watch, even if he is not a player. Then, if there are some who abhor fresh air, or think with Euripides that

“ Ten thousand plagues beset our native land,
But nothing's plaugier than the athletic band,”

they may turn to one of the School societies—Chess, Debating, History, Marigals, Music or Science ; and if they have any literary ambitions they may contribute to the *Wycombiensian*.

This is an impressive list ; but someone may complain that there is, say, no Dramatic Society. To him I would say, “ Start one ; with the support of a master—which will, I know, be freely given—all you need is the keenness to stay at School till 5 o'clock, and to persuade others to stay too.”

By the time this appears, a new set of boys will have come into the School. It is them, and the Third and Fourth Forms that we must persuade to support out-of-school activities. For we must remember two things : first, that to change the outlook of anyone above the Fourth Forms is a superhuman task ; for above that, if they are

5 $\frac{3}{4}$ -hour-minded, they will stay so, but they will be willing to join in and enjoy any new facilities if they remember the second thing : that no one can have the full value from his teaching unless he takes a part in some other thing, that will make the difference between learning and education.

SCHOOL NOTES

Staff.

During the Spring Term, the School welcomed E. H. Day, Esq., B.A. (Cantab.), and J. D. Parnaby, Esq., B.A. (Oxon.), who were spending one term in student-teaching English and History, and an old boy of the School, S. A. Goulborn, Esq., B.A. (Reading), to help in the English and Classics Departments.

At the beginning of the Spring Term W. A. Rees, Esq., B.A. (Wales), took over the School's P.T., in succession to R. F. Emery, Esq.

At the end of the Spring Term R. C. Hirst, Esq., B.Sc., left us ; his place in teaching Biology has been filled by Mrs. I. Davies, B.Sc. (Wales).

At the beginning of the Summer Term A. C. Hills, Esq., M.A. (Lond.), formerly of Alderman Newton's School, Leicester, became Senior English Master.

Our congratulations to R. Pattinson, Esq., who represented England in the Walker Cup Golf Championship.

General.

The School was visited in the week February 14th-18th by a party of His Majesty's Inspectors.

The Sixth Form and School Certificate Forms were interested to hear, in a concert of madrigals, rounds and part-songs given by the London Singers on January 12th, some pieces from the repertoire of the School Madrigal Club.

During the week March 28th-April 2nd the School Operatic Society presented Gilbert and Sullivan's "Gondoliers." A report appears on page 705.

On May 13th and 14th a Student Christian Movement Conference was held at the School, in which Sixth-Formers from Wycombe Abbey, Wycombe High, Amersham Grammar, Sir William Borlase, and Slough Grammar and High Schools joined our own Sixth. Opportunity was given for social contacts apart from the discussion, and everyone went away satisfied.

The District School Sports were held on the School Field on June 2nd, the one fine day of a wet week which saw the postponement and watery end of our own School Sports.

A day's holiday was thankfully received by the School on June 24th, to celebrate the rich harvest of University Awards. During the week of February 14th, members of the Science Society paid a series of interesting and highly technical visits to the factory of Electronic Tubes Ltd.

Boys from the Sixth Form joined Wycombe Abbey and Wycombe High School girls in a Goethe bi-centenary festival at Wycombe Abbey School on July 11th.

A party from the Sixth Form visited the House of Commons on June 28th, and after being conducted round the building by John Haire, Esq., M.P., saw the Speaker's procession.

The C.C.F. Annual Inspection was held on June 16th by Brigadier Goodbody, Deputy Director of Military Training, who was accompanied by S/Ldr. Bryant and Capt. Clapham.

On May 10th the Sixth Form were shown a film on "Atomic Physics," which, starting from the equation $2+2=4$, sent everyone reeling into the realms of Higher Mathematics. B.C.P.

Our congratulations to—

- B. C. Peatey, Noble Scholar in Classics, Balliol College, Oxford.
- M. D. Butler, Senior Classical Scholar, Jesus College, Oxford.
- P. A. Smith, Exhibitioner in Classics, Jesus College, Cambridge.
- B. J. Fletcher, Exhibitioner in History, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.
- D. J. Wilks, Music Scholar, Durham University.
- R. Lang, Chemistry Scholar, Jesus College, Oxford.
- M. J. Easton, Scholar in Engineering, Queen Mary College, London.
- N. W. Harris, Exhibitioner in Physics, Queen Mary College, London.

and to—

- J. E. Woodward, for being selected to captain the English Schoolboys' XV against Wales and France ;
- B. C. Peatey, who won the prize presented by the Reading and District Classical Association for reading Latin aloud ;
- D. S. Timms, who won the Henley Open Hard Court Tennis Championship, and the Norham Gardens Junior Championship.
- J. T. Hobbs, who represented S.E. England in the semi-final of the A.B.A. Schoolboys' Championships ;
- K. E. Rockell, who represented the A.T.C. in the Star Boxing Tournament at Wembley.

SCHOOL CONFIRMATION SERVICE

Twenty-seven boys were confirmed by the Right Reverend The Bishop of Oxford at St. Francis' Church, Terriers, on Friday, March 11th, 1949. The Bishop was assisted by the Vicar of Terriers (Rev. E. W. Shaw) and the Vicar of High Wycombe (Rev. W. L. P. Float), who acted as Bishop's Chaplain.

The Bishop in an address on the meaning of the Service emphasised that Confirmation was a solemn covenant between God and man ; that man ratified those promises made on his behalf at Baptism, and that God, by an equally solemn promise, gave to each one who came prepared for Confirmation the gift of His Holy Spirit. He advised the candidates to adopt as their motto the words of John Bunyan which they had sung in the hymn at the beginning of the service :

“ One here will constant be,
Come wind, come weather.”

On Monday, March 14th, the School Corporate Communion was celebrated at St. Francis' Church by the Vicar, and 76 boys made their Communion with the newly-confirmed.

SPEECH DAY

The School Speech Day was held on July 21st ; prize-winners were as follows :—

GOVERNORS' CERTIFICATES

P. D. Fry, J. Gardner, P. D. Belsham, M. D. Butler, P. S. Groom, M. Hill, H. D. Howard, K. Kenyon, R. Lang, M. A. Mansfield, B. C. Peatey, R. E. W. Roberts, J. E. Woodward.

SPECIAL PRIZES

Headmaster's Prize : P. D. Fry.

Governors' Reading Prize (presented by **Mrs. A. J. Clarke**) : G. R. Smith.

Governors' Classics Prize (presented by **R. P. Clarke, Esq., M.A., B.C.L.**) :
B. C. Peatey, M. D. Butler.

Molloy Cup (presented by **Colonel H. T. Molloy**) : J. E. Woodward.

Harte Cup for A.T.C. (presented by **Wing Commander C. S. W. Harte**) :
M. A. Mansfield.

Art Shield (presented by **A. Hastings, Esq.**) : M. J. Eaton.

Hope Cup (presented by **Mr. and Mrs. W. Hope**) : E. Mildern.

Marti Prize for French (presented by **Mrs. A. Marti**) : G. R. Smith.

Thorne Prize for English (presented by **Mrs. A. M. Bayley**) : D. R. Stansbury.

FORM PRIZES

FORM IIA :

1st, D. G. F. Kay.

2nd, P. Draper.

FORM IIB :

1st, H. G. Bunce.

2nd, R. F. Jones.

FORM IIc :
1st, C. R. F. Maunder.
2nd, A. J. Mactavish.

FORM IIIx :
1st, G. D. B. Jones.
2nd, D. J. Griffiths.
3rd, A. R. Dale.

FORM IIIA :
1st, G. F. Regan.
2nd, J. D. Dixon.

FORM IIIs :
1st, B. A. Boreham.
2nd, L. R. Keen.

FORM IVx :
1st, J. R. Hawkins.
2nd, D. A. Hester.
3rd, D. F. Simons.

FORM IVA :
1st, M. O. Simmons.
2nd, R. T. Coleman.

FORM IVs :
1st, A. J. Brown.
2nd, A. G. Binder.

FORM IV SHELL :
1st, R. P. Simmonds.
2nd, D. V. Hurford.

FORM Vx :
1st, C. J. Goodchild.
2nd, M. A. Crowther.
3rd, M. G. Walker.

FORM VI—1st Year :
Classics : K. J. P. Westney.
French : D. D. Kirby.
German : F. A. Neal.
English : D. D. Kirby.
A. R. McIntosh.
Spanish : A. J. F. Miller.
History and Economics : D. J. Wiltshire.
Geography : E. J. Macfarlane.
Chemistry : A. J. Elburn.
Physics : B. G. Walker.
Mathematics : B. G. Walker.
Botany : A. Reynolds.
Zoology : R. J. Rear.

FORM VA :
1st, R. C. Wing.
2nd, K. A. Lord.

FORM Vs :
1st, M. Bridges.
2nd, P. A. S. Langston.

FORM VG :
1st, P. G. Badcock.
2nd, B. J. Lacey.

FORM V SHELL :
1st, G. J. Plumridge.
2nd, T. C. Williams.

FORM VUC :
1st, J. R. Webster.
2nd, P. A. D. Green.
3rd, D. E. Gray.

FORM VUM :
1st, J. B. Birch.
2nd, J. W. Josling.
3rd, B. F. Graver.

FORM VUX :
1st, A. M. Burrows.
2nd, J. Tournier.

HANDICRAFT PRIZE :
R. L. Tilbury.

MUSIC PRIZE :
D. J. Wilks.

FORM VI—2nd and 3rd Year :
Classics : P. A. Smith.
Greek : G. T. Harris.
Latin : J. C. Carrick.
Ancient History : G. T. Harris.
French : K. Kenyon.
German : G. R. Smith.
English : J. Gardner,
M. Zander,
K. Kenyon.
Spanish : N. Filby.
Music : R. E. W. Roberts.
History : B. J. Fletcher,
P. D. Fry.
Geography : R. E. W. Roberts.
Economics : D. R. Stansbury.
Chemistry : R. Lang.
Physics : M. J. Easton.
Botany and Zoology : J. T. Hobbs.
Mathematics : N. W. Harris,
D. F. T. Winter,
J. J. B. Ware.

SCHOOL LEAVERS

Christmas, 1948

School life became a duller thing during the Christmas Term, when T. B. Jenkins left ; in his School career he won his School Certificate and Higher School Certificate, along with a reputation for a light-hearted humour which will be missed alike by his fellow Prefects and the 1st XV for whom he played.

The 1st XV also lost their scrum-half, M. Rees, who has entered the R.A.F. before training as a teacher.

P. J. Carter left to continue his studies at Reading University. His ability in Modern Languages won him a State Scholarship on the result of the Higher in 1948. Another 1948 State Scholar, who left for the Army before taking up his Open Exhibition at Jesus College, Cambridge, was P. A. Smith. To him and to the others we extend our best wishes for the future.

Other boys who left during the Christmas Term were :—

R.H. Baker.	R. R. Cotton.	R. E. Lomas.	P. Smith.
T. Ball.	K. J. Crook.	M. J. Montague.	W. G. Smith.
M. L. J. Barnes.	P. B. Doulin.	A. North.	J. Standing.
J. L. Barrell.	A. B. Downs.	E. Peddle.	E. A. Stevens.
P. D. Bristow.	E. C. Ford.	P. B. Pettitt.	B. S. Townsend.
I. G. Brown.	T. G. Guttridge.	M. Piratin.	D. C. Varney.
P. W. Campbell.	G. Keep.	N. Punter.	D. J. Wallington.
A. J. Collier.	D. J. Kipping.	G. C. Pye.	C. J. Watkins.
F. R. Crook.	A. Lindsell.	J. F. Richards.	D. I. Williams.

Easter, 1949.

Three senior members of the Sixth Form who left during the Easter Term were :—

B. J. Fletcher, a prefect and History Exhibitioner, who after winning a County Scholarship on the result of Higher in 1947, went on to an honourable mention in the programme of the " Pirates of Penzance." He is now serving in the R.A.F. before going up to Cambridge.

D. J. Griffiths, for some years a noted Sixth Form humorist, who, after winning a County Scholarship in 1948, has left to take up a Civil Service post.

M. D. Butler, State Scholar and Senior Classical Scholar of Jesus College, Oxford, who, before going to France for one term, delighted us with his delicately humorous performance as the fussy Duke in the " Gondoliers." We extend our best wishes for the future to these, and to—

D. Adlington.	F. V. Claxton.	A. J. Hanson.	R. Potts.
A. R. Barron.	H. D. Collard.	A. S. Harris.	A. J. Wilkes.
M. J. Baud.	D. R. Dean.	N. C. Harris.	M. E. Wise.
N. J. Brown.	D. Draffan.	K. C. Hearne.	B. W. Woodley.
M. Claff.	K. J. Fleet.	T. Mason.	

The following boys entered the School between November, 1948, and June, 1949 :—

M. E. Rankin.
B. W. Woolley.
J. T. Johnston.
J. F. Edginton.
J. M. Hopwood.

C. A. H. Fryer.
A. H. Rogerson.
K. S. Taylor.
M. V. Woodward.

M. A. F. Hussein.
D. H. Elliot.
W. G. Ashcroft.
K. Wright.

SCHOOL HOUSE

The School House has of late forged ahead with improvements—new lockers, new beds and a wireless set which at times entertained not only the boarders but probably most of Amersham Hill. These luxuries seem to agree with everyone, since many of the juniors are high in their forms and the boys taking Higher School Certificate and School Certificate examinations this year have been working hard.

The juniors play all their games with great enthusiasm and nearly every match is quite as exciting as a Test Match. We are glad to have Edginton and Dixon in the Juniors Colts XI and Decker in the 1st XI.

The Scouts have had quite a good year and we now have four patrols, with M. Crowther, Davis, Thirlway and Colver as patrol leaders. The team we sent down to the Scout Sports did fairly well considering our lack of older Scouts. We are now looking forward to summer camp on the Thames near Oxford.

Having so many juniors in the House has been a successful experiment in many ways, but the scheme has its drawback in that it is difficult to find boys old enough to go into the Senior Dormitory. This difficulty may solve itself in a year or two. Juniors, of course, need a great amount of looking after, and the Prefects McCulloch, Cowlett, Tuckett and Decker, with Sainsbury as Head Prefect, have a busy time. In their weekly court of judgement they follow Mill's advice : " All silencing of discussion is an assumption of infallibility."

Lyons, Johns and McCulloch are leaving this term. We are sorry to say goodbye to all of them, but particularly to McCulloch, who has been an extremely competent, good-humoured and popular prefect.

R.H.

UPLYME

This term we have been a very small band of pilgrims wending our way daily from Uplyme to School. Our numbers were reduced to 14 by the departure of our Prefect A. B. Downs to help run the Dunlop Rubber Company, and of K. C. Hearne, the jolliest member of our community, who has moved to Worthing.

Our strength return at the moment reads as follows :—

Prefects : I. H. C. Waters and A. M. Harcourt.

Seniors : E. Benjamin, M. J. George, K. W. A. Chater, A. C. Emary.

Middles : B. Baker, A. J. Casselle, E. Hall, R. H. Jones, I. J. McCreery, R. C. W. Robey, R. H. Thirlway and J. R. Wise.

The nearness of the July examinations has cast its shadow over the seniors and this term the School Certificate candidates have been given their own "study" in one of our outbuildings, where they can retire from the glare of our new wireless set and work (?) whenever they feel inclined. We wish our examinees the very best of luck and hope to record their successes in the next issue of the School magazine. Benjamin takes "Higher" this term, and will probably be leaving us. He leaves us with our best wishes for his future career, and we hope he will come back regularly to see us.

We are very fortunate in having permission from Miss Downs to use one of the High School tennis courts behind Uplyme, and there is considerable activity there of an evening after supper. Our Housemaster is trying to introduce rhythm and grace into some of our tennis strokes, but is finding it a very uphill struggle. We should like to congratulate Robey on playing for the 1st XI at cricket.

Notes on old boys :—

Pettit—A.C.2 and a "real" airman now.

Brydges—still 5 ft. tall and in the Army.

Watkins—doing a year's training among the flower-pots, but going to Reading University to do Agriculture eventually.

Page—making new maps for Ordnance Survey.

Drury—articled to an accountant in London.

Next September should see us up to full strength again, and we have every intention of more than holding our own with the other two boarding establishments in the Inter-House games.

M.M.D.

TYLERS WOOD

We are pleased to welcome two new members to the House—Ali Hussein, a native of Ceylon, and C. Cryer, who by a coincidence was also at school in Ceylon. We wish them many happy days in their new but pleasant surroundings.

Of the old T.Ws. we hear Punter is employed in body building—with an engineering firm, of course ; Barrell finds training in the Merchant Navy a very full life, leaving him little time to pay his attentions to the fair sex. Sez-he !

The Summer Term has been a most pleasant one at Tylers Wood, the tennis court has been well patronised, although latterly cannon-ball services have given way to square cuts and off drives. Occasionally one hears the swish of a golf club, and the reader's first guess who that might be would be quite wrong. Pleasant though the term has been, we shall soon be looking forward to the delights of the Autumn Term—memories of our first Guy Fawkes night and the Christmas party are ones that we shall not quickly lose.

It is with regret that we have to say goodbye to three of our prefects this term. Peter Groom, the Head Prefect, will be going on to his military service after his trip to Malta with six other cadets from the School. We wish him, Colin Engeham and Neil Honour successful careers in their new spheres of life, and we express the hope that Tylers Wood may have done a little towards fitting them for what they are about to undertake.

R.P.

“ THE GONDOLIERS ”

When a school production of Gilbert and Sullivan opera was first considered, many heads were shaken over the apparently insuperable difficulties involved: the size of the cast, the fact that musical and dramatic abilities may not be combined in one boy of suitable presence—a problem apparently not outside the experience of many more exalted opera-companies!—the large number of young boys needed for female roles, and the certainty that many of the audience must inevitably, if unconsciously, judge the performance by the standard of the D'Oyly Carte productions.

After those prophets of gloom had been confounded—and delighted—by the School performance of the “ Pirates of Penzance,” most of us were inclined to take it for granted that further productions of the same excellence would follow as a matter of course; few apart from the producers realised the far greater difficulties presented by “ The Gondoliers.” Of the excellence of the chorus and ensemble work there could be no doubt—first-class team-work has rapidly become a tradition in the School's musical activities—but the duplication of male and female leading roles, and the greater complexity, both musical and dramatic, of all the roles, must have made casting, in the early stages, a nightmare. The leading tenor, baritone, leading soprano and leader of the girls' chorus from the cast of the “ Pirates ” were still available, but that the roles of the Inquisitor, the Duke, Tessa and Casilda should all have found players—previously untried—who were capable of outstanding performances, is remarkable.

The quality of Peatey's voice has matured since last year, and his singing maintained a consistent excellence; it is natural, perhaps, that his rendering of "Take a Pair of Sparkling Eyes" should stand out most vividly in the memory, just as does D. G. Veale's "Rising Early in the Morning." Veale's unaffected cheerfulness, with just the right degree of diffidence, hit the requirements of his part admirably.

The polished and masterful ease of Roberts' Grand Inquisitor, which fairly carried the audience away, and would have done credit to a far more mature and experienced player, was matched by the airy grace of Butler's Duke of Plaza Toro, "I Stole the Babe and Brought him Here," "There Lived a King" and "I am a Courtier Grave and Serious." were all in the very highest tradition of Gilbert and Sullivan opera.

Veale, B. A., and Saddler made a most captivating pair of *contadine*—in voice, appearance and temperament they were an admirable combination, while the irrepressible zest and sense of fun with which they played their parts produced a sparkling performance which delighted the audience.

Wallington's voice and presence suited the Duchess perfectly—we had no difficulty in picturing her "with double-shotted guns and colours nailed unto the mast."! Wilks made a pleasing King and Mann's Casilda—by no means an easy part for a young boy to play—showed considerable depth of understanding. Chambers' representation of the foster-mother dragged from the torture-chamber brought a tension to the scene which provided an admirable contrast to the rejoicings which followed.

Much has been said—and deservedly—of the excellence of the principals, yet, none the less, the highest praise must go to the chorus. The ensembles, once the opera was under way, were a constant delight—culminating in the riotous repetition of the Cachucha in the Finale. Mrs. Theed's work in teaching boys—normally difficult subjects in such matters—to dance with assurance and grace in the confined space of the stage was beyond praise.

A series of performances of the quality achieved would have been impossible without stage-management of a high order of efficiency, backed up by a willing and competent team of stage-hands. The scenery deserved—and got—higher praise than ever, while the painstaking work put into dressing and make-up was rewarded by the attractive spectacle presented by the whole cast.

Perhaps the most essential feature of the production is that a large number of boys were able to derive boundless pleasure from many hours of hard work, resulting in a production which delighted five crowded audiences—ample justification in itself for the effort and time—exclusively from out of school hours—which was involved.

ON VISITING HUGHENDEN MANOR

Peace ! thou livest in these rooms ;
Hushed are the walls, and quiet the air.
The sun pours in through windows bayed,
An atmosphere of calm pervades.
There was a time when statesmen paced
These deep and coloured carpets rich ;
Who gazed out on the summer mist
That thinly veiled the further scene.
These books that row on row do stretch
Around the walls in bindings rare ;
This fragrant taste for all things good,
This air of learning, studious work ;
These yellow curtains, gilt-backed chairs,
Blue trappings, and embroidered silk ;
This galaxy of portraits old,
These relics of a greater day.

Oh ! what joy it must have been
To live, to work in such a place,
To see the green lawns, shrubs, and trees,
And feel that it was yours till death.

R. E. W. ROBERTS, VIA.

THE NATIONAL THEATRE

The ministerial car drew up outside the country mansion recently acquired by the Ministry of Theatrical Productions. The Minister emerged, entered the building, and made his way to the conference room, where the choice of play was to be made for the first production of the new National Theatre.

"Sit down, ladies and gentlemen," he invited the group of distinguished theatrical people round the table. "Well, to get down to business straight away, what do you think to Shakespeare to inaugurate the Brit—er, the National Theatre?" A reverent hush fell on the assembly as Sir L— O—, who had expected the question, rose to speak. "I think I speak for us all," he said, "when I say that to do that would be to take the bread out of our mouths. Shakespeare is a very profitable line for independent producers—I myself am just cashing in on the film possibilities, and if you start off with that you will be producing it in competition with experienced men—for we would not support you, and you would have to use

non-Equity actors, thus alienating the Trade Unions. You are bound also to keep a budget—your losses, I believe, are not to exceed those of the Coal Board—and unless you have private backers, you must be controlled by us. One suggestion that I know would be acceptable to all the actors here : why not Sophocles ? I was going to, myself, but I couldn't find a fit translation. Perhaps a national institution will be able to remedy that, and lead the country into new spheres of drama." He sat down, with a professional bow.

The Minister then rose. "To take your points in reverse order," he said, "Sophocles is a Greek, and this must be a purely national undertaking, with nothing foreign about it until it is firmly established. Second, we *have* private backing. As for your argument about not performing works from your own repertory, I see the point. It has occurred to me that possibly we might, for the opening play, follow the lead of D'Oyly Carte in his English Opera House, and commission a new work for the occasion."

The hubbub that ensued, of which few remarks were heard distinctly, except the question whether the play would be written by a Royal Commission, and an impertinent reminder that the English Opera House had been a failure, was ended by the tenor voice of Sir A—— P—— H——, ex-M.P., offering to write a verse drama. The offer was gratefully declined, and the conference began discussing whether to ask George B. Shaw to write a play, but the Minister produced a postcard from him, written in anticipation of the question, and consisting merely of a short quotation from "Pygmalion."

The shocked silence that followed the reading of the postcard was broken by the resonant voice of Mr. V—— D——, the radio actor, "We appear to have lost sight of the subject : as I see it, the position is that the actors are unwilling to perform the standard works in the National Theatre at the reduced charges that are to be made, as that would be acting against their own interests : on the other hand, the Minister cannot increase the charges, and yet insists on good English drama well acted. To this I would add that the first production of the Theatre must be an established favourite—enough time for experiment later ; but all the good, popular, drama is already part of the professional repertory. Just so ; there is a drama of the sort we need ; it is produced professionally by only one company in England, and to that company accrue the royalties from any other performance. I therefore propose . . ."

His proposal was accepted, and three months later the National Theatre opened with a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado."

B. C. PEATEY, VIC.

IS YOURS A "BLEAK HOUSE" ?

Do the School Houses mean anything today ? To the casual observer of school affairs the answer to this question may well be "No." There is much evidence to support this view. House Captains have great difficulty in obtaining full attendance at House Meetings and practices ; and one has only to see a harassed House Captain frantically trying to find a team on the day of a House match or the Cross-Country finals to realise that the lot of a House Captain, like that of a policeman, ". . . is not a happy one."

The cynic will also point to the proposed disappearance of House Colours as extinguishing the last sparks of House spirit, if indeed there is any real House spirit left. Some boys take a pride in their House, and others do not. There are occasions when a House team will play splendidly together—win or lose—and others when a team can give a lethargic display simply because the players lack any enthusiasm to uphold the honour of their House.

When a boy enters the School, he has, instinctively, a pride in his House. This House pride unfortunately decreases as he grows older. Even a boy in his second year at the School has been heard to exclaim that his was "a rotten house." Yet this same boy had represented his House at rugby, boxing and athletics. Was it the boy's own fault that he had no House pride, or does the responsibility lie elsewhere ? He would not be justified in blaming the House Captain or Senior boys in his House ; for it is amongst them that there is a certain renaissance of House spirit—but they find, in many cases, that they are too late, that they are in a *minority*.

The difficulties of organising House affairs are illustrated by the tale of a well-known School character, who was selected (rather surprisingly) to represent his House in the Senior Cross-Country. On the day, he pranced on to the field, and began to limber up. To his surprise, he saw no other runners awaiting the start. He asked a bystander what time the race was due to commence, and was informed that the runners had left some ten minutes before. He had obviously not even enough interest to find out the time of the start. This shows entirely the wrong attitude towards one's House. In contrast, there was the Senior, often ridiculed for his cross-country performances, who ran in the Senior Final, and, by sheer determination, did not come last by any means. This is the true House spirit—the desire to do one's utmost for the team or House, which is, after all, one of the best things a boy can learn.

Let us have more of this spirit—no more slacking, or skipping of House meetings and practices—no more being left at the starting post. Then the standard of inter-House competitions will rise, and the boys themselves gain much more pleasure from the added keenness which must follow. Then none will need to ask, as I have at the beginning of this article, “Do the School Houses mean anything today?”

P. D. FRY, VIA.

PERHAPS BEWILDERED

The atmosphere and the people in the room above were tense. The air was thick and hot and stuffy. Eyes seen dimly through the haze, gazing. Nobody a-fidget, breathing through the nose. Thoughts concentrated—a move—minds intensified, hearts beating, blood boiling. A drop of sweat trickling down the face of one of them. The humid air so hot, the molecules of air contracting, hotter. Sighs of relief, tension eased, eyes less glassy, fingers twitching, hair shining in the air. Mouths smiling—a hand moved—the scene was checked, the smile splits its rim. Paralytic destruction filled the room—thoughts racing, screaming danger, muscles, with excitement intermingled with horror, straining. The whole vast and infinite Universe staring on the night. The night, black and void, staring, surrounding, enveloping the room. The room, in fact the whole world, seemed to be looking at that small object, which would end all. What power, what significance that small object had, and yet . . . profound silence.

All the pomp and majesty of Kings and Queens, all the tolerance and reason and hope of Bishops, Knights in their Castles, however dashing and brave, however resolute and fearless, and even the mass of the people, could be of no avail.

The hand slid through the air, so full of hatred and contempt on one side, and victory and hope on the other—a paradise to some, and an ignoble hell to others. This was the end—this was it. Eyes alert, staring, whole bodies seething with eagerness. It moved, and a voice rang out, clear and strong and wonderful, in that oppressive room—“Checkmate!”

D. M. PHILLIPS, VIA.

Dear Sir,

As the time is approaching when many of your boys will leave school with no job to go into, I would like to point out the opportunities offered by this County's Vermin Eradication Department. The principal job of the V.E.D. is to exterminate all the rats and mice in our County, and to place convenient portions of poisoned meat in the paths of all dogs who bark after eight o'clock.

A boy entering the service at the age is termed "An Apprentice Ratcatcher" and receives £2 10s. 0d. a week, and a double ration of cheese. But you may ask what the future in this business is. Well, from 16 to 18 the Apprentice Ratcatcher is given a thorough training in the art of Vermin Enticing (as the M. of H. calls it) or rat nobbling, as the boys themselves call it. Included in their training is a course of cheese eating, which makes the A.R. (Apprentice Ratcatcher) far more appealing to the rats.

At 18, the boy goes for his National Service, during which he is advised to learn as much about mine-laying and sticky bombs as possible. Upon leaving the Services, the A.R. is given a 2 weeks' refresher course (and a 3 weeks' cheese course), and then sits the examination to become a Ratcatcher (Ordinary). During this exam. the A.R. has to set 6 mousetraps in succession without trapping himself, and follow the trail of a trained rat (V.R.W.—Voluntary Rat Worker) from Dundee to Dunstable, with only 2/- and a pound of cheese on him.

After 2 years as a Ratcatcher (Ordinary) he becomes a Ratcatcher (Advanced), and at the age of 30 he takes an exam. to become a "Vermin Catcher." Upon attaining this rank he is presented with a rat's head, mounted on a sticky bomb, and a cat.

The Vermin Catcher is now a very important person, and travels all over the country destroying rats, mice, etc., with the help of his cat, his cheese, and several sticks of dynamite, mines, and sticky bombs.

At the age of 50 he retires, but for those that have become cheesed off, the annual Ratcatchers' dinner is organised, after which the competition for the County Ratcatchers' Cup is held. The winner of this is the person who can nobble the largest number of rats, mice, and dogs who bark after eight o'clock, during the space of an hour. The record for this event is, so far, 6 rats, 2 mice, 1 dog, and several chickens, etc., which were hit by stray sticky bombs.

Thus it is easy to see that this is indeed the job for a boy with ambition.

Yours enticingly,
CHIEF RATCATCHER.

M. J. BANHAM, VUM.

The sun rose over the dripping trees,
And caught me in its ray.
I climbed the hill and smelt the breeze,
The smell of earth and fields, and hay.
I stood and watched the river wind
Among the trees that stood beside ;
Through the beds of water-cress,
Until it seemed to try to hide
Itself among the cottages
That made the little grey-stone town.
Beneath the bridge it sharply fell,
And I heard it splash on the little stones
That collect at the foot of a fall.
Out of the village and into the fields,
I followed its course with my eyes,
Till it came to where the meadow yields
To the forest where dragon flies
Lazed in a riverside clearing,
Where the tent was standing still.
A pencil of smoke was above the trees—
Breakfast ! I ran down the hill.

J. B. BIRCH, VUM.

I stir, and in me stir
The unknown memories of ancient tribes.
I grope, and with me grope
A million fumbling hands and trembling hearts.
I remember—and I shudder, turn away
From an infinity of heavy conscience,
Cursing my body, drowning my bones,
Rooted, and false.

My race was empty, and cut off from life ;
Bound by a strict morality, but still
Twisted by hideous visions, which were false.
Hell tortures by its absence. I alone
See, do not feel, a dim mirage.

I have no inspiration, and no light.
Oblivion is sweet, when one has felt
The power of happiness, the taste of life.
But when both life and death are equal, dead,
Neither can stir me.

A. R. McINTOSH, VIA.

“ AGAMEMNON ”

Bradfield College, June 28th

The coach-full of boys from the Sixth and express forms of the School who saw this play were treated to a demonstration of the strange harmony of contrasts that can be achieved by a mixture of ancient and modern. As it was to be a production in Greek, in a Greek-type open-air theatre, but from the first cry of “ Euphemeite, o politai ” by the herald, we knew something different was happening. The Greek was pronounced, traditionally, in the English, not the reformed manner ; on the other hand, the theatre and staging were strictly in accordance with the many learned volumes on Greek tragedy that we have read. The music, composed especially for this performance, was in the “ modern ” style, with a striking atonal *motif* that recurred throughout the play.

Of the individual performances, Clytaemnestra gave an outstanding portrayal of a woman who must arouse her own fury before she can persuade the city that she killed her husband because of Iphigenia's murder. In contrast, Cassandra was a broken-spirited pawn of the gods, helplessly tossed by her inspiration. Agamemnon gave us a breath of royal dignity in his brief appearance ; all were ably supported by a Watchman, Herald, and Chorus, while Aegisthus, by his upstart supercilious air, gave us the feeling that he would not support, or be supported by, anyone.

B. C. PEATEY, VICL.

TWENTIETH CENTURY OPINION SOCIETY

After a period of neglect, the Twentieth Century Opinion Society was brought to light again in the Spring Term of this year. As a result of a general meeting, a Chairman, Secretary and three Committee members were elected, to serve until the end of the School year. These were R. E. W. Roberts, D. R. Stansbury ; and P. D. Fry, M. D. Butler and R. Lang.

After some discussion, the Committee decided that the Society, which is affiliated to the C.E.W.C., should be open to the Sixth and School Certificate forms. Membership, which is free, is obtainable by application to the Secretary. A fairly full programme was drawn up for the Spring Term, including three debates, a selection of favourite readings, where members read extracts from their favourite author or poet, and a lecture on “ Germany Today ” by William Metson, Esq., who is personal assistant to the General Secretary of U.N.A.

The first debate, on the motion "Latin is dead, but it won't lie down," resulted in a lively clash between the intelligentsia of the Modern and Classical Sixth. The proposer of the motion endeavoured to show that, although he thought Latin was useless, he was not an "ignoramus," by quoting some well-prepared Latin sentences. His explanatory translations were gently but firmly corrected by the opposer, but he acquired compensation by obtaining a majority vote of one in favour of the motion.

The next debate produced livelier scenes and deeper interests. Scores of scientists attended the meeting to oppose the motion that "The Scientist is Public Enemy No. 1." Fearful prophecies of an atomic age where man would be blasted from the earth altogether were countered with awkward questions as to where we would be without the advantages of modern surgery. So fierce were the passions let loose that the scientists, when they had won their large majority, could be accounted "a row of exhausted Bunsens" and their opponents a collection of "we've-had-its."

The final debate of the term was organised in conjunction with the High School Current Affairs Club. This was held at the Grammar School, where a fairly large meeting, mainly girls, debated the motion that "Convention is a millstone round the neck of progress." After some discussion on the meaning of "convention," which ranged from fire-sides to English 19th-century history, the feminine charm and clear reasoning, joined with masculine inability to admit defeat, resulted in a very revealing and informative meeting. In the subsequent voting, both sexes were divided within themselves, and Convention was decided to be *no* hindrance to economic, social or political progress. Tea was provided afterwards.

This term exams. have taken first place, but a session of "Pocket Debates" was held, the subjects ranging from "Art in Politics" to "Social Etiquette." We hope to hold a Masters' Brains Trust in the near future.

R. E. W. ROBERTS, VIA.

MUSIC SOCIETY

As usual, the majority of the Society's meetings have been devoted to performances of standard works on gramophone records introduced by various members of the staff and of the Sixth Form. We have also held two "live" concerts, a recital of piano music of the 19th and 20th centuries, by Mr. Clark, and a chamber concert by F. Tucker (violin), R. Roberts (cello) and D. Wilks (piano).

Attendances on the whole have been small. It was therefore all the more satisfactory to find all seats and window-sills occupied by score-reading enthusiasts at the last meeting of the term when a recording of Act I of "Iolanthe" was played. B.J.G.R.

HISTORY SOCIETY

The first whole year of the History Society has been successful, although the Summer Term has seen fewer activities. At the first meeting of the Society the following, apart from the Clerk of the Records (B. J. Fletcher), were newly elected: D. G. Sainsbury (Secretary), J. J. B. Ware (Treasurer), D. M. Phillips (First year Sixth representative), and J. Birch (5's and 5U's representative).

The Autumn Term was characterised by indoor activities. Mr. Ashford gave an illustrated talk on "The Pre-Raphaelites and their Place in History," and the following day several members visited the paintings at the Tate Gallery. A visit was again paid to the parish church in High Wycombe to see the records, but little of importance was found except that the deaths trebled in the years of the Plague. A very interesting film entitled "The growth of High Wycombe from 1930-40" was shown to the Sixth Form by Councillor Avery in December, and the Mayor was present, since he had not seen the film before.

Members of the Society were greatly impressed by Mr. Ashford's thoughts in his talk on "The Charm of the Middle Ages," which he gave in January, and by the Clerk's talk on Queen Victoria's letters. After the half-term several members visited Hughenden Manor, which now belongs to the National Trust. During the Summer Term another visit was made to Hughenden Manor, and in July a visit will be made to the historic buildings of West Wycombe, with Colonel Watson as a guide. During the half-term holiday J. Ware and J. Birch visited the Tower of London to see the Austrian armour there, but they were rather envious of the "Beef-eaters." The Society has thus continued its good work in "interesting itself in those activities that did not find their way on to the School syllabus."

D. G. SAINSBURY, VIA.

VISIT TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

On the 28th of June, 1949, a party from the Sixth Form, accompanied by Mr. Edwards and Mr. Coventry, was shown round the Houses of Parliament by Mr. John Haire, the M.P. for Wycombe. We met at St. Stephen's Gate, and our tour was arranged to finish in time for the Speaker's Procession at half-past two. Our first stop was in St. Stephen's Hall, where the Houses of Parliament used to sit. We then visited the Central Lobby, where M.P.'s are assailed by their discontented constituents, and the House of Commons itself. This is the old House of Lords, but the Commons were bombed out in 1941, and the Lords were relegated to the King's

Robing Room. Mr Haire gave us a thorough and lively account of the passing (or failure) of a Bill, but this had to be outside the House itself, as nobody but a member is allowed to sit down inside. The House terrace, famous for its view over the River, was our next halt. There we saw an unfortunate M.P. dictating to his secretary on a wooden chair, for the House, being a century old, has no private rooms for any but Ministers and officials of the House. Passing the libraries of the Lords and Commons, we entered the present House of Lords, which is remarkable for its small size. As it is also the supreme Court of England, it is equipped with a dock and witness-box at one end, while at the other is the so-called Woolsack, obviously made very comfortable by the addition of a red cover, a back-rest, and several cushions. The thrones are barred off by a small fence, and Ministers and younger sons of Peers are allowed to sit on the steps—and apparently do, although they look rather hard! We visited the Press Lobby, where we were shown the large range of documents which M.P.'s need, and Westminster Hall—the ancient meeting-place of both Houses, now half-filled with scaffolding—and our tour ended with a view of the Speaker's Procession on its way to open the House. We are all very grateful to Mr. Haire for his interesting and expert guidance, and to the masters who organised this visit.

A. R. McINTOSH, VIA.

C.C.F. NOTES

A further change in name has now been effected. The A.T.C. and J.T.C. are officially one body, but a casual observer would see little or no change, and the only difference it makes to a boy is that he must pass Certificate "A" Part I before he can switch to the Air Section.

The work this year has been directed as usual towards Certificate "A" in the two winter terms and to the War Office Inspection in the Summer Term.

The Inspecting Officer was Brigadier R. W. Goodbody, D.S.O., Deputy Director of Military Training at the War Office, and accompanied by an R.A.F. representative he inspected the contingent on June 16th. By a great effort on the part of all concerned the whole contingent paraded in uniform, and their turn-out was certainly the best since the war. The Brigadier appeared to be well satisfied at all he saw and was very complimentary, particularly to officers and N.C.O.'s.

The remainder of the term is being devoted to preparation for camp. A party of about sixty cadets is leaving for Colchester on the 22nd July for the Roman Way Camp, where it is hoped they will have an enjoyable holiday combined with a beautiful period of training.

A more fortunate party of seven cadets will leave about the middle of August to embark on a destroyer en route for Malta. Major R. Pattinson and Squadron Leader J. O. Roberts are in charge of a party of twenty-four cadets which is to visit the George Cross Island, whilst a similar number of boys from Malta are visiting this country. The arrangements have been made by the English Speaking Union and the School is most grateful for the large number of vacancies allotted. We hope that it will be a forerunner of many similar visits.

R.P.

THE CHESS CLUB, 1948-49

The Chess Club met in the dinner hour on most days during the Autumn and Spring terms. There was usually a good attendance, and it was gratifying to note that quite a number of the new boys were interested in learning the game. In the Spring Term a knock-out competition was organised for an entry of sixty-one competitors. The finalists were B. J. Walker of the Sixth Form and R. J. Hall of 5s. The final has been won by Hall.

In the Berks and Bucks Schools Shield competition the School reached the semi-final this year. The best performance was to defeat Reading School, after a very closely-contested match. However, old rivals in Amersham Grammar School proved once more too strong.

During the Summer Term there are no meetings of the Club, but they will begin again in September. New members will be welcome, and there should be no lack of useful players to fill the gaps left by the departure, at the end of this term, of several of this year's team. There is still a shortage of sets and boards, and anyone who can bring along his own will be rendering the Club a real service.

L.T.H.

RUGBY RETROSPECT, 1948-49

RESULTS

<i>Team</i>	<i>Played</i>	<i>Won</i>	<i>Drawn</i>	<i>Lost</i>
1st XV	19	14	1	4
2nd XV	14	8	1	5
"A" XV	4	2	0	2
3rd XV	8	6	1	1
4th XV	2	2	0	0
Colts (under 15)	9	3	2	4
Juniors (under 14)	4	4	0	0
Juniors (under 13½)	2	0	0	2
Junior Building XV	2	1	0	1

The 1948-49 Rugby season has been a good one. The first fifteen won most of their matches: the second team, Colts and Juniors all reached a good standard, and the third fifteen proved themselves nearly, but not quite, invincible.

With the whole of the previous year's three-quarter line and both half-backs available, and J. E. Woodward to lead them, we hoped to have a really first-class side. But it was not until the season was nearly over that the forwards had at last made themselves into a workmanlike pack, and on several occasions against good school sides, the three-quarters found the opposition arriving with the ball and had not the experience or skill to get up an effective attack from behind more or less beaten forwards. On these occasions the team looked ragged and ineffectual ; but wherever, as at Tiffin's or in the away game at Watford, the pack attacked hard all through the game, the " threes," served well by Rees and Howard, two very good halves, were able to show their real ability. Woodward was a tremendous force at right centre ; but he played most unselfishly, always working hard to get the best out of the other backs. Hill and Phillips on the wings ran well and tackled splendidly, and Woodbridge at left centre was usually good. Woodhams developed into an unorthodox but very useful full-back of the attacking type. After Phillips' unfortunate injury, Belsham earned his colours by sound play.

Of the forwards, Kenyon, Harris and Fry showed the most consistent good form ; but in the Spring Term, Tuckett, Baud and Barr, imported from the second team, made a vastly improved front row. One of the last games of the season was a fast and furious affair in which the School beat a Balliol College " A " team by 19 pts. to 18. Thirteen points down at half-time, the College side rallied and found a horrifying gap in the centre of which they made full use. Counter-attack and some desperate tackling just managed to secure us victory in a most spectacular game.

The second team with a good pair of halves, an energetic pack and some hard-running, if inexperienced, three-quarters, played some splendid games and reached a higher standard of play than we have seen for some years.

The third team, in their second season, more than justified their existence, and did the School nothing but credit with their vigorous and enthusiastic play.

The Colts and Junior sides have shown much the same virtues and vices as their seniors, including a weakness in forward play and a tendency to follow the foolish fantasy that you can get there if you shut your eyes and run hard enough. On other occasions, when they *did* pass the ball, follow up and play as a team, these sides looked as promising as one would expect from their noticeable keenness and natural ability.

The House matches were played with some skill and much enthusiasm.

Fraser beat Arnison 9 pts to 6 in the Senior Cup.

Arnison beat Disraeli 21 pts to 0 in the Colts Cup.

Disraeli beat Arnison 8 pts to 6 in the Junior Cup.

The School entered a team in the Schools Seven-a-side Tournament organised by the Windsor R.U.F.C. during the Easter holidays : they lost to Newbury in the second round.

J. E. Woodward had the distinction of captaining the English Schoolboys against Wales and against France. He has also played for the East Midlands County side and for the English Public Schoolboys at Richmond. We wish him the very best luck in his future rugby career.

I regret having to report that the Masters' XV was once again narrowly defeated by 17 points to nil.

More than 125 boys have played for one or other of the School teams during the season.

We should like to thank Mr. Bryn Rees for his kindness in refereeing many of our home matches.

The members of the Rugby teams presented Mr. R. F. Emery with a pewter tankard in recognition of his many services to the School's Rugby Football during his all too few years on the Staff.

A very enjoyable "social" was held by the Rugby Club at the School at the end of the Winter Term. We should like to thank Mr. R. Howard for acting as M.C.

C.M.H.

The First XV, as they appeared in the photograph at the end of the Winter Term, were : D. J. Woodhams, M. Hill* (Vice-Capt.), J. E. Woodward* (Capt.), B. Woodbridge*, D. M. Phillips*, H. D. Howard*, M. G. Rees*, Smith, D. G., Hastings, M. W., Honour, N. T., J. Read*, K. Kenyon, P. D. Fry, B. Simpson, N. C. Harris. (P. S. Groom was absent.)

Old colours are marked with an asterisk. Colours were awarded during the season to K. Kenyon, N. C. Harris, D. J. Woodhams, P. D. Fry, P. Groom, B. Simpson and P. D. Belsham.

Others who played on several occasions for the First XV were B. North*, Tuckett, M. J. C., Baud, M. J., Neal, F. A., Waters, I. H. C., and Barr, A.

The Second XV, as they appeared in the team photograph, were : Downes, K.†, Pettitt, P. B., Roberts, R. E. W.†, Engeham, C. R.†, Baldwin, E. A.†, P. D. Belsham, Waters, I. H. C.†, Clinch,

D. A.†, Baud, M. J.†, Tuckett, M. J. C.†, Barr, A.†, Lewis, B.†, Matthews, M. S.†, and Carrick, J. C.† (B. North* was absent.)

Boys awarded their Second XV colours or retaining them from the previous season are marked with an obelisk. Neal, F. A., was awarded his Second XV colours after playing in the First XV during the Spring Term.

The Third XV, as they appeared in the photograph, were : McCulloch (Capt.), Bird, Neal, F. A.†, Punter, Mawby, Timms, Ball (R.), Owen, Brown (I. G.), Cutler, Mallaburn, Mansfield, Cox, Keen and Harris (A. S.). Rugger stockings were awarded to McCulloch, Timms and Ball.

The following boys played for the Colts (under 15) : Smith (B. V.), Lee (D), Silver, Abdallah, Kenyon (A) (Capt.), Evans, Hill (D.), Hall (P. C.), Snow, Platt (Vice-Capt.), Stevens (B. C.), Thomas (D.), Haines, Roadnight, Rider, File, Robey, Tapping, Clapton.

The following boys played for the Junior teams (under 14 and under 13½) : Thomas (J. H.), Wise (J. R.), Burgess, Young, White (P. C.), Thorpe, Hooper, Redrup, Lane, Bunce (R. J.), Wheeler, Barron, Blackshaw, Weaver, Blinco, Edwards (B. J.), Creed, Long, Crook (D.), Hall (E.), Kimber, Webb, Dunn, Small, Cornish, Binder, Garratt (M. J.), Clapton, Hearn (P. G.), Elliot (P. W.).

RESULTS

First XV Matches

Date	Opponents	Ground	Result	Points	
				For	Against
Sept. 25	Saracens' Gipsy XV	H	Won	18	13
Oct. 2	Windsor County School	A	Won	43	0
Oct. 9	Borlase School, Marlow	A	Won	65	3
Oct. 20	Watford Grammar School	H	Lost	8	9
Oct. 23	St. Edward's School, 2nd XV	A	Won	26	3
Oct. 27	Henley Grammar School	A	Won	24	6
Nov. 6	Stowe School, 2nd XV	H	Won	24	9
Nov. 10	Tiffin Boys' School	A	Won	16	9
Nov. 13	Reading School	A	Lost	8	24
Nov. 20	Watford Grammar School	A	Won	11	6
Nov. 24	Masters' XV	H	Won	17	0
Nov. 27	Abingdon School	H	Won	34	6
Dec. 8	Leighton Park School	A	Lost	13	29
Dec. 15	Southfield School	H	Won	30	10
Jan. 22	Borlase School, Marlow	H	Won	45	3
Jan. 29	Windsor County School	H	Drawn	22	22
Feb. 12	Newbury Grammar School	A	Lost	3	10
Feb. 19	Balliol College "A"	A	Won	19	18
Feb. 26	Old Boys	H	Won	14	6

"A" Team Matches

Oct. 16	Aylesbury Grammar School	H	Won	46	0
Oct. 16	Thame School	A	Won	19	8
Dec. 4	Aylesbury Grammar School	A	Lost	15	16
Dec. 4	Old Wycombiensians Extra "A"	A	Lost	3	12

Second XV Matches							<i>Points</i>	
<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>			<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	
Oct. 2	Windsor County School	...	...	A	Won	36	0	
Oct. 9	Stowe School, 3rd XV	...	...	H	Lost	9	11	
Oct. 20	Watford Grammar School	...	...	A	Won	12	0	
Oct. 23	St. Edward's School, 3rd XV	...	...	H	Won	10	3	
Nov. 6	Stowe School, 3rd XV	...	...	A	Lost	3	15	
Nov. 10	Tiffin Boys' School	...	...	H	Lost	9	19	
Nov. 13	Reading School	...	...	H	Drawn	8	8	
Nov. 20	Watford Grammar School	...	...	H	Won	20	3	
Nov. 27	Abingdon School	...	...	A	Won	22	0	
Dec. 8	Leighton Park School	...	...	H	Lost	3	11	
Dec. 15	Southfield School	...	...	H	Won	16	8	
Jan. 29	Windsor County School	...	...	H	Won	31	5	
Feb. 12	Thame School, 1st XV	...	...	H	Won	9	3	
Feb. 26	Old Boys	...	...	H	Lost	3	19	

Third XV Matches								
Oct. 2	Borlase School, Marlow, 2nd XV	...	...	H	Won	69	0	
Oct. 16	Old Wycombiensians "B" XV	...	...	H	Drawn	6	6	
Oct. 20	Watford Grammar School	...	...	A	Won	28	0	
Oct. 23	St. Edward's School, 4th XV	...	...	H	Won	15	12	
Nov. 10	Tiffin Boys' School	...	...	H	Lost	11	14	
Nov. 20	Watford Grammar School	...	...	H	Won	20	10	
Dec. 8	Leighton Park School	...	...	A	Won	20	0	
Jan. 22	Borlase School, Marlow, 2nd XV	...	...	A	Won	14	0	

Fourth XV Matches								
Oct. 13	Slough Technical School	...	...	H	Won	22	6	
Nov. 13	Slough Technical School	...	...	A	Won	22	6	

Colts (under 15) Matches								
Oct. 2	Henley Grammar School	...	...	H	Won	45	6	
Oct. 9	Stowe School Junior Colts "B"	...	...	H	Won	63	0	
Oct. 16	Watford Grammar School	...	...	A	Drawn	3	3	
Oct. 23	Windsor County School	...	...	A	Drawn	3	3	
Nov. 6	Stowe School Junior Colts "B"	...	...	A	Lost	0	15	
Nov. 13	Watford Grammar School	...	...	H	Lost	3	11	
Nov. 20	Reading School	...	...	A	Lost	12	17	
Nov. 27	Abingdon School	...	...	H	Won	16	0	
Dec. 4	Henley Grammar School	...	...	A	Lost	0	19	

Junior (under 14 and under 13½) Matches								
Oct. 2	Borlase School, Marlow	...	...	H	Won	23	0	
Oct. 9	Henley Grammar School	...	...	A	Won	22	6	
Oct. 16	Watford Grammar School	...	...	A	Lost	8	11	
Nov. 13	Watford Grammar School	...	...	H	Lost	0	31	
Nov. 20	Borlase School, Marlow	...	...	A	Won	22	6	
Nov. 27	Henley Grammar School	...	...	H	Won	22	0	

Junior Building Matches								
Jan. 27	Thorpe House Preparatory School	...	...	H	Won	18	8	
Feb. 24	Thorpe House Preparatory School	...	...	A	Lost	0	27	

SWIMMING

This has not yet become a regular School activity because of the lack of facilities locally. However, a party of boys from the Second Forms go to Maidenhead every Friday morning, accompanied by Mr. W. A. Rees, in the hope that, before they leave the School, they will have a chance of swimming nearer home.

CROSS-COUNTRY, 1948-49

The School team has now completed three seasons' fixtures without suffering a defeat. Our fixture list was strengthened by the inclusion of matches against the A.A.S., Arborfield, Watford Grammar School, and also R.N. Culham and St. Edmund Hall, whom we met in a four-cornered match at Culham College. Other fixtures included Slough Grammar School, Wycombe Phoenix Harriers and Vale of Aylesbury A.C.

The highlight of the season was our victory in the Bucks Junior Championship, held this year at Halton. The course and weather conditions provided a stiff and testing ordeal for the large field competing, but the School competitors overcame the opposition to fill the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th positions in the persons of Wood, D. J., Tucker, F. C., Harman R. D. (Vice-Capt.), and Kipping, D. J. (Capt.). The course was over $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

We also displayed our prowess over a longer course of 5 miles in the already-mentioned match at Culham. The competitors were all more experienced than ourselves, but the team stayed remarkably well to fill 1st, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th and 9th places.

R. D. HARMAN, VIA.

CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS, 2nd March, 1949

- Senior.** 1, Disraeli, 95 ; 2, Arnison, 126 ; 3, Youens, 137 ; 4, Fraser, 176.
1st Wood (D), 26 mins. 48.5 sec. (Record).
2nd, Tucker (D). 3rd, Cartwright (A).
- Colts.** 1, Disraeli, 88 ; 2, Youens, 131 ; 3, Fraser, 170 ; 4 Arnison, 185.
1st, Harman (Y), 20 mins. 26.2 sec.
2nd, Dean (D). 3rd Garrett (F).
- Junior.** 1, Fraser, 99 ; 2, Youens, 100 ; 3, Disraeli, 133 ; 4, Arnison, 210.
1st, Long (Y), 14 mins. 6 secs. (Record).
2nd, Hooper (Y). 3rd, Bunce (F).
- Junior Building.** 1, Youens, 88 ; 2, Arnison, 119 ; 3, Fraser, 134 ; 4, Disraeli, 188.
1st, Martin (A), 12 mins. 47.5 secs.
2nd, Howell (D). 3rd Cutler (Y).
- House Totals.** 1, Youens, 456 ; 2, Disraeli, 504 ; 3, Fraser, 588 ; 4, Arnison, 640.

SCHOOL BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

One hundred and fifty-seven boys entered for the competition and over 140 bouts were completed throughout the series.

The Finals of 13 weights were boxed off on Wednesday, 23rd March.

The referee, Mr. A. G. Rhodes, paid tribute to the high standard of fitness displayed by the competitors and the excellent sporting spirit prevailing throughout.

The House Challenge Cup was gained by Disraeli with 94 points and 6 winners. Runner-up was Youens with 92 points and 4 winners.

Rockell was awarded the Senior Championship Cup and Redrup the Junior Championship Cup.

BOUT 1. TAYLOR (D) *v.* REDRUP (D)

A good contest won by Redrup. Taylor put up a plucky display and gave a good account of himself, but Redrup proved to be the better boxer.

BOUT 2. ORCHARD (D) *v.* HAWKINS (A)

A very good bout. Both boxers had won their way to the Final in fine style and gave a good exhibition of boxing. Orchard was the more aggressive and won in spite of Hawkins' well-placed left leads.

BOUT 3. JOHNSTONE (F) *v.* CROOK (D)

This was not a good bout. The deciding factor which gave Johnstone the decision was a slight superiority in style and some aggressiveness.

BOUT 4. WRIGHT (Y) *v.* HARVEY (A)

Disappointing. Both boys had shown some talent in the eliminating stages, but, except for one flash of spirit in the second round which gave Wright the decision, it was the most uninteresting bout of the afternoon.

BOUT 5. PEMBLE (A) *v.* REAR (Y)

Rear did very well against an opponent whose attacks were vigorous and sustained.

BOUT 6. HOOPER (Y) *v.* DAVIES (A)

A very good bout indeed. Hooper was the more aggressive but had met in Davies a worthy opponent. Time and again he nullified Hooper's thrusts with good defensive work. His counter-hitting was first rate and his left leads clean and crisp. Hooper's greater experience was the deciding factor.

BOUT 7. SMITH (D) *v.* HARMAN (Y)

A very good display by Smith, who boxed extremely well throughout. Harman did not box as well as he has proved he can and was, perhaps, a little fortunate to have gained the decision.

BOUT 8. ELBURN (D) *v.* PULLEY (D)

A plucky exhibition by Pulley failed to conceal the fact that he was not fit enough in the boxing sense to render a good account of himself. Elburn hardly had a chance to box.

BOUT 9. BAKER (F) v. THOMAS (D)

A good contest. Both boys were evenly matched and boxed very well. Thomas had slightly the better of things.

BOUT 10. BALDWIN (Y) v. WATERS (F)

Waters, hitting hard and often though not always cleanly, established a superiority on points but not morale over Baldwin, who, handicapped by a damaged nose, boxed in a fine determined style, landing some telling blows on his opponent.

BOUT 11. ROCKELL (Y) v. KEEN (Y)

Although Keen was, perhaps, the better stylist, Rockell's aggressiveness and hard hitting proved too much for him.

BOUT 12. McCULLOCH (D) v. HOBBS (D)

A good contest. Hobbs' defensive work nullified some good attacks by McCulloch, who had no effective counter to the straight lefts of his opponent.

BOUT 13. HONOUR (F) v. DECKER (D)

This bout was expected to supply a thrilling climax to the afternoon's programme. Unfortunately Honour was knocked through the ropes and was unfit to carry on.

W.A.R.

GOLF

The Staff "Foursomes," 1949

The Masters, by long tradition, give the boys every opportunity to admire their skill on the rugger and cricket field, only asking that due allowance should be for old age, bad luck and failing eyesight. But golf we play in secret, for various reasons. It would not, for instance, be good for boys in the Lower School to see the Headmaster hit his drive into a wood, or hear the lucid interpreter of Caesar's "Gallic War" humbly and repeatedly apologising to his partner for a series of contemptible duffs. Would the moral character of, say, Form 5G be improved by the sight of Mr. P. L. Jones deliberately missing his tee-shots at the short holes to allow his partner, Mr. Pattinson, to hit the ball safely next shot into the middle of the green? Could innocent new boys still feel safe in class if they were allowed to see how their kindly preceptors treat a new golf ball? Your correspondent must therefore confine himself to congratulating the winners and runners-up on their good play, and to sending you the score sheet of this year's tournament. (The figures in brackets refer to the unfair handicaps allotted by an ambitious committee.)

First Round : R. Pattinson and P. L. Jones (scratch) beat H. Scott and G. G. Browning (14) by 4 and 2 ; C. M. Haworth and G. Young (7) beat the Headmaster and M. M. Davies (scratch), the holders, by 4 and 2.

Semi-Finals : S. Morgan and H. R. Thomas (4) beat H. W. Johnson and A. S. Hett (14) by 3 and 1 ; R. Pattinson and P. L. Jones beat C. M. Haworth and G. Young by 4 and 2.

Final : R. PATTINSON and P. L. JONES beat S. Morgan and H. R. Thomas 2 up. C.M.H.

SCHOOL SPORTS

For the first time in over 16 years, the School Sports could not be held, as arranged, on June 1st; several days' rain, which ended only at midday on the day arranged, made it impossible to run off any events. As the District School Sports were being held on the 2nd, the School Sports were postponed till the 3rd. Unfortunately, the afternoon had to be abandoned, stopped by rain, after 25 minutes.

The programme has since been worked through, individual events being run off in lunch-hours and after School. The results, with notes on boys selected for the County Sports, are appended.

Results

<i>Event</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>3rd</i>
One Mile (Open) ...	Wood (D)	Tucker (D)	Harman (Y)
Cricket Ball (Open) ...	Groom (Y)	Decker (D)	Belsham (A)
Long Jump (Open) ...	Woodward (D)	Decker (D)	Roberts (D)
Long Jump (Colts) ...	Evans (A)	Abdallah (F)	Silver (Y)
Long Jump (Under 14) ...	Bunce (F)	Burgess (F)	Small (A)
Tug-of-War ...	Disraeli	Arnison	Youens
Put the Shot (Open) ...	Woodward (D)	Kenyon (F)	Smith (F)
Put the Shot (Under 17) ...	Phillips (F)	Neal (Y)	Platt (F)
Put the Shot (Colts) ...	Silver (Y)	Kenyon (F)	Chambers (Y)
440 Yards (Open) ...	Woodward (D)	Bird (Y)	Wood (D)
440 Yards (Under 13) ...	Garratt (F)	Lomas (D)	Pursey (A)
880 Yards (Colts) ...	Garratt (F)	Evans (A)	Dimmock (F)
High Jump (Colts) ...	Garratt (F)	Silver (Y)	Reader (F)
High Jump (Open) ...	Decker (D)	Woodward (D)	Keen (Y)
Discus (Colts) ...	Baker (F)	Kenyon (F)	File (F)
Hurdles (Under 14) ...	Burgess (F)	Edwards (F)	King (A)
100 Yards (Under 12) ...	Hawkins (A)	Hickman (F)	Bowell (D)
100 Yards (Under 13) ...	Pursey (A)	Webb (A)	Garratt (F)
100 Yards (Under 14) ...	Burgess (F)	Bunce (F)	Dunn (F)
100 Yards (Colts) ...	Evans (A)	Thorpe (D)	Dawe (D)
100 Yards (Under 16) ...	Chater (D)	Bradley (F)	Snow (Y)
100 Yards (Open) ...	Woodward (D)	Roberts (D)	Decker (D)
Javelin (Open) ...	Cartwright (A)	Smith (F)	Phillips (F)
High Jump (Under 14) ...	Small (A)	Brown (Y)	Latham (Y)
Hurdles (Colts) ...	Dawe (D)	White (Y)	Evans (A)
440 Yards (Colts) ...	Thorpe (D)	Garratt (F)	Long (Y)
440 Yards (Under 14) ...	Dunn (F)	Small (A)	Burgess (F)
880 Yards (Open) ...	Wood (D)	Belsham (A)	Harman (Y)
Hurdles (Open) ...	Woodward (D)	Roberts (D)	Belsham (A)
Discus (Open) ...	...	...	...
220 Yards (Under 13) ...	Pursey (A)	Garratt (F)	Webb (A)
220 Yards (Under 14) ...	Small (A)	Burgess (F)	Dunn (F)
220 Yards (Colts) ...	Thorpe (D)	Evans (A)	Messenger (F)
220 Yards (Under 16) ...	Chater (D)	Smith (A)	Bradley (F)
220 Yards (Open) ...	Woodward (D)	Roberts (D)	Fry (Y)
880 Yards (Under 14) ...	Hooper (Y)	McCoy (Y)	Baker (Y)
Relay (Under 13) ...	Arnison	Youens	Fraser
Relay (Under 14) ...	Fraser	Arnison	Disraeli
Relay (Colts) ...	Youens	Disraeli	Fraser
Relay (Open) ...	Disraeli	Youens	Arnison

House Championships.	Arnison	...	91	...	3rd
	Disraeli	...	154	...	1st
	Fraser	...	113	...	2nd
	Youens	...	80	...	4th

Individual Championships.	Under 13	...	Pursey
	Under 14	...	Burgess
	Colts	...	Evans
	Open	...	Woodward

DISTRICT SPORTS

The following boys were successful in the District Sports and were chosen to represent High Wycombe at the County Sports on Saturday, 25th June :—

UNDER 17

J. Read (220 yards)
 B. V. Smith (440 yards)
 T. A. Long
 D. J. Wood (880 yards)
 R. D. Harman
 D. G. Smith (Shot)
 D. G. Smith (Discus)
 A. H. Betts
 D. M. Phillips (Javelin)
 F. A. Neal (High Jump)

UNDER 15

M. A. Thorpe (220 and 440 yards)
 R. I. Garratt (High Jump)

Wood and Thorpe gained 1st and 2nd places in their respective events, whilst Smith gained 3rd places in the Shot and Discus. These boys were selected for the County team to compete at the All-England Schools Sports at Carshalton on July 23rd.

CRICKET, 1949 SEASON

At the time of going to press, the season is not quite over. The House Matches were played off with the following results :—

Fraser beat Arnison 74 for 9 to 73.

Disraeli beat Youens 124 for 2 to 123.

Disraeli beat Fraser 144 for 6 to 143.

Players for the 1st XI were : J. E. Woodward (Capt.), B. Woodbridge, D. G. Woodhams, D. S. Timms, C. R. Engeham, P. Sharpe, J. C. Carrick, M. D. Howard, O. Decker, Robey, R., Belsham, P. D., Eaton, M. J., Wiltshire, D. J., Gray, D. E.

Players for the 2nd XI were : Baldwin, E. A. (Capt.), Eaton, M. J., Gray, D. E., Wiltshire, D. J., Macfarlane, E. J., Lewis, Harman, Walker, Salter, Thomas, Robertson, Collier.

Players for the Colts XI were : R. Wing (Capt.), D. Crook, A. G. Binder, N. G. Walker, P. W. Elliott, R. Clapton, B. J. Edwards, Mayo, Free, Hooper, Crump, Martin.

Players for the Junior Colts XI were : Garratt (Capt.), Walker, Dixon, Brooks, Kimber, Simons, Simmons, Lane, Johnston, Edginton, King, J. H., Keen, T., Latham, Bignell, Saddler.

1st XI Cricket

This number of the School Magazine goes to press before the end of the 1949 season. Results and averages for the games already played are published below. A full report of the activities of the four regular sides will be given in the next issue.

The School Cricket Captain, J. E. Woodward, has added still more to his sporting achievements in the way that he has handled the 1st XI throughout the season. He has been backed up by a cheerful and competent side. Good luck to them all in the various County Colts trial games in August.

FIRST XI CRICKET

- April 30th *v.* Mr. H. W. Johnson's XI. Won, 113 (6)—75 (9) dec.
B. Woodbridge 30.
- May 7th *v.* Borlase School, Marlow. Won 243 (4) dec.—51.
Sharpe 101, C. Engeham 69, J. E. Woodward 39, D. G. Woodhams 4 for 26.
- May 11th *v.* Amersham Grammar School. Lost, 65—93 (2).
- May 14th *v.* Royal Commercial Travellers' School. Won, 119—45.
B. Woodbridge 31, J. E. Woodward 47, Carrick, J. C. 6 for 7.
- May 18th *v.* Slough Grammar School. Won, 125 (7)—30.
B. Woodbridge 23, Howard, H. D., 29, Carrick, J., 5 for 17.
- May 21st *v.* Windsor County School. Won, 119—81.
C. R. Engeham 21, J. E. Woodward 21, Sharpe, P., 5 for 10.
- May 25th *v.* Abingdon School. Won 75 (3)—65.
P. Sharpe 20, C. R. Engeham 23 (not out), D. G. Woodhams 6 for 19.
- May 28th *v.* Watford School. Lost, 87—126 (7) dec.
B. Woodbridge 20.
- June 8th Leighton Park School. Won, 144—74.
D. S. Timms 49, P. Sharpe 36, P. Sharpe 4 for 5.
- June 11th *v.* Reading School. Won, 125—112.
B. Woodbridge 60, D. G. Woodhams 6 for 26.

- June 15th v. Culham College. Lost, 64—64 (3).
P. Sharpe 21.
- June 18th v. Newlands Park College. Lost, 97—98(6).
P. Sharpe 29.
- June 22nd v. Staff XI. Won 191 (7)—189 (9) dec.
D. S. Timms 102 not out.
- June 25th v. Parents XI. Won, 164 (8) dec.—75.
P. Sharpe 48, C. R. Engeham 39, Howard, H. D., 21, P. Sharpe
5 for 16.
- June 29th v. Wycombe Wednesday XI. Lost, 165—176 (7).
P. Sharpe 36, C. R. Engeham 25, J. E. Woodward 48.
- July 2nd v. Chiswick County School. Won, 155 (8) dec.—34.
J. E. Woodward 22, Decker 27, Howard, D., 33, Wiltshire 26,
Robey 32, Robey 6 for 5.

SECOND XI

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
May 7th	Borlase School	A	Won
May 11th	Royal Commercial Travellers' School	A	Won
May 14th	Amersham Grammar School	H	Won
May 18th	Slough Grammar School	A	Lost
May 21st	Windsor County School	H	Lost
May 28th	Watford School	H	Drew
June 8th	Leighton Park School	H	Drew
June 11th	Reading School	A	Drew
June 15th	Slough Grammar School	H	Lost
June 18th	Aylesbury Grammar School 1st XI	A	Lost
July 2nd	Chiswick County School	A	Won
July 9th	A.A. School, Arborfield	A	Won
July 16th	Amersham Grammar School	A	Won

COLTS XI (under 15 on April 30th)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
May 21st	Amersham Grammar School	A	Won
May 28th	Watford School	H	Lost
June 11th	Reading School	A	Lost
July 2nd	Southfield School, Oxford	H	Lost
July 9th	Leighton Park School	H	Lost

JUNIOR COLTS XI (under 14 on April 30th)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Opponents</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Result</i>
May 14th	Royal Commercial Travellers' School	A	Won
May 21st	Windsor County School	A	Lost
May 28th	Watford School (under 13½)	A	Lost
June 11th	Borlase School	H	Lost
June 18th	Borlase School	A	Drew
July 2nd	Chiswick County School	A	Lost

FIRST XI AVERAGES TO JUNE 30th, 1949

Batting

			Innings	Times not out	Runs	Highest score	Average
P. Sharpe	...	...	15	0	348	101	23.20
J. E. Woodward	...	...	15	1	273	48	19.50
D. S. Timms	...	...	14	1	261	102	18.64
C. R. Engeham	...	...	16	1	262	69	17.46
B. Woodbridge	...	...	15	0	235	60	15.67
O. Decker	...	...	10	4	88	17	14.67

Bowling

			Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	Averages
P. Sharpe	...	...	84	16	255	28	8.86
D. G. Woodhams	...	...	159.1	38	355	37	9.35
J. C. Carrick	...	...	110	21	311	27	11.52
C. R. Engeham	...	...	34	4	110	7	15.71
R. E. W. Robey	...	...	59	3	282	16	17.68

Catches and Stumpings

O. Decker	...	...	8	D. G. Woodhams	...	5
J. E. Woodward	...	...	7	B. Woodbridge	...	5
R. E. W. Robey	...	...	5	C. Engeham	...	5

OLD WYCOMBIENSIANS' CLUB

Births

C. I. Allen, (1927-31). On 17th March, 1949, at Titchfield to Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Allen, a son.

G. P. ARDEN (1923-30). On March 24th, 1949, at Windsor, to Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Arden, a daughter.

A. J. CRAVEN (1932-36). On January 29th, 1949, in London, to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Craven, a daughter.

L. G. COOK (1920-25). On February 3rd, 1949, at Luton, to Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Cook, a son.

L. K. FOX (1930-35). On March 29th, 1949, at Leigh-on-Sea, to Mr. and Mrs. L. K. Fox, a daughter.

P. GRIFFIN (1930-35). On May 24th, 1949, at High Wycombe, to Mr. and Mrs. P. Griffin, a daughter.

S. E. HANDS (1915-20). On June 24th, 1949, at Bourne End, to Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Hands, a son.

E. G. HITCHMAN (1923-28). On April 10th, 1949, at Ickenham, to Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Hitchman, a son.

J. A. C. KING (1925-31). On April 26th, 1949, at Oxford, to Mr. and Mrs. J. A. C. King, a daughter.

R. C. MORRIS (1917-22). On April 3rd, 1949, at Aylesbury, to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Morris, a daughter.

Rugby Football Club

The Rugby Club can look back on the 1948-49 season as their most successful since formation 20 years ago. The increase in both playing and non-playing membership to the 250 mark has shown itself in a remarkable growth of club spirit and a considerable rise in the standard of Rugby played. The 1st XV went well into February without defeat and the "A" XV at one time won seven matches in succession. A fourth XV was formed in November and played 18 matches.

Team Records

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points	
					For	Against
1st XV ...	30	19	5	6	386	122
"A" XV ...	26	18	1	7	365	130
Ex "A" XV	25	17	1	7	282	195
"B" XV ...	18	7	10	1	117	180

The increase in the number of teams playing made it necessary for the Club to find extra playing pitches, for, although always welcome at the School, they realise that the pitches there are over-worked. Redfords sports ground provided the answer and was hired for home matches.

The value of a permanent clubhouse has been so evident that the Committee has been unceasing in its efforts to procure this. After long consideration of various projects, the offer by the local Council of two pitches on King's Mead, Loudwater, has been accepted and negotiations are at present going on for the purchase of premises nearby which will provide not only changing accommodation for the Rugby Club, but also, it is hoped, a meeting place for all Old Wycombiensians.

For the first time in its history, the Club ventured on an Easter tour. Thirty members travelled to Wales, stayed under the shadow of the famous Cardiff Arms Park, and made three journeys to play matches in the Rhondda Valley—on Good Friday to Senghenydd (lost 3-9), Saturday to Aberaman (drew 3-3), on Easter Monday to Treorchy (drew 9-9). The tour was an education to the members and is likely to be repeated.

The social functions have not been neglected, and the profit made benefitted the funds considerably.

1949-50 Season.

The Club looks forward to an even more successful season, with new premises and a stronger fixture list. Young players are

especially needed, as a 5th team will be running. The subscription, under 21, is only 5/-, and indifferent players are as welcome as the good. Those leaving school should contact the Secretary—R. F. EMERY, BELVEDERE, COCK LANE, HIGH WYCOMBE (Penn 2335).

Cricket

While it is realised that Old Boys will not forsake their local cricket club, it is hoped that they would not have the same obligation to play for another club on Sunday. It has been suggested that Old Boys form a (Royal) Ramblers Cricket Club.

Judging by the weekly Honours List in the local press, it could prove to be a very formidable one. Mr. Johnson, at the School, would be grateful if all Old Boys favourable to such a scheme would get into touch with him immediately with a view to next season's (1950) cricket, when he could guarantee strong and interesting fixtures.

MR. BARTLE (1901-35). After being "off colour" for about three weeks, writes that he is as busy as ever on councils and committees. He averages one journey a week to Norwich, and last year did about 90 Hospital Car Service trips. Petrol does not allow Philip to visit them often.

T. K. GARRETT (1929-35) now holds a senior position on the design staff of the Austin Motor Co. and lives at 78 Ryde Park Road, Rednal, Birmingham.

W. T. GRIMSDALE (1920-25) hopes that if Bolton, Skires, or any Old Boys are anywhere near Hong Kong they will not fail to call on him at 8 St. George's Mansions, Argyle Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

S. E. HANDS (1915-21), who is the Hon. Treasurer of the Royal Philatelic Society in London, would appreciate contact with any Old Boys interested in advanced philately, especially in the collection of the Japanese occupation, Burma, and Straits Settlement stamps.

G. B. PHILPOTT (1940-47), who thoroughly enjoys his work, kindly sent news about the following Old Boys : E. J. PAGE (1937-42), after serving with the Army in Palestine, went to the Government Building Research at Reading to study surveying. He married a Miss Talbot, of Wycombe, in December. D. F. JOYNSON (1940-47)

is in the Army and was going to Austria as a storesman for six months. T. H. S. HAMLETT (1942-48) entered Halton as an officer cadet for regular service (Hamlett, looking very fit, called at School a few weeks ago). W. R. STEPHENSON (1945-47) at the National Savings Bank, and M. SHERRIFF (1940-47) at Broom and Wades both attend evening classes with Philpott.

R. J. RIPPINGTON (1937-43) writes from Malaya that, although he is on the Education side, owing to the activities of the Bandits there is not much time for teaching. He finds the native a cheerful fellow, always ready for a laugh ; but he can be taught in Pidgeon English only, at which Rippington thinks he will soon be an expert. They play cricket when the rain allows but must not hit the ball too hard in case it gets lost in the jungle. He was looking forward to a " do " and a very late night in the Sergeants' Mess.

F. H. ROBINSON (1919-28), in a letter to Mr. Arnison, says that he leads such a busy public life that he may retire from teaching next December. As well as being Chairman of the Conservative and Unionist Teachers' Association, he is on many other political and educational committees, and lately he has been approached by the B.B.C. and is to give talks on " National Housekeeping," at 10.30 a.m. in the Light Programme, and later four talks on " Marshall Aid," with prospects of fairly regular broadcasts.

Hull, Loosley & Pearce, Oxford Street, and Peace, Ballantyne & Goodwin, Castle Street, High Wycombe, have Old Boy Ties in stock and hope to have Blazers some time in the New Year.

Annual Subscriptions for the current year are overdue—so far only about a third have been received.

